



National conversation on the defense of our nation and protecting civil liberties and privacy

A technical perspective

General Keith B. Alexander

Commander, U.S. Cyber Command | Director, National Security Agency | Chief, Central Security Service

Khoobar Towers bombing



Khoobar Towers Bombing

19 dead
372 injured

INTERNATIONAL

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

UNITED STATES

WTC bombing

9/11

2,966 dead
More than 6,000 injured

39 injured



Embass

9/11

“At 8:46 on the morning of September 11, 2001, the United States became a nation transformed...”

X Khobar Towers bombing



INTERNATIONAL

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

UNITED STATES

X WTC bombing



9/11

2,966 dead
More than 6,000 injured

X Embassy bombing

X 9/11



...the Intelligence Community failed
to connect the dots.
- 9/11 Commission

X Khobar Towers bombing

INTERNATIONAL

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UNITED STATES

X WTC bombing

9/11

2,966 dead
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X Embassy bombing

X 9/11



Never Again

X Khobar Towers bombing

INTERNATIONAL

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

UNITED STATES

X WTC bombing

9/11

2,966 dead
More than 6,000 injured

X Embassy bombing

X 9/11



UNITED STATES

- WTC bombing ✖
- Embassy bombings in Tanzania & Kenya ✖
- USS Cole ✖
- 9/11 ✖
- Christmas day bomber fails ✖
- Times Square bombing fails ✖
- Boston Marathon bombing ✖

INTERNATIONAL

- Khobar Towers bombing ✖
- Madrid train bombing ✖
- London train / bus bombing ✖
- Bali bombing ✖
- Mumbai hotel shootings ✖
- Bombing of CIA post near Khost, Afg ✖
- Benghazi attack ✖

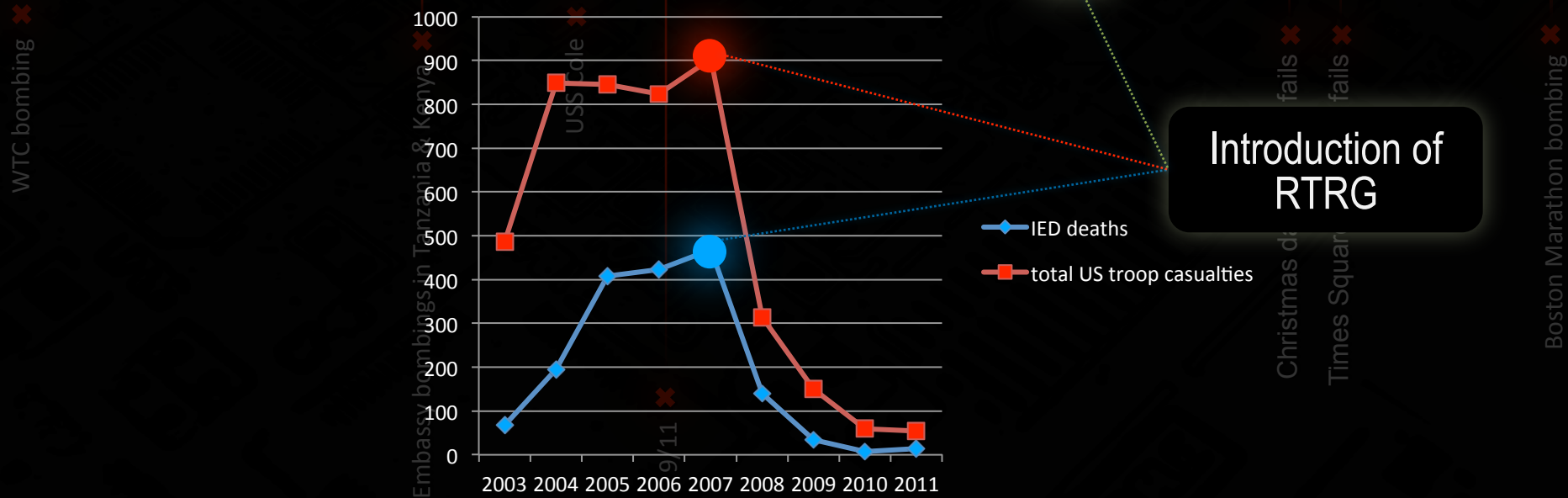
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Foreign Intelligence – Saving Lives

NSA developed and deployed Real Time Regional Gateway (RTRG) to Iraq and Afghanistan as part of our mission to support our military.

