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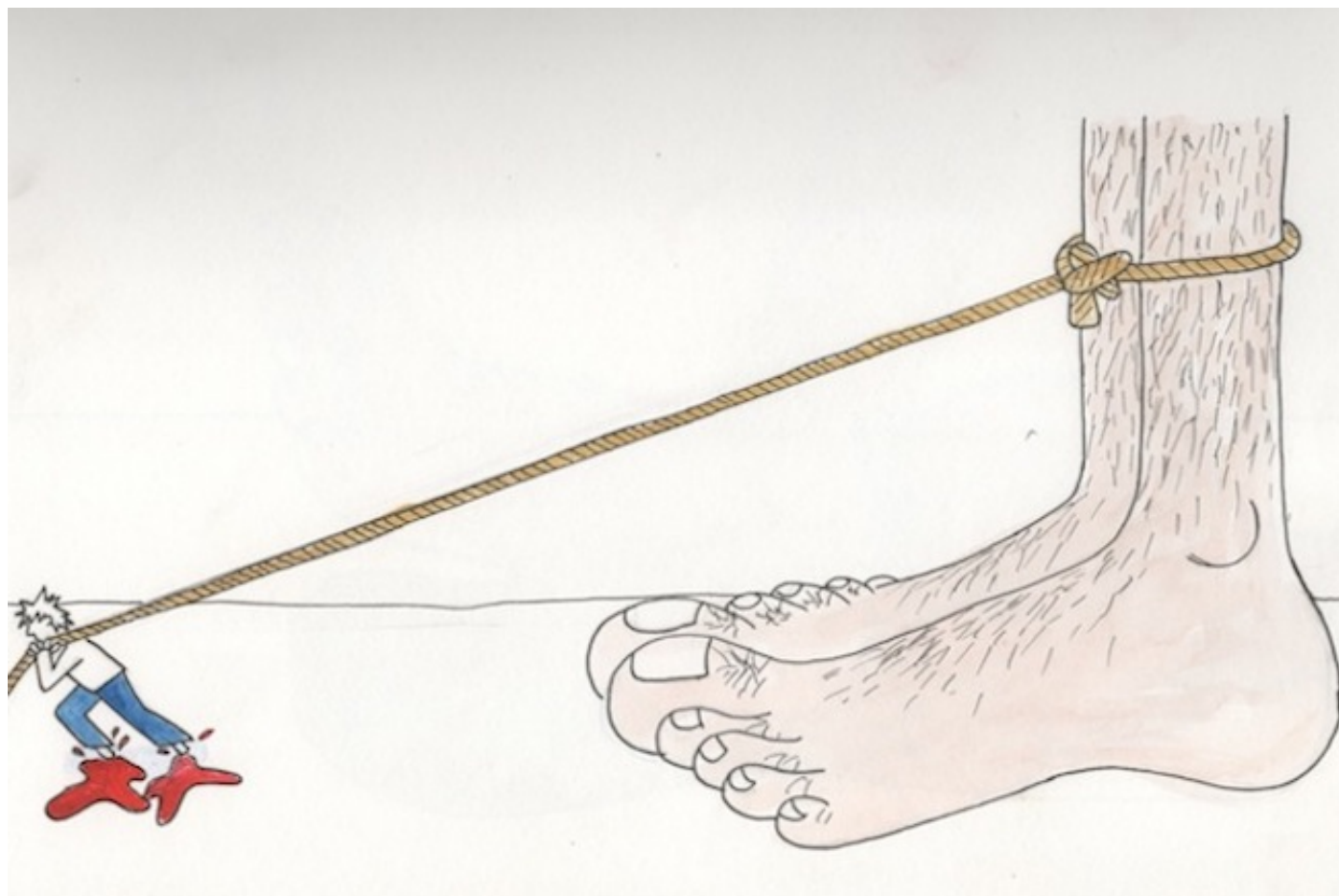
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DUTTON: LABOR DRAGGING FEET ON ENCRYPTION



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CommsWire/Telecommunications Editor: Stan Beer

Staff writers: Peter Dinham, Alex Zaharov-Reutt, Sam Varghese. Columnist: John de Ridder

Advertising: CEO and Editor in Chief, Andrew Matler: andrew.matler@itwire.com • Tel: 0412 390 000

DUTTON SAYS LABOR OF DRAGGING FEET ON ENCRYPTION BILL

Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton says he wants the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security to deal with the government's encryption bill "as quickly as possible", and accused Shadow Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus of delaying things.

Dutton (below) made the claims [on Sky News](#) on Wednesday.



He also said Opposition Leader Bill Shorten should say immediately whether he supported what is officially known as Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018.

Dutton said there had been a bid to delay and obfuscate the process of bringing the government's encryption bill to a vote on the floor of the House.

