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Peter Navarro on Six methods of ballot fraud ducked by courts has hearing Dec 24

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Fwd: Peter Navarro alleges election fraud Inbox

Shermie Wiehe<shermiewiehe@gmail.com>

Sun, Dec 20, 2020 at 6:48 AM

Bcc: scburen@gmail.com

Peter Navarro releases 36-page report alleging election fraud 'more than sufficient' to swing victory to Trump

by Andrew Mark Miller, Social Media Producer | | December 17, 2020 01:40 PM

Director of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy Peter Navarro published a lengthy report Thursday outlining several examples of voting irregularities that are “more than sufficient” to swing the outcome of the election in President Trump’s favor.

The 36-page report “assesses the fairness and integrity of the 2020 Presidential Election by examining six dimensions of alleged election irregularities across six key battleground states” and concludes that “patterns of election irregularities ... are so consistent across the six battleground states that they suggest a coordinated strategy to, if not steal the election, strategically game the election process in such a way as to ... unfairly tilt the playing field in favor of the Biden-Harris ticket.”

The six dimensions of voting irregularities in the report include: outright voter fraud, ballot mishandling, contestable process fouls, equal protection clause violations, voting machine irregularities, and significant statistical anomalies.

All six of those voting issues were present in at least two key states, according to the report, and a total of six battleground states experienced multiple examples of the other dimensions.

“Evidence used to conduct this assessment includes more than 50 lawsuits and judicial rulings, thousands of affidavits and declarations, testimony in a variety of state venues, published analyses by think tanks and legal centers, videos and photos, public comments, and extensive press coverage,” the report claims.

Additionally, the report cites affidavits alleging the exploitation of the elderly and the infirm by “effectively hijacking their identities and votes” and accuses Democrats of using the coronavirus pandemic to relax voter ID requirements to the point that ballot harvesting and fraud could slip by unnoticed.

The report outlined incidents in the key states of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, where ballots allegedly were illegally harvested and dumped into drop boxes.

The election was marred with examples of dead people voting, according to the report.

“In Pennsylvania, for example, a statistical analysis conducted by the Trump Campaign matching voter rolls to public obituaries found what appears to be over 8,000 confirmed dead voters successfully casting mail-in ballots,” the report claims. “In Georgia — underscoring the critical role any given category of election irregularities might play in determining the outcome — the estimated number of alleged deceased individuals casting votes almost exactly equals the Biden victory margin.”

The report concludes: “The ballots in question because of the identified election irregularities are more than sufficient to swing the outcome in favor of President Trump should even a relatively small portion of these ballots be ruled illegal.”

Navarro, who worked on the report in a private capacity, is scheduled to hold a news conference at 1 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday to discuss the findings. (Dec 24 Thurs)

Trump has launched legal battles across the country since the November election, which has been called for President-elect Joe Biden by all major news networks and certified by the Electoral College, and as recently as this week stated that it's "too soon to give up."

Dozens of legal challenges across the country, however, have been lost, and the Supreme Court has declined to hear cases from both Texas and Pennsylvania challenging the election, which Trump's supporters have decried as a politically motivated ducking.

Several Republicans, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, have broken with the president and conceded that Biden is the winner of the election. McConnell congratulated Biden on Wednesday, declaring that "the Electoral College has spoken."

Additionally, Biden slammed claims of voter fraud this week, saying, "Thankfully, a unanimous Supreme Court immediately and completely rejected" efforts to overturn the election.

12.21.20

Israel 10 day quarantine compulsory for all arrivals & all flights may be halted

12.21.20

Israel makes quarantine compulsory for all arrivals from abroad

Mandatory isolation in state-run facilities for at least 10 days goes into effect Wednesday; all foreigners banned from entering country for two weeks; decision comes amid concerns over new, more infectious coronavirus mutation

Itamar Eichner ,Adir Yanko| Published: 12.21.20 , 14:36

The coronavirus cabinet on Monday ruled that all Israelis returning from abroad will be required to go into isolation of at least 10 days in state-operated hotels, due to concerns over a new, more infectious mutation of the coronavirus.

Foreign nationals will not be admitted into the country at all for two weeks, except in special circumstances.

