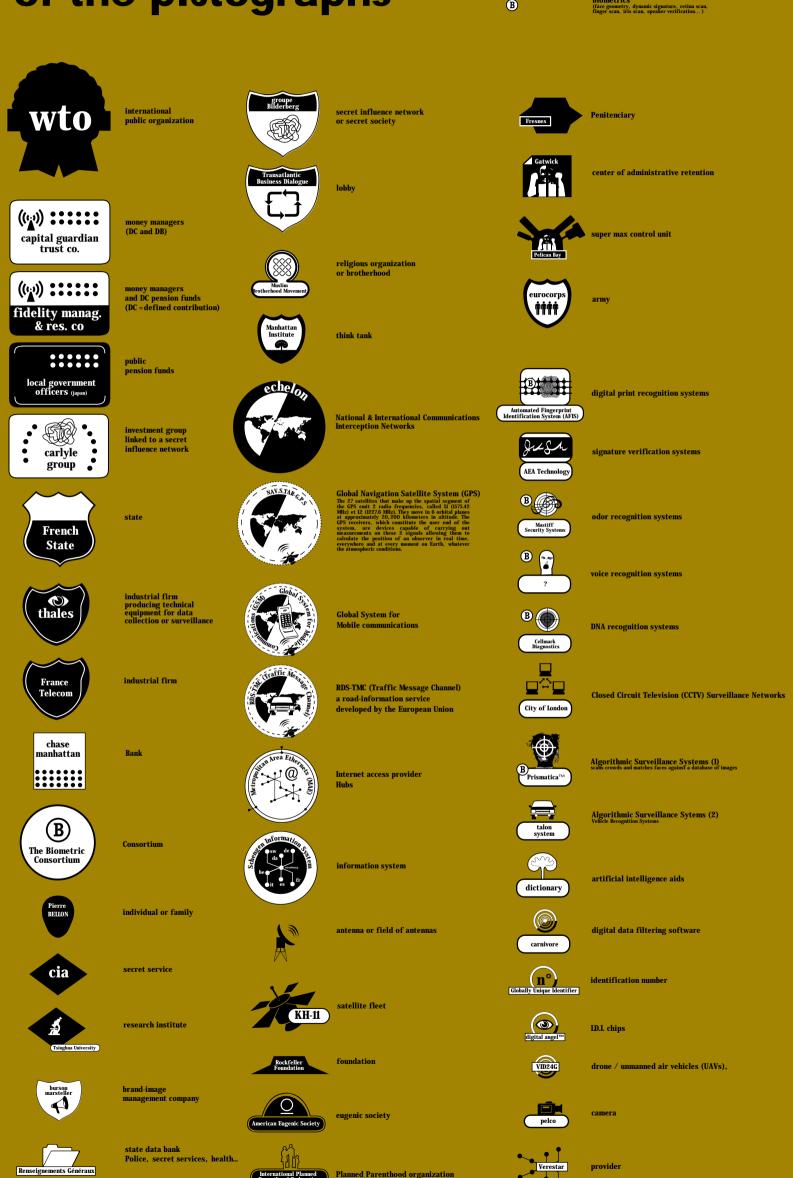
Technical link (manufacturer or technical partner Administrative link Financial link Police link (surveillance) Informal link Probable link (data awaiting confirmation) A --- 50- - b Share of ownership unverified data

meanings of the pictographs



refuse the BIOPOLICE

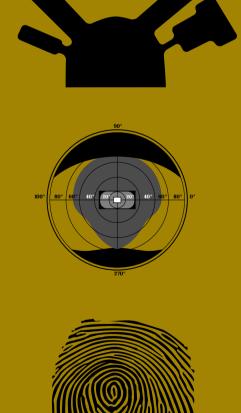
a cartography of contemporary control systems

Are there any limits to surveillance?

These maps show how an increasingly interconnected network of data-gathering systems has been developed and implemented by collusion between specific individuals, transnational corporations, governments, interstate agencies and "civil society" groups. The globalization of American capitalism, in parallel to the consolidation of the European Union, has brought vast new scales of governance into existence, without any corresponding expansion of democratic rights. At the same time, computer-processing capacities have made it possible to individualize the application of power, linking the traces of personal histories to facial photographs, fingerprints and the molecular signatures of DNA. What emerges in the twenty-first century is the potential for a worldwide police of the human bios, exemplified here by the international proliferation of privatized, hi-tech detention systems for the immobilization of human life, and by the long-term project of selectively enforced global population control, as the rich man's "solution" to underdevelopment and immiseration.

The pictographic arrays that you see in the maps suggest an interlocking order which, for the majority of citizens, has long remained invisible. They also reveal levels of complexity which may prove as unmanageable as globalization itself. What happens when the increasing visibility of this control project leads to multiplying forms of social dissidence? How many of us can be thrown in jail for laughing in the face of CCTV cameras, for analyzing the shortfall of human rights in Europe, for taking the side of migrants in huge protests like those already held in France in 1997? Who can guarantee that searches, ID checks, warfare and the constant specter of terrorism will be a desirable future for the world's people?

Each new Star Wars movie is made to keep you in the dark about what the satellites up in the sky really do. But the limits to surveillance are in our own lives: open minds, open hearts, open eyes. Beyond the biopolice is a biopoetics. Move beyond the spectacle of party politics as we know it: throw a party on all sides of the borders!



Collection and cartography of data by Bureau d'études with the help of Jeff (syndicat potentiel), Tristan Wibault (Ambassade Universelle), Anne et Johann (CAE), Nicz (Roma), drawing on work by numerous independent collectives throughout the world (no border.org, statewatch, Judicial Watch, Center for Public Integrity, transnationale.org, pivacy.org, Blackcross,...). English translations and cover text by Brian Holmes. Most of the data comes from articles in the "mainstream" press (including The Guardian, US News and World Report, The Nation, TIME Magazine, Les échos, L'expansion...), from corporate websites, from public reports (STOA-Scientific and Technological options assessment, etc.). The data has been selected and verified as much as possible, to provide trustworthy and useful information. You can send relevant facts (for updates of this publication) to: bureaudetudes@freesurf fr

These documents were prepared for the No Border Camp in Strasbourg, July 2002, against the Schengen Information System: mapping the invisible borders with living bodies in resistance.