

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [HF News // Edition 249](#)

Hydra - July 20, 2015, 10:33 pm

[IMG]<http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Title249.png>[/IMG]

The edition you are currently reading is the 249th edition of the HF News. To read any older editions of the HF News, please go [here](#).

[img]<http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Headlines.png>[/img]

Another Staff Shuffle

Hack Forums has experienced another shuffle in its forum team this month as [Paradoxum](#) and veteran member [Judge Dredd](#) are now both Mentors, the circumstances of either's demotion are not yet known. Meanwhile, [Sam Winchester](#) has stepped up on probation as Staff. However, the roster is still two spaces short, are more changes to come?

Wiki Back on Track

After a disappointing premiere, [D3xus](#) appears to have breathed new life into the Wiki team with a revamped theme and new features which seems to have inspired the members of Hack Forums to start contributing. Writ3rs for the Wiki are recruiting to update, edit, create, and manage articles across the board. [>>Source](#)

[img]<http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/UserNews242.png>[/img]

User News**[b?xxy](#)** has reached 2,000 positive reputation.

[Roger Waters](#) has reached 24,000 posts. No award?

Bans*[Raz3d](#) was banned.

[American Apathy](#) was banned.

Vacations[Project Zen](#) took a long vacation.

[To?mmy](#) took a vacation, so edgy.

[Vip?r](#) took a vacation.

[Kappa](#) took a vacation.

[Abide](#) took a vacation.

Closures[Entire](#) was closed.

[Dexter ?](#) was closed.

[LightBlue](#) was closed.

[????????](#) was closed.

[VACation Time](#) was closed.

[incoming](#) was closed.

Repfucks[The Sween](#) was repfucked for fake vouches.

[Young Jay](#) was repfucked.

[Confusing](#) was repfucked.

[King Tut](#) was repfucked.

[American Apathy](#) was repfucked.

[Abide](#) was repfucked.

[Raz3d](#) was repfucked.

[Entire](#) was repfucked.

[Dexter ?](#) was refucked.

[????????](#) was repfucked.

[VACation Time](#) was repfucked.

[incoming](#) was repfucked..

[BigHecks](#) was repfucked.

Awards[Talu](#) is [The Alien](#)

[Salty Bacon](#) donated for [Master Donator](#) and is now [Royalty](#).

[Sida](#) donated for [Master Donator](#) and received [DaBomb](#).

* - As of the Monday prior to release.

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/NotableThreads244.png[/img]

Announcement Threads

---[Gauth Check](#) - [Omniscient](#)

---Changes have been made to the "Gauth" system. The "issuer" field is now enabled.

Entertaining Threads

---[What's the last illegal thing you did and got away with?](#) - [Ekmete](#)

---Have you ever wondered what sketchy activities the Hack Forums community is up to? Check this thread to find out.

Member Feedback Threads

No member feedback threads this week! If you want your feedback thread mentioned here, then head on over to the [Rules, Announcements, News, and Feedback](#) section and create one! Post a link to it on [this](#) thread and you may see your thread here in the next edition of the Hack Forums News!

Contests & Giveaways

---[Upgrading 10 members to L33T / UB3R](#) - [?Glitch](#)

---The user ?Glitch is hosting a contest in which the winner will receive an upgrade to their account. Enter now!

---[Official Archive Group Contest: GAuth \(2FA\) Edition \(200\\$\)](#) - [xadamxk](#)

---The user xadamxk is hosting a contest in the name of the group Archive. Three winners will win cash prizes adding up to \$200! Enter now!

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/InterviewAstute.png[/img]

Interview - [Cibor \(Click to View\)](#)

[Astute](#): Hello Cibor! Welcome to the 249th Edition of the HF News. Any shoutouts before we begin?

[Cibor](#): Hey, yeah, to my internet provider for bringing back the internet few hours before group auction end

[Astute](#): Haha, that's funny. So, speaking of the group auction, when did you first plan on acquiring the group? How did you get 2.8 million OMC?

[Cibor](#): I started gathering OMC long time ago, I was expecting the OMC's value to increase, and that's what happened, then Omniscient mentioned making an auction, which lead to buying even more OMC

[Astute](#): How much money did you end up investing into Omnicoin?

[Cibor](#): That's a good question, and frankly saying I don't know, because I don't remember exact

prices of OMC when I bought the biggest part. If I saved up money instead of buying OMC, I think I would be able to buy a group as well.

Astute: Alright! Now let's move on to the juicy details. What do you plan on naming your group? What is the topic that your group will centralize around?

Cibor: The group name will most likely be Royalty. Group will be centralized around marketplace. Honest sellers, trustworthy exchangers, that's the goal. We will also offer buyer's protection, if someone gets scammed by member of my group, I will personally refund him. Of course there will be some rules and restrictions, but you get the point. I hate scammers, it's a common problem on HF, and not only HF. Why not gather trustworthy people around?

Astute: That sounds great. What are some problems you foresee with such an ambitious goal? How do you plan on distinguishing the group from the rest that are currently running on HF?

Cibor: Hmm, the possible problem can be dishonest people, we will eliminate them from the group. About your second question, I basically explained that in previous answer, we will be a rather small group where loyalty and honesty matters.

