

# The NSA Unchained

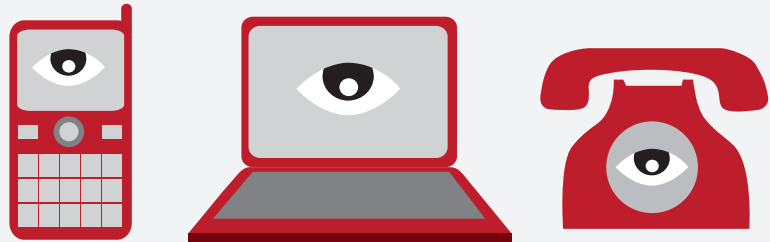
**★** In November 2001, the National Security Agency began illegally intercepting Americans' phone calls and emails without warrants or suspicion of wrongdoing. In 2008, Congress amended the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), rubber-stamping this warrantless wiretapping program and giving the NSA power to conduct dragnet surveillance of Americans' international communications.

*"It's exactly what the founding fathers never wanted."*

—NSA whistleblower BILL BINNEY



**Every day**, the NSA intercepts and stores **1.7 billion** emails, phone calls, texts, and other electronic communications.



That's equivalent to **138 million books**, every 24 hours.

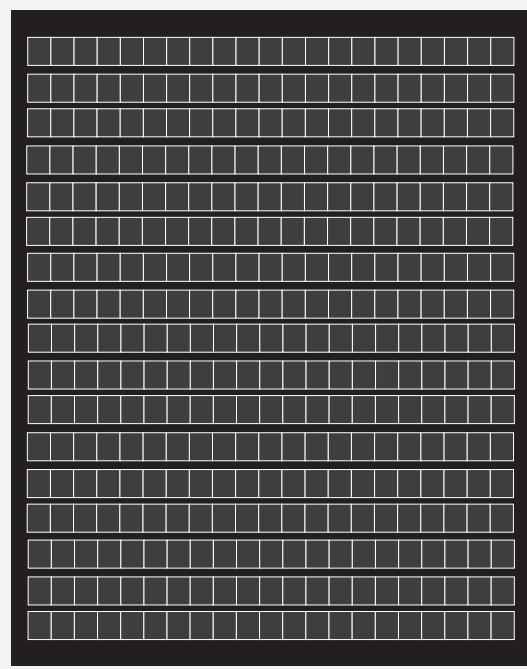


Americans' Private Data



NSA Data Center

U.S. Capitol



The NSA has dozens of facilities around the globe. The new NSA data center in Utah alone is **5.7 times the size of the U.S. Capitol**.

The NSA has as many employees as the CIA and the FBI combined.



~~Warrants~~

~~Probable Cause~~

~~Transparency~~

In addition to legalizing President Bush's warrantless wiretapping program, the 2008 FISA Amendments Act gave telecommunications companies **retroactive immunity** for disclosing Americans' communications.

*FBI "officials complained privately that they were forced to chase many hundreds of NSA-generated leads that . . . often seemed to wind up with the pizza delivery man."*

—New York Times reporter ERIC LICHTBLAU



**CENSORED**

When probed by Congressional intelligence committees about surveillance under the amended law, intelligence officials admitted the agency had been engaged in **"significant and systemic" "overcollection"** of Americans' domestic communications.

Government reports confirm that the NSA has violated FISA, but the NSA **refuses to release information** about these abuses.



**Tell Congress to Fix FISA and rein in the NSA:**  
visit [www.aclu.org/FixFISA](http://www.aclu.org/FixFISA)

## SOURCES

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