Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

The Weekly Newsletter of The George Washington University Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute

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October 27, 2015

Ten (10) events scheduled in the Greater Washington Area in the next few weeks.

Cyber Attacks and International Law

NATIONAL SECURITY LAW BRIEF
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY–WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

This Wednesday, October 28th, is the American University Washington College of Law's Annual Fall Symposium presented by the National Security Law Brief. **CSPRI Senior Research Associate Trey Herr** will be on a panel discussing what actions the U.S. may take in response to a cyber-attacks. The symposium is targeted at legal professionals, students, and community organizers, seeking to further knowledge regarding the concept of self-defense under Article 51 of the U.N. Charter.

Click **here** for more information.

Legislative Lowdown

-Senators voted last week to move forward on a controversial cybersecurity bill, clearing a key hurdle before final passage, National Journal reports. "The Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (CISA) would would provide incentives to private companies to share information about cy-

Events

October 28
National Security Law Brief Fall Symposium: Cyber-Attacks and International Law

October 28
6th Annual Open Source Digital Forensics Conference

October 28
ISSA Baltimore Meetup

October 28 - 29
Cyber Maryland 2015

October 28 - 29
Cybersecurity World 2015

October 29 - 30
8th Annual Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Washington DC Conference

October 29
Privacy & Data Security Committee Brown Bag Lunch

November 3 - 4

berthreats with each other and with the government, with the goal of improving the cybersecurity of all involved," writesKaveh Waddell. "Although the bill passed out of the Senate Intelligence Committee earlier this year nearly unanimously, it has been denounced by privacy groups, civil-liberty organizations, tech companies, and a few privacy hawks in the Senate for what they see as insufficient privacy protections."

Perhaps more significantly, President Obama says he will now support the bill.
Waddell reports that the administration released a statement on the bill saying it was "'encouraged' by the effort from cosponsors Richard Burr and Dianne Feinstein to work in amendments and changes to their bill, which it said 'strengthened the legislation and incorporated important modifications to better protect privacy.'"

Cyber Security Policy News

Car safety update
-The debate over whether new laws will make increasingly-networked new cars safer from hackers took center stage on Capitol Hill last week, with privacy and security groups warning that measures under consideration could stymie valuable research and actually make cars more vulnerable to attackers. "Maneesha Mithal, Associate Director of the Division of Privacy and Identity Protection of the Bureau of Consumer Protection at the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), told the committee that provisions in the legislation to make it illegal tohack cars would be counter-intuitive as researchers have notified manufacturers of crucial vulnerabilities in the past,"writes Robert Abel for SC Magazine. "The National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) on the other hand not only supported the initiative to outlaw car hacking but also urged the committee to include legislation to prevent hacking into dealership systems and other systems within the 'entire vehicle ecosystem.'"

DHS will require search warrants: cell cite simulators
-The Department of Homeland Security will require a search warrant going forward before using cell cite simulators, which are small devices that can identify mobile phone signals and place their general location, according to The Hill. Mario
Trujillo writes that DHS pointed to Secret Service protection of the president and other important individuals as an exception to the warrant rule, where the facts on the ground make obtaining a search warrant 'impracticable.'

The decision comes amid revelations that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has spent tens of thousands of dollars on the surveillance devices,

SINET Showcase 2015

November 4 - 6
International Cryptographic Module Conference

November 10
National Security and the Cyber Threat Landscape

Click here for detailed descriptions

known as "Stingrays." Documents obtained by The Guardian show that the tax agency spent more than $70,000 on upgrading and training the devices in 2012.

Russian hackers: Dow Jones & Co.
- A group of Russian hackers infiltrated the servers of Dow Jones & Co., owner of the Wall Street Journal and several other news publications, and stole information to trade on before it became public, Bloomberg reports. "The breach is described by the people familiar with it as far more serious than a lower-grade intrusion disclosed a week ago by Dow Jones, a unit of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.," writes Michael Riley. "The company said last week that it is working with a cybersecurity firm and law enforcement after learning that hackers had sought contact and payment information of about 3,500 customers. It's unclear whether the incursions are related. It's also unclear whether the company's news-gathering operations were affected in the insider-trading matter. Two of the people familiar with the investigation said the hackers sought information including stories being prepared for publication."

Hacker gets into online account of CIA Director
-A hacker who claims to have broken into the AOL account of CIA Director John Brennan says he obtained access by posing as a Verizon worker to trick another employee into revealing the spy chief's personal information. Kim Zetter at Wired.com has the story about how the alleged hack went down.

New education campaign: be mindful about what you post
-A new education campaign by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence encourages staffers to be judicious about what they post online about their personal lives. The ODNI issued a pair of videos and a poster last week as part of the education effort. "Others can use your personal information to deceive you and seem untrustworthy," the spy office said in the new poster.

About this Newsletter

This newsletter is a weekly summary of events related to cyber security policy and research, with a special focus on developments and events in the Washington, DC area. It is published by the Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute (CSPRI) of the George Washington University. CSPRI is a center for GW and the Washington area that promotes technical research and policy analysis of topics in or related to cybersecurity. More information is available at our website, http://www.cspri.seas.gwu.edu

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