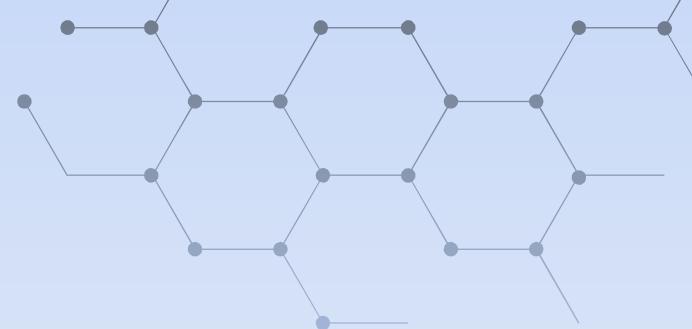
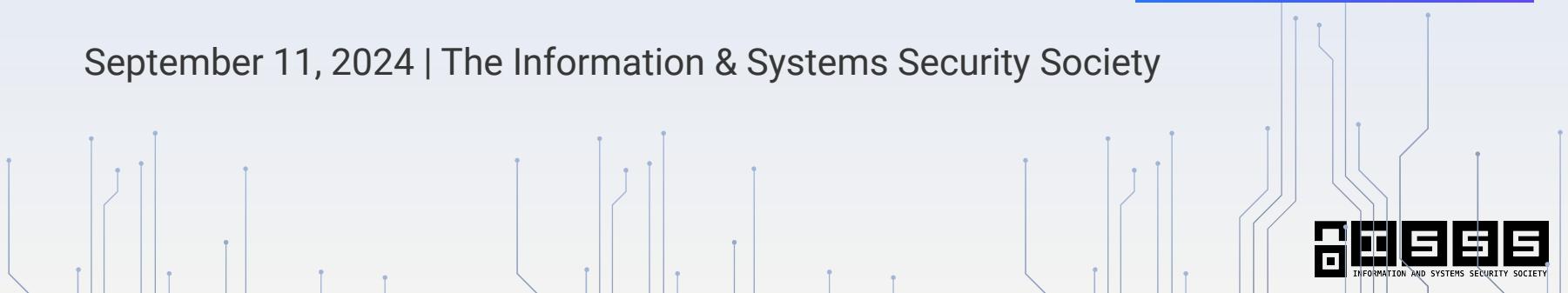


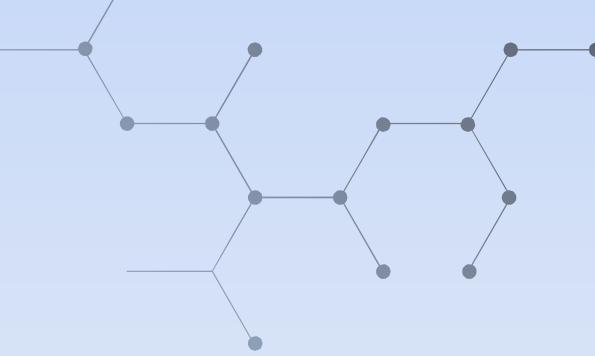
# Intro to Cybersecurity

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September 11, 2024 | The Information & Systems Security Society





# Cyber in the News\_

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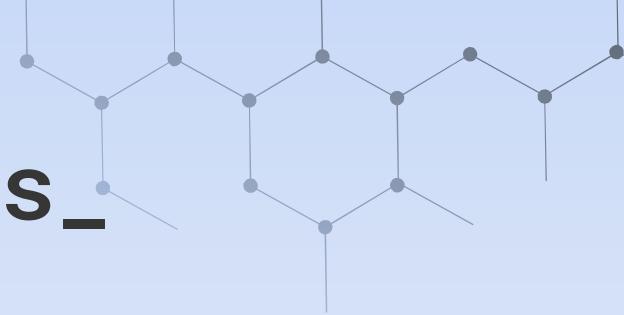
Security:  
Today

**05**

Intro to  
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**06**

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Fields in  
Cyber



# Upcoming Events\_

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**September 12**

5 - 6pm CT, WCP 2.210

Women in Cybersecurity  
(WiCyS) Fall Kickoff

**September 13**

11:59pm CT

Cyber Scholars Program  
Application closes at 11:59pm  
CT

**September 18**

5 - 7pm CT

Fundamentals Series: Talk I

**September 19**

6 - 8pm CT; TBD

Hash Association of Student  
Hackers Fall Kickoff

**September 25**

5 - 7pm CT

Fundamentals Series: Talk II

**September 28**

Tentative; TBD

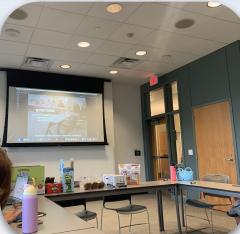
[Exclusive] Cyber Scholars  
Program Social





# Women in Cybersecurity (WiCys)

- **Recruit, retain and advance** women in cybersecurity to build a robust and diverse cybersecurity workforce
- **Fall Kickoff (5-6pm) WCP 2.210**



## Accomplishments:

- Sent 2 members to 2024 International WiCys Conference (at Nashville, TN)
- Volunteered at UT STEM Girl Day
- Collaboration with WiCS (Intro to Cybersecurity)
- Grew membership by 133%
- Member in Top 10 for WiCys x Target Cyber Defense Challenge

# Hash Association for Student Hackers



Compete with UT at national cybersecurity competitions!

Everyone is welcome to join in-person, weekly in Dobbie and virtually in Discord.



- Distinct from ISSS, but we share missions
- You can compete at in-person events
- Join our Discord for meetings and signups!
- If you want to join the CPTC team, fill out the signup form TODAY (9/11)!



# What to expect\_

## Phase I

*September - October. Wednesdays, 5-7 pm CT*

**Fundamentals Series Talks** (subject to change)

Networking, Cryptography, Web Exploitation, Reverse Engineering, Digital Forensics and Incident Response, and Open Source Intelligence

