

“tapping equipment of the Dutch intelligence services and half the tapping equipment of the national police force...is insecure and is leaking information to Israel.”

The leaky technology in question was T2S2 tapware “delivered to the [Dutch] government in the last few years by the Israeli company Verint.”

In 2004, Australian MPs complained about Verint spy technology that was being used by “at least six different law enforcement agencies” in Australia. Their concerns included Verint ability to access Australian data from Israel. Bamford called it “unnerving” “that Verint can...access the megabytes of stored and real-time data secretly and remotely from anywhere, including Israel.”

Verizon should have known better than to let Verint access billions of private, daily messages. By turning over all this sensitive data to the Israeli spy company, Verizon is complicit in a security breach of gargantuan proportions. As Bamford concludes that the: “greatest potential beneficiaries of this marriage between the Israeli eavesdroppers and America’s increasingly centralized telecom grid, are Israel’s intelligence agencies.”

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Bridging the gap between “Cloud Computing” and the reality of war

VMWare Inc.

Canada Pension Plan Investments

2012 shares = \$20 million
(Direct & indirect investments)

2011 shares = \$7 million
(Direct investments only)

VMWare is a US-based information technology company which calls itself “the global leader in virtual infrastructure software.” Its “cloud computing” products are designed to increase the efficiency of computer resources and reduce costs through “virtualization.”

Although the VM in VMWare stands for Virtual Machine, the physical reality of wars fought with the benefit of VMWare products is anything but artificial. Among VMWare’s most prized customers, it says, are the “world’s largest companies,” as well as various military and spy agencies. In fact, when VMWare lists its US government clients, it puts the “Department of Defense” at the very top. VMWare also proudly includes the US “Intelligence Community” on this customer list. VMWare also promotes itself by saying that it services America’s top 15 aerospace and “defense” companies.

VMWare is a subsidiary of EMC Corp. which acquired it for US\$625 million in 2003. EMC is a US-based IT company serving various armed forces including the Israeli military. (See previous issue, p.30.)

VMWare’s virtualization products have long been used by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). In 2009, Israel’s *Globes* business paper reported that the IDF had just awarded its “first virtualization tender” – a US\$15 million contract to install VMWare software on IDF computers. This three-year contract, with a two-year option to extend, was won by Hewlett Packard. (See previous issue, pp.36-37.)

This, *Globes* also revealed, was not the first time that the IDF installed VMWare software on its computers. In 2008, an IDF spokesperson was quoted in *Globes* saying that VMWare “software was purchased from IBM as part of a procurement of servers.” That purchase, it said, was part of a three-year US\$60-million contract with IBM which “included virtualization servers of VMware.” Israel’s military spokesperson also said “[t]he IDF has used VMware software for a long time.”

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