

The Edward Snowden NSA Data Breach of 2013: How it happened, and its consequences and implications for the U.S. and the IT Industry



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WAKE UP AMERICA

"In the end the Obama administration is not afraid of whistleblowers like me, Bradley Manning or Thomas Drake. We are stateless, imprisoned and powerless. No the Obama administration is afraid of you. It is afraid of an informed, angry public demanding the constitutional government it was promised - and it should be."

- Edward Joseph Snowden

Edward Snowden's Christmas Message to America, December 2013

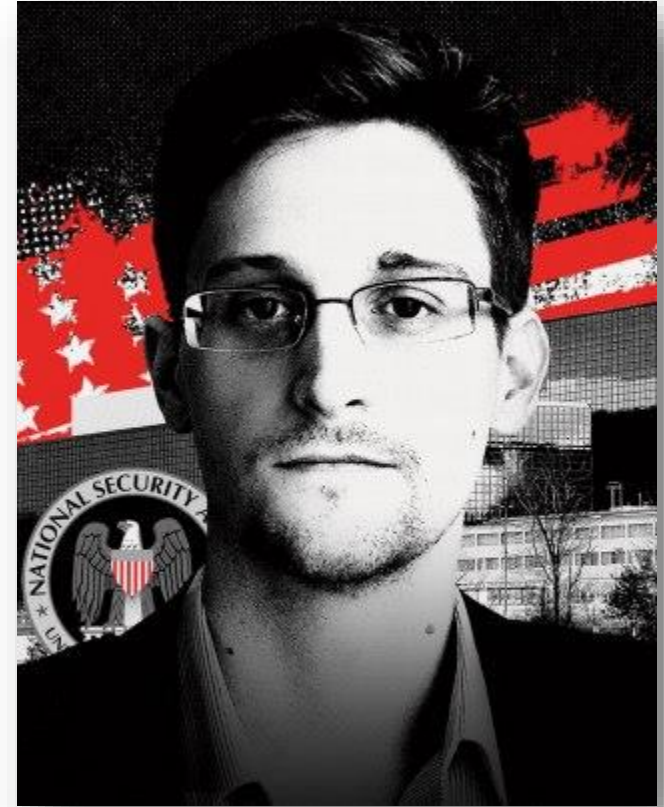
Politifake.org

Agenda

- Introduction
- What Happened? What Did Edward Snowden Do?
- How did he accomplish this?
- What has he disclosed?
- Consequences: How does this affect the NSA and U.S. National Security?
- Consequences: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect the U.S. Government?
- Consequences: Has anyone lost their job as a result of what Edward Snowden has done?
- Implications: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect the Cybersecurity Career Field
- Implications: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect your career?
- Implications: How would you prevent an Edward Snowden-style Data Breach in your organization if you were the Cybersecurity Director?
- The Latest Developments on Edward Snowden
- Opinion: Do you think Edward Snowden was correct in doing what he did?
- Conclusion
- References
- Questions

Introduction

- The Edward Snowden 2013 NSA Data Breach was arguably the most damaging (known) data breach to ever impact the U.S. Intelligence Community. This presentation will cover what happened, how it happened, why it happened, the data breach's consequences, its implications for the future, and how such breaches can be prevented in the future.



Edward Snowden
Vanity Fair Artwork

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TOP SECURITY BREACHES

Data security has been a concern since the dawn of the spoken word, and breaches throughout history have led to both good and bad results for society. Today, with our information being mostly digital, hacks have become even more common.

Employment of information security analysts, web developers and computer network architects is projected to grow 22% from 2010 to 2020¹ — faster than the average for all occupations. So, when did these data breaks begin? Here are some of history's top information breaches.



1600

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT November 5, 1605

A scheme to kill King James I using 36 barrels of gunpowder that Guy Fawkes was guarding was uncovered.



1700

CASANOVA Spies for Venetian Inquisitors 1774–1783

Casanova spied for the Venetian Inquisitors of State.



THE MIDNIGHT RIDE April 18, 1775

Paul Revere warns colonists about movement of British troops.

1800

WEST POINT SECRETS April–September 1780

Benedict Arnold attempts to sell secrets to the British about American troops and West Point.



1900

THE ENIGMA MACHINE December 1932

Polish Cipher Bureau
The Polish government's cryptography agency decoded the cipher for Germany's early Enigma machines.



Some Previous Bad Security Breaches

Some Previous Bad Security Breaches

WATERGATE
1972—1973
U.S. President Richard Nixon was involved in the break-in at the Watergate Hotel where cash found on the burglars was used by a Nixon campaign committee.

HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS
March 2008
134 million credit and debit card numbers were stolen from users of Heartland Payment Systems.

THE X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE LEAK
March 31, 2009
An unfinished version of X-Men Origins: Wolverine found its way online before its official release.

THE GAWKER MEDIA HACK
December 2010
The email addresses and passwords for more than 1.3 million Gawker Media readers were compromised.

THE KT CORPORATION HACK
February—July 2012
User info was stolen from more than 8 million KT mobile phone subscribers in South Korea.

SOVIET UNION SPIES
1951 U.S. citizens Julius and Ethel Rosenberg passed thousands of documents to the Communists.

THE IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR
November 1986
The Iranian government's weapons-for-hostages deal with the U.S. was leaked.

THE STUXNET VIRUS
2010—ongoing
Computer virus Stuxnet was created to hinder the development of Iran's nuclear power program.

WIKILEAKS & THE IRAQ WAR LOGS
April—October 2010
A series of leaked government documents and classified video from the Iraq War were leaked.

THE SONY PLAYSTATION NETWORK BREACH
April 2011
More than 77 million of Sony's PlayStation Network accounts were hacked.

