

GUCCIFER 1'S POTENTIALLY RUSSIAN IP ADDRESS

I'm a bit late to the FBI report on Hillary's emails. I'm reading it now for all the details that don't serve to reinforce one's assumptions about Hillary's email scandal (as the report honestly can do for all sides).

But I wanted to point to this detail. In the report's short discussion of Guccifer 1's hack of Sidney Blumenthal, the report suggests that Guccifer may have tried to hack Hillary in the days after hacking Blumenthal.

(U//~~FOUO~~) On or about March 14, 2013, Blumenthal's AOL e-mail account was compromised by Marcel Lehel Lazar, aka Guccifer, a Romanian cyber hacker. Lazar disseminated e-mails and attachments sent between Blumenthal and Clinton to 31 media outlets, including a Russian broadcasting company.⁵⁸⁷ [REDACTED]⁵⁸⁸ One of the screenshots captured a list of 19 foreign policy and intelligence memos authored by Blumenthal for Clinton.⁵⁸⁹ The content of one of the memos on the list was determined by State to be classified at the CONFIDENTIAL level.⁵⁹⁰ Lazar was extradited from Romania to the United States on March 31, 2016.⁵⁹¹

(U//~~FOUO~~) Between April 25, 2016 and May 2, 2016, Lazar made a claim to FOX News that he used information from Blumenthal's compromise as a stepping stone to hack Clinton's personal server.⁵⁹² On May 26, 2016, the FBI interviewed Lazar, who admitted he lied to FOX News about hacking the Clinton server.⁵⁹³ FBI forensic analysis of the Clinton server during the timeframe Lazar claimed to have compromised the server did not identify evidence that Lazar hacked the server.⁵⁹⁴ An examination of log files from March 2013 indicated that IP addresses from Russia and Ukraine attempted to scan the server on March 15, 2013, the day after the Blumenthal compromise, and on March 19 and March 21, 2013.⁵⁹⁵ However, none of these attempts were successful, and it could not be determined whether this activity was attributable to Lazar.⁵⁹⁶

The passage is appropriately ambiguous. Guccifer (Lazar) successfully hacked Blumenthal on March 14, 2013. The next day – and again on March 19 and 21 – there were unsuccessful probes on Hillary's server. The FBI suggests those may have been Guccifer, though states it doesn't know whether it is or not (which is weird, because Guccifer has been in US custody for some time, though I suppose his lawyer advised him against admitting he tried to hack Hillary).

I find all this interesting because those probes were made from Russian and Ukrainian IPs. That's not surprising. Lots of hackers use Russian and Ukrainian IPs. What's surprising is there has been no peep about this from the Russian fear industry.

That may be because the FBI isn't leaking wildly about this. Or maybe FBI has less interest to pretend that all IPs in Russia are used exclusively by state agents of Vlad Putin (not least because then they should have been looking for Russians hacking the DNC?).

It's just an example of what an attempted hack might look like without that Russian fear industry.