



Back Door Demand

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Stanley As expected, Apple [will withhold](#) its most advanced data protection from customers in the United Kingdom of the iPhone rather than obey a UK order to provide a worldwide back door to such encryption.

This is probably Apple's least worst choice given the alternatives confronting it. But that means British users of the iPhone won't have this encryption at all.

Had Apple obeyed, the back door would have been installed on encryption-equipped iPhones worldwide, not just in the iPhones of persons residing in the sceptered isle.

The mandated back door would, of course, have been exploitable by cyberhackers contracted by enemy governments as well as by members of "good" governments claiming really good reasons for needing to rummage through your iPhone at will.

Members of the United Kingdom's current horrific government are being coy, not even deigning to say whether they have ordered Apple to thus jeopardize Apple customers.

The order is, after all, supposed to be a secret.

But the Starmer government isn't denying the order's existence either. If major media reports were accusing me of issuing such an order, one that I had nothing to do with and regarded as wrong in principle, I would deny the deed hotly. But that's me.

What should happen now?

Many things. For a starters, an end of the Starmer government. Release of the documentation of its order. Universal repudiation of the kind of reasoning that says the best way to ensure everybody's security is to make everybody's security impossible.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.