Astute: Continuing from the previous question, what type of repercussions would a member within your group receive if caught scamming (besides removal from the group)? Would there be some sort of 'The Black Hand' division within your group?

Cibor: No, we're not police, he would be removed from the group only.

Astute: Sounds good. Will there be buy-ins for the group? Or will you be operating the group without any sort of buy-in, and limit acceptance through recruitments?

Cibor: For now there will be only people who I actually trust. I am also thinking about expensive buyins which would provide money for possible scams. If someone pays for a buyin, he wouldn't scam amounts lower than the buyin itself.

Astute: Interesting. How long do you expect this group to last? Do you have any backup plans in case this one fails?

Cibor: I do not plan to close or sell the group. I will do my best to keep the group high quality. Hopefully there won't be need for backup plans.

Astute: Nice. Besides the refund guarantee, how do you plan on utilizing the group to interact and benefit the HF community?

Cibor: Official products, giveaways, tutorials.

Astute: So what factors influenced your decision process when it came to selecting the userbar for Royalty?

Cibor: I wanted a clean and elegant design, in the userbar contest thread people added many good submissions, in my opinion Vohrex's design was the best: <https://i.imgur.com/jaH5oid.png>

Astute: What are you looking forward to as a group owner?

Cibor: I'm looking forward to gather valuable people in the group, make the group active and useful in the marketplace.

Astute: Alright! Well, unfortunately we've run out of time here Cibor. Are there any final comments you'd like to make?

Cibor: I'd like to thank other bidders for a fair competition

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/HFNSupport.png[/img]

Do you enjoy reading the HF News? Do you think others might enjoy reading the HF News? Do you want to show your support for what we do?

Wear our Support Signature and show us you care! Numerous members don't even know we exist, make a change!

Support Signatures [\(Click to View\)](#)

Samples [\(Click to View\)](#)

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

Code [\(Click to View\)](#)

1st {Large}

Code [align=center][url=http://##/1FnhESq][img]https://i.imgur.com/rIEO5r0.gif[/img][url]/[/align]

1st {Small}

Code

[align=center][url=http://##/1FnhESq][img=500x150]https://i.imgur.com/rIEO5r0.gif[/img][url]/[/align]

2nd

Code [align=center][url=http://##/1FnhESq][img]https://i.imgur.com/POVfq7u.png[/img][url]/[/align]

3rd

Code [align=center][url=http://##/1FnhESq][img]https://i.imgur.com/bTTz7WE.png[/img][url]/[/align]

4th

Code [align=center][url=http://##/1FnhESq][img]https://i.imgur.com/pdoOihY.png[/img][url]/[/align]

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/GroupNews.png[/img]

Royalty

A new group with the description of, "Loyal and royal marketers," was added to the official groups list shortly after the [OMC auction](#) by [Omniscient](#). Led by [Cibor](#), Royalty opened its doors to the public on July 14th, 2015 [here](#). So far, not much is known as to what this group actually does, but the description on [the Custom Forum Groups page](#) exposes some possibilities.

Group Leadership Changes [Vinnie](#) was removed from leadership of Null and Instinct.

[Understalker](#) was removed from leadership of Echo.

Group Userbar ChangesRoyalty's userbar was added:

Current Open Group Recruitments>> [\[Official Group Debug\]](#) << || [Summertime Student Sector](#) ||
[Learn how to Code](#) ||

[L'appel du vide recruitment](#)

[Specialists](#) | [Official Group](#) | [General Recruitment](#) | [Opened Again for Limited Time](#)

[The Brotherhood \ White Hat Helper Course \ Student Program](#)

[Writers - Wiki Team Recruitment](#)

[Archive](#) | [Official Group](#) | [Recruitment Phase 2](#)

[Pirates Official Recruitment #2](#)

Group Related Buy-ins & Informational Threads[Debug Leadership](#)

| [Null Consolidated](#) | [Monthly Students \\$100 & Lifetime Students \\$400](#) |

[Titans](#) | [Official Group](#)

Important Group Related Threads[\\$75 and group spot \(GFX REQUEST\)](#)

["Selling" group leader spot 1k for as long as two weeks!](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/SiteNews241.png[/img]

Site Statistics

Total [\(Click to View\)](#) Posts: 47,068,447 (+0.20%)

Threads: 3,410,866 (+0.27%)

Members: 2,804,421 (+0.37%)

Average ([Click to View](#)) Daily Posts: 14,005 (~)

Daily Threads: 1,014.89(+0.08%)

Daily New Members: 834.44 (+0.17%)

Posts Per Member: 16.78 (+4.87%)

Replies Per Thread: 12.80 (+6.66%)

Ban Statistics

Last Week's Bans ([Click to View](#)) Staff Bans: 129... Change from Last Edition: -41

Vacation Bans: 21... Change from Last Edition: +5

Combined Bans: 150... Change from Last Edition: -36

Total Bans ([Click to View](#)) Staff Bans: 653... Change from Last Edition: +8

Vacation Bans: 95... Change from Last Edition: +8

Combined Bans: 748... Change from Last Edition: +16

Forum Counts

Tab Counts ([Click to View](#)) Notable Sections [Lounge](#) Threads: 429,770 (+0.15%)

