

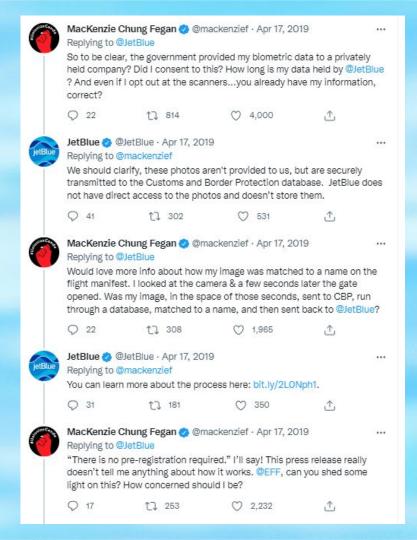
Weekly Ethicacy 10/6/22 Qianhui Vanessa Zou Rachel Kaufman



I just boarded an international @JetBlue flight. Instead of scanning my boarding pass or handing over my passport, I looked into a camera before being allowed down the jet bridge. Did facial recognition replace boarding passes, unbeknownst to me? Did I consent to this?

9:41 AM · Apr 17, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

3,686	Retweets	2,492 Quote	Tweets	7,661 Likes				
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jetBlue	Replying	@JetBlue · to @mackenz	ief					
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	Follow up question. Presumably these facial recognition scanners are matching my image to something in order to verify my identity. How does @JetBlue know what I look like?							
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MacKenzie Chung Fegan @ @mackenzief · Apr 18, 2019

Replying to @JetBlue and @EFF

"It took her photo, comparing her picture to a preloaded photo database of all the passengers with tickets on this flight." It sounds like opting out isn't really an option. I can not go through the scanner, but my data will have already been accessed and loaded into a database.

58

17 284

(*) 2.046



Original Tweet:

https://twitter.com/mackenzief/status/1118509708673998848? s=20&t=NJxWEJ-3ud3 q-yK313UQq

Links from JetBlue:

http://mediaroom.jetblue.com/investor-relations/press-release s/2018/11-15-2018-184045420

https://www.wbur.org/news/2017/06/21/jetblue-facial-recogni tion-pilot

- CBP obtains the passenger manifest for each flight.
- 2. CBP scans a number of government databases to assemble photographs for each passenger. Photos can include passport and visa photos as well as photos "captured by CBP during the entry inspection" and "from other DHS encounters."
- 3. CBP compares face recognition patterns derived from those database photos to live photographs taken by a camera at the boarding gate.





- Streamlines the airport experience for passengers:
 - No need to keep track of passports, licenses, or boarding passes
 - Faster than manually checking documentation
- Aids in national security
 - CBP has a Congressional mandate to collect biometric data
 - More thoroughly tracks visa overstays
 - Photos of international visitors can be checked against FBI and terrorist watch lists
- Citizen photos are held for only 14 days
 - Helps with analyzing system functionality
 - CBP already has biometric photos of all US citizens who travel via passport
- Data is encrypted and held for 24 hours, and airport cannot send it anywhere
- Voluntary system: US citizens have the right to opt out

- Facial recognition is "the most dangerous biometric"
 - Unreliable and biased, particularly for POC
 - Widely and easily subject to scans w/o knowledge or permission
 - Subject to "mission creep" if normalized
 - Helps CBP do their "job," but the job is flawed and abusive
- Risk of having traveler data hacked and exposed
 - Best security practices are left to privatized security companies subcontracted by each airport; DHS has disclosed that some passenger photos were recently taken in a data breach
 - The government can create a digital identity for you and track you without your consent or knowledge, with NO current regulation
- Unnecessary and expensive
 - Initial reports show it doesn't reduce traffic at security checkpoints
 - Often ends up relying on confirmation checks by humans anyway
- The current system is opt-out (rather than opt-in) and photos are still part of CBP gallery they created prior to the flight

https://www.travelweekly.com/Travel-News/Airline-News/Biometrics-Facial-recognition-tech-coming-airport-near-you

http://mediaroom.jetblue.com/investor-relations/press-releases/2018/11-15-2018-184045 420

https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2019/06/10/your-face-is-now-your-boarding-pass-thats-problem/

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/07/travel/biometrics-airports-security.html

https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/26/travel/facial-recognition-airports-customs.html

https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/airports-facial-recognition/index.html

https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/airline-news/2019/08/16/biometric-airport-screening-facial-recognition-everything-you-need-know/1998749001/

https://www.aclu.org/news/privacy-technology/whats-wrong-airport-face-recognition