

NSA Director Admits to Lying on Terror Plots and Foiling to Bolster Support for Surveillance Apparatus

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Gen. Keith B. Alexander (Credit: AP/J. Scott Applewhite)

The administration has been amping up stats about foiled plots to bolster support for mass surveillance.

In so many words, NSA director Keith Alexander admitted Wednesday that the Obama administration had issued misleading information about terror plots and their foiling to bolster support for the government's vast surveillance apparatus.

During Wednesday's hearing, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy pushed Alexander to admit that plot numbers had been fudged in a revealing interchange:

"There is no evidence that [bulk] phone records collection helped to thwart dozens or even several terrorist plots," said Leahy. The Vermont Democrat then asked the NSA chief to admit that only 13 out of a previously cited 54 cases of foiled plots were genuinely the fruits of the government's vast dragnet surveillance systems:

"These weren't all plots, and they weren't all foiled," Leahy said, asking Alexander, "Would you agree with that, yes or no?"

"Yes," replied Alexander.

Proof positive of what many of us have long posited: that under the flimsy guise of a targeted War on Terror, the surveillance state has established itself with little regard for an honest relationship with the American public.

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