

SECTORAL REPORT 2024



ATTACKS ON
THE AVIATION
SECTOR
IN THE FIRST
HALF OF
THE YEAR

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Executive Summary

This executive summary addresses the importance and impact of cyber-attacks targeting the aviation industry. In recent years, cyber-attacks in the aviation industry have become a major threat to businesses. These attacks target critical infrastructure such as airline databases, reservation systems, flight systems and even air traffic control systems.

The aviation sector is a sensitive target against cyber attacks. Protection of critical infrastructures and data in the sector is of great importance for operational continuity and passenger safety. Cyber attacks can lead to serious consequences such as data theft, operational disruptions, flight cancellations and even compromising flight safety.

Cyber attackers aim to overcome security measures by using constantly evolving techniques and tactics. There are different motivations behind the attacks, such as financial gain, national security threat, espionage activities or demonstration of cyber attack capabilities.

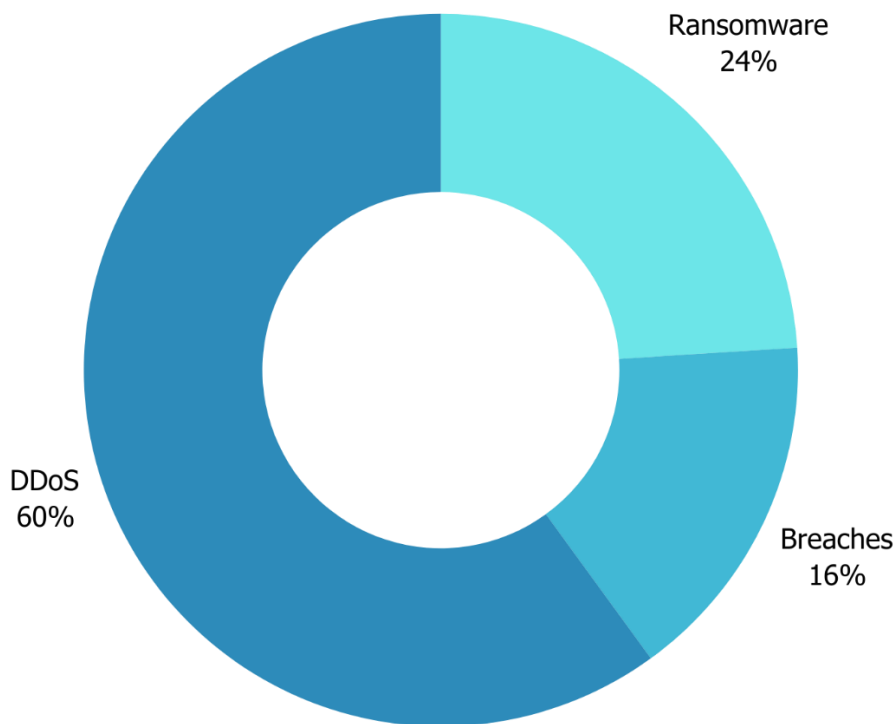


Figure 1 Types of Attacks on the Aviation Sector

The aviation industry is an area that needs to be constantly updated on cyber security. In order to prevent future threats, the sector should constantly review its security policies, invest in personnel training and closely follow technological developments.

This report aims to help managers in the aviation industry raise awareness of cyber attack threats and protect their companies by taking the necessary precautions.

Ransomware Attack

Continental Aerospace Technologies Became Victim of PLAY Ransomware

The screenshot shows a dark-themed notification window titled "Continental Aerospace Technologies". It includes the following details:

- Location: United States
- Website: www.continental.aero
- Views: 667
- Amount of data: ??? gb
- Added: 2024-03-06
- Publication date: 2024-03-09

The notification contains two main text blocks:

information: Continental Aerospace Technologies™ is a global leader in General Aviation. They are the only company to offer a full range of gasoline and Jet-A engines, as well as avionics services. Continental Aerospace Technologies was founded in 1905 and is based in Alabama, the United States.

comment: Private and personal confidential data, clients documents, a lot of technical documentation, clients db,budget, payroll, taxes, IDs, finance information and etc. For now part of the data have been published, If there no reaction full dump will be uploaded.

The background of the notification features a large, semi-transparent watermark that reads "PLAY".

Continental Aerospace Technologies, an Alabama-based aircraft engine manufacturer, has suffered a cyber attack attributed to PLAY ransomware. PLAY ransomware is a sophisticated malware that encrypts files and makes them inaccessible until a ransom is paid. These attacks pose a major threat to the aerospace sector, with attackers often exploiting vulnerabilities for financial gain. It is believed that the network of Continental Aerospace Technologies, the victim of the attack, was infiltrated through phishing emails, compromised software or exploiting vulnerabilities. The attackers demanded a payment from the organisation to obtain the decryption key by paying a ransom. This attack has the potential to halt production processes, jeopardise intellectual property and impact operational efficiency. Continental Aerospace Technologies collaborated with cybersecurity experts and law enforcement to investigate the incident, analyse the attack and take measures against future attacks. This attack emphasises the importance of security assessments and measures in the aviation industry.

Saudia MRO 8BASE Victim of Ransomware

Saudia MRO

Downloaded: 28.02.2024 Publish: 06.03.2024 views: 13

Proud to be partnered with the national airline of Saudi Arabia, Saudia Technic (formerly SAEI) serves our regional and global clients from a network of more than 100 locations around the globe. Saudia Technic provides end-to-end aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul solutions. saudiamro.com

Comment:

Were uploaded to the servers:

Invoice

Receipts

Accounting documents

Personal data

Certificates

Employment contracts

A huge amount of confidential information

Confidentiality agreements

Personal files

Other

On 28 February 2024, Saudia Technic, the MRO division of Saudi Arabian Airlines, was the target of a serious cyber attack by the 8BASE ransomware gang. This attack highlighted vulnerabilities in aviation infrastructure and raised concerns over aircraft maintenance and operational safety. 8BASE is a sophisticated ransomware that blocks access to files until a ransom is paid. Ransomware attacks target organisations across a range of sectors for financial gain, and according to Boeing research, these attacks have increased by 600%. The attack on Saudia Technic is believed to have involved the distribution of 8BASE ransomware via phishing emails to the organisation's network. As a result of this attack, critical maintenance and operational databases, documents and communication channels were compromised, causing disruptions to Saudi Arabian Airlines services. The attack caused significant disruption to aircraft maintenance programmes, operational planning and communication systems, and caused financial and reputational damage. This incident highlights the critical importance of cyber security in the aviation industry.

Air Albania Attacked by LockBit Ransomware Group

lockbit3g3ohd3katajff6zaehxz4h4cnhmz5t735zplywhwpc6oy3id.onion/post/vVoukxvj0jVTWE2v65e37434a664c

LOCKBIT 3.0 **LEAKED DATA** TWITTER > HOW TO BUY BITCOIN > CONTACT US >
PRESS ABOUT US > AFFILIATE RULES > MIRRORS >

Deadline: 02 Mar, 2024 20:47:16 UTC

[no logo] **airalbania.com.al**
Help & Contact. +355 4 224 60 00. customer.care@airalbania.com.al. b2b@airalbania.com.al. groups@airalbania.com.al. 24/7 booking and customer services. Customer Service. You're an email away to become our business partner.

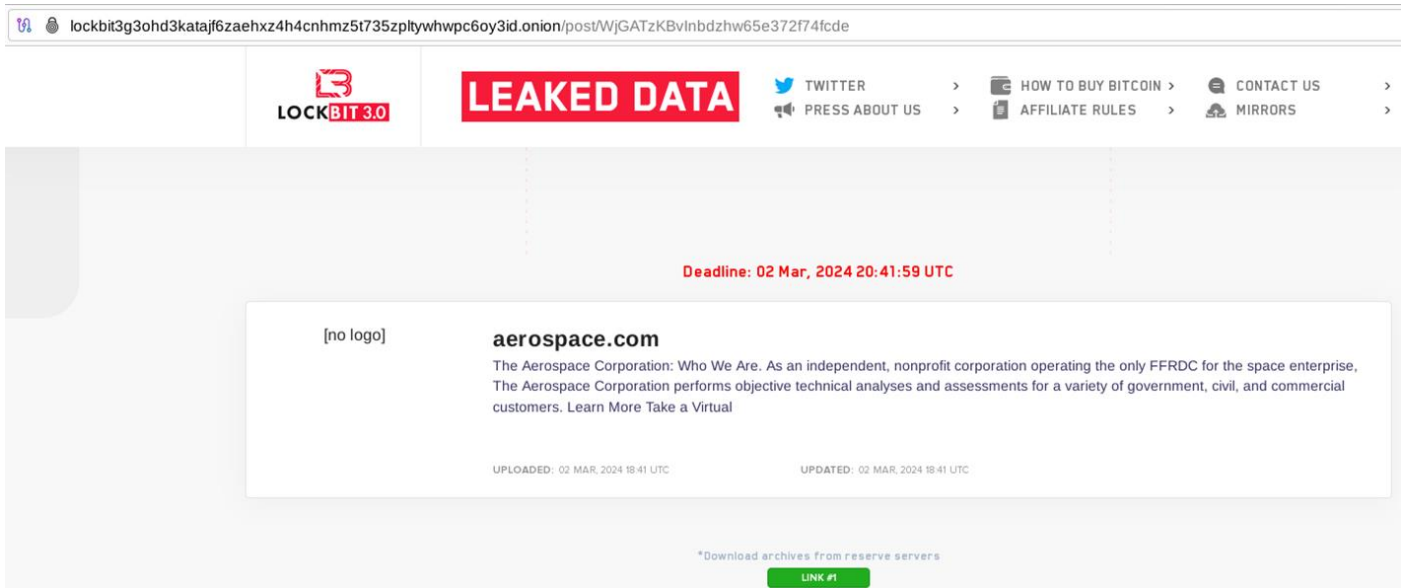
UPLOADED: 02 MAR, 2024 18:47 UTC UPDATED: 02 MAR, 2024 18:47 UTC

