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Author	Topic: Congress Asked to Regulate Spy Cams
<p>HB3 Buccaneer</p> <p>Posts: 1999 From: Altadena, CA Registered: Nov 2000</p>	<p> posted 08 August 2001 07:44 PM profile edit quote</p> <hr/> <p>Oh yeah, right, let's ask the GOVERNMENT to take care of it...</p> <p>Wednesday August 8 5:24 PM ET</p> <p>Security Firms Call for Video-Surveillance Law By Andy Sullivan</p> <p>WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Facing a growing public backlash, the security industry called on Congress Wednesday to regulate the use of surveillance systems that match faces of people on the street with a database of known criminals.</p> <p>The developer of a prominent face-scanning system, along with the head of the industry trade group, said the federal government needed to step in to ensure that such systems could not be used by police or private corporations to track or compile profiles of innocent citizens.</p> <p>``This discovery was intended to bring a benefit to society and the world, and my feeling about it is I need help from the federal government to make sure there is no room for misuse," said Dr.</p>

Joseph Atick, chief executive of Visionics Corp. .

Since police in Tampa, Florida, first used Visionics' FaceIt system to scan the crowd at last January's Super Bowl football game, facial-recognition systems have come under fire from civil-liberties groups and lawmakers who say they invade privacy and create the potential for a Big Brother-like state of constant surveillance.

Tampa has since linked FaceIt to 36 surveillance cameras in a popular nightlife district, but the City Council nearly discontinued its use in a 4-3 vote last week.

Atick, backed by the Security Industry Association, said police departments and others should be limited to only using the system to track convicted criminals, search for fugitives and other specific purposes. Users should not be able to track ordinary citizens, he said, and should be penalized if they do so.

A spokesman for House Majority Leader Dick Armey, a leading critic, predicted a chilly reception when the House of Representatives holds hearings on the issue in the fall.

"We'll see how members of Congress feel. My educated guess is they're not going to be enamored of this," said Richard Diamond, spokesman for the Texas Republican.

Privacy advocates reacted with skepticism as well.

"I think the industry's getting very nervous," said Marc Rotenberg, executive director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center. "I rather suspect the stuff they're emphasizing, a lot of that is to protect business interests."

VALUABLE ENFORCEMENT TOOL

At a Washington press conference, Atick and Security Industry Association director Richard Chace sought to emphasize the benefits of facial-recognition technology.


"It is time to stop focusing solely on how this technology could be potentially abused, and start talking about how this technology can be positively used in a responsible and effective way," Chace said.

FaceIt creates a unique "faceprint" by analyzing facial structure. While the system measures about 80 different points, it can make a positive identification based on as little as 14, Atick said. It does not take into account skin color, hairstyles or other physical attributes.

Newham, a neighborhood in London, has seen a 40 percent drop in crime since installing the system two years ago as police have been able to more effectively monitor trouble spots and track repeat offenders, Atick said.

FaceIt has also been used in Mexico to deter voter fraud and in China to enable illiterate peasants to set up bank accounts, and can be used by private companies to control access to facilities, he said.

"Facial recognition is significantly cheaper, is less intrusive than

	<p>a massive police presence, and does not inconvenience or interfere with the lives of the honest majority," Atick said.</p> <p>U.S. courts have established that citizens do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in public spaces like streets and parks, Chace said.</p> <p>But Ari Schwartz, senior policy analyst at the Center for Democracy and Technology, said courts have also placed limits on cameras that, for example, look up women's skirts.</p> <p>` `Most Americans don't expect to be spied on everywhere they go," Schwartz said.</p>
<p>Squareball unregistered</p>	<p> posted 08 August 2001 08:03 PM  edit  quote</p> <hr/> <p>Well today these great spy cams got the WRONG guy and had his face printed in the paper and he was hauled in for questioning.. Turns out he is the wrong guy! Well that is all I need to hear.. TAKE THE CAMS DOWN! getting the wrong guy and wasting his WHOLE day because of a freakin' camera in the name of 'safety' is stupidity!</p>
<p>HB3 Buccaneer</p> <p>Posts: 1999 From: Altadena, CA Registered: Nov 2000</p>	<p> posted 08 August 2001 08:05 PM  profile  edit  quote</p> <hr/> <p>Right...the REAL purpose of the spy cams is to inspire fear and docility in the populace...</p> <p>When are Americans gonna have enough of this shit?</p>
<p>revRecluse Buccaneer</p> <p>Posts: 1608 From: North Of 60 Registered: Jan 2001</p>	<p> posted 08 August 2001 09:23 PM  profile  mail  edit  quote</p> <hr/> <p>quote:</p> <hr/> <p>Originally posted by HB3: Right...the REAL purpose of the spy cams is to inspire fear and docility in the populace...</p> <p>When are Americans gonna have enough of this shit?</p> <hr/> <p>Too late. "Freedom is Slavery" and all that..</p> <p>np: "1984"- George Orwell</p>
<p>HB3 Buccaneer</p> <p>Posts: 1999 From: Altadena, CA Registered: Nov 2000</p>	<p> posted 08 August 2001 09:44 PM  profile  edit  quote</p> <hr/> <p>So what's Canada like? Is it better? Worse? What's it feel like "on the street"?</p>

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revRecluse
Buccaneer

Posts: 1608
From: North Of 60
Registered: Jan 2001



posted 08 August 2001 10:00 PM



quote:

Originally posted by HB3:
So what's Canada like? Is it better? Worse?
What's it feel like "on the street"?

Well, it's clean. Really clean. It's also unfailingly polite, even towards an Ugly American like myself, who wears his USSR Baseball Cap and Bad Religion T-Shirt unapologetically. Cable TV is pretty good here, too. The prices in some cases are outrageous (12 bones for a 6 pack of Molson's? 8 bones for a 6 of Milwaukee's Best????), but generally in line with the states.

