How to can your paranoia
defrag
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Do you ever worry that you are being watched? And get the feeling that your every move is being tracked and recorded? Do you hear voices? Are you surrounded by a group of really annoying people with funny names? Well really, you should of thought of all that before you agreed to go on Big Brother, shouldn't you? There's nothing Defrag can do about it, so don't come whining to us that Gretel Killeen looks kind of scary. If you lie down with dogs, you're bound to get a few fleas and possibly have your leg humped by a highly excitable silky terrier called Buttons. Also, you may get a sore back because those dog beds aren't built to accommodate the human form. But no matter what happens, you have no-one to blame but yourself, although you could try having a word with the dog's owner about flea control. Okay, in the context of a metaphor about Big Brother, we don't have any idea how that last statement translates, but it's good advice just the same. Even if you are not foolhardy enough to go on a reality show, it is still valid to feel that you're being monitored by a watchful eye, because you probably are. Chances are that every single thing you do on your work computer is being watched by your employer to ensure that you are not looking at hot naked people doing odd stuff to each other on work time. And, trust Defrag when we say that your boss won't buy the argument that spending the afternoon forwarding amusing Saddam Hussein joke emails to everyone you know is part of your patriotic duty to demoralise the enemy. If your boss isn't watching your internet moves, the companies whose sites you visit are and so are people who would like very much to have what's in your bank account. Almost every time you step out into a public place you are being watched by CCTV and let's not forget that your colleagues are always watching you because they know that when you bend over, your underpants can be seen above the top of your pants, and they all need a good laugh. Now, at this point, some of you may be thinking: hang on a minute, Defrag. That we are always under surveillance is a given in this technical age we live in. As Sun Microsystems' Scott McNealy said in 1999, you already have "zero privacy, get over it". To which we say: well look at you, Mayor McSmug of Smugtown, got it all figured out have we? Well, we've got news for you, mate. You never suspected that your can of Coca-Cola may be watching you, did you? According to CNN.com, the beverage company's latest promotion in the US is ruffling a few feathers on that strange bird known as the military. As part of their Unexpected Summer campaign, some cans of Coca-Cola have been equipped with mobile phone technology and a GPS chip, which allows the receiver to call the company from the can and win prizes ranging from cash to a stonking big car. Such technology is making the US military nervous, so they're asking personnel to check whether they have a winning can before they bring a drink into a classified meeting. A Coca-Cola US spokesman, who is apparently called Mart Martin, told CNN.com that the cans can't
be used for eaves-dropping, but the military sticks by the ban, similar to
the one they enacted on Furbys a few years back. So who is right?
Defrag can't say for sure, but if the US starts dropping bombs on Morgan
Spurlock or countries where Pepsi consumption is highest, we'll be a little
suspicious that something's going on with those cans. **Avoiding sticky
situations** OKAY kids, get your mobiles ready and set your devious
minds to work, because it's time for this week's episode of Lying With
Your Phone. Although, strictly speaking this is not so much helping you
lie, as ensuring that you don't get caught. According to The Guardian,
there is a phone-based service called Socialight, which is essentially a
friend radar. The mobile phone program uses data from the phone's
carrier or GPS features to scan the location of anyone on your buddy list
and then alert you when they are in the vicinity. It can also deliver a
sticky shadow — a message that can only be delivered to the named
people when they are at a specific location (a feature Defrag predicts will
be used to hunt for a serial killer in some movie in the next year).
Socialight alerts can be used to avoid running into somebody, such as
your boss if you have called in sick. Only make sure they're not also
using the system or you could get a sticky shadow putting you in a sticky
situation.