This document is made available through the declassification efforts and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault

The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: http://www.theblackvault.com
Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Records responsive to your request have been processed. In order to avoid charging duplication fees unnecessarily, we have made these records available in the FBI’s FOIA Library (The Vault) on the FBI’s public website, http://vault.fbi.gov. On the right-hand side of the home page, under the heading "Vault Links" you can search for your subject alphabetically (click on "A-Z Index"), by category (click on "Categories"), or by entering text into our search engine (click on "Search Vault"). For records responsive to this request, please enter "Breitbart News Network" as the search term.

The available documents represent a final release of information responsive to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S. C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

In accordance with standard FBI practice and pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E)/Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552/552a (b)(7)(E)/(j)(2)], this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject’s name on any watch lists.

Additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. Please inform us if you would like the FBI to conduct a search of the indices to our Central Records System.

Additional records responsive to your request were processed but are not currently available on The Vault. Please inform us if you would like to receive these records.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under “Contact Us.” The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following website: https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.
You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI’s FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foiaperguestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the FBI Fact Sheet and Explanation of Exemptions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosures
FBI FACT SHEET

- The primary functions of the FBI are national security and law enforcement.
- The FBI does not keep a file on every citizen of the United States.
- The FBI was not established until 1908 and we have very few records prior to the 1920s.
- FBI files generally contain reports of FBI investigations of a wide range of matters, including counterterrorism, counter-intelligence, cyber crime, public corruption, civil rights, organized crime, white collar crime, major thefts, violent crime, and applicants.
- The FBI does not issue clearances or non-clearances for anyone other than its own personnel or persons having access to FBI facilities. Background investigations for security clearances are conducted by many different Government agencies. Persons who received a clearance while in the military or employed with some other government agency should contact that entity. Most government agencies have websites which are accessible on the internet which have their contact information.
- An identity history summary check or “rap sheet” is NOT the same as an “FBI file.” It is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and related documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization or military service. The subject of a “rap sheet” may obtain a copy by submitting a written request to FBI CJIS Division – Summary Request, 1000 Custer Hollow Road, Clarksburg, WV 26306. Along with a specific written request, the individual must submit a new full set of his/her fingerprints in order to locate the record, establish positive identification, and ensure that an individual’s records are not disseminated to an unauthorized person. The fingerprint submission must include the subject’s name, date and place of birth. There is a required fee of $18 for this service, which must be submitted by money order or certified check made payable to the Treasury of the United States. A credit card payment option is also available. Forms for this option and additional directions may be obtained by accessing the FBI Web site at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks.
- The National Name Check Program (NNCP) conducts a search of the FBI’s Universal Index (UNI) to identify any information contained in FBI records that may be associated with an individual and provides the results of that search to a requesting federal, state or local agency. Names are searched in a multitude of combinations and phonetic spellings to ensure all records are located. The NNCP also searches for both “main” and “cross reference” files. A main file is an entry that carries the name corresponding to the subject of a file, while a cross reference is merely a mention of an individual contained in a file. The results from a search of this magnitude can result in several “hits” and “idents” on an individual. In each instance where UNI has identified a name variation or reference, information must be reviewed to determine if it is applicable to the individual in question.
- The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for records and provides copies of FBI files responsive to Freedom of Information or Privacy Act (FOIPA) requests for information. RIDS provides responsive documents to requesters seeking “reasonably described information.” For a FOIPA search, the subject’s name, event, activity, or business is searched to determine whether there is an associated investigative file. This is called a “main file search” and differs from the NNCP search.

FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FBI, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.fbi.gov

7/18/16
EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) could reasonably be expected to deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential sources, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service he release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FBI/DOJ
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Page 56 - b6; b7C; b7E;
Title: (U) To Request Opening of Captioned Investigation.