The politics I'm still learning about so I can't comment with any conviction. The quality of life here is better than anything I've witnessed back home, at least at first glance. I'm saying "eh" more than I care to admit these days, however..

np: "My Name Is Joe, And I AM CANADIAN!!!"- Joe Canadian

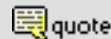
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Linnea Meyer
Dread Pirate

Posts: 6200
From: Upon the High Seas ~
Aboard the FANTASTIC
Registered: Apr 2000



posted 08 August 2001 10:01 PM



We lose our freedoms in order to not be victimized by 'criminals' ?

'They' (the spys and the govt) _ are _ the criminals - as they strip us of basic rights.

Tear the damned 'CAMS' down!!!
Or ban them at the very least.

Where does this all end? With John and Jannie 'locked up' - for 'their own protection'!?

When will 'they' start to kill us - so we won't have a bad day?!?

How about euthanasia at birth - to protect us from terrorists and criminals?

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Cherry Kelly
Swashbuckler

Posts: 3452
From: Belton, MO USA
Registered: Jul 2000



posted 09 August 2001 09:11 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

The cams on the street have become - too much - but there are good things about some cameras - especially in public buildings and businesses. The cameras have helped nail robbers.

But this business of cameras in the streets - is going too far. Just as I think the cameras on highways to stop speeders is going too far. Amazingly the simple flashing speed zone signs or ones that post your driving speed DO slow speeders down a bit. But they don't take photos and send out speeding tickets to violaters. It won't take long before they will be writing new laws to cover camera vandalism, thefts, etc.

There needs to be a stop to the lunacy!

IP: [Logged](#)

Scott
Buccaneer

Posts: 181
From: Palm Springs, CA
Registered: Aug 2001



posted 09 August 2001 09:25 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Well, I was pitching a fit here last year (FF) about cameras going up on the freeways here in So. California. Many told me that I was paranoid and they were for our safety.

Since I used to be in Law Enforcement, I knew that the cameras were not for traffic safety. They are intended for surveillance. The cameras they installed were zoom cameras with telephoto lenses. Thousands of them!!

When are people going to wake up and see the Government is out of control? What are our leaders afraid of?

I know if people do not speak up and demand a stop to this intrusion on our freedoms; it will not be long before we will be living in a "Nazi Germany" type of country.

Next, there will be guard shacks on your street corner and travel papers.

"Papers Please"

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Ninerism
Swashbuckler

Posts: 1632
From: Los Angeles, CA., U.S.
Registered: Oct 2000



posted 10 August 2001 09:41 AM



profile



edit



quote

Readers: I would suggest something a bit shocking here, if we were knowingly residing in a non-democratic society, perhaps say we were residing in a real communista country where those cameras were used to commit surveillance, or ostensible surveillance, upon eveyone, though the much broader aspect, as other suggest in their postings here, to spread fear among the populace.

We would probably suggest that people held under the gun, er, eye of the camera in those countries, find any method satisfactory for the immediate removal or otherwise create complete dysfunctionality of those cameras, no matter where those are placed. How could that be accomplished, since people are not allowed to own guns or bows and arrows or other sorts of weapons to aim at those intrusive cameras? Certainly such

suggestions would have to occur within a frame-work of being an anarchist.

The aspects of Big Brother go much further, much deeper, than the "mere" presence of highly intrusive cameras, though those cameras donot need to be "attended to" by a free society willing to state what it will and willnot accept in order to provide "security".

Big Brother is already here in other ways, and see what is being done with newest programs involving the Fed's theft of William Hamilton's PROMIS software, www.copvicia.com for more info and it is truly stratling stuff that makes sci-fi look a bit passe.

Let's all of us defiantly oppose Technocracy-Cryptocracy as best we might, though it already encroaches upon all of our privacy right now.

Ninerism

IP: [Logged](#)

Ninerism
Swashbuckler

Posts: 1632
From: Los Angeles, CA., U.S.
Registered: Oct 2000



posted 10 August 2001 09:52 AM



profile



edit



quote

Readers: Oh, as Scott suggest, and informs us, some of you may have no idea as to the extent of government intrustions already occurring under the guise of 'protecting socociety'!

a little story

It was not so long ago that in the City of Paramount, California, just north-adjacent to Long Beach, that the city planners were seeking to create road blocks at major intersections of their city in order to, ostensibly, target and surveil the gangs in the city, which was to further the war on drugs.

The Press Telegram was actually advocating that such things occur, as that interest grew quickly to other nearby cities, which were beginning to assess the possibilities. Well, I can tell you, all they really needed to do was go down to the Long Beach harbors, talk with the U.S. Customs Service, and find out what was going on back in those days of another little one.

There was a prevailing madness occurring, and roadblocks were actually being advocated to ostensibly stop the drug running, but no-one really investigated what had occurred already with those agencies involving harbor inspections and such!

For instance, the three voluminous reports compiled by one SA Teresa Price disappeared on their way to the Just-Us Department, perhaps lost in the bush-es again? No-one can say for certain why Reno, too, once apprised, did nothing to informing the public of things going down within the U.S. Customs Service, as there was the grownginterest to create NAFTA and GATT, to assure greater trades with Mexico. There was and is drug-trading from on high, and the Cocaine Import Agency knows it all, too.

No-one knows what Banamex bank in Mexico means for the narco-launderings, either, still, apparently, as no-one has said too much about one bank in New York, while "show us the money" becomes the rallying cry now for what can be described as economic hegemonies all around us.

What have I said here. Nothing.

Ninerism

[This message has been edited by Ninerism (edited 11 August 2001).]

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