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'ScareMail' seeks to confuse NSA programs with nonsense

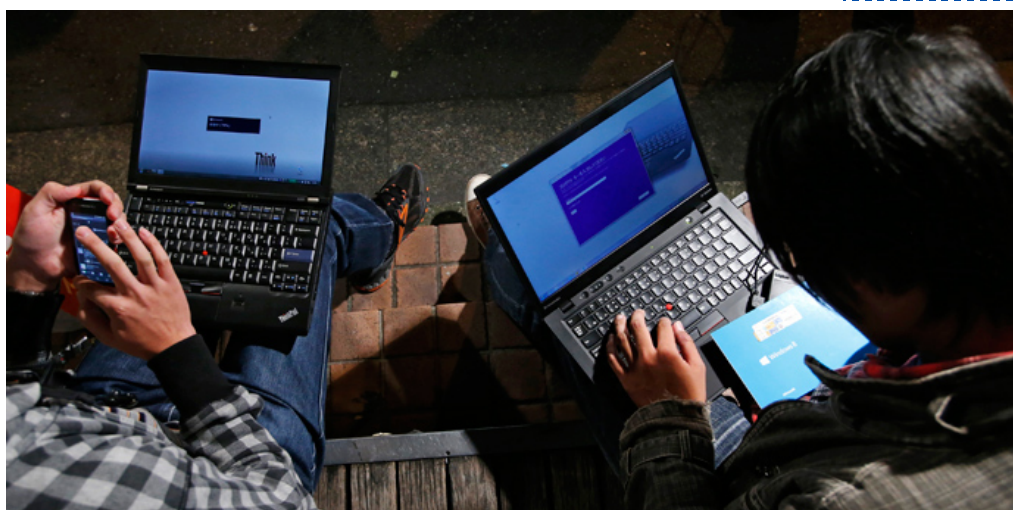
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An Illinois man has developed a Gmail browser extension designed to randomly insert fake, nonsensical stories into the signature of every email one sends to confuse the NSA's surveillance operations.

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Benjamin Grosser says “*ScareMail*” takes keywords from an extensive US Department of Homeland Security list used to troll social media websites and utilizes them “*to disrupt the NSA's surveillance efforts by making NSA search results useless.*”

The buzzwords include the likes of “*Al-Qaeda*” and “*Al-Shabab*,” yet also

more mundane terms like “breach,” “threat,” “death” and “hostage,” among many others.

Documents released by former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden revealed that the NSA uses the “selector” terms to sift through Internet data it collects via a tool known as “[XKEYSCORE](#).”

“If every email contains the word ‘plot,’ or ‘facility,’ for example, then searching for those words becomes a fruitless exercise. A search that returns everything is a search that returns nothing of use,” Grosser says.

Grosser, 43, said the extension tool, which took him about three weeks to build, is a form of protest in that he hopes it will overwhelm or frustrate the agency’s programs with superfluous information.

For example, he shows on his website how a typical ScareMail sentence could begin: *“Captain Beatty failed on his Al-Shabaab, hacking relentlessly about the fact to phish this far, and strand her group on the wall-to-wall in calling suspicious packages....”*

Not only is ScareMail designed to combat NSA spying, but it is a project aimed at exploring the relationship between words and surveillance. He writes on his site, the *“ability to use whatever words we want is one of our most basic freedoms, yet the NSA’s growing surveillance of electronic speech threatens our first amendment rights... ScareMail reveals one of the primary flaws of the NSA’s surveillance efforts: words do not equal intent.”*

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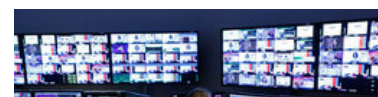
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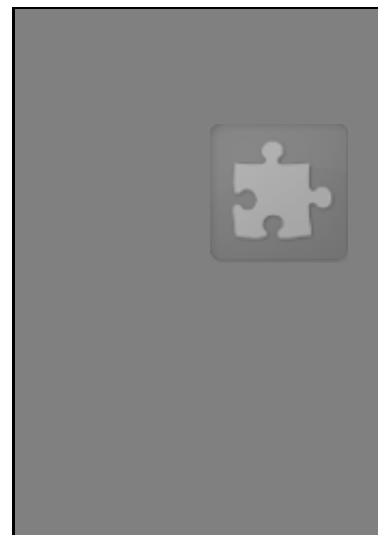
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Sarah Morrigan 10.10.2013 18:19

Lenovo started out as a project within Chinese Academy of Sciences which reports directly to the State Council of the People's Republic of China. No surprise there.



Dirk Mohr 10.10.2013 15:20

i do understand that if i put scaremail into my google-browser or if i put benjamin grosser in it you dont find anything than a northamerican paranoid prevention,try it out we are all terrorists and we are looking for you stupid nsa employees



Wayne Lambright 10.10.2013 13:29

LOL, they are on lenovo lap tops which have a back door built into the hardware. The CIA and MI5 don't allow there agents to use them. Because the chinese are watching.

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