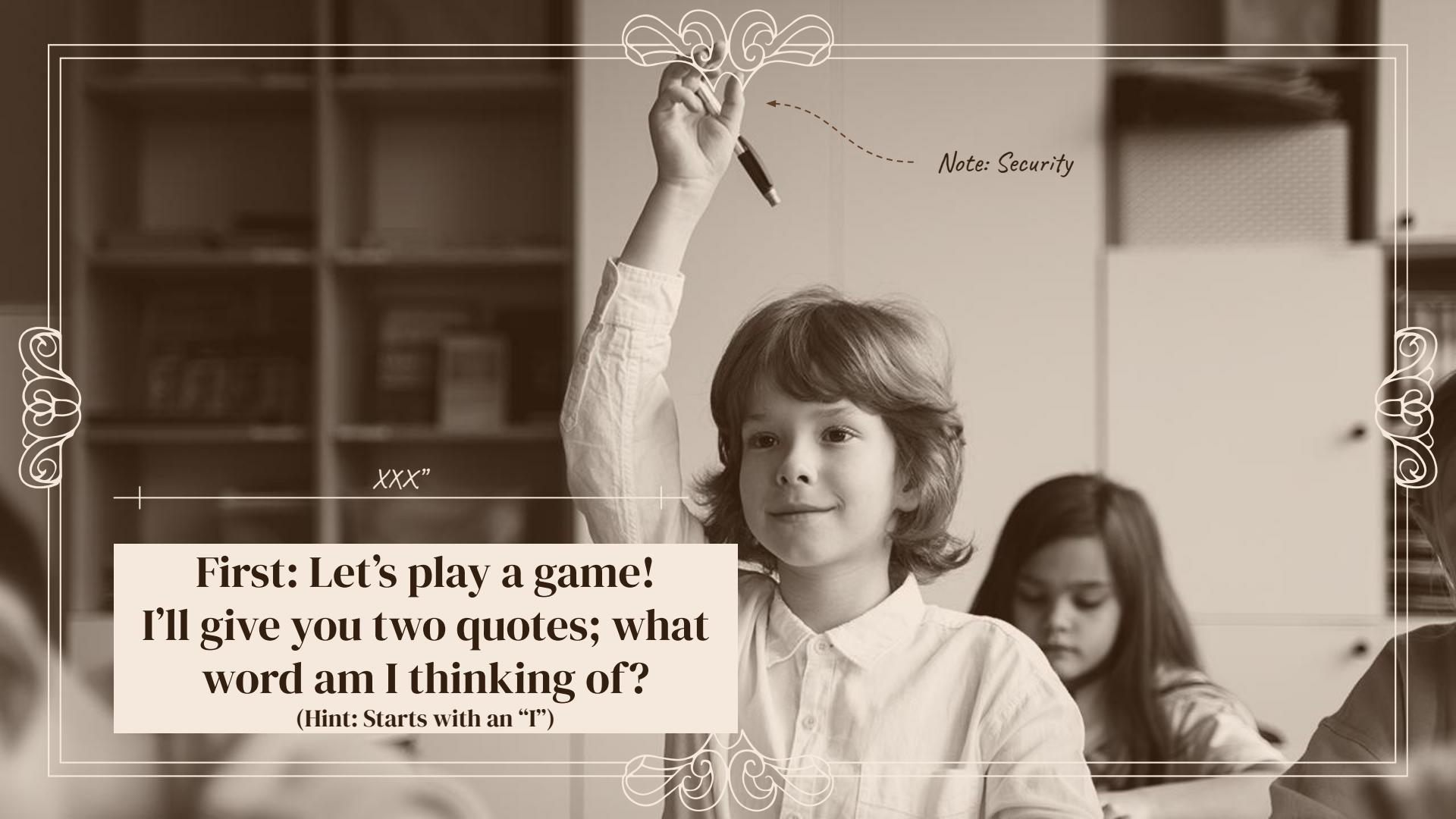
## Phase II

*November - December. Wednesdays, 5 -7 pm CT*

**Specialty Series Talks**

Free range talks covered by officers and guest speakers

**Format:** Lecture-Based (Learn) → Hands-On (Apply)

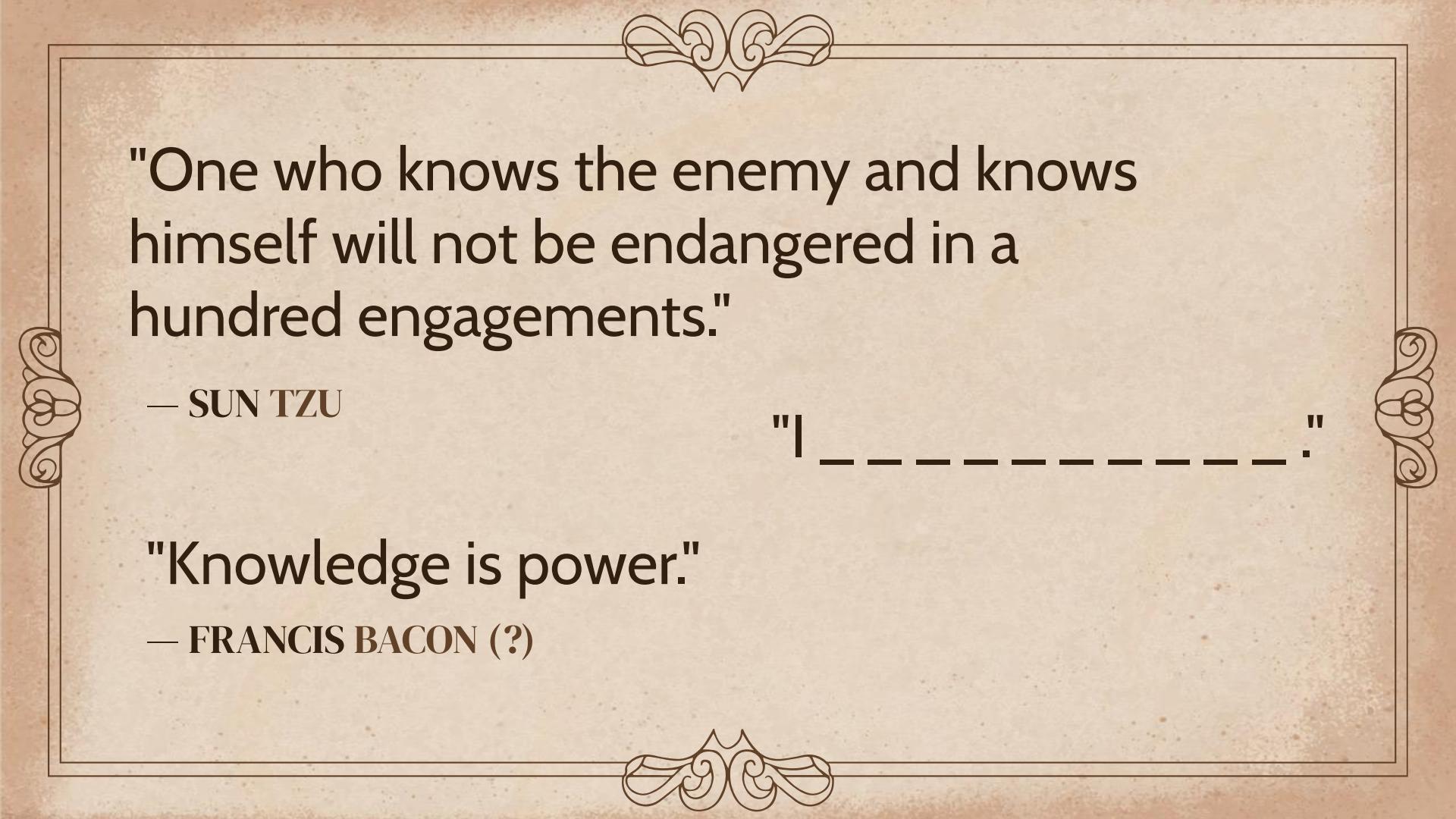


XXX"

*Note: Security*

**First: Let's play a game!  
I'll give you two quotes; what  
word am I thinking of?**

(Hint: Starts with an "T")



"One who knows the enemy and knows  
himself will not be endangered in a  
hundred engagements."

