

dotview

My name is
Ed Snowden,
I'm 29 years
that shit is
classified
for a
reason.
structure ana-
lyst for NSA
in Hawaii.

Magazine for
Comments on the Web
Issue 2
December 2013

Featuring
Edward Snowden



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second issue of dotview.

This magazine features websites – you won't find content here that you can't find on the web. Dotview remixes articles, pictures and web services to show a topic from as many perspectives as possible.

The last issue of dotview was about Nicholas Carr's question "Is Google making us stupid?". This second issue deals with the person and symbol Edward Snowden. Divided into three parts, it investigates the youth of Snowden, the leak and the question if he is a hero or traitor.

I hope you enjoy this magazine. The next issue of dotview will be published in spring 2014.

concept, Art and Design:
sa Charlotte Rost
sacharlotterost.de
sacharlotterost@gmail.com

*otview is published as part
of the master's programme
"Visual Communication / Visual
Culture" at the Bauhaus Univer-
sity Weimar, Germany.*

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Further information: 2013 mass surveillance disclosures

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Gellman, Barton; Blake, Aaron; Miller, Greg (June 9, 2013). "Edward Snowden comes forward as source of NSA leaks". The Washington Post. Retrieved June 10, 2013.

Edward Joseph “Ed”^{[3][4]} Snowden (born June 21, 1983) is a fugitive American computer specialist and a former **CIA** and **NSA** employee who disclosed stolen **classified** details of several top-secret United States and British government **mass surveillance** programs to the press.^{[5][6][7]}

Gellman, Barton; Markon, Jerry (June 9, 2013). "Edward Snowden says motive behind leaks was to expose 'surveillance state'". The Washington Post. Retrieved June 10, 2013.

Based on information Snowden leaked to **The Guardian**^[8] in May 2013 while employed at NSA contractor **Booz Allen Hamilton**, the British newspaper published a series of exposés that revealed programs such as the interception of US and European telephone **meta-data** and the **PRISM**, **XKeyscore**, and **Tempora** Internet surveillance programs. Snowden's release of NSA material was called the most significant leak in U.S. history by **Pentagon Papers** leaker **Daniel Ellsberg**.^{[9][10][11]}

Shane, Scott; Somaiya, Ravi (June 16, 2013). "New Leak Indicates U.S. and Britain Eavesdropped at '09 World Conferences". The New York Times.

Greenwald, Glenn; MacAskill, Ewen (June 6, 2013). "NSA Prism program taps in to user data of Apple, Google and others". The Guardian. Retrieved June 15, 2013.

"NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden: 'I don't want to live in a society that does these sort of things'" (video). The Guardian (London). June 9, 2013.

Father to meet fugitive Snowden in Russia

Ellsberg, Daniel (June 10, 2013). "Edward Snowden: saving us from the United Stasi of America". The Guardian. Retrieved June 10, 2013.

Mullin, Joe. (June 13, 2013) "NSA leaker Ed Snowden's life on". Ars Technica.

"Daniel Ellsberg Calls Edward Snowden A 'Hero,' Says NSA Leak Was Most Important in American History". Huffington Post.

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A timeline of Edward Snowden's life

A timeline of the life of Edward Snowden, the 29-year-old who leaked NSA documents revealing a wide-reaching government surveillance program.

[» Edward Snowden's life of hiding in plain sight](#)

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JUNE 21, 1983
Edward Joseph Snowden is born.

1980S AND 1990S
Snowden and his family live in North Carolina for many years, and then move to Maryland. He attends Crofton Woods Elementary School, Crofton Middle School and then Arundel High School for 1 1/2 years.

1999
Snowden enrolls in credit courses at Anne Arundel Community College. He continues attending classes for the next six years, taking breaks during the spring semesters of 2002 and 2003.

FEBRUARY - MAY 2002
"Ed Snowden" takes classes at the Computer Career Institute, a for-profit college then affiliated with Johns Hopkins University.

SEPT. 28, 2004
Snowden is discharged from the Army without completing any training or receiving any awards; he says he broke both his legs in a training accident.

2005
Snowden gets a job as a security guard at the federally funded University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study of Language, which conducts classified and unclassified research. Snowden is in the job for less than a year.

MAY 7, 2004
At age 20, Snowden enlists in the Army Reserve as a Special Forces recruit.

FALL 2005
Snowden takes his last classes at AAC. He never earns a degree or certificate.

2007
Snowden says the CIA stationed him with diplomatic cover in Geneva.

SUMMER 2009
Snowden enrolls in classes through the University of Maryland University College, which offers online classes.

MARCH 2012
Snowden makes a \$250 donation to Ron Paul's presidential campaign. In May, he gives another \$250 to Paul's campaign.

2009
Snowden says he left the CIA to work for a private contractor and was based at an NSA facility in Japan.

annie20
6/16/2013 3:59 PM
I would ask:
Did he *really* leave the CIA?
he still seemed to have a lot of access...

APRIL 2013
The dated listed on the PRISM PowerPoint that Snowden leaked to the news media.

Early 2013 Snowden works for Booz Allen Hamilton as an "infrastructure analyst" for the NSA based in Hawaii, he said. The company said in a statement in early June that Snowden worked there for fewer than three months.

Sortie
6/16/2013 2:20 PM
I am just glad I am not the individual who hired him at Booz Allen. MMM, wonder about their other decisions?
My first question would be who did he know to get the job? With so many truly, well qualified individuals looking for jobs....Who did he know? That would be an interesting investigation.
He has clearly set a pattern of NOT able to complete tasks. Personally, I think he is mentally ill and now getting this much press and credit. Sad, sad, sad....

BillRuss0
6/16/2013 6:54 PM
Isn't early February 2013 (before the reported begin date with BAH) the reported first contact between the Guardian and Snowden? Might be relevant to the timeline.

Real Estate Rentals Cars Today's Paper Going Out Guide Find&Save Service Alley

DLN1

6/16/2013 11:51 AM

Sounds like he was quite brilliant but didn't do well in the confines of ordinary education. I want to know why he had access to such information. And I vote on the hero side.

JUNE 6, 2013
The Washington Post and the Guardian break the story about PRISM.

hgouek
6/16/2013 2:21 PM
He is a traitor - and his inability to complete high school or college shows a lack of respect for authority or social norms.

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What's up with those NSA code names?
Emily Heil

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JUNE 9, 2013 Snowden's identity becomes public.

our ally
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Full transcript: President Obama's news conference in Russia

carterdarrin1
6/16/2013 5:17 AM
I just wonder if a male of the minority population would have been given the same opportunity.

Sortie
6/16/2013 2:26 PM
Please, please do not bring race into this. It devalues your wisdom....

dc925dc
13 5 M
in this happen? A h
dropout, a collec op
out, an Army dropout (btw, was
he discharged honorably? I don't
think so).....gets hired by the
CIA? How can this be?
Who vetted this guy? How can
such a low achiever get into such
a highly classified position? There
is much more to this story. I want
to know who vetted this guy
through the ages, who supervised
him, who hired him, and why.

TakeDaRedPill
6/16/2013 2:23 PM
This guy graduates from nowhere but is hired everywhere. He must have been spectacular at that computer school in order to be plucked by CIA. There are people with all kinds of credentials who can't even get a call back.

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Username: TheTrueHOOHA
Occupation: Tekken.
Groups: Registered User [GO](#)
Bio:
User Title: Wise, Aged Ars Veteran
[Add friend](#)
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Contact TheTrueHOOHA

User statistics

E-mail address: [E-mail TheTrueHOOHA](#)

Joined: Sat Dec 29, 2001 7:25 am
Last visited: Sat Sep 01, 2012 4:56 pm
Total posts: 773 | [Search user's posts](#)
(0.00% of all posts / 0.18 posts per day)

SUMMER 2009
Snowden enrolls in classes through the University of Maryland University College, which offers online classes.

SEPT. 28, 2004
Snowden is discharged from the Army without completing any training or receiving any awards; he says he broke both his legs in a training accident.

FEBRUARY - MAY 2002
"Ed Snowden" takes classes at the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study of Language, which conducts classified and unclassified research. Snowden is in the job for less than a year.

2005
Snowden gets a job as a security guard at the federally funded University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study of Language, which conducts classified and unclassified research. Snowden is in the job for less than a year.

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MEET MY FRIEND, INTERPARTES REVIEW
Powered by the crowd, EFF attacks infamous "podcasting patent"
Patent is pre-dated by early Internet efforts by Carl Malamud, CBC, and CNN.

HEIR TO THE THRONE
NSA chief Alexander and deputy will abdicate months
The changeover could create a shift in the way the US spy agency does business.

VIEW MY IMAGES

Name: [AZ](#)
Location: AZ
POINTS 1
SEND SUPPORTER GIFT

total posts 76
last post 05/31/08 08:28:59
last seen 05/31/08 08:28:59
joined 11/22/02

visitors 0
last post 05/31/08 08:28:59
last seen 05/31/08 08:28:59
joined 11/22/02

My favorite sites
TheTrueHOOHA has not created favorite links yet.

Big HTML Block 1

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No posts yet.

TheTrueHOOHA's Gallery
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thetruehooha thetruehooha is offline
Last Activity: 12-23-2003 05:20 AM

Mini Statistics
Join Date 07-01-2003
Total Posts 5

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Artist Settings
Settings for artists - collaboration status, what tools you use, what instruments you play, etc.

Collaboration Status
1. Not Interested or Available

Artist Settings
Collaboration Status
1. Not Interested or Available

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All times are GMT. The time now is 02:11 PM.

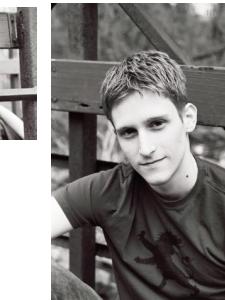
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Are they TRYING
to start a war?
Jesus christ
they're like wikileaks
They're reporting
classified shit
moreover, who the fuck
are the anonymous sources telling
them this?
those people should
be shot in the balls.

YAFPT: So I just got the proofs back from a photoshoot... 56k = warned

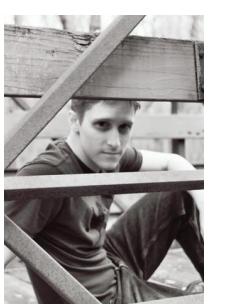
So I got invited to model for this guy (potentially NSFW) last week, and I just now got the proofs back from him. He shoots mostly guys, and he's got some... "questionable" people interested in his work, so I was actually a little worried he might, you know, try to pull my pants off and choke me to death with them, but he turned out to be legit and is a pretty damn good model photographer.

It's only my third shoot, so be gentle.



GwT
"Upperclass Twit Of The Year"
Senator
et Subscriptor
Registered: May 28, 1999
Posts: 31748
Posted: Sat Apr 22, 2006 10:49 pm

You should do something about the bags under your eyes. Who does your makeup?



TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Mon Apr 17, 2006 3:00 am

quote: Holy crap. Just looking through that link and found this (SFW). That's an amazing shot. Very very nice.

Yeah, people have been recommending Shep via IRC.

quote: Good pictures. Tell your photographer that he needs to encourage his models to NOT focus on the camera too much.

Thanks. As for the focus on the camera deal, as I haven't done a lot of these, I just followed his instructions. We took a hell of a lot of shots where I wasn't looking at the camera, but they didn't come out real well, I believe.

And I'm totally not gay.

EDIT: omg busted links? (fixed now?)

BigDude
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Jan 5, 2000
Posts: 1490
Posted: Sun Apr 16, 2006 9:23 pm

What.....no nekkid shots...

Mogul
Ars Tribunus Militum
Registered: Oct 15, 2001
Posts: 2062
Posted: Mon Apr 17, 2006 3:00 am

Not bad at all. Add a little muscle tone, and I don't see why you couldn't get into modelling more seriously.

anuj
Ars Tribunus Angusticlavias et Subscriptor
Registered: Aug 31, 2000
Posts: 7056
Posted: Sun Apr 16, 2006 9:26 pm

OMG IT'S ODO!!!
~A
(nice pics, haha - i take it you're a model?)

Colm
Ars Praefectus
Registered: Sep 18, 2000
Posts: 4681
Posted: Sun Apr 16, 2006 9:25 pm

That thing on your wrist looks silly, but otherwise, you're cute.

TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Mon Apr 24, 2006 8:57 pm

quote: Holy crap. Just looking through that link and found this (SFW). That's an amazing shot. Very very nice.

Yeah, people have been recommending Shep via IRC.

quote: Good pictures. Tell your photographer that he needs to encourage his models to NOT focus on the camera too much.

Thanks. As for the focus on the camera deal, as I haven't done a lot of these, I just followed his instructions. We took a hell of a lot of shots where I wasn't looking at the camera, but they didn't come out real well, I believe.

And I'm totally not gay.

eJacqui
"Senior Editor of Awesome"
Senior Editor
et Subscriptor
Tribus: Chained to a desk at the Ars Orbiting HQ
Registered: Jun 3, 2001
Posts: 26486
Posted: Mon Apr 17, 2006 2:22 am

quote:
Originally posted by
yabba:
what's TFP?

Time For Prints (i.e. photog is "paying" you for your time with prints from the shoot)

TheTrueHOOHA, you look JUST like my best best best friend. I also think that this is one of the better (of you) from the set. Over-exposed a bit, but that has nothing to do with you personally.

TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Mon Apr 17, 2006
11:07 am

Syrophenikan looks like a Lycan.

[quote: Is it wrong to be turned on?](#)

You'd have better luck with Visi.

[quote: ... and pretty gay if you can't tell from all of the hair on my arms.](#)

At least you get to be the bear.

[quote: Looks like a red filter was used in the processing. B&W + red filter will wash out lighter skin tones.](#)

Ding ding ding! The dude has his photography down. Now, I was wondering about these shots being blown out, myself, as the dude's pretty spot-on in his stuff, but after reading this, I distinctly remember him putting on a red filter, so that would definitely explain it.

[quote: Please tell me you are into archery.](#)

Um... I'm into archery? Razz It's actually a kung fu thing, though.

[quote: Holy crap, get some sleep man, okay?](#)

You can tell? I work 6PM-6AM.

[quote: TheTrueHOOHA, you look JUST like my best best friend. I also think that this is one of the better \(of you\) from the set.](#)

Is your friend hawt? ^_^ But yeah, I like that pic too. That's the "nice" one I sent to the parents.

