

WHY WON'T THE NYT REPORT ON RAY KELLY'S SPOOKS?

On the NYT's homepage, the story of the ongoing protests in reaction to the burning of Korans at



Parwan prison occupies a fairly prominent position.

What you won't find anywhere on the NYT homepage, though, is the story of how the NYPD monitored local response to Dutch cartoons of the prophet Mohammed, culled from informants at mosques across the metro area and summarized in a report for Ray Kelly. It's a similar story—the Muslim reaction to perceived blasphemy—but it's local. The NYT's own city. Yet the NYT doesn't consider it news.

Nor will you find a report on the NYPD's press conference yesterday, an effort to insist all this surveillance of First Amendment speech is perfectly legal. Both the NYPost and the NYDN reported on that. (Admittedly, the WSJ is silent on the story today, though they have reported on it before.)

The New Jersey press was reporting on the NYPD's spying in their own neighborhoods, both Newark—in the AP's latest installment, Paterson.

Has the NYT moved to FL for the winter? Because every newspaper in the NY area seems to think

this is news.

I've noted before the contortions the NYT went through to downplay (or even dismiss) this spy program in a profile of Ray Kelly. That almost felt like petulance over being beat—except for a few stories from Michael Powell—on a big story in its own backyard.

But the NYT's silence on the story is beginning to get creepy.