Date: 02/05/2016

From: LOS ANGELES LA-CY-2 (SSA)

Contact: 

Approved By: SSA 

Drafted By: 

Case ID #: 288A-LA-6981048 (U) UNSUB(S); BREITBART NEWS NETWORK - VICTIM;

Synopsis: (U) To Request Opening of Captioned Investigation.

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. (U) Complaint Email from

Details:

business email address alternate email address cell phone number contacted FBI Los Angeles with the following complaint.

On 19 Jan 2016, FBI Los Angeles received an email from stating Breitbart News Network, had been experiencing a persistent Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack for the previous two days. stated he wished to share the source addresses with the FBI to see if the attacker was a known actor, and explore the possibility that the identity of the criminal could be identified from this information.

stated the sustained DDoS traffic was also stated
To Request Opening of Captioned Investigation.

Re: 288A-LA-6981048, 02/05/2016

A copy of the email received from [redacted] is attached to this email in a 1A Package.

It is requested that a case be opened and assigned to the writer.

***
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 12:50 PM
To: [Redacted] (LA) (FBI)
Subject: Request for assistance

[Redacted]

Breitbart News Network) who has been under constant DDoS attack for the past two days. I'd like to share the source addresses with you to see if this is a known actor, and explore the possibility that the identity of the criminal can be identified from this fingerprint. Is this something we can possibly collaborate on?

Please advise.

Thanks,
Title: (U) List of DDoS IP Addresses from

Date: 04/29/2016

From: LOS ANGELES LA-CY-2 (SSA)

Contact: 

Approved By: SSA

Drafted By: 

Case ID #: 288A-LA-6981048 (U) UNSUB(S); BREITBART NEWS NETWORK - VICTIM;

Synopsis: (U) provided logs documenting DDoS traffic targeting Breitbart News Network.

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:
1. (U) Email content ATT00003
2. (U) Email content ATT00004
3. (U) Email of Evidence from DDoS Attack
4. (U) List of IP Addresses

Details:

On 20 Jan 2016, provided the following information to the writer by email concerning a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack against Breitbart News Network.

a list of IP addresses which were actively sending malicious traffic to the Breitbart News Network servers. Estimated approximately
provided a list of IP addresses with the email. Also provided a sample of log traffic, however,

A copy of the email from and the list of IP addresses are included with this document as a 1A Package.

**
Here is the current list of IP Addresses:

288A-LA-6981048_0000002_1A0100002_0000003.txt
Title: (U) Updated List of IP Addresses

From: LOS ANGELES
LA-CY-2 (SSA)
Contact:

Approved By: SSA

Drafted By:

Case ID #: 288A-LA-6981048 (U) UNSUB(S);
BREITBART NEWS NETWORK - VICTIM;

Synopsis: (U) provided an updated list of IP addresses targeting the Breitbart News Network

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:
1. (U) Re Evidence f ro DDoS Attack
2. (U) Email content ATT00002
3. (U) List of IP addresses

Details:

On 21 Jan 2016, provided the following information to the writer by email concerning a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack against Breitbart News Network.

included an updated list of IP addresses which were actively sending malicious traffic to the Breitbart News Network servers.

The updated list included IP addresses.
A copy of the email and updated IP address list is included with this document as a IA Package.
Here you go.
On Jan 21, 2016, at 9:25 AM, (LA) (FBI) wrote:

DC is starting to look at it right now. If you have the updated list, feel free to send it my way.

---

From: 
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 8:59 AM
To: (LA) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Evidence fro DDoS Attack

The list of IP addresses has grown to Do you want an updated list? Any word back from DC?

---

On Jan 20, 2016, at 11:42 AM, (LA) (FBI) wrote:

Yes, I sent it over there for you. I can also put it on a web server for download if that would be better.