[quote: Not bad at all. Add a little muscle tone, and I don't see why you couldn't get into modelling more seriously.](#)

Height. I'm just over 5'9". But I am working pretty hard on the muscle tone. I'm between 9.5 and 10.5%bf,

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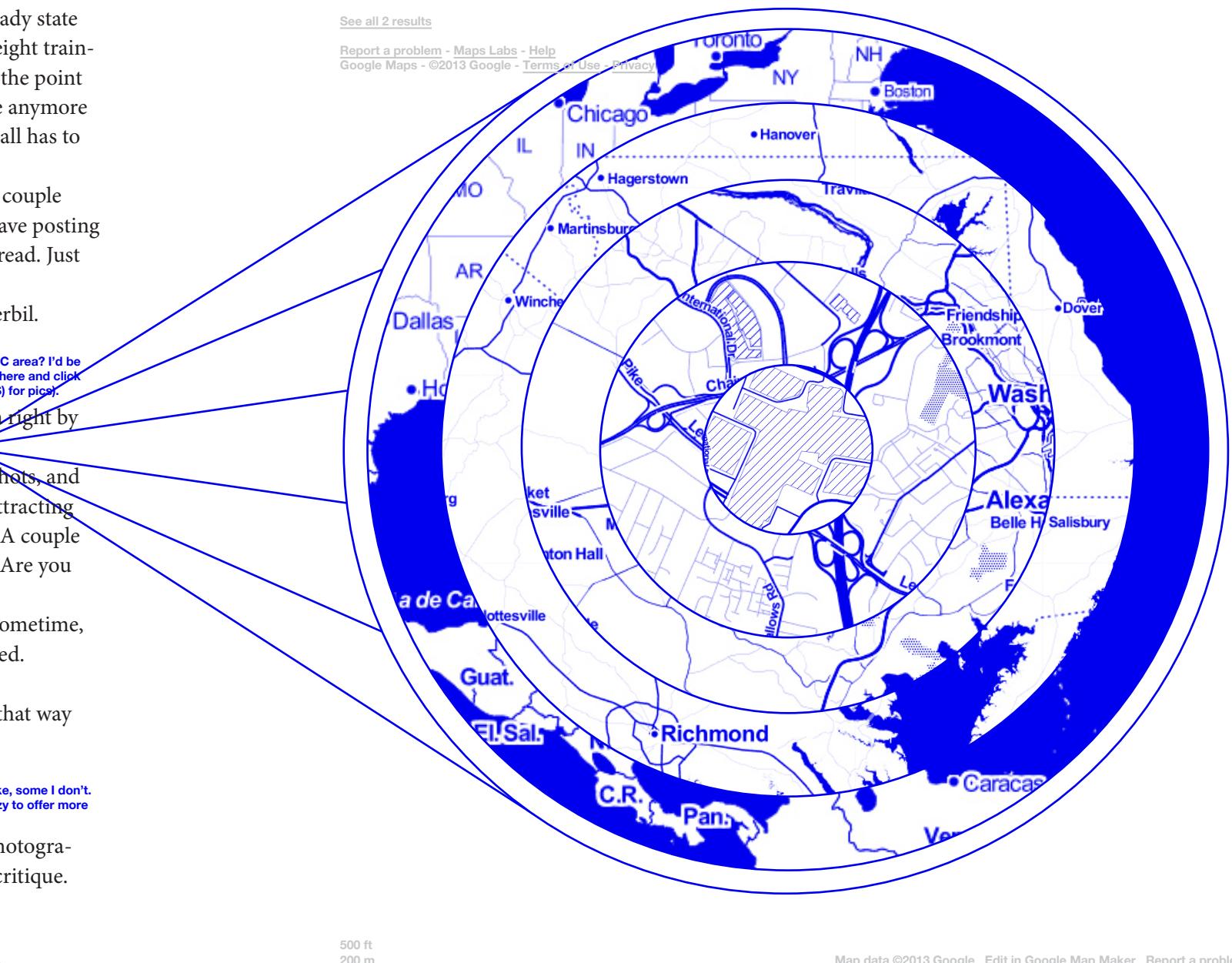
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Post An Updated Picture (Underwear Edition)

skyler
Ars Legatus Legionis
Registered: Sep 3, 1999
Posts: 17402
Posted: Wed Jul 26, 2006
12:50 am

It's been, oh, I don't know... Since dommi left that we had one of these. Post a pic of your self--and goddammit, make sure it's a pic that wasn't taken by your mother when you still thought that feathered hair was for boys.

Comedy option: Take a pic with underwear on your head and post it. Bonus if it's not yours (see Exhibit A Eyebrow).

TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Wed Jul 26, 2006
10:52 pm

I have no underwear, but I do have eyelasers.



LAZRBEEMS
PEW PEW

MacUser3of5
Ars Tribunus
Angusticlavius
Registered: Jun 19, 2002
Posts: 7042
Posted: Thu Jul 27, 2006
8:10 am

Wow, Lance Bass got a lot thinner!
<3

Syrophenikan
"HBMA"
Ars Legatus Legionis
et Subscriptor
Tribus: Cincinnati
Registered: Jul 30, 2002
Posts: 18176
Posted: Thu Jul 27, 2006
8:24 am

And pastier.

lyric911
"Why is this font so big?"
Ars Legatus Legionis
Tribus: Indiana
Registered: Apr 25, 2003
Posts: 10135
Posted: Thu Jul 27, 2006
8:40 am

You look like Odo.

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Got more pics back OR Odo's Revenge (No dialup~)

TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Thu Dec 14, 2006
5:48 pm

So I just got back some pictures of me that were taken a pretty long time ago. Nothing serious, just playing around since I knew the photographer personally. She doesn't normally do portraiture, but since we're very comfortable around each other, I think it allowed us both to try some interesting things.

These are some of the solo pics I liked out of the set -- they were taken at the same location as the last series, but with a better photographer. It's interesting to see how someone can go from looking completely average to pretty attractive with just a slight change of angle or position or (my bane) hair.

I'm learning that a good photographer can show anybody's best qualities.



^^ I like the blur here.



^^^ This one is dedicated to Visi.



TheTrueHOOHA
Ars Scholae Palatinae
Registered: Dec 29, 2001
Posts: 773
Posted: Fri Dec 15, 2006
11:11 pm

quote: Originally posted by iko: I kinda like it. Folks need a bit more dissonance in their dress these days.

<3 <3 <3

quote: it's the pants. I'm utterly undecided if I hate it or love it.

<3

quote: I actually would add that the pants are lame... 1996 called and it's wants grey and blue cammo back, the shirt should be buttoned, the tie is completely out of place(regarding the outfit), and the pics are completely uninspiring.

Mercury Angel has sex with men. Rough, heavy-set men with mouths on their foreheads, a predisposition to edged objects compensating for a lack of female attention, and a desperate yearning for foremouthal affection.

quote: And, like, oh my god, did you see his shoes?!

FIFTY POINTS TO GRYFFINDOR!!

quote: You're cute.

Mmm... female attention. Hawwt. My foremouth longs for you.

quote: No, no, no...it's curbstomping, not stairhumping! The stomping is just posturing. He's actually a remarkable gentle man. And so soft in his touch.

BUZZ FEED FWD

NEWS ENTERTAINMENT LIFE VIDEO MORE NEW! Travell

Edward Snowden's ongoing impact

Hundreds of posts reveal views on secrecy, religion, politics, and working in IT. "Society really seems to have developed an unquestioning obedience towards spooky types," he says.

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The Plot To Take
Brazilian Europe At
The Olympics Of Gay Rights

What Would Buzz-
Feed Do If It Was A
Person?

100 Things That
Will Make You Feel Filthy

100 Mac Tips

What Happened, Then
Doesn't Matter, Rather Spec-
tacular, Not Puri-

99 Reasons To Instantly
Fall In Love With Yourself

100 Facts About
You

100 Things You Should Do
Before You Get Out Of
College

100 Sports That
Everyone Does Something

100 "Weirdos" Who Are
Strangers To People
From New York

100 Things That
Will Make Your Blood
Boil

100 Greatest Worst
Things You've Ever Experi-
enced

100 Most Pale Peo-
ple You'll Ever Meet

100 People You

100 Reasons Why You're

PauperPrincess
about 4 months ago
Is that Edward Snowden or Edward Cullen?
Damn, is that guy pale.

posted on June 12, 2013 at 8:21pm EDT

June 2013

John Herrman
BuzzFeed Staff

Ellie Hall
BuzzFeed Staff

Under the name TheTrueHOOHA, Snowden appears to have posted to ArsTechnica, a tech, IT, and geek culture site, hundreds of times over the last 10 years.

The last of his 753 posts, [first discovered by Anthony DeRosa](#), was posted on May 21, 2012, [in response to](#) [Forbidden: You don't have permission to access /2013/06/12/are-these-owner failed to log in periodically. Snowden re-There are also plenty ones out there you finished, if you want a head start.](#) This was the first time he had posted on the forum in six months.

Earlier, in a thread titled "I'm a screwup," [he writes](#), "Join the army. Worked for me." Two days later, in a discussion about emerging industries, [he suggests](#) "counterterrorism" is an area that will expand within the next five years.

Brian McCraig
So the guy has an Internet life and posts on forums.

Wow! That's a much bigger story than your government tracking everything you do and poking its nose into your personal life :-).

[Reply](#) • 64 Likes • [Follow Post](#) • June 13 at 2:07am

[He talks about not having a high school degree and working in IT.](#)

First off, the degree thing is crap, at least domestically. If you really have ten years of solid, provable IT experience (and given that you say you're 25, I think it'd probably be best to underestimate), you CAN get a very well paying IT job. You just need to be either actively looking now or get the fuck out of California. I have no degree, nor even a high school diploma, but I'm making much more than what they're paying you even though I'm only claiming six years of experience. It's tough to "break in," but once you land a "real" position, you're made.

It takes a lot of bullshit to get to that point, though. I was unemployed for a full year and then had to work in a non-IT field for six months before I was able to get back in IT and double my salary.

If you do want a degree, I agree that going overseas is a much better idea than attending some \$150k domestic diploma mill.

Also, don't discount the Foreign Service. Someone already mentioned it, and it's an amazing deal if you can swing it. I'm not talking Foreign Service Officer, either, just standard IT specialist positions.

They pay for your (ridiculously nice) housing and since you'll be posted overseas, the first ~\$80k you make will be tax-free.

Military is always an option as that door is not likely to close in the future. If you do decide to join, though, I would suggest considering using the opportunity to learn a new skill, as opposed to further specializing in IT. You only live once. Aug 14, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com

[He references his age, 22 years old, in 2006.](#)

DISCLAIMER: I'm going to come off sounding as an asshole, but I'm not. It's just the nature of the business. To succeed in a hostile environ-

Peter Yeh
753 posts over 10 years, that's 7.5 posts a year, that's a post every 4-5 days. who the fuck is this scrub who isn't just constantly PWOST POST POST E'RYDAY.
[Reply](#) • 5 Likes • [Follow Post](#) • June 13 at 7:07pm

ment, you need to be both confident and aggressive.

Anyway: You're going into IT. Nobody gives a shit what school you go to. Choose the cheaper school.

Listen to what they say about networking. This is absolutely vital. If somebody likes you, it doesn't even matter if you put your pants on before your underwear in the morning — you will get the job.

What you will need is IT work experience. You must get a job in IT while you're going to school. The sad reality is that an IT degree means DICK in terms of competency to an employer. You need demonstrated, specialized skills to be competitive. SO, you need work experience.

Get a part-time IT gig anywhere you can. Even if you don't want to work through college, that's fine. Get it. Here's the dirty little secret: you can scale back your hours until you're only working four hours a week if you need more school time. Take leaves of absence, but remain employed. It doesn't matter how many hours you work, because the only thing going on your resume is the number of YEARS you worked there. What DOES matter is that you are the absolute best of friends with your supervisor and when your new post-college employer calls them for a reference, they absolutely BLEED love for you.

As long as you're good at what you do, you'll never have a problem, and that work experience will make that degree worth far more than it is on its own.

People might argue, but they'd be wasting their breath. I speak from personal experience in the most disadvantaged position in the job market. I don't have a degree of ANY type. In fact, I don't even have a high school diploma.

That said, I have \$0 in debt from student loans, I make \$70k, I just had to turn down offers for \$83k and \$180k (they're going in a different directions than where I'm heading), and my co-workers have BSs, MSs, and ten to fifteen years of experience. Employers fight over me. And I'm 22.

That's networking.
Good luck. May 1, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com

Barry Donegan
The career advice he gave was actually very good. There's nothing shady about networking your way into the job experience rather than wasting money on a degree that won't get a job.
[Reply](#) • 1 Like • [Follow Post](#) • June 14 at 8:59am

[Snowden mentions breaking both of his legs during his army training.](#)

...and ever.

Discharges do not happen fast. Both of my legs were broken during AIT and they held on to me until the doctors cleared me to be discharged, and then after being cleared they held onto me for another month just for shits and giggles.

Psych problems = dishonorable/BC discharge depending on how much they hate you. Lots of alleged homos were in the hold unit, too, but they only got a general discharge at best.

If they think he is fucking with them, he is going to get screwed. Hard. May 13, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com

[He expresses disdain for "spooky types" and "pervasive government secrecy."](#)

It really concerns me how little this sort of corporate behavior bothers those outside of technology circles. Society really seems to have developed an unquestioning obedience towards spooky types.

I wonder, how well would envelopes that became transparent under magical federal candlelight have sold in 1750? 1800? 1850? 1900? 1950? Did we get to where we are today via a slippery slope that was entirely within our control to stop, or was it an relatively instantaneous sea change that sneaked in undetected because of pervasive government secrecy? February 4, 2010 / Via arstechnica.com

[All the way back in 2003, he asked for advice on masking his internet activity.](#)

Alright, I'm familiar with the layman's version of how remote proxies can be used to make yourself more anonymous. However, while I have a fairly deep understanding of networking, I've got some serious holes that need to be filled (without pr0n references) regarding how the different protocols come into play with each other ESPECIALLY when you've got a slightly masked IP address.

Fellow Arsians, further my education!
Question 1: Is it possible to reroute -all- traffic through a remote proxy? By all, I mean traffic such as SMTP as opposed to the standard HTTP/FTP/SSH/Socks. How could you go about doing this (Is special software required)?

Question 2: Further, how exactly does it

work? How does the packet find it's way back home without accurate IP information? Does it pick up an extra IP address on every "hop," or is every IP address it has been to recorded in the header?

Question 3A (Still following question number 1): Can you hide any protocol behind a proxy? Here's an example of my current thinking:

Your real, physical IP address is 68.1.1.1. You want to connect anonymously via RDP or a similar uncommon protocol to a computer at 68.10.10.10, so that you would be able to anonymously connect via regular, chained HTTP proxies to your favorite websites.