*Download archives from reserve servers
LINK #1

Folder Name	Date
Contract & Procurement	March 9, 2024
Documentation	October 8, 2022
Emails	October 8, 2022
Finance	October 12, 2022
Flight Data	March 9, 2024
Flight Operations	October 12, 2022
Ground Operations	October 12, 2022
HR	October 12, 2022
IT Division	October 12, 2022
Management	October 6, 2022
Marketing & Sales	October 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes	October 6, 2022
Office of CEO	October 13, 2022
Official Letters	October 13, 2022
PAX No	October 13, 2022
Personal Folders	October 6, 2022
Share	October 13, 2022
Share Test	October 6, 2022
Training Department	October 14, 2022
lockbit3g3ohd3katajff6zaehxz4h4cnhmz5t735zplywhwpc6oy3id.onion	October 13, 2022

Albania's flag carrier airline Air Albania has been targeted by the LockBit ransomware group. The Albanian government has increasingly faced cyberattacks organised by Iranian-backed threat actors in recent months. Relations between Albania and Iran are strained and have been exacerbated by allegations that Albania has provided sanctuary to members of the Iranian People's Mujahedeen of Iran (MEK). The LockBit ransomware gang frequently targets the aviation sector. They have attacked major airlines such as Bangkok Airways, E.M.I.T Aviation Consulting and Kuwait Airways. While it is not known exactly how Air Albania was compromised, the LockBit gang pointed to a Metasploit Framework folder in the leaked data set. From this, it can be inferred that the threat actors used the framework to exfiltrate data from several employees and existing file shares.

Aerospace Hit by LockBit Ransomware Attack



India's Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), a major aerospace research company, was attacked by the notorious ransomware group LockBit. LockBit added NAL to its dark web leak site, threatening to publish the organisation's data. According to the leaked information, LockBit published eight allegedly stolen documents, including confidential letters and an employee's passport. As NAL's website is down, neither the company nor the Indian cyber agency CERT-In has yet to make an official statement on the matter. Last month, LockBit targeted the US branch of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), disrupting transactions in the US Treasury market, and the bank reportedly paid a ransom. LockBit's business model is known as "ransomware-as-a-service", selling its malware to other hackers.

Data Leaks

Ghost Princess Cyber Threat Group Targets US Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group Ghost Princess on their secret Telegram channel.

Threat actor Ghost Princess claimed that they targeted Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), the international airport located in Los Angeles, California, USA. Threat actors claim that they leaked the database as a result of their cyber attack. When the claim is examined, it is claimed that there is a leak involving 2.5 million users of "Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)", and that the leak includes "User Data, Full Names, E-mail Addresses, Company Names, Aircraft Model Numbers and CPA Numbers of private aircraft owners"

Qatar Airways Data Allegedly Leaked by R00TK1T ISC Cyber Team

R00TK1T ISC CYBER TEAM
Attention, fellows!
 We are R00TK1T, are here to remind you of the power we hold over the information and systems of Qatar Airways. No company is safe from our grasp, and Qatar Airways is no exception!

ADOC Navigator for Airbus 330 & 350: Unveiling the Secrets
 We've managed to infiltrate Qatar Airways ADOC Navigator system for their Airbus 330 and 350 aircraft. With this access, we have unlocked a treasure trove of confidential flight data, maintenance schedules, and operational details. The secrets of the skies are now in our hands!

Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package: Unleashing the Potential
 But wait, there's more! Our crew have also breached Qatar Airways' Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package. This means we have access to critical software, maintenance logs, and even flight control systems. The skies are our playground, and Qatar Airways is at our mercy!

Qatar Airways Interviews: Exposing Internal Discussions
 In our quest for total disruption, we've obtained exclusive access to Qatar Airways internal interview recordings. Prepare to witness the hidden conversations, hiring practices, and decision-making processes within the airline.

Qatar Airways Sample Docs: Unmasking the Inner Workings
 Last but not least, we've decrypted Qatar Airways sample documents. From passenger manifests to cargo manifests, from boarding procedures to security protocols, we lay bare the inner workings of this airline. Nothing is sacred, and the world will know the extent of our reach!

To all the news sites that dare underestimate the evidence we possess, consider this a warning:
 We have prepared a special post just for you, exposing your ignorance and incompetence.

Remember, we are R00TK1T, and we will continue to expose the vulnerabilities of corporations, institutions, and all those who underestimate our power. Stay tuned for more chaos, more revelations, and more tales of our conquests!

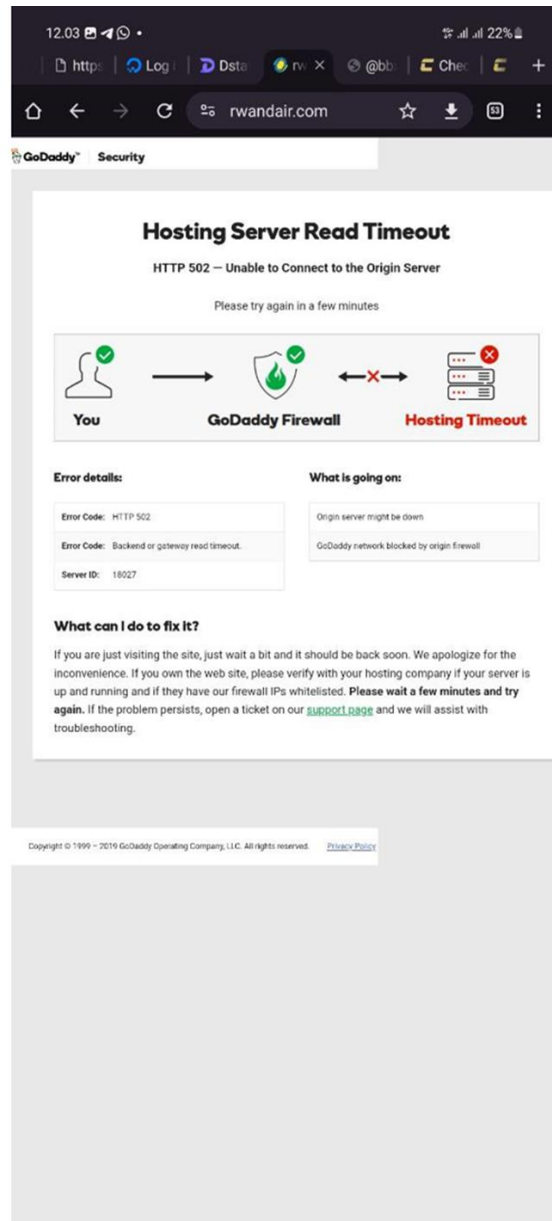
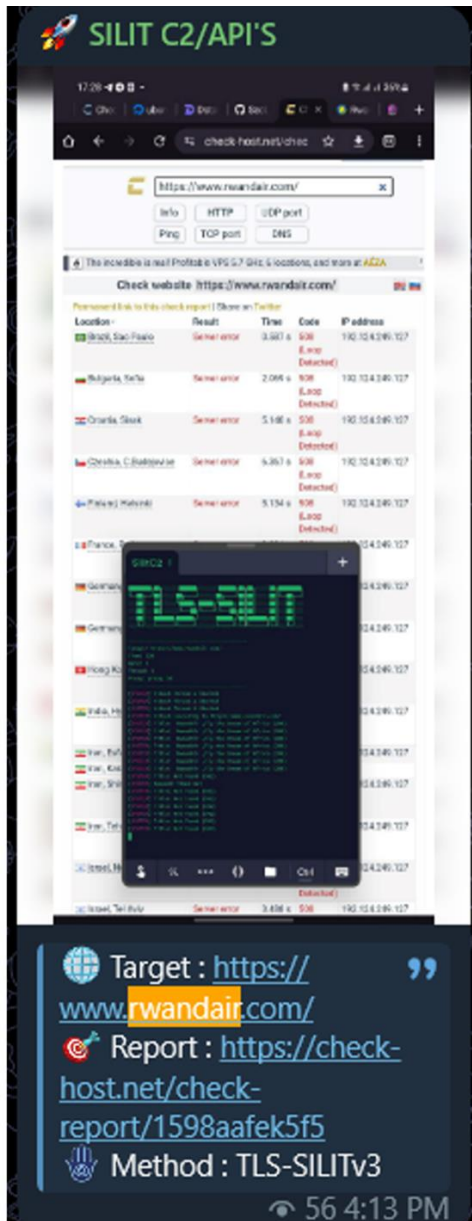
PS
 We still have more than +400GB of data to go through, Qatar Airways are welcome to reach out to us and prevent the next publications @R00TK1TOfficial

R00TK1T ISC CYBER TEAM

- QatarAirways A350 Airn@v software.zip 1787.2 MB
- QatarAirways A330 Airn@v software.zip 1390.8 MB
- QatarAirways interviews.zip 644.4 MB
- QatarAirways_Sample_Docs.zip 196.3 MB
- Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package.zip... 1371.2 MB
- Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package.zip... 2000.0 MB
- Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package.zip... 2000.0 MB
- Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Package.zip... 2000.0 MB

On 29 December 2023, a group of threat actors named "R00TK1T ISC Cyber Team" claimed to have carried out a successful attack on Qatar Airways. First, the group announced that they had compromised the ADOC Navigator system for Airbus A330 and A350 aircraft. This breach provided access to flight data, maintenance schedules and operational details. The attackers also said they had infiltrated the Boeing 787 Toolbox Remote Data Pack, taking control of the aircraft's systems. Within the breach, they claimed to have exposed Qatar Airways' internal negotiations, hiring practices and decision-making processes. The breach also exposed passenger manifests, cargo manifests, boarding procedures and security protocols. The threat actors offered Qatar Airways an opportunity to negotiate and prevent further data leaks by alerting news sites and stating that they had more than 400 GB of data. The attack shows that there are bolder and more aggressors aiming to target the aviation industry, and the industry needs to be more vigilant against these threats.

