

THE OBSERVER



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Reporting Accurate and Objective Information Based on Facts, Not Theory

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Identity and Information

Our Identity *may* be verified by utilizing one or more of several methods. A Social Security Number (SSN) for example, would identify the person *assigned* to that number. In theory this would be true, in reality, not. It now has become commonplace for several individuals to be using the same Social Security Number. One example comes from a recent search conducted by D&A Investigations for a Client who had an account opened under their name of which they had no knowledge until they received a call from a collection agency. The search came up with a total of 4 people with ‘similar’ names using the Client’s SSN.

Hackers can now go around encryption, networks and the operating system and steal your secrets from reflections. Experiments have discovered a wide range of objects that can bounce secrets right from our screens. Spectacles work just fine, as do coffee cups, plastic bottles, metal jewelry and the eyeballs of the computer user. The mere act of viewing information can give it away. Although many laptop users apply “privacy filters” to their screens to protect against over-the-shoulder eavesdropping, these filters increase the brightness of the reflection on the viewer’s eyes, thus making the hacker’s job easier.

Whenever information is vulnerable and has significant monetary or intelligence value, it is only a matter of time until someone tries to steal it.

Courtesy of Business Week | May 31, 2009

In The News

The Defense Department whose Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) developed the internet in the 1960’s now recognizes that one could be a “peer force” for the price of a PC.

President George W. Bush on January 8, 2009 quietly signed an order known as the Cyber Initiative to overhaul U.S. cyber defenses, and establish 12 distinct goals. One goal in particular illustrates the urgency and scope of the problem: By June all government agencies must cut the number of communication channels, or ports, through which their networks connect to the Internet from more than 4,000 to fewer than 100.

On Friday President Barack Obama said he will appoint the nation’s first cyber security czar to help protect the nation’s telecom infrastructure and information systems.

Prior Publications: The Media and Reporting 4.17.09 | And Things Are Not What They Seem 4.28.09