RTRG uses metadata from hundreds of sensors to enable tactical users to rapidly identify adversaries and IEDs in billions of lines of data.

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- Virtually all democracies have lawful intercept programs
- The U.S., however, operates its program under a strict oversight regime with oversight by the courts, Congress and the Administration

U.S. companies put energy, focus and commitment into protecting the privacy of their customers around the world, while meeting obligations under the laws of the US and other countries in which they operate

The government created two programs.

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

Section 215 AUTHORITY
Business Records FISA

Telephone metadata only;
used for counterterrorism purposes
only.

Section 702 AUTHORITY

Content of Communications;
may only target foreign persons
reasonably believed to be overseas.

U.S. and our allies benefit

Section 215 Authority

Business Records FISA (U.S. Call Records)

For counterterrorism purposes - a program designed to identify the communications of persons suspected to be associated with terrorist organizations communicating with individuals inside the U.S.

Date/Time	From Address	To Address	Length	Site	Source
2013-Mar-04 22:35:11	9999876543XXX	999999999999XXX	0	US TELCOM	FISA-BR
2013-Mar-05 06:50:01	9999876543XXX	7777777777XXX	24	US TELCOM	FISA-BR
2013-Apr-28 11:05:48	997456789XXX	9999876543XXX	89	US TELCOM	FISA-BR
2013-May-10 20:22:05	9999876543XXX	19487418XXX	0	US TELCOM	FISA-BR
2013-May-15 18:30:11	9999876543XXX	997234567XXX	124	US TELCOM	FISA-BR

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

NSA obtains:

- Date/Time of call
- Calling number (from address)
- Called number (to address)
- Duration of call (length)
- Origin of metadata record (site/source)

Focused on defending the homeland

NSA does NOT obtain:

- Content of calls
 - NO voice communication
 - NO SMS/text messages
- Subscriber information
 - NO names
 - NO addresses
 - NO credit card numbers
- Locational Information

WTC bombing

Boston Marathon bombing

Section 702 Authority

FISA Amendment Act

For foreign intelligence purposes, and applies only to communications of foreign persons who are located abroad, and requires a valid documented foreign intelligence purpose such as counterterrorism.

May NOT target any U.S. person anywhere in the world.

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

Under the 702 program, the U.S. government does not unilaterally obtain information from the servers of U.S. companies

