

ODNI Review Group Comments
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There is, and always will be, a conflict between protecting the constitutionally-mandated right to privacy of US citizens, as set forth in the Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution, and the need for complete and accurate intelligence about the activities of foreign and domestic enemies of the United States. There will never be perfect security; what humans can encipher, others can decipher. What is needed is an effective method to govern the activities of our spying organizations (let's stop using euphemisms) that will protect privacy internally while allowing them to work effectively for our protection. There must never be programs too secret for oversight. The FISA court is meaningless. We need real oversight of intelligence agencies, and real avenues for whistleblowers to lodge complaints. The present system aims to protect the status quo, not provide meaningful oversight.