UK cyber chief regrets request for Apple encryption hack.

Description

A former cyber security chief criticized the UK government for requesting Apple to create a backdoor in its software, allowing surveillance of customer data. This demand, made under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016, was expected to be kept confidential, but details have surfaced.

Ciaran Martin, previously with GCHQ and NCSC, highlighted the unrealistic nature of keeping such orders private, stating it was "naive" to think so. Apple has not confirmed the demand, but it has stopped offering its Advanced Data Protection service in the UK. The company maintained its stance on not creating backdoors in their products.

Despite clashes between governments and tech companies on security matters, Martin emphasizes the need for compromise. He recalls instances where technology firms were asked to remove features exploited for criminal activities. However, he asserts that unbreakable encryption is now a reality that governments must accept.

Martin believes that forcing major tech companies to comply with such requests may prove futile in the long run. He suggests that governments need to adapt to the new encryption landscape.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Backdoor** /ˈbæk.dɔːr/ (noun): A hidden method of bypassing normal authentication in a system.
2. **Surveillance** /sərˈveɪ.ləns/ (noun): Close observation especially of a suspected spy or criminal.
3. **Compromise** /ˈkɒm.prə.maɪz/ (noun): An agreement or settlement of a dispute that is reached by each side making concessions.
4. **Naive** /naɪˈiːv/ (adjective): Lacking experience wisdom or judgment; innocent or unsophisticated.
5. **Futile** /ˈfjʊtaɪl/ (adjective): Incapable of producing any useful result; pointless.
6. **Encryption** /ɪnˈkrɪp.ʃən/ (noun): The process of converting information or data into a code to prevent unauthorized access.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Who criticized the UK government for requesting Apple to create a backdoor in its software?

   Option: A. Ciaran Martin
   Option: B. Tim Cook
   Option: C. Mark Zuckerberg
   Option: D. Bill Gates

2. What Act allowed the UK government to make the demand to Apple?

   Option: A. Investigatory Powers Act 2016
   Option: B. Data Protection Act 2018
   Option: C. Cybersecurity Act 2020
   Option: D. Encryption Rights Act 2022

3. Which organization was Ciaran Martin previously associated with?

   Option: A. GCHQ
   Option: B. NSA
   Option: C. INTERPOL
   Option: D. Europol

4. What service did Apple stop offering in the UK?

   Option: A. iCloud Backup
   Option: B. Advanced Data Protection
   Option: C. Apple Pay
   Option: D. Apple Music

5. What does Ciaran Martin believe governments must accept about encryption now?

   Option: A. It is hackable
   Option: B. It is unbreakable
   Option: C. It is obsolete
   Option: D. It is reversible

6. According to Ciaran Martin, what should governments do in response to encryption advancements?

   Option: A. Ignore the changes
   Option: B. Adapt to the new landscape
   Option: C. Ban all encryption
   Option: D. Request more backdoors

True-False

7. Apple confirmed the UK government's demand for creating a backdoor in its software.

8. Ciaran Martin stated that keeping such orders private was unrealistic.

9. Apple has continued to offer the Advanced Data Protection service in the UK.

10. Ciaran Martin believes major tech companies should comply with all government requests regarding encryption.

11. Ciaran Martin worked for the NSA before joining GCHQ.

12. Unbreakable encryption is now acknowledged as a reality by Ciaran Martin.

Gap-Fill

13. Ciaran Martin was previously with _____ and NCSC.

14. Apple stopped offering its Advanced Data Protection service in the UK due to the government's demand

for a backdoor in its software in response to the Investigatory Powers Act _____ .

15. Ciaran Martin emphasizes the need for compromise between _____ and tech

companies on security matters.

16. Ciaran Martin believes that forcing major tech companies to comply with such requests may prove futile

in the long run, suggesting that governments need to adapt to the new encryption _____

.

17. Ciaran Martin asserts that unbreakable encryption is a reality that governments must

_____ .

18. Ciaran Martin suggests that governments need to adapt to the new encryption _____

.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A. Ciaran Martin 2. A. Investigatory Powers Act 2016 3. A. GCHQ 4. B. Advanced Data Protection 5. B. It is unbreakable 6. B. Adapt to the new landscape
True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. True
Gap-Fill: 13. GCHQ 14. 2016 15. governments 16. landscape 17. accept

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term is used to describe the sudden increase in cases of a disease in a specific area?

   Option: Cure
   Option: Outbreak
   Option: Epidemic
   Option: Vaccination

2. Which field involves the study of the brain-machine interface?

   Option: Sociology
   Option: Neurotechnology
   Option: Agriculture
   Option: Meteorology

3. What term means to accept standards that are lower than desirable?

   Option: Standstill
   Option: Compromise
   Option: Achieve
   Option: Defend

4. Which term describes something innovative and pioneering?

   Option: Basic
   Option: Traditional
   Option: Groundbreaking
   Option: Obsolete

5. What process is used to convert data into a code to prevent unauthorized access?

Option: Decryption
Option: Finalization
Option: Encryption
Option: Validation

6. Which industry is involved in the research design and manufacture of aircraft and spacecraft?

Option: Automotive
Option: Medical
Option: Aerospace
Option: Construction

7. Which term refers to a condition that is very serious or extreme?

Option: Mild
Option: Severe
Option: Moderate
Option: Normal

8. What is the abbreviation for Artificial Intelligence?

Option: ML
Option: CI
Option: AI
Option: DI

9. When a threat or danger is completely removed it is said to be:

Option: Mitigated
Option: Avoided
Option: Contained
Option: Eliminated

10. What term refers to a point where two systems subjects organizations etc. meet and interact?

Option: Closure
Option: Interface
Option: Division
Option: Expansion

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. After the crime was reported the police launched an _____ to gather evidence.

12. The new software program seems _____ to use without proper training.

13. The expansion of the business opens up new _____ for growth and development.

14. The hacker used a hidden _____ to gain unauthorized access to the company's

database.

15. The country celebrated its _____ day with parades and fireworks.

16. The parents were _____ about their child's sudden drop in grades.

17. The flowers on display were so perfect they looked _____ but they were actually

made of silk.

18. The project faced numerous _____ that required careful planning and coordination.

19. The patient's condition deteriorated and doctors had to take immediate action to prevent

_____ complications.

20. The company _____ the employees for working overtime by giving them extra

benefits.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The process of administering a vaccine to protect against a disease.
22. Lacking experience or understanding often resulting in poor judgment or decision-making.
23. The act of making something easier to understand or do.
24. Introducing new ideas or methods that are creative and original.
25. The monitoring of behavior activities or information for the purpose of gathering intelligence or preventing crime.
26. Incapable of producing any useful result; pointless.
27. The possible effects or consequences of an action decision or event.

28. The range of different people or things; variety.

29. A substance that drives or impels an object forward.

30. Relating to or situated in outer space especially in orbit around a celestial body.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Outbreak 2. Neurotechnology 3. Compromise 4. Groundbreaking 5. Encryption 6. Aerospace 7. Severe 8. AI 9. Eliminated 10. Interface

Gap-Fill: 11. Investigation 12. Complicated 13. Possibilities 14. Backdoor 15. Independence 16. Concerned 17. Artificial 18. Complexities 19. Severe 20. Compensated

Matching sentence: 1. Vaccination 2. Naive 3. Simplify 4. Innovative 5. Surveillance 6. Futile 7. Implications 8. Diversity 9. Propellant 10. Orbital

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL3

Date Created
2025/03/26
Author
aimeeyoung99