

# Data Fusion, “Publicly Available Information”, and Project Maven

Jack Poulson

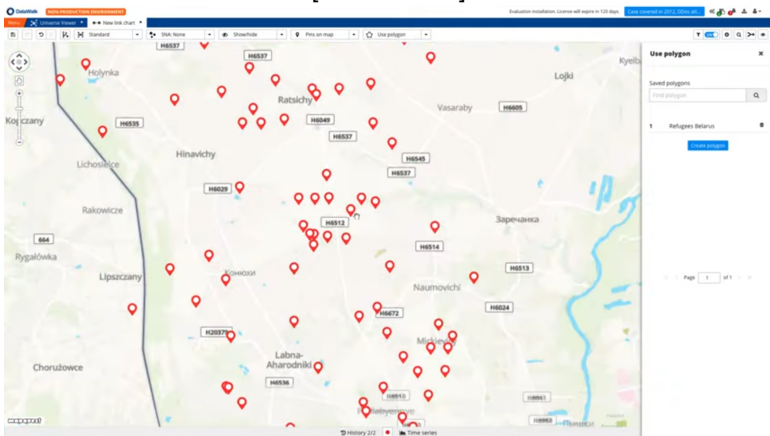
Tech Inquiry

(These slides are available at [techinquiry.org/docs/DNL-DataFusion.pdf](https://techinquiry.org/docs/DNL-DataFusion.pdf))

March 25, 2022

# Palantir competitor DataWalk's Counter-Intel video

[Placeholder]



The source is a roughly 86 second clip of the video DataWalk uploaded to YouTube at <https://youtu.be/XUxIT00gTfs?t=140>



CUI

# INSPECTOR GENERAL

*U.S. Department of Defense*

JANUARY 6, 2022



## **(U) Evaluation of Contract Monitoring and Management for Project Maven**

## **(U) Introduction**

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### **(U) Objective**

(U) The objective of this evaluation was to determine whether the Army Contracting Command (ACC), the Army Research Laboratory (ARL), and the Algorithmic Warfare Cross-Functional Team (AWCFT), also known as Project Maven) monitored Project Maven contracts in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS), and DoD policy.

### **(U) Background**

(SUI)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~(U)~~ When the AWCFT was established in 2017, its mission was to field technology to augment or automate processing, exploitation, and dissemination of full-motion video for intelligence support. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### ***(U) Project Maven Contracts***

(U) To support the objectives and mission of Project Maven, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, in DTM 18-002, directed the AWCFT to contract with commercial industry. The AWCFT partnered with the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) to solicit proposals to address Project Maven objectives. Between September 2018 and February 2020, the AWCFT and ACC awarded four contracts and one cooperative agreement to support Project Maven.<sup>8</sup> Each of these awards addressed a problem set related to Project Maven's objectives.

- (U) Three contracts were awarded to ECS Federal, LLC:

- ~~(U)~~ PAVEMENT [REDACTED]

- ~~(U)~~ KUBERA [REDACTED]

- ~~(U)~~ BRONZE [REDACTED]

- (U) One contract was awarded to MORSE Corporation:

- ~~(U)~~ MORSE [REDACTED]

- (U) One cooperative agreement was awarded to Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and its team of academic institutions:

- ~~(U)~~ CMU [REDACTED]

(U) Report No. DODIG-2020-025, "Evaluation of the Algorithmic Warfare Cross-Functional Team (Project Maven)" November 8, 2019

(U) This report is classified. To file a Freedom of Information Act request, please submit a request to FOIA Online. This report is a result of Project No. D2019-DISPAZ-0032.



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Tech Inquiry FOI'd this report through the DoD IG in early January and it is currently undergoing declassification review by the involved agencies.

## Maven Contracts from 2018-09 to 2020-02

The DoD IG report stated **four contracts** (three to ECS Federal, one to MORSE) and **one cooperative agreement** (to CMU) were issued by Project Maven between Sept. 2018 and February 2020.

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<sup>1</sup>Tech Inquiry's report had a footnote on MORSE's **Project Gargoyle** contract with the JAIC, which – according to the LinkedIn **profile** of a JAIC employee – *“delivers low-altitude and horizontal computer vision capabilities to operational users in the Force Protection mission”*.

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Roughly four months before IG's report, Tech Inquiry published a **report** detailing ECS Federal's Maven-related PAVEMENT (**W911QX20C0019**), KUBERA (**W911QX18C0037**), and AVALANCHE (**W911QX20C0023**) contracts. (AVALANCHE began after the end date of the IG report.)

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Tech Inquiry also analyzed ECS Federal's two prime awards related to SUNet (**W911QX19C0039** and **W911QX19F0086**) and an earlier Project CICERO (**W911QX13C0184**).<sup>1</sup>

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Subcontractors included: Microsoft, Clarifai, AWS, Palantir, Rebellion Defense, Orbital Insight, IBM, Black Cape, Scale AI, CrowdAI, IAI, Primer, Zignal Labs, Blackbird.AI, IST (now Two Six), MAXAR, Cubic, L3Harris, Raytheon, Northrop Grumman, Alion, SRI, STR...

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And ECS Federal's two **prime awards** for a "*SUNet Publicly Available Information (PAI) enclave*" included subcontracts with:

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- internet surveillance firms **Babel Street**, **IAI**, **Geospark Analytics**<sup>2</sup>, **Echosec Systems**, **Creative Radicals**, **Signal Labs** and **Shadowdragon**.

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# CMU lobbied for Maven before its cooperative agreement

## U.S. lobbying records state CMU lobbied for Maven in 2018 Q2.

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code DEF

16. Specific lobbying issues

Support for research in artificial intelligence applications for the defense and intelligence communities in the National Defense Authorization Act (HR 5515). Support for funding for basic research initiatives in support of the **cross-functional algorithmic warfare** team. Support for research in the development of trustworthy systems for autonomous vehicles and autonomous systems technology. Support for advancing innovations in low power computing technologies. Support for basic research funding in the Department of Defense.

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