

From: [redacted]  
To: [redacted]  
Subject: (U) FYI: Open Source Articles: LEAKS, cyber, etc 07- January - 2014  
Date: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 1:46:27 PM

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

(U) FYI: Open Source Articles: LEAKS, cyber, etc 07- January - 2014

(U//~~FOUO~~) PLEASE NOTE: When forwarding these unclassified or FOUO scrapes – NOTE: Any “annotations” or additional comments you may add to discuss relevance to mission with colleagues can drastically change the classification level. So please note – when sharing and commenting on open source material – please RECLASSIFY the content with the appropriate markings as needed. Be safe, my friends!

(U//~~FOUO~~) Open source reads below. Hyper links should work. For searching for words in this email using MS. Outlook – click your top key “F4” (thanks [redacted] to bring up a box will say “Find and Replace” – just type in your term you wish to find and MS Outlook will do the rest.

Cheers,  
[redacted]

Media Leaks

- [Snowden has more U.S. Israel secrets to expose - Greenwald](#)  
Reuters Wire Service 6 January 2014 23:16 GMT
- [NSA Leaker Snowden to reveal Middle East spy secrets \(U\)](#)  
AN OSC PRODUCT Reporting: Open Source - 07 Jan 2014
- [Ripping the halo off Edward Snowden](#)  
Fred Kaplan National Post 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [No clemency for Snowden, says former US security chief](#)  
Brian Knowlton in Washington Canberra Times 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [A few years in prison would be enough for Snowden if he were to return home--US senator](#)  
ITAR-IASS Information Telegraph Agency of Russia 6 January 2014 02:37 GMT
- [Debate mounts over punishing Snowden for NSA leaks](#)  
Chicago Tribune 6 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [Let Snowden come in from the cold](#)  
Richard Cohen Washington Post 7 January 2014 06:04 GMT
- [Schweitzer wants clemency for Edward Snowden](#)  
Aaron Blake Washington Post 6 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [Leniency for Edward Snowden: Why the New York Times editorial won't matter much](#)  
1/7/2014 : Kurtz, Howard: Fox News Channel
- [Marginalized Democratic Progressive Politicians Agree: Clemency for Snowden!](#)  
1/7/2014: Weigel, David: Slate.com
- [Ed Snowden's hidden consequences](#)  
1/7/2014: Samuelson, Robert: Washington Post
- [No more free passes for Rand Paul](#)  
Jennifer Rubin Washington Post 6 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [Secret Court and Rand Paul Face Off Over Domestic Spying](#)  
1/7/2014 : NextGov
- [Peter King: Rand Paul creates 'paranoia' on NSA](#)  
1/7/2014 : Politico
- [Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner: No leniency for "criminal" Edward Snowden](#)  
1/7/2014 : Kertscher, Tom: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- [Safeguarding our freedoms](#)  
South China Morning Post 6 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [Can the NSA be trusted?](#)  
Washington Post 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [CSEC opens up, but still gets slammed: Agency 'incidentally' spied on Canadians: Rare admission](#)  
Ian MacLeod National Post 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [The cost of radical individualism](#)  
Dennis Byrne, a Chicago writer Chicago Tribune 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [Dueling rulings over government's phone record surveillance stir legal ripples and maneuvering](#)  
STEPHEN BRAUN Associated Press Newswires 7 January 2014 12:23 GMT
- [NSA LEAKS MAY JEOPARDIZE INTERNET GOVERNANCE, BUSINESS, AUTHORS SAY](#)  
TR Daily 7 January 2014 00:49 GMT
- [Lawmaker wants to bar state from aiding spying without warrants](#)  
Patrick McGreevy latimes.com 6 January 2014 00:00 GMT
- [17 exploits the NSA uses to hack PCs, routers and servers for surveillance](#)  
1/6/2014 : Storm, Darlene: Computerworld
- [Hack job tries to link Snowden and China](#)  
1/6/2014 : Salon.com
- [Will the NSA Spying Revelations Hurt America's Nascent Cyberforensics Industry Abroad?](#)  
1/6/2014 : NextGov
- ['Getting Snowden Out Of The US'](#)  
1/6/2014 1: Seattle Post-Intelligencer
- [The three types of NSA snooping that Edward Snowden revealed](#)  
1/6/2014 : Washington Post
- [U.S. court allows phone 'metadata' collection for three months more](#)  
1/6/2014 : Mark Hosenball: MSNBC.com
- [Supreme Court May Not Review Conflicting NSA Phone Spying Rulings](#)  
1/6/2014 : Kravets, David: Wired Magazine

