

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Profiled by the Defense Department: How hackers are groomed into assets](#)

Ghost Exodus - May 12, 2025, 5:06 am

I wanted to share [this article](#) with everyone here, because there was a time years back when I was profiled by the Defense Department and contacted by a DoD recruiter, who used all kinds of psychological grooming measures to manipulate me into 'flipping the script', so to speak.

In the article, I expose the platform that was used to search for potential candidates, and a full breakdown of the tactics that were used to try to convince me to work for the other side.

I'm sharing it here because a hacker's greatest weakness is their ego, and ultimately, the age-old war strategy of "converting an enemy into an asset" is a tried-and-true trick they use to neutralize possible threats. I think this is important to know in the hacker subculture, because where there's a hacker, there's an agent in disguise (sometimes there's no disguise at all), trying to own your fire, and take away your autonomy.

<https://cybernews.com/security/defense-department-grooms-hackers-into-assets/>

DramaKing - May 12, 2025, 5:11 am

You've never thought about going straight?

Ghost Exodus - May 12, 2025, 5:37 am

(May 12, 2025 05:11 AM)DramaKing Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You've never thought about going straight? Going straight and working as an informant aren't in the same category, but I think I get what you mean. I spent 11 years in prison as the first person in US history convicted for corrupting industrial control systems. That was a long time ago. I am legit nowadays, ever since I was released. I write for Cybernews, and mostly pursue OSINTing nowadays, and focus on education rather than exploitation lol I still hack, but only on virtual machines and CTFs. Besides, there's not much out there that I haven't seen, so that whole dopamine-driven lifestyle of hacking burned tfo.

I enjoy having full autonomy, and not being a tool. However, like in most things in life, I think there's always an exception to my staunch "no-fly-zone" when it comes to having a relationship with the Feds, since we've seen how that's worked out in the past with notable people like Sabu, and many others. When it involves terrorism, murder plots, and sexual exploitation of children, people must never put their personal principles above what is right. :)

You can find me on X under ExodusGhost

DramaKing - May 12, 2025, 6:01 am

Psychological grooming measures on someone who has paid their time. ?

Whatisthepoll - May 16, 2025, 6:39 am

Nice to know. Thank you.

Phantom NiNja - May 16, 2025, 12:15 pm

(May 12, 2025 05:06 AM)Ghost_Exodus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I wanted to share [this article](#) with everyone here, because there was a time years back when I was profiled by the Defense Department and contacted by a DoD recruiter, who used all kinds of psychological grooming measures to manipulate

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How do you hack PLC's? I got a old outdated PLC and want to tinker with it. Is there any open source software that can work on it?

XtremeDiscount - May 16, 2025, 6:24 pm

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<https://cybernews.com/security/defense-department-grooms-hackers-into-assets/>Very interesting read! The governments been doing it for ages with all sorts of crime