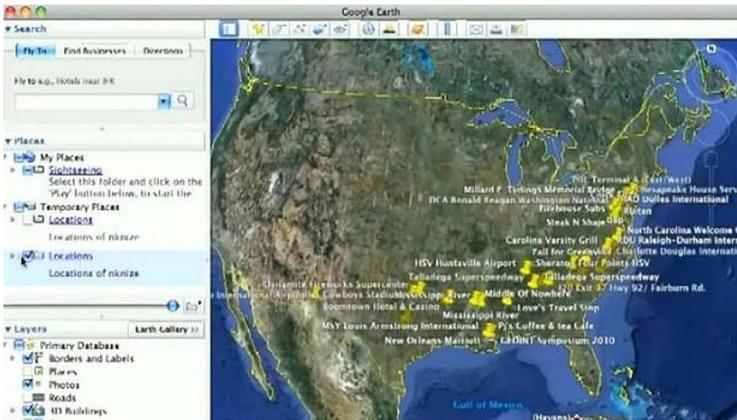


'Google for Spies' Draws Ire from Rights Groups

February 11, 2013
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<http://www.smh.com.au/digital-life/consumer-security/google-for-spies-draws-ire-from-rights-groups-20130211-2e75y.html#ixzz2KY9r4cJJ>

A note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article



Google Earth map to the left is a surveillance program called Riot being used to track someone.

A multinational security firm has secretly developed software capable of tracking people's movements and predicting future behavior by mining data from social networking websites.

A video [obtained by the Guardian](#) [a must see video link] reveals how an "extreme-scale analytics" system created by Raytheon, the world's fifth largest defense contractor, can gather vast amounts of information about people from websites including Facebook, Twitter and Foursquare.

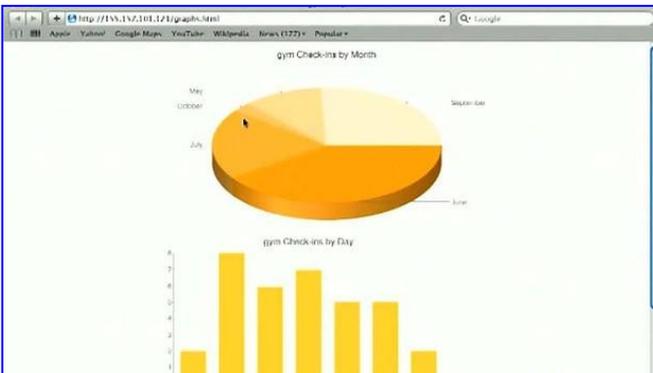
Raytheon says it has not sold the software - named Riot, or Rapid Information Overlay Technology - to any clients. But the Massachusetts-based company has acknowledged the technology was shared with US government and industry as part of a joint research and development effort, in 2010, to help build a national security system capable of analysing "trillions of entities" from cyberspace.

The power of Riot to harness websites for surveillance offers a rare insight into techniques that have attracted interest from intelligence and national security agencies, at the same time prompting civil liberties and online privacy concerns.

Using Riot it is possible to gain a picture of a person's life - their friends, the places they visit charted on a map - in little more than a few clicks of a button.

In the video obtained by the *Guardian*, Raytheon's "principal investigator" Brian Urch explains that photographs which users post on social networks sometimes contain latitude and longitude details - automatically embedded by smartphones

within so-called "exif header data". Riot pulls out this information, showing the location at which the pictures were taken. Riot can display online associations and relationships using Twitter and Facebook and sift GPS location information from Foursquare, a mobile phone app used by more than 25 million people to alert friends of their whereabouts. The Foursquare data can be used to display, in graph form, the top 10 places visited and the times at which they visited them.



Graph at left is Riot being used to monitor someone's check-ins at the gym.

Mining from public websites for law enforcement is considered legal in most countries. But, Ginger McCall, a lawyer at the Washington-based Electronic Privacy Information Centre, said the Raytheon technology raised concerns about how user data could be covertly collected without oversight or regulation. "Users may be posting information that they believe will be viewed only by their friends, but instead, it is being viewed by government officials or ...

To read this article in its entirety, go to: <http://www.smh.com.au/digital-life/consumer-security/google-for-spies-draws-ire-from-rights-groups-20130211-2e75y.html#ixzz2LNux1TY7>

***Note from Pastor Kevin Lea:** I believe Jesus will soon return – quite possibly within our lifetimes. Many people dismissively reply that their great-grandparents said the same thing 75 or 100 years ago, implying that since they were wrong, I am likely wrong as well.*

However, a literal view of biblical prophecy should have prevented people from making “last days” predictions in decades past. Nearly all Second Coming prophecies deal with the restored nation of Israel, the final global government of the Antichrist, and the associated apostate, global church as described in Daniel, Ezekiel, and Revelation, primarily. Too many of these Second Coming prophecies remained unfulfilled – until just very recently.

*So Great-grandmother should not have thought that the end was near before 1948, when Israel miraculously re-formed as a nation. Global government was not a possibility only a few decades ago, but now its formation is being openly orchestrated. In Grandfather’s day, it was not possible for a global leader to rule over a police state that could spy on and control the movements, finances, and allegiance of every human on our planet. However, as this article reveals, we are **very** close to the day when technology will make it easy (and universal) to do so.*

So what are we to do? Should we discard our i-Phones, shut down Facebook and other social media (good luck), and hide in a bunker, hoping in futility that the global police will not find us?

No. Rather, it is my prayer that you understand that the Bible records historical events before they happen so that we would realize that its Author is an all-powerful, all-knowing and everywhere-present God. The Bible was not written by renegade Jews in order to create a new religion, a blend of Judaism and Christianity. Instead, God inspired His apostles and prophets as they wrote to relate the truth of Who He is, His love for us, and His plan to rescue us from sin and death through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

God warns us about what will happen in “the last days,” not to cause fear, but rather that we who believe in Jesus would rejoice that His promises are true and that we will soon be with Him in heaven. We can know with full assurance that His Kingdom is coming and that His will is soon to be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

*If you have not received Jesus, I urge you to do so while there is still time. If you do not, you **do** have good reason to fear the coming days on earth, as well as an eternity, separated from a loving God.*