

ECHELON MAP

- WORLD INFRASTRUCTURE
- GLOBAL NETWORKS
- GLOBAL MARKET
- GLOBAL DATA BUSES
- GLOBAL DATA SECURITY
- GLOBAL TELEPHONY
- GLOBAL BROADCAST
- GLOBAL CONTENT CHANNELS



For a clearer visual representation, this display only covers Intelsat satellites. However, communications of a large number of regional satellites (from Western and Eastern Europe, the CIS, Israel, Arabia, Canada, Latin America, Indonesia, and others) as well as transregional satellite networks are also being intercepted. (Example: Comsat, Inmarsat, Eutelsat ...)

Furthermore, the displayed ECHELON stations also serve as up/downlinks for a range of spy satellites such as Rutley, Canyon and Aquacade, and as surveillance systems for land based microwave transmissions, such as nationwide microwave telephone systems.

	UKUSA FIRST PARTY: USA
	UKUSA SECOND PARTY: Canada Australia UK N. Zealand
	UKUSA THIRD PARTY (unconfirmed): Austria Italy Thailand Denmark Japan Turkey Germany Norway Greece S.Korea
	ALLIES OF THE ECHELON NETWORK (unconfirmed): China Mexico S. Africa Finland Pakistan Israel Philippines
	MAIN STREAM OF COLLECTED DATA LEADING TO FORT MEADE (NSA HEADQUARTERS)
	INTELSAT
	INTERCEPTION STATIONS
	MAIN INTERCEPTION STATIONS

Each station in the ECHELON network has computers that automatically search through millions of intercepted data for pre-programmed keywords or fax, telex and email addresses. Every word of every message is automatically searched. Computers which can search for keywords have existed since at least the 1970s, but the ECHELON system has been designed to interconnect all these computers and allow the stations to function as components of an integrated whole.

The scale of the collection system was described by the former Director of the NSA, Vice Admiral William Studeman, in 1992. At that time the NSA's collection system generated about 2 million intercepted messages per hour. Of these, all except approx. 13,000 per hour were discarded. Of these, about 2,000 met forwarding criteria, and some 20 were selected by analysts, who then wrote 2 reports for further distribution. Therefore, in 1992 Menwith Hill Station was intercepting 17.5 billion messages a year. Of these, some 17.5 million may have been studied for analysis.

Menwith Hill Station is one of the biggest groundstations in the UKUSA alliance. It is run by the US National Security Agency (NSA), which monitors the world's communication for US intelligence. Menwith Hill employs 1,200 US civilians and servicemen to work around the clock. It went through different stages of interception technology. First it was established to intercept radio signals, but now the main focus lies on intercepting and monitoring communication satellites with Europe, northern Africa and western Asia as primary targets. The activities of Menwith Hill were uncovered when a former employee told her story.

"THE SURVEILLANCE WAS INCREDIBLY TARGET-ORIENTED. WE WERE CAPABLE OF SINGLING OUT AN INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION AND MONITORING ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION - REAL TIME - AND ALL THE TIME. THE PERSON WAS MONITORED WITHOUT EVER HAVING A CHANCE TO DISCOVER IT, AND MOST OF THE INFORMATION WAS SENT WITH LIGHTENING SPEED TO ANOTHER STATION USING THE ENORMOUS DIGITAL CAPACITY AT OUR COMMAND. EVERYTHING TOOK PLACE WITHOUT A SEARCH WARRANT."

Ekstra Bladet, November 17, 1999
(Margaret Newsham, former NSA employee)

SOURCE:
JAMES BRADY, The Fourth Deadly Sin, 1993
JAMES T. HANCOCK, The U.S. Intelligence Community, 1998
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CUNNINGHAM, Intelligence Capabilities 2000
Policing Europe, Parliament, Directorate General for Research, Directorate A, The EU Programme, 1998

