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Module 1: Discussion Post 1 (Articles on Computer Security)

1. **Keep Your Files Safe in Google’s Cloud by J.D. Biersdorfer** 
   1. Google, like many other companies, stores your information on secured cloud servers and are encrypted from other prying eyes to the best of the ability by Google’s Development and Security Teams. However, you want to look at it, positive or negative, Google is using their own powerful software to view the content as it is uploaded and stored on the server to gain information about the customers. Google then uses that recorded information and targets specific advertisements, information, or software based on that customer’s private information stored in the Google Drive cloud.
   2. [*https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/06/technology/personaltech/security-google-cloud.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FComputer%20Security%20(Cybersecurity)&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics&region=stream&module=stream\_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=7&pgtype=collection*](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/06/technology/personaltech/security-google-cloud.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FComputer%20Security%20(Cybersecurity)&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=7&pgtype=collection)
2. **Equifax Says Cyberattack May Have Affected 143 million in the United States By**[**TARA SIEGEL BERNARD**](https://www.nytimes.com/by/tara-siegel-bernard)**, TIFFANY HSU,**[**NICOLE PERLROTH**](https://www.nytimes.com/by/nicole-perlroth)**and**[**RON LIEBER**](https://www.nytimes.com/by/ron-lieber)
   1. Equifax, a credit reporting firm based out of Atlanta was targeted by hackers and was breached this past week. The report given by the New York Times states that there was over 143 million people’s sensitive information and included items and codes like Social Security Numbers, Driver’s Licenses, bank accounts and much more. The article mentions that if this was on a scale from one to ten in severity, this would exceed the charts at a ten if not higher. The reason behind this attack is that if hackers wanted to gain information, they are going to go after one, two, or all three of the major US credit reporting agencies. Millions of names, birth records, credit card numbers, family and medical information were also stolen by this security breach of the company. The article is comparing the security breach to that of Yahoo.com, but this attack with Equifax is known to be worse in severity because of the sheer size of the havoc that it had caused. The company was criticized have adding more security features and protocols to ensure that there would not be any more security breaches within the company. The company handles data on more than 820 million consumers and more than 91 million businesses worldwide and manages a database with employee information from more than 7,100 employers, according to its website. So, as you can tell, is companies dealing with sensitive information I couldn’t hang out only the entire country of United States, but also other countries and businesses around the world. It also affects millions of citizens from all different countries, but especially the United States, due to the fact that they’re located and deal mostly with United States customers. The company also created a website for people to be able to research if their information was in risk of data breaching and the company also recommended that its customers receive a credit report from one of the three major companies that will give credit reports out to people. Equifax recommends that all people consult a lawyer or any other legal action in the event that they’re private information has been stolen by the actors during the security breach. They claim to be working their hardest to build to stop the bleeding and ensure that the company will run smoothly in the future.
   2. [*https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/07/business/equifax-cyberattack.html*](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/07/business/equifax-cyberattack.html)
3. **Chinese cyber spies broaden attacks in Vietnam, security firm says by Tostevin**
   1. This article is very interesting. In mentions how there are Chinese hackers currently trying to investigate and declare espionage in Vietnamese computer and governmental computer systems. Currently, many spokesmen and women on behalf of China are declaring that is illegal and that they would never commit such acts of cyber maliciousness or espionage. People are tying this act from China too many upset opinions about political action within the south eastern Asian countries and relationships with United States, Japan, and India. Many of these Chinese hackers are breaking into these computer systems and networks by targeting vulnerable older systems that are currently being used still in the Vietnamese government by different officials and offices. Many of these Chinese hackers are sending malicious malware through the computer by embedding them into email or other files that the Vietnamese government will be opening. The malware then takes advantage of the computer, most of the time silently, and connects to the computer and the network which will give the Chinese hackers access to anything they want within the entire system. FireEye linked the attacks to a team called Conimes which has reported in the last as a malicious hacker team. FireEye on the other hand is a company that delivers cyber security products and services to attack from any other potential threats. Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang called for increased security measures for further protection against threats. China and Vietnam are both stating that there are opposing views and state that neither have committed acts of Espionage. We will have to wait and see if there are further attacks as tension rises between the two countries.
   2. [*https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vietnam-china-cyber/chinese-cyber-spies-broaden-attacks-in-vietnam-security-firm-says-idUSKCN1BB0I5*](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vietnam-china-cyber/chinese-cyber-spies-broaden-attacks-in-vietnam-security-firm-says-idUSKCN1BB0I5)