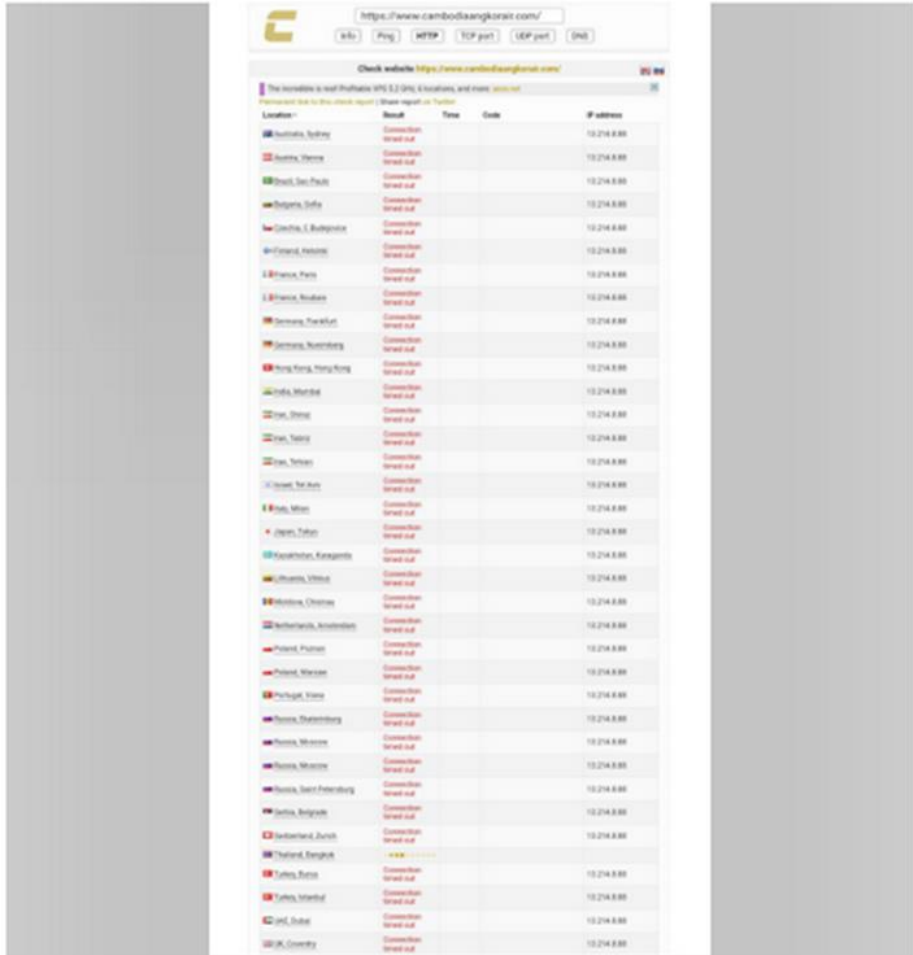
SilitNetwork Targets RwandAir Ltd



On 16 February 2024, the hacking group SilitNetwork carried out a cyber attack against Rwanda's national airline RwandAir Ltd. This incident highlights the vulnerability of the aviation sector and the potential impact on airline operations and passenger data security. The SilitNetwork is known as a group that operates in cyber-attacks against high-profile targets, often for financial gain, political motivations or to showcase their hacking capabilities. The attack on RwandAir Ltd was an effort to target the airline's digital infrastructure, with hackers gaining unauthorised access using sophisticated methods. The motivations behind this attack are speculative, but could include the theft of sensitive passenger information, disruption of airline operations, or even extortion attempts. The attack has the potential to impact airline operations as well as compromise the confidentiality and integrity of passenger data. RwandAir is cooperating with cyber security organisations to investigate the attack and take security measures. This attack once again demonstrates the importance of strong cyber security measures in the aviation industry.

'Host Kill Crew Hackers' Target Cambodia Angkor Air

HOST-KILL-CREW



Cambodia Angkor air flight website down By Host-Kill-Crew

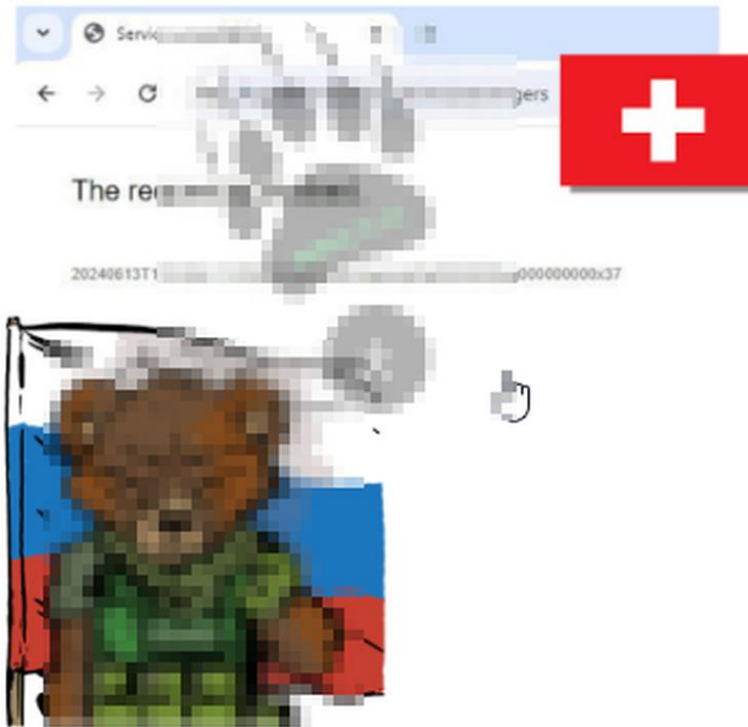
URL:<https://www.cambodiaangkorair.com>

CHECK-HOST: <https://check-host.net/check-report/fd66ffb858>

A lesser-known hacker group calling themselves Host Kill Crew has claimed responsibility for the Cambodian Angkor Air cyberattack. The group posted details of the attack on their Telegram channel, claiming a DDOS (Distributed Denial of Service attack) and halting online services for a time.

DDoS Attack

Threat Actor NoName057(16) Targets Critical European Airports

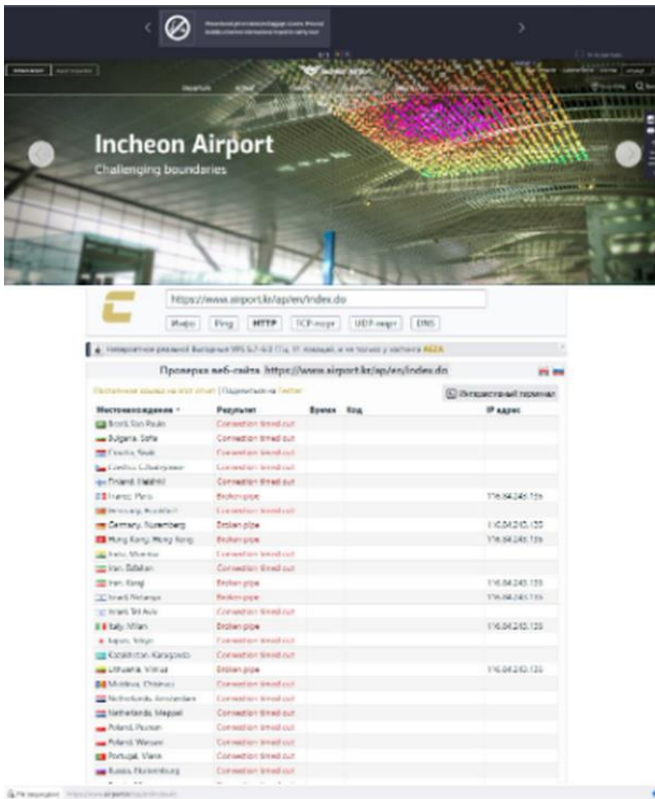


[Continuing](#) the attacks on Switzerland and hitting the local airport website with our DDoS missiles 🇮🇷

✘ The largest international airport in Switzerland, located in Zurich. The main hub for Swiss International Air Lines. Serves most international flights (dead on ping)

The attack was posted by the hacktivist group NoName057(16) on secret Telegram channels. The Russian threat actor "NoName057(16)" claims to be targeting Switzerland's largest international airport, Flughafen Zürich in Zurich, which serves most international flights. The attack method is a Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

Threat Actor HackNet Targeted Incheon Airport, One of South Korea's Largest Airport Operators, Together with Other Actor



Ошибка при установлении защищенного соединения
 При соединении с сервером произошла ошибка: FR_BND_CP_RLZ_ERROR
 Код ошибки: 16290200000000
 * Проверьте, доступен ли сервер, который вы хотите посетить, чтобы убедиться, что он доступен.
 * Проверьте, правильно ли вы указали путь к серверу.
 * Проверьте, совпадают ли адреса IP-адреса и адреса DNS-записей.
 Подробнее...