— SUN TZU

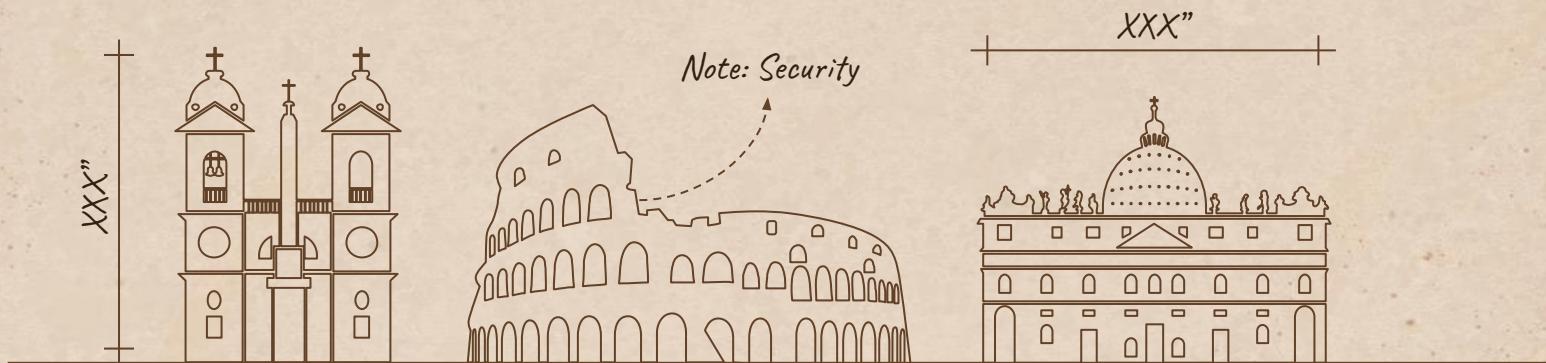
"I \_\_\_\_\_."

"Knowledge is power."

— FRANCIS BACON (?)



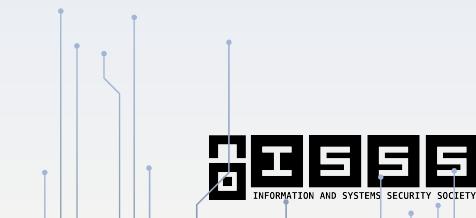
# INFORMATION!





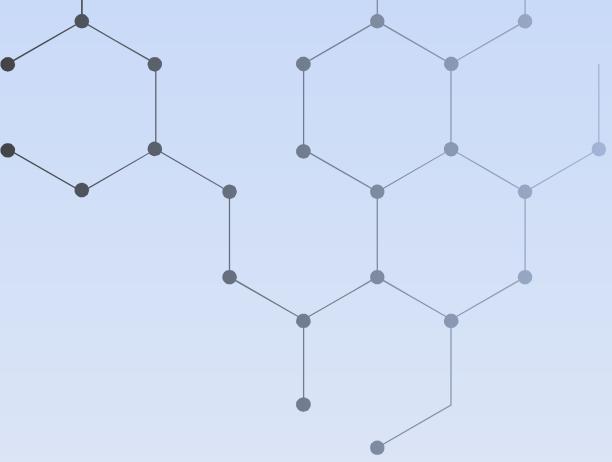
# The goal of this talk is to provide you context.

- **Security:** What exactly are we protecting? How are we protecting it?
- *Basic terminology:* industry lingo that you'll begin to hear often
- Concepts: information security, cybersecurity, national security
- *Note: we're going to try to be a little bit interactive c:*

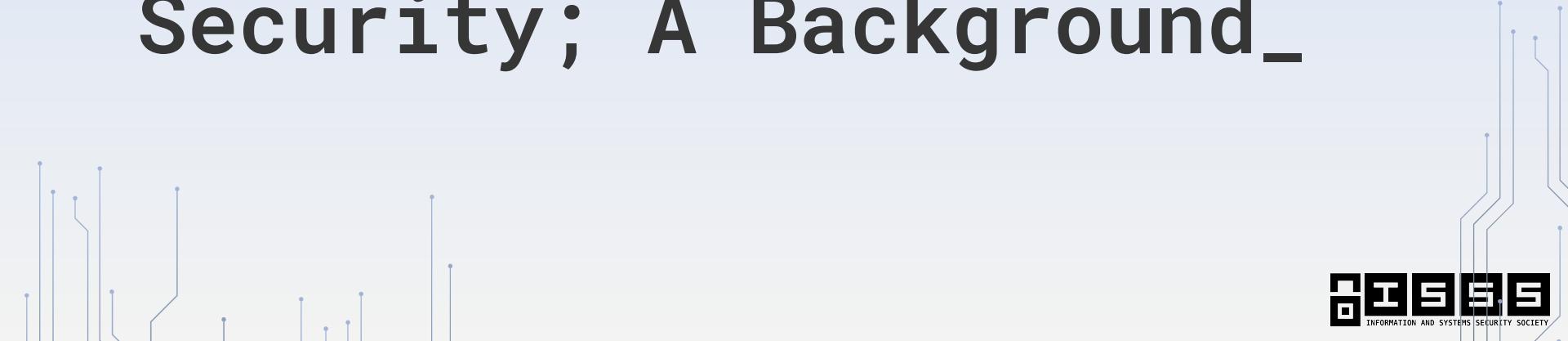


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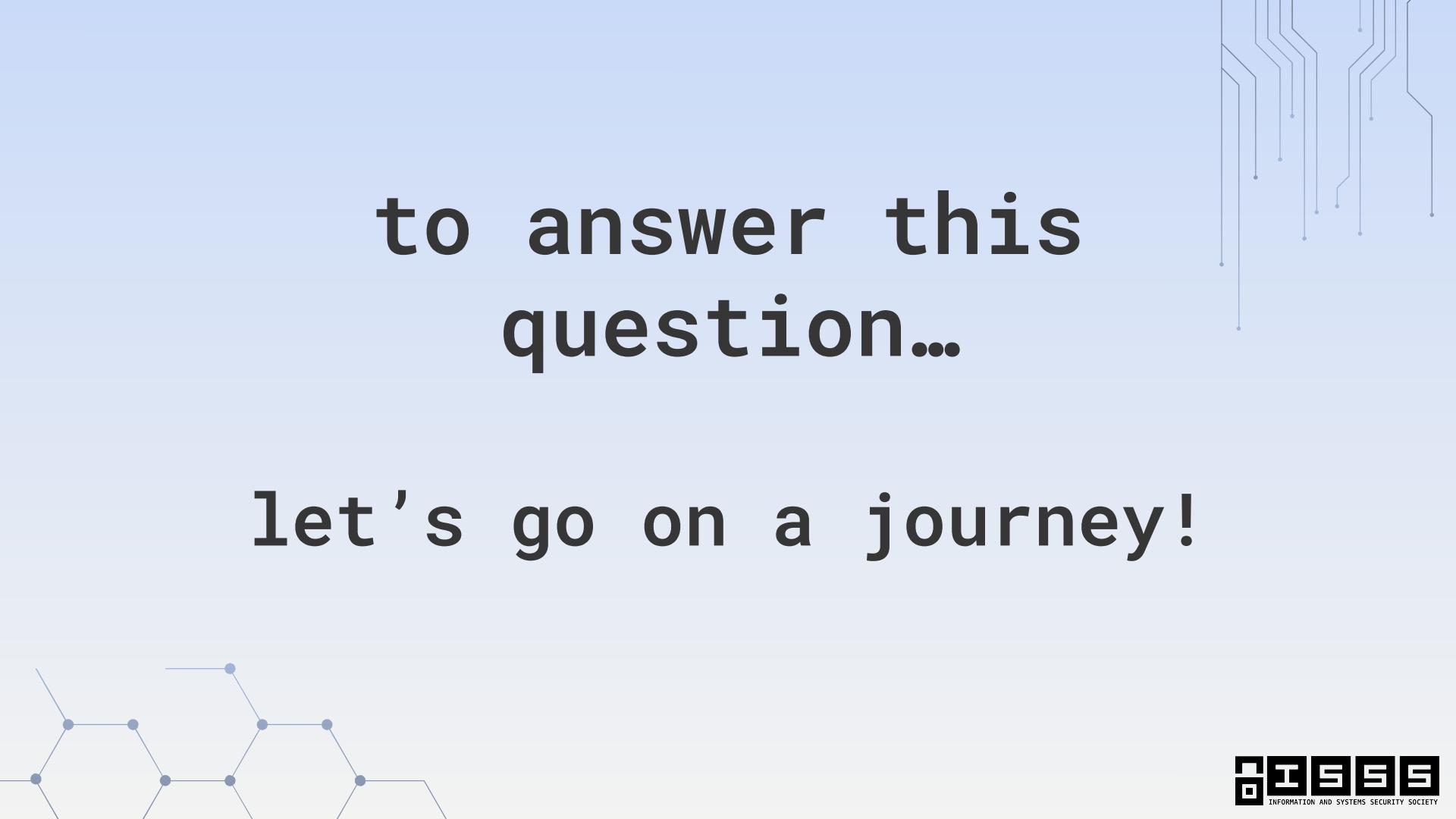
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## Security; A Background\_