Question 3B: Is it possible to conceal the IP origin of the example's RDP? If so, how exactly is the datastream still able to make it's way back and forth without being logged? Is there a better solution? Please explain how you would approach that situation.

That's about it for now. If you've got any answers, or if these questions have raised any other questions that you guys might want answered, please feel free to contribute. Ultimately, my goal is to further my own understanding of what would be logged at any given point during transmission. I wouldn't want God himself to know where I've been, you know?

Collective thanks,
-HOOHA October 14, 2003 / Via arstechnica.com

[He asks how to set up a CD that would create a fresh, secure machine on any computer.](#)

Old Ones, Sages, Great Minds of the Hive; I pray for your wisdom.

This seems like it should be a reasonably simple question, but I admit that I am ignorant of almost all things virtualized.

TL;DR: How do you launch a VM from a LiveCD? The goal here is to be able to bring a LiveCD (Virus/Malware/Keylogger-free VM-launching platform) and a USB drive (VM Image) to any given computer and be able to your work through the VM without leaving anything behind on the physical host machine.

Follow-on: Are there any software packages out there that support this functionality out of the box?

Thank you for your help.
-TTH February 14, 2009 / Via arstechnica.com

Robotman Steinawitz
Who gives a fuck about the asshole who leaked the shit. He was probably just looking for fame, so what. The real story is that the United States government is spying on its citizens 24/7 365, not the little asshole who told us about it. Having said that, it's good to know the guy who is being touted as a hero is really just some asshole from the internet, like all of us.
[Reply](#) • 10 Likes • [Follow Post](#) • June 13 at 1:48am

Brendan Webber
If he worked for NSA, he would have been required to swear an oath of loyalty. He gave his word that he would not reveal the confidential info to which he was privy. He did the exact opposite. Clearly his word means nothing. Fuck him, I hope they gas the pretentious hipster prick.

btw - It's a fool's notion to think the US government hasn't been fervently spying on its own citizens since basically day one. Read Weiner's "Enemies: A History of the FBI". 'Do Not File' indeed.
[Reply](#) • 4 Likes • [Follow Post](#) • Edited • June 13 at 4:13am

Benson Stein • Top Commenter • CEO & Founder at "Enron" on Broadway
"If he worked for NSA, he would have been required to swear an oath of loyalty." Yes, also true for the Gestapo, Stasi, North Korean Secret Police, SS, etc.
[Reply](#) • Like • June 15 at 5:48pm

Meg Pre
about 4 months ago
Well and if you are constantly talking about how the government sees everything, shouldn't you know that the government sees everything? Everything stays on the internet forever, ya know? He's a douchenugget and a dingleberry taco.

buzzardnose
about 4 months ago
Oh...whoopdee doo! I find none of this damning to him. All normal stuff that most people online write about. This is just a lot of nothing bullshit.

PauperPrincess
about 4 months ago
(1) This guy sounds incredibly narcissistic and douche-y.
(2) People are in such a snit over the NSA spying on people. What's more disturbing, that he freely shared this stuff or someone could find it rather quickly? That wasn't NSA people - that was some schmoe doing research for an article.

He talks about the perks of working in IT for the State Department.

Work yourself up to Europe.

Say, Department of State. They're understaffed right now, but Europe posts are competitive, but you can get in the door much easier if you express an interest in going to near-east hellholes. Once you're in, tough out the crappy tour and you should be able to pick from a list of preferred posts.

Alternately, get a clearance. If you're cleared, have a lifestyle, and have specialized IT skills, you can go anywhere in the world right now.

Thank god for wars.

<http://www.careers.state.gov/opportunities/iraq/index.html>

quote: As a Foreign Service Specialist, you'll receive excellent paid housing or a housing allowance, health and medical coverage, federal retirement benefits, paid education for dependent children between K-12, generous paid leave (This means R&Rs), and an unprecedented chance to see the world and experience different cultures.

Education requirements

Oh, and bonus? Yeah, working in IT for the State Department guarantees you'll have to have a Top Secret clearance. Got a clean record?

If you can handle living in hellholes, DoS is the place to be right now. [July 21, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

He also mentions countries he wouldn't mind moving to.

My list, in order (just like in the poll!) would be:

Japan

Thailand

Korea

China

Australia

China, Korea, and australia might be swapped, though. They're sort of nebulous. [July 28, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

Here, he says it's "unfortunate" that a game was leaked from a studio he likes.

Let me dispel the rumor status on one thing: I don't know the why's or the how's (and nobody else does, either), but as the resident ARRRrrrsian, I can confirm with authority that it is real, available and it's easy.

I've always liked Valve as a company; it's un-

fortunate to see this happen to them. They're like Blizzard — they're the type of company that can really feel gamers.

The only thing I know (and that's word-of-mouth) is why the beta was released — Valve has gone batshit crazy with pursuing anybody who seemed even remotely involved and pushed back the release date even further — the content was kind of like a hostage. Cyb4rterr4r!!11 and all that.

I just want to see what Valve's next step is. If they really do wait four months, they'll have lost their legs.

I've got to get back to trimming me sails, if ye know what I mean. [October 7, 2003 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

He asks for programming help:

Greetings, Old Ones. I come humbly seeking the ageless wisdom of the collective. My knowledge is but the smallest mite in comparison to your great, chitinous shells.

I need to write a script here at work to copy two files once a week and append that day's date to the names. Thinking this should be pretty easy, I wrote a little batch file figuring the relevant operation would simply be the following:

```
copy x:\source\file1.txt x:\destination\file1%date%.txt
copy x:\source\file2.txt x:\destination\file2%date%.txt
```

Then I'd simply make the .bat file a scheduled task that runs weekly and hope for the best.

Unfortuantely, the problem with this seems to be that Windows can't understand that kind of syntax. Apparently variables are completely incompatible with filenames in the windows command line. I tried it with different commands and renaming it, but variables didn't seem to work there, either. I could be wrong, though. I'm not a programmer.

So, the question then becomes how else can I accomplish this task within a windows .bat file? Again, this is actually for work, so extra bonus points if anybody can figure out a solution quickly.

Yours in service,

[TTH Aug 17, 2007 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

He gives advice here for ordering lab

supplies — chemicals — to your home.

Yes, they would have a problem with it.

Pay the \$40-70 it costs to register a business. You'll never have to pay taxes on it as you'll never make any sales. It's purely a research venture, after all. Use the business certificate to create an account with the supplier — they won't really care what it is, it's just a legal requirement for certain states and types of businesses. In the odd case that they ask what it's for, simply tell them the honest truth of your interest in it. You're a legitimate business, now, after all. Otherwise just say you need a lab sample. You're the graduate, not me. If you're ordering something intensely shady, they might not sell it to you, business or no. Hell, I HOPE they wouldn't.

The only hangup you may have is shipping a HAZMAT to a residential address.

Really, having a business certificate opens many doors. Chemicals, sure, but also wholesalers, industrial equipment, whatever. Anybody with an interest in invention should have their own Sole Proprietorship. [Dec 15, 2006 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

He appears to be an avid gamer and on one occasion jokes about the NSA's plan to surveil citizens using Xboxes.

In many of his posts, he reveals personal details about himself, like his agnosticism.

Cesar Estrada
So it looks like the Xbox One IS in fact a spy. The timestamps date to 2006, so I guess they've been thinking this out pretty well.
[Reply](#) • [Like](#) • [Follow](#)
Post • June 13 at 2:37am

First, for Peter:

quote: *One can be happy and peaceful but not free (one's happiness need not be conditional on freedom).*

This is no more true than GWT's statements. This is entirely dependant on the individual — as is the definition of freedom. Freedom isn't a word the can be (pardon) freely defined. This is the case with so many words, and I think your disagreement with Gwt is a testament (giggle) to this.

Further, on the topic of your quotation: Haven't you ever heard of an American?

The saying goes, "Live free or die," I believe. That seems to intimate a conditional dependence on freedom as a requirement for happiness. Unless you're a part of Heaven's Gate, I guess.

And Peter, as an aside: Dear lord (heh)! You have over thirty thousand posts! Take a moment and stretch!

For Gwt: While I appreciate the Buddhist

belief system, and in fact I even marked that as my "religion" on my Army paperwork (agnostic is strangely absent), I feel it is important to point out that it is the restriction of religion, specifically, that is being discussed. Ideally, religion should serve as a resource, a sort of reference or novel approach for examining and finding one's own beliefs. I believe (titter) that your posted "definition" of freedom came under fire because it is simply someone [else's, apparently] belief being utilized as a -fact.

As you have debated, that definition can be made to fit. However, as your opponents counter, it can also be disproven.

It is, as Peter stated, conditional.

To summarize, since my writings did not really address my own feelings, I feel that religion, adopted purely, is ultimately representative of blindly making someone else's beliefs your own. So, yes, I feel religion limits humanity insofar that individuality could arguably be taken as necessary (in an emotional sense) to humanity. Religion, taken as a non-negotiable set of beliefs (in this context), would obviously act a limitation of individuality and, thusly, that which makes us human.

However, I feel that, as Caesar was quick to point out, individual belief is not something that we can be without.

...I'm not certain I made that post entirely clear... [Sept. 8, 2003 / Via arstechnica.com](#)

And things get a little personal.

My [ex?] girlfriend is the most amazing girl I've ever dated. She's one of those who even wanted it more than me, sometimes, and would kind of sadly paw at my man-totem like a cat after it has killed the prey. Some of it comes from natural sex drive, yes, but this same girl took like six months to get into bed the first time.

A great deal of a successful sexual relationship is taking the time to properly build up to things and establish their comfort level. After the honeymoon phase, things do slack off sometimes, but the more sex you have, the longer you should last and the better you should be for one another. vafarmboy is not shitting you. There have been times when I've had sex marathons from sundown til sunrise.

Once you establish the comfort zone where you don't care when or how many times or how long or who climaxes when or what they're

johnnykong
about 4 months ago
He was bought by the Chinese government, paid a large sum to 'share' NSA secrets under the premise that he's 'telling truths' to the American people for their benefit. That's why he's in Hong Kong and not some South American socialist country.

polkashow
about 4 months ago
I know, right? Also, living on the lam in South America > Hong Kong.

Eve Schmitt
So we have on this page: Edward Snowden's online past, a post about his possible anime profile and his glamour shots, another post about his girlfriend...good heavens, the man is a celebrity! Which means that people are going to pry into his life, while we all condemn the NSA for prying. I don't need to know about Snowden's girlfriend. I just want to know why he leaked the information, because that isn't mentioned in this article. And I'd like to know if he's alive, since the last I heard he was in Hong Kong and then he disappeared. You know, things that are relevant to him becoming famous in the first place. All I know from this article is that he knew how to make all his bosses work for him, ultimately, when they thought he was an unassuming, obedient government worker.
[Reply](#) • [2](#) • [Like](#) • [Follow](#)
Post • Edited •
June 13 at 3:44am

wearing, the sex will be better, longer, and more available. You and her will BOTH know when it's no longer about being horny. The only down side is coming to terms with the idea of losing it.

Damn, I miss her. [Nov. 10, 2006](#) / Via arstechnica.com

Go to your nearest Krispy Kreme Drive-thru. Pick up one of the warm "fresh of the line" ones and go put them on your nightstand.

You have not lived until you've rolled over to post-coital Krispy Kremes. That's what being an American is all about.

I recommend them. [April 24, 2006](#) / Via arstechnica.com

Appears to be a joke?

High School? Shit, I had sex in an elementary school. Even on the playground. [Oct. 29, 2006](#) / Via arstechnica.com

He makes frequent references to working out.

Alright guys, it's precisely that time of year (well, maybe a little late, but this is Ars) at which everyone gets insecure about being in summer shape.

Anybody want to commit to an Arsan round of P90X? Suggest a shared date window of ~May 1 - July 31, if there's interest. [April 7, 2009](#) / Via arstechnica.com

He really doesn't like the RIAA, having signed a petition against them in May 2006 and later ranting about their actions in August.

Seeing the crap the RIAA pulls on that site is just sick. One of the guys they sued DIED and they asked for a 60-day stay of the trial so they could file the motions to sue his next-of-kin instead.

Absolutely disgusting.

That said, this lady didn't really think this through. Would've been smarter to experience a drive failure before all these motions were granted and simply have replaced it/tossed the old one. [Via arstechnica.com](#)

Jeff Wilson
Big Brother meets
TMZ. Cute.
[Reply](#) • [2](#) • [Like](#) •
[June 14 at 1:14am](#)

He seems to use the word "gay" as pejorative.

Michael Neufeld
Hey Edward
Snowden, here's a
piece of advice. Don't
piss off the gays with
your messenger bags
comments. You fuck
with the gays and
you're going to wish
the NSA finds you
before we do.
[Reply](#) • [2](#) • [Like](#) •
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Dude, did he mention a suit at -all- in the OP? Unless you're on a bike, messenger bags are gay. Gay, gay, gay. Super gay. RS gay. And the poor guy is in Europe. That's the last thing he needs.

If you've got to wear a suit everyday, you carry a briefcase or a laptop bag. Something professional, not something fashionable.

quote: Professional is optional since I'm here for about a year and manliness isn't considered important by anyone here

Cough. Cough. [May 4, 2006](#) / Via arstechnica.com

He also writes about owning a gun.

I have a Walther P22. It's my only gun, but I love it to death. It's super cheap to shoot (to the tune of \$15/500rds), and I don't intend to be in combat anytime soon.

I could still use it put ten tiny holes in important parts of a home invader if necessary, though. [April 17, 2006](#) / Via arstechnica.com

*WTF
cheek
Moot*

Hugo Guzman
What a nice article! There
is no way these are
cherry-picked posts on a
website known for pub-
lishing drivel and meant to
discredit a whistle-blower!
I for one welcome our
omnipresent overlords—
NOT.
[Reply](#) • [2](#) • [Like](#) • [Follow](#)
[Post](#) • [June 14 at 1:07am](#)

Oli
about 4 months ago
IGNORE THE MESSAGE!
SMEAR THE MESSEN-
GER!

JC3485
about 4 months ago
<http://www.theonion.com/articles/guy-typing-in-all-caps-supports-edward-snowden,32785/>

In 2009, Ed Snowden said leakers should be shoot in the balls' Then he became one

by [Joe Mullin](#) - June 26 2013, 2:00pm WS

doppioArs
Scholae Palatinae
5 months ago

Ergo, Snowden has a death wish.