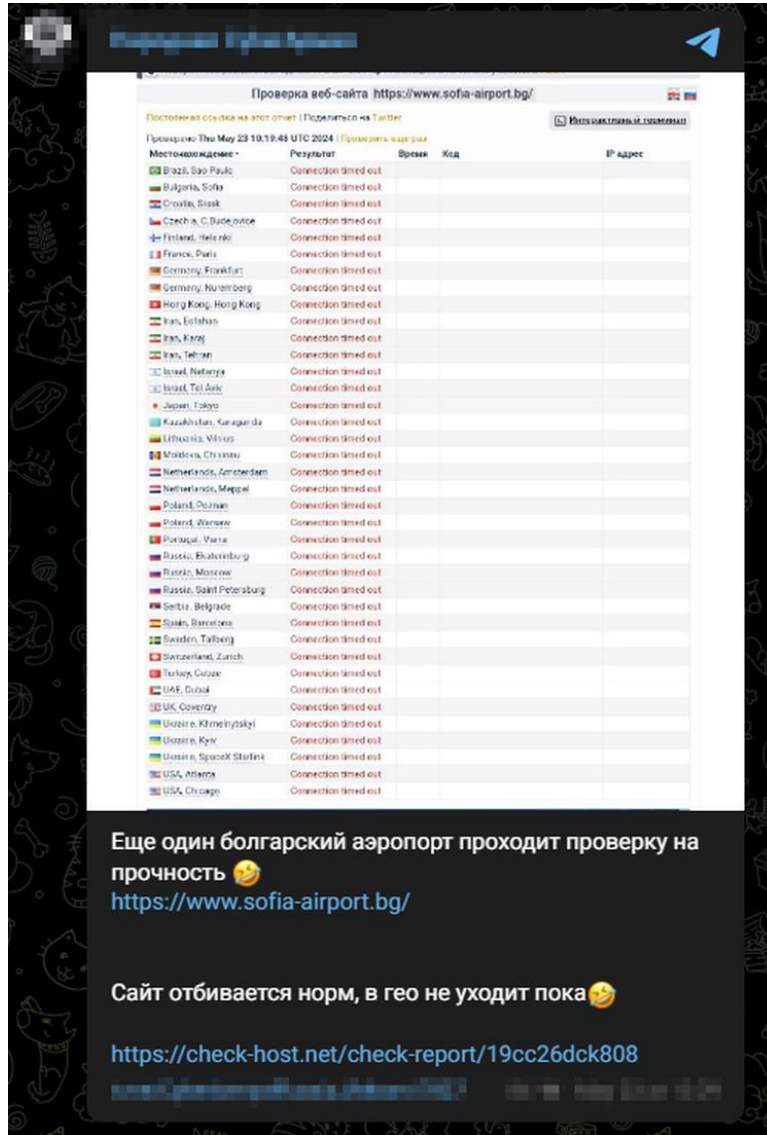
А мы [присоединяемся](#) к нашим друзьям [NoName057\(16\)](#) и [НароднаяCyberАрмия](#) и начинаем атаки на Южную Корею

✗ Международный аэропорт Инчон – это международный аэропорт, расположенный в городе-метрополии Инчон, в семидесяти километрах от столицы Республики Корея – города Сеула. Он является крупнейшим авиационным узлом страны и одним из крупнейших аэропортов мира по показателям объема международных авиаперевозок и количества операций взлётов и посадок воздушных судов.

The attack was shared by the hacktivist group "HackNet" via secret Telegram channels.

The Russian threat actor "HackNet", along with other Russian threat actors "NoName057(16)" and "НароднаяCyberАрмия", claim to be targeting Incheon Airport, one of the largest airport operators in South Korea. As an attack method, they stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

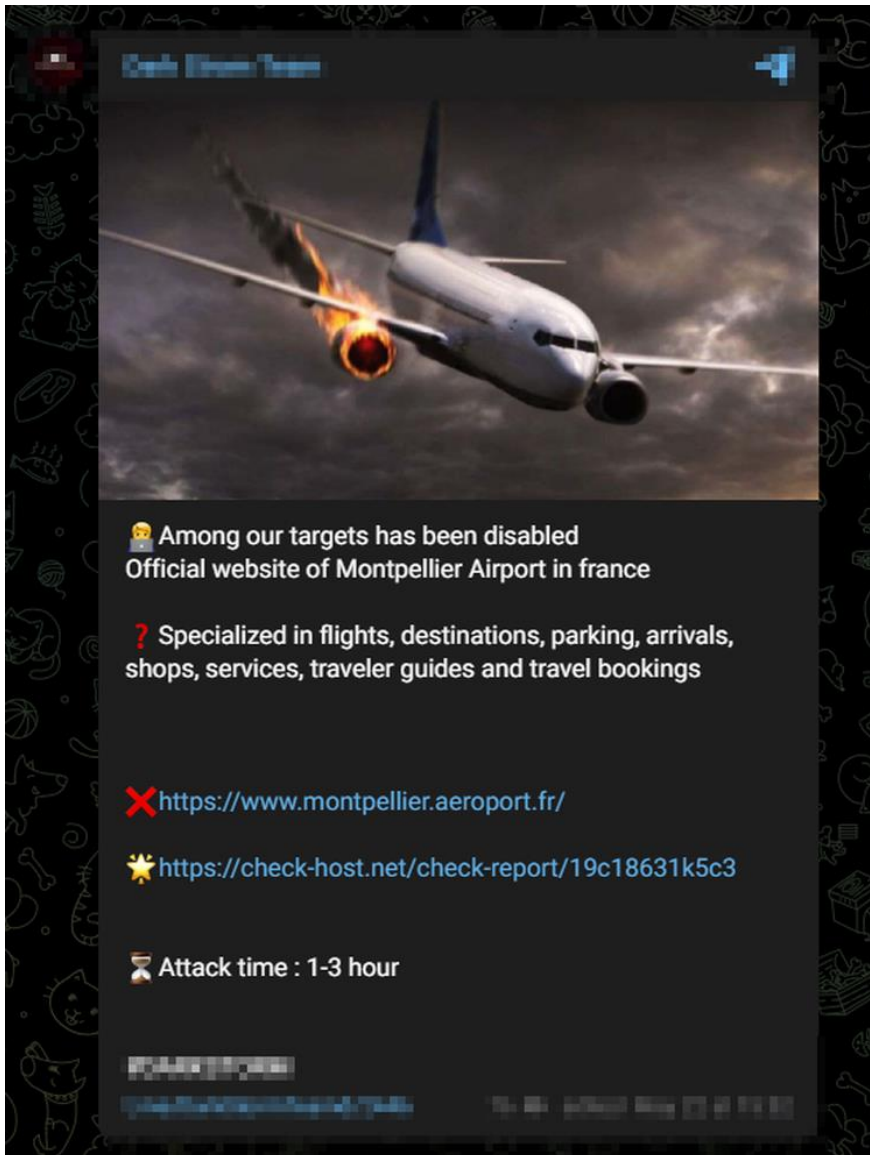
Threat Actor Народная CyberАрмия Claims to Target Bulgarian Aviation Sector



The attack was posted by the hacktivist group "Народная CyberАрмия" in secret Telegram channels.

The Russian threat actor "Народная CyberАрмия" claims to be targeting "Sofia Airport", a Bulgarian aviation company. The threat actors stated that they used a Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

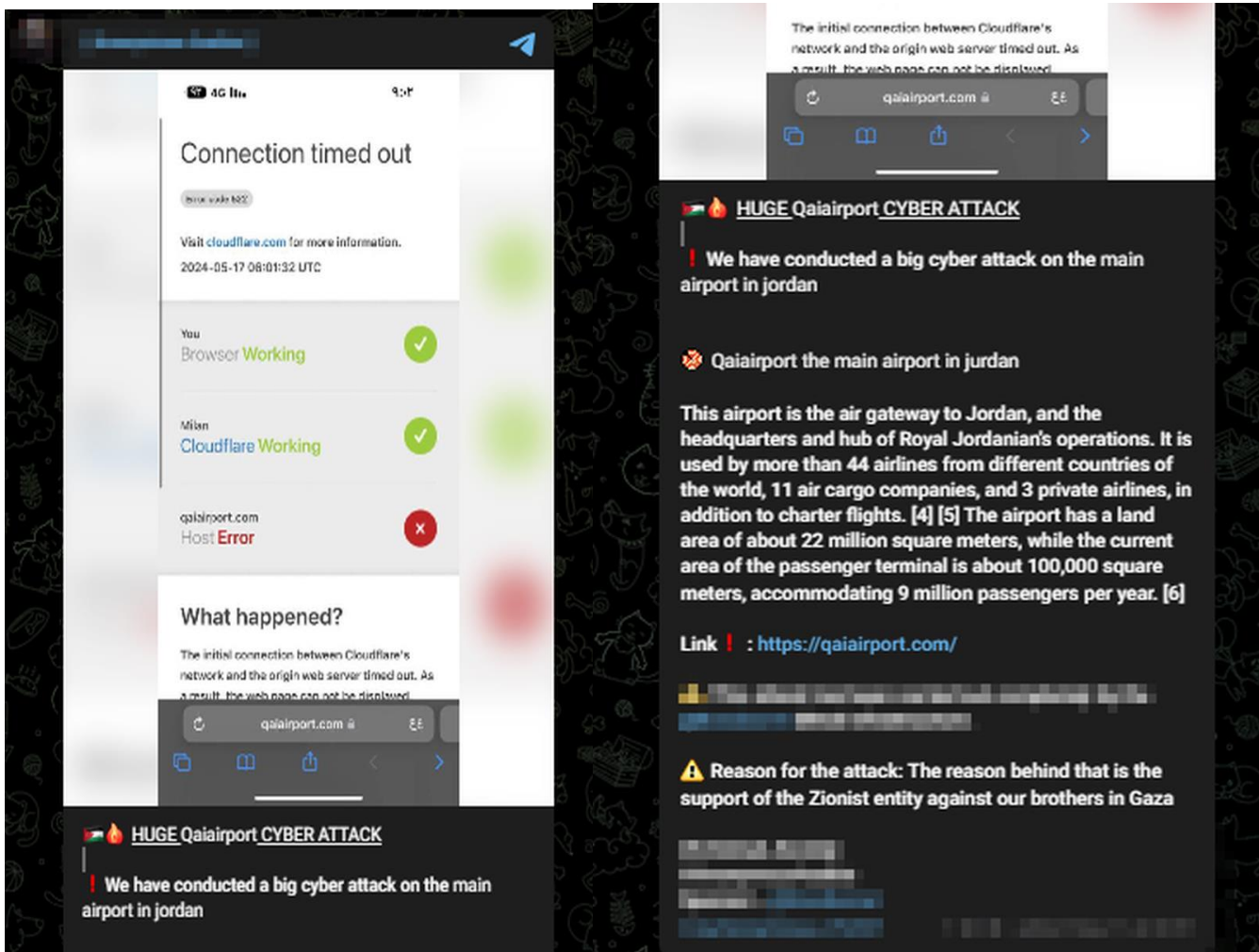
Threat Actor Dark Strom Team Targets France Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group "Dark Strom Team" via secret Telegram channels.

