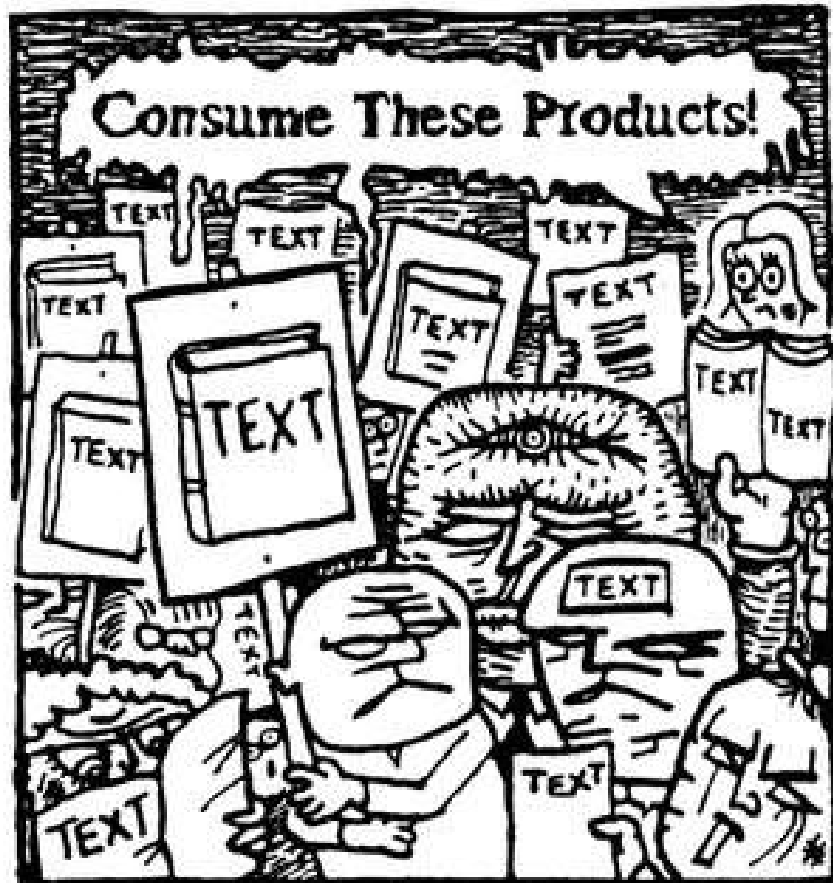


# R4nger5 Radio

## Episode 61



Recording time: 9pm GMT Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009



Just Cos I thought you might like this muppets tribute to the album cover 'Cheap Thrills' Originally drawn by Robert Crumb for the Janis Joplin Band.

## News

### **Climb down' on central database was 'a sideshow' Thanks Kevin!**

Spy chiefs are already spending hundreds of millions of pounds on a mass internet surveillance system, despite Jacqui Smith's announcement earlier this week that proposals for a central warehouse of communications data had been dumped on privacy grounds. The system - uncovered today by *The Register* and [The Sunday Times](#) - is being installed under a GCHQ project called Mastering the Internet (MTI). It will include thousands of deep packet inspection probes inside communications providers' networks, as well as massive computing power at the intelligence agency's Cheltenham base, "the concrete doughnut".

Sources with knowledge of the project said contacts have already been awarded to private sector partners. One said: "In MTI, computing resources are not measured by the traditional capacities or speeds such as Gb, Tb, Megaflop or Teraflop... but by the metric tonne!.. and they have lots of them."

The American technology giant Lockheed Martin is understood to have bagged a £200m deal. The BAE-owned British firm Detica, which has close links to MI5 and MI6, as well as to GCHQ, has also been signed up to help on MTI. A spokeswoman for GCHQ said the agency does not comment on individual contracts. "GCHQ works with a broad range of industry partners to deliver a complex portfolio of technical projects," she said. Detica also declined to comment, and Lockheed Martin did not return calls. Sources said MTI received approval and funding of more than £1bn over three years in the October 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review. GCHQ, like MI5 and MI6, is funded out of the opaque Single Intelligence Account. For 2007/8 the planned budget for the three agencies was over £1.6bn. GCHQ began work

on MTI soon after it was approved. Records of job advertising by the agency show that in April 2008 it was seeking a Head of Major Contracts with "operational responsibility for the 'Mastering the Internet' (MTI) contract". The new senior official was to be paid an annual salary of up to £100,000. The advertisement also indicated that the head of Major Contracts would be in charge of procurement on MTI and be expected to forge close links with the private sector. According to sources, MTI is a core piece of the government's Interception Modernisation Programme (IMP).