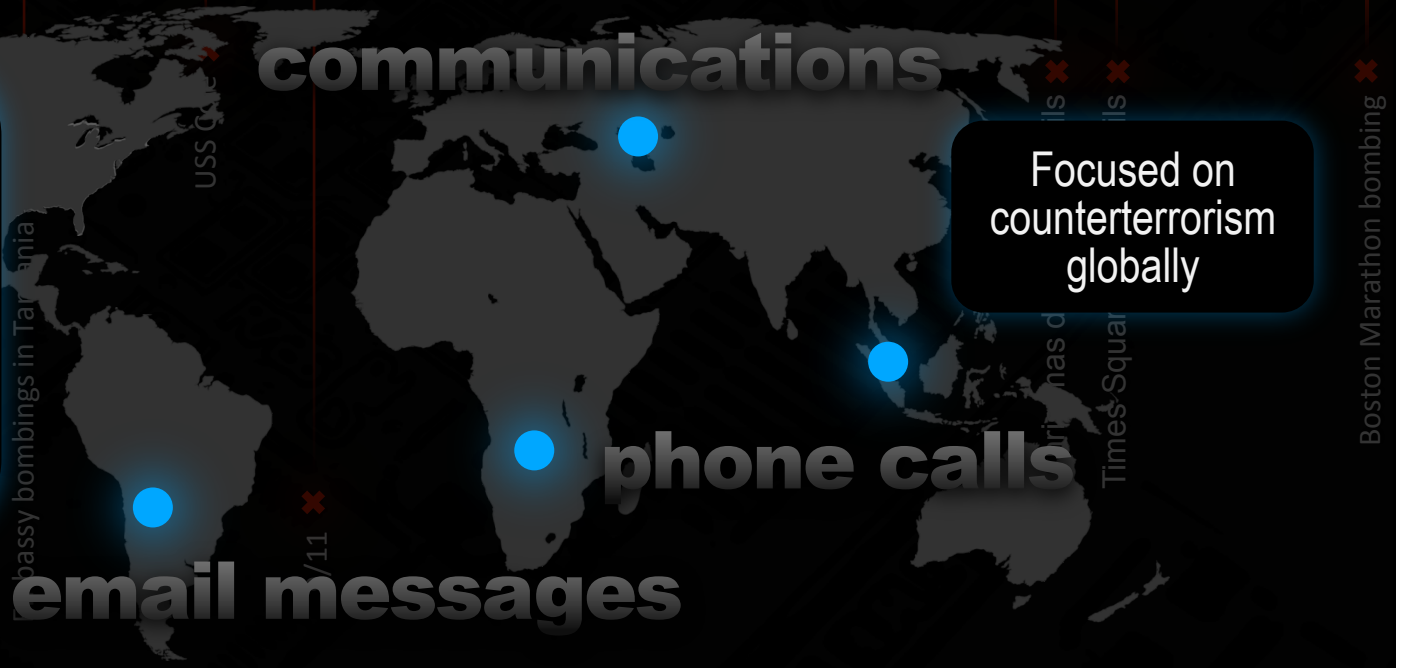
Industry is compelled to comply this program

Focused on counterterrorism globally

email messages

phone calls

communications



These programs helped disrupt a plot to bomb the New York City subway system. It would have been the biggest terrorist attack since 9/11 on U.S. soil.

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13

STEP 2

Section 215 AUTHORITY

NSA entered Zazi's telephone number into the business records data, identifying and passing additional leads back to FBI for investigation

One of the leads revealed a previously unknown number for Adis Medunjanin highlighting his connection to Zazi as a co-conspirator in the plot.

Both Zazi and Medunjanin were subsequently arrested and the attack thwarted.

STEP 1

Section 702 AUTHORITY

NSA intercepted an email from a terrorist in Pakistan who was communicating with Najibullah Zazi in Denver, Colorado about a recipe for explosives.

FBI had seven days to use this information to stop the attack.

These programs have protected us and our allies
And have helped us understand and disrupt 54 terror-
related activities





What Will the Future Be?

Terrorist will continue to pose a threat and they are changing their tactics.

Conditions that may shape the next decade:

93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

✘ Khobar Towers bombing

✘ Madrid train bombing

✘ London train / bus bombing

✘ Bali bombing

✘ Car bombings kill 800 in Iraq in one day

✘ Mumbai hotel shootings

✘ Bombing of CIA post near Khost, Afg

✘ Benghazi attack

✘ WTC bombing

✘ Embassy bombings in Tanzania

✘ USS Cole

9/11

25 IN EUROPE

13 IN U.S.

11 IN ASIA

5 IN AFRICA

54 ATTACKS THWARTED

✘ Christmas day

✘ Times Square

✘ 7/7

✘ London Marathon bombing

Arab Spring

Conflict in Syria

Drawdown of troops in Afghanistan

Continued violence in Iraq

Instability in Libya

Upheaval in Egypt

al-Qaeda continued focus on attacks

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54 ATTACKS THWARTED

We welcome your ideas on how we can better protect our civil liberties and privacy while defending our nation and allies from attacks.

ideas@nsa.gov

How can we do this better?

Let's start the discussion. Questions?