WIKILEAKS & THE SYRIA FILES
July 2012
More than 2.4 million private emails to and from political figures in Syria found their way online.

2000

5

Virus detected!

KNOW HOW FOR A NEW TOMORROW | **DeVry University**

¹U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition, Information Security Analysts, Web Developers, and Computer Network Architects, on the Internet

Persons in the Story



Laura Poitras, Reporter



Barack Obama,
President of the United States



Edward J. Snowden,
Former NSA Contractor



Glen Greenwald,
Reporter for the U.K. Guardian



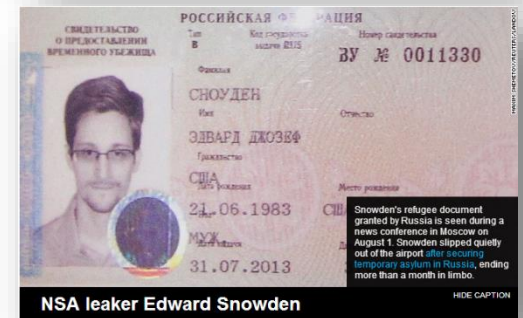
Vladimir Putin,
President of Russia



General Keith Alexander,
Former NSA Director and Director
of US Cyber Command

What Happened? What Did Snowden Do?

- In May 2013, after a series of secret communications with two experienced reporters (Laura Poitras and Glenn Greenwald), NSA Contractor and System Administrator Edward Snowden took four laptops, each with a 1 TB drive and flew to Hong Kong and later sought asylum in Russia
- Approximately 1.7 million classified documents have been copied and removed from the NSA's infrastructure while Snowden was on duty in Hawaii
- The damage to the National Security of the United States is said to be "incalculable" and the WORST DATA BREACH EVER.



The Time Line

- **June 21, 1983** – Edward J. Snowden born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina
- **1999** – Dropped out of High School
- **2004** – Joined the U.S. Army Reserve because he was patriotic, later washed out
- **2005** - worked s a "security specialist" at the University of Maryland's Center for Advanced Study of Language
- **2006 - 2007** - Joined the CIA and worked as a system administrator in Geneva, Switzerland
- **2009** - Became a contractor and worked at Dell for the NSA in Japan
- **2012** - Was identified as having downloaded several sensitive documents from the NSA
- **January 2013** – Snowden initiates communications with a New York Times Reporter, Laura Poitras, setting the protocol for strong public key / private key encryption due to fears of being discovered
- **March 2013** – Snowden joined Booz Allen Hamilton as a systems administrator working for the NSA; moved to Hawaii
- **May 2013** – Snowden traveled from Hawaii to Hong Kong with Four Laptops; Meets Glenn Greenwald and Laura Poitras in Hong Kong
- **June 3 – 5, 2013** – Glen Greenwald published a series of articles in the U.K.'s Guardian newspaper disclosing the extent of the NSA's surveillance programs, both foreign and domestic spying
- **June 21, 2013** – At the request of President Barack Obama, the U.S. Department of Justice files (sealed) criminal espionage charges against Snowden and demands extradition
- **August 1, 2013** – Snowden granted temporary political asylum in Russia by President Vladimir Putin after spending more than four weeks at the Moscow International Airport
- **March 7, 2014** - Testimony at EU Parliament via teleconference, e-mail, Twitter, and the Internet
- **March 10, 2014** – SXSW Conference via ACLU sponsored teleconference, Twitter, and the Internet
- **March 18, 2014** – the ACLU published all NSA documents that Snowden had disclosed so far, in an online database that is searchable by topic, title and date. The URL: <https://www.aclu.org/nsa-documents-search>
- **March 18, 2014** – TED Conference Talk via Telepresence Robot, software and the Internet
- **April 6, 2014** – ACLU Conference via teleconference, e-mail, Twitter, and the Internet
- **April 8, 2014** – Edward Snowden Interview in Vanity Fair magazine

How Did Snowden Accomplish His Data Breach?

- Social Engineering
 - Achieved Elevated Privileges and Access by getting colleagues to share their login credentials
 - Defeating security controls that were designed to compartmentalize data and data access based on a need to know
- Intimate knowledge of systems, security management, and weaknesses in controls
- Copied data to four Laptops – 1 TB each
- Communicated with Reporters starting in January 2013 via encrypted e-mails
- Left Hawaii to Hong Kong gave reporters key details
- Left Hong Kong for asylum in Russia
- Communicating now via the Internet (e-mail, secure webcast, Twitter, Telepresence Robot control, phone, etc.)



Snowden at Press Conference in Moscow with Russian Lawyers

What Has Snowden Disclosed?

- Details about
 - MANY NSA Classified Programs
 - MANY GCHQ Classified Joint Programs
 - Spying on Americans
 - Spying on Allies
 - Spying on our “Enemies”
 - Social Engineering and Discrediting Campaign Tactics
 - NSA working Microsoft, Google, Yahoo. Etc.
 - Offensive and Defensive Cyberwarfare activities and actors
 - Workings of the NSA and his job responsibilities
 - His philosophies and beliefs about the Government, surveillance, the Internet, and personal freedoms
- Promises to disclose a great deal more