He said he had spoken to Liberal MP Andrew Hastie, the chair of the PJCIS, about ways in which the committee could deal with the bill in an "expeditious way so that the Parliament could deal with it as soon as possible".

Labor's Richard Marles told the network that Labor had a good record on national security legislation, having worked with the government in a bipartisan way in the past.

But, he added, this did not mean that it would give the government a "blank cheque" on any legislation.

The draft bill was released for public consultation on 14 August and comments were accepted until 10 September.

Thereafter, there have been two hearings before the PJCIS, on 19 October and 16 November. Further hearings are scheduled for 28 and 30 November and 3 December.

Sam Varghese

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OPTUS BIDS TO ATTRACT GAMERS TO FOLD WITH RAZER PHONE 2

In a bid to capitalise on the lucrative esports market, Singtel Optus has released the Razer Phone 2, a leading brand for gamers, through its stores and online from Wednesday.

A statement from the company said the smartphone would be available through select premium handset plans with generous double data inclusions.



Optus head of Product Shawn Van Graan said, “Optus is moving into a new and exciting esports market as the exclusive Australian carrier of the amazing new Razer Phone 2.

“As one of the world’s top gaming device manufacturers, Razer has designed a high-performance smartphone that is packed with features, including a 120Hz LCD display, extra-long battery life and internal cooling system, making it the perfect companion for Optus customers.

“Our Optus plans for the Razer Phone 2 offer huge amounts of data, as well as the option to add entertainment extras including Optus Sport and TV streaming on eligible subscription services without using the plan’s data.”

The Razer Phone 2 is available on My Plan Plus 24-month post-paid plans, including the \$105 per month plan with no charge for the device and 200GB of data. The data allowance includes a 100GB bonus offer which ends on 13 January 2019.

The My Plan Plus handset plans at \$105 per month and above offer the following:

- Unlimited standard national calls and texts;
- Unlimited standard international calls and texts from Australia to up to 35 countries;
- Roaming while overseas, including data allowances and unlimited standard international calls and texts;
- Optus Sport subscription can be added as an optional extra at no extra charge: customers can watch year-round Premier League action, plus the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa Cup and UEFA Nations League live;
- Access to the National Geographic App included at no extra cost: customers can watch hundreds of hours of science and nature documentaries and movies;
- Music streaming via Google Play, iHeartRadio and Spotify (subscriptions required) without using the plans data can be added as an optional extra;
- The option to stream Netflix, Stan and ABC iView without using the plan’s data for an additional \$5 per month (subscriptions required); and
- Data Pool enabling customers to share data between eligible plans on the same bill.

Sam Varghese



John de Ridder

Telecommunications Economist

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MAQUARIE INKS SD-WAN DEAL WITH AGED CARE PROVIDER

Telecommunications provider Macquarie Telecom has signed a deal with aged care provider Royal Australian Air Force Association (WA division) to provide SD-WAN technology and help the organisation prepare for the digital aged care future.

Macquarie Telecom says RAAFA has worked with it to deploy its SD-WAN service to two facilities burdened with poor bandwidth and internet connectivity in Erskine and Albany.

The deployment is part of RAAFA's wider strategy with Macquarie to create a robust, fast, cloud-enabled network to enable increased home care technology services over time.

"One of the key terms of reference for the planned Royal Commission into aged care is how to ensure more people can remain at home as they age," said Craig Burkett, General Manager - Information, Communication & Technology, RAAFA.

"Technology will play a huge role in that – through sensors in the home, virtual reality and more.

"We're leveraging the full suite of Macquarie's services, including SD-WAN and cloud, to build a network across all our facilities that will enable us to provide a higher standard of care for the elderly in WA."

Under the deal Macquarie is deploying SD-WAN to two 'problem sites' while also providing fibre, point-to-point, cloud and managing RAAFA's router network to enable the organisation to gradually introduce more home care digital services.

Macquarie Telecom says that prior to the SD-WAN deployment, Erskine and Albany staff could not reliably access services such as security, CCTV monitoring and financial systems, and the network also experienced a complete outage on a monthly basis.

Macquarie notes that the technology has increased speeds by five-fold, reduced outages to zero and given better control and visibility to RAAFA over its network, bringing it up to speed with other sites and giving the organisation a stronger, more intelligent network across all sites.

"RAAFA is putting its residents first by building a network capable of delivering home care technology our elderly need," said Luke Clifton, Group Executive, Macquarie Telecom.

"A fast, robust and resilient network leveraging modern technology coupled with cloud services is vital to achieving that.

"Most businesses have one or two 'problem sites' and SD-WAN is the perfect solution to that – we've launched a free proof-of-concept trial to prove that and fix these sites for Australian businesses for free."