Ministers decided that the measure will go into effect Wednesday at 2pm and be in place for 10 days.

Israelis will enter quarantine at state-run hotels for up to 14 days, but could be released after 10 days if they present a negative test on the first and tenth days of isolation.

If the hotels run out of room, the Health Ministry will then draw up a list of people who could be authorized to go into quarantine at home.

All returnees within the next 48 hours will go into quarantine at home, where they will be tested for coronavirus.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had been pushing for all flights in and out of Israel to be halted altogether.

On Sunday, ministers decided to require all Israelis returning from the UK, Denmark and South Africa to quarantine in government-operated coronavirus hotels.

Sunday's decision was made as two flights from London were en route to Israel, carrying a total of 120 Israeli passengers. Dozens of the passengers decided to return to the UK rather than go into isolation, despite having been informed before boarding that the new policy could be in effect when they landed.

The Health Ministry on Monday morning reported that 2,821 new COVID-19 cases were confirmed on Sunday, after 70,000 tests conducted, indicating a 4.1% positivity rate.

Of 24,999 patients currently battling the disease, 456 are in serious condition, with 117 connected to ventilators. Eight people have succumbed to the virus in the past 24 hours, raising the death toll since the start of the pandemic to 3,101.

Coronavirus czar Prof. Nachman Ash, who backed the closure of the airport, also told the ministers on Sunday that he recommends a partial lockdown that includes suspension of all commerce.

Ash said the rise in the number of seriously ill patients surpassed the amount recorded in November.

He warned that with no mitigation measures taken, Israel would see up to 1,900 seriously ill patients within three months and the death toll rise by up to 1,250 in the same period.

12.20.20

PM informed of new strain by WHO, while Security Council knew for a week

12.20.20

Furious Netanyahu slams 'secrecy' over coronavirus mutation

PM lashes out at Edelstein for not informing him of new strain currently being seen in UK as ministers plan for even more contagious form of virus; public health chief warns it is unclear whether vaccine works on latest form of coronavirus

Itamar Eichner, Itay Blumenthal | Published: 12.20.20, 15:42

Prime Minister Benjamin lashed out at officials for keeping "secret" reports of a coronavirus mutation spreading in the UK, as ministers dealing with the pandemic met Sunday to mull tighter measures to counter Israel's growing infection rate.

Deputy National Security Council chief Eitan Ben-David told the meeting that, "the issue of the mutation has been known for a week, from information not based in the media."

Netanyahu angrily replied: "I did not know."

Health Minister Yuli Edelstein said he had known about the mutation since Saturday due to "a kind of leak from friendly sources."

He said that he had been asked to keep the matter secret but that the National Security Council had been updated the same day.

"What do you mean secret?" Netanyahu hit back. "Such a thing cannot be kept secret." Both Netanyahu and Edelstein on Saturday night received the Pfizer vaccination against the coronavirus.

The head of Public Health Services at the Health Ministry, Dr. Sharon Elrai-Price, told the meeting that Israel had also received an update from the World Health Organization regarding the new mutation.

"This virus is more contagious," she said. "It is not clear what the effect of this virus is on the vaccine; we only have partial information."

Coronavirus czar Prof. Nachman Ash recommended closing Israel's international airport, a move backed by the prime minister.

"Our objective [is] to immediately close [flights from] all countries. All flights from all over the world must be stopped," Netanyahu said.

Ash also advised that until the skies are indeed closed, all people entering from the UK, South Africa and Denmark should be placed in isolation and undergo coronavirus testing that includes genetic sequencing to identify whether they have been infected with the new mutation.

Ministers voted in favor of mandatory isolation in hotels for people returning from those countries, to go into effect on that day.

The cabinet also decided that the need to isolate in hotels would also apply to some 120 passengers who were on flights to Israel from the UK as the meeting was taking place.

The passengers, who were all Israeli, had been updated prior to take-off that they may have to isolate in hotels after landing. Dozens of tourists and foreign passport holders were not allowed to board those flights.

Netanyahu told the meeting that, "we should close [to] the whole world immediately and let only businesspeople move about, in line with regulations. This is a small price in the event that the vaccine does not work on the mutation."

