

OVERVIEW

Welcome to the last edition of the Iris Messenger, the sad result of having too many projects and too little time to do them in. The reason for favouring the other projects over this one is simply due to reach and timelessness of the media itself. After a month, there will be no interest in this content at all, whereas media of academic quality is longer lasting. The blog will continue to run and reflect faster moving projects produced at random time intervals.

What does this mean? For now, this means the pausing of all future issues of this newsletter - but certainly not the end.

Reflection... We produced seven interesting issues with a range of topics of good quality, something not even most news outlets can say. In the future, it would be good to make sure these links are being archived given they are highly important to the readability of each issue.

In this issue we cover more hacks, awesome car features, the antics of China and articles of interest.

EQUIFAX HACKS

143 million Americans have had their details stolen in a data breach that can only be described as “embarrassing”, where Social Security Numbers (SSNs) and other data has been compromised. This shouldn’t be an issue, if not

for the fact that SSNs have been abused as a unique ID for US citizens <http://goo.gl/sXahdb>.

To add fuel to the fire, three senior executives sold ~\$1.8m in stock a few days before the hack was announced, despite having been aware of the vulnerability a month previous. This all strengthens the case for a multi-billion dollar lawsuit against Equifax <http://goo.gl/xFDUXc>.

That is of course, if Equifax’s website didn’t force citizens to waiver their class action rights in order to check if their data is exposed, something found hidden in the terms and conditions by social media netizens <http://goo.gl/khn7ks>.

TESLA REMOTE POWER SWITCH

Tesla switched on higher range functionality for free on lower modelled vehicles for those affected by Hurricane Irma to allow owners to travel for a greater distance, somewhere between 30 to 40 miles. Base price models come with the larger batteries, meaning an upgrade is simply a case of turning on the software switch <http://goo.gl/fTKJ3t>.

CHINA HINTS BITCOIN SHUTDOWN

Investors in virtual currencies are concerned as China has made clear intentions to centralize and control currencies such as Bit-

coin in an effort to protect people against the “financial risk” of trading <http://goo.gl/ugwoAu>. Vi-aBTC CEO Haipo Yang also echoed the sentiment, seeing a 20% drop in value in multiple cryptocurrencies <http://goo.gl/ui99EH>.

This is just one of the many services China provides its citizens, including banning use of VPNs which have long been used by educators in China to access foreign learning material, forcing all citizens to use their personal details to use social media, the removal of any opposing opinion to the CCP, putting poorer Countries into inescapable debt along the “Chinese Belt” and of course choosing not to take action on their local neighbours, North Korea.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

This week’s collection of interesting articles:

- <http://goo.gl/r4RceA> - Finding hidden X86 instructions.
- <http://goo.gl/5jkgYZ> - Evidence for current human evolution.
- <http://goo.gl/D5UmcD> - Art embedded into QR codes.

Please don’t send future recommendations.

NOTICE: Any suggestions for future articles? Please email: [barray \[at\] protonmail \[dot\] com](mailto:barray[at]protonmail[dot]com).