On Monday of last week, the Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith announced that under IMP, rather than build a central warehouse, responsibility for storing details of who contacts whom, when and where will be imposed on communications providers.

The news was welcomed by privacy advocates and civil liberties campaigners, but sources described it as a "side show" compared to the massively increased surveillance capability that MTI will deliver. It will grant intelligence staff in Cheltenham complete visibility of UK Internet traffic, allowing them to remotely configure their deep packet inspection probes to intercept data - both communications data and the communication content - on demand.

Shami Chakrabarti, director of Liberty, said: "We opposed the big brother database because it gave the state direct access to everybody's communications. But this network of black boxes achieves the same thing via the back door."

GCHQ's spokeswoman said: "GCHQ does not discuss 'how' we use data, as this may lead to revelations about our capability which damage national security." GCHQ is constantly updating its systems in order to maintain and renew its capability. Advocates of MTI and IMP say they are essential if intelligence agencies are to maintain their capability to monitor terrorist and other criminal networks. A Home Office consultation on the storage of communications data [is now open](#). Meanwhile, work and spending on the all-seeing system to intercept and retrieve it is already underway.

Link: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/03/gchq\\_mti/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/03/gchq_mti/)

## Merck Makes Phony Peer-Review Journal - Thanks Scheelocke!

It's a safe guess that somewhere at Merck today someone is going through the meeting minutes of the day that the hair-brained scheme for the *Australasian Journal of Bone and Joint Medicine* was launched, and that everyone who was in the room is now going to be fired.

[The Scientist](#) has reported that, yes, it's true, Merck cooked up a phony, but real sounding, peer reviewed journal and published favorably looking data for its products in them. Merck paid Elsevier to publish such a tome, which neither appears in MEDLINE or has a website, according to [The Scientist](#).

What's wrong with this is so obvious it doesn't have to be argued for. What's sad is that I'm sure many a primary care physician was given literature from Merck that said, "As published in *Australasian Journal of Bone and Joint Medicine*, Fosamax outperforms all other medications...." Said doctor, or even the average researcher wouldn't know that the journal is bogus. In fact, knowing that the journal is published by Elsevier gives it credibility!

These kinds of endeavors are not possible without help. One of *The Scientist's* most notable finds is a Australian rheumatologist named Peter Brooks who served on the "honorary advisory board" of this "journal". His take: "I don't think it's fair to say it was totally a marketing journal", apparently on the grounds that it had *excerpts* from peer-reviewed papers. However, in his entire time on the board he never received a single paper for peer-review, but because he apparently knew the journal did not receive original submissions of research. This didn't seem to bother him one bit. Such "throwaways" of non-peer reviewed publications and semi-marketing materials are commonplace in medicine. But wouldn't that seem odd for an academic journal? Apparently not. Moreover, Peter Brooks had a pretty lax sense of academic ethics any way: he admitted to having his name put on a "advertorial" for pharma within the last ten years, says *The Scientist*. An "advertorial"? Again, language unfamiliar to us in the academic publishing world, but apparently quite familiar to the pharmaceutical publishing scene.

It is this attitude within companies like Merck and among doctors that allows scandals precisely like this to happen. While the scandals with Merck and Vioxx are particularly egregious, we know they are not isolated incidents. This one is just particularly so. If physicians would not lend their names or pens to these efforts, and publishers would not offer their presses, these publications could not exist. What doctors would have as available data would be peer-reviewed research and what pharmaceutical companies produce from their marketing departments--actual advertisements.

Link: <http://blog.bioethics.net/2009/05/merck-makes-phony-peerreview-journal/>

**Scheelocke says:** Apparently, Merck (y'know, your friendly neighbourhood pharma giant), in an effort to better market their products, had decided to actually create a fake \*peer-reviewed scientific journal\*. Just think about that for a moment and let it sink in.

This is a very serious issue because the ability to trust in peer review and rely on papers published in peer-reviewed journals is a cornerstone of science. It's also exceedingly stupid - how Merck couldn't have realised that this would be found out and hurt them not just directly but also indirectly through the damage done to science in general is beyond me.

Furthermore they apparently got Elsevier (a well-known and large publisher of a wide variety of scientific journals) to publish it, too. How? I have no idea.