Tags: [Government](#), [National Security](#)
[556 Comments](#)

Ed Snowden was 23 years old when he moved to Geneva in 2007. Soon after arriving, he was looking for a taste of home. It wasn't that he was unhappy. Snowden's life was becoming the adventure he'd been looking for. Moving to Switzerland hadn't been his first choice—his dream picks were in Asia and Australia—but it certainly wasn't bad. Hired by the CIA and granted a diplomatic cover, he was a regular old IT guy whose life was elevated by a hint of international intrigue.

Snowden would soon move into a four-bedroom apartment covered by the agency. He'd blow off parking tickets, citing diplomatic immunity. He'd travel the continent. He befriended an Estonian rock star ("the funniest part is he's a SUPER NERD"), raced motorcycles in Italy, took in the Muslim call to prayer from his Sarajevo hotel room, and formed opinions about the food and the women in Bosnia, in Romania, in Spain.

But as his first spring dawned in Switzerland, it must have felt cold, foreign, and expensive. Two days after his arrival in Switzerland, Snowden logged onto #arsificial, a channel on Ars Technica's public Internet Relay Chat (IRC) server. He'd been frequenting this space for a few months, chatting with whomever happened to be hanging out.

< TheTrueHOOHA > You guys can't say I look gay anymore.
 < User1 > you look gay
 < TheTrueHOOHA > not anymore. I'm living in switzerland. i'm the straightest looking man in the country

Searchy Ars Legatus Legionis
5 months ago
 Good to know you're trolling IRC logs from years ago just for more material

Aidolon Smack-Fu
 Master, in training
5 months ago
 I understand this is a publicly-accessible IRC channel, but wow... This article is more than a little creepy.
 Leaves a bad taste in my mouth, Ars.

< User2 > rolpix
 < TheTrueHOOHA > as soon as my camera makes it here.:P
 < TheTrueHOOHA > you guys wouldn't believe how expensive shit is here, either
 < TheTrueHOOHA > you can't get tap water in restaraunts
 < User2 > some examples, please
 < TheTrueHOOHA > they make you buy it in bottles
 < TheTrueHOOHA > glass bottles. 5 bucks a pop
 < User2 > you buy the tap water?
 < TheTrueHOOHA > hamburgers are \$15

RockDaMan Ars Praefectus
5 months ago
 "The food packages had "kilojoules" listed on them. ("I'm not a battery!")"

That made me laugh the hardest. I wonder what he thinks of Hong Kong and Moscow? Snowden logged on to the public IRC chat room with the same username he used across the Web: TheTrueHOOHA. The chat room was a place he would return to on dozens of occasions over his years in Switzerland, and his writings fill in details about the man who may go down as the most famous leaker in US history. Over the years that he hung out in #arsificial, Snowden went from being a fairly insulated American to being a man of the world. He would wax philosophical about money, politics, and in

one notable exchange, about his uncompromising views about government leakers.

Four years later, Snowden took a job with a government contractor for the specific purpose of gathering secret information on domestic spying being done by the National Security Agency (NSA). In May, he hopped a plane to Hong Kong before the NSA knew where he was going. Once there, Snowden began a process of leaking top-secret documents to journalists. Snowden's first leak confirmed what activists had suspected but couldn't prove: there was a dragnet government surveillance program collecting information on every American's phone calls.

The chat logs are the most detailed view available into the formation of a man who has been hailed as a hero, and condemned as a traitor by leaders in his own country. In his public statements, Snowden is smooth and uncompromising, radiating intelligence. Snowden has insisted the focus remain on the leaked documents, not him. But he has also kept himself in the spotlight, speaking to three newspapers, doing live Q&As, and dribbling out more documents over time. Intentional or not, Snowden has maximized media attention. He is a Deep Throat for the social media age. Revealing American secrets is not enough; he has applied to be their chief interpreter as well.

An acerbic user, at home on #arsificial

IRC isn't Twitter. Much of the talk in chat channels isn't much more elevated than barroom banter, and Snowden's conversations as TheTrueHOOHA are no exception. But his personality and his beliefs do shine through. IRC chats can hold meaningful revelations about public figures, and Ars has used them as a reporting source before. Snowden was the kind of bar buddy willing to get into a political argument and never give up, even if he pissed off the whole room.

If IRC is a bar, then the #arsificial channel is the back room occupied by drinkers who feel the front is just too stuffy for them. Officially unofficial, #arsificial was created by users who chafed at the moderation in other Ars chatrooms. "This channel is unsupported and has no rules as such," reads an automated message sent to users upon entry. Unlike on other Ars channels, for instance, chatter veering into racism or sexism wouldn't get a user silenced. "Under no circumstances should anyone complain to #mods about conduct in this channel," read the entry message. "Anyone taking any complaint about #arsificial to #mods will receive a ban from #arsificial."

It was an online destination Snowden would return to dozens of times over the next four years, often remaining quiet for hours on end before engaging in bursts of dialogue. The chat snippets show a strident personality, and at times, the inchoate ideology of a man who would ultimately take drastic measures to fight government secrecy. In #arsificial, Snowden was frequently someone ready to go to the mat for his beliefs—even when no one was on his side.

And he could be abrasive. Snowden didn't short stocks just to make money—he did it because it was the right thing to do. He saw himself as a paladin of the markets, bringing "liquidity" to all. As for those who didn't agree with him about the rightness of the gold standard or the need to eliminate Social Security, they weren't just mistaken—they were "retards."

Four years ago, Snowden presented an image of always being sure of himself, sometimes to the point of seeming arrogant. He often thought he was the smartest guy in the room, and he let others know it.

The Ars IRC server doesn't log conversations, and there are no official transcripts of any discussions on that server. However, after learning that Snowden appeared to be an Ars user, we received chat logs from mul-

vampireaquad Smack-Fu
 Master, in training
5 months ago

"Shame because the Snowden supporters are realizing he's an egocentric douche?"

I don't think that's Snowden, that's just IRC. It requires a kind of macho Internet dude mentality that drives me away from all but one anime channel I hang in.

I don't think Snowden is douche, I think he's a hero. But he's also a regular person, and I don't think anyone

can expect him to be flawless. The Ars article doesn't attack him, it leaves you to make your own conclusions about his personality. Ego maniac or not, he has just become one of the most wanted people on earth. That has to suck, but we can thank him for making that choice.



it's like living in a postcard

< User3 >

do they have a large immigrant population doing the lower-class work?

< TheTrueHOOHA >

Yeah.lots of unidentifiable southeast asian people and eastern europeans who don't speak french or english

< TheTrueHOOHA >

but don't get me wrong -- this place is amazing

< TheTrueHOOHA >

it's like living in a postcard

< User4 >

TheTrueHOOHA: where are you .ch?

< TheTrueHOOHA >

it's just nightmarishly expensive and horrifically classist

< TheTrueHOOHA >

Yeah. Geneva, Switzerland

< User4 >

wicked!

< TheTrueHOOHA >

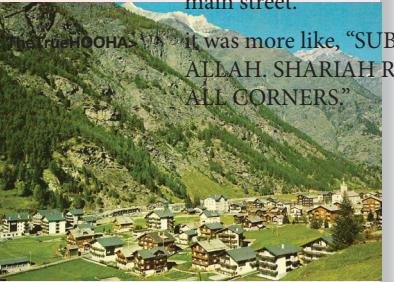
Yeah... it's pretty cool so far

It was cool, but Snowden was often critical of the Swiss. An average visitor to Switzerland talks about how great the chocolate is; Snowden saw a country of overpaid racists.

He admired those who managed to survive on the margins of society. In Switzerland, it was the hardscrabble intelligence of the Nigerian refugees that impressed him. "It's that whole necessity thing," he asserted. "Motherfuckers have been there like eight months and speak all three languages. Not counting romansch, which doesn't count. Ever."

And he kept coming back to #arsificial to share his adventures and observations.

usu Ars Tribunus
Militumet Subscriptor
5 months ago
There is a fair amount of "Stop following Snowden like he's a rockstar. He's a private individual!"
Lets be clear, the minute he put himself into the limelight by releasing all this information, using his own name and credentials, he made a choice. What did you expect to happen? People want to know if he has a motive, a reason, whether it's all about him or all about us. If he wanted privacy, he should have shipped it all directly to WikiLeaks without his name attached. Calling a bloody press conference is kind of counter intuitive to maintaining privacy. Stop being so naive Snowden did what he did knowing the results beforehand.

< TheTrueHOOHA> everybody hates gypsies apparently
< User5> what's there not to hate about gypsies
< TheTrueHOOHA> poor gypsies
< User6> Gypsies are the niggers of Europe. If not worse.
< User6> I honestly don't have anything against them... But everyone has such a knee jerk hateful reaction to them
< TheTrueHOOHA> yeah, i see that ALL the time in switz.
< TheTrueHOOHA> like, some crime happens ANYWHERE
< TheTrueHOOHA> immediately "those goddamned gypsies!"
< User6> [User5]: like I said, I didn't have much experience with them, besides seeing them dirty, begging on the streets.
< TheTrueHOOHA> "it wasn't a gypsy"
< TheTrueHOOHA> "oh, it must be those fucking muslims!" "no? then those goddamned africans!"
< TheTrueHOOHA> i have never, EVER seen a people more racist than the swiss jesus god they look down on EVERY ONE. even each other.
< TheTrueHOOHA> you know who i liked?
< TheTrueHOOHA> the italians. man. friendly people. fucking crazy, but good people.
< User7> we don't have ghettos in the UK
< TheTrueHOOHA> sure you do
< TheTrueHOOHA> i went to london just last year it's where all of your muslims live I didn't want to get out of the car.
< User7> no, that's Bradford
< TheTrueHOOHA> I thought I had gotten off of plane in the wrong country. I don't know where it was, but it was by London City Airport and it was terrifying
< User8> same thing in France
< User7> TheTrueHOOHA: east London
yeah, a lot of ethnic groups have settled there
< TheTrueHOOHA> I guess it's nice that they set up their own community, though
< User7> TheTrueHOOHA: not many people here share your opinion
< TheTrueHOOHA> they just seemed awfully... orthodox
< TheTrueHOOHA> i mean it wasn't like, "hi, we're your friendly neighborhood muslim community. welcome to our main street."

TheTrueHOOHA: it was more like, "SUBMIT TO THE WILL OF ALLAH. SHARIAH REGULATIONS POSTED AT ALL CORNERS."

Flawed Ars Tribunus Angusticlavius 5 months ago Milk this story for all it's worth huh?

A Ron Paul man and a short-seller
If Snowden was getting comfortable in Geneva, he was fully at home in #arsificial. In a departure from his nearly 800 posts in other Ars forums, here he spoke bluntly on matters of state. In the months following the 2008 election, he discussed his embrace of a return to the gold standard and his admiration of its highest-profile champion.
In his more hyperbolic moments, Snowden spoke about the fall of the dollar in near-apocalyptic terms. "It seems like the USD and GBP are both likely to go the way of the zimbabwe dollar," he suggested in March 2009. "Especially with that cockbag bernanke deciding to magically print 1.2T more dollars."

Open ended Smack-Fu Master, in training 5 months ago
the marijuana farming that was conducted openly in some parts of Australia "reflects positively on the country... +1 for personal freedoms."

DrBobo Smack-Fu Master, in training 5 months ago
Couldn't even make it through the whole article. Had to go turn off the renewal on my subscription. I don't want to support this any more.

arcite Ars Praefectus 5 months ago
Just remember that Ars is owned by Conde Nast - ie. giant media conglomerate. You'll have to block several dozen sites, just to be sure!

< User9> haha did you see ron paul at the latest bailout hearings
< User9> he brought up the gold standard
< TheTrueHOOHA> He's so dreamy.
< User9> asked if there had been any discussion about that
< TheTrueHOOHA> Got a link?
< User9> no
< User10> Ahh gold standard.. it'll never happen, harder to manipulate.
< TheTrueHOOHA> That's kind of a selling point.
< User10> No it's not
< User11> hahahahahaah you actually like the gold standard you dumb baby
< TheTrueHOOHA> I suppose if you're a fan of runaway inflation and leverage schemes, that's true

< User12> how then do you deal with 12% unemployment
< TheTrueHOOHA> can't have it both ways.
Almost everyone was self-employed prior to 1900.
Why is 12% employment so terrifying?
< TheTrueHOOHA> that's nothing.
< User12> we'll see what happens. im tired of trying to predict how this will all turn out
< TheTrueHOOHA> it's a huge fucking mess
< User18> short selling FTW :D

Short-selling, as it happens, wasn't just a quip for Snowden. In the end of 2008, with the world economy in a tailspin, stock trades consumed a great deal of his attention. In November of that year, Snowden complained that he "lost \$20,000 in october alone," but he was confident that short-selling was the way to get it back. "I made \$1200 today on ultrashort etfs," he wrote later that day. "only \$18800 to go before I make up my losses for the year."

And he didn't just love shorting stocks; he loved defending the practice online as well. Snowden relished the intellectual combat in defending a trading practice he knew was controversial, but he was convinced it was vital and ethical.

< User13> Dow 6000 here we come..

< User14> what's it at now? 7800s?

< User13> 7997 I think

< User13> I wouldn't be surprised to see the Dow hit 6xxx numbers... I figure that's as low as it goes, of course it may flatline there for a while.

< User15> pray for 5;s

< User16> why?

< TheTrueHOOHA> because then i'll be filthy fucking rich

The next month:

< TheTrueHOOHA> HAHAHAHAHAHAHA. Money, bitches!

< TheTrueHOOHA> I just want to point out that all of you bottom callers were wrong, and I, in fact, was right. That is all.

< User17> ??

< TheTrueHOOHA> Stock market. Fake rally earlier today, then it had a heart attack in the final hour.

During the election, Snowden suggested he could support Obama if he were somehow to join forces with his opponent, John McCain. Snowden saw McCain as an "excellent leader" and "a guy with real values," unlike Bush. But he wasn't dreading an Obama presidency. "We need an idealist first and foremost," he wrote. "Hillary Clinton, I think, would be a pox on the country."

Once Obama took office, Snowden groaned about his policies with increasing frequency. Fears that Obama might revive an assault weapons ban didn't sit well with him as a defender of the Second Amendment. Another sticking point was social security. Snowden was an individualist, even when it was unpopular; he saw little need for a safety net.

< TheTrueHOOHA> save money? cut this social security bullshit

< User11> hahayes

< User18> Yeah! Fuck old people!

