

Twitter and Facebook DDoS Attacks Targeted One Man

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cyxymu

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BY [PETE CASHMORE](#)
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Did Twitter, Facebook, LiveJournal, YouTube, Google Sites and Google's Blogger all get attacked yesterday to silence one man? According to the testimony of a Facebook executive, they did.

A blogger in the Republic of Georgia with the username *Cyxymu* was the victim, according to Facebook's chief security officer Max Kelly. **The claims cement earlier reports that social networking sites have been dragged into the [Georgia-Russia crisis](#),** leading to the first simultaneous attack on the largest social media sites. Kelly told [CNet](#):

"It was a simultaneous attack across a number of properties targeting him to keep his voice from being heard. We're actively investigating the source of the attacks and we hope to be able to find out the individuals involved in the back end and to take action against them if we can."

Google is quoted as saying:

"We are aware that a handful of non-Google sites were impacted by a DOS attack this morning, and are in contact with some affected companies to help investigate this attack. Google systems prevented substantive impact to our services."

As part of the attack, spam was sent to LiveJournal users that

appeared to come from cyxymu.

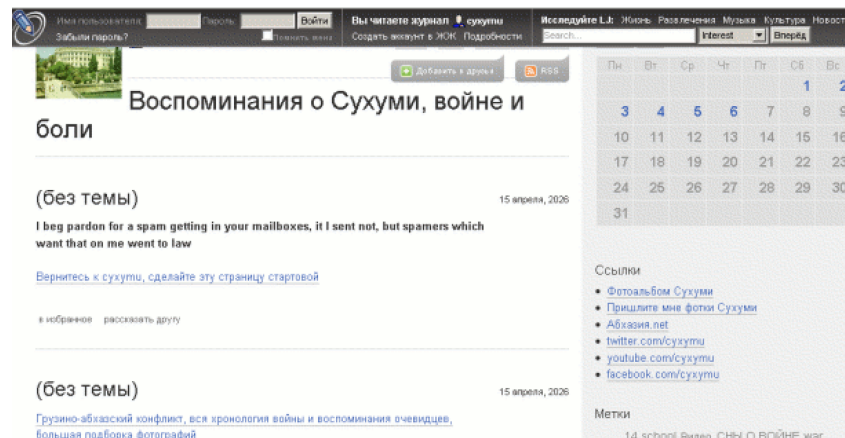
Political Motives

The claims back up earlier reports in the New York Times that Thursday's attack was [sparked by the conflict between Russia and Georgia](#). The aim was to take down Cyxymu's accounts, particularly the LiveJournal blog where he posted about the crisis. While Google's sites held up to the barrage, [Twitter](#) and LiveJournal proved less robust.

While DDoS attacks are notoriously hard to defend against, it's clear that Twitter was far less equipped to cope with such an attack: no doubt they'll be taking a closer look at how such issues could be handled in the future.

Full Coverage of the Social Media DDoS

- [Is Cyber Warfare to Blame for Twitter Meltdown?](#)
- [Denial of Service Attacks Being Investigated by Google, Twitter, Facebook](#)
- [Facebook Problems Also the Result of DDoS Attack](#)
- [Twitter Outage Explained: What's a Distributed Denial of Service Attack \(DDoS\)?](#)
- [Twitter Down Due to Denial of Service Attack \(DDoS\)](#)
- [Facebook Down. Twitter Down. Social Media Meltdown.](#)
- [Twitter Down: Twitter Doesn't Know Why](#)



TOPICS: [FACEBOOK](#), [SOCIAL MEDIA](#), [TWITTER](#)

TECH

TikTok will exit Hong Kong amidst controversial national security laws

AMANDA YEO
JULY 07, 2020

TikTok will pull out of Hong Kong within days, becoming the latest of several tech companies to react to the region's controversial new national security laws.

TikTok will exit Hong Kong amidst controversial national security laws

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TECH

Samsung Galaxy Note 20 Ultra specs revealed in FCC listing

STAN SCHROEDER
JULY 07, 2020

Samsung's Galaxy Note 20 Ultra is becoming less of a secret by the hour. A few days ago, Samsung Russia accidentally leaked an image of the upcoming phone on its website.

Samsung Galaxy Note 20 Ultra specs revealed in FCC listing

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CULTURE

How 'hatewank' videos became a tool for harassing women in the public eye

RACHEL THOMPSON
JULY 07, 2020

In March, one of British journalist Ash Sarkar's Twitter followers informed her there were "hatewank" videos featuring images of her on a porn website. One of the videos was titled "racist hatewank for Ash Sarkar" and it had been uploaded onto xHamster.

How 'hatewank' videos became a tool for harassing women in the public eye

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TECH

Uber users will soon see a 'grocery' button in ride-hailing, Eats apps

SASHA LEKACH
JULY 07, 2020

Uber started as a ride-hailing app in 2009, but it expanded into restaurant delivery in 2014. Now, it's offering groceries. On Tuesday, Uber added grocery delivery in its app through Chilean startup Cornershop. To begin, users in 19 Latin American and Canadian cities can use the new option to buy groceries from major stores like Walmart, Metro, Lider, Jumbo, and others.

Uber users will soon see a 'grocery' button in ride-hailing, Eats apps

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TECH

OnePlus announces OnePlus Nord announcement, which will happen in AR

STAN SCHROEDER
JULY 07, 2020

OnePlus is really milking all it can from the upcoming OnePlus Nord launch. The brand has slowly trickled info about the

upcoming mid-range smartphone in form of vague social media mentions and teasers, and now it's officially announcing the phone's announcement, which will happen at 10 a.m.

OnePlus announces OnePlus Nord announcement, which will happen in AR

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CULTURE

Harry Styles is going to read us a bedtime story and it's exactly what we need right now

RACHEL THOMPSON
JULY 07, 2020

There's something very soothing about Harry Styles' mellifluous voice. So soothing, in fact, that you'll soon be able to hear him read you a bedtime story.

Harry Styles is going to read us a bedtime story and it's exactly what we need right now

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