Anyhow, just thought you'd be interested. It probably doesn't QUITE rise to Monsanto-level evil yet, but it sure makes the MAFIAA's follies look like child's play, IMO.

**Drinking water which contains the element lithium may reduce the risk of suicide, a Japanese study suggests. Thanks Kevin – Putting on my tin foil hat now, too!**

Researchers examined levels of lithium in drinking water and suicide rates in the prefecture of Oita, which has a population of more than one million.

The suicide rate was significantly lower in those areas with the highest levels of the element, they wrote in the British Journal of Psychiatry.

High doses of lithium are already used to treat serious mood disorders.

But the team from the universities of Oita and Hiroshima found that even relatively low levels appeared to have a positive impact of suicide rates.

Levels ranged from 0.7 to 59 micrograms per litre. The researchers speculated that while these levels were low, there may be a cumulative protective effect on the brain from years of drinking this tap water.

At least one previous study has suggested an association between lithium in tap water and suicide. That research on data collected from the 1980s also found a significantly lower rate of suicide in areas with relatively high lithium levels.

The Japanese researchers called for further research in other countries but they stopped short of any suggestion that lithium be added to drinking water.

The discussion around adding fluoride to water to protect dental health has proved controversial - criticised by some as mass involuntary medication.

In an accompanying editorial, Professor Allan Young of Vancouver's Institute for Mental Health said "this intriguing data should provoke further research.

"Large-scale trials involving the addition of lithium to drinking water supplies may then be feasible, although this would undoubtedly be subject to considerable debate. Following up on these findings will not be straightforward or inexpensive, but the eventual benefits for community mental health may be considerable."

Sophie Corlett, external relations director at mental health charity Mind said the research "certainly merits more investigation.

"We already know that lithium can act as a powerful mood stabiliser for people with bipolar disorder, and treating people with lithium is also associated with lower suicide rates.

"However, lithium also has significant and unpleasant side effects in higher doses, and can be toxic. Any suggestion that it should be added, even in tiny amounts, to drinking water should be treated with caution and researched very thoroughly."

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8025454.stm>

## **The names of some of the people barred from entering the UK for fostering extremism or hatred have been published for the first time.**

Islamic extremists, white supremacists and a US radio host are among the 16 of 22 excluded in the five months to March to have been named by the Home Office. Since 2005, the UK has been able to ban people who promote hatred, terrorist violence or serious criminal activity.

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith said coming to the UK should be a privilege. Ms Smith said "the public interest was against naming" the remaining six, for example on the grounds it could reveal the type of information being held about them.

The Muslim Council of Britain says the government should not act against people - whatever their views - unless they have broken the law. However, Ms Smith said granting free speech did not provide a licence to preach hatred and that those banned had "clearly overstepped the mark" with the attitudes they had expressed.

"[Naming them] enables people to see the sorts of unacceptable behaviour we are not willing to have in this country. "Coming to this country is a privilege. We won't allow people into this country who are going to propagate the sort of views... that fundamentally go against our values." Ms Smith had announced in October the tightening of rules determining who could come to the UK.

A "presumption in favour of exclusion" was introduced that meant it would be up to the individual concerned to prove they would not "stir up tension" after arrival. On the list of those banned between October and March are Hamas MP Yunis Al-Astal and Jewish extremist Mike Guzovsky.

Also excluded are two leaders of a violent Russian skinhead gang, ex-Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard Stephen 'Don' Black and neo-Nazi Erich Gliebe. Fred Waldron Phelps Snr, a 79-year-old American Baptist pastor, and his daughter Shirley Phelps-Roper are barred for their anti-gay comments.

Both have picketed the funerals of Aids victims and celebrated the deaths of US soldiers as "punishment" for US tolerance of homosexuality. Talk show host Michael Savage - real name Michael Weiner - is also excluded. His views on immigration, Islam, rape and autism have caused great offence in America.

Inayat Bunglawala, of the Muslim Council of Britain, told BBC Radio 5 Live that people should be free to enter the country, regardless of their views. "If they step over the line and break the law, it's at that moment the law should be enacted, not beforehand.

"If people are keeping their odious views to themselves, that's their business. We should not be in the business of policing people's minds."

He added that internet broadcasts meant that speeches could be screened from abroad into UK meetings anyway.

In recent years, individuals from a range of backgrounds have been prevented from entering the UK.

