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## Peaceful protest turns violent after police interference in Washington's 'Code Black' march



### Law-enforcement accused of using excessive force, further bringing concerns over the Office's lack of accountability over last month's blackout

In the morning of 12 of November, people took to the streets of Washington D.C. to march for "Code Black". This movement, rising in the past few weeks, is calling attention to the causes of the worldwide blackout felt last month. The mass walk was organized through local communities and online spaces, with many pointing to university students as the main pushers for these actions.

Concerns regarding cyber-security have long been talked about and have finally culminated after everything went dark, less than two weeks ago. Code Black was a title adopted by social media as an analogy for the damage caused, comparing the giant data breach with a real-life bomb strike. While some protest for the investigation, arrest and punishment of the terrorist organization in charge of the attack, many point to the lack of safety policies as the reason why the number of fatalities was so high. The response time of national and

international governments is also a strong point of contention, with official reports of suspicious activity having been leaked, dating back as far as almost three weeks before the actual power and data outage. This would make it so the entire collapse occurred through the time of 30 full days. There has been no further information released by any institution, neither regarding the data breach nor the return of power and aftermath. The statements that have been given ask for the collaboration of the population and reassure the citizens that everything is now under control and that global authorities are working to find the responsables. This was taken by many as a cheap shot at doing damage control instead of an attempt of working through the issues brought forth by the masses.

Yesterday's march was set to end at the US' Capitol but was cut short, near New York Avenue NW, as police force had created a barricade on the projected path. After encountering the blockade, the protesters attempted to get through, being met with what was described by eye witnesses as "aggressive pushback, violent shoving and unnecessary assault". Since the beginning of this movement, this is the 6th protest where multiple reports of unnecessary use of police force have been verified. The last one being just 3 days prior, on the rally of the 9th, in

California. Internationally, protests seem to be following the same trend, although allegations of uncalled for opposition are less frequent.

This issue is slowly rising to one of the main problems pointed by the general public as a cause for distrust and concern in the current political figures. During the blackout police forces were reported as having prioritized private multinational headquarters, private residences of well-known tech figures and governmental facilities above public spaces and civilian rescue calls. This pattern repeats itself as military grade equipment is transported to the center of the town in "case of an uprising".

Leaks from multiple Big Tech companies suggest an internal climate of controlled panic, where workers are being forced to stay overtime to retrace the months before the event to find any clues of who might be behind the attack and how exactly it all went down. Meta, Tesla and Microsoft have announced they are starting the work of a new network algorithm, to avoid any future assaults, but for now no progress has been made. Rumours of foreign interference were at an all time high at the beginning of the month but have since then been disproved, as most countries join forces to finance urgent research into this topic.

What did the collapse teach us about technology, the world, and ourselves?

"I think what this means is that we can no longer survive without these technologies. We have become inseparable from them. And frankly... we should be scared. Of this, of that, of it happening again..."

Doctor Anna Wright, a professor and researcher at Columbia University, in a recently published piece

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### Reconstruction of Los Angeles Airport starts next Monday



Reparation operations for LA Airport have been scheduled to start tomorrow, crew is already on site, sources claim.

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**"It was the Office's lack of proper policies and safety guidelines that allowed for this attack to get blown out of proportion. Not even international organizations were ready for this, all because we have assumed the monopoly of data security, we have prioritized the profits of Big Tech instead of our own safety and comfort and now hundreds are dead. We have put our entire lives in the hands of half a dozen businessmen who don't even know how their own algorithms work. This is unacceptable, we need to trust our governments, we need to trust those who are in charge of us, online and offline. "**

A speech given by one of NYU's council members, during a student protest, November 5th