---

On Jan 20, 2016, at 11:29 AM, (LA) (FBI) wrote:

Do you mind resending

---

Thanks,

---

From: 
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 10:36 AM
To: (LA) (FBI)
Subject: Evidence fro DDoS Attack

Thanks for your call this morning. I'm going to switch email addresses and contact you from

---
Title: (U) Revised List of IP Addresses

Date: 05/09/2016

From: LOS ANGELES
LA-CY-2 (SSA)

Contact: 

Approved By: SSA

Drafted By: 

Case ID #: 288A-LA-6981048 (U) UNSUB(S); BREITBART NEWS NETWORK - VICTIM;

Synopsis: (U) revised an earlier list of IP addresses due to a malfunctioning ad network sending erroneous traffic.

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:
1. (U) Email from
2. (U) Email from (ATT00002)
3. (U) Revised list of IP Addresses

Details:

On 21 Jan 2016, provided the following information to the writer by email concerning a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack against Breitbart News Network.

In an earlier email the same day, provided a list of approximately IP addresses he believed to be a part of an ongoing DDoS attack against the Breitbart News Network. After further investigation, determined a large portion of that traffic was due to a malfunctioning ad network.
Title: (U) Revised List of IP Addresses
Re: 288A-LA-6981048, 05/09/2016

re-examined the list of IP addresses he had previously compiled
and filtered out the ad network traffic. After this filtering process,

provided a copy of the updated IP address list.

The list and email from is included with this document in a 1A Package.

***
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: (U) IP Address Analysis by [Redacted] Date: 05/17/2016

From: LOS ANGELES
LA-CY-2 (SSA)
Contact: [Redacted]

Approved By: SSA [Redacted]
Drafted By: [Redacted]
Case ID #: 288A-LA-6981048 (U) UNSUB(S);
BREITBART NEWS NETWORK - VICTIM;

Synopsis: (U) Analysis of IP addresses conducted by [Redacted]

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:
1. (U) Updated log file
2. (U) Analysis by [Redacted]

Details:
On 21 Jan 2016, [Redacted] business email address
alternate email address [Redacted] cell phone number
[Redacted] provided a link to a sample log of network traffic
related to the captioned investigation.

On the same day, the writer contacted IA [Redacted] of FBI Cyber Division

After downloading and analyzing the traffic provided by [Redacted] IA
technical analysis resulted in the following information

UNCLASSIFIED
These look like
Re: 288A-LA-6981048, 05/17/2016

highlighted the following facts:
UNCLASSIFIED

Title: (U) IP Address Analysis by

Re: 288A-LA-6981048, 05/17/2016
A subsequent phone call with [redacted] indicated in [redacted] is included with this document in a IA Package. A copy of IA [redacted] analysis is also included in the IA Package.
From: [Name]
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 12:37 PM
To: [Name] (LA) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Evidence from DDoS Attack

Here is an updated log file as well:

On Jan 21, 2016, at 10:07 AM, [Name] wrote:

Here you go.

<ips.txt>

On Jan 21, 2016, at 9:25 AM, [Name] (LA) (FBI) wrote:

DC is starting to look at it right now. If you have the updated list, feel free to send it my way.

From: [Name]
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 8:59 AM
To: [Name] (LA) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Evidence from DDoS Attack

The list of IP addresses Do you want an updated list? Any word back from DC?

On Jan 20, 2016, at 11:42 AM, [Name] wrote:

Yes, I sent it over there for you. I can also put it on a web server for download if that would be better.

On Jan 20, 2016, at 11:29 AM, [Name] (LA) (FBI) wrote:
Thanks for your call this morning. I'm going to switch email addresses and contact you from

Do you mind resending
From: (CYD) (FBI)  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 10:54 AM  
To: (LA) (FBI)  
Subject: RE: More Evidence fro DDoS Attack

Hi,

I downloaded the file last night and I'm taking a look at it now. If I remember correctly, Breitbart advised that they were being attacked by a large number of IPs and that

Here's what I see:

These look like
Let me know if you think I missed something, this doesn't make sense, or you're looking for something different.

From: [LA] (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 4:43 PM
To: [CYD] (FBI)
Subject: More Evidence for DDoS Attack

I also put a new sample log file up, you can grab it here: