



# Apple to Keep Encryption

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## Thanks, United Kingdom.

Following [pressure](#) on UK officials by the Trump administration and [some congressmen](#), British censors have caved—the U.S. Director of National Intelligence [confirmed](#) that the UK was abandoning its demand that Apple burn a hole in its iPhone encryption.

So Apple may continue providing its flagship smartphone with robust encryption. Cyberhackers and autocratic regimes (including snoop British officials)—who’d love a crashable gate into everyone’s private iPhone information—must now endure their extreme disappointment.

Director Tulsi Gabbard [reported](#) on X that the UK will

“drop its mandate for Apple to provide a ‘back door’ that would have enabled access to the protected encrypted data of American citizens and encroached on our civil liberties.”

Such a back door would have rendered the encryption close to pointless, presenting a vulnerable target to all bad guys in addition to all “good” guys in the UK holding backdoor keys.

Under an agreement in effect since 2019, U.S. companies are obliged to comply with requests from UK officials for data relevant to criminal investigations.

The agreement prohibits surveillance of Americans. But this year British officials secretly demanded that Apple install a back door to enable the UK government to extract data from *any* iPhone. Yes, that’s any iPhone anywhere in the world.

The British Government also planned to initiate these back-door intrusions without even needing to show relevance to a UK criminal investigation, let alone provide a warrant.

How long will the reprieve last? Maybe only until we get another U.S. administration as eager to censor everything as the last one was.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.