< User11> social security is bullshit

< User11> let's just toss old people out in the street

< User18> Old people could move in with [User11].



agonist Smack-Fu Master, in training 5 months ago
His comments designed to ensure that the NSA would trust him completely. I was all part of the plan.

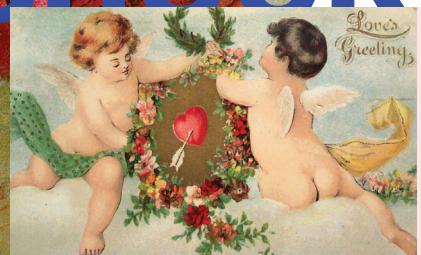
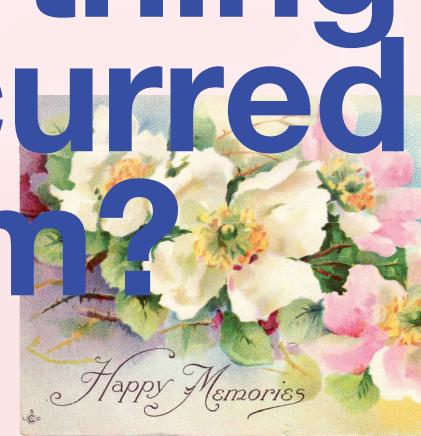
PeterWimsey Ars Scholae Palatinae 5 months ago
Blah, blah, blah, Snowden is my hero and anyone who writes something about him that doesn't paint him as a pure-hearted hero - no matter how relevant - can't be trusted.

Gary Patterson
Ars Tribunus Militum
5 months ago

So Snowden was young once, and said anything that occurred to him?

Imagine my shock!

AITIronbird Smack-Fu Master, in training 5 months ago
It would be funny if Snowden read this. The last thing I ever want to do is go back into my history on Facebook to read all the bullshit I wrote over the years. People's views change constantly, I probably will not have the same exact views 5 years from now. Though I bet if you did this to about anyone you can dig up some real dirt on people, it's hard to hold it against anyone knowing that it could of been you at one point.



< User11> NOOO
< User11> they smell funny
< TheTrueHOOHA> Somehow, our society managed to make it hundreds of years without social security just fine you fucking retard
< TheTrueHOOHA> Magically the world changed after the new deal, and old people became made of glass yeah, that makes sense
< TheTrueHOOHA> wow
< User11> you are just so fucking stupid
< TheTrueHOOHA> yeah, [User11]. and you're quite a gem
< User19> TheTrueHOOHA: and magically, life expectancy has doubled in the last 100 years. funny how that works.
< TheTrueHOOHA> [User19], you don't think modern medicine has something to do with that? no? it's social security? wow. I guess I missed that.
< User11> hurr wait a second, life expectancy has shot up in recent times along with the dissolution of the communal family unit in exchange for the nuclear family
< User11> gee i guess we might need to create a safety net for the sudden glut of helpless elderly????
< TheTrueHOOHA> they wouldn't be fucking helpless if you weren't sending them fucking checks to sit on their ass and lay in hospitals all day
< User11> you are so goddamned stupid*pid
< User11> PUT OLD PEOPLE TO WORK IN THE FIELDS
< TheTrueHOOHA> my grandmother is eighty fucking three this year, and you know what? she still supports herself working as a goddamned hair dresser
< User11> [other user] no after all these years, i can tell when TTH is just being stupid (it's always)
< TheTrueHOOHA> she doesn't approve of social security, either

TheTrueHOOHA: wow i love how your one data point is all the evidence we need
i for one am convinced maybe when you grow up and actually pay taxes, you'll understand, User11].

gt40spec Smack-Fu Master, in training 5 months ago
So he leaned towards being pro-government until Obama came in, and now he is anti-government - I am not surprised

HOLY SHIT
http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/11/washington/11iran.html?_r=1&hp

WTF
NY
TIMES

Are they TRYING to start a war?
Jesus christ
they're like wikileaks

they're just reporting, dude.
They're reporting classified shit

shrugs

about an unpopular country surrounded by enemies already engaged in a war and about our interactions with said country regarding planning sovereignty violations of another country
you don't put that shit in the NEWSPAPER

< User19> meh
< TheTrueHOOHA> moreover, who the fuck are the anonymous sources telling them this?

< TheTrueHOOHA> those people should be shot in the balls.
But the tense exchanges also prompted the White House to step up intelligence-sharing with Israel and brief Israeli officials on new American efforts to subtly sabotage Iran's nuclear infrastructure, a major covert program that Mr. Bush is about to hand off to President-elect Barack Obama.

< TheTrueHOOHA> HELLO? HOW COVERT IS IT NOW?
THANK YOU

< User19> meh
< TheTrueHOOHA> I wonder how many hundreds of millions of dollars they just completely blew.

< User19> you're over reacting. its fine.
< TheTrueHOOHA> It's not an overreaction. They have a HISTORY of this shit

< User19> with flowersand cake.

< User20> [User21]'s mushrooms are :o

< TheTrueHOOHA> these are the same people who blew the whole "we could listen to osama's cell phone" thingthe same people who screwed us on wiretappingover and over and over again
Thank god they're going out of business.

< User19> the NYT?

< TheTrueHOOHA> Hopefully they'll finally go bankrupt this year. yeah.

The chat resumed a few minutes later:

< User19> meh.
< User19> I enjoy the news.
< User19> Its nice they report on stuff.
< TheTrueHOOHA> I enjoy it when it's ethical reporting.
< TheTrueHOOHA> political corruption, sure
< TheTrueHOOHA> scandal, yes
< User19> is it unethical to report on the government's intrigue?
< TheTrueHOOHA> VIOLATING NATIONAL SECURITY? no

Sobels Ars Praetorian 5 months ago
Although I disagree with almost everything he said in those IRC logs, I have to give him props for being able to change his mind and do what he did. Not everyone is capable of changing their mind, especially when they have a vested interest in not doing so.

t1oracle
Ars Scholae Palatinae Subscriptor
5 months ago

The level of self denial in some of these comments is ridiculous. None of you know this guy personally, so to assume that he has changed dramatically from view points presented here is absurd. You couldn't possibly know that.

< TheTrueHOOHA> Um, YEEEEEEEEEEES.
< TheTrueHOOHA> that shit is classified for a reason

< TheTrueHOOHA> it's not because "oh we hope our citizens don't find out"
< TheTrueHOOHA> it's because "this shit won't work if iran knows what we're doing."

Jan 10 20:59:56 * User19 shrugs

< TheTrueHOOHA> None would speak on the record because of the great secrecy surrounding the intelligence developed on Iran.

< TheTrueHOOHA> direct. quote.
< TheTrueHOOHA> THEN WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO REPORTERS?!

Jan 10 21:01:25 * [User11] gives voice to TheTrueHOOHA

< TheTrueHOOHA> "Those covert operations, and the question of whether Israel will settle for something less than a conventional attack on Iran, pose immediate and wrenching decisions for Mr. Obama."

< TheTrueHOOHA> THEY'RE NOT COVERT ANYMORE

< TheTrueHOOHA> Oh you've got to be fucking kidding me. Now the NYTimes is going to determine our foreign policy?

< TheTrueHOOHA> And Obama?
< TheTrueHOOHA> Obama just appointed a fucking POLITICIAN to run the CIA!

< User11> yes unlike every other director of CIA ever

< User11> oh wait, no
< TheTrueHOOHA> I am so angry right now. This is completely unbelievable.

< User21> I'm appointing ur mom to run my penis
< User21> plus she can be secretary of my balls

< User11> i get the feeling that you're angry because you don't actually understand what's going on...
< TheTrueHOOHA> Actually, the whole "politician runs the CIA" thing is a new development

< User11> uhuh

< TheTrueHOOHA> Normally they were military or lawyers.

< User11> have you ever heard of a man named george herbert walker bush?

< User11> he ran the cia.
< TheTrueHOOHA> OH, YOU MEAN ONLY 25 YEARS AGO?

< TheTrueHOOHA> Dumbass.

Rkone Wise,
Aged Ars Veteran
5 months ago
I'm not sure what the point of this article is. To show people get experience and mature as they grow older?

uhuznaa Ars Tribunus Militum
5 months ago

Funny enough all this is exactly what Snowden said what would happen in that Guardian interview: It will be turned into a frenzy about his person, not about what the NSA did (and does). Nobody talks anymore about THAT. I still would like to know if my posts are retained or deleted when I should delete my account at Ars. And I would like to have an option to have all my posts deleted after a year or so. It this too much?

CQLanik Ars Tribunus Militum 5 months ago
Regardless of how he came to this point of view, he ended up doing the right thing. He was what, 22 in 2009? I'd be ashamed to have things I said when I was young brought up.

vampirequid Smack-Fu Master,
in training 5 months ago
Excellent story. I'm not really surprised that Snowden once hated leakers and then became one. I think people like him often become whistleblowers because they are disillusioned.. He sounded like a true believer who eventually saw or learned something that was too much for him to accept.

nimro Ars Scholae Palatinae 5 months ago

In contrast to my feelings about previous articles about Snowden's life and online activities, I find this one in much better taste. For the most part (especially page 3) you've stuck to a narrative which is framing this man's leaking with his previous opinions on that topic.

This article feels a lot more like the sort of real, useful journalism I'd expect from Ars and a lot less like the trashy tabloid nature of the girlfriend and forum posts pieces. Thank you, Mr. Mullin, for this article.

The IRC logs don't explain the chasm between the Snowden who disdained leakers and the Snowden who became a leaker himself in 2013. And it's hardly a perfect parallel; Snowden was upset about leaks over US covert operations in Iran, which is different from the domestic spying and offensive cyberwar programs he felt compelled to make public.

The TrueHOOHA's last known logon to #arsificial was in May 2009, just over four years ago. The Snowden seen in these chats is not the man we see today. Snowden clearly had to cross some kind of personal Rubicon in order to leave his life behind. His chats reveal his strident beliefs in individualism and a generally libertarian aesthetic, but they also showed real support for the security state.

During the years in which Snowden talked politics on IRC, his doubts grew. "Much of what I saw in Geneva really disillusioned me about how my government functions and what its impact is in the world," he told The Guardian when he revealed himself. It's during this time that he first considered revealing US secrets, but he held off.

The chats make clear that what Snowden discovered while working for the government felt so deeply wrong to him that he had a major change of heart. While there was no "one moment," seeing officials lie about these omniscient spying programs over a period of years pushed him over the edge. "It was seeing a continuing litany of lies from senior officials to Congress—and therefore the American people," Snowden said in an online chat last week. "Seeing someone in the position of James Clapper baldly lying to the public without repercussion is the evidence of a subverted democracy. The consent of the governed is not consent if it is not informed."

Hints of this might be seen in Snowden's later postings to the Ars forums, which began to slow around the time he left #arsificial. One of his last posts, from 2010, was about society's increasing acquiescence to "spooky types."

Snowden suggested during his Q&A last week that he was waiting for Obama to bring change to the surveillance state. Clearly, even more than halfway through the first term of the Obama presidency, Snowden was a wholly different person than he is today. Whatever happened during those four years, it resulted in profound disillusionment. Snowden ultimately reached the decision to throw away the life he knew and to reveal the truth about NSA spying programs.

Snowden knew what awaited him if he went through with his leaks; he had seen what happened to other NSA whistleblowers who were often prosecuted for their leaks. A trio of them gathered in the newsroom of USA Today last week, considering Snowden's acts in light of their own attempts to try to challenge the NSA's massive data collection by going through the "proper" whistleblower channels. Snowden's leaked FISA order is "documentary evidence of what we have been saying all along, so they couldn't deny it," said William Binney.

"We are seeing the initial outlines and contours of a very systemic, very broad, a Leviathan surveillance state," said fellow NSA whistleblower Thomas Drake. "Much of it is in violation of the fundamental basis for our own country."

The Ars users who knew Snowden had a more personal take on the revelations. On June 12, shortly after the Reuters profile revealed Snowden's old username, a longtime Ars user created a forum thread called Edward Snowden—NSA Leaker and Arsan. "I remember that guy," wrote the user, who goes by the moniker andyfatbastard. "He was kind of a dick. But fair play to him for what he's done."

Meanwhile, a longtime user in the #arsificial channel—one who had been on the receiving end of Snowden's vitriol in some of the exchanges listed above—changed the topic to "Edward Snowden == TheTrueHOOHA."

"He was a total cockmonger," the user wrote.

Another #arsificial denizen who had sparred with Snowden quickly typed: "Isseen TheTrueHOOHA," an IRC command that shows when someone last logged in. The chat server's bot responded immediately: "thetruehooha was last seen on #arsificial 4 years, 117 days, 4 hours, 1 minute ago." Someone else in the channel reflected: "That is some time."

Snowden turned 30 on Friday—a fugitive in a Hong Kong safehouse, with four lawyers as his only company. He celebrated his birthday with pizza, fried chicken, and Pepsi. On Sunday, he flew to Moscow where he apparently remains.

"He spent all his time inside, in a tiny place," said one of the Hong Kong lawyers, Albert Ho. "But he said it's OK—with his computer." If Snowden lost that, it would be "the saddest day," said Ho.

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[Search Term](#) [+ Add Term](#)[Jun 9-15, 2013](#)[Jun 16-22, 2013](#)

Interest over Time
Numbers represent search interest relative to the highest point on the chart. If at most 10% of searches for the given region and time frame were for "pizza," we'd consider this 100. This doesn't convey absolute search volume.

[May 05-11, 2013](#)[Dec 01-07, 2013](#)

THE LEAK

My name is Ed Snowden, I'm 29 years old. I worked for Booz Allen Hamilton as an infrastructure analyst for NSA in Hawaii.

[NSA](#)[Snowden](#)



ActivistGal

09 June 2013 7:32pm
 I don't need to read this to know that what you have done is perform an INCREDIBLE public service, not just for your fellow Americans, but for all of us, EVERYWHERE. Bravo and from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU.

Delete This Post@DogAlmightyM

I don't see this as a contradiction, but I am grateful for Snowden, appreciate what he has done, and even consider him to be a hero, while at the same time I am not grateful for Manning. I don't appreciate what he has done and I don't see him as anything even remotely resembling a hero. I am glad that Snowden took up residence (if even in a hotel) in Hong Kong before coming out as the NSA whistleblower. I absolutely don't want to see him in jail, but also (as Snowden states himself), this issue is important enough on its own without the Fed having Snowden on trial here in the States, which would serve as an unwanted distraction from one of the most important political and social issues in the world today.

Mr. Snowden; As an American and a former US Marine, I applaud you sir.