They have included animal rights activists, rap singers such as Snoop Dogg and even a lifestyle "guru" - Martha Stewart.

She was kept out after being jailed in the US for lying to investigators about a share sale.

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8033060.stm>

## **Police refuse to help because someone swore!**

In Lincoln Park, Michigan, a 17-year-old called 911 when her father (recovering at home from brain surgery) had a seizure. Her first call didn't go through, so the panicked girl hung up and tried again. While the phone was still ringing, the girl said "what the fuck." Apparently 911 calls are recorded even while the phone is ringing, so the police officer heard her say it. When the officer answered the call, he was only interested in the fact that the girl said "fuck" and wouldn't help the girl. Instead, he swears at her and hangs up.

After the girl places several more calls to 911 trying to explain that her father was about to die, the officer finally called the fire department with a fabricated version of what happened.

Eventually, the girl gets arrested and jailed by the police for a crime that isn't on the books. (via [\*The Agitator\*](#))

You Tube link :[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNrA6OxMC40&eurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.boingboing.net%2F2009%2F05%2F04%2F911-police-officer-r.html&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNrA6OxMC40&eurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.boingboing.net%2F2009%2F05%2F04%2F911-police-officer-r.html&feature=player_embedded)

Link: <http://www.boingboing.net/2009/05/04/911-police-officer-r.html>

## **A male contraceptive jab could be as effective at preventing pregnancies as the female pill or condoms, work shows.**

The monthly testosterone injection works by temporarily blocking sperm production and could revolutionise birth control, experts believe.

In trials in China only one man in 100 fathered a child while on the injections, the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism reports.

Six months after stopping the jabs the men's sperm counts returned to normal.

Family planning campaigners welcomed the news and said they hoped an injection would give couples more choice and enable men to take a greater share of the responsibility for contraception.

But experts said more trials were needed to check the safety of the jab.

Previous attempts to develop an effective and convenient male contraceptive have encountered problems over reliability and side effects, such as mood swings and a lowered sex drive.

Despite the injection having no serious side effects, almost a third of the 1,045 men in the two-and-a-half year trial did not complete it and no reason was given for this.

Lead researcher Dr Yi-Qun Gu, from the National Research Institute for Family Planning in Beijing, China, said: "For couples who cannot, or prefer not to use only female-orientated contraception, options have been limited to vasectomy, condom and withdrawal.

"Our study shows a male hormonal contraceptive regimen may be a potential, novel and workable alternative."

He said if further tests proved successful the treatment could become widely available in five years from now.

Mr Laurence Shaw, of the London Bridge Fertility Centre and the British Fertility Society, said: "If a male contraceptive like this became available it would be great and would give people another choice.

"It would empower men to make a decision which involves more than just a condom. At the moment the onus is on the woman and men do not have that much choice.

"But we have been here before with testosterone as a method of contraception. We need more rigorous safety testing."

He said in trials, the female Pill was still more effective as a contraceptive than the new jab, but that in real life they might be comparable because it is easier to forget to take a pill.

A spokeswoman from Marie Stopes International said: "This is a very positive step forward. The more range of contraceptives there are, the better.

"But if this does become available men should still remember that it will not protect them against sexually transmitted infections and they should still use a condom."

Rebecca Findlay of the Family Planning Association said: "In the past fpa has asked men if they would use hormonal contraception, and a third gave a definite yes they would.

"More research is needed to make sure that any new method is safe and effective, but men will welcome the continued search to give them more control over their fertility and sexual health."

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8033218.stm>

### **Facebook has closed an "Isle of Man KKK" page exhorting locals to stem the tide of unwelcome incomers polluting the racial purity of the Irish Sea island paradise.**

According to the *Telegraph*, the page's Grand Wizard declared: "There are too many comovers\* [sic] on the Island. They are taking all of the jobs, houses and most of all they are taking advantage of our fucking Island. .... join us and help clense [sic] the Isle of Man."

The campaign quickly attracted the attention of kids from the island's secondary schools, with pupils from all six - including the private King William's College - joining the group. One thundered: "Damn blacks and indians [sic], coming over here taking our jobs - who the fuck do they think they are?"

Staff at Ballakermeen High School subsequently alerted Facebook. Deputy head Paul Kane said the school had "talked to each student listed as a member of the group", but declined to say if further action against them was on the cards.

