STATE OF THE STATE

GOVERNMENT SURVEILLANCE

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EFF Surveillance Self Defense 101: Chicago

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Overview

History

Long history of misuse of surveillance powers:

- ○ COINTELPRO: Monitoring and disruption of civil rights and political groups, including Martin Luther King Jr, the Black Panther Party, womens rights groups, anti-war groups

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○ Watergate scandal: Use of surveillance versus political opponents

Surveillance in Chicago

○ Long history of abuse and surveillance by CPD:

○ e.g. Red Squads: police intelligence units that infiltrated political and dissident groups

Here To Protect Us

Chicago's "RED SQUAD" (Political Intelligence Division of Police Department) working tirelessly....
- infiltrating meetings and organizations to get accurate, unbiased information
- wearing civilian clothes, driving unmarked cars to mingle easily with people so no one need feel inhibited or self conscious
- agitating at mass gatherings to insure the "creative friction" every gathering ought to have
- tailing key people and, upon occasion, arresting them to insure their safety and well being at crucial times
- exchanging pictures and information with the FBI on people who by their tireless work have become old familiar faces - to build an intelligence network any police state would be proud of

PEOPLE ARE ASKED TO COME IN PLAINCLOTHES AND UNMARKED CARS TO THE

Trials of HAYDEN, LOWENTHAL, FREE

2:00 P.M.— January 28, 1969

Criminal Court (Branch 47)

26th & California

TO LET IT BE KNOWN THAT WE'LL DO JUST FINE WITHOUT ALL THIS PROTECTION

Data Collection Landscape

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- Local and state police
- Facilitated by corporations
- With increasingly liberal information sharing
- Targets of surveillance: Immigrants, migrants, people of color, Muslim communities, activists, anarchists, ...

People have been defending their own privacy for centuries with whispers, darkness, envelopes, closed doors, secret handshakes, and couriers. -Eric Hughes

○ Our computers and smartphones are increasingly our eyes and ears.

Digital Security

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○ Our computers and smartphones are increasingly our eyes and ears.

○ Third parties mediate most human interactions: Facebook, Snapchat, texting, phone calls, email etc.

Police Surveillance in Chicago

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Operation Virtual Shield

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- 26,000+ cameras in Chicago including CTA, CPS, O'Hare and Midway airports
- Public-private partnership: Private owners can register cameras

From Project Upturn's excellent Policy Scorecard on Police Body Cameras[1], CPD's camera policy[2]:

○ Stores data for minimum of 90 days (no maximum) on Evidence.com

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[1] https://www.bwcscorecard.org/chicago-police-department

[2] http://directives.chicagopolice.org/directives/data/a7a57b38-151f3872-56415-1f38-89ce6c22d026d090.html

From Project Upturn's excellent Policy Scorecard on Police Body Cameras[1], CPD's camera policy[2]:

○ Stores data for minimum of 90 days (no maximum) on Evidence.com

○ No limitations in place for biometrics (e.g. facial recognition) on data

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- In Chicago, fingerprint and facial recognition (against database of mugshots)
- Take still frames from video camera footage, run facial recognition on it

○ Devices that simulate a cell tower to indiscriminantly intercept communications of nearby cellphones, deny service to the phone
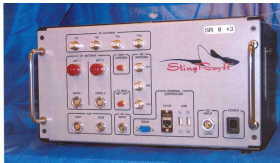
- ○ Devices that simulate a cell tower to indiscriminantly intercept communications of nearby cellphones, deny service to the phone
- ○ Poorly regulated: Chicago police do not appear to get warrants before their use. **Citizen Privacy Protection Act** pending at state level to remedy the situation.

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[3]http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2014/12/06/activists-say-chicago-police-used-stingray-eavesdropping-technology-

Cell Site Simulators / Stingrays

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- ○ Poorly regulated: Chicago police do not appear to get warrants before their use. **Citizen Privacy Protection Act** pending at state level to remedy the situation.
- ○ Suspected use at protests[3]

[3] http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2014/12/06/activists-say-chicago-police-used-stingray-eavesdropping-technology-

Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

- Log positions of vehicles based on license plates
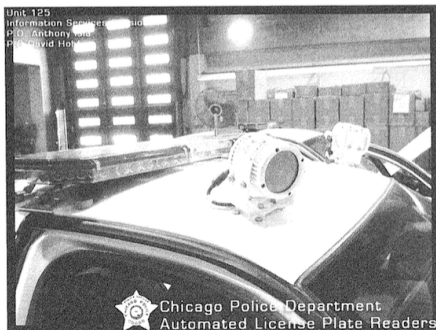
Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

- Log positions of vehicles based on license plates
- Stationary ALPRs and mobile ALPRs on police vehicles are both in use in Chicago

- Audio surveillance system for cities

Shotspotter

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- Pole-mounted microphones distributed over an area for the detection and localization of gunshots

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- In Chicago, deployed in Englewood, Harrison, Chicago Lawn and Grand Crossing

Social Media Monitoring

Manual and automated monitoring of speech on social media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.)
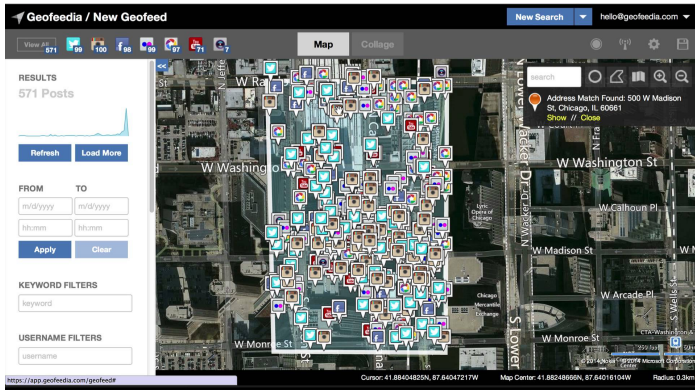
Jennifer Helsby
@redshiftzero

Cops on roof of police dept filming protestors
#LaquanMcDonald

RETWEETS
28

LIKES
9

9:08 PM · 24 Nov 2015

FIRST AMENDMENT WORKSHEET
Chicago Police Department

		Date and Time of Request
		5 Jan 15 1000 hours

To: **Superintendent of Police**　　　-5 JAN 15　11　First Amendment Invest. Tracking No.
Attention: General Counsel　　　　OFFICE OF LEGAL TRIALS　001-116-2014

From: **District Commander/ Unit Commanding Officer of Exempt Rank:** Commander Steven Caluris #520
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Name and star number

☐ Initial Authorization to Conduct ⎫
☐ Authorization to Continue ⎬ a First Amendment investigation ☒ Intelligence Gathering
☒ Order to Terminate/Disapproval Of ⎭ relating to: ☒ Public Gathering

Investigation Initiated: (Date) 11/7/14 　　(Time) 1600 hours 　　Date Authorization Expires: 1/5/15

FACTUAL BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION - For authorization to initiate or continue an investigation, indicate how the investigation will serve/ continue to serve a proper law enforcement purpose and source of information relied upon to justify the investigation; for termination of an investigation or disapproval of an initiation request, indicate rationale for that determination :
The undersigned requests to terminate this First Amendment Investigation. The investigation conducted during the aforementioned time frame found posts on social media to indicate plans to disrupt traffic, thereby hindering the movement of emergency vehicles. Those posts included the following: "to shut the chicago Dan Ryan Down!" #shutdownchicago," "take over the Dan Ryan." The following posts were also found "liberation will be achieved DOWN ppp

Groups monitored in this worksheet included: ChiCopWatch, Occupy Chicago, We Charge Genocide, Anonymous, self-described Activists/Anarchists (Document via Freddy Martinez)

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    - To be able to do your work while minimizing risk
    - To start the discussion about which of these practices we are okay with and which of them we are not

Fear

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  - To be able to do your work while minimizing risk
  - To start the discussion about which of these practices we are okay with and which of them we are not
- Where to start: Threat modeling

Further Resources

- Alvaro Bedoya, *What the FBI's surveillance of Martin Luther King tells us about the modern spy era"*, Slate 2016

- Malkia Cyril, Center for Media Justice, *Black Americans and encryption: the stakes are higher than Apple v FBI*, The Guardian 2016

- EFF, *Street Level Surveillance*
  https://www.eff.org/sls

- Jennifer Helsby, Lucy Parsons Labs, *Police Surveillance in Chicago*
  https://redshiftzero.github.io/policesurveillance/