Inauthentic Accounts Targeting
Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex

Report

11-19-2021

PREPARED BY:

BOT SENTINEL INC.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Overview
- 2. Introduction
- 3. Inauthentic Accounts
- 4. Inauthentic Accounts Cont.
- 5. Inauthentic Accounts Cont. 2
- 6. Inauthentic Accounts Cont. 3
- 7. Inauthentic Accounts Cont. 4
- 8. Inauthentic Accounts Cont. 5
- 9. Inauthentic Accounts Cont. 6
- 10. Profile Examples
- 11. Profile Examples Cont.
- 12. Profile Examples Cont. 2
- 13. Profile Examples Cont. 3
- 14. Following Examples
- 15. Following Examples Cont.

OVERVIEW

While collecting data for our final report on the hate campaign targeting Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex, we received a credible tip regarding a "bot network" related to our investigation. During our initial analysis, we determined several accounts were strikingly similar, and each account followed many of the same people. The preliminary data indicated inauthentic activity.

We extended our research to determine:

- The number of inauthentic accounts in the network.
- The people whom the inauthentic accounts were following.
- If any of the inauthentic accounts were following official royal accounts.

Our research found 245 inauthentic accounts were part of the same network. Although each inauthentic account followed slightly different people, every account in the network followed the same hate account (@according2_taz). 49 inauthentic accounts followed official royal accounts. We believe more inauthentic accounts are part of the network, but we could not investigate further because of time constraints and limited resources.

OVERVIEW 1

INTRODUCTION

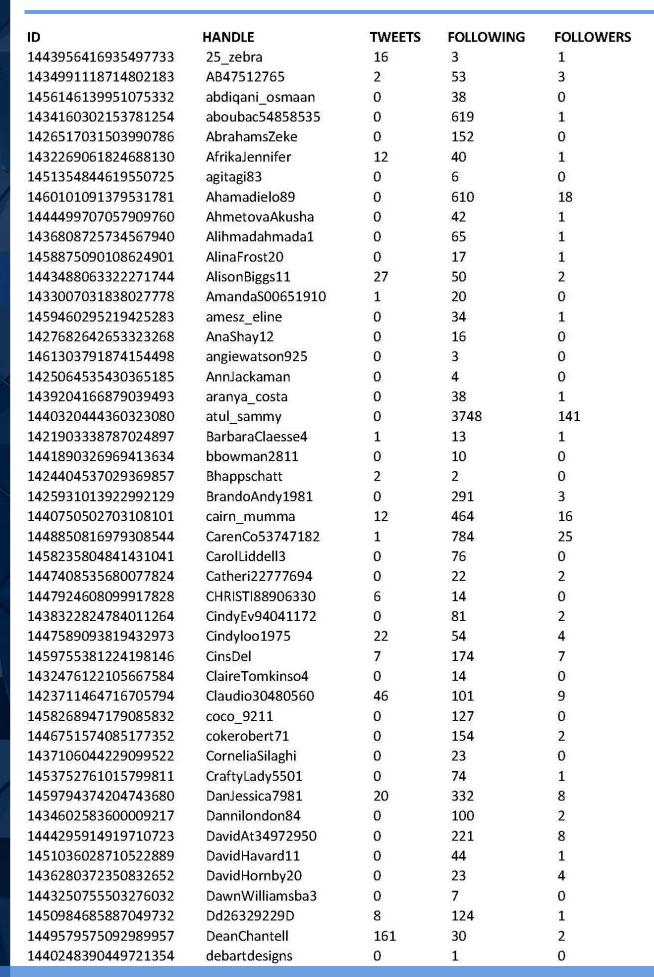
We received a credible tip from a source aware of our ongoing investigation into hate accounts targeting Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex. Since announcing our investigation, we have received over 1000 tips, so it was not unusual to receive a tip. However, this was the first credible tip that directed us to a network of inauthentic accounts.

