

ODNI Review Group Comments
Karl S.

I would like to weigh in on the recent scandal that the NSA surveillance represents. This is an affront to the rights and liberties of the citizens of the United States and people all over the world. The breadth of the spying, all in the name of “the war on terrorism”, has to stop.

This program is harming US commercial interests around the world, causing the suppression of journalism and even affecting the openness of higher education in the US. I personally no longer wish to use commercial software or hardware and will, from now on, rely on my own builds and open source products whenever I can as I do not believe the US government or the compromised US companies that claim they are not involved in backdoors and broken security.

The possibility that this enormous, overreaching, unchecked, power of surveillance will be used for nefarious purposes by this or future administrations is all too real...just check the history books for other similar abuses of power. We cannot let this go on unchecked. There must be checks and balances put in place to allow the American public a sense of REAL security, not Terrorist Theater type security. The FISA courts must be strengthened and public figures, not just secret black cloaked judges, put in place to guard the public’s interests.

I am very, very tired of all this nonsense that the government has been putting in place for the last few administrations and I for one will not tolerate it. At the very least, it will drive me more and more “underground” in my use of technology and make me more determined than ever not to succumb to this Big Brother oversight.

One last thing...if there is still any thoughts of putting James Clapper in charge of the national surveillance review, that is like letting the fox guard the chickens. The man no longer has any credibility with the lies he’s been caught in and I will not accept his authority. He should be considered a traitor to the Constitution and the people he was charged to protect and charged accordingly.

Thank you for your consideration of our, the public’s, opinions on this matter. Please take them to heart and change this before it’s too late.