[Lounge](#) Posts: 6,083,841 (+0.16%)

[RANF](#) Threads: 46,585(+0.23%)

[RANF](#) Posts: 606,824 (+0.20%)

GeneralThreads: 697,067 (+0.15%)

Posts: 10,291,175 (+0.18%)

HackingThreads: 643,207(+0.19%)

Posts: 5,638,964(+0.20%)

ComputingThreads: 193,601 (+0.19%)

Posts: 1,647,804 (+0.16%)

CodingThreads: 155,256(+0.14%)

Posts: 1,342,586(+0.14%)

GamingThreads: 405,462 (+0.20%)

Posts: 4,177,470(+0.17%)

GroupsThreads: 6,296 (+0.23%)

Posts: 276,002(+0.33%)

WebmasterThreads: 74,319 (+0.18%)

Posts: 541,506 (+0.14%)

GraphicsThreads: 124,796 (+0.09%)

Posts: 940,418 (+0.07%)

MarketplaceThreads: 817,221 (+0.22%)

Posts: 7,650,774 (+0.22%)

MoneyThreads: 125,661 (+0.16%)

Posts: 1,680,455(+0.13%)

Membership Counts

Groups ([Click to View](#))Null47 Members (+2)

Specialists41 Members (-21)

Red Lions19 Members (~)

Archive10Members (-2)

Crypto64 Members (-4)

L'appel du Vide97 Members (-4)

The Brotherhood20 Members (~)

Echo75 Members (+13)

AnimeFAN!65 Members (+1)

Pirates183 Members (-1)

Instinct135 Members (+2)

Debug54 Members (+51)

Titans29 Members (-1)

Royalty9 Members (~)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/OpinionCentral.png[/img]

What is your opinion on the news Road Map that Omni created?

[D3xus](#)

"I'm looking forward to the mobile theme for phone and tablet compatibility. I browse HF on my phone and tablet a lot, and having a responsive theme would make my life as a Mentor and Wiki Publisher a lot easier."

[Cameron](#)

"I think it will take awhile to finish, but I'm looking forward to what he can do with what he has planned."

[Escrow](#)

"All of the items on his list are all things I agree with but I think he's got priorities a little mixed up. Especially if like he says - he completes them in the order int he thread. For example why is the automated paid sticky system more important than the server move or the MyBB 1.8 update? I feel like the speed improvments from the server move easily outweigh the benefits of automated stickies. I'm also not entirely certain why he's coding that before the MyBB upgrade as it's likely some of the code will need to be changed in order to make it compatiabile with 1.8 anyway. I don't have a problem with any of the features and changes being made I'm just not convinced it's happening in the correct order."

[iHydra](#)

"I think it's great to see Omni working hard on these vital things. We've been needing a server upgrade and mobile support for a long time. The forum is getting outdated; with these new features on the way, Hack Forums will improve greatly. A large majority of the community visits the forums on their mobile devices so mobile support would be perfect."

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Memo.png[/img]

Writers' Userscript

HF Wiki Team(HFWT) and HF News Team(HFNT) are working on a userscript for you. The userscript will include features such as breaking news, wiki page shortcuts, and more. We'll make a public announcement once it has been released.

Podcast

Changes have been made to the roster and the podcast is making a return for edition 250. Make sure to check back next week and listen to it!

Publication Changes

We're trying to find the right time to publish the news and so for the next few editions, we will be publishing the news at different times in the day. The reason for 249's delay was due to this, hopefully it makes a positive impact.

Weekly Reports

With the userscript in the works, Weekly Reports will either change to a different system or be removed completely. That's all for now, just wanted to give you a heads up.

Enjoy your week, get some humor flowing and stay happy!

Hydra - July 21, 2015, 11:28 am

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/HackingNews.png[/img]

Secret Affair Site Ashley Madison Hacked

Online cheating site Ashley Madison was hacked recently by a group which claimed that they have all of the site's user databases, financial records, and other private information. This is one of the bigger recent breaches with Ashley Madison's user-base being approximately 37 million users. The team behind the breach, The Impact Team, is instructing Avid Life Media (the company which runs Ashley Madison) to take down the site permanently or they will release all custom information including customers "sexual fantasies" alongside matching credit card information. Ashley Madison had a feature called 'Full Delete' on it which users are able to pay a fee to make sure the site deletes all information related to the nefarious activities associated with it and the customer's interaction. Unfortunately, it seems Ashley Madison was charging money but not actually deleting their customer's information which is causing this breach to be a huge concern to their users' personal life. [>>Source](#)

Possible Data Breach: Costco, CVS, & Walmart

Three major retailers in the US currently have their online photo-processing websites offline due to a possible breach of the third-party company which runs the photo service. This third-party company, PNI Digital Media, runs the online photo-processing for sites like CVSPhoto.com & Walmart Canada's photo service. Although there is still an investigation going on, it's possible that millions of customers' data including credit card details have been leaked. One of PNI's spokesman said, "If an issue is discovered, it is important to note that consumers are not responsible for any fraudulent activity on their credit cards that is reported on a timely basis." The data breach is currently being investigated more thoroughly by PNI's investigative team and will be giving more information on the breach itself in the next days to come. [>>Source](#)

