FORT SHERMAN ACADEMY

FSA

Providing Traveler Safety Training and Risk Management Services

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Bird? Plane? Drone?!   **Cleaning for Speed**   **Trending Scams**   **3-Day B+ in Chicago**

Bird? Plane? Spy Drone?!

Over 30 Chinese military and government agencies have reportedly been using drones made to look like doves in order to surveil citizens in at least five provinces. Able to mimic the flapping wings of a real bird to climb, dive, and turn in the air, each "bird" is also equipped with a high-definition camera, GPS antenna, flight control system, and satellite data link.

According to the South China Morning Post, the spy bird has been used specifically in the far western region of China due to Beijing being concerned with a large Muslim population that may separate from China. Nevertheless, China's inhabitants should assume that their behavior could be under surveillance and their behavior recorded, no matter where they go outdoors. China's use of covert bird drones is extending the government's surveillance to a whole new level.

Clean for Speed

With spring reserved for housecleaning, fall must be the time for computer cleaning. Just in time for those winter months of daily laptop use, we have three steps toward improving device hygiene (i.e. speed and responsiveness).

Step 1 Declutter – It's a fact of computing that as you use your device, junk files will build up. You can't stop this from happening, but you can stay on top of the mess with a regular cleansing. Unless you really know your way around Windows or macOS, it's a good idea to use a third-party program here. CCleaner (for Windows and macOS) has proven to be one of the best free options for this.

Step 2 Cleanse the cache – Much of our computing time happens through a browser, which creates more piles of unused files and digital junk. In Chrome, click on the top right menu button, click **More tools,** followed by **Clear browsing data** to erase cached files, browsing history, and more. In Firefox, Click the menu button, choose **Options**, and select the **Privacy & Security** panel. In the **Cookies and Site Data** section, click **Clear Data**. In Microsoft Edge, click on the top right **Settings and more** button, click on **Settings,** then **Clear browsing data**. Finally, in Safari, open the app menu and choose **Clear History**.

Step 3 Uninstall needless applications – Uninstalling apps you no longer use can instantly improve performance. Not to mention that each application on your system can become a target for hackers or data-mining companies, so the fewer you keep, the better. On Windows, open the **Start** menu, go to the **Settings** screen, and then click **Apps & features**. You can sort apps by size or date, then click an app to remove it. On macOS, open **Launchpad**, click and hold on any app, and hit the **delete** button. Don't delete something you need though!

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Trending Scams

~ Salesmen in London are selling "rare" parrots to tourists and locals, for only $350 USD. Quite tempting when told these "parrots" can talk as well. Truth is these are actually parakeets that live wild in the city parks. Considering that there are tens of thousands of them, they no longer reflect a good deal.

Advice: Never accept people's claims about items they're selling without proof. Be vigilant for scammers and thieves while in tourist locations.

~ You receive an email telling you to click the link below to open the Gmail confidential message that a friend sent you. After taking you to another screen you are asked to input your credentials. By now you should have alarms and red flags waving inside. This new rollout from Gmail is a scammer's paradise.

Advice: Don't click on embedded links unless you are comfortable with the source. Be extra wary when this third party asks you to type in your security clearances. Consider using some other options in encrypted communication (i.e. Signal, Telegram, WhatsApp, Unseen, ProtonMail).

3-Day Open Enrollment B+ Class in Chicago

A great opportunity has made itself available to faith-minded travelers looking to participate in FSA's personal security training. An advanced level 3-Day B+ course on personal protection and captivity survival has been approved for open enrollment on **October 15-17** in **CHICAGO, IL**. Focused on adults traveling or working in environments that are at-risk for criminal hostage-taking and illegal government detention, this course will strengthen your application of: situational awareness, information security, countering various forms of surveillance, and minimizing exploitation. Through multiple scenario-based roleplay interactions, you will practice shrewd resistance within interviews and interrogations. Don't miss out on this opportunity for a FSA Advanced Level 3-Day B+ class. Seats are limited and they are filling fast!

Register now for these upcoming CAPTIVE SAINT classes:

B+   September 26-28 (ID)

B+   October 15-17 (Chicago)

See Website for More!

Register Online

FORTSHERMAN.ORG

C+   June 18-27, 2019 (ID)

C+   July 9-18, 2019 (ID)

C+   August 6-15, 2019 (ID)

**PO Box 1059
Pinehurst, ID 83850**

info@fortsherman.org

888.211.8674

Fort Sherman Academy trains and supports organizations in faith-based security and risk management. We assist in the furtherance of their mission by training them to better avoid, protect and survive potential or actual adverse events thus allowing them to reach every corner of the globe.