to answer this  
question...

let's go on a journey!



here's where we'll begin

*A*



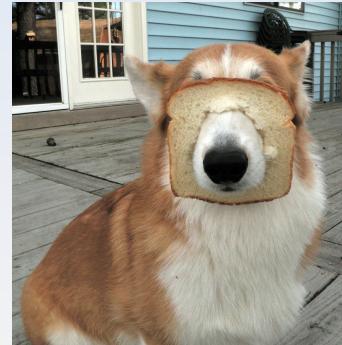
*B*

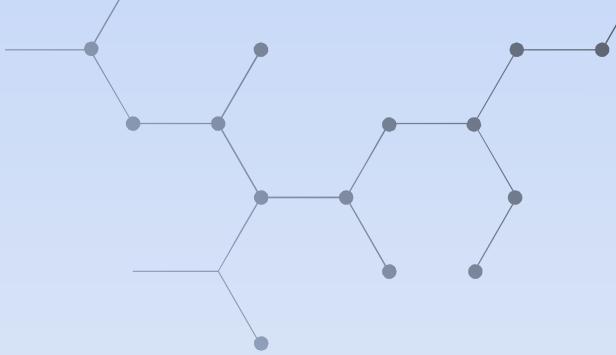


# Intelligence

*national  
security*

- Gathering **intelligence and spying** on one's enemy is essential to determine the political and military direction of the state, especially during times of conflict
- Governments needed the means to collect intelligence to **enable them to make informed decisions**





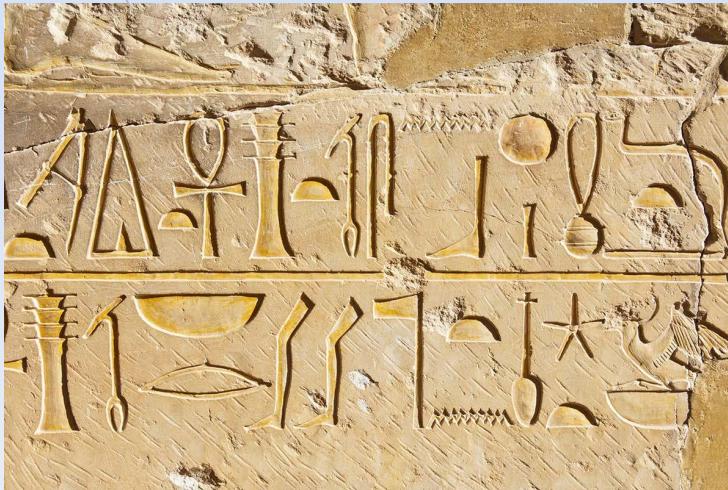
# *Information is power.*



Information has been used since the first times of the history of humanity as **social and economic value**,

and it has always been **prevented from being disclosed** to the people who were not supposed to have it

*the discovery of writing provided the ability to store information and experiences and transfer it to others and use again*

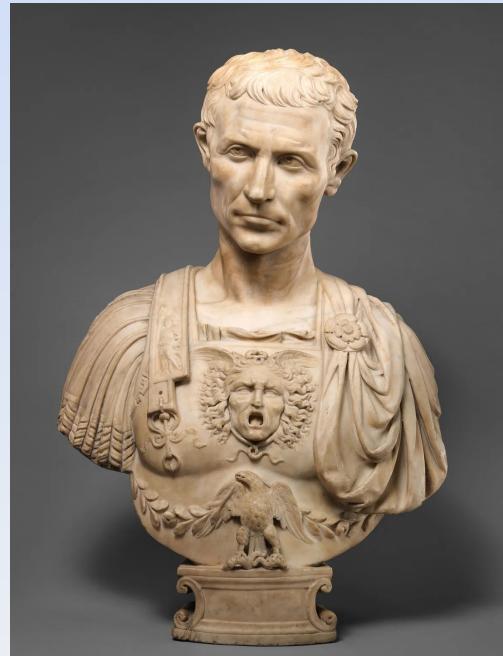


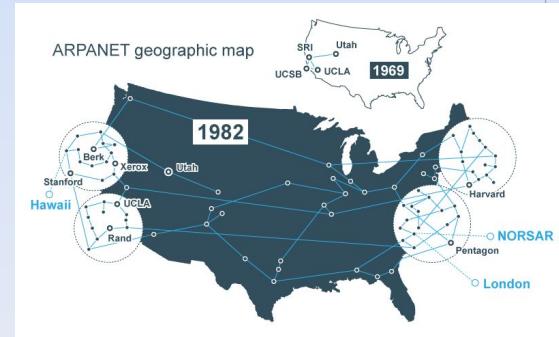
*'ancient humans achieved to keep the power of information within certain group or class in society, by creating "information monopoly"'*

— Harnold Innis, Canadian historian

*"If he had anything **confidential** to say, he wrote it in cipher, that is, by so changing the order of the letters of the alphabet, that not a word could be made out. If anyone wishes to decipher these, and get at their meaning, he must **substitute the fourth letter of the alphabet**, namely D, for A, and so with the others."*