He then turned to the representatives of the National Security Council and asked: "What prevents us from halting flights from all over the world?"

Ben-David replied: "Halting flights is a decision of the Transportation Ministry."

Netanyahu added: "This is an extreme step, but if there is [an appearance of the mutated virus in Israel] it will be hard. There is no legal impediment to closing the skies save for the return of Israelis abroad."

Transportation Minister Miri Regev expressed her opposition to the move, however, saying that "there is no reason to close the skies."

12.21.20

Orthodox teens harassing West Bank Arabs, one killed evading police in traffic

12.21.20

Riots erupt outside police HQ in Jerusalem over death of settler teen

Protesters hurl rocks and ambush passing vehicles belonging to Arab citizens, shattering several windshields, hours after **teen, caught throwing rocks at Palestinians, was killed** following a police chase

Gilad Cohen, Haim Golditsch | Published: **12.21.20**, 23:26

Riots erupted **Monday outside the Israeli police national headquarters in Jerusalem** over the death of an **Israeli teen, who was killed in a car accident during a police chase** after being **caught throwing rocks at Palestinians in the West Bank.**

Protesters hurled rocks and **even ambushed passing vehicles** belonging to Arab citizens, **shattering several windshields.** One of the drivers tried to make his way through the crowd of mostly **ultra-Orthodox protesters** and almost ran over a demonstrator.

Several Arab youths from the nearby Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood started **lobbing rocks at demonstrators in response.** Tit-for-tat stone-throwing ensued between the parties and subsided shortly after.

Some protesters held banners that read, "Revenge now" and shouted "murderers" at police officers at the scene. At least 23 demonstrators were arrested.

Ahuvya Sandak, 17, from the West Bank outpost of Bat Ayin, was **killed during a police chase** Monday afternoon after **he and four other people** had been **caught hurling rocks** at Palestinian cars near the city of Ramallah. The other suspects were lightly injured in the accident.

Sandak and his friends were members of the Hilltop Youth - young extremist settlers who set up unauthorized settlement outposts and create friction with the Palestinians who live in the West Bank.

Other passengers claimed that the **undercover vehicle** in which police were traveling, **hit them in the back.** Photos from the scene showed the vehicle Sandak was in, had been damaged in the front.

The **Department** for Internal Investigations **launched a probe into** the conduct of the **officers** who were **involved** in the accident.

Meanwhile, far-right activist Baruch Marzel spoke at the protest and demanded a commission of inquiry be established to examine the circumstances that led to Sandak's death.

"The incitement against the righteous on the hills ended today in murder, cold-blooded murder by policemen who are taught on a daily basis to violate the rights of these boys, and now they have murdered one and wounded the rest and continue to commit their crimes," Marzel said. "A commission of inquiry must be set up to investigate their conduct towards the hilltop youth."

12.21.20

World closes borders to Britain as new coronavirus strain breeds panic

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India, Poland, Switzerland, Russia and Hong Kong suspend travel for Britons after UK leader Boris Johnson warned that a mutated variant of COVID-19, up to 70% more infectious, had been identified in the country

Reuters| Published: 12.21.20 , 18:18

More countries closed their borders to Britain on Monday over fears of a highly infectious new coronavirus strain, heightening global panic, causing travel chaos and raising the prospect of UK food shortages just days before the Brexit cliff edge.

India, Poland, Switzerland, Russia and Hong Kong suspended travel for Britons after Prime Minister Boris Johnson warned that a mutated variant of the virus up to 70% more infectious had been identified in the country, while Japan and South Korea said they were monitoring the situation.

A slew of countries have already suspended travel, including France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Ireland, Belgium, Israel and Canada.

The discovery of the new strain, just months before vaccines are expected to be widely available, sowed fresh panic in a pandemic that has killed about 1.7 million people worldwide and more than 67,000 in Britain.

Australia said two people who travelled from the United Kingdom to New South Wales state were found to be carrying the mutated virus.

Johnson will chair an emergency response meeting on Monday to discuss international travel, in particular the flow of freight in and out of Britain. EU officials held a meeting on coordinating their response.

France shut its border to arrivals of people and trucks from Britain, closing off one of the most important trade arteries with mainland Europe.

