


Spy programmes that tap private data

Cyberspies are not only monitoring the content of internet traffic but are collecting vast quantities of metadata – information about who, where and when phone calls, emails and text messages are made globally each day



1 terabyte
is 1,000Gb
(gigabytes),
equivalent to
230 DVDs

1 petabyte
is 1,000Tb,
or 230,000
DVDs

1 exabyte
is 1,000Pb,
or 230 million
DVDs

1 zettabyte
is 1,000Eb,
or 230 billion
DVDs

**Combined
capacity of all
transatlantic
cables is around
27,600Pb per day,
or 6.4 billion
DVDs**

**Fibre-optic
internet routes**

Montreal

New York

Washington

London

Paris

Frankfurt

Madrid

Lisbon

Rome



**U.S. National
Security Agency**

Prism: Allows NSA
to monitor internet

traffic of foreigners, but sweeps up
American citizens during process.
Prism programme captures content
plus metadata.

Boundless Informant: Programme
collects more than three billion items
of metadata per day. **Bluffdale data
centre** has 1.3 zettabytes of storage
– equivalent to 300 billion DVDs

**British
GCHQ**

Tempora:

Programme operated by British
secret service agency monitors
global internet and telephone
connections and collects metadata
from 200 transatlantic fibre-optic
cables. Tempora uses 300 staff
from GCHQ, and 250 from NSA
to analyse data. **GCHQ can access
21 petabytes of data per day –
equivalent to 4,800,000 DVDs a day**