Peter Dinham

TELSTRA TOUTS AUSTRALIA'S FIRST LIVE 5G CONNECTION MILESTONE

Being first with something 5G related is something global telcos love achieving, with Australia's biggest carrier Telstra claiming to put another 5G notch on its belt.

We're told this Australian first was "achieved using a form factor device working with two of Telstra's network partners Ericsson and Qualcomm on the Gold Coast in Australia.

It brings together all of the end- to-end 5G network components for this real world 5G data call in the field".



The form factor device used to achieve the call.

You can see the "form factor device" in question in the image above.

[Channa Seneviratne](#), Telstra's Network Engineering executive, said: "Telstra's strategic relationship with these global industry partners allows Telstra to test, understand and demonstrate real world 5G capability so we can advance the deployment of 5G and immediately bring it to our customers as soon as devices are commercially available.

"Today's announcement is a significant milestone as it signals that commercial 5G devices are getting closer and closer.

"Field testing in our real-world mobile network with this chipset over our commercial spectrum moves the verification well and truly from the lab into the street.

"The team will continue testing over the coming months to improve data rates and overall

performance in readiness for device availability. “



Telstra said that "testing the latest commercial chipset from Qualcomm with Ericsson in the field is another indication of Telstra's ongoing industry leading development in mobile technology leadership, and the latest in a series of 5G firsts for Telstra".

And, as noted, we're reminded that "this is the latest in a series of 5G firsts for Telstra.

"In February, Telstra launched its 5G

Innovation Centre on the Gold Coast supported by Ericsson.

"That Centre has since been home to several world and Australian firsts.

These include the world's first precinct of 5G-enabled WiFi hotspots, Australia's first 5G Connected Car, the world's first end-to-end 5G non-standalone data call on a commercial mobile network, and the launch of over 50 5G-enabled sites around the country.

"This achievement also follows Telstra's recent announcement that Ericsson would be its key 5G partner under an agreement that will see the two companies partner to deliver the next generation of mobile technology for Australia".

Telstra notes that the "rollout of 5G is underpinned by the around \$5 billion in mobile network investment over the three years to 30 June 2019, consistent with previous guidance, to enhance the capacity, capability and reach of Telstra's network".

Telstra also notes some technical info, stating that "this is Australia's first live 5G 3GPP R15 data call using a commercial chipset in a form factor device on Telstra's mobile network.

"The connection used Telstra's 3.5Ghz commercial spectrum, Ericsson's latest 5G network software, and Qualcomm Technologies commercial 5G chipset in a commercial form factor device."

Alex Zaharov-Reutt

HUAWEI AND SPARK DEMO 'GLOBAL FIRST' 5G TRIAL NETWORK

Huawei New Zealand and local telco Spark have achieved a global first, switching on a live multi-vendor 5G trial network built to the full 3GPP Release 15 global industry standard.

A statement from the company said the trial, at Spark's 5G lab in Auckland, demonstrated the technical implementation of access and core separation.

The trial used a Huawei 5G NR (New Radio on both the C-band and mmWave) and a 4G Radio Access Network, both of which were deployed by using dedicated hardware connected to the Cisco Evolved Packet Core, with each component isolated.

This is the first multi-vendor 5G trial to achieve the benchmark set by Release 15 of the 3GPP standard. Spark has achieved the milestone of the world's first 5G mmWave call through this network.

Last month, the director of the Australian Signals Directorate, Mike Burgess, [had claimed](#) it was not possible to achieve separation between the core and the edge in 5G networks.

"The distinction between core and edge collapses in 5G networks. That means that a potential threat anywhere in the network will be a threat to the whole network," he was quoted as saying in *The Australian*.

Huawei New Zealand deputy managing director Andrew Bowater said: "The Auckland live multi-vendor 5G trial emphatically proves it is possible to retain the critical access-core network separation, which enables operators such as Spark to operate in a multi-vendor network environment, and retains the ability of governments to regulate the vendor technology mix while maintaining a competitive market.

"This is the fourth year of Huawei's strategic partnership with Spark, and we are proud to have brought this multi-vendor 5G trial alive right here in Auckland. The live trial is designed in full accordance with the 3GPP Release 15 industry standards and proves the ability of existing networks to evolve from 4G to 5G smoothly."

Spark's technology director Mark Beder said the company was excited to be leading the 5G race in New Zealand.

"For Spark, 5G will drive the next evolution of our business and we are motivated to push the boundaries of this new technology," he said.

"It will deliver significantly faster speeds and more data capacity than previous generations of mobile technology and will support massive connectivity. The possibilities are endless, and we intend to make sure that Spark plays a key role in enabling this 5G journey for all of New Zealand."

Sam Varghese

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