— Suetonius, Life of Julius Caesar 56

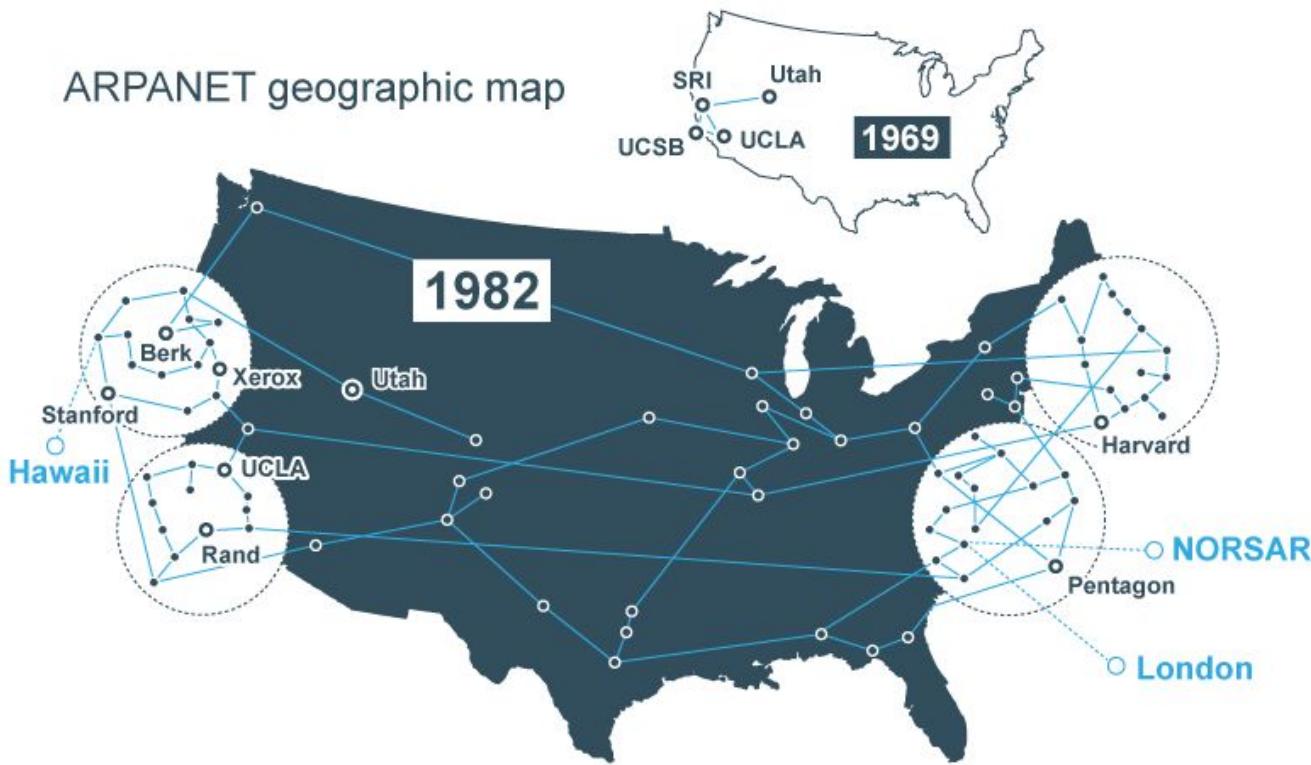




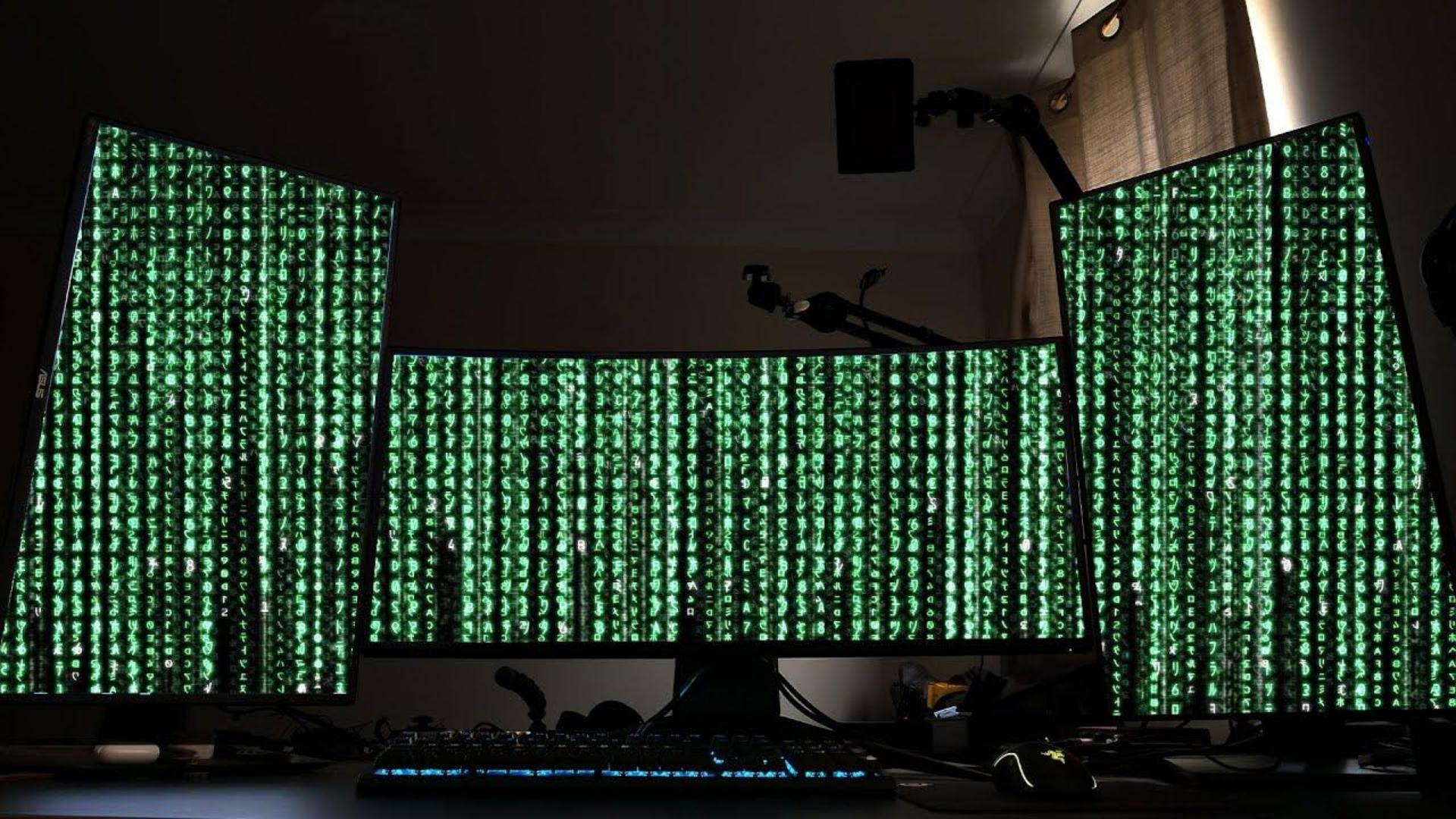




ARPANET geographic map



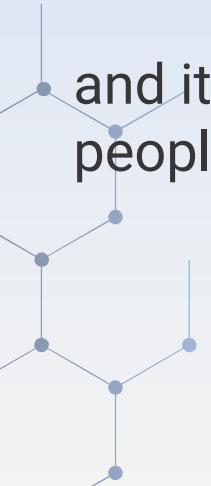






*information  
security*

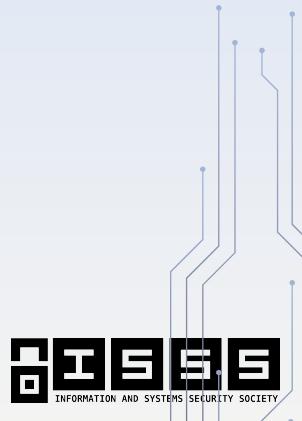
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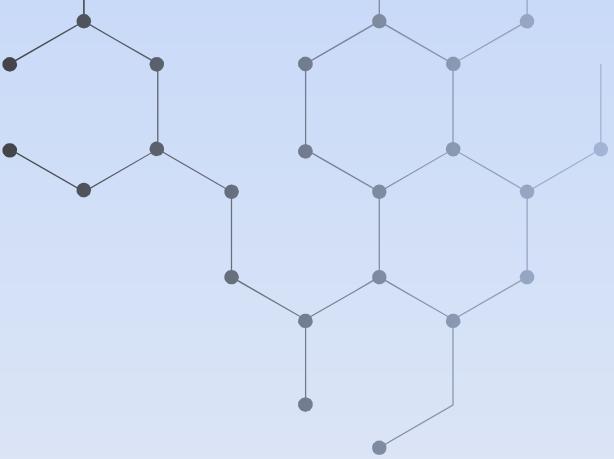


# Break!

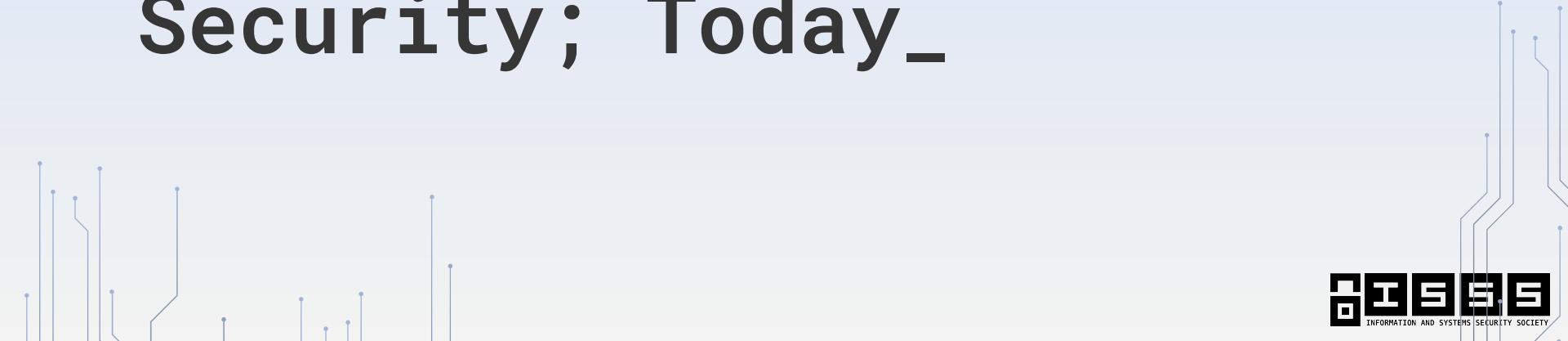


# 04

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## Security; Today\_



# What is hacking?

“Access, disrupt, manipulate, or damage a system in an unauthorized way”

# *Who and Why* do people hack?

sophisticated, amateurs,  
state-sponsored, non-state  
organizations, individuals,  
criminals, spies, show-offs, for  
the lols, vendetta, competitive  
advantage, for the greater  
good, to cause harm





## Confidentiality

Protecting sensitive information  
against unauthorized access.

## “CIA” Triad

### Integrity

Ensuring information is not  