Hacking Team's Google App Backdoored

After the huge security breach of Hacking Team, many new issues have been popping up related to the 400GB worth of data that was leaked. The most recent issue being that Google Play's security checks allowed an app developed by the Hacking Team, which contained a backdoor, to be placed within the app store itself for all users to download. The security firm which discovered the app was Trend Micro. The app, which was disguised as a news app, contained a trojan named BeNews that allowed for remote access while running in the background on the device. This is now calling into question Google's app store's security and how easy it is to get a malicious app past it. Hacking Team's app was taken down quickly after Trend Micro discovered the trojan. Google is always improving their security for the app store but it seems they can not keep up with the pace of newer malicious software as it's coming out. They are currently working on a new security method so that situations like this will no longer happen in the future. [>>Source](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/SecurityNews.png[/img]

Office and Java Patch APT 28 Zero Days

An APT group that is currently believed to have Russian ties is going against conventional wisdom, as recently as three weeks ago, it revealed it's sixth zero days in the past four months. Given the value of unpatched and reported vulnerabilities on the black market, this is very strange behavior for a group to reveal its found vulnerabilities. Regardless, APT 28, also known as Tsar Team, Operation Pawn Storm, and Send it, has been very busy targeting government agencies as well as military operations using a series of Flash, Office, and Java-based zero-days at their disposal. In the last week alone, two zero-days were accredited to APT 28. Fortunately, both of these have already been patched by Microsoft and Oracle. Researchers at iSight Partners reported the zero-day in Office to Microsoft. It was patched on Tuesday in MS15-070, a security bulletin that patched 13 other vulnerabilities in its software. Later that night, Oracle patched a Java zero-day in a quarterly Critical Patch Update that was used to attack a US-based defense contractor. "This indicates it's not a handful of guys; this is an organization managing this stuff," Brian Bartholomew of iSight said, adding that the group has also been known to use cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin to buy domains in order to hide registration information and remain anonymous. "It's hard to manage that much infrastructure that they own." Five of the six zero days were built in-house by APT 28. While the sixth, CVE-2015-5119, was a repurposed Flash zero-day that was uncovered after the Hacking Team breach. "They actually rewrote it, which is interesting. It's not just a copy of the [Hacking Team] proof of concept with their own shell code added," Bartholomew said. The Office zero-day was likely still under development since it was buggy and unpredictable. "It's a heap corruption vulnerability in Office where it's mishandling an object in memory, which allowed for remote code execution from the weaponized document," Leathery of iSight said. Despite all the efforts to combat these hackers, the team still has a plethora of tools at its disposal. [>>Source](#)

Google Expanding Its Safe Browsing

Tech giant Google is expanding its Safe Browsing mechanism to warn users about a wider variety of unwanted software, in addition to warning regarding phishing pages, malware, and other potential threat. Safe Browsing is the service that Google uses to help prevent Chrome users from being targeted by a malicious attack. Google also provides the API for use in Firefox and Safari. The company announced that it's planning to expand that types of software it blocks. "In the coming weeks, these detection improvements will become more noticeable in Chrome: users will see more warnings about unwanted software than ever before," Moheeb Abu Rajab and Stephan Somogyi of the Google Safe Browsing team said in a blog post. "Unwanted software is being distributed on websites via a variety of sources, including ad injectors as well as ad networks lacking strict quality guidelines. In many cases, Safe Browsing within your browser is your last line of defense." Unwanted software, isn't always a piece of malware, but is often app such as adware or programs that spy on users, taking their information without their knowledge or consent. Google made it clear that they are not changing the goal of Google Safe Browsing and are simply trying to further protection, not add new kinds of protection. [>>Source](#)

XP Security Support Comes to an End

Surprisingly enough, some people still use Windows XP, as we recently learned in an unclassified U.S. Navy document that showed the Navy has extended a support contract with Microsoft giving the Navy two more years before they stop receiving security patches for XP. For those who do not work for the Navy, security support officially ended on July 14th. Microsoft ended support for non-Microsoft Security Essentials on April 8th, 2014. Microsoft offered an additional year of signatures and use of the Microsoft Malicious Software Removal Tool for Microsoft Security Essentials members. Both provisions expired yesterday as Microsoft reinforced that customers should move on to the newest version of Windows. The news was buried under a series of patches from Microsoft, Adobe, and Oracle. All of the zero-day vulnerabilities uncovered in the Hacking Team breach. Microsoft also released a pair of security advisories that warrant attention. Microsoft said that it had patched a race condition flaw that would allow an attack to gain elevated privileges on a compromised system. "The vulnerability could allow elevation of privilege if an attacker logs on to a target system and places a specially crafted dynamic link library (.dll) file in a local directory. An

authenticated attacker who successfully exploited the vulnerability could elevate privileges on a target system,” the advisory said. “An attacker could then install programs; view, change, or delete data; or create new accounts with full administrative rights.” The advisories rounded-up a busy day for the Windows team, who, in total, 60 CVEs to look at and patch on Patch Tuesday. [>>Source](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/GamingNews.png[/img]