As families and truck drivers tried to navigate the travel bans to get back home in time for Christmas, Britain's second-largest supermarket chain, Sainsbury's, said gaps would start to appear on shelves within days if transport ties were not quickly restored with mainland Europe.

An electronic information display board shows the "cancelled" status of flights, including those bound for Dublin, Istanbul, and Munich among others, in the departures hall at Terminal 2 of Heathrow Airport in west London on December 21, 2020, as a string of countries around the world banned travellers arriving from the UK,

An electronic information display board shows the 'cancelled' status of flights in the departures hall of Heathrow Airport in west London (Photo: AFP)

"If nothing changes, we will start to see gaps over the coming days on lettuce, some salad leaves, cauliflowers, broccoli and citrus fruit" all of which are imported from the continent at this time of year," Sainsbury's said.

Shellfish producers in Scotland said they had tons of perishable products stranded on roads as the French border was closed. Disruption in Britain will also snarl supplies to Ireland.

"No driver wants to deliver to the UK now, so the UK is going to see its freight supply dry up," France's FNTR national road haulage federation said.

The global alarm was reflected in financial markets.

European shares slumped, with travel and leisure stocks bearing the brunt of the pain; British Airways-owner IAG and easyJet fell about 8%, while Air France KLM lost about 7%.

The British pound tumbled 2.5% against the dollar, and was on course for its biggest one-day drop since March, while the yield on two-year UK government bonds hit a record low.

Britain's tabloids bemoaned the crisis.

"Sick Man of Europe", the Daily Mirror newspaper said on its front page beside a picture of Johnson while the Sun newspaper said "French show no merci".

Travellers wearing a face mask or covering due to the COVID-19 pandemic, stand at check-in desks at Terminal 2 of Heathrow Airport in west London on December 21, 2020, as a string of countries around the world banned travellers arriving from the UK, due to the rapid spread of a new, more-infectious coronavirus strain

Travelers wait at Heathrow Airport in west London as a string of countries around the world banned travelers arriving from the UK (Photo: AFP)

NEW MUTATION

Johnson cancelled Christmas plans for millions of British people on Saturday due to the more infectious strain of the coronavirus, though he said there was no evidence that it was either more lethal or caused a more severe illness.

The new variant contains 23 different changes, many of them associated with how it binds to cells and enters them. British Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said Britain had done some of the best global analysis of the mutations of the virus so it was simply seeing what was already at large in other countries.

Shapps said getting the bans lifted as swiftly as possible was his priority but that given British preparations for the end of the Brexit transition period on Dec. 31, the country was well positioned for disruption.

The British government triggered plans it had for stacking up trucks in the southeast county of Kent - part of its plans for potential disruption when the United Kingdom exits the EU's orbit with - or without - a trade deal at 2300 GMT on Dec. 31.

Talks on a Brexit trade deal were due to continue on Monday.

"This is a serious situation as the stockpiled goods expected here are for Christmas and to help stabilize January," Jon Swallow, a director of the British logistics group Jordon Freight, told Reuters.

"This shows how fragile the cross-channel route is."

A sign alerts travels to the closure of Terminal 3 at Heathrow Airport in west London on December 21, 2020, as a string of countries around the world banned travellers arriving from the UK

A sign alerts visitors to the closure of Terminal 3 at Heathrow Airport in West London (Photo: AFP)

ASIAN INFECTIONS

The new virus strain has been identified in Britain at a time when COVID-19 cases have surged in several Asian countries that had previously successfully contained the

pandemic. The spikes have prompted localised lockdowns in some countries and more aggressive testing.

South Korea, which imposes a 14-day quarantine on everyone entering the country, said it was reviewing new measures for flights from Britain, and would test twice those coming in from there before they were released from quarantine.

New cases climbed to over 1,000 a day in South Korea several times last week. It reported on Sunday an outbreak in a Seoul prison where 188 inmates and staff were infected.

Thailand said on Sunday it was testing tens of thousands of people, and extended curbs on movement, following its worst outbreak yet that began at a market in a province that is a centre of the seafood industry and home to thousands of migrant workers.

