

Cybersecurity: Mirai Botnet Malware Knocks Liberia Offline

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After launching attacks on security expert [Brian Krebs](#) and the servers at [Dyn](#), it appears as though the **Mirai Botnet**, a type of computer malware, has knocked the entire country of **Liberia** offline. Yes the country. Given the paucity of protections on the Internet of Things with even weaker controls on adequate passwords, Mirai has a powerful base to co-opt and launch from. That said a country is no mean achievement, albeit only with a population of 4.5 million and fewer than 10% of its citizens having internet access, the target was a small one. However, it is possible this attack is only the beginning for a new display of Mirai botnet's capabilities. The attack peaked at a 500Gbps, a relatively modest figure when compared with the [Dyn](#) and [Brian Krebs attacks](#).

Judging from the quick succession of recent attacks, we won't be waiting long before we see another target of this highly effective botnet. [Forbes](#) has covered this in more detail [here](#).

Rebecca Murray is co-author of this article.

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