

---

**From:** CyberScoop <news@cyberscoop.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** Haley, Nikki  
**Subject:** Trump looks to tackle cyber in first 100 days

Reports of a backdoor earn a backlash. The SEC wants to know more about Yahoo's data breaches.

Not rendering correctly? View this email as a web page [here](#).



---

**MONDAY**

**January 23, 2017**

*Despite a number of White House web pages disappearing, cybersecurity got a shout out early in the Trump presidency. The fight over the Guardian's WhatsApp article hasn't gone away. And the SEC is looking into Yahoo's massive data breaches. This is CyberScoop for Monday January 23.*

---

**THAT WAS QUICK:** Of the scant policies listed on WhiteHouse.gov, President Donald Trump says his administration will focus on both offensive and defensive cyber capabilities. "We will make it a priority to develop defensive and offensive cyber capabilities at our U.S. Cyber Command, and recruit the best and brightest Americans to serve in this crucial area," the White House website reads. "Today is just the beginning of a long and overdue national discussion of how to ... develop the cyber offense strategies necessary to gain a critical security edge in the 21st century." The Trump team has said multiple times that there will be some type of plan on cybersecurity coming from the White House in the first 100 days of the administration. [Chris Bing has more.](#)

---

**DO BETTER:** A growing list of prominent cryptographers and cybersecurity researchers published an open letter asking the Guardian to retract an article it published last week asserting that WhatsApp had a backdoor, making it unsafe to use. Tufekci and her long list of allies on this issue — no security expert has backed the Guardian decision to call WhatsApp backdoored and none were interviewed before it was published — point to concrete dangers posed by the story. "Since the publication of this story, we've observed and heard from worried activists, journalists and ordinary people who use WhatsApp, who tell us that people are switching to SMS and Facebook Messenger, among other options—many services that are strictly less secure than WhatsApp." [Patrick O'Neill](#) has more on the outcry over the article.

---

## EVENT

**HOLISTICALLY PROTECTING YOUR NETWORK:** Federal agencies are under immense pressure to modernize their IT systems while also making sure they protect the sensitive data they constantly handle. Traditionally siloed ways of working are becoming a thing of the past, paving the way for a more holistic enterprise. As those barriers disappear, agencies need to have a nimble and proficient way to scale security to changing policy and worker demand. In this Juniper Networks webinar on Feb.2, you'll hear from experts who will share the most effective strategies for making sure security works in concert with network flexibility – and how the fundamentals of software defined networking can provide the agility and security needed for agencies to achieve their missions. [REGISTER HERE](#).

---

**WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG?:** Although few companies disclose data breaches as soon as they're discovered — in their defense, it can take time to assess the full extent of the compromise — two years seems an awfully long lag. So it's perhaps not surprising that the SEC should have opened an investigation into whether Yahoo should have publicly disclosed one or both of its two mega-breaches earlier. [As Shaun waterman reports](#), the case will be

closely watched, because although SEC investigators have looked into disclosure delays before, they've never taken a public action which would set benchmarks for disclosure by publicly traded companies.

**LIKE SIRI, BUT FOR CYBERSECURITY:** A newly launched software product, developed by Arlington, Virginia-based cybersecurity firm Endgame, will provide security operators with personal virtual assistants. The tool, named Artemis, will be rolled into the company's larger endpoint detection and response platform, known as EDR, which is currently employed by the U.S. Air Force, among others. Artemis will offer analysts security notifications, contextual breach alerts and other actionable features to counter intrusions. [Chris has more details.](#)

**OF ALL THE PLACES THAT SHOULD BE ENCRYPTED...:** A bug on AlphaBay, the largest active dark web marketplace, allowed outsiders to read 30 days worth of private messages on the site. A total of 218,000 messages were obtained, according to the market's administrators, giving an attacker the ability to view messages between vendors and buyers selling everything from illicit drugs to stolen digital data. AlphaBay administrators paid a hacker for finding the bug, a reward reminiscent of bug bounty programs above-the-board technology organizations are employing with increasing frequency. [Patrick has more](#) on the bug.

**ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER FINANCIAL GROUP EXAMINES BLOCKCHAIN:** FINRA, the self-regulatory body for securities traders, this week issued a white paper describing the ways that blockchain technology might impact the securities industry. The report will be closely read, because securities trading is one of the

financial service sectors that some advocates believe is most ripe for disruption by blockchain — the technology underlying bitcoin and other digital currencies — which uses cryptography and distributed computing to produce an unforgeable record of a transaction shared among all the parties to it. [Shaun Waterman has more](#) on what the paper means.

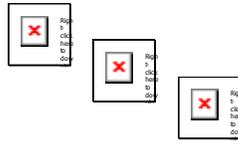
---

## TWEET OF THE DAY



Be nicer, everyone.

In the meantime, how about tossing your favorite new website a follow on [Twitter](#) and a like on [Facebook](#)? Click those shiny social buttons below to get the best we have to offer across the social web.



This newsletter is produced by Scoop News Group.  
Visit [cyberscoop.com](http://cyberscoop.com) to read this newsletter on the web.

CyberScoop News 1150 18th Street NW Suite 850 Washington District of Columbia 20036 United States

You received this email because you are subscribed to CyberScoop | Newsletter from CyberScoop News.

Update your [email preferences](#) to choose the types of emails you receive.

[Unsubscribe from all future emails](#)