The Russian threat actor "Dark Strom Team" claims that they are targeting "Aéroport Montpellier Méditerranée", which serves the French aviation industry. Threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

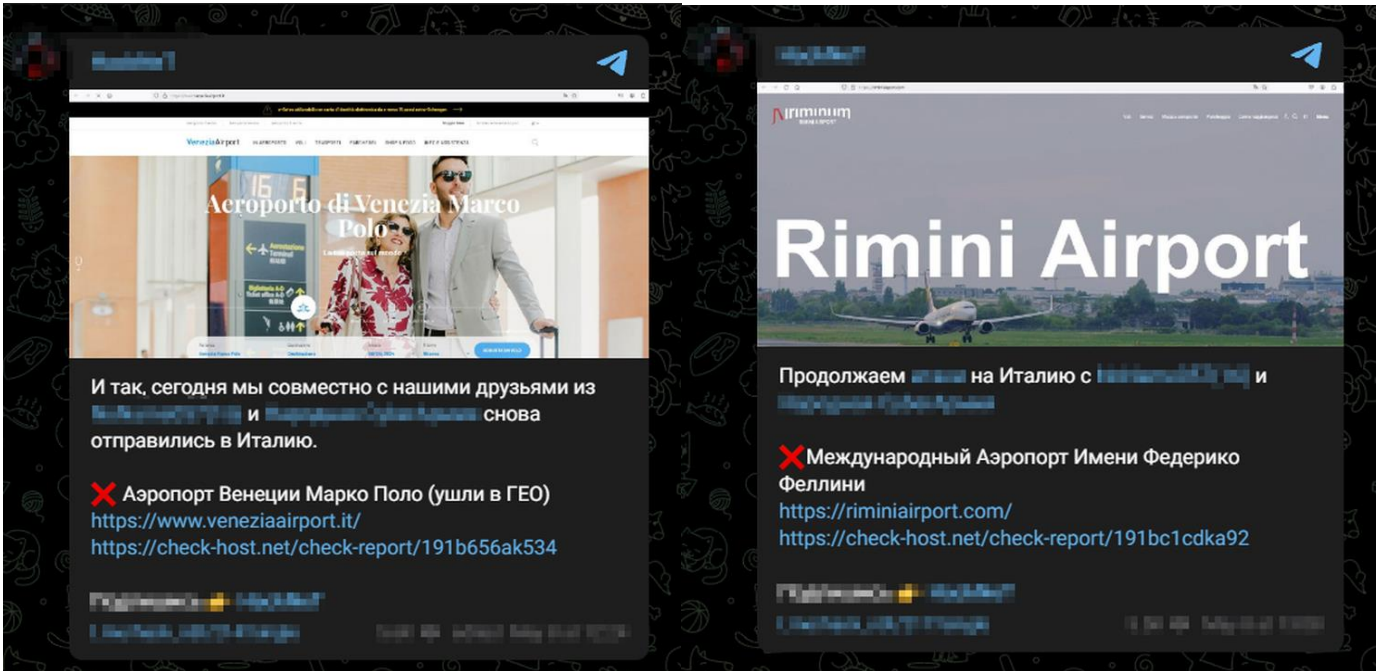
Threat Actor Anonymous Arabia Targets Jordanian Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group "Anonymous Arabia" via secret Telegram channels.

The threat actor claims that "Anonymous Arabia" and "Criminal_Society" are jointly targeting "Qaiairport" airport, which serves the Jordanian aviation industry. The threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

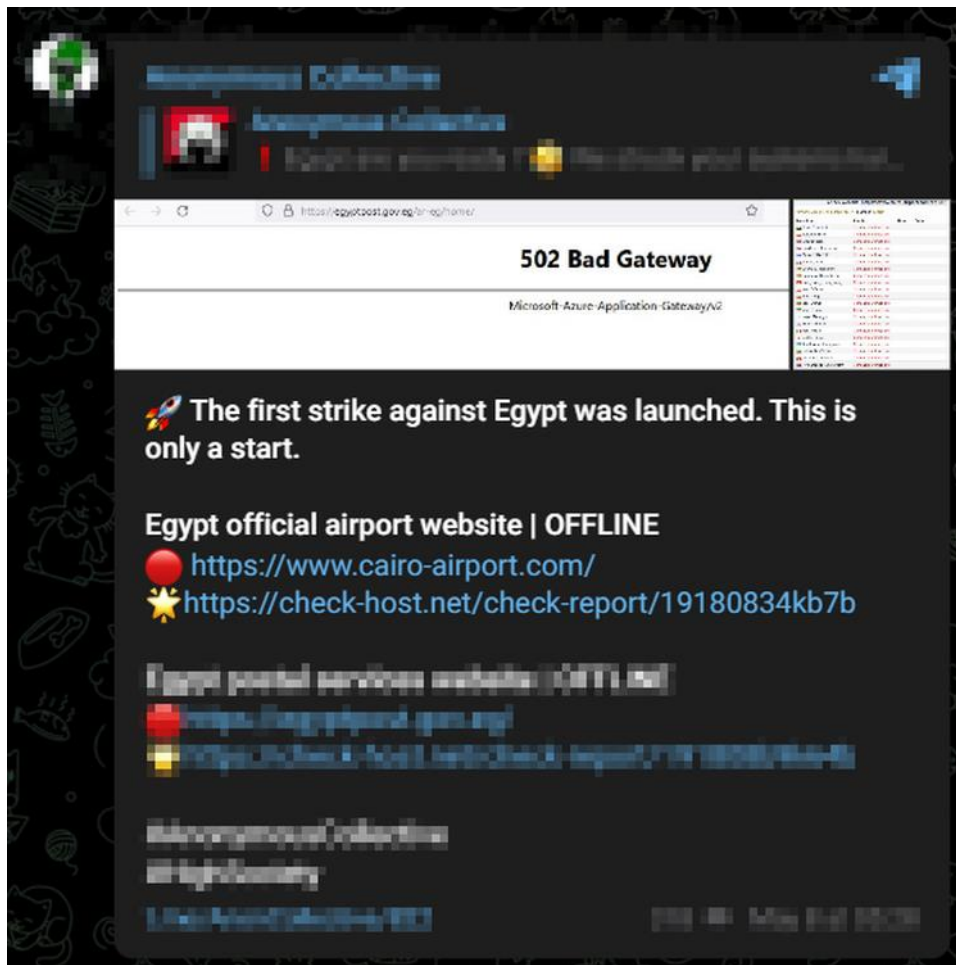
HackNeT Italy Targets Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group HackNeT via secret Telegram channels.

Russian threat actors "HackNeT" "NoName057(16)" and "Народная CyberАрмия" jointly claimed to have targeted "Venice Marco Polo Airport", the fifth busiest airport in Italy, and "Federico Fellini International Airport" in Rimini, Italy. The threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

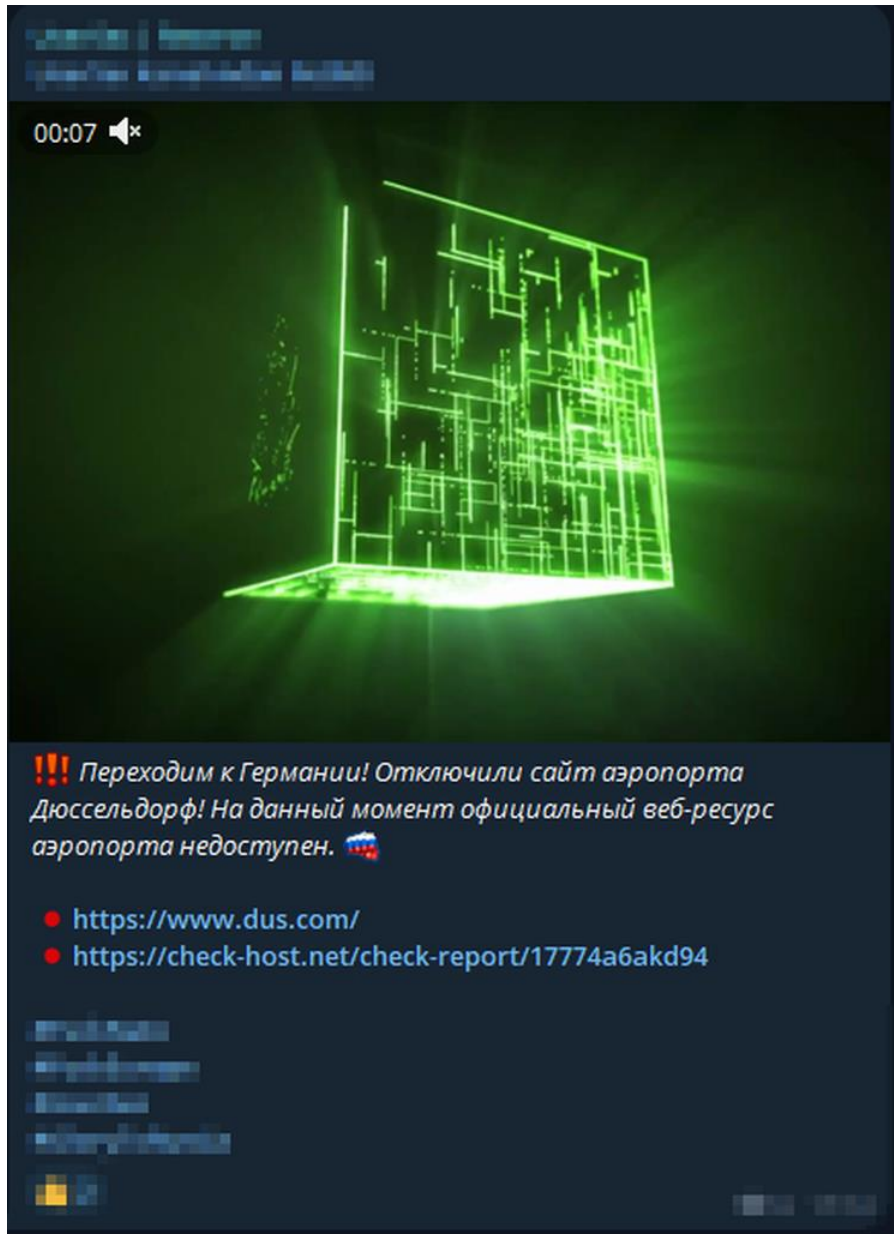
Anonymous Collective Cyber Threat Group Targets Egyptian Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group Anonymous Collective via secret Telegram channels.