09 June 2013 8:38pm@DogAlmightyM

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Mr. Snowden; As an American and a former US Marine, I applaud you sir.

09 June 2013 8:43pm@HulloHulot - To

most of them morally is nothing more than a convenient word to bring out around campaign times

RJSadler09 June 2013 8:43pm@HulloHulot

most of them morally is nothing more than a convenient word to bring out around campaign times

dkwilkii09 June 2013 8:19pmThis comment was removed by a moderatorbecause it didn't abide by our community standards. Replies may also be deleted. For more detail see our FAQs.Louis49 iammnotwise11 June 2013 9:08am@iammnotwise - Snowden "Ar-

ticulate?" Yes he does speak well, but this \$20K technocrat couldn't pass a high school social studies test. Snowden "Brave"? He's eating room service meals in a PRC hotel room. Bragging that he knows all the names of every CIA asset in the world. It's those CIA assets fighting terrorism in their towns that are brave. If those guys get exposed; it's not just them, it's their families, too.

Snowden fighting an "existential" enemy. CIA assets in Afghanistan and Pakistan are risking their lives so that their daughters can go to school without the fear of being burned to death.

Snowden's eating room service, mild and concealed in his ignorance of high school Social Studies.

Snowden's "Brave" because he stands up for "Existential" democracy?

Malala Yousafzai the 14 year old, Pakistani teenager, shot in the face in 2012, because she became nationally famous for highlighting Taliban atrocities; is Brave.

rogerspringfield11 June 2013 3:18pm

Malala's going back to school to save her country. Snowden was a high school drop-out, living in Hawaii. Snowden has exchanged the trust his country and government invested in him for Fame, as an "existential warrior".

I like the-shot-in-the-face-girl, Malala, who goes back to school, much more. What does Snowden really have? What is he actually doing for harm?

What is he actually doing amongst us and if this guy is sincere (and it sounds like he is), by definition, he is a hero. He has essentially given up his life so that you and I have an idea of how corrupt our government has become. \$200,000 and couldn't pass a high school test? What does that have to do with anything?

Bragging? Where does that come from? Was he just using that as an example that he did not want to harm anyone, he just wanted to expose the lies that have been told to us.

whohohhy1
09 June 2013 7:32pm
 Thank you!

BonkifyouHonk
09 June 2013 8:04pm
 @whohohhy1 - thank you indeed, but I wonder how long the guardian will keep flogging this story? Three days and counting...

SeaOfAsh
09 June 2013 8:35pm
 @BonkifyouHonk
 - Well, considering that Greenwald said today that there are still more documents coming, hopefully for a while. This, Cannot Die. If it does, I will literally lose all hope for democracy in the US

I've been a systems engineer, systems administrator, senior adviser for the Central Intelligence Agency, solutions consultant, and a telecommunications information systems officer.

When you're in positions of privileged access like a systems administrator for the sort of intelligence community agencies, you're exposed to a lot more information on a broader scale than the average employee and because of that you see

things that may be disturbing; but over the course of a normal person's career you'd only see one or two of these instances. When you see everything, you see them on a more frequent basis and you recognize that some of these things are actually

JackJay
10 June 2013 4:37am
 @HulloHulot - Snowden for President!
citizenKHAN
09 June 2013 7:44pm
 at last there is one..

whohohhy1
09 June 2013 11:10am
 @HulloHulot - Brave, perhaps, but Miseducated, basically.

Due to having been brought up with excessively individualistic ideas and a vacuum where political education should be, he suffers from the delusion that he, an individual, knows better than his government (which represents a consensus of views of people with far greater relevant knowledge and expertise than himself), and has a right to arbitrarily subvert the state in order to impose by force upon it his ideas of how it should be run.

His thinking is simplistic, and therefore, unsurprisingly, wrong.

NSA and the intelligence community in general is focused on getting intelligence wherever it can by any means possible. It believes, on the grounds of sort of a self-certification, that they serve the national interest. Originally we saw that focus very narrowly tailored as foreign intelligence gathered overseas.

Now increasingly we see that it's happening domestically and to do that they, the NSA specifically, targets the communications of everyone. It ingests them by default. It collects them in its system and it filters them and it analyses them and it measures them and it stores them for periods of time simply because that's the easiest, most efficient, and most valuable way to achieve these ends. So while they may be intending to target someone associated with a foreign government or

someone they suspect of terrorism, they're collecting you're communications to do so.

Any analyst at any time can target anyone, any selector, anywhere. Where those communications will be picked up depends on the range of the sensor networks and the authorities that analyst is empowered with. Not all analysts have the ability to target everything. But I sitting at my desk certainly had the authorities to wiretap anyone from you or your accountant to a Federal judge to even the President if I had a personal e-mail.

undersigned
10 June 2013 11:12pm
 @ActivistGal - **Like**
 Bradley Manning, he is a traitor to his country and a tool. Like nearly all traitors, he thinks he's doing something noble, but all he's doing actually is endangering the security of his fellow citizens. Why did you choose to do that?"

I think that the public is owed an explanation of the motivations behind the people who make these disclosures that are outside of the democratic model. When you are subverting the power of government that's a fundamentally dangerous thing to

democracy and if you do that in secret consistently as the government does when it wants to benefit from a secret action that it took. It'll kind of give its officials a mandate to go, "Hey, tell the press about this thing and that thing, so the public is on our side." But they rarely, if ever, do that when an abuse occurs. That falls to individual citizens, but they're typically maligned. It becomes a thing of "These people are against the country.

09 June 2013 7:39pm
exturpicausa
 This man is a hero, intelligent and articulate, principled. I can only take my hat off, this man deserves accolades, not punishment. We're behind you Ed!

Charles Driver
09 June 2013
8:20pm
@exturpicausa
-Speak only for yourself

matttov1 10 June 2013 7:49pm

@ActivistGal - No kidding! Why are people suddenly using Snowden as a club to bash Manning with? Their hearts and minds aren't big enough to hold two heroes at the same time?

Greenwald: "One of the extraordinary parts about this episode is usually whistleblowers do what they do anonymously and take steps to remain anonymous for as long as they can, which they hope often is forever. You on the other hand have decided to do the opposite, which is to declare yourself openly as the person behind these disclosures. Why did you choose to do that?"

They're against the government." But I'm not. I'm no different from anybody else. I don't have special skills. I'm just another guy who sits there day to day in the office, watches what's happening and goes, "This is something that's not our place to decide, the public needs to decide whether these programs and policies are right or wrong." And I'm willing to go on the record to defend the authenticity of them and say, "I didn't change these, I didn't modify the story. This is the truth; this is what's happening. You should decide whether we need to be doing this."

Addicks123
09 June 2013 7:33pm
 Brave man - I wonder what they'll find on him...

saviloveoffen
09 June 2013 8:21pm
 @Addicks123
 - Another brave soul, another Julian Assange. We knew or we had an inkling that this was going on but nobody was saying it; this guy can't live with his conscience which is admirable... how many of us see something and just let it go by... I wish you the best, i am like many others here, just plainly in awe of you. When you go to bed at night, just know that many people are on your side and you are an inspiration to us all.

ayaval2000
09 June 2013 8:45pm
 @saviloveoffen - For me, just another depressed maniac.

Greenwald: "Have you given thought to what it is that the US government's response to your conduct is in terms of what they might say about you, how they might try to depict you, what they might try to do to you?"

Yeah, I could be rendered by the CIA. I could have people come after me. Or any of the third-party partners. They work closely with a

number of other nations. Or they could pay off the 'Traisds. Any of their agents or assets.

We've got a CIA station just up the road and the consulate here in Hong Kong and I'm sure they're going to be very busy for the next week. And that's a fear I'll live under for the rest of my life, however long that happens to be.

You can't come forward against the world's most powerful intelligence agencies and be completely free from risk because they're such powerful adversaries. No one can meaningfully oppose them. If they want to get you, they'll get you in time.

jabberwolf

09 June 2013 8:51pm

Seeing as the NSA was bluntly violating the 4th Amendment of the constitution.. I see him as paying the highest services to this country anyone could - upholding the rights of all Americans. I don't care if a secret federal judge approved it, I don't care that congress ok'd it (I don't think they knew about this order), and I don't care Obama said its ok - the constitution is the highest law of the land above all offices.

Thank you Edward Snowden for showing the NSA and Obama for breaking it. They should be the ones tried for treason!! (Manning, he wasn't trying to out anyone for breaking the law. - I don't consider him in the same light)

KathyHarrisSexton **CharlesDriver**

09 June 2013 7:36pm

Poor guy will feel the Nobel Peace Prize laureate's wrath. No one shows a 'nice' politician's real face and remains unpunished.

This comment has been chosen by Guardian staff because it contributes to the debate.

153

@CharlesDriver - Ever since the Nixon administration broke into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psycho-analyst's office, the tactic of the US government has been to attack and demonize whistleblowers as a means of distracting attention from their own exposed wrongdoing and destroying the credibility of the messenger so that everyone tunes out the message. Please just spend a moment considering the options available to someone with access to numerous Top Secret documents. They could easily enrich themselves by selling those documents for huge sums of money to foreign intelligence services. They could seek to harm the US government by acting at the direction of a foreign adversary and covertly pass those secrets to them. They could gratuitously expose the identity of covert agents. None of the whistleblowers persecuted by the Obama administration as part of its unprecedented attack on whistleblowers has done any of that: not one of them. Nor have those who are responsible for these current disclosures. By your logic it could be argued that all surveillance laws should be kept secret in order to make it harder for advisers to guess how we collect intelligence, but that's not how a democracy works. Legally and under the Constitution, the law that has been in place for over two hundred years (and not some law made up in some secret court) is that American citizens are supposed to have a say in the laws that govern them and no matter how noble the Justice Department's intentions are, Obama, nor any Government official have the right to substitute their judgment for the judgment of the American people, no matter how balanced they may perceive their own. In the event that they have doubts that the American people will support a program they believe is necessary to national security, they are obligated to bring that program up for debate, not classify it and hope no one finds out.

ardennesestate
09 June 2013 7:36pm
 Good luck and best wishes, Edward - regrettably, I really think you'll need 'em...

Laura9999
DuErJournalist
09 June 2013
7:41pm
 I can't be
 anything other
 than proud
 of you. Good
 luck. I hope
 your family is
 as proud.

DeadlyInArms
09 June 2013
7:41pm
 Hmm, now
 Manning has
 competition for the Nobel
 peace prize.

greatwhitenoirf
09 June 2013
7:49pm
 I feel like this man
 completely wasted
 his life, his revelations
 isn't going to start a
 movement because
 the youth of today is
 so apathetic. we will
 probably sign a petition
 on change.org
 appealing for his fair
 trial and treatment etc
 etc which the us govt
 will ignore, but no one
 is going to protest
 and riot for justice. we
 will post and mention
 it on facebook then
 it will be forgotten
 when not enough of
 my peers will like it
 or comment on it.
 editorial after editorial
 runs out.

Wonder what
 bank he has
 converted
 it in, or if he
 care will continue to
 post duck face pics,
 crotch shots, boob
 shots etc and none of
 them will know who
 mr. snowden is and
 his sacrifice.

I do thank him though
 for his generosity
 and humanity, something i can only
 hope to emulate.

Correc-
tions

SE26lad
09 June 2013
7:47pm
 Brave man.
 Whether or
 not there
 is any con-
 spiracy, the
 relationship
 between State
 and Citizen is
 in play here. If
 we don't win,
 it allows for a
 lot of abuse in
 the future.

lezzmos
09 June 2013
7:44pm
 What this kid has done makes him a true patriot. Hopefully this scandal will ignite a debate across the west about where the line must be drawn between (as Glenn said yesterday) PUBLIC government and PRIVATE individuals. Despite what has occurred over the past 10 years I refuse not to be optimistic and that's mainly thanks to brave people like Glenn Greenwald and Edward Snowden.

nicky_89
09 June 2013
7:54pm
 Radicalivre
09 June 2013
7:57pm
 Shame such a nice gay will be crucified.... going to be found out eventually, so outing himself before the US government does is a good idea. Best the whole world knows who he is, so he can't be "disappeared" without suspicion. At least he managed to escape to China, who surely will welcome the PR scoop of housing American political dissidents. Thank you for your actions, and good luck with the rest of your life.

P.S.: Totally uncalled for, that dig at Manning and Ellsberg.

But at the same time you have to make a determination about what it is that's important to you. And if living unfree but comfortably is something you're willing to accept, and I think it many of us are, it's the human nature; you can get up every-day, go to work, you can collect your large paycheck for relatively little work against the public interest, and go to sleep at night after watching your shows.

But if you realize that that's the world you helped create—and it's gonna get worse with the next generation and the next generation who extend the capabilities of this sort of architecture of oppression—you realize that you might be willing to accept any risk and it doesn't matter what the outcome is so long as the public gets to make their own decisions about how that's applied.

Greenwald: Because even if you're not doing anything wrong you're being watched and recorded. And the storage capability of these systems increases every year consistently by orders of magnitude to where it's getting to the point where you don't have to have done anything wrong. You simply have to eventually fall under suspicion from somebody even by a wrong call. And then they can use this system to go back in time and scrutinize every decision you've ever made, every friend you've ever discussed something with. And at-

JackJAY
10 June 2013
3:56pm
 - Guardian
 deserves a media too.

tack you on that basis to sort to derive suspicion from an innocent life and paint anyone in the context of a wrongdoer.

Greenwald: "We are currently sitting in a room in Hong Kong, which is where we are because you travelled here. Talk a little bit about why it is that you came here and specifically there are going to be people...people speculate that what you really intend to do is to defect to the country that many see as the number one rival of the United States, which is China. And that essentially seeking to aid an enemy of the United States with which you intend to seek asylum. Can you talk a little about that?"

Sure. So there's a couple assertions in those arguments that are sort of embedded in the questioning of the choice of Hong Kong. The first is that China is an enemy of the United States. It's not. I mean there are conflicts between the United States government and the Chinese PRC government; but the peoples inherently, we don't care. We trade with each other freely, we're not at war, we're not in armed conflict, and we're not trying to be. We're the largest trading partners out there for each other. Additionally, Hong Kong has a strong tradition of free speech. People think 'Oh China, Great Firewall.' Mainland China does have significant restrictions on free speech, but the people of Hong Kong have a long tradition of protesting in the streets, of making there views known. The internet is not filtered here more so then any other western government. And I believe that the Hong Kong government is actually independent in relation to a lot of other leading western governments.

JinTexas
09 June 2013
7:54pm
 Amazing! It only took 20 something years after the fall of the Soviet Union before Americans were having to seek political asylum in other countries. I guess absolute power really does corrupt absolutely.