altered or destroyed in an  
unauthorized way.

### Availability\_

Ensuring information remains  
available for its intended use

Goal: (from defensive POV) prevent or minimize unauthorized, harmful actions



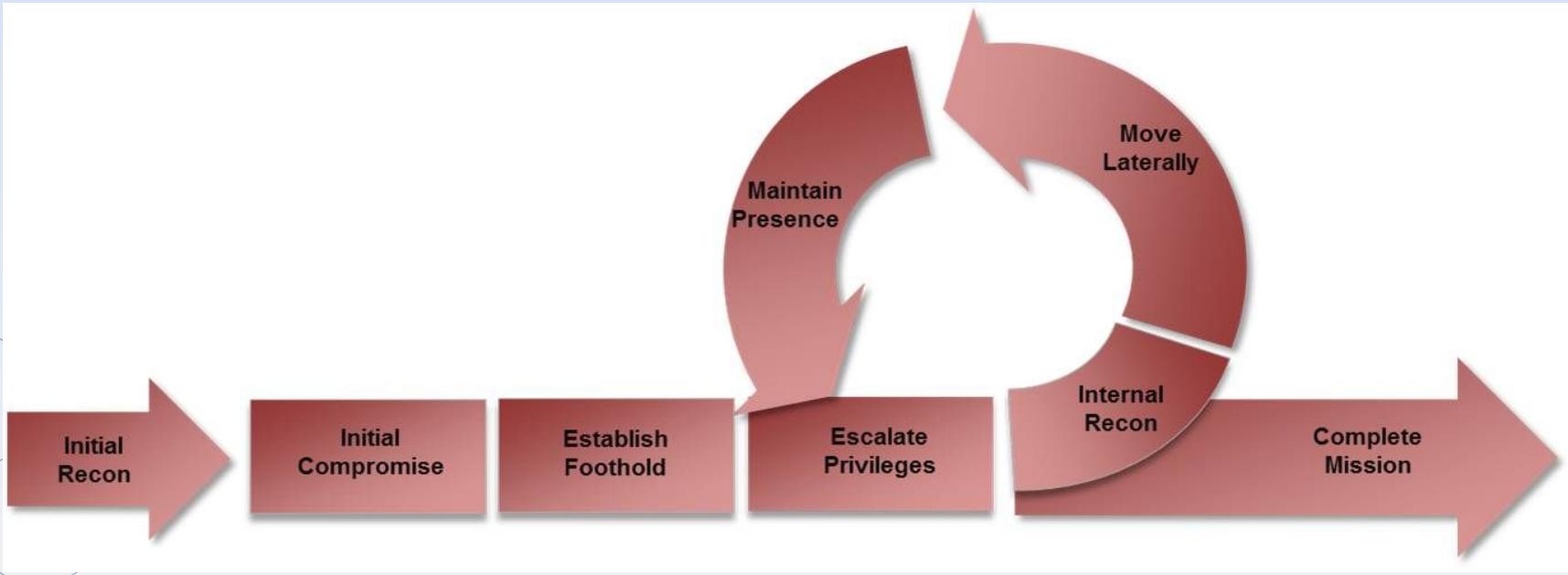
# Vulnerabilities, Exploits, and Patches



Vulnerabilities: latent weaknesses



# Cyber Attack Lifecycle



# Case Study



## SolarWinds Security Advisory RE: CERT Emergency Directive

*Recent as of January 4, 2021, 6:00pm CST*

SolarWinds was the victim of a cyberattack to our systems that inserted a vulnerability (SUNBURST) within our SolarWinds® Orion® Platform. We believe that this attack impacts Orion Platform build versions **2019.4 HF 5, 2020.2 with no hotfix installed, and 2020.2 HF 1** as referenced in **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Computer Emergency Readiness Team (CERT) Emergency Directive 21-01** issued December 13, 2020, and updated December 18, and December 30, 2020.