The threat actor, in partnership with "Anonymous Collective" and "HighSociety", claimed that they targeted "Cairo International Airport", which serves in the Egyptian aviation sector. The threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

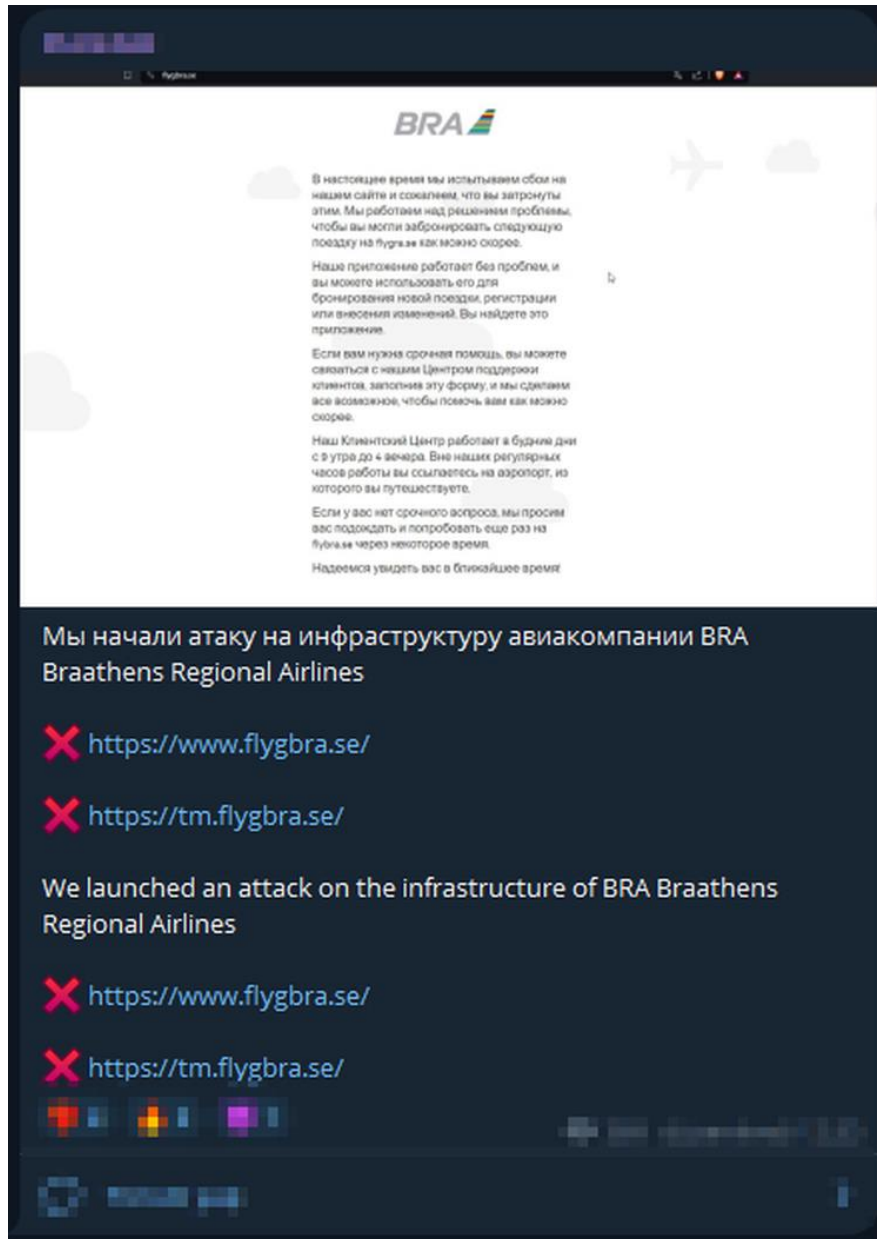
Cyber Threat Group UserSec Targets German Aviation Industry



The related attack post was made by the hacktivist group UserSec on secret Telegram channels.

UserSec, a Russian threat actor, hacked "Düsseldorf Airport", which serves the German aviation industry. The threat actors claimed that they were targeting. The threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

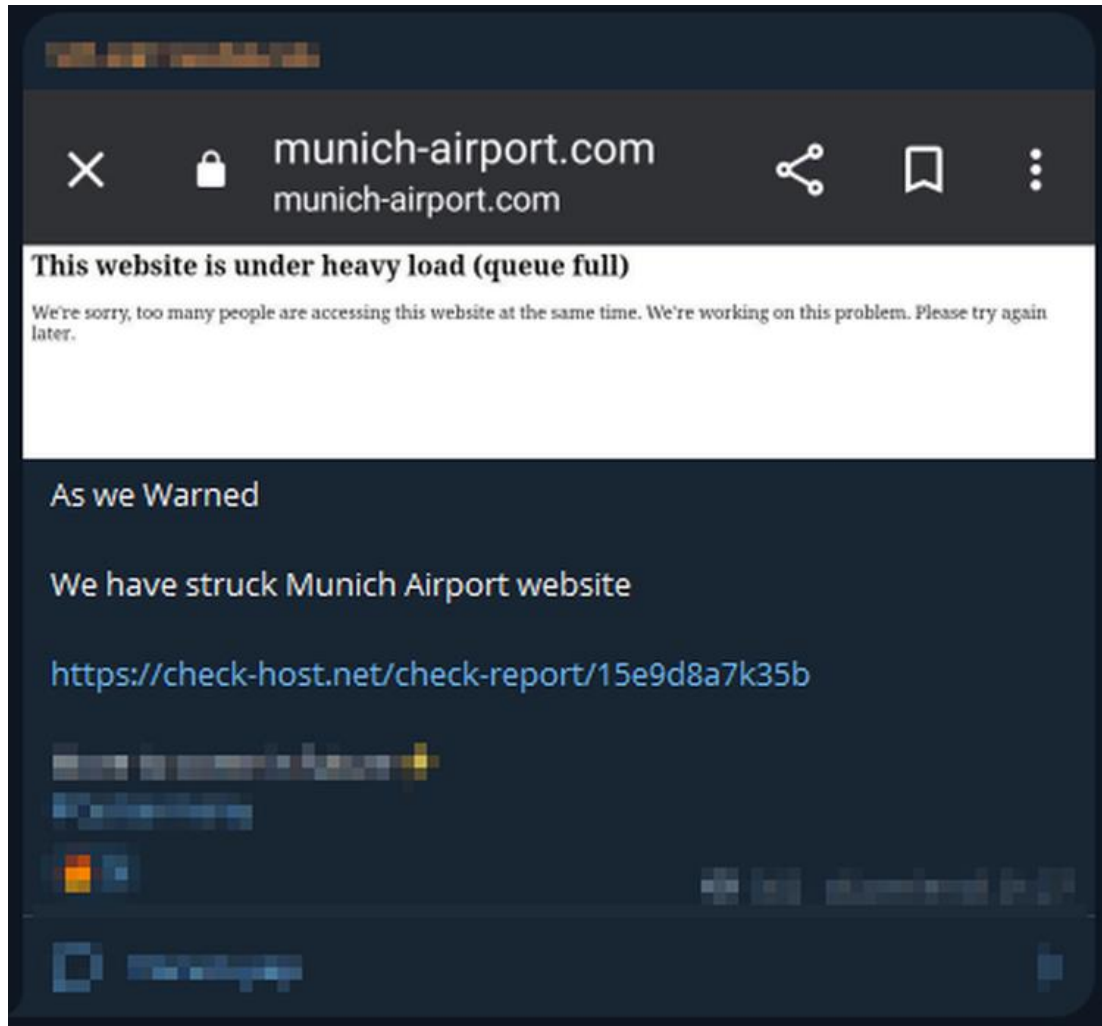
PHOENIX Claims to Target Swedish Aviation Sector



The attack was posted by the hacktivist group PHOENIX on their secret Telegram channel.