TheIneffableSwede
09 June 2013
7:45pm
 It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world and moral courage so rare-- Mark Twain

AnonForNowThanks
11 June 2013
7:29pm
 @NeilPeel - You are correct, but do keep in mind that Snowden's character and credibility are irrelevant to the issue Either the documents he has brought to the Guardian and others are authentic, or they are not. His own character and motives have absolutely **NOTHING** to do with it. Daniel Ellsberg did have sufficient "psychological issues" that he could be discredited, and had he been a witness in a lawsuit, a jury could have decided him -- did that mean anything about the authenticity of the Pentagon Papers? Oh hell no!

guydenning
09 June 2013
7:43pm
 You can hear the sound of skeletons being stuffed in closets by the NSA as we type.

Seriatim
09 June 2013
11:40pm
 @guydenning And I can hear the sound of dozens of fledgling newly inspired budding whistleblowers opening the closets and dragging them out ...

Bigchin
09 June 2013
7:56pm
these posts are being edited. They do not appear instantly, there is a minute or so delay, on aim I paranoid ? ...maybe NSA !

rogerspringfield
11 June 2013
3:37pm
 @Seriatim - We can only hope.

TheIneffableSwede
09 June 2013
7:43pm
 Thank you, Mr. Snowden. You're a brave man and a hero in my eyes. I'm sorry for what the American Empire is going to do to you. They will torment you and the experience will be so hellish you will wonder if it was all worth it.

statinct
09 June 2013
7:50pm
 I disagree with your conclusions, but I admire your bravery and rason d'etre. Stay safe!

Ashurstman
09 June 2013
7:55pm
 The biggest problem is that he thinks Hong Kong is a bastion of free speech! That makes me wonder!

ersatzian swotpilgrim
10 June 2013
12:35am
 "He who saves his country violates no law." - Napoleon

swotpilgrim
09 June 2013
7:52pm
 "He who saves his country violates no law."...

That's...
 That's not the best quotation to use, given its speaker. Goodness knows how much saving he did.

Greenwald: "if your motive had been to harm the United States and help its enemies or if your motive had been personal material gain were there things you could have done with these documents to advance those goals that you didn't end up doing?"

He should have discussed his displeasure with one of his bosses or colleagues and sought to make changes from within before deciding to harm his country's intelligence gathering by disclosing those documents.

Robbie Wallis HolySinner
09 June 2013 8:30pm
 @HolySinner -
 Obama? Is that you?

Jonny1975 HolySinner
09 June 2013 8:30pm
 @HolySinner - yeah, that would've worked.
 are you this bright in real life too?

The locations of every station, we have what their missions are and so forth.

If I had just wanted to harm the US? You could shut down the surveillance system in an afternoon. But that's not my intention. I think for anyone making that argument: They need to think, if they were in my position and you live a privileged life, you're living in Hawaii, in paradise, and making a ton of money, 'What would it take you to leave everything behind?' The greatest fear that I have regarding the outcome for America of these disclosures is that nothing will change. People will see in the media all of these disclosures. They'll know the lengths that the government is going to grant themselves powers unilaterally to create greater control over American society and global society. But they won't be willing to take the risks necessary to stand up and fight to change things to force their representatives to actually take a stand in their interests.

RoachAmerican
09 June 2013 8:10pm
From his reasoning I have to ask the question, is this man a double agent for China and this is a propaganda coup to discredit U.S complaints about Chinese hacking ?

Virginia Gall
09 June 2013 8:31pm
@RoachAmerican - That was my first thought too especially since he chose Hong Kong.

Greenwald: "if your motive had been to access with the technical capabilities that I had could suck out secrets, pass them on the open market to Russia; they always have an open door as we do. I had access to the full rosters of everyone working at the NSA, the entire intelligence community, and undercover assets all over the world.

The locations of every station, we have what their missions are and so forth.

If I had just wanted to harm the US? You could shut down the surveillance system in an afternoon. But that's not my intention. I think for anyone making that argument: They need to think, if they were in my position and you live a privileged life, you're living in Hawaii, in paradise, and making a ton of money, 'What would it take you to leave everything behind?' The greatest fear that I have regarding the outcome for America of these disclosures is that nothing will change. People will see in the media all of these disclosures. They'll know the lengths that the government is going to grant themselves powers unilaterally to create greater control over American society and global society. But they won't be willing to take the risks necessary to stand up and fight to change things to force their representatives to actually take a stand in their interests.

RoachAmerican
09 June 2013 8:10pm
From his reasoning I have to ask the question, is this man a double agent for China and this is a propaganda coup to discredit U.S complaints about Chinese hacking ?

Saqi Ella
09 June 2013
8:15pm
 This is all so surreal. Not that it means anything, but Edward comes across really well I think.

Paul Donahue
09 June 2013 8:10pm
GOOD FOR HIM... Soon we will find out all the prisons they have been building are for concentration camps for the coming third world war... It will come to pass! History repeats it self! -PD

Iskra1903
09 June 2013 8:15pm
 I wonder how many years it will be before American history books talk about 'Edward Snowden & Bradley Manning as heroes, and defenders of democracy?'
Patrickdodds
09 June 2013 9:53pm
@Iskra1903 - That depends who wins.

Anon Ynous
11 June 2013 7:40pm
 Sign the petition calling to pardon Edward Snowden. Please spread this video and sign the petition!
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hW_QmB8bzIQ
<http://1.usa.gov/15uHcZx>

And the months ahead, the years ahead, it's only going to get worse until eventually there will be a time where policies will change because the only thing that restricts the activities of the surveillance state are policy. Even our agreements with other sovereign governments, we consider that to be a stipulation of policy rather than a stipulation of law. And because of that a new leader will be elected, they'll flip the switch, say that "Because of the crisis, because of the dangers we face in the world, some new and unpredicted threat, we need more authority, we need more power." And there will be nothing the people can do at that point to oppose it. And it will be turnkey tyranny.

MissPennyfeather
09 June 2013 8:10pm
 I actually think this guy is far more braver, far more honest and intelligent than Assange, who lets face it, seemed to take the credit for the leaks all those years ago from Manning. Not saying that he didn't acknowledge Manning but the fact that he took centre stage seemed to me that he was on an ego trip...just my opinion.

DismantleTrident
09 June 2013 8:45pm
@MissPennyfeather - I don't give a crap what Mr Assange's motives may or may not be, given that the motives of US hegemony are unquestionably sinister.

Robbie Wallis
10 June 2013 11:34am
 This comment has been chosen by Guardian staff because it contributes to the debate
 Wow, check out the US propaganda wing desperately trying to sway public opinion in the comments all over the net.
 Yes, you are obvious. It might have been viewed as paranoia before, but after the last seven days I think we all know there's an army of people who's job it is to spread disinformation and try to change the discussion on sites such as this.

VonHuman
11 June 2013 8:11pm
 And to think, it was Obama who received the Nobel Peace Prize. This guy, this all-alone, principled, courageous individual will receive only a fistful of wrath. God bless him.

ArthurDandy
09 June 2013 8:11pm
 Can anyone tell me exactly what he did that will supposedly harm other people?
TateFegley
12 June 2013 3:56pm
@Tate Fegley - He embarrassed our Glorious Leaders, that's what. Lése-majesté, which isn't a crime in the US Code but will get you buried so deep the devil will need a shovel to find you.

Lése-majesté /BliDz DmåddDøstii/[r]
 [French: lésé majesté [lɛzɛ maʒɛsti]; Law French, from the Latin laesa maiestas, "injured majesty"; in English, also lese-majesty, lese

majesty or leze majesty) is the crime of violating majesty, an offence against the dignity of a reigning sovereign or against a state.
 -- Wikipedia

Istra1903
09 June 2013 8:15pm
 I wonder how many years it will be before American history books talk about Edward Snowden Manning as heroes, That's one of the most awesome interviews I can remember.

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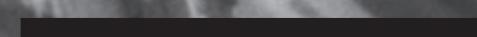
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Edward Snowden's Statement Read at 'Stop Watching Us' Rally in DC

By: Kevin Gosztola Saturday October 26, 2013 4:51 pm

Former NSA contractor and whistleblower Edward Snowden had a statement read at the "Stop Watching Us" Rally against mass surveillance in Washington, DC. It was read by Justice Department whistleblower and attorney with the Government Accountability Project, Jesselyn Radack. The full statement appears below.

[3 Comments](#)
Sorry but the comments are closed on this post

caleb36 October 27th, 2013 at 4:24 am
In response to E. F. Beall
One of the striking developments of the last few months has been the ending of many red/blue divisions. When it came to opposition to the planned Syrian war, and when it comes to opposition to the surveillance state, there is no red/blue divide. The people are uniting over forced divisions and that is really scaring the PTB.

In the last four months, we've learned a lot about our government. We've learned that the US Intelligence Community secretly built a system of pervasive surveillance.

Today, no telephone in America makes a call without leaving a record with the NSA. Today, no Internet transaction enters or leaves America without passing through the NSA's hands. Our representatives in Congress tell us this is not surveillance. They're wrong.

We've also learned this isn't about red or blue party lines. Neither is it about terrorism.

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Reddit 15 points
[Facebook Like](#) 640
[Tweet](#) 2622
[digg](#)
[stumbleupon](#)
[Share](#)

E. F. Beall October 26th, 2013 at 7:48 pm
Thanks, Kevin.
As Snowden says, "this isn't about red or blue party lines," and that was borne out at the rally, where it was about all walks of life. There were good speeches by former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson, EPIC's Khaliah Barnes, whistleblower Thomas Drake, Rep. Justin Amash, and above all, former Rep. Dennis Kucinich (who made the connection between the surveillance and permanent war). Of the reports I've looked at, RT's live blog, which ran until about 4 PM Eastern, is the best. It has lots of pictures, and notices of solidarity rallies held in other places (eight in Germany).

potsdam602 October 26th, 2013 at 9:16 pm
World leaders are furious that our government has been doing squirrelly spying measures that the majority of Americans have not sanctioned and also do not want their tax dollars going toward. Why have a State Department if the US gov't tracks foreign leaders' phones? Get rid of State and just keep all the squirrels at the Pentagon. Still think Hillary was really embarrassed and at least two freedom fighters/whistle blowers/leakers are suffering big time as a result. Yet all they did was to expose reality and real officials' real actions. If other developed nation leaders get all over Obama (and the Bush leftovers) regarding the US gov't spying, perhaps they could help US citizens with our human rights issues regarding our gov't spying too much on us. We need help. The US government can pay for my mobile device that they turned into their tracking device that also happens to make phone calls. No wonder there are no pay phones any more. It's not because drug dealers make deals with pay phones. It's because the more devious US gov't wants to be more devious and squirrelly.

It is about power, control, and trust in government; about whether you have a voice in our democracy or decisions are made for you rather than with you. We're here to remind our government officials that they are public servants, not private investigators.

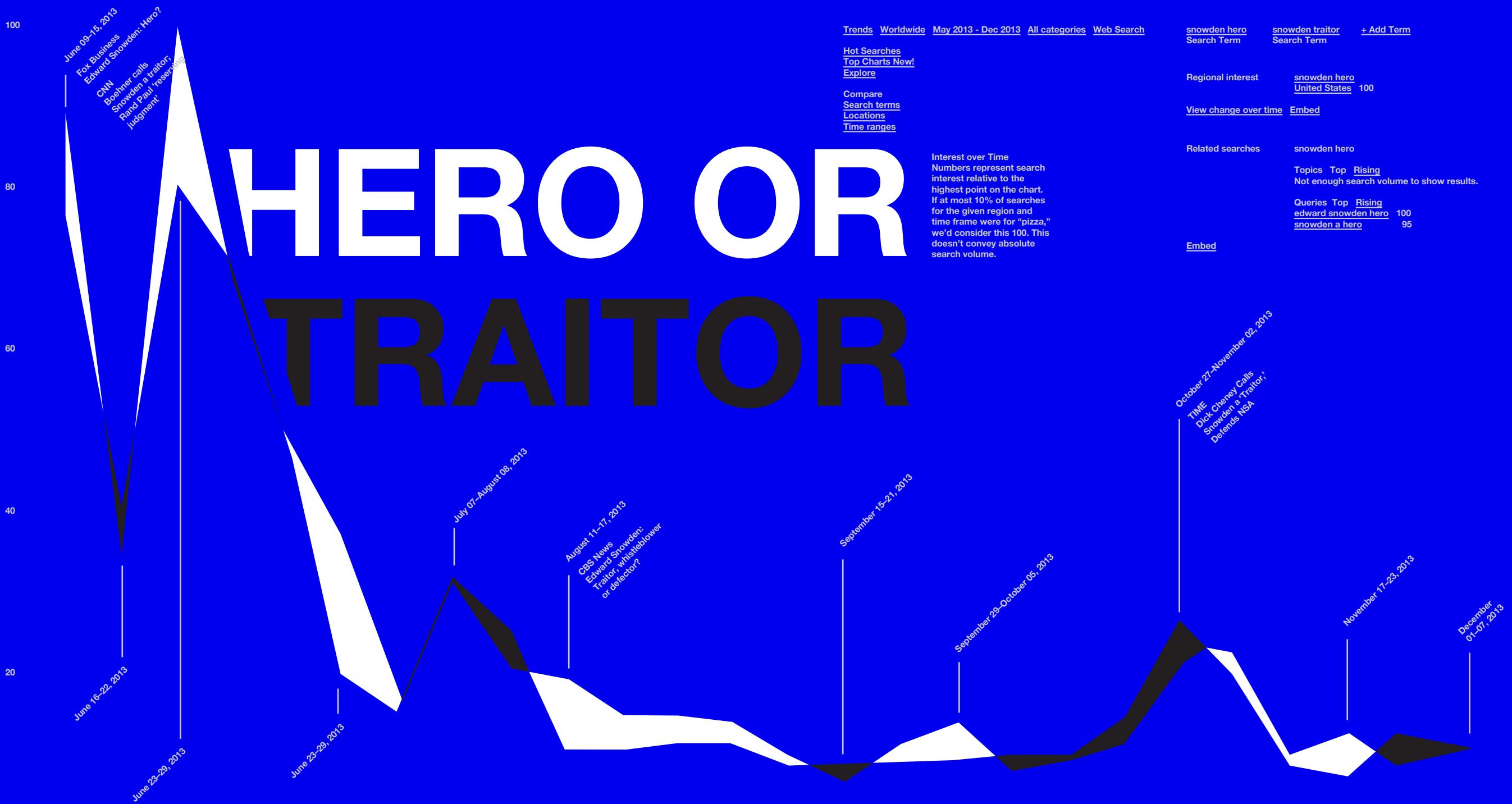
This is about the unconstitutional, unethical, and immoral actions of the modern-day surveillance state and how we all must work together to remind government to stop them. It's about our right to know, to associate freely, and to live in an open society.