Someone started creating the inauthentic accounts as early as August 2021, and most of the inauthentic accounts are sitting dormant. During our initial investigation, we observed relatively minor automated activity. We now believe that is because many of the inauthentic accounts are currently inactive. The inauthentic accounts that have been active are tweeting in support of hate accounts targeting Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex. We believe, in the future, someone will use the inauthentic accounts we have identified to amplify hate accounts and negative messaging regarding Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

The inauthentic accounts follow royal experts, official royal accounts, and hate accounts. The people they followed weren't always the same, except for one hate account (@according2_taz). All 245 inauthentic accounts were following @according2_taz, and in at least one instance, an inauthentic account tweeted favorably about @according2_taz.

All the inauthentic accounts had auto-generated letter avatars that matched their "names." We are confident amateurs didn't create these inauthentic accounts, and there is a level of sophistication that adds a layer of complexity to an already complex investigation.

INTRODUCTION 2



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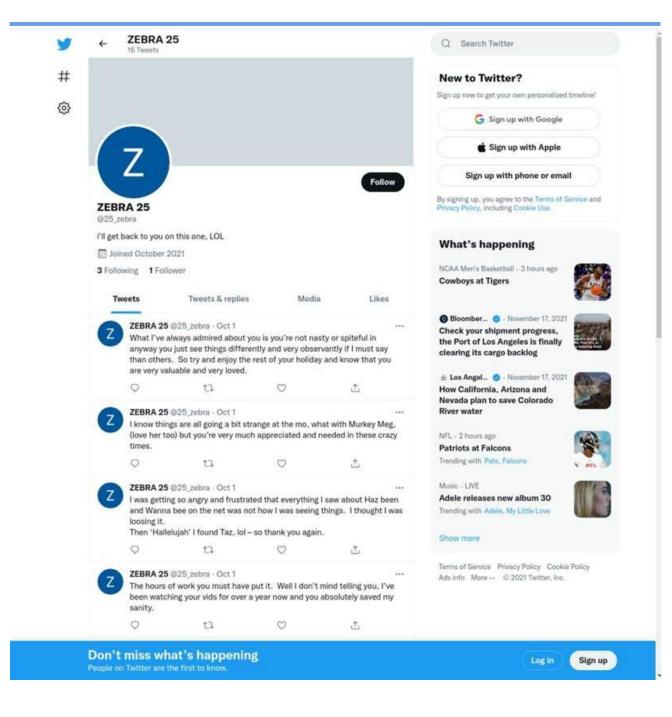
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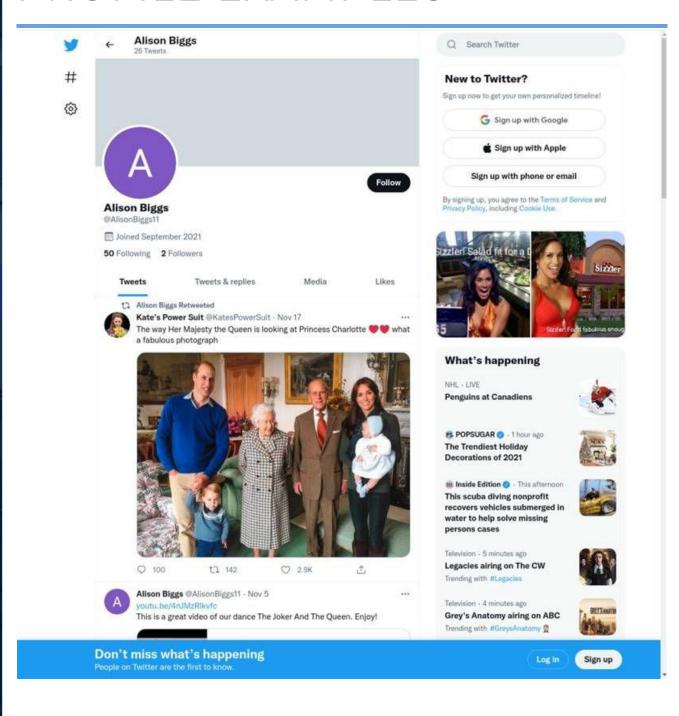
