

In 2006, the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) tried to sue AT&T for helping the Federal Government snoop through your files. A room was set up in the local data center, called "Room 641a," where not only did the feds snoop, they were able to see your internet activity in real time.

Much has been written about it [here](#), so if you want more background, hit the link.

My question is this. Does Portland have an equivalent room? I'll lay out the case for the existence of one, along with its address here. I'll include the links, so you can see the source data yourself.

Make up your own mind.



] 380 Cumberland Avenue, a bland little building sits next to the headquarters of Verizon. You can still see the old "Bell" telephone logo on the building, built in the days of pre-"Deathstar" logo Ma Bell.

Curious bit of evidence#1: Nobody ever parks there, or is seen coming or going from the building at any hour of the day or night. In a parking situation as tight as Portland, that is not only unlikely, that's damned impossible. Many businesses claim that location as office space, including [Worldcom](#), [Renaissance Executive Forums](#), [LavaLife Dating Service](#), [CarQuest Auto Parts](#). You might think with all that going on, someone might occasionally wander by.

Curious Bit#2: That funny little GSA lease, for 369 square feet of office space. See a link [here](#).

Curious Bit #3: Consider the property description at the [following link](#). "Telecom/Data Center For Lease: Just minutes from the heart of downtown Portland, the FairPoint central office is immediately adjacent to the building and is directly connected via a cable vault. Redundant fiber feeds are available from FairPoint, NEON, Time Warner, Mid-Maine Communications and others."

Curious #4, that points you back to #2: "• Homeland Security has leased 369± SF of office space at 380 Cumberland Avenue in Portland, Maine from the Landlord, 380 Associates, LLC. This transaction was brokered on behalf of the Landlord by Tony McDonald of CBRE | The Boulos Company." Source:

<http://www.maineahead.com/cbre-the-boulos-company-announces-july-2010-transaction-completions/>

Also, [this gem](#). "**Lessee:** Access Transmission Services 380 Cumberland Ave. **Square feet:** 10,050 **Lessor:** 380 Cumberland Associates **Broker:** CBRE|The Boulos Co."

So, we know the site is related to Homeland Security, is directly (via tunnel) linked to AT&T/Verizon (under the street), is tiny, with a backup generator in the parking lot. Nobody ever

comes or goes.

Nothing to see here, folks...move along.