We are witnessing an American moment in which ordinary people from high schools to high office stand up to oppose a dangerous trend in government.

We are told that what is unconstitutional is not illegal, but we will not be fooled. We have not forgotten that the Fourth Amendment in our Bill of Rights prohibits government not only from searching our personal effects without a warrant but from seizing them in the first place.

Holding to this principle, we declare that mass surveillance has no place in this country.

It is time for reform. Elections are coming and we're watching you.





Former NSA/CIA Chief Jokes About Putting Edward Snowden on Obama's Kill List

Krizzly
I dunno. How do you know he didn't simply have "sh*t-list" in mind?

October 4, 2013 - 8:58 am
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Also read: [Best Response to a Campus Mini Skirt Ban EVER](#)

Bryan Preston has been a leading conservative blogger and opinionator since founding his first blog in 2001. Bryan is a military veteran, worked for NASA, was a founding blogger and producer at Hot Air, was producer of the Laura Ingraham Show and, most recently before joining PJM, was Communications Director of the Republican Party of Texas.

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MB4
This is hardly the first "little gem" from that depraved bastard.
[Hayden] "Also, if you want to be less well defended just let us know." Well now, isn't that cute. He just couldn't resist. Only a despicable and degenerate excuse for a human being would say something like that. It is functionally the equivalent of saying, "Nice family you got there, especially the children. It would be a shame if anything happened to them because you opposed or even questioned anything we're doing". And here I thought Hillary was deprived with her, "What difference at this point does it make". She is a piker compared to Hayden in the morally depraved department.

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elkhoong
He was not joking, he was reminding us: Snowden is an American abroad, a target for the president's drone practice.

askptic
Be careful what you "joke" about General.... Barry's not the only one who has lists, and you're not too popular in certain circles either.

rblum
All those who are neither rich nor poor and in dire need of medical care under ObamaCare will automatically be on such a death list . . . once their funds are quickly drained.

J.E. Dyer
That's the problem with limited government and respect for the people. Not enough jokes about nominating the citizens for kill lists. It's kind of like the problem with Tolstoy's literary oeuvre. Not enough vampires.

Codetrader
Patriots I Hear Ye !
Remember this as you leave here tonight !
We the Patriots are the last line
of defense against the Darkness !
We hold The Beacon of Freedom the rest of the
world looks to in our hands !
We have only two choices !
We restore Our Constitution as the Rule of Law, or
We have Government by Decree!
We have The Light of Freedom or,
We have the Darkness of Slavery !
We have Liberty or We have Tyranny !
We have Individual Rights or
We have Mob Rule !
We have Government By The People,
For the People and responsible to,
We the People or,
We have Government by Anarchy !
The Constitution Can Not Defend itself !
We the People must do so !
It Is our Constitution to Keep or To Lose !
Will you stand with your Countrymen
and fellow Patriots ?
I stand here on the shores
of the Potomac and I say this !
General Washington Sir !
President Washington Sir !
We have come ! We are here !

de sales
Always interesting to hear high placed officials of the American Gestapo reveal the true nature of their fascist hearts; killing and marginalizing dissidents. Americans are now living the way Soviets did years ago.

RebeccaH
Barack Obama once "joked" about auditing his enemies. Look how that turned out.

El Paso Nurse Association to Close Due to Obamacare; 850 to Lose Their Jobs »

by
BRYAN PRESTON
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tngilmer
Now you know why Snowden would not dare to come back to the US. Obama and his friends would see to it that he died asap, probably of some sort of "suicide" or accident.

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Edward Snowden Face Mask #TeamSnowden
by vDq
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"Und wenn alle anderen die von der Partei verbreitete Lüge glaubten - wenn alle Aufzeichnungen gleich lauteten -, dann ging die Lüge in die Geschichte ein und wurde Wahrheit"

Exposing the Surveillance State is not a Crime.

Edward Joseph Snowden (* 21. Juni 1983 in Elizabeth City, North Carolina) ist ein US-amerikanischer Whistleblower. Seine Enthüllungen gaben Einblicke in das Ausmaß der weltweiten Überwachungs- und Spionagepraktiken von US-Diensten und lösten so die Überwachungs- und Spionageaffäre 2013 aus.

Snowden ist ein ehemaliger, technischer Mitarbeiter der US-amerikanischen Geheimdienste CIA, NSA und DIA. Bis Mai 2013 arbeitete er im Auftrag der NSA als Systemadministrator für das Beratungsunternehmen Booz Allen Hamilton im Kunia Regional SIGINT Operations Center. Im Rahmen seiner Tätigkeit hatte er Zugang zu Informationen, die als streng geheim eingestuft waren, u. a. über US-amerikanische Programme zur Überwachung der weltweiten Internetkommunikation (PRISM und Boundless Informant) sowie das noch umfassendere britische Überwachungsprogramm Tempora. Snowden übermittelte diese Informationen an den Guardian-Journalisten Glenn Greenwald, der sie im Juni 2013 ohne Angabe einer Quelle in Teilen veröffentlichte.

Edward Joseph "Ed" Snowden (born June 21, 1983) is an American computer specialist, a former CIA employee, and former NSA contractor who disclosed up to 200,000 classified documents to the press. Details released from the cache have revolved primarily around the United States' NSA mass surveillance program, and to a lesser extent, its counterparts such as the British GCHQ, Israel's ISNU, and Norway's NSIS. Snowden is considered a fugitive by American authorities who have charged him with espionage and theft of government property. He is currently living in Russia under temporary asylum.

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The former CIA spy has put at risk both American and British national security. Our laws must change to reflect the seriousness of these crimes, writes Mark Pritchard MP.

Edward Snowden is a traitor to the United States: he must be brought to justice

By Mark Pritchard MP
3:16PM BST 18 Jun 2013[HOME](#)
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Edward Snowden is a traitor. The former CIA and National Security Agency technical assistant last week disclosed a raft of United States and United Kingdom secret documents – all in the name of, as Snowden claims, “liberty” and standing up against US government “oppression”.

Yet the former Fort Meade employee’s rhetoric would have been far more credible if this recreant, originally from North Carolina, had made his misguided proclamations in London or Washington DC. Instead, he chose to endanger lives and future intelligence gathering operations from a secretive state and where the single party and ruling communist regime bear down daily on religious freedom and freedom of speech.

Mr Snowden is no “people’s champion” – but a betrayer. Just like his more junior US Army counterpart, Bradley Manning, Snowden’s damaging revelations are viewed by many commentators as a futile and clumsy attempt to distract attention from the People Republic of China’s own relentless and industrial-scale eavesdropping and cyberespionage activities.

It is a reasonable question to ask if Snowden had been communicating with the Chinese authorities. In any case, the Chinese could save their own embarrassment and clear up any confused signals by immediately handing Snowden over to US authorities. I doubt they will.

As the United Kingdom’s Foreign Office and MoD budgets continue to be squeezed, and as the world becomes a more dangerous place, the capabilities of the UK’s secretive domestic and foreign intelligence agencies will become more important. It is the dedicated and professional staff in these agencies, and at GCHQ in Cheltenham, that provide vital and timely insights into immediate and future threats to the UK national interest. These hidden heroes and heroines make the difference between governments of the day making right or wrong national security decisions – judgments that save lives.

The Snowden files should be the stimulus for an overdue review of the UK’s own 1989 Official Secrets Act. At present, the maximum tariff for serious breaches of the Act is just 14 years. This should be increased to a “whole of life tariff” for the most serious of breaches. Recent breaches of the Act, most notably ex-Royal Navy submariner, Edward Devenney, who attempted to pass nuclear secrets to the Russians, have only attracted a derisory custodial sentence of just eight years. A decade ago the ex-M15 officer, David Shayler, received just six months despite being convicted under the Act.

If Snowden does eventually find himself before a US court he could expect never to leave jail again. In the UK he could be free in just seven years. For some would-be traitors that may be a risk worth taking. However, it is not a risk any UK government should take. Betrayal of Queen and country costs lives – sometimes hundreds and thousands of lives.

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Use your loaf: which bread would get your vote?

Adults shouldn't be lectured about private enjoyment of porn, says MP

James Kirkup's analysis

Michael Deacon's sketch

richardsmith • 6 months ago

Oh dear Mark. We are unhappy aren't we? However your mask is slipping. Let's take a little look at your "arguments" shall we?

Snowdon rightly went to Hong Kong because if he stays in the US or UK he'll be killed. Lets not beat around the bush about this. Your buddies were caught with their fingers in the till. He cannot hardly be arrested. It would be laughed out of court. Therefore he has to "go."

He gave up a \$200,000 wage, a luxurious house, a stunning girlfriend, and put his life on the line to stop your goons and wake people up... I wonder if you or your friends would have the same courage.

You can't even use the excuse of fighting terrorism as its patently obvious to anyone that this is to control the population, period.

I don't see wahabbists lining up to have a TerroristsRus website for all their friend to use so lets stop patronising the British public shall we? Let's just bury the laughable "terrorist argument" before you look really silly.

The real reason politicians these days have no democratic mandate to rule. No-one votes for you. You have no political membership and spend a great deal of your time devoted to lobby groups and business interests.

That's why you need to keep people down. You now want to get even more control. Unfortunately you now have a fight on your hands.

I would suggest everyone else actually read Snowden's reasons and read this article before you fall for Mark's little charade! <http://bit.ly/14imZqy>

dervishwhirl • 6 months ago

What a poorly written article - he hardly sets out to try and convince us does he? More of just a "this is what I think, deal with it". I would have hoped our MPs could make a better case of presenting the wider implications and issues that have been raised, so as to arrive at more considered opinion. Or at least to have pretended to consider, rather than just the 'Government' line, poorly put.

parakeet • 6 months ago

Edward Snowden is being called a traitor by Mark Pritchard MP, yet Mr. Snowden has not yet been put on trial and therefore no verdict has been reached. That is if he ever gets a fair trial.

Lets wait and see what happens. Many people I would guess would like to see more individuals letting the public know what is happening.

If MPs such as Mark Pritchard kept the public informed then people such as Mr. Snowden would not need to whistle blow.

bloke in spain • 6 months ago

Pritchard says Snowden has revealed secrets. Which is indeed true. But it's very hard to see why the secrets are secret or how revealing them has damaged security. US intelligence agencies are harvesting communications data. Fair enough. That's presumably what they're for. The knowledge that they're doing so isn't harming anyone's security. Unless, of course, they're doing it unconstitutionally & illegally. Which by definition is harming national security because they are a danger to the nation they serve.

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Wednesday, June 26th 2013 at 2:32 pm

[Entertainment](#)

Donald Trump Thinks Edward Snowden Should Be Executed, Rest of World Unsure Why We're Asking Donald Trump About This

No, Trump is not an expert, and no, we don't kill people just because they piss us off.

By Maia Brown-Jackson (maia@geekosystem.com)[Comments](#)

"This guy's a bad guy and, you know, there's still a thing called execution." That's noted Constitutional scholar rich asshole Donald Trump's position on Edward Snowden, calling him a spy and worrying that the United States will seem "pathetic" should it take too long to catch him. And oh, yeah, Trump also strongly implied that Snowden should be murdered by the state. Because clearly, that will allay everyone's fears of government overreach in the name of national security.

Trump made the comments on his weekly segment on Fox & Friends. They agreed that it really was inappropriate of Obama to give an address on global warming this week (all three smile and shake their heads at this) instead of taking a strong position on Snowden. You know, like Trump's suggestion that maybe we just kill the guy.

Trump asserts that we should strongarm Russia or China into sending Snowden back to the United States, accusing the trumpPresident far too worried about being "politically correct." The hosts agree that the President ought to be more angry with countries that are "defying" us, and making the country look "silly." We do see Trump's point here — after all, considering this is a country that puts Donald Trump on national television several times a week, we don't need any more help looking silly.

Feel free to watch the segment yourself, but I wouldn't recommend it if you have high blood pressure or anger management issues. As for Trump, we have a suggestion — if you truly think Snowden needs to be executed, why not take this one into your own hands. A steel cage match to the death between Snowden and Trump would no doubt rake in serious ticket sales. I'm pretty sure that sort of thing isn't even illegal in Russia.

ben • 4 months ago
Lol his second name is the noise a fart makes.

(via RawStory via TechDirt, images via Gage Skidmore, TLC)
Filed Under [I donald trump](#) • [Edward Snowden](#) • [executions](#) • [fox and friends](#) • [Fox News](#)

bayhunr • 5 months ago
"They've (China - Russia) got lots of stuff out of this guy" Really Trump? Really Fox News propagandist? Lots of what stuff? There is no evidence Snowden has given them anything. We have no reason to believe he didn't release what he has for the reason he gave and I for one am grateful.

Damnhesaidit • 5 months ago
Wow hes a real zionist aint he.

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Snowden Dead

of 'Apparent Suicide'

BY [HATESEC](#), ON AUGUST 12TH, 2013

Some people might say Snowden was a hero.
Not us, however. We hated Snowden.

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August 12,
2013 at 2:42
AM Reply
Lol

Khalia
August 22,
2013 at 6:21 PM
Reply
What will be
the next article
on this site? A
pink unicorn
that eat people
dressed like a
giant octopus?
Or the return of
Saiyans?

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of 'Apparent Suicide'

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Russian authorities say Edward Snowden was found dead in his hotel room Monday. The apparent cause of death according to US officials is suicide.

Edward Snowden became a global name in July following his controversial disclosure of top secret government documents confirming the supposed existence of a global surveillance program, PRISM, XKeyScore and other revelations surrounding the details of chemtrails and HAARP, the weather control facility recently discontinued by the United States as an apology to the Native American Indians. Rumors of Snowden's murder have already begun to circulate through Twitter and Facebook, although there is still no consensus around who to blame.

Many patriotic Americans have already begun celebrating Snowden's death by firing rifles and handguns into the woods behind their homes. The Socialist minority, however, staged a midnight vigil at the lawn under the Washington Monument.

Snowden's death comes on the heels of an announcement by US President Barack Hussein Obama that the 2011 PATRIOT ACT is being dialed back, along with programs by the NSA and DARPA.

Obama made no promises to discontinue the global collection and analysis of Internet traffic, but said he did not consider Snowden a "patriot."