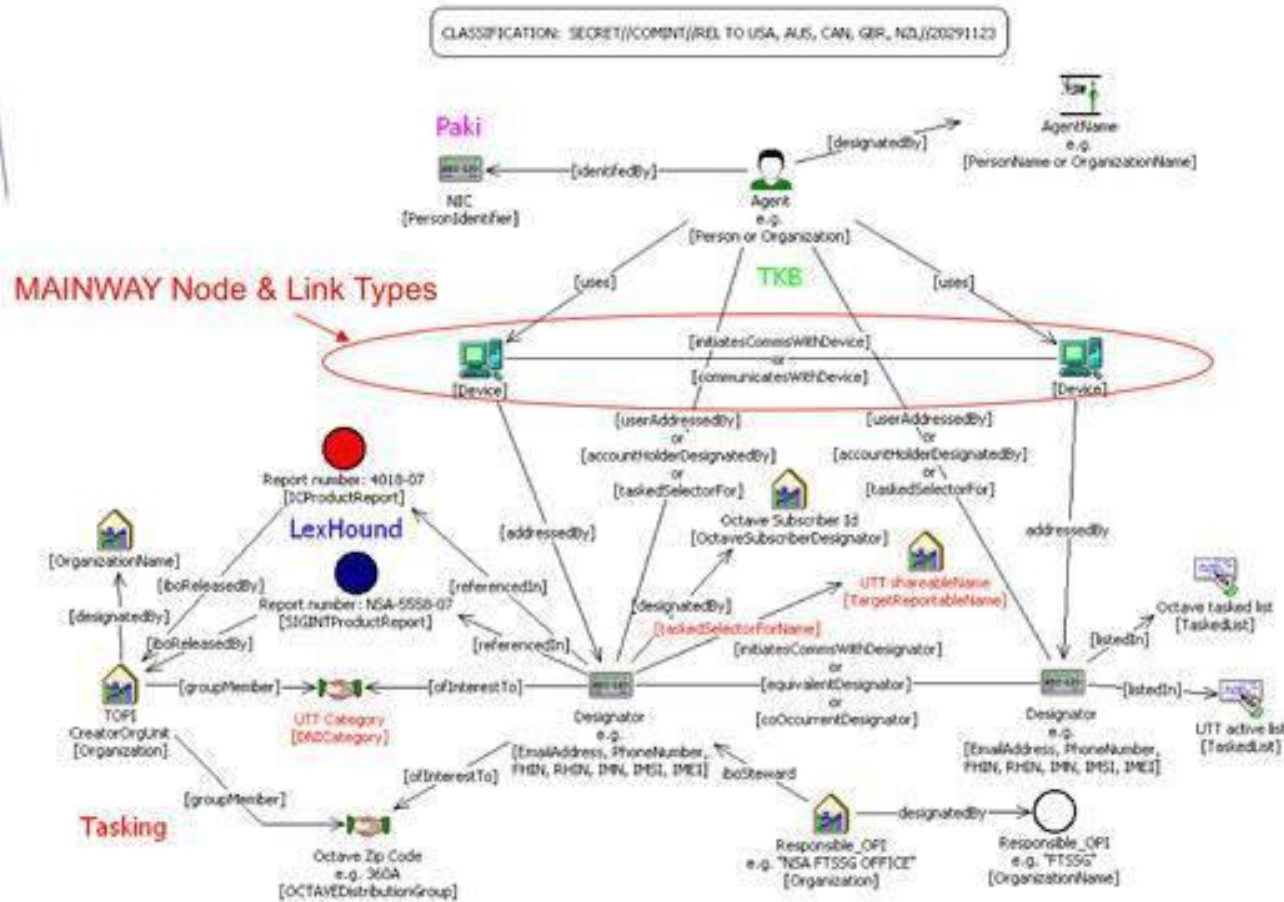


Edward Snowden

NSA Surveillance Programs – Now Known

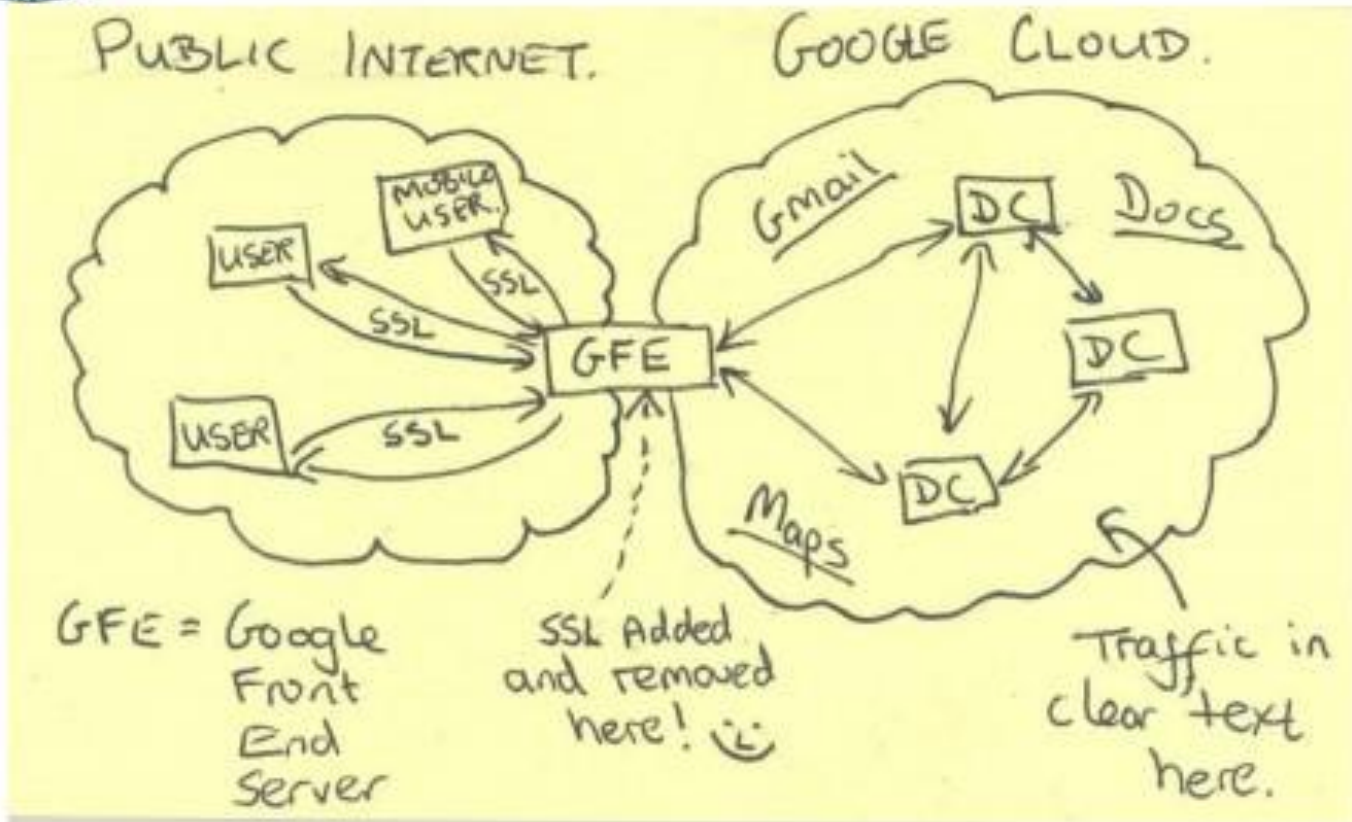


(S//SI//REL USA, FVEY) SYANPSE Data Model

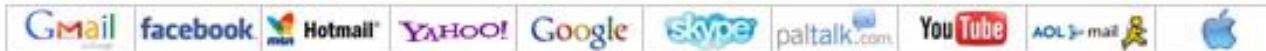




Current Efforts - Google





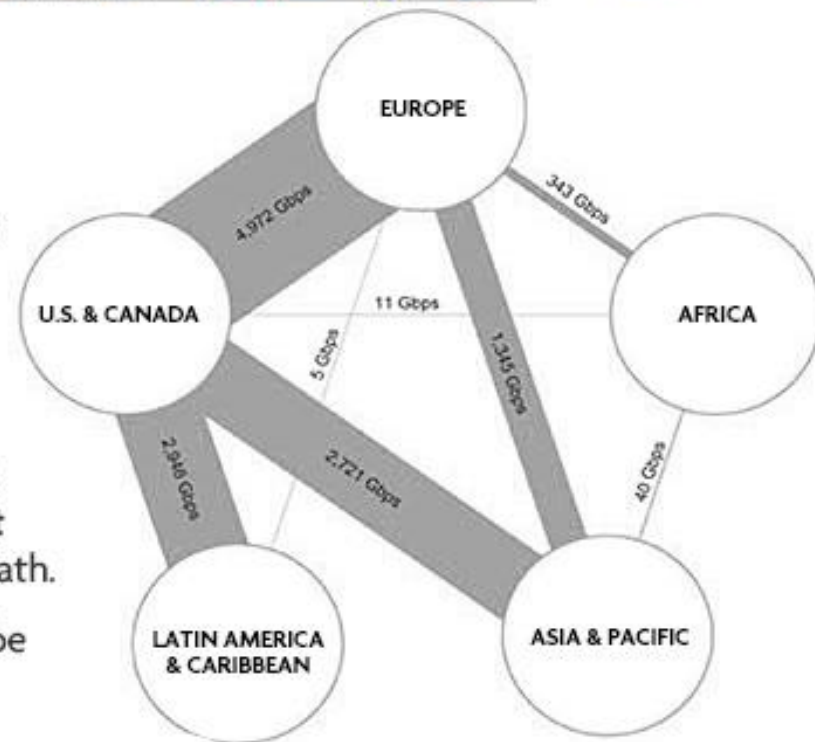


TS | SI | NF

INTRODUCTION

US as World Telecommunications Backbone

- Much of the world's communications flow through the US.
- A target's email, phone call or chat will take **the cheapest path, not the physically most direct path**—you can't always predict the path.
- Your target's communications could easily be flowing into and through the US.



International Internet Regional Bandwidth Capacity in 2011
Source: Telegeography Research



(TS//SI//NF) PRISM Collection Details



Current Providers

- Microsoft (Hotmail, etc.)
- Google
- Yahoo!
- Facebook
- PalTalk
- YouTube
- Skype
- AOL
- Apple