In fact, Kane said the pupils implicated in the outrage had actually signed up to have a pop at the group, and that the young 'un responsible for the "damn blacks and indians" jibe was mixed race and "trying to be ironic rather than serious".

He elaborated: "There are one or two ambiguous remarks from our students, but we think these were intended as sarcasm. I'm pleased that the vast majority disagree with the sentiments of this group and want nothing to do with it.

"We are very strongly against any racist attitudes in this school and people are left in no doubt about that."

A spokesman for the Manx Department of Education said: "The department finds the sentiment behind this site deplorable and cannot condone racist comments and viewpoints."

The Department of Education's opinion on the deplorable state of its pupils' spelling is not noted.

Link: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/01/isle\\_of\\_man\\_rumpus/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/01/isle_of_man_rumpus/)



## **Hollywood has locked horns with the technology industry over who will control digital entertainment and how it is watched.**

The six big film studios say a program called RealDVD violates copyright.

This week a San Francisco court could decide if DVD users can make personal backups the way people do with audio. "The consumer should have the same fair use rights to copy DVDs just as they have for the last decade with music," said Bill Hanks of RealDVD.

RealDVD, which is made by RealNetworks, allows DVD owners to make digital copies of their discs onto a computer or laptop hard drive for their own personal use without having to pay extra. Downloadable versions of many movies are available online, and some studios let users make a digital copy of a movie onto a computer by paying more for an "expanded edition" of a DVD.

Many believe this means the consumer is being made to pay twice. Kevin Hunt who writes the Electronic Jungle column for the Baltimore Sun said: "For 11 years, since the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) made it illegal to bypass any digital rights management protection system, the movie and music industries have fought a war ostensibly against piracy.

"In reality, it has been a war against the consumer, designed to make people pay more than once for the same song or album or movie."

At the heart of the case the movie studios, represented by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), claim that RealDVD is illegal under the DMCA. The Association said the software bypasses the copy protection built into DVDs meaning that users could copy a DVD and share it around. The studios have described the product as "Steal DVD."

The real fear being expressed is that the technology would enable people to "rent, rip, and return" DVDs. These are the terms used to describe someone who rents a DVD, copies the content onto a hard drive and returns the movie without ever paying for the unauthorised copy.

"Our objective is to get the illegal choices out of the marketplace and instead focus constructively with the technology community on bringing in more innovative and flexible legal options for consumers to enjoy movies," Greg Goeckner, executive vice president and general counsel, MPAA told the BBC in an e-mail statement.

RealNetworks, which makes RealDVD, claimed that in actual fact the company has enhanced the security of the product. "We have added an extra layer of security encryption, the same the government uses, to ensure piracy is not a possibility," said RealDVD spokesman Mr Hanks.

A digital version made using RealDVD can only be played on the computer that made the copy.

The DVD Copy Control Association, which is primarily responsible for the copy protection of DVDs and also suing RealNetworks, told the BBC it would not comment until the case is resolved. RealDVDs' Mr Hanks said he had not been surprised by Hollywood's reaction to the product.

"There has been a tension between Silicon Valley and Hollywood for a long time and this is another example of that." It is not uncommon for content owners to be initially concerned about the manner in which their content will be treated by new technology. That is why we went to talk to the studios before we released the product," said Mr Hanks.

The National Consumers League, a 100-year-old consumer watchdog group, said a survey it conducted in conjunction with RealNetworks showed consumers want choice.

"The entertainment industry would be wise to pay attention to the attitudes and purchase desire of the typical American consumer, who, according to our survey, is very interested in being able to back up his or her collection," said executive director Sally Greenberg.

To some extent the genie is already out of the bottle because there are a number of illegal ways to do what ReadDVD does. "Consumer behaviour is going to continue regardless of what happens in

this court case. The question is can Hollywood and technology get out in front of it so the consumer adopts legitimate behaviour," said Mr Hankes.

Fred Von Lohmann, a senior lawyer with the Electronic Frontier Foundation suggested the picture is not so black and white. "Hollywood says that without encryption, the DVD market would collapse. I say, the pirates have already won, the software to copy is free and you're still selling DVDs." "The sky has not fallen," added Mr Von Lohmann.

The case in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California is being heard by Judge Marilyn Patel. She presided over the Napster case and eventually shut down the original peer-to-peer music file-sharing service.

The hearing, which will resume on Thursday, is expected to end this week with closing arguments this Friday or the following week. Most people expect Judge Patel to deliver her decision in a written ruling in the coming weeks.