Pokken Tournament Released

Pokken Tournament, an arcade game made by Namco Bandai, is a game that mixes fighting styles and mechanics found in the Tekken series with characters and themes from the Pokemon franchise. The creators of this game built it with the intent to not intimidate players who aren't extreme fighting game aficionados. The game's release date is July 16, 2015, in the form of arcade systems found all around Japan. Some of the confirmed playable Pokemon in the game are Machop, Lucario, Gardevoir, Suicune, Blaziken, and Pikachu. Other Pokemon confirmed to be in the game but not as playable fighters are Emolga, Fennekin, Lapras, and Snivy. International and non-arcade releases of the game have yet to be announced. [>>Source](#)

Nintendo CEO Dies

President of Nintendo Satoru Iwata passed away this past week due to bile duct growth. He grew up in Japan and started working for Nintendo as a part of their HAL Laboratory, earning a degree in computer science in the process. He helped the studio create many games following his graduation, including the critically acclaimed Earthbound on the SNES. His work continued with both the the Wii and DS systems of gaming devices. It was in 2014 that Iwata was unable to attend E3 for the first time in a decade due to health issues. He missed E3 2015 as well, although he cited busyness with work as the reason. Nintendo's Notification of Death for Iwata can be found [here](#). [>>Source](#)

EVO 2015 Begins

July 17 through 19 in Las Vegas Nevada is where and when EVO 2015 being held. EVO, the largest fighting game tournament in the world, takes place every year and hosts competition in a multitude of games, including but not limited to Ultimate Marvel vs. Capcom 3, Super Smash Bros. Melee, and Mortal Kombat X. EVO is an open tournament that has been taking place since 1996, with the event officially being named EVO in 2002. The tournament takes place in a double elimination format and has seen increased attendance every year since its inception. [>>Source](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/TechNews.png[/img]

Windows 10 Updates Will Be Mandatory For Home Users

It's official: Windows 10 isn't going to allow its home users to skip updates, which is great if you like to keep your system constantly updated. For those of you who like to download and install things at your own pace? Too bad. A final version of the OS, distributed to testers this week, contains a clause in the end user license agreement (EULA) that reveals Windows 10 users will receive "automatic updates without any additional notice." The changes have left some Windows users concerned.

By default, when you're not using your computer, Windows 10 will automatically download those updates, install them, and restart your computer. You can also schedule that restart for a convenient

time. Other than that, there's no option to turn down an update, where previous versions of Windows let you pick and choose. [>>Source](#)

Google Hires Tech Team From Homejoy, Readies Leap Into Home Services Market

Google is preparing to steamroll into yet another market: Home services. To do so, the search giant is scooping up the technical team behind Homejoy, an on-demand cleaning service startup based in San Francisco. For the uninformed, Homejoy was a service that matched users with professional cleaners. Though it hasn't been confirmed, it appears that Google seeks to do very much the same thing -- not just with cleaners, but plumbers, electricians, handymen and all manner of home-service providers.

As engadget reported today, Homejoy will cease operations at the end of the month in the wake of multiple employee reclassification lawsuits. Around 20 members of Homejoy's product and engineering team will be joining Google to build out the company's technology for matching local professionals — lawn mowers, painters, plumbers, cleaners and the like — with online users, according to sources. [>>Source](#)

Apple and Samsung Are in Talks to Effectively Eliminate the SIM Card

The SIM card as we know it may be about to disappear if Apple and Samsung have anything to do with it. Time reports that the tech giants are in "advanced talks" to start using electronic SIM cards in their smartphones, allowing users more mobility in switching between carriers. The report refers to the new standard as an embedded SIM — or an e-SIM — which would remain inside the phone and give consumers the ability to switch carriers without getting a new card, rather than locking them into a specific carrier, as they do now. That means no more swapping SIMs to switch phones or carriers; it would all be done through an interface on the device.

The GSM Association, an industry group that represents mobile operators, tells Time that "the majority of operators" are on board with the shift over to e-SIM. That reportedly includes AT&T, T-Mobile owner Deutsche Telekom, Vodafone, Telefonica, and Orange, as well as other international carriers. [>>Source](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/WorldNews.png[/img]

South Korea Hacking Scandal

A man has committed suicide while the reports of the hacking scandal in South Korea gathers pace. The man was found dead in his car after taking his own life on a mountain road. He left a suicide note claiming to have deleted important information about the hacking. It has emerged that mobile phones were tracked and monitored before the presidential election in 2012 with spyware bough from Italy. Government and NIS officials have denied claims the spyware was used to monitor South Korea in general and was used to fight 'cyber-criminals'. The BBC's Stephen Evans, in South Korea, says that the note left by the dead man implies that phones were monitored only to keep tabs on people connected to North Korea and not to besmirch opponents of the right-of-centre president. The spy agency already has a sketchy past before democracy was introduced in the 1980s as it was involved in abduction and killings. [>>Source](#)

Mitsubishi Offers POW Apology

Japan's Mitsubishi corporation made a landmark apology after it apologized for using United States prisoners of war (POW) during World War Two. Hikaru Kimura, a senior executive, expressed remorse at a ceremony in Los Angeles that prisoners were forced to work in a mine operated by the firm. This is believed to be the first apology of its kind by a Japanese company. One of the last

surviving US prisoner forced to work for Japan has accepted the apology. James Murphy, 94, said this was "a glorious day... for 70 years we wanted this. We hope that we can go ahead now and have a better understanding , a better friendship and closer ties with our ally, Japan." The Japanese government officially apologised to American former POWs five years ago. [>>Source](#)