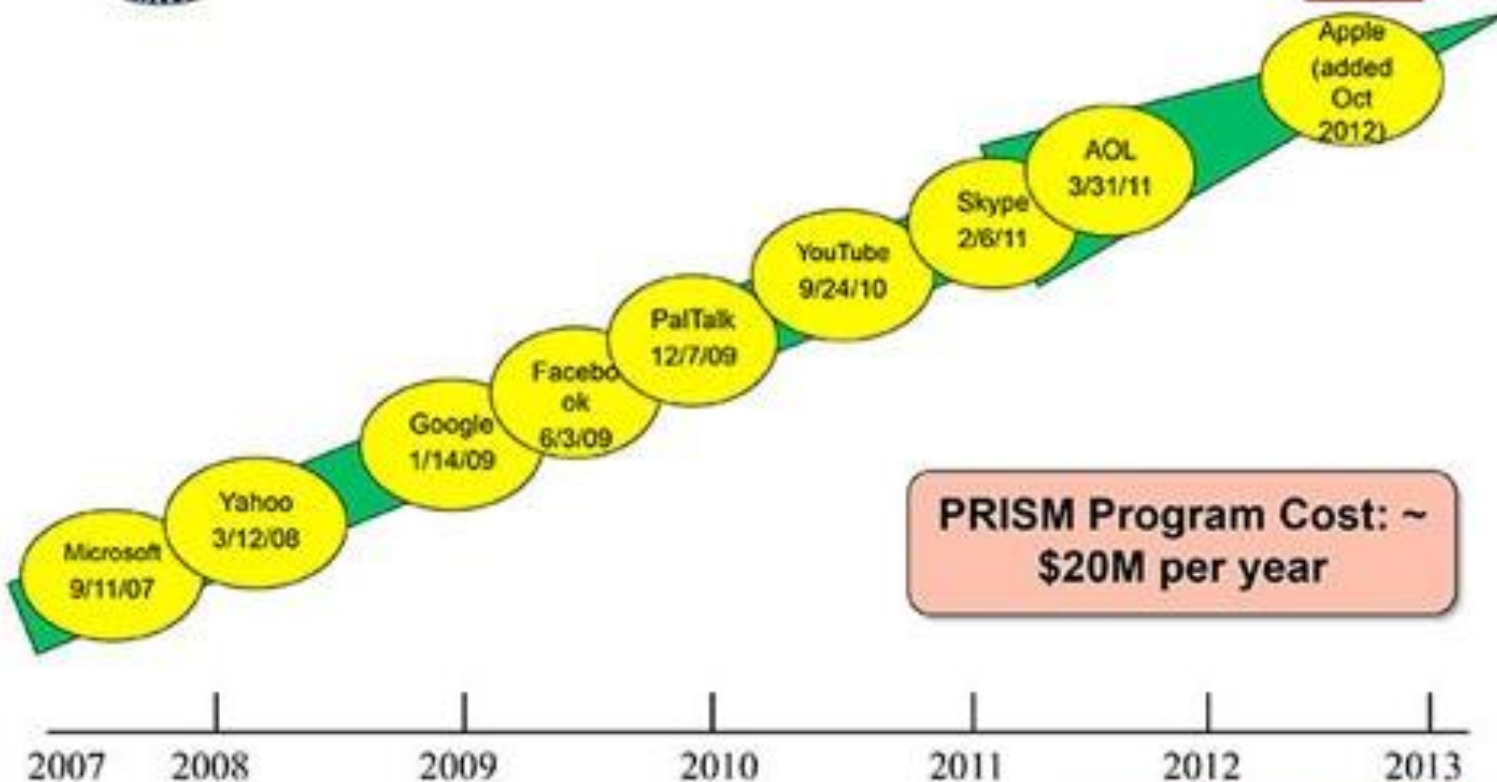
What Will You Receive in Collection (Surveillance and Stored Comms)?
It varies by provider. In general:

- E-mail
- Chat – video, voice
- Videos
- Photos
- Stored data
- VoIP
- File transfers
- Video Conferencing
- Notifications of target activity – logins, etc.
- Online Social Networking details
- **Special Requests**

