
My blog: War Department/Peace Department
http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/

My Newsletters:
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

For an informed and resistant citizenry. See: Bush, CIA, FBI, Drones, National Security State, NSA, Top Secret, Intelligence Industry Complex, Imperialism, Fascism, Obama, Snowden, Greenwald, and more.

Index:
http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/

Visit OMNI’s Library.

"I refuse to live in a country like this, and I’m not leaving"
Michael Moore

From the White House: Write or Call

President Obama is committed to creating the most open and accessible administration in American history. That begins with taking comments and questions from you, the public, through our website.

Call the President

PHONE NUMBERS
Comments: 202-456-1111
Switchboard: 202-456-1414

TTY/TTD
Comments: 202-456-6213
Visitor's Office: 202-456-2121

Write a letter to the President

Here are a few simple things you can do to make sure your message gets to the White House as quickly as possible.

1. If possible, email us! This is the fastest way to get your message to President Obama.
2. If you write a letter, please consider typing it on an 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper. If you hand-write your letter, please consider using pen and writing as neatly as possible.

3. Please include your return address on your letter as well as your envelope. If you have an email address, please consider including that as well.

4. And finally, be sure to include the full address of the White House to make sure your message gets to us as quickly and directly as possible:

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
Snowden’s Christmas Message

Three Reports: Giant Tech Industries Ask Government to Limit Surveillance
Sesenbrenner, NSA Budget vs. US Economy
To Kerry: Reinstate Snowden’s Passport
Lisa Graves, NSA from Nixon to Obama [comprehensive]
Nader vs. US Corporate State of Surveillance
Reuters, Germany and Brazil Present Resolution to UN
Borger, European Spy Agencies
Engelhardt Tomgram, Surveillance State Scorecard
Cole, Limit Uncontrolled Electronic Surveillance of Foreigners
Greenwald, Surveillance Conformity

Contents #10

Illegal, Unconstitutional NSA
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Sanger, NSA Implanted Software Around the World
Amy Goodman, FBI’s COINTELPRO, NSA, and Secrets Revealed
Jaffer and Toomey, Crimes on All Levels, Snowden’s Evidence Reveals
Hedges, Intelligence Services

OBAMA, NSA Speech, Other NSA Revelations
Senator Rand Paul Sues Obama Admin.: NSA Unconstitutional
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Carpenter, What Obama Didn’t Say, What He Will Do
Ackerman, Clapper Untruthful

NSA DEPREDATIONS
This Tuesday, February 11th is The Day We Fight Back (against mass surveillance), and we need your help.

We understand the United States to be a democracy, founded upon a Constitution that affords us critical rights, and governed by the rule of law.

Yet for years, the NSA has exploited secret legal interpretations to undermine our privacy rights -- thus chilling speech and activism, and thereby threatening to subvert the very underpinnings of our democracy itself.

This Tuesday, February 11th, dozens of major websites and organizations are joining together to demand an end to mass surveillance. We're calling it, simply, The Day We Fight Back, and we need your help to make it as powerful as possible.

On Tuesday, February 11th, we are mobilizing thousands to call on Congress to:

- Pass the USA FREEDOM Act which would end the bulk collection of Americans' phone records, and institute other key reforms.

- Defeat the so-called FISA Improvements Act, which would entrench -- and potentially expand -- the spying.

- Create additional privacy protections for non-Americans.

- End to the NSA's subversion of encryption and other data security measures.
We're letting you know about it today because we need your help to make Feb. 11th all that it can be. We have built a banner that people can post on websites they run, in order to encourage their visitors to take action on the 11th. The banners will look like this:

Click here to visit TheDayWeFightBack.org and learn more.

While you're there, please use the social media tools there to spread word, and if you have a website, please install the banner code to make it appear on your site on Feb. 11th.

Why bother with all this clicktivism? Well, this is what worked during the fight against another bill that threatened to undermine our civil liberties: The Stop Online Piracy Act, which would have instituted a new Internet censorship scheme. You might remember that thousands of websites mobilized their visitors to defeat that legislation two years ago.