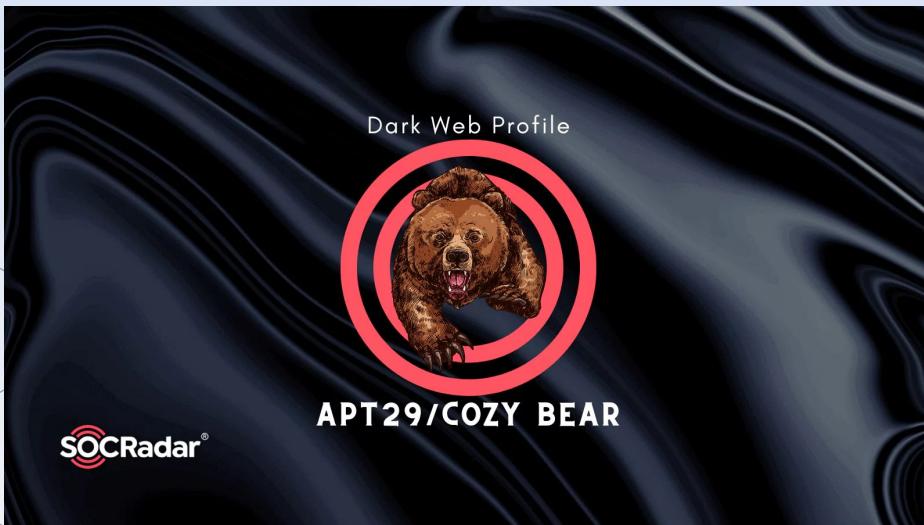
CERT issued Alert (AA20-352A), titled **Advanced Persistent Threat Compromise of Government Agencies, Critical Infrastructure, and Private Sector Organizations**, as an update to ED 21-01 on December 17, 2020, based on our coordination with the agency, and

# Solarwinds

- Network management
- **ORION:** network monitoring software package
- *Why and who would this information be of interest to?*



# Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR)



# Step 1: Accessing the SolarWinds “build environment”

- Need to compromise update system possibly by:  
spear phishing, password spraying, vuln or config errors

# Step 2: Inject malware (SUNSPOT) into Orion update

if Visual Studio Code:

    if particular Orion build:

        Monitor when Visual Studio is used to access Orion source code → inject file →  
        SolarWinds.Orion.Core.BusinessLayer.dll

- .dll: malware package called SUNBURST (backdoor)
- victims included: Dept of Treasury, State, Commerce, Energy, and Homeland

# Step 3: Deciding where to inject SUNBURST

- No action for 2 weeks  
if security products in system:
  - disable or shutdown product
  - communicate with C2 server (masqueraded as "Orion Improvement Program", legit traffic flow)

# Step 4: Injecting tools

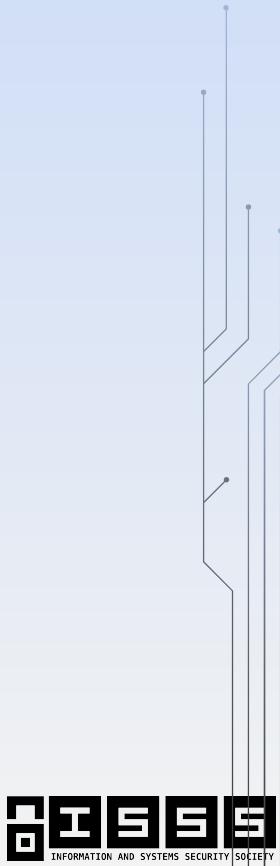
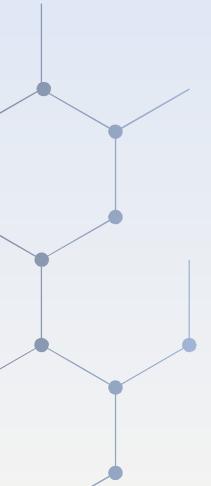
**TEARDROP** (*dropper*): programs that have hidden malware payloads

**RAINDROP** (*loader*): programs that provide means to download from external sources

- Inject Cobalt Strike beacon
- To execute file, temporarily replace legit file with malicious one, execute it, then restore original

# Step 5: To the cloud!

- Information in Cloud (M365)
- Sometimes SUNBURST not needed
- Alternative ways of access



# Step 6: Be sneaky

The card has decorative blue line art on its left and right edges, featuring a network-like pattern of nodes and connections.

Threat Intelligence

## Unauthorized Access of FireEye Red Team Tools

December 8, 2020

Mandiant

Written by: FireEye

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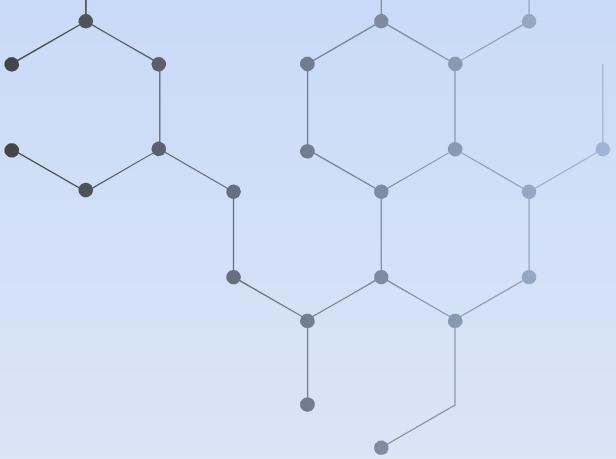
### Overview

A highly sophisticated state-sponsored adversary stole FireEye Red Team tools. Because we believe that an adversary possesses these tools, and we do not know whether the attacker intends to use the stolen tools themselves or publicly disclose them, FireEye is releasing hundreds of countermeasures with this blog post to enable the broader security community to protect themselves against these tools. We have incorporated the countermeasures in our FireEye products—and shared these countermeasures with partners, government agencies—to significantly limit the ability of the bad actor to exploit the Red Team tools.

You can find a list of the countermeasures on the FireEye [GitHub repository](#).

