

David McGlinchey, GovExec, 2004.09.23:

“Border chief touts biometrics as security tool

“The top border security official at the Homeland Security Department . . . underscored the importance of biometrics-related programs in protecting the country from terrorist attacks. While detailing the successes of biometrics, Hutchinson admitted that drug traffickers, murderers and armed robbers have been identified and caught at the U.S. border, but the method had yet to net a terrorist. Homeland Security Department officials did not return calls asking if the use of

biometrics has resulted in the capture of any terrorists.

“At the conference Hutchinson recounted the story of a woman who attempted to enter the United States from Mexico with false identification. The woman’s biometric information was recorded and she was barred from returning to the United States. Within a year, however, she attempted to enter the country through a California airport under a different identity. Hutchinson said immigration officials used the woman’s biometric information to identify the woman and deport her. He did not suggest that she was a terrorist.”

Assignment due this week: read [libpng.  
cr.yp.to/2004-494/libpng.html](http://libpng.cr.yp.to/2004-494/libpng.html)

Next week: Find some security holes!