As in other major battles for Internet Freedom, we think an online uprising can work again now, as we stand up for online privacy, and against the chilling effects caused by mass surveillance. And we're not that far from winning on at least one key front:

The USA FREEDOM Act has more than 100 bipartisan sponsors, including two powerful lead sponsors: Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Representative James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), who was the original author of the PATRIOT Act and is furious that it has been abused to spy on Americans en masse.

This summer an amendment that's very similar to parts of the USA FREEDOM Act failed to pass in the House of Representatives by just a handful of votes. Enough lawmakers now say they would have voted in support that it would pass if it came up for a vote today. Recent revelations of NSA spying on Congress Members can only help motivate Congress to act.

Please use the internet in every way you can to spread this link around, along with some of these facts:

FACT: A federal judge called the NSA's mass surveillance program "Orwellian" and
ruled the activities were likely unconstitutional

**FACT:** President Obama's own hand-picked review board criticized the NSA's spying program and found no evidence it stopped a single terrorist act

**FACT:** The NSA is even sending spies into online video game worlds like Second Life and World of Warcraft

**FACT:** The NSA collected 97 billion pieces of data in March 2013 alone, including 3 billion from US computers.

**FACT:** The NSA has built a surveillance network that has the capacity to reach roughly 75% of all U.S. Internet traffic.

**FACT:** The NSA collects data on people's porn usage habits.

**FACT:** The NSA can exploit mobile apps -- even games like Angry Birds -- to extract key personal information about users.

**FACT:** The NSA collects on the order of 5 BILLION phone records each day.

**FACT:** The NSA is regularly tracking the locations of hundreds of millions of cell phones.

**FACT:** Members of Senate Intelligence committee says there's NO EVIDENCE bulk data collection has made Americans safer.

**FACT:** Director of National Intelligence lied to Congress by saying the NSA does "not wittingly" collect info on millions of Americans.

**FACT:** The NSA is so out of control that the author of the Patriot Act is the sponsor of the leading bill to rein it in.

Please forward this email widely to like-minded friends, and perhaps to anyone unaware of some of these facts.

-- The RootsAction.org team

P.S. RootsAction is an independent online force endorsed by Jim Hightower, Barbara Ehrenreich, Cornel West, Daniel Ellsberg, Glenn Greenwald, Naomi Klein, Bill Fletcher Jr., Laura Flanders, former U.S. Senator James Abourezk, Coleen Rowley, Frances Fox Piven, and many others.

P.P.S. This work is only possible with your financial support. **Please donate.**

Dick,

This Tuesday, February 11th, is The Day We Fight Back (against mass surveillance) -- and we need your help to make it as impactful as it can be.

[Click here to learn more and to sign up to take part.]

Then click here to [Share on Twitter](#) and here to [Share on Facebook](#).

We understand the United States to be a democracy, founded upon a Constitution that affords us critical rights, and governed by the rule of law.

Yet for years, the NSA has exploited secret legal interpretations to undermine our privacy rights -- thus chilling speech and activism, and thereby threatening to subvert the very underpinnings of our democracy itself.

* This Tuesday, February 11th, dozens of major websites and organizations are joining together to demand an end to mass spying.

They range from the left (sites like DailyKos) to right (the Koch Brothers’ group FreedomWorks), with plenty in between. Together, they wield a tremendous amount of influence.

On Tuesday, February 11th, we are mobilizing thousands to call on Congress to:

1. Pass the USA FREEDOM Act, which would end the bulk collection of Americans’ phone records and institute other key reforms.
2. Defeat the so-called FISA Improvements Act, which would entrench -- and potentially expand -- the spying.
3. Create additional privacy protections for non-Americans.
4. End the NSA’s subversion of encryption and other data security measures.

We're reminding you about it today because we need your help to make Feb. 11th all that it can be. We have built a banner that people -- like you -- can post on websites they run, in order to encourage their visitors to take action on the 11th. Those banners will look like this:
Click here to visit TheDayWeFightBack.org and learn more. While you're there, please use the social media tools to spread word, and if you have a website, please install the banner code to make it appear on your site on Feb. 11th.

You might think this seems different from the way we usually fight for or against legislation, and you'd be right. But this sort of activism has proved particularly successful at defending the Internet against bad policies.

