



11 May 2007

Restricted Access to Internet Entertainment Sites Across DoD Networks

1. The Department of Defense has a growing concern regarding our unclassified DoD Internet, known as the NIPRNET. The Commander of DoD's Joint Task Force, Global Network Operations (JTF-GNO) has noted a significant increase in use of DoD network resources tied up by individuals visiting certain recreational Internet sites. These sites share various types of individual information with friends and family members (personal videos, photos, and data files). This recreational traffic impacts our official DoD network and bandwidth availability, while posing a significant operational security challenge.
2. To maximize the availability of DoD network resources for official government usage, the Commander, JTF-GNO, with the approval of the Department of Defense, will block worldwide access to the following internet sites beginning on or about 14 May 2007: youtube.com, 1.fm, pandora.com, photobucket.com, myspace.com, live365.com, hi5.com, metacafe.com, mtv.com, ifilm.com, blackplanet.com, stupidvideos.com and filecabi.com.
3. Access restrictions will only affect DoD computer systems and networks, not home computers. Regular traffic within the DoD network will not be affected, and the websites noted above will remain accessible through personal Internet Service Providers. However, if you access such sites using your personal home computer, you should exercise caution in forwarding any links or files from these sites to DoD computers or networks. To do so could compromise OPSEC and create an opportunity for hacking and virus intrusion.
4. As a reminder, regardless of which Internet sites you may visit from any computer, DoD or otherwise, you must always be alert to protecting sensitive, unclassified information. This benefits not only you, your fellow Servicemembers, and Civilian employees, but preserves our vital networks for conducting official DoD business in peace and war. You should also be mindful of the risk of identity theft that these sites pose and protect yourself and your family. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in understanding DoD's requirement to protect our Government networks.

B. B. BELL
General, US Army
Commander

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