

CRYPTOPARTY: Surveillance Self-Defense for the People!

Revolution LA

Steve Phillips / 2016.12.10

# OUTLINE

- Surveillance landscape
  - Corporate surveillance
  - Government surveillance
- Why privacy is so important
- How to protect yourself against various threats

# OUR MASS SURVEILLANCE SITUATION

- Your cell carrier (e.g., AT&T) and some apps know where you are
- Facebook knows who your friends are, who you message
- Gmail/Yahoo/Microsoft knows who you email and what you say
- Google knows what you search for/think about
- Dropbox has your personal files and data
- Skype knows what you look and sound like

- Skype knows what you look and sound like

**GOOD THING ALL THAT  
INFORMATION IS SEPARATE!**

Or is it?

# WHAT THE NSA KNOWS

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN



Gmail

facebook



Hotmail

YAHOO!

Google



skype

paltalk.com

YouTube

AOL mail

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



Current Providers

What Will You Receive in Collection  
(Surveillance and Stored Comms)?

It varies by provider. In general:

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



- 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

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN

# WHAT DOES ALL THIS ADD UP TO?

Snowden, in an interview:

- "You could read anyone's email in the world, anybody you've got an email address for. Any website: You can watch traffic to and from it. Any computer that an individual sits at: You can watch it."

# STINGRAYS

- Fake cell phone tower
  - Used by LAPD, others
- Can view **text messages, phone calls, and data**
  - ...unless you use encryption

# MLK

“The FBI’s program to destroy Dr. King as the leader of the civil rights movement entailed efforts to discredit him with churches, universities and the press,” the report said.

It collected information about King’s plans and activities “through an extensive surveillance program, employing nearly every intelligence gathering technique at the Bureau’s disposal,” according to the report.



# "BUT WHY WORRY ABOUT PRIVACY IF I'M NOT AN ACTIVIST?"

- Maybe your friend is an effective activist
- A WikiLeaks' associates phone was confiscated, now some of his contacts get stopped at the border
  - <http://www.cnet.com/news/security-researcher-i-keep-getting-detained-by-feds/>

# "BUT I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG"

- **Question:** What if we would have had today's surveillance regime long ago?
- Freeing slaves
- Teaching black people how to read
- Interracial sex (used to be illegal)
- LGBTQ relationships

# "BUT I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG" (2)

- What about Bernie Sanders-type figures in 30 years?
- During WWII, this very church housed Japanese

# SURVEILLANCE AND TERRORISM

- Mass surveillance have never prevented any terrorist action
  - 9/11
  - Boston Bombing
  - etc
- For more of my comments on the (in)effectiveness of mass surveillance, listen to Episode 1 of "The Populist Papers"

# SURVEILLANCE AND TERRORISM (2)

- Encryption isn't magic
  - Several ways to break into a phone

# HOW DOES SURVEILLANCE AFFECT *EVERYONE?*

- It affects what you read in the paper
  - Journalists get info from sources
  - If sources can't safely talk to journalists, their info never gets published
  - Source => Journalist => You

# HOW DOES SURVEILLANCE AFFECT *EVERYONE?* (2)

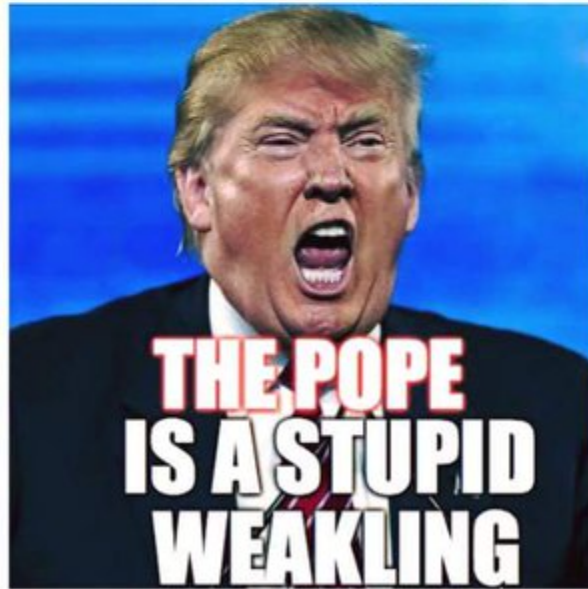
- Social progress comes from citizens becoming informed about the world, then taking action to make it better
- Journalism and activism make this possible

# BILL BINNEY ON PRIVACY

- "I'm not doing anything wrong!"
- Binney: "you don't get to decide what 'wrong' means."