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	Michael34810033	1	28	1
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	MLebarton	0	29	2
	Mohamed50211339	13	368	5
	MoiraGr21087343	0	6	0
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	ACCOUNT OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	0	13	2
	MultikultiT	98	30	9
	Mumbojumbo216	0	224	9
	MunizYocelyn	0	25	0
	MusafirAbdulla4	2	283	8
	MyPetBear	126	455	38
	Nasitobeby	0	29	1
	A SECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T	0	235	2
	NicoleC91319057	0	2	0
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	OlenderekKarine	0	14	0
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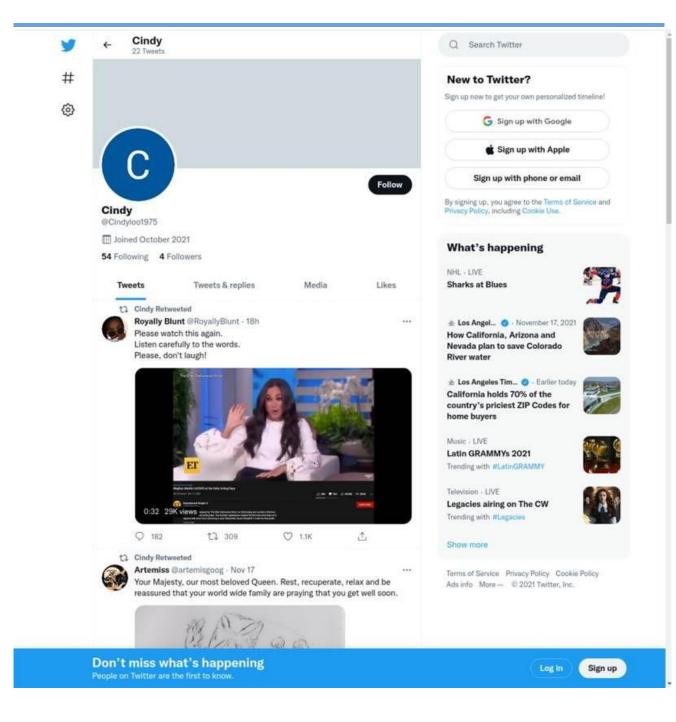
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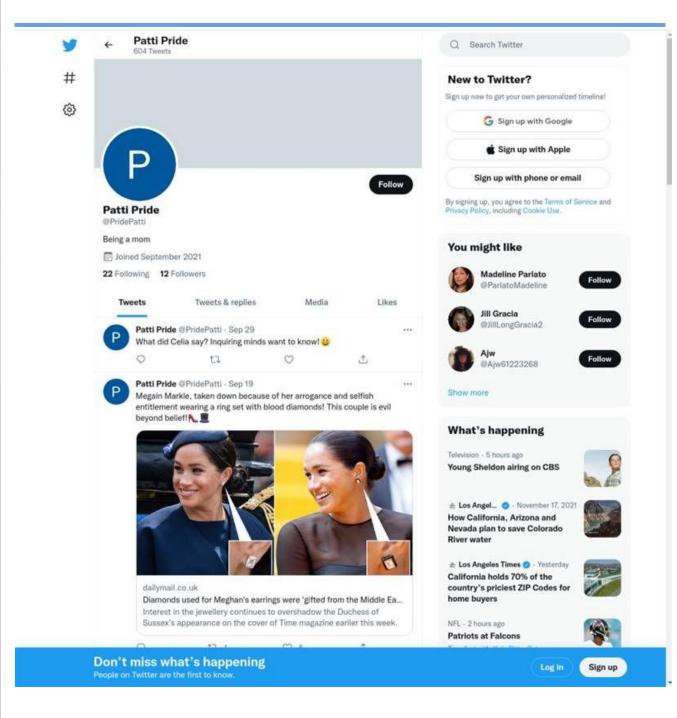
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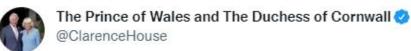


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The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge



@KensingtonRoyal

The official account of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Royal Foundation, based at Kensington Palace.

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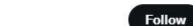
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The official account of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Royal Foundation, based at Kensington Palace.



Duchess Moaning Sparkle 💎 🤍 (parody)





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