Australia, where cases in Sydney have flared in recent days, cancelled dozens of domestic flights on Monday. New South Wales, which has reported 86 new local cases since Thursday, ordered more than a 250,000 people into a lockdown, though officials stressed the infections were not the UK strain.

Advertisement

12.20.20

Eight rockets fired at US Embassy in Iraq repelled by C-RAM defense

12.20.20

Rocket barrage targets U.S. Embassy in Iraq

Iraqi officials say Green Zone's C-RAM air defense system downed the projectiles midair; incident comes ahead of anniversary of targeted killing of Iranian general Soleimani in Baghdad

Associated Press| Published: 12.20.20 , 21:28

A barrage of rockets targeted the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone on Sunday, Iraq's military and Iraqi officials said, sparking fears of renewed unrest as next month's anniversary of the U.S. slaying of an Iranian general draws near.

An Iraqi military statement said an outlawed group had launched numerous rockets targeting the Green Zone, causing material damage to a residential complex and some cars. The statement did not provide further details on whether there were also casualties.

There were at least eight rockets fired, according to three Iraqi security officials. They said the U.S. Embassy's C-RAM defense system, which is used to destroy missiles in mid-air, was activated. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

The U.S. Embassy condemned the attack and urged all Iraqi political and governmental leaders to take steps to prevent such attacks and to hold accountable those responsible.

"The U.S. Embassy confirms rockets targeting the International Zone resulted in the engagement of Embassy defensive systems. There was some minor damage on the Embassy compound but no injuries or casualties," it said in a statement. A spokesman for Iraqi President Barham Salih also condemned the attack. The C-RAM system was installed by the U.S. over the summer as armed groups stepped up rocket attacks targeting the embassy and its premises.

The U.S. withdrew some staff from its embassy in Baghdad earlier this month, temporarily reducing personnel ahead of the first anniversary of the U.S. airstrike that killed Iran's top general, Qassim Soleimani, outside Baghdad's airport on Jan. 3. American officials said the reduction stemmed from concerns about a possible retaliatory strike.

Soleimani's killing sparked outrage and led Iraq's parliament to pass a non-binding resolution days later calling for the expulsion of all foreign troops from Iraq. The frequency of rocket attacks in Iraq has frustrated the Trump administration. Iran-backed militia groups have been blamed for orchestrating the attacks. Shiite Muslims demonstrate over the U.S. airstrike that killed Iranian Revolutionary

In September, Washington warned Iraq that it will close its embassy in Baghdad if the government fails to take decisive action to end rocket and other attacks by Iranian-backed militias on American and allied interests in the country.

The partial withdrawal from the embassy came amid a drawdown of American troops from Iraq and Afghanistan announced by the outgoing Trump administration last month. In Iraq, the U.S. plans to reduce the number of troops from 3,000 to 2,500 by mid-January, before Trump is to leave office.

12.20.20

Report: Saudi Arabia, UAE used NSO to target phones of Al-Jazeera reporters

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Report: Saudi Arabia, UAE used NSO to target phones of Al-Jazeera reporters

Watchdog says reporters for Qatari state-owned media company were targeted in an attack attributed to Riyadh and Abu Dhabi using spyware belonging to Israeli technology firm

Associated Press| Updated: 12.20.20 , 23:32

Dozens of journalists at Al-Jazeera, the Qatari state-owned media company, have been targeted by advanced spyware in an attack likely linked to the governments of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, a cybersecurity watchdog reported on Sunday.

Citizen Lab said it traced malware that infected the personal phones of 36 journalists, producers, anchors and executives at Al-Jazeera back to the Israel-based NSO Group, which has been widely condemned for selling spyware to repressive governments.

Most **unnerving** to the investigators was that **iMessages** were **infecting** targeted **cellphones** without the users taking any action — what's known as a zero-click vulnerability. Through push notifications alone, the **malware instructed** the **phones to upload** their content to servers linked to the **NSO Group**, Citizen Lab said, turning journalists' **iPhones into** powerful **surveillance tools** without even luring users to click on suspicious links or threatening texts.