Google To Offer Free Internet

Feel good news this week is provided by Google who are offering free internet to low-income housing residents. Currently acceptable members are in the cities where Google Fibre is available. At this point, Google Fiber is available in the Kansas City area; Austin, Texas; and Provo, Utah but Google plans to soon expand it to Atlanta; Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham, N.C; Nashville, Tenn.; Salt Lake City; Phoenix, Portland, Ore., San Antonio; and San Jose, Calif. Those who are accepted have to pay \$0s and will get a free installation. This comes as an initiative, ConnectHome, which is a new program formed by the White House and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that aims to bring Internet connectivity to more school-aged children and families that live in assisted housing. [>>Source](#)

Hydra - July 21, 2015, 11:43 am

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Battlestations.png[/img]

Every week - assuming we get enough submissions - the HF News will feature the best submitted battlestation.

Send iHydra a message by clicking [here](#) and including an imgur link of your battlestation!

[Myhamstring's Battlestation](#)

[\(Click to View\)](#) [img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/BattlestationImage_249.png[/img]

[IMG]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/ArtGallery.png[/IMG]

[img]http://i.minus.com/i2kuv0TioOTxU.png[/img]

[^ click here or the gallery to send in artwork ^](#)

[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Comics.png[/img]

(1) [\(Click to View\)](#) [img]http://www.smbc-comics.com/comics/1436890064-20150714.png[/img]

(2) [\(Click to View\)](#)

[img]http://www.safelyendangered.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/popular.png[/img]

(3) [\(Click to View\)](#) [img]http://files.explosm.net/comics/Kris/easter2.png[/img]

(4) [\(Click to View\)](#)

[img]http://files.explosm.net/comics/Kris/joe.png[/img]

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(6) ([Click to View](#)) [img]http://s3.amazonaws.com/theoatmeal-img/comics/airplane/header.png[/img]
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[img]http://ihydra.net/hfnt/headers/Credits.png[/img]

View Credits ([Click to View](#)) Editors1st Editor[Wind Waker](#)

2nd Editor[Hydra](#)

3rd Editor[Vegas](#)

4th Editor[Raptor.](#)

5th Editor[?eshCollider](#)

Compilers1st Compiler[Prada](#)

2nd Compiler[Jodye](#)

3rd Compiler[Vanill?a](#)

4th Compiler[Ren](#)

Journalists: 1st PostHeadlines[Cooligan](#) & [Odus](#)

User News[Cody](#) & [630](#)

Notable Threads[Trust](#)

Interviews[Astute](#), [Justin Timberlake](#), [.Sinister](#), & [vurezo](#)

Journalists: 2nd PostHF News Supporti[Hydra](#)

Group News[Nobility](#) & [Ventures](#)

Omnicoin News[Abraham Lincoln](#)

Site News[Harlem](#) & [Charlemagne](#)

Opinion Central[Thornzzz](#)

Memoi[Hydra](#)

Journalists: 3rd PostHacking News[Goodies](#) & [Virule](#)

Security News[Harbo5](#) & [-Hyperion](#)

Gaming News[Premortal](#) & [Red S?x](#)

Tech News[?ngel](#) & [Gladly](#)

World News[Happeh](#)

Journalists: 4th PostBattlestations[iHydra](#)

Momenti[iHydra](#)

Art Gallery[Rivalry](#)

Comics[Rivalry](#)

Credits[iHydra](#)

Breaking News TeamGaming News[+One](#)

Tech News[Abide](#)

World News[Happeh](#)

MembersGraphical Artist(s)[Designer](#) & [Rivalry](#)

Reserve Writer(s) [Saged'](#) & [ven0m](#) & [zer0-](#)

Task Enforcer-[Nas](#)

Happeh - July 21, 2015, 11:48 am

Always fun working on these. Great job as always team.

(Jul 21, 2015 02:36 AM)iHydra Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Weekly Reports

With the userscript in the works, Weekly Reports will either change to a different system or be removed completely. That's all for now, just wanted to give you a heads up.

Want to highlight this as it's v. important and I feel some will look over the information.

Thornzzz - July 21, 2015, 11:48 am

I wasn't in this edition like I asked. Come on Hydra.

Hydra - July 21, 2015, 11:50 am

(Jul 21, 2015 11:48 AM)Thornzzz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I wasn't in this edition like I asked. Come on Hydra. You'll be in the next edition (which is actually better..).

Justin Timberlake - July 21, 2015, 11:51 am

Busy week for HF it seems. Another solid edition.

Astute - July 21, 2015, 11:51 am

Great edition as always boys.

I'm eager for the Podcast next edition.

J?son - July 21, 2015, 11:52 am

Loved reading this.

RIP Undie

RIP Vinnie

Obimoto - July 21, 2015, 11:53 am

Great edition, but why does Paradoxum's link bring me to Viral Dragon???

Hydra - July 21, 2015, 12:04 pm

(Jul 21, 2015 11:53 AM)Obimoto Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Great edition, but why does Paradoxum's link bring me to Viral Dragon???