In particular, it is very similar to what worked during the fight against another bill that threatened to undermine our civil liberties: The Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA), which would have instituted a new Internet censorship scheme. You might remember that thousands of websites mobilized their visitors to help defeat that legislation two years ago.

As in other major battles for Internet Freedom, we think an online uprising can work again now.

1. **Click here to learn more, spread word, and sign up your website to take part.**

2. **Then click here to Share on Twitter and here to Share on Facebook.**

And we're not even that far from winning on at least one key front:

The **USA FREEDOM Act has more than 100 bipartisan sponsors**, including two powerful lead sponsors: Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Representative James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), who was the original author of the PATRIOT Act and is furious that it has been abused to spy on Americans en masse.

This summer an amendment that's very similar to parts of the USA FREEDOM Act failed to pass in the House of Representatives **by just a handful of votes**. Enough lawmakers now say they would have voted in support that it **would pass if it came up for a vote today**.

That's in large part because of the groundswell of grassroots energy that Internet activists like you brought to bear in support of the amendment.
Now it's time to move the ball forward once more.

Click here to learn more about this Tuesday's The Day We Fight Back, sign up your website to take part, and spread word to your friends.

If we persist, we will win this fight.

- Watchdog.net

Ritchie Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Marjorie Cohn. “Beyond Orwell's Worst Nightmare.”
Cohn writes: "Orwell never could have imagined that the National Security Agency (NSA) would amass metadata on billions of our phone calls and 200 million of our text messages every day."
[READ MORE]

**NSA Devises Radio Pathway Into Computers**
Excerpt: "The National Security Agency has implanted software in nearly 100,000 computers around the world that allows the United States to conduct surveillance on those machines."
[READ MORE]

Amy Goodman, The FBI, the NSA and a Long-Held Secret Revealed.
*Amy Goodman, Truthdig, RSN, Jan. 9, 2014.*
Goodman writes: "This week, more news emerged about the theft of classified government documents, leaked to the press, that revealed a massive, top-secret surveillance program."
The FBI, the NSA and a Long-Held Secret Revealed
By Amy Goodman, TruthDig. RSN, 09 January 14.

This week, more news emerged about the theft of classified government documents, leaked to the press, that revealed a massive, top-secret surveillance program. No, not news of Edward Snowden and the National Security Agency, but of a group of anti-Vietnam war activists who perpetrated one of the most audacious thefts of government secrets in U.S. history, and who successfully evaded capture, remaining anonymous for more than 40 years. Among them: two professors, a day-care provider and a taxi driver.

Passionately opposed to the U.S. war in Vietnam, this group of seven men and one woman was certain that the FBI, under the direction of J. Edgar Hoover, was spying on citizens and actively suppressing dissent. In order to prove their case, they broke into an FBI field office in the Philadelphia suburb of Media, Pa., on March 8, 1971, and stole all the files inside. What they found, and mailed to the press, exposed COINTELPRO, the FBI's counterintelligence program, a global, clandestine, unconstitutional practice of surveillance, infiltration and disruption of groups engaged in protest, dissent and social change. Their courageous act of nonviolent burglary shook the FBI, the CIA and other agencies to the core. They triggered congressional investigations, increased oversight and the passage of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. These activist burglars, most of whom have come forward this week, revealing their names for the first time, have not only a remarkable story to tell about the past, but a critical and informed perspective on Snowden, the NSA and government spying today.

"The citizens' right to dissent is the last line of defense for freedom," John Raines told me. He was a professor of religion at Temple University when he, his wife, Bonnie, and the others who intended to break into the FBI office formed what they called the "Citizens' Commission to Investigate the FBI." Since John and Bonnie Raines had three children under the age of 10 at the time of the burglary, I asked how they decided to engage in an act that could have sent them both to prison for years. John replied, "We routinely ask, as a society, mothers and fathers to take on as part of their work highly dangerous activities. We ask that of all policemen. We ask that of everybody that works for the fire department. We ask that of mothers and fathers who are sent overseas to defend our freedoms in the Army and Navy. We routinely ask of people..."
to take on jobs that risk their families." He went on, "As citizens, we stepped forward and did what we had to do because nobody in Washington would."