Complete list and details on PRISM web page:
Go PRISMFAA



(TS//SI//NF) Dates When PRISM Collection Began For Each Provider

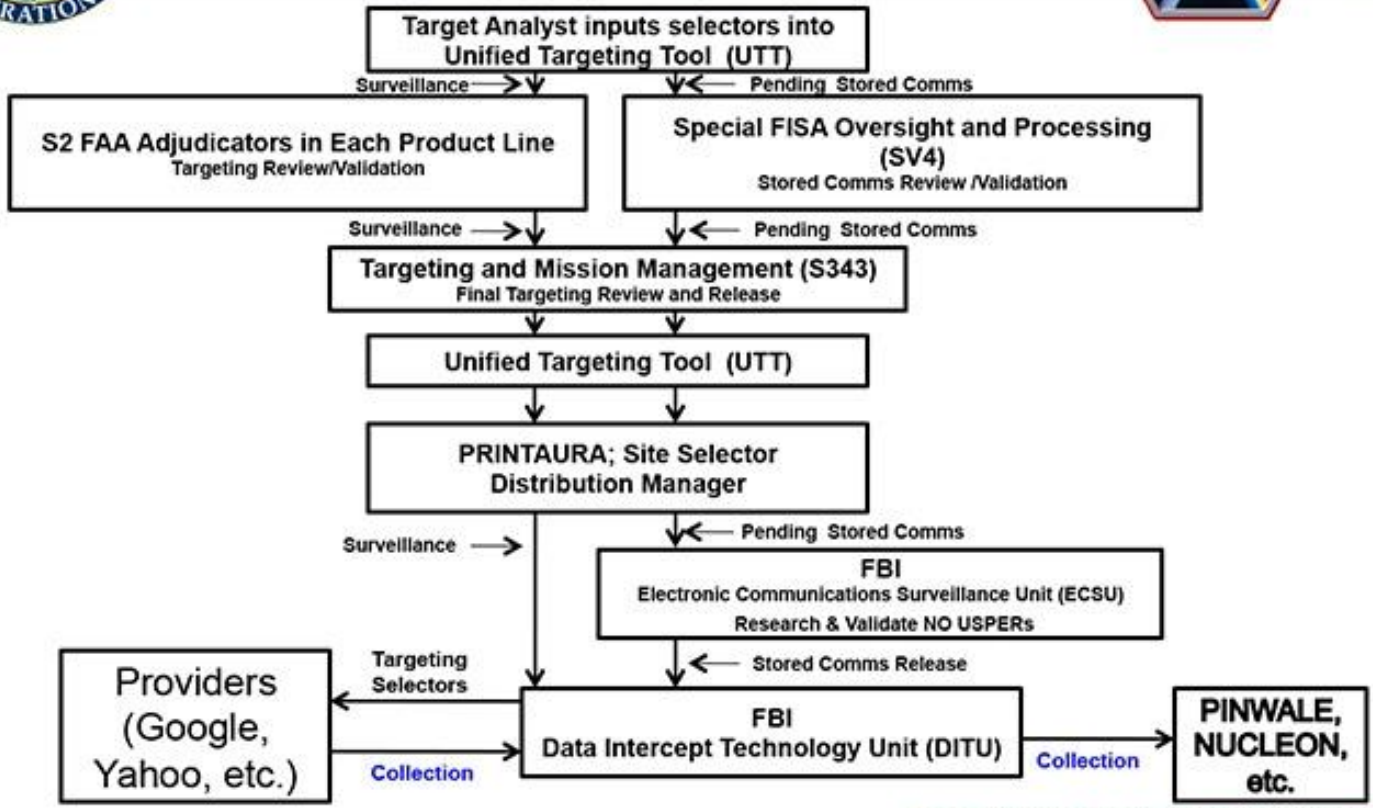


PRISM Program Cost: ~ \$20M per year

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013



(TS//SI//NF) PRISM Tasking Process





Discredit a target



- Set up a honey-trap
- Change their photos on social networking sites
- Write a blog purporting to be one of their victims
- Email/text their colleagues, neighbours, friends etc

TOP SECRET//COMINT//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL



Discredit a company



- Leak confidential information to companies / the press via blogs etc
- Post negative information on appropriate forums
- Stop deals / ruin business relationships

TOP SECRET//COMINT//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL

Gambits for Deception

Attention	Control attention Conspicuity & Expectancies	The big move covers the little move	The Target looks where you look	Attention drops at the perceived end	Repetition reduces vigilance
Perception	Mask/Mimic Eliminate - Blend Recreate - Imitate	Repackage/Invent Modify old cues Create new cues	Dazzle/Decoy Blur old cues Create alternate cues	Make the cue dynamic	Stimulate multiple sensors
Sensemaking	Exploit prior beliefs	Present story fragments	Repetition creates expectancies	Haversack Ruse (The Piece of Bad Luck)	Swap the real for the false, & vice versa
Affect	Create Cognitive Stress	Create Physiological Stress	Create Affective Stress (+/-)	Cialdini+2	Exploit shared affect
Behaviour	Simulate the action	Simulate the outcome	Time-shift perceived behaviour	Divorce behaviour from outcome	Channel behaviour

Consequences: How does this affect the NSA and U.S. National Security?

- One U.S. Government Official:
 - “We have to assume that the Russians know EVERYTHING about our Surveillance Programs...”
- The U.S. will have to go back to the drawing board to create and implement most of the programs that provided the capabilities they want and need
- The NSA and other Intelligence gathering agencies must now rethink their human security programs
- Fewer people will have access to highly classified data

Consequences: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect the U.S. Government?

- Better Risk Assessment and Risk Management Programs
- Better security management
- More money will be spent creating new surveillance programs and data protection programs
- Fewer people will have access to highly classified data
- Those with access to data will be watched more carefully
- Quicker and Harsher punishment for infractions



(Sealed) Charges Filed Against Edward Snowden

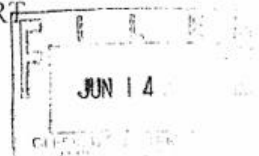
- June 21, 2013 – the U.S. Filed Criminal Charges Against Former NSA Contractor, Edward Snowden
- If convicted, Snowden could get the death penalty



Edward Snowden
Former NSA Contractor

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Eastern District of Virginia



United States of America)
v.)
Edward J. Snowden)
)
)
)
)

Case No. 1:13 CR 265 (GMH)

Defendant(s)

UNDER SEAL

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of May 2013 in the county of Not Applicable in the

District of Not Applicable, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

Offense Description

- 18 U.S.C. 641 Theft of Government Property
- 18 U.S.C. 793(d) Unauthorized Communication of National Defense Information
- 18 U.S.C. 798(a)(3) Willful Communication of Classified Communications Intelligence Information to an Unauthorized Person

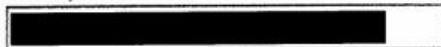
This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See Attached Affidavit.

Venue is proper pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3238.

Continued on the attached sheet.

Reviewed by AUSA/SAUSA:



Complainant's signature
John A. Kralik, Jr.
Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 06/14/2013

/s/ JFA
John F. Anderson
United States Magistrate Judge
Judge's signature

City and state: Alexandria, VA

Hon. John F. Anderson, U.S. Magistrate Judge
Printed name and title



Consequences: Has anyone lost their job as a result of what Edward Snowden has done?

- General Keith Alexander, chief of the NSA, Central Security Service, and U.S. Cyber Command AND his Deputy John Inglis
 - On October 16, 2013, it was announced that General Alexander, and his Deputy John C. Inglis, were leaving the NSA. This announcement came on the heels of four months of NSA spying revelations spawned by press-leaks made by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.
- Most likely some of Snowden's bosses at the NSA and Booz Allen Hamilton were quietly fired



General Keith Alexander

Implications: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect the Cybersecurity Career Field

- More qualifications and experience
- More frequent training
- More certifications
- More stringent controls
 - More surveillance
 - Background checks
 - Better control of access to data
 - Two-man policies



M.S. Cybersecurity

- 01 - CIS 608 Information Security Management
- 02 - CYBR 515 - Security Architecture and Design
- 03 - CYBR 510 Physical, Operations, and Personnel Security
- 04 - CIS 537 Introduction to Cyber Ethics
- 05 - CIS 607 Computer Forensics
- 06 - CYBR 520 Human Aspects of Cybersecurity
- 07 - CYBR 610 Risk Management Studies
- 08 - CYBR 525 Ethical Hacking and Response
- 09 - DET 630 Cyber Warfare & Deterrence
- 10 - CYBR 625 Business Continuity Planning and Recovery
- 11 - CYBR 615 Cybersecurity Governance and Compliance
- 12 - CYBR 650 Current Trends in Cybersecurity



Implications: How will the Edward Snowden Compromise affect your career as an IT Professional?

