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Faster Forward

By Rob Pegoraro

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Yahoo suffers brief outage -- and I missed the whole thing

A week ago, the Washington area suffered a [magnitude 3.6 earthquake](#) -- and I slept through the whole thing. Apparently the same thing happened with Yahoo today: The site's services suffered a brief outage earlier this afternoon, but I never noticed.

My first notice of this event was a short [Huffington Post piece](#) that pointed to DownRightNow.com's [page for Yahoo Mail](#); the crowdsourced outage-reporting site's data indicated about three hours of disrupted service. Other indirect evidence comes from some Twitter updates tagged "[#yahoomail](#)" and, less flatteringly, "[#yahoofail](#)."

Neither [Yahoo Mail's blog](#) or [Twitter feed](#) mentions any disruptions or downtime, however. (Here, Yahoo could stand to imitate [Google's Apps Status page](#).)

Yahoo publicist Dana Lengkeek sent this response to my query:


For a brief period early this morning, certain areas of Yahoo! were inaccessible to a portion of our users due to issues with a third-party Internet Service Provider. We identified the issue and quickly resolved it by rerouting traffic from that provider. We know this may have caused some inconvenience and we apologize to our users who might have been affected. We take these issues extremely seriously, and Yahoo! is instituting new processes to protect against similar incidents occurring again.










I had no direct experience with any of this because I basically stopped using my Yahoo Mail account years ago -- it's now the address I give out when sites insist I provide an e-mail address, even though I have no plans for any meaningful interaction there. I check that address maybe once a week. Nor do I use Yahoo's search at all (remember, it's [going to become Bing soon enough](#)), and even my Flickr account sees little activity (Facebook has become my main photo-sharing site).

I can only imagine how big of a deal this would have been a few years ago. But after years of confusion, indecision and apathy by the Sunnyvale, Calif., firm -- something I was reminded of last week when I had a long chat with a former lawyer for the company -- a Yahoo outage doesn't seem to shake the Earth anymore.

Did you have trouble using Yahoo Mail or any of Yahoo's other services today? Please post your report in the comments.

By Rob Pegoraro | July 22, 2010; 5:46 PM ET
Categories: [E-mail](#), [The Web](#)

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Comments

I used Yahoo mail and Yahoo groups several times today. No problems.

Posted by: Bitter_Bill | July 22, 2010 7:10 PM | [Report abuse](#)

That there would be such a panic about ANY personal webmail site being down for a few hours is more alarming than the outage itself. It's not like the Exchange servers at a Fortune 100 company or a federal government agency went dark. Hey, it's free. You get what you pay for.

Posted by: 54Stratocaster | July 22, 2010 8:36 PM | [Report abuse](#)

I was awake during the quake (5AM?) and did not realize it to be one till I saw the local section on WaPo.

Was equally baffled by the Yahoo outage as I use Messenger (IM) heavily. I naturally assumed outage from the ISP (Comcast) but realized soon it was limited to Yahoo. For us (Columbia MD), it seemed to be from 10-12 AM EST.

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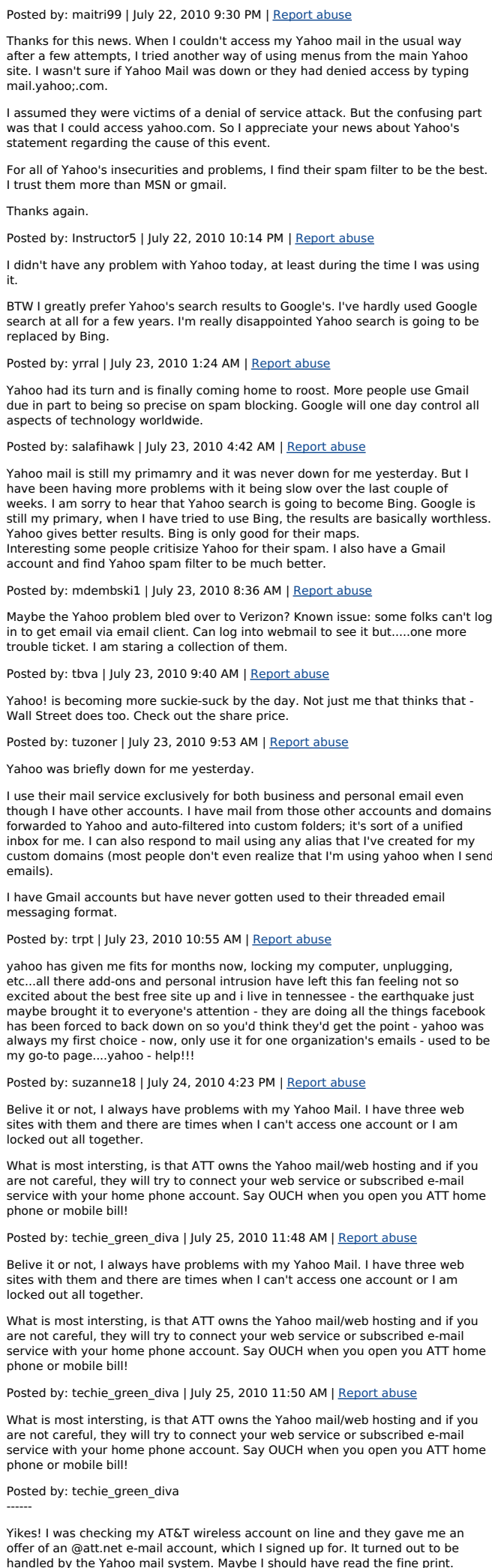
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Posted by: Bitter_Bill | July 25, 2010 8:22 PM | [Report abuse](#)

I suspect that a lot of the problems with yahoo groups servers being bombarded with server attacks are coming from facebook which is an incredibly unethical company.

But yahoo will probably be out of business before the dopes running that company figure this out.

Yahoo mail is much better than hotmail.com and groups is a better product too but the people in charge are hopelessly incompetent.

WRZ

ccdoggpark at yahooDotCom

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DC-Dog/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ShelterFundraising/>

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




Posted by: GoogleFor-DogPark-National-News | July 26, 2010 12:38 PM | [Report abuse](#)

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