Thanks for catching that, fixed it.

Dean Winchester? - July 21, 2015, 12:05 pm

Some part of the news are more up-to-date than other ?

Nice edition as always, anyways! ?

Night - July 21, 2015, 12:17 pm

Nice edition, I like that a lot of the post I made in the weekly update made it in the news. Thanks 630 and Cody ?

Obimoto - July 21, 2015, 12:34 pm

(Jul 21, 2015 12:04 PM)iHydra Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks for catching that, fixed it.
No problem, y'all have been doin a great job with tha news, keep it up...

Nas - July 21, 2015, 1:11 pm

Great edition from the team as always.

Talu - July 21, 2015, 1:17 pm

Great edition as always. Keep it up, guys :)

Lacuna - July 21, 2015, 1:20 pm

Great edition always good to check hf news

Grim - July 21, 2015, 1:21 pm

very nice edition. so glad you guys continued doing this..

NoHax - July 21, 2015, 2:11 pm

Very great job guys!
I enjoyed reading it.

FamousHater - July 21, 2015, 2:17 pm

good edition but sadly no interviews for this edition.

Buzz Lightyear - July 21, 2015, 2:18 pm

(Jul 21, 2015 02:17 PM)FamousHater Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) good edition but sadly no interviews for this edition.

You missed it. There is clearly an interview.

Hash G. - July 21, 2015, 2:22 pm

Nice read, as always. But could you stop to add Hex thread about leadership spots ? It's inactive since like a month or so.

?Fazzer - July 21, 2015, 2:29 pm

This time it is a bit shocking edition. Hf is changing I guess.

Snoepie1012 - July 21, 2015, 3:37 pm

Roger Waters has 17k posts not 24k.

Dean Winchester? - July 21, 2015, 3:38 pm

(Jul 21, 2015 03:37 PM)Snoepie1012 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Roger Waters has 17k posts not 24k.
That was after the post recount, news were written before.

Black Shadow - July 21, 2015, 5:47 pm

Great edition and cant believe Understalker and Vinnie's accounts have been closed.

Why was this not mentioned though in the closed accounts?

Charlemagne - July 21, 2015, 7:38 pm

Amazing issue as always! Good job.

MafiaServ - July 21, 2015, 8:02 pm

Another great edition, worth-reading.

Congrats and Good luck "Sam Winchester" on being Probational Staff.

Job well done "D3xus" regarding Wiki.

Congrats "boxxy" for 2000+ positive reputations.

Good luck "Cibor" with your new group Royalty.

Aurora - July 21, 2015, 8:11 pm

Interesting interview with Cibor I must say. Another great edition.

Meow - July 21, 2015, 11:15 pm

Nothing special in this news,great job anyway!

Hydra - July 22, 2015, 7:02 am

(Jul 21, 2015 11:13 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What the heck? Why?

If you make users use a userscript to submit news it's going to fail.

"Weekly Reports will either change to a different system or be removed completely."

We're still working on it, it will be changed so everyone will be able to report with ease.

Underd?g - July 22, 2015, 10:38 am

Always look forward to the weekly news.

Another great edition.

Kolz - July 22, 2015, 11:03 am

Ashley Madison's source link doesn't work apparently? Apparently KoS isn't allowed on HF? Every time it's linked, it gets censored by a #.

Aurora - July 22, 2015, 4:11 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 11:03 AM)Kolz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Ashley Madison's source link doesn't work apparently? Apparently KoS isn't allowed on HF? Every time it's linked, it gets censored by a #.

Yes, it is censored. Though you already know where the source is located, you can copy/paste this into Google and find the source. It should be on top.

Code "2015/07/online-cheating-site-ashleymadison-hacked/"

Brendan - July 22, 2015, 5:17 pm

Staff is just getting shuffled left and right.

Neil - July 22, 2015, 6:14 pm

Another great edition. One thing though, didn't Abide vacation ban himself rather than being banned for attempting to sell his account?

Charlemagne - July 22, 2015, 7:09 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 06:14 PM)Ne?I Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Another great edition. One thing though, didn't Abide

vacation ban himself rather than being banned for attempting to sell his account?
Correct. He did vacation ban himself.

Roger Waters - July 22, 2015, 8:49 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 08:47 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Removing them would be stupid.
Then users would have to wait for site news until the news edition comes out.
I could understand how that is the goal, but i'm sure most users enjoy the weekly reports thread.
Using that logic, we should get rid of HF News. Do you think that's a better idea? Last time I checked HF News was supposed to bring the news, not the weekly reports thread.

Hydra - July 22, 2015, 9:07 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 08:47 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Removing them would be stupid.
Then users would have to wait for site news until the news edition comes out.
I could understand how that is the goal, but i'm sure most users enjoy the weekly reports thread.
It wouldn't be stupid, you guys are just used to it. HF News did fine without Weekly Report, it actually did better. Not sure why the previous leader(s) felt it was needed when they can have their members stay on top of the happenings on the forum.

There are two ideas I have, one is fully removing it and the other is to limit the content shown to the public. Both will be tested for two weeks and then one will be continued.

Astute - July 22, 2015, 10:07 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 09:48 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Boooo! I want Sir back!!
I'll reform then.
Give it a chance man! ?
We're always experimenting with innovative ideas, and so there's no reason to stop here.