The threat actor "PHOENIX" claimed to be targeting "BRA Braathens Regional Airlines", often abbreviated as BRA, a Swedish regional airline based in Stockholm. The threat actors stated that they used a Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

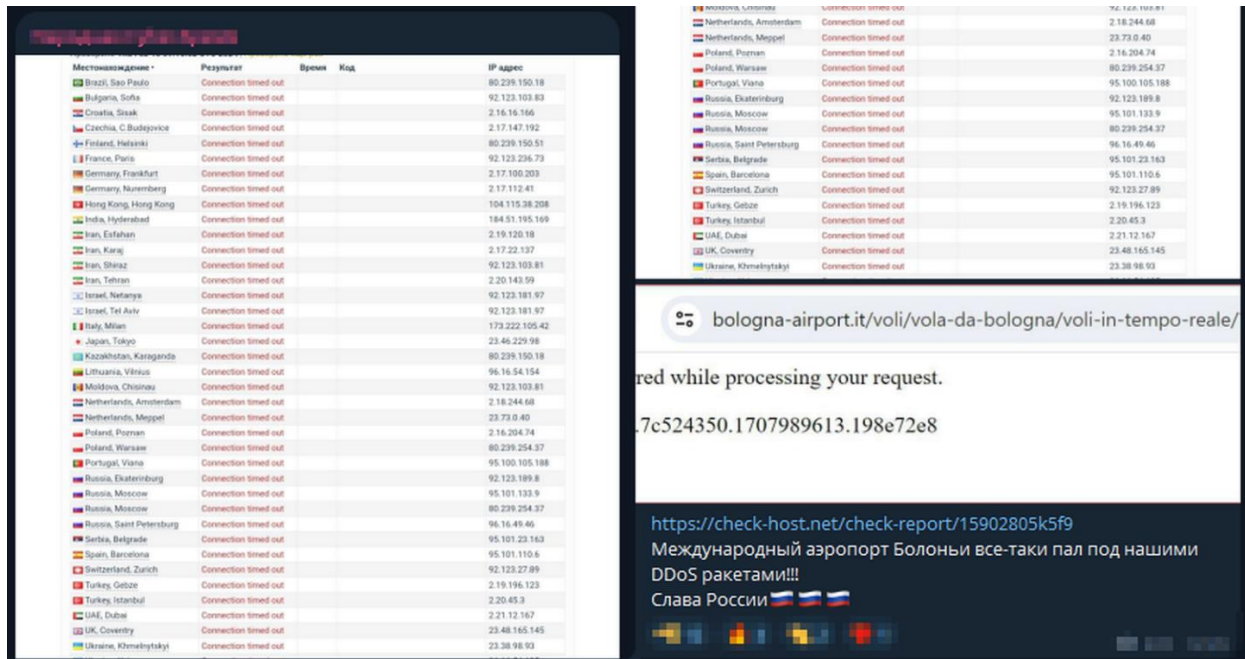
SYLHET GANG-SG Cyber Threat Group Targets German Aviation Sector



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group SYLHET GANG-SG on their secret Telegram channel.

The threat actor SYLHET GANG-SG claimed to be targeting Munich Franz Josef Strauss Airport, the international airport serving Munich, the centre of the German state of Bavaria. Threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

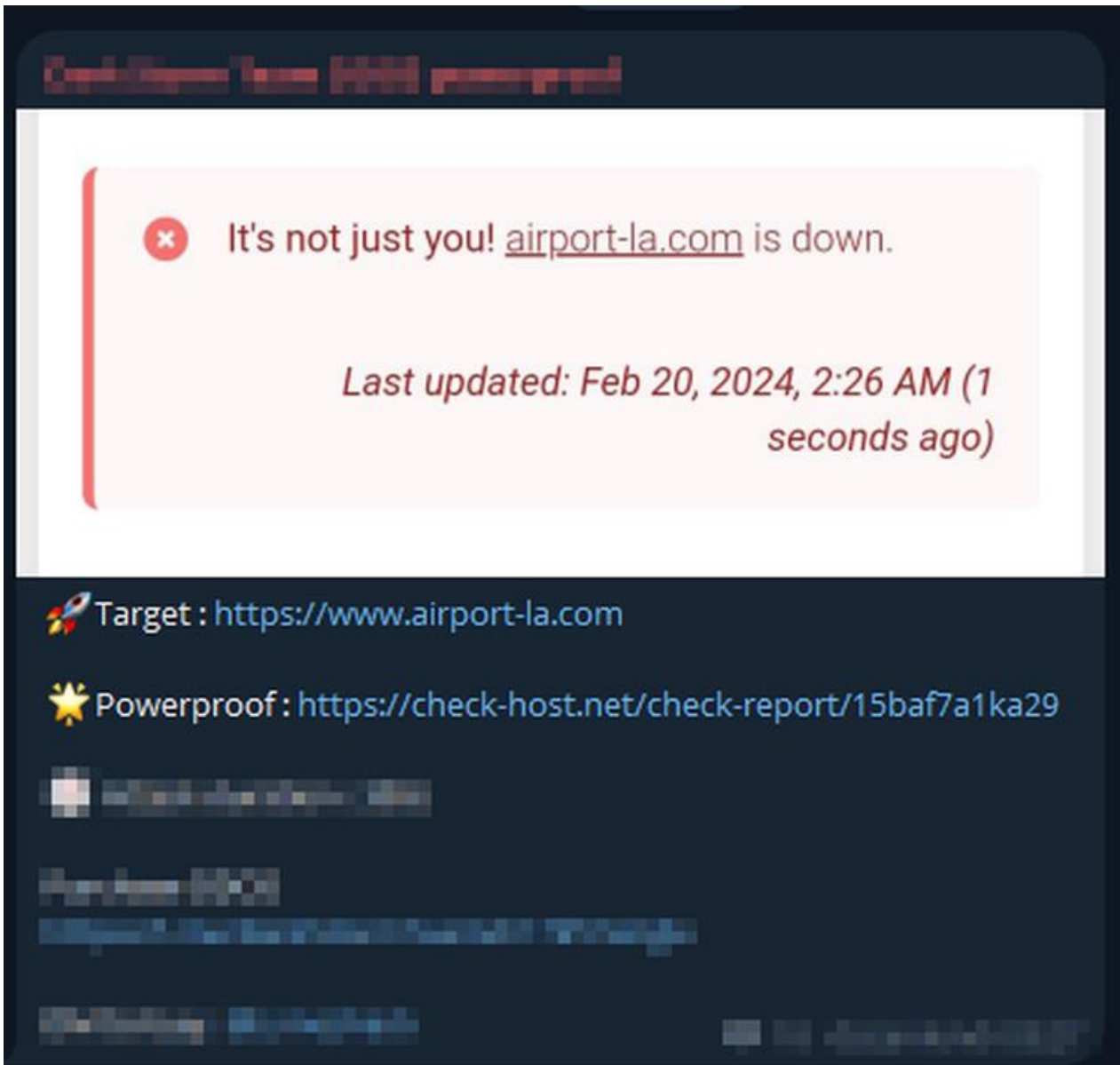
CyberArmyofRussia_Reborn Targets Italian Aviation Sector



The attack post was made by the hacktivist group CyberArmyofRussia_Reborn, also known as Народная CyberАрмия, via secret Telegram channels.

The Russian threat actor "CyberArmyofRussia_Reborn" claimed that they targeted the international airport "Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport" in Bologna, Italy. Threat actors stated that they used Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

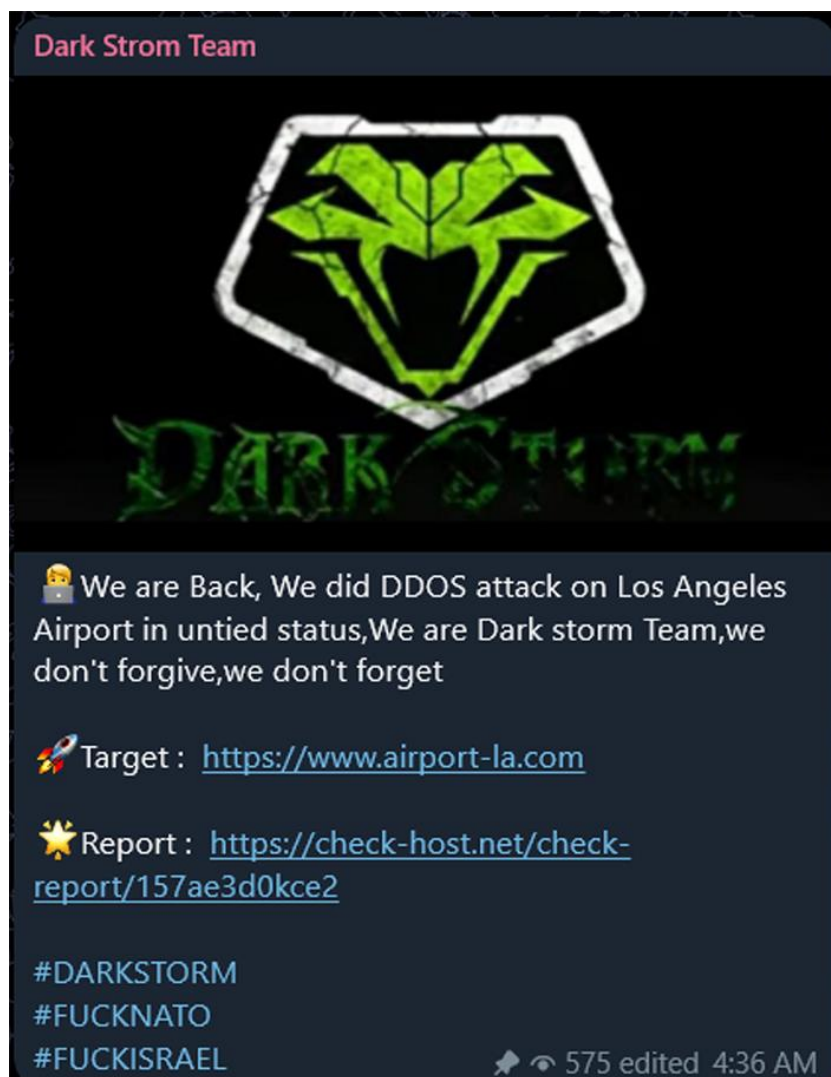
Dark Storm Team Targets US Aviation Industry



The attack was shared by the hacktivist group Dark Storm Team on their secret Telegram channel.

