

«A week later I flubbed the quiz questions at Dhaka's Le Saigon cafe»  
micro-surveillance project by Naeem Mohaiemen with Michikazu Matsune







from michikazu matsune <matsune@utanet.at>  
to Naeem Mohaiemen <naeem.mohaiemen@gmail.com>,  
date Nov 19, 2007 7:56 PM  
subject AW: the vietnam airport footage IS THERE!  
mailed-by utanet.at

hide details Nov 19 (2 days ago)

Reply

Hi Naeem,

I just checked the images and they are there.

Now I noticed that you are by chance in the frame at the desk behind mine! How great. So, I need to make still images of these, eh? I will try to get back to you till tomorrow. Michi

**from Naeem Mohaiemen <naeem.mohaiemen@gmail.com>,  
to michikazu matsune <matsune@utanet.at>  
date Nov 19, 2007 8:28 PM  
subject AW: the vietnam airport footage IS THERE!  
mailed-by citechco.net**

**That's weird. I don't remember seeing myself in the footage when we looked at it in the airport. Rana's book was a good prop to balance the camera. But why did you have my book anyway, you never read it in HCM. ohhh.. maybe you borrowed it to fill up your immigration card? You know, like a table.**

**What was I doing in that moment while you were filming. My officer was very stern, no smile, kept asking same robotic questions. *Where you born.London.Where your father born.Bangladesh.So he from Bangladesh.Yes.But you born where.London.So you from Bangladesh.Both, I'm from both.But your father he have Bangladesh passport. Yes so do I.Where.At home I didn't bring it with me.Where home.Bangladesh.So here is British passport.Yes it's also mine.But you have two passport. After we wrestled like this for five minutes, he called his supervisor and had him find <BAN> from the pulldown menu and selected that and then he seemed satisfied but that's also what donked me on way out: that my passport and pulldown didn't match***

Hi Naeem,

Here are the images. The movement of the officer behind is absolutely great. He noticed my camera and came down to me, that's why I had to stop filming. But he seems to be slightly smiling on the image. By the way the officer who checked me was quite friendly, mentioning "Ah, you are from Japan?" When my check was done, he said to Tay Tong who was waiting for me, "Isn't this guy (me) from China?" for some kind of half joke. Which I didn't get why this should be funny. Tay Tong didn't get it neither. Speaking about the visum, I was surprised when I found out that Japanese don't need tourist Visa to Vietnam if it is under two weeks stay. I know that Austrians had to pay 72euros. How was it for you?

Michi

p.s. I caught a cold as soon as I arrived back in Vienna. Too cold outside.



**Wait if you zoom in on my face, in this frame I seem to be smiling. Free from the irritation-fear-intrigue-aretheygoingtopullme-aside moment. But more important, I really really needed to go to the bathroom.**

Dear Naeem,

Sitting in a café for breakfast after taking my daughter to school.

Imagine there are no countries, John.

Best, Michi