The coordinated attacks on Qatari-funded Al-Jazeera, which Citizen Lab described as the largest concentration of phone hacks targeting a single organization, **occurred in July**, just weeks before the Trump administration announced the normalization of ties between Israel and the UAE, the archival to Qatar. The breakthrough deal took public what had been a long-secret alliance. Analysts say normalization likely will lead to stronger cooperation in digital surveillance between Israel and Persian Gulf sheikhdoms.

Apple said it was aware of the Citizen Lab report and said the latest version of its mobile operating system, iOS 14, “delivered new protections against these kinds of attacks.” It sought to reassure users that NSO doesn't target the average iPhone owner, but rather sells its software to foreign governments to target a limited group. Apple has not been able to independently verify Citizen Lab's analysis.

Citizen Lab, which has been tracking NSO spyware for four years, tied the attacks “with medium confidence” to Emirati and Saudi governments, based on their past targeting of dissidents at home and abroad with the same spyware. The two countries are embroiled in a bitter geopolitical dispute with Qatar in which hacking and cyber surveillance have increasingly become favored tools.

In **2017**, the two Gulf nations and their allies imposed a blockade on **Qatar** over its alleged **support for extremist groups**, a charge Doha denies. The UAE and Saudi Arabia served the tiny country with a list of demands, among them shutting down its influential Arabic-language TV network, which the UAE and Saudi Arabia see as promoting a political agenda at odds with their own. The feud continues to fester, although officials recently have made encouraging signs that a resolution may be within reach.

Emirati and Saudi authorities did not respond to requests for comment.

The NSO Group cast doubt on Citizen Lab's accusations in a statement but said it was “unable to comment on a report that we have not yet seen.” The firm said it provides technology for the sole purpose of enabling “governmental law enforcement agencies to tackle serious organized crime and counterterrorism.” Nevertheless, it added, “when we receive credible evidence of misuse ... we take all necessary steps in accordance with our product misuse investigation procedure in order to review the allegations.” **NSO does not identify its customers.**

Prior to Sunday's report, NSO's **spyware** has repeatedly been found **deployed to hack** **journalists**, **lawyers**, human rights defenders and **dissidents**. Most notably, the spyware was implicated in the gruesome killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was dismembered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in 2018 and whose body has never been found. Several alleged targets of the spyware, including a close friend of Khashoggi and several Mexican civil society figures, sued NSO in an Israeli court over the hacking.

The NSO Group's surveillance software, known as Pegasus, is designed to bypass detection and mask its activity. The malware infiltrates phones to vacuum up personal and location data and surreptitiously control the smartphone's microphones and cameras, allowing hackers to spy on reporters' face-to-face meetings with sources.

"It's not only very scary, but it's the holy grail of phone hacking," said Bill Marczak, a senior researcher at Citizen Lab. "You can be using your phone normally, completely unaware that someone else is looking at everything you're doing."

The Citizen Lab researchers connected the hacks to previously identified Pegasus operators in attacks attributed to Saudi Arabia and the UAE over the last four years.

Rania Dridi, a newscaster at the London-based satellite channel Al Araby, never noticed anything amiss. Although she said she's accustomed to Emirati and Saudi criticism over her reporting on human rights and the UAE's role in wars in Libya and Yemen, she was shocked to learn her phone had been infected with invasive spyware on several occasions starting October 2019.

"It's a horrible feeling to be so insecure, to know my private life wasn't private this whole time," she said.

The zero-click vulnerability is increasingly being used to hack cellphones without a trace, said Marczak. Last year, WhatsApp and its parent company Facebook filed an unprecedented lawsuit against the NSO Group, accusing the Israeli firm of targeting some 1,400 users of its encrypted messaging service with highly sophisticated spyware through missed calls. Earlier this month, an Al-Jazeera anchor filed another lawsuit in the U.S., alleging that the NSO Group hacked her phone through WhatsApp over her reporting on Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

With the UAE and Bahrain normalizing ties with Israel, the use of Israeli spyware in the region may accelerate, Marczak added, encompassing a "much wider range of government agencies and customers across the Gulf."

The Al-Jazeera attack represents the tip of the iceberg, said Yaniv Balmas, head of cyber research at Check Point, an Israeli security company.

"These hacks are not supposed to be public," he said. "We should assume they're happening all the time, everywhere."