**Continue Reading:** The FBI, the NSA and a Long-Held Secret Revealed

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**SNOWDEN’S EVIDENCE REVEALING CRIMES ON ALL LEVELS**

Jameel Jaffer and Patrick Toomey. “Spying and Lying.” *The Nation* (Jan. 6/13, 2014). Snowden’s Evidence Shows Government Lied in *Clapper v. Amnesty.* The Supreme Court rejected a challenge by *The Nation* and other organizations to a 2008 law that permitted the NSA to conduct dragnet surveillance of We the people’s international communications. Snowden’s evidence shows the government lied.  This is a Paean to Snowden, perhaps the grandest defender of US liberty in our nation’s history.  —Dick

---

**Chris Hedges | What Obama Really Meant Was... - Truthout**


Truthout  [Scathing denunciation of takeover of US by intelligence agencies. –Dick]

Jan 20, 2014 - Obama said Friday that he would require intelligence agencies to obtain permission from a secret court before tapping into a vast trove of...

[GO TO](http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/21335-chris-hedges-what-obama-really-meant-was)

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**OBAMA AND NSA**

**Rand Paul Sues Obama Admin. for NSA’s Unconstitutional Actions**

“Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky, said he is filing suit against President Barack Obama’s administration over the data-collection policies of the National Security Agency, and he believes everyone in the U.S. with a cellphone would be eligible to join the suit as a class action.” PHONE: 202-224-4343.

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**Glenn Greenwald | Obama's NSA 'Reforms' Inadequate, Cosmetic Gestures.** *Glenn Greenwald, Guardian UK*, RSN, 18 January 14, Reader Supported News

Greenwald writes: "Now we have the spectacle of President Obama reciting paean to the values of individual privacy and the pressing need for NSA
safeguards. 'Individual freedom is the wellspring of human progress,' he gushed with an impressively straight face. ... But those pretty rhetorical flourishes were accompanied by a series of plainly cosmetic 'reforms."

JANUARY 23, 2014

PEW RESEARCH

Obama’s NSA Speech Had Little Impact on Public

Just half have heard about Obama’s changes and most who did say they won’t increase privacy. Overall approval of the surveillance program has declined 10 points since July, from 50% to 40%. READ MORE >

A Major Victory for Snowden and NSA Reformers

Lizza reports: "It's reasonable to suspect that the modifications to the N.S.A.'s telephone-metadata program that Obama announced on Friday are simply cosmetic changes meant to short-circuit the pressure for substantive reform."

What Obama Didn't Say in His Speech on NSA Spying

Zoe Carpenter, The Nation, 18 January 14, Reader Supported News

Carpenter writes: "The really significant parts of Obama's speech were the things he did not mention. He did not call for a full stop to the bulk collection of communication records, only a transfer of ownership. Instead, he endorsed the idea that data about millions of Americans should be stored and made available to intelligence analysts."

“Obama Admits Clapper Gave "Untruthful" Testimony.”


Ackerman reports: "President Barack Obama has said his director of national intelligence, James Clapper, ought to have been 'more careful' in Senate testimony about surveillance that Clapper later acknowledged was untruthful
following disclosures by Edward Snowden."

Contents #6  July 22, 2013

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  Philip Agee (Anti-Empire Report #118)
Greenwald, Lack of FISA Oversight
Sign Petitions on Snowden, NSA, FISA
The Nation, Snowden vs. Surveillance Net and End of Privacy

Lindorff, Not China But US is the Great Hacker
Snyder, “Maincore”: US Martial Law Detainee List
Harris, The Rise of the America’s Surveillance State
Surveillance Cameras
Greenwald, Future Surveillance
Solomon, Effective Resistance

New York Times Reports on Surveillance. For example, Lichtblau (NYT), Data-Gathering Law Widened. ADG (7-6-13) 1A.

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END SURVEILLANCE/NSA NEWSLETTER #10

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Dick Bennett

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MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS
j.dick.bennett@gmail.com
(479) 442-4600
2582 Jimmie Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72703