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Surveillance / Cyber

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[Code-breaking scavenger hunt has the Internet mystified](#)  
1/6/2014 : CBSNews.com

Is there a secret society attempting to recruit the best coder breakers in the world, using clues that spans across the globe and Internet?

That's what some people believe the case is with the elusive Cicada 3301 online puzzle, which, if history repeats itself, will make a return within days.

Tekk Nolagi, a teenager from the San Francisco Bay Area who asked not to be identified by his real name, says he was sitting in a high school robotics lab in 2012 with his friends when the photo first appeared on the image message board 4chan.org.

"It was posted on the paranormal activity thread or something like that." Tekk told CBS News over the phone. "A bunch of people said, 'wow, that's creepy' and didn't say anything else."

It was an image of white text against a black background that said:

"Hello. We are looking for highly intelligent individuals. To find them, we have devised a test. There is a message hidden in this image. Find it, and it will lead you on the road to finding us. We look forward to meeting the few that will make it all the way through. Good luck. 3301."

And with that image, a scavenger hunt began that involved online images, cryptography, number theory, physical clues, phone calls, QR codes and websites on the "darknet."

Some of the theories about who is behind the puzzle include the National Security Agency, Central Intelligence Agency or a secret society.

Some have speculated that the puzzle is a recruitment program or an alternate reality game, where players collect clues, interact with other players and solve puzzles in real life.

According to the participants online, when the image was opened in a text editing program, a cryptic message appeared that was interpreted as a Web address. Those who were trying to solve the mystery were led to a website, which in turn led to a Reddit.com forum called "a2e7j6ic78h0j" that revealed a series of symbols and coded messages.

Several more clues were uncovered -- including hidden messages that suggested the key to breaking the code was already posted on the a2e7j6ic78h0j forum. Once decoded, a U.S. phone number was revealed.

The number, which has since been disconnected, had a message for callers that was yet another clue. This time, a riddle led to a website that had a picture of a cicada and what appeared to be geographic coordinates.

According to online reports, posters were found at some of the locations around the world, including Paris, Warsaw, Seoul and Miami. Each poster had an image of a cicada and a QR code that, when scanned, revealed a message.

Tekk says he worked with a group of nine active participants and several additional helpers to solve the breadcrumb trail of clues left by the game's creators. One of the people working with him sent his father out to see one of the posters, which was located in Australia, in real life. It was a physical piece of the worldwide puzzle that they could confirm existed.

"I was in awe and frightened because I didn't know exactly what the reach of these people were. Imagining they have access to all these different places around the world at the same time kind of blew all our minds. We started getting a little bit nervous in the chat room," he said.

After a series of increasingly intricate clues, a final message was discovered on the Reddit forum with the symbols and coded text that read:

"We have now found the individuals we sought. Thus our month-long journey ends. For now. Thank you for your dedication and effort. If you were unable to complete the test, or did not receive an email, do not despair. There will be more opportunities like this one."

Soon after, the trail went cold and no new clues were release until a year later on Jan. 4, 2013, when a new image appeared on 4chan.

Tekk chose not to continue chasing the clues the following year, saying, "I stopped after my first year because it was too time consuming."

Just like the previous year, a similar trail of clues was revealed after the initial image appeared on 4chan, including a sequence of prime numbers, an audio file and a mysterious Twitter account tweeting coded messages.

One of the clues led to a bizarre test that was reportedly emailed to participants asked multiple-choice questions like: "I am the voice\* inside my head" and "Observation changes the thing being observed." The choices in answers included: true, false, indeterminate, meaningless, self-referential, game rule, strange loop and none of the above.

One of the final pieces of the 2013 puzzle is an email that was reportedly sent to those who passed the test. There hasn't been much activity since that time, and much of the community following Cicada 3301 anxiously waits for Jan. 4, 2014 to arrive, when a new clue might be posted online.