- The qualifications bar will be much higher
 - No more high school drop-outs or GEDs
 - More certifications, cybersecurity-related degrees
- Stronger examination of backgrounds
- Expect more oversight



Implications: How would you prevent an Edward Snowden-style Data Breach in your organization if you were the Cybersecurity Director?

- Revamp your Risk Assessment and Risk Management Programs
- Revamp your Security Management Program
 - Applying the Control Framework(s) controls that relate to Security Personnel and Asset Management
 - Training on Security, ethics, etc.
 - Increased surveillance, controls and accountability
 - Fewer people should have access to highly classified data
 - Two-man policies
- Apply and use metrics
- Monitor! Monitor! Monitor!
- Continuously improve
- Train! Train! Train!

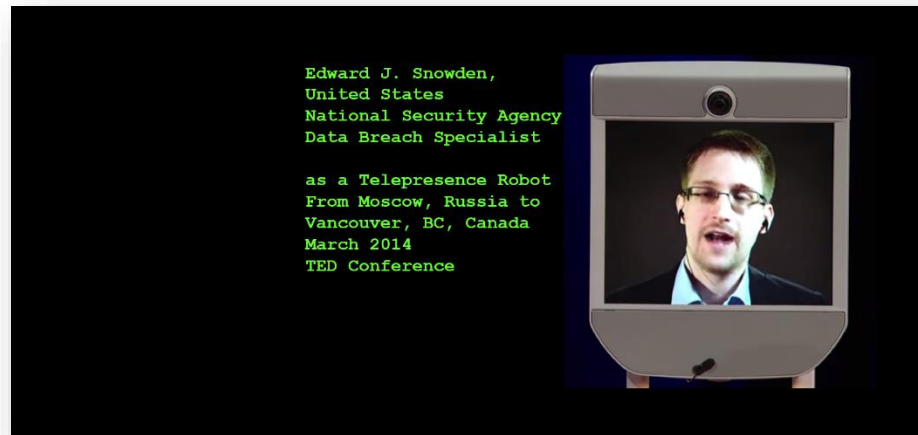


Edward Snowden
Routinely wore an EFF
Hoodie and had
an EFF Sticker on his
laptop

Source: <http://www.dailydot.com/news/snowden-eff-hoodie/>

The Latest Developments on Edward Snowden

- **March 7, 2014** - Testimony at EU Parliament
- **March 11, 2014** – SXSW Conference
- **March 18, 2014** – TED Conference
- **April 6, 2014** – ACLU Conference
- Has promised to release MANY more revealing documents
- Has set up a “Doomsday” release arrangements of all documents in case he is assassinated



Edward Snowden's 6 Revelations at the SXSW Conference

1. Bulk Data Collection Doesn't Work
2. There Isn't Much Consumers Can Do to Avoid It
3. The Most Dangerous Men in America Are Michael Hayden and Keith Alexander
4. The Government Still Doesn't Know What Snowden Has
5. The Tech Industry Is Upset
6. Snowden Has No Regrets

"The NSA is setting fire to the Internet. You people in the room at SXSW are the firefighters." – Edward Snowden



Edward Snowden
Live via Secure Webcast
at the SXSW Conference
March 11, 2014

6 Things Edward Snowden Revealed at SXSW

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2454827,00.asp>



The EU Parliament in a show of Solidarity for Edward Snowden and his disclosures votes in support of anti-spying measures

Opinion: Do you think Edward Snowden was correct in doing what he did?

- Let's take a vote using a show of hands

Snowden was WRONG	Snowden was RIGHT



Anecdotal Advice to Prevent an Edward Snowden Event in your Organization:



1. Learn about vetting your people with background checks.
2. Learn about monitoring your peoples' work and behaviors
3. Never hire a high school drop-out.
4. Learn about and train your system administrators on a Code of Ethics: <http://1drv.ms/QjMcjw>
5. Learn about and train your entire staff about what Social Engineering is, how it works, and how to protect against it
6. Read this paper about Hacking Humans: [http://www.billslater.com/writing/Hacking_Humans_from_W_F_Slater_v1_2013_0219 .pdf](http://www.billslater.com/writing/Hacking_Humans_from_W_F_Slater_v1_2013_0219.pdf)



Conclusions

- Despite billions of dollars of planning, engineering and administration, the human element proved to be the weakest link
- A lot of security REENGINEERING will need to take place
- A lot of money, time, and energy will be required to get it corrected
- Things will get more complicated for Management and Cybersecurity professionals
- Greater vetting efforts and compartmentalization of data
- Expect that highly-trained, high-skilled, trustworthy cybersecurity professionals and managers will be more valuable and in demand



**BACK TO THE
DRAWING
BOARD**

The End... of The Beginning



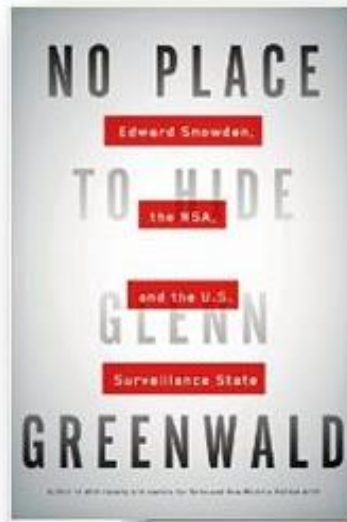
The Brand New 1 million square foot NSA Data Center in Bluffdale, Utah
This 100 MW Facility will hold 12 Exabytes of Data

It houses EVERYONE's Data

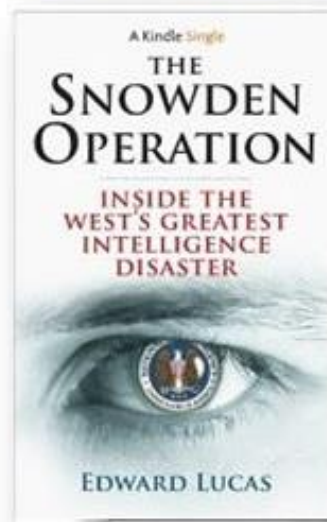
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- New Books on Edward Snowden

**No Place to Hide:
Edward Snowden, the
NSA, and the U.S.
Surveillance State**



**The Snowden
Operation: Inside the
West's Greatest
Intelligence Disaster**



**No Place to Hide:
Edward Snowden, the
NSA, and the U.S.
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Questions?