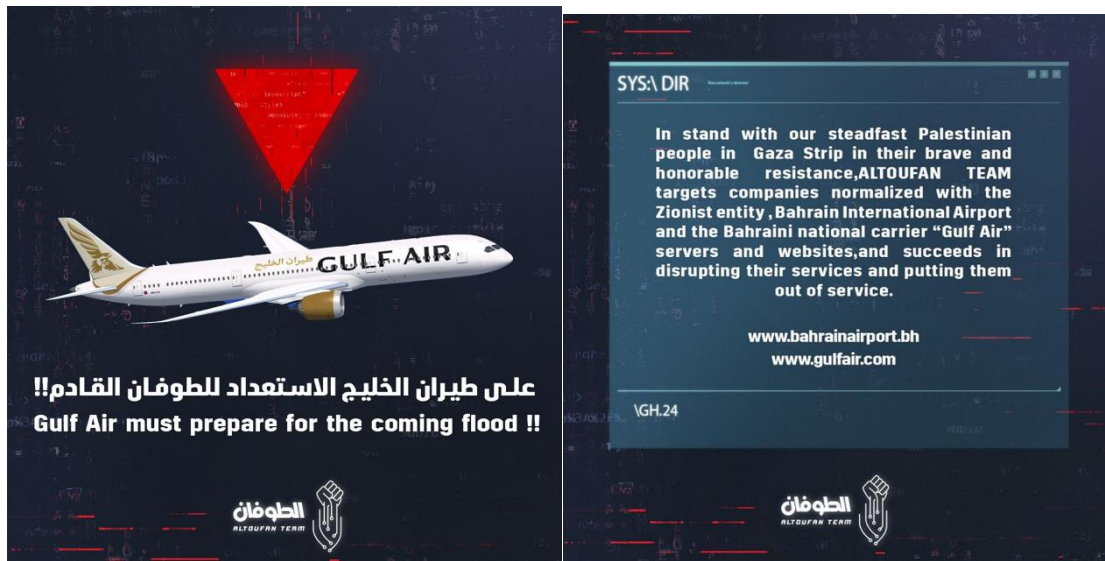
The threat actor Dark Storm Team claimed that they targeted "airport-la.com", the international airport located in Los Angeles, California, USA. The threat actors stated that they used a Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attack, which is a very common technique among threat actors.

Dark Storm Team Performed DDOS Attack on Los Angeles Airport



On 12 February 2024, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) was affected by a DDoS attack by the Dark Storm Team. This attack demonstrated the vulnerability of aviation infrastructure to cyberattacks. Dark Storm Team is a notorious hacking group and is known for DDoS attacks. In the attack on LAX, network traffic to online platforms increased. This increase caused the airport website to temporarily shut down and passengers and staff were unable to use online services. The motivation for the attack is still a matter of speculation, but the impact was great. Airport authorities experienced difficulties with updates, which exacerbated the inconvenience caused by the cyber attack. The airport's cyber security team responded quickly to the attack and took measures. This incident led to a review of the airport's cyber security infrastructure. An investigation has been launched to identify the source of the attack and LAX is collaborating with law enforcement and cybersecurity firms. This attack highlights the importance of implementing cybersecurity measures at airports and demonstrates the need to improve incident response planning to ensure uninterrupted service.

Gulf Air Subjected to Cyber Attack



Posted Tuesday at 08:04 PM

Report post

As you may see it in the news, GulfAir database including Passengers Personal Information and their trips are stolen. And we were the group that hacked into it.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/gulf-air-exposed-data-breach-vital-operations-not-affected-2023-11-25/>

The Database includes:

- Emails
- Passport numbers
- Personal Information
- Mobile number
- Passengers flights
- etc.

They are in **several databases** some with **+200M records!!**

The data time is from GulfAir establishment until nearly one month ago.

For **7 Days**, We sell it **exclusively** and the price is **\$70K**, which means first buyer will be the last.

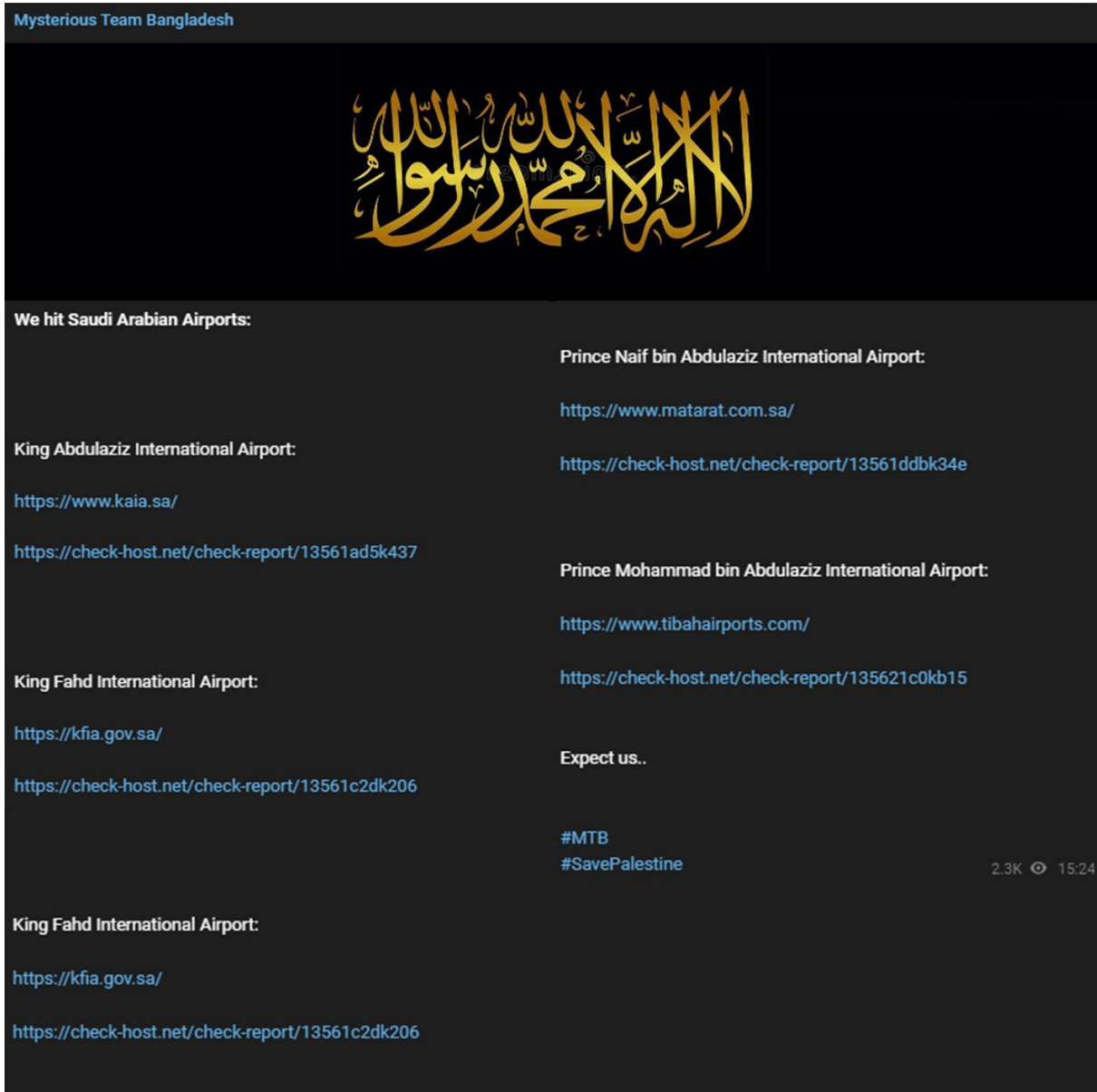
After 7 days if no one want the data exclusively, then the price will drop to \$20K and we will sell it to anybody with no limits.

First contacts in PM.

POC images are attached

ALTOUFAN TEAM, a threat-actor group, has announced their intention to carry out a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack on Gulf Air, Bahrain's national airline. The group associates its actions with support for the Palestinian cause. ALTOUFAN TEAM also announced a successful DDoS attack against Gulf Air and Bahrain International Airport. These attacks caused disruptions to Gulf Air's online services and operational difficulties. On the same day, Bahrain Airport's online portal also became temporarily inaccessible due to a DDoS attack. Gulf Air announced that its data had been breached, but the Bahrain news agency stated that the airline's operations were not affected. It was reported that the company's e-mail system and customer database may have been compromised as a result of ALTOUFAN TEAM's attack. Contingency plans were put in place to contain the attack.

Mysterious Team Bangladesh Targeted Saudi Arabia Airport Website



On 19 November 2023, a group calling itself "Mysterious Team Bangladesh" (MTB) launched a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack on several major airports in Saudi Arabia. The affected airports included King Abdulaziz International Airport, King Fahd International Airport, Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz International Airport and Prince Mohammed bin Abdulaziz International Airport.

It is not yet clear why MTB organised the attack and its true intentions. MTB's use of the hashtag #SavePalestine suggests that it may have ideological or political motivations related to the Gaza conflict. However, more research is needed to find out the real intentions behind the attack and the broader geopolitical connections. Their last message ended with the phrase "Wait for us..." and included the hashtags #MTB and #SavePalestine.



ECHO

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