What little information is known about Cicada 3301 has been posted on websites like Wikia and Github , but no one seems to know who is behind the puzzle and what their motives may be for creating such an elaborate trail of clues.

Tekk has some theories of what the group's end game may be, which he says was revealed to him when he found himself in a chat room, of sorts, with people claiming to be the organizers of the Cicada 3301 puzzle. "It seems like their end goal would be to have some kind of free and open cryptography and anonymity software released to the public, but that's just a small facet of what they're trying to do. I don't think anybody actually knows what they're going to do from there," he said.

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[Public concern about access to personal data on rise in Ireland; Data Protection Commissioner says spam is no longer biggest complaint](#)

Elaine Edwards *The Irish Times* 7 January 2014 00:00 GMT

While the revelations of whistleblower Edward Snowden about the surveillance activities of the United States National Security Agency (NSA) extended tentacles into the related area of data protection in 2013, regulators in the European Union spent most of the year wrestling with proposals to harmonise the law across 28 member states.

A new EU regulation, first tabled in a proposal by the European Commission in 2012, would place new responsibilities on the regulators and also on businesses throughout the union.

Negotiations have stalled and the regulation is now unlikely to scrape through before the European Parliament elections in May. But the proposals still on the table would, in theory, place an extra burden on Ireland's Data Protection Commissioner, Billy Hawkes.

The so-called one-stop shop mechanism would likely see him become the lead regulator in Europe for major multinationals with head offices in Ireland, including such companies as Facebook, Google and Apple.

In comments at a privacy conference in Brussels last month, Mr Hawkes indicated he did not relish the prospect of taking on the responsibility for regulating such multinationals for all citizens of the EU.

One-stop shop

Saying he would not view the one-stop shop "with any great enthusiasm", he suggested it would draw resources from dealing with complaints about the likes of telecommunications firms and others, which are a greater source of complaints to his office by Irish citizens.

"However, as a good European, which I try to be, I do accept the logic of the one-stop shop and I will accept the consequences and the burdens that go with it," he said.

Speaking at his office in Portllington before that conference, Mr Hawkes said he was already prioritising for attention those companies operating across the EU for which processing of personal data was core to their activities.

"Depending on, obviously, the number of the companies involved - and certainly if many more companies were to declare to be established in Ireland for data protection purposes - we would require more resources to be able to discharge our oversight responsibilities."

He welcomed what he said was a clear commitment by Minister for Justice Alan Shatter to ensure he was adequately resourced for any new responsibilities - though again it remained to be seen what will emerge.

Privacy campaigners such as the Austrian-based Europe v Facebook group believe his office has not been sufficiently robust in its enforcement actions.

The group, led by Max Schrems, is seeking judicial review of Mr Hawkes's decision not to pursue complaints made to his office about the gathering of personal data under the NSA's Prism programme from US firms based here. Mr Hawkes is also in the process of making formal decisions on 22 earlier complaints by the group relating to the privacy policies of Facebook, which underwent a major audit by his office two years ago.

Light-touch regulation

Mr Hawkes cautiously describes the approach taken by the complainants as "forceful" and, not for the first time, rejects the suggestion of "light touch" regulation by his office.

"One thing we certainly don't have is a light touch," he said. "We have a very rigorous approach to oversight of organisations but we do try to use the resources that are given to us in an intelligent way. It does not necessarily involve always hiring more people on our staff. It can also involve using outside expertise to help us in particular areas."

His office is completing an audit of the online professional networking service LinkedIn, which has European offices here. This year it will carry out an audit of Apple Ireland.

Mr Hawkes points out that Irish citizens tend not to complain about companies such as Google, which control huge amounts of their personal data.

Google, which has its European office in Dublin, is facing a co-ordinated action by other European data protection authorities over changes announced to its privacy policies last year. It was recently fined €900,000 by the Spanish data protection authority, which said the "highly ambiguous" language Google used in its privacy policy made it hard for people to find out what would happen to their data.

The Dutch data protection authority also recently said some of Google's policies were not in compliance with Dutch law. The company said it had engaged with both

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