Hydra - July 22, 2015, 10:08 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 09:48 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Boooo! I want Sir back!!
I'll reform then.
? You said the S word....

Yes, adapting to change is good.

well then - July 22, 2015, 10:13 pm

(Jul 22, 2015 09:48 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Boooo! I want Sir back!!
I'll reform then.
ooooooo he said the s word.

I'm telling!

630 - July 23, 2015, 1:28 am

Only 1 interview? How long has that been going on?

?hoenix - July 23, 2015, 7:50 am

I understand why users like the HFNT weekly reports while others want it removed.

The news shouldn't just be an extended version of the last five pages of the weekly reports but at the same time only user and group news uses the weekly reports. We still get fresh content from all of the other section like hacking news, world news, gaming news, etc.

If I were you iHydra, I would just move the thread into the writers sub-forum that way it's away from the "public" and only the HFNT members can report to it.

Supreme??????? - July 23, 2015, 7:54 am
Nice read. Great edition as always!

Laureen - July 23, 2015, 8:01 am
HF News is extremely interesting. Writ3rs are doing an excellent job of maintaining the quality. Props to all of you.

I'm gonna be following this all the way.

Fliiix - July 23, 2015, 8:09 am
Interesting read, thank you!

+Haze - July 23, 2015, 8:11 am
I've always wanted to know. How do you know who gets closed? As far as I'm aware, we can't access that info? We can only see banned members

Fiz? - July 23, 2015, 8:16 am
A very good read as always :)

Astute - July 23, 2015, 9:50 am
(Jul 23, 2015 08:11 AM)+Haze Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I've always wanted to know. How do you know who gets closed? As far as I'm aware, we can't access that info? We can only see banned members
There's a weekly reports thread for a reason. ?

b?xxy - July 23, 2015, 9:51 am
So much member news = happy boxxxy

Quinn. - July 23, 2015, 12:22 pm
Interesting read as always! Good job to all the writers!

Prince™ - July 23, 2015, 12:47 pm
So many repfucks last week and the new group's userbar looks so nice.

Nice read. Thank you HF News team.

Vince - July 23, 2015, 7:57 pm
It isn't really innovative to remove them. The reports allow the members to get involved with the news and other members enjoy it. Don't see why it needs to be removed when it isn't broken in the first place.

Wirt - July 23, 2015, 8:03 pm
Another great edition. Loving the work the team is putting into the News.

Happeh - July 23, 2015, 8:19 pm
(Jul 23, 2015 07:57 PM)Vince? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It isn't really innovative to remove them. The reports allow the members to get involved with the news and other members enjoy it. Don't see why it needs to be removed when it isn't broken in the first place.
Other members should enjoy the news when they read the news. Not by cheating through a feed.

ZuGgY - July 23, 2015, 8:24 pm
o_O just saw that JD is now a mentor and no longer staff...damn

Thanks for keeping us up to date.

Hydra - July 23, 2015, 8:27 pm

(Jul 23, 2015 07:57 PM)Vince? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It isn't really innovative to remove them. The reports allow the members to get involved with the news and other members enjoy it. Don't see why it needs to be removed when it isn't broken in the first place.

You'll still be able to report news to HFNT. On its own, it's not broken, but it's breaking the editions.

StayFocused - July 23, 2015, 8:32 pm

Free internet from google yay

ElChapo1990 - July 23, 2015, 8:37 pm

Looks good, nice job. Missed these! :D

Astute - July 23, 2015, 10:47 pm

HFNT Podcast is officially coming back for 250.

We just finished recording.

Vince - July 23, 2015, 11:57 pm

(Jul 23, 2015 08:27 PM)iHydra Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You'll still be able to report news to HFNT. On its own, it's not broken, but it's breaking the editions.

How are you planning that? PMing the team? That would just create a whole new problem. I understand you want to make your mark as the leader of the team, just think this idea is a bad one. You have done an awesome job this far, just a difference of opinions. Then again I miss being on the team.

Hydra - July 24, 2015, 12:26 am

(Jul 23, 2015 11:57 PM)Vince? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How are you planning that? PMing the team? That would just create a whole new problem. I understand you want to make your mark as the leader of the team, just think this idea is a bad one. You have done an awesome job this far, just a difference of opinions. Then again I miss being on the team.

No, stop assuming, lol. You'll see when we announce it all. We're working hard on fixing all the flaws and making sure it'll work well for all members.

I couldn't care less about my role of Writers, I just want to bring back the news to its peak years. This thread sparked a lot of posts and interaction all because I stated that we're modifying or removing Weekly Reports. We haven't had these many posts since I first became leader and those were because of the drama back then. It's sad that it takes these type of events to get this much interaction from the community.

VRUMM - July 24, 2015, 10:49 am

hydra keep up the good work

Roger Waters - July 26, 2015, 10:18 am

Looking forward to the podcast returning in the next edition.

Web-Weave - July 27, 2015, 9:21 am

great news report keep up the good work!

Aurora - July 27, 2015, 1:31 pm

(Jul 26, 2015 10:18 AM)Roger Waters Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Looking forward to the podcast returning in the next edition.

I'm looking forward to it too, hopefully everyone is.