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In July 2007 the head of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, declared that the U.S. government's crackdown on undocumented immigrants is "gonna get ugly." "Gonna get ugly" means armed ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) agents raiding workplaces and homes to round up and deport immigrants – or immigrants getting arrested by local police for minor offenses, like fishing without a license in Georgia, and ending up getting kicked out of this country. It means the U.S. deporting more than 275,000 people just in 2007. "Gonna get ugly" means families torn apart – like this May when almost 400 immigrant workers were arrested at a raid on a Iowa meatpacking plant, or 900 caught in an ICE "sting" operation in California, while their children were left behind. It means concentration camps for captured immigrants, where 83 have died between 2004 and 2007; armed vigilantes hunting down immigrants like modern-day slave catchers; hundreds of people a year losing their lives attempting to cross the border.



AP photo

PUTTING ICE RAIDS