# WHO MAY BE DEEMED "GUILTY?"



# "WE ONLY TARGET TERRORISTS"

- US government asked for *my* Twitter data
  - ...for following WikiLeaks

# DANGERS

- "...if everyone's every action were being monitored, and everyone technically violates some obscure law at some time, then punishment becomes purely selective."
  - From <http://www.thoughtcrime.org/blog/we-should-all-have-something-to-hide/>
- Think about this from the NSA's perspective
  - They have dirt on everyone. *Everyone.*
  - Control => Threat to democracy (on 2 levels)

# AND *THAT* IS WHY SURVEILLANCE IS SO DANGEROUS

- Questions? / brief discussion
- (Remember: good news is coming)

# SNOWDEN'S SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

*.@snowden OPSEC guide:*

- use Signal*
- use Tor*
- use full disk encryption*
- use a password manager*
- use two factor auth*

*Solid basics. — the grugq*

*(@thegrugq) November 23, 2015*

# WHAT IS TOR?

- The Tor Browser Bundle enables you to **browse the web anonymously**
- The Tor anonymity network is a network of computers around the world that encrypts and hides what you're doing on the Internet, like web browsing and instant messaging



## Welcome to Tor Browser

You are now free to browse the Internet anonymously.

[Test Tor Network Settings](#)

Search [securely with Disconnect.me.](#)

### What Next?

Tor is NOT all you need to browse anonymously! You may need to change some of your browsing habits to ensure your identity stays safe.

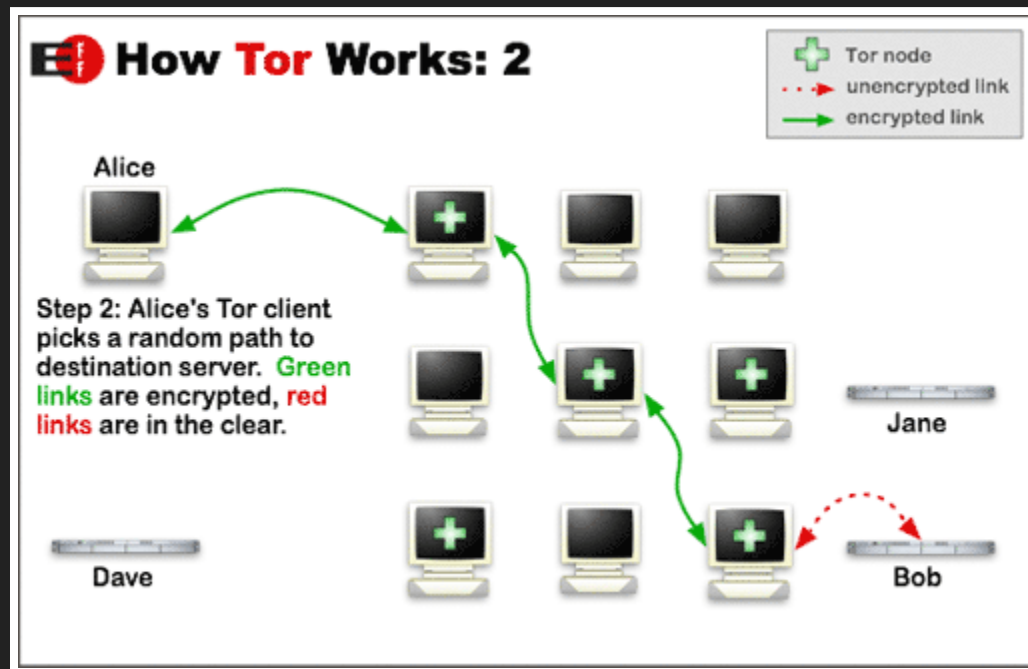
[Tips On Staying Anonymous »](#)

### You Can Help!

There are many ways you can help make the Tor Network faster and stronger:

- [Run a Tor Relay Node »](#)
- [Volunteer Your Services »](#)
- [Make a Donation »](#)

# HOW TOR WORKS





# REASONS TO USE TOR

- Law enforcement is monitoring social media
  - <http://www.eastbayexpress.com/oakland/oakland-cops-quietly-acquired-social-media-surveillance-tool/Content?oid=4747526>
- Consider using Tor to create fake Twitter account, do activism through there that doesn't need to be tied to your real identity

# FACEBOOK OVER TOR

1 million people have used FB over Tor:

<https://twitter.com/maher275/status/724134279354134528>

- Can use Tor to anonymize your location from FB
  - Story: woman escaping abuse

# POSSIBLE MISSTEPS

Don't be this guy; beware of Tor's limitations!

- <http://arstechnica.com/security/2013/12/use-of-tor-helped-fbi-finger-bomb-hoax-suspect/>

# THANKS!

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