

**From:** Ed <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** "Epstein, Jeff" <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Was Snowden alone: a Timetable  
**Date:** Thu, 27 Jun 2013 22:06:08 +0000

---

## Snowden' s Penetration

Edward Snowden was well aware of the law in March 2013 regarding communications intelligence when he sought a job with Booz-Allen Hamilton at a NSA facility in Hawaii and signed the requisite classified information agreements. U.S.C. § 798 : US Code - Section 798, makes it a Federal crime to "knowingly and willfully communicates, furnishes, transmits, or otherwise makes available to an unauthorized person, or publishes, or uses in any manner prejudicial to the safety or interest of the United States" any classified information concerning communication intelligence. He had indeed taken that position so he could arrange to have published classified communications intelligence (COMINT), as he told the South China Post in June 2013. The point of Snowden' s penetration was to get classified data from the NSA. He subsequently stated "My position with Booz Allen Hamilton granted me access to lists of machines all over the world the NSA hacked, that is why I accepted that position."

My question: Was he alone in this enterprise to misappropriate COMINT?

Prior to his taking the job in Hawaii, he was in contact with other people who, 5 months later, helped arrange the publication of the COMINT. In January 2013, according to the Washington Post, Snowden requested that Laura Poitras, who is making a film about Wikileaks, get an encryption key for Skype so that they could have a secure channel to communicate. In February, he contacted Guardian columnist Glenn Greenwald and provided him with a step-by-step email and video to get an encrypted key. Both Poitras and Greenwald are on the Board of the Press Freedom Foundation that, among other things, funds Wikileaks.

So before Snowden proceeded with his penetration I March 23013 of Booz Allen Hamilton and the NSA, at least two others people, may have helped facilitate, wither wittingly or unwittingly, the scheme by arranging a secure channel of encrypted communications.

The plan to get and publish COMINT thus appears to have extended over 5 months,. On May 20, after falsely claiming he needed treatment for epilepsy, Snowden took the stolen data to Hong Kong on four laptops. The purpose of the cover story and trip to Hong Kong was to meet Greenwald and Poitras in Hong Kong. We do not know yet who paid the expenses for the meetings in Hong Kong, or who provided Snowden with a safe-house there, but on June 5th the fruits of the misappropriation of COMINT appeared in the Guardian in an article by Greenwald. Immediately Laura Poitras released a video statement by Snowden. Then others at Wikileaks, an enterprise funded by a foundation whose Board members included two of the participants in the news release, helped arrange Snowden' s flight to Moscow.

So, again, the question: did anyone else aid and abet the misappropriation of COMINT?

/

as ever

Ed

[www.edwardjayepstein.com](http://www.edwardjayepstein.com)