



Analyst has different take on spy agency's 'document dump'

Chris Woodward (OneNewsNow.com) Tuesday, December 30, 2014

A policy analyst says he's frustrated about the NSA's "document dump" on Christmas Eve - and it's not for releasing information when no one was looking.

On December 24, the National Security Agency publicly acknowledged several specific instances of employees using NSA tools in the stalking of love interests and erroneously targeting U.S. citizens for spying - among other dubious misdeeds.

"Some of this is what we've heard before," says Patrick Eddington, a policy analyst in homeland security and civil liberties for the [Cato Institute](#).

But the analyst suggests the misdeeds are violations of standard operating procedure at NSA. In some cases, Eddington says, they may well be violations of U.S. law.

"In almost none of these cases was anybody fired," the analyst complains.

The NSA has existed for nearly 70 years, and operated under strict rules since 1981, which makes Eddington wonder if people "don't get it" when violations occur.

"And when no one is held accountable for this kind of thing, when no one actually loses their job," he says, "then the message to the workforce, I think, is pretty clear."