Career Opportunities?

- Yes – The U.S. Government is hiring Cybersecurity Professionals
- Private Industry will be picking up more and more Cybersecurity experts



Career Development Opportunities?

Illinois Institute of Technology

- M.S. in Cyber Forensics and Security (land campus)



Information Technology and Management » Master of Cyber Forensics and Security »

Master of Cyber Forensics and Security

There is a critical need in both the government and private sectors for professionals equipped to prevent, counteract and investigate cybercrimes and information security breaches. According to Bloomberg the average cost of security breaches in the U.S. is 7.2 million dollars per incident. Gartner studies show that the average enterprise spends 5.6% of their it budget on information security, making this a nearly one trillion dollar a year industry. The need for educated professionals in this field is clearly spelled out in documents such as the U.S. Committee on National Security Systems Directive No. 500 Information Assurance (IA) Education, Training, and Awareness which mandates information assurance education for the professionals necessary to ensure the development and implementation of a comprehensive approach for the protection of U.S. Government national security systems and the information they store, process, or transmit.

The *Master of Cyber Forensics and Security* degree is designed to equip experienced information technology professionals with the necessary knowledge and tools to fill the need for educated cyber security and forensics practitioners, investigators and managers. Built around a strong core of courses originally developed for IIT's Information Technology and Management degrees, the program also draws on courses from the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law curriculum to give cyber security and forensics practitioners the necessary thorough grounding in legal issues and compliance. Courses are taught by experts in the field who not only have academic knowledge but years of experience in the information security realm in both industry and government service.

<http://www.itm.iit.edu/cybersecurity/index.php>



Bellevue University

Bellevue, NE (land campus and online)

- M.S. in Cybersecurity
- B.S. in Cybersecurity

M.S.
Cybersecurity

- 01 - CIS 608 Information Security Management
- 02 - CYBR 515 - Security Architecture and Design
- 03 - CYBR 510 Physical, Operations, and Personnel Security
- 04 - CIS 537 Introduction to Cyber Ethics
- 05 - CIS 607 Computer Forensics
- 06 - CYBR 520 Human Aspects of Cybersecurity
- 07 - CYBR 610 Risk Management Studies
- 08 - CYBR 525 Ethical Hacking and Response
- 09 - DET 630 Cyber Warfare & Deterrence
- 10 - CYBR 625 Business Continuity Planning and Recovery
- 11 - CYBR 615 Cybersecurity Governance and Compliance
- 12 - CYBR 650 Current Trends in Cybersecurity

<http://www.bellevue.edu/degrees/graduate/cybersecurity-ms/>



Presenter Bio:

William Favre Slater, III

- IT professional since July 1977
- Owner of Slater Technologies, Inc.
- Currently a Senior IT Consultant in IT Security, Information Security, IT Infrastructure Management, Data Center Operations & Development, IT Change Management, Application System Development, Technical Service Development, and Service Management
- An Adjunct Professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology – for six years
- first Data Center Manager of Microsoft's Flagship Cloud Data Center, the Microsoft Chicago Data Center in 2008
- Managed Data Centers at BP from August 2001 – November 2006, was also a Change Management Manager and a System Administrator during that time.
- Have achieved 80 IT-related certifications, including PMP, CDCP, CISSP, SSCP, CISA, MCITP, MS Project, Visio, MCSE 2003 Security & Messaging, MCSA, MCAD, MCDST, and MCT
- Data Center Technology Program – Marist College & and the Institute of Data Center Professionals, February 2008 – Received the Certified Data Center Professional Certification
- M.S. in Cybersecurity – Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE (completed on March 2, 2013)
- MBA, University of Phoenix, 2010
- MS in Computer Information Systems, University of Phoenix, 2004
- BS in Engineering Technology with a major in Computer Systems Technology, University of Memphis
- Published author & editor: Magazines, books, courseware
- Subject Matter Expert in Cybersecurity for Caveon Courseware and Testing
- Happily married (since December 2000) to Joanna K. Roguska, who is a professional web developer
- A former U.S. Air Force computer systems staff officer at Strategic Air Command Headquarters supporting the SAC Underground and SAC Battle Staff Command Control Communications Systems, July 1977 – October 1980
- Native of Memphis, Tennessee, born the same month and year as Bill Gates
- Resident of Chicago
- Active member of Chicago Police Judo Club and a Black belt in Kodokan Judo, since 1988



Presenter Bio:

William Favre Slater, III

- **Current Position – Project Manager / Sr. IT Consultant at Slater Technologies, Inc.** Working on projects related to
 - Security reviews and auditing
 - ISO 27001 Project Implementations
 - Subject Matter Expert for preparing Risk Management and Security Exams at Western Governor’s State University in UT
 - Created an eBook with articles about Security, Risk Management, Cyberwarfare, Project Management and Data Center Operations
 - Providing subject matter expert services to Data Center product vendors and other local businesses.
 - Developing and presenting technical training materials for undergraduate and graduate students at the Illinois Institute of Technology in the areas of Data Center Operations, Data Center Architecture, Cyber Security Management, and Information Technology hardware and software.