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/8027907.stm>

**A London gym is offering decent, hard-working citizens the chance to fight back against the hooded hordes of chavdom by administering alcopop-crazed yoof a righteous thrashing - courtesy of its "[Chav Fighting](#)" classes.**

According to Gymbox's blurb, you'll learn "how to take a Bacardi off a hoodie and turn a grunt into a whine" in a place where "the punch bags gather dust and the world is put to rights".

If the accompanying vid is anything to go by, a few months of Chav Fighting and the UK's streets will once more be safe for decorated war veterans to zimmer their way down to the post office to collect their pensions, while those hospital beds not filled with dying pig plague victims will be occupied by the shattered and battered bodies of crippled chavs.

According to [Spiked](#), which chatted with the manager of Gymbox's Holborn branch, Chav Fighting techniques include the "haymaker" and the good old-fashioned headbutt. He described the soon-to-be-extinct chav as "scourge of modern-day Britain" and, inevitably, cited "the rise in knife crime" as a solid reason why white collars should learn the crimebusting benefits of the Glasgow Kiss.

In case you're not really that bothered about giving chavs a good kicking, Gymbox's other activities include Bitch Boxing, Boob Aerobics and Pole Dancing - the latter, we hasten to add, as it's commonly understood, not the version where you fire an AK47 at the feet of an immigrant worker who's stolen your job

Link: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/04/28/chav\\_fighting/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/04/28/chav_fighting/)

## R4nger5 News / Feedback

- Osprey Radio
- Storm the wire season 2 kick off!
- Combat Shorts #5 and wild camp report
- R4nger5 overdrive - audio from Avagdu!
- R4nger5 America – go speak to Xenovalent!

## Half Time Music

- Track 1 – **Anything at All** By **Patient Zero** from the album **Detox Detox**
- Track 2 - **Your right to a protest** – recorded by **Peekok Live**
- Track 3 – **Scent Her Less** by **Hopeful Machines** From the Album **Skinless**

## Discussion

- What makes a r4nger, these days?
- What is TOR?

## Links

[www.rantmedia.ca](http://www.rantmedia.ca)  
[www.empowerthyself.com](http://www.empowerthyself.com)  
[www.wognetwork.com](http://www.wognetwork.com)  
[www.wogrant.com](http://www.wogrant.com)  
[www.kevinisageek.org](http://www.kevinisageek.org)  
[www.stormthewire.tk](http://www.stormthewire.tk)

[www.r4nger5.com](http://www.r4nger5.com)  
[www.r4nger5blog.tk](http://www.r4nger5blog.tk)

<http://webcast.berkeley.edu>/Useful stuff - video and lectures – go check it out! - **Thanks raindog951**

<http://www.ccjacquismith.co.uk/> Do you want to bother Jacqui Smith? **Thanks Kevin!**  
[http://www.phonelosers.org/article/recording\\_telephone\\_calls/](http://www.phonelosers.org/article/recording_telephone_calls/) Telephone recording? **Thanks Avagdu!**

[http://www.phonelosers.org/article/recording\\_telephone\\_calls/](http://www.phonelosers.org/article/recording_telephone_calls/)**Thanks Avagdu!**

## Reccomedia

Storm the Wire Series 2 ep 1! - go see it! <http://blip.tv/file/2061502>

Blog article found on the blog now co-edited by **Peekok!**

<http://portswp.blogspot.com/2009/01/slaughter-in-gaza-strong-portsmouth.html>

Wiki How to pages – **Thanks Avagdu!**

Build A Fire

<http://www.wikihow.com/Build-a-Fire>

<http://www.wikihow.com/Build-a-Campfire>

Identify Flint

<http://www.wikihow.com/Identify-Flint>

Plan A BackPacking Trip

<http://www.wikihow.com/Plan-a-Backpacking-Trip>

Also from **Avagdu:**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/beast12101>Groovy BOB/Preparedness videos

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edkUJdIFR70>The Art of Revoltion – Part 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3mQDQ29SCg>The Art of Revolution – Part 2

**Gulching** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulching> or how to live on your own terms with a barter / gift economy

## Outro Music

- Track 1 -Hurt Me By Patient Zero** from the album **Detox Detox**
- Track 2 – War Symptoms by Cease and Desist**
- Track 3 -Requiem by Hopeful Machines** From the Album **Skinless**
- Rant – Sean Kennedy with More Than You**