

Extent of U.S. internet tapping policy exposed

For the past seven years, the U.S. National Security Agency and the FBI have allegedly tapped into servers of nine internet companies, under a highly classified programme known as PRISM



U.S. spy chief **James Clapper** admits government collects communications from internet firms, but says policy only targets "non-U.S. persons". **Internet giants deny giving government agents direct access to their central servers**



PRISM:
Cost: **\$20m a year**
Data gathered through PRISM is major contributor to **President Obama's** daily briefing.
Also accounts for at least one in seven intelligence reports