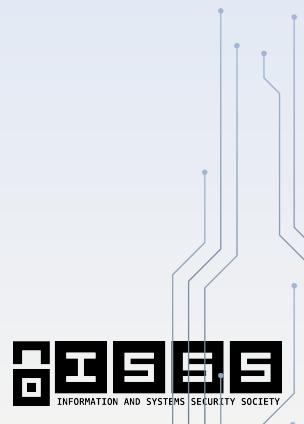
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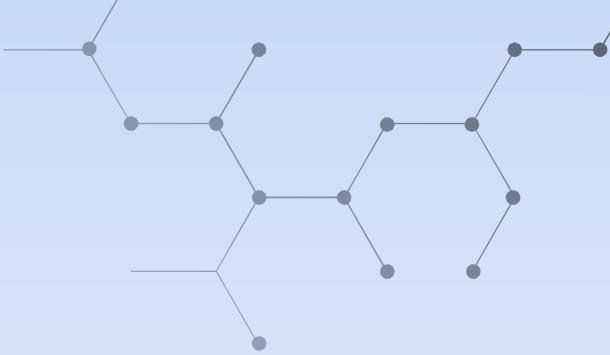
# 05



## Intro to CTFs

Time to register! <https://forever.issss.io/>

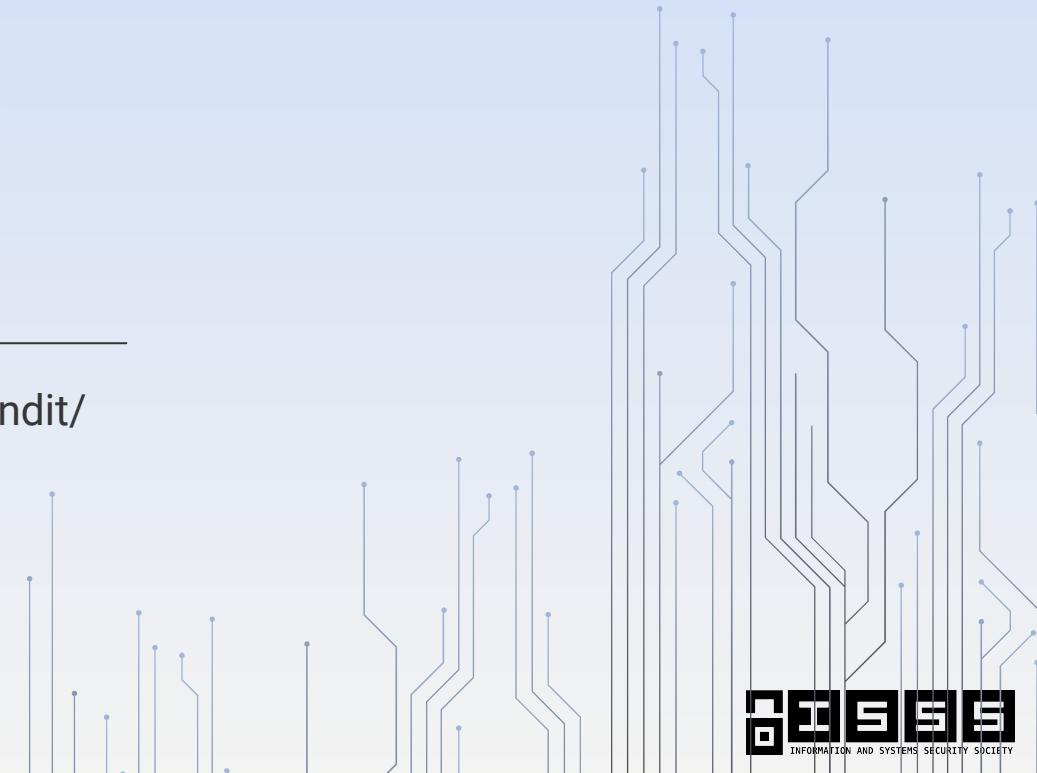




# Hands-On

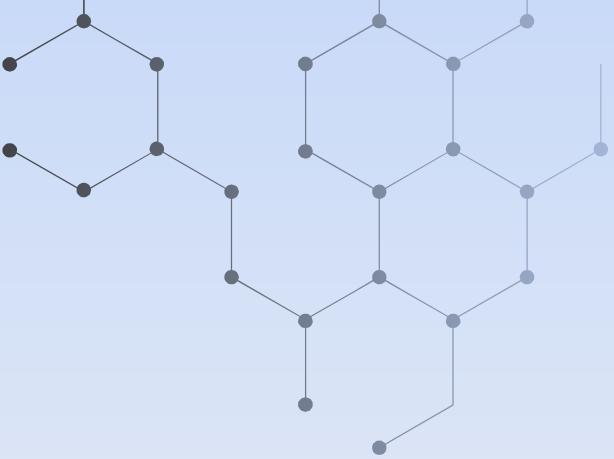
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<https://overthewire.org/wargames/bandit/>

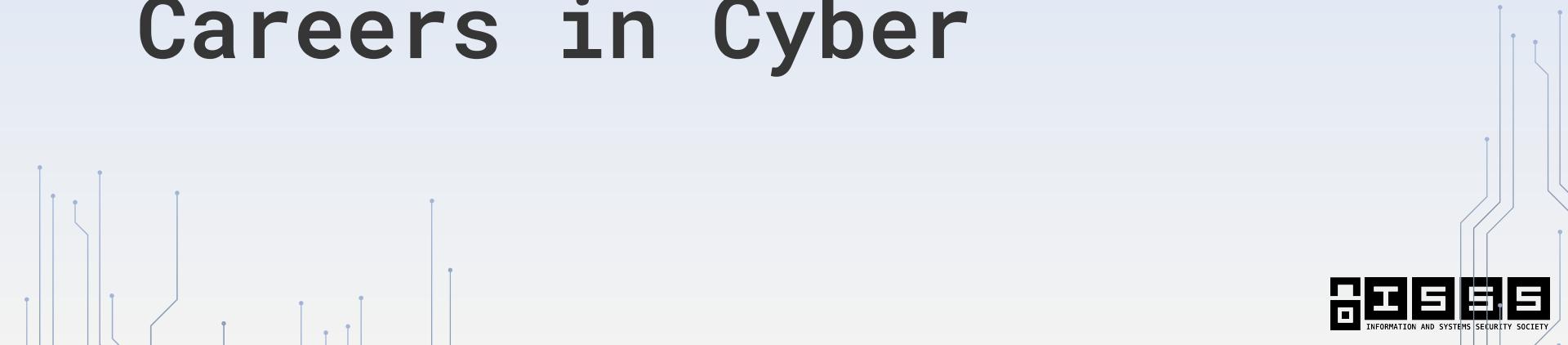


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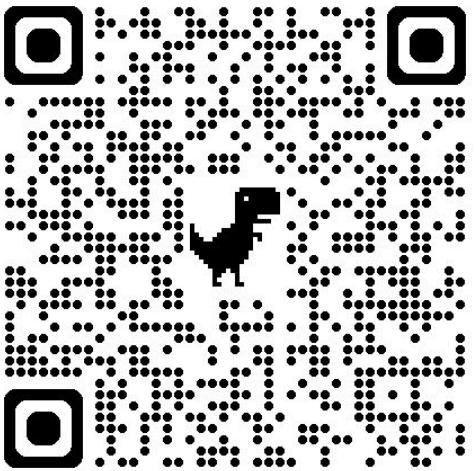
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## Careers in Cyber

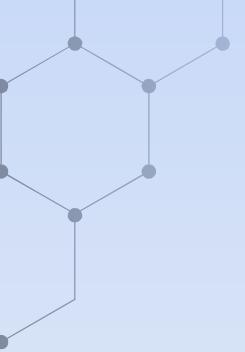


# Check-In Form



OR

<https://bit.ly/issss-cyber>



# Thank You!

Any questions or comments?

