

Florida Fair Elections Coalition Deland, FL www.ffec.org

A Timeline of Russian Hacking and Events Related to the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election 2015 through 2016

This timeline integrates the major hacking-related events into the larger context of the election campaign as a fundamental first step in understanding how campaign events may have related to the hacking and whether a relationship between the Trump campaign and Russian cyberattacks is suggested by the facts.

This timeline begins with the Russian intrusion into the DNC system in July 2015 and ends with the last day of 2016. Obviously, it does not include everything that happened in the campaign nor even all non-public responses by U.S. intelligence or the White House. In many cases, the exact date of an event was not readily available. In those cases, an approximate date is given—that is, whether the event occurred early, mid, or late in the month.

Dozens of sources were consulted and could have been cited in the timeline. In the interest of brevity, however, we have included the most comprehensive and authoritative, particularly the timelines compiled by the *Washington Post*, *Time Magazine*, FactCheck.org, National Public Radio, and the *Telegraph*. Most of the entries in the table below have multiple sources even though just one or two are named. In some cases, the event was so widely reported that naming a specific source wasn't deemed necessary.

2015

Month	Day	Event	Source
July		Russian intelligence gains access to DNC networks and	ICA
		maintains access until at least June 2016.	
October	26	Clint Watts, formerly with the FBI and now a senior fellow at	Watts
		the Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) at George	
		Washington University, notes in a post at FPRI: "Russians have	
		used social media driven information campaigns to discredit	
		the U.S. for years. Facebook and Twitter remain littered with	
		pro-Russian, Western-looking accounts and supporting	
		automated bots designed to undermine the credibility of the	
		U.S. government."	
November		FBI notifies FPRI that Watts was target of cyberattack.	Watts
December	Early	Social media accounts linked to Russian propagandists begin to	Factcheck
		advocate for Trump.	

Month	Day	Event	Source
	10	Retired General Michael Flynn, foreign policy adviser to	Factcheck
		Trump and later national security adviser to the	
		administration, speaks at Russia Today (RT) anniversary	
		conference in Moscow. RT is considered one of the major	
		outlets for Russian government propaganda. At conference,	
		Flynn sat next to Putin. Flynn criticized Obama's foreign policy	
		and advocated working with Russia to fight ISIS. Later, it was	
		learned that Flynn was paid \$45,000 for the speech, which he	
		failed to report on his government financial disclosure forms.	
	28	A database containing 191 million voter registration records is	Forbes
		found on web, unprotected, capable of being viewed by anyone	
		in the world. Researcher Chris Vickery says he obtained 300 GB	
		of voter data from database: names, addresses, party affiliation,	
		dates of birth, voter history, but not financial records or social	
		security numbers. Database found to belong to GOP contractor	
		Deep Root.	

2016

Month	Day	Event	Source
January	28	This is the date created and last saved of a DCCC	HelloFla
-		(Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee)	
		document posted on the website of a Florida GOP operative,	
		Aaron Nevins. The file, which contains model data for	
		Florida and Virginia, was created by John Faas, Southern	
		Regional Targeting Director, Targeting and Data Analysis	
		Division, DCCC.	
February	9,22	Other DCCC files posted on HelloFla with Florida data were	HelloFla
-		created by John Faas on February 9 and last saved February	
		22.	
	26	Reuters reports that Flynn has been informally advising	Factcheck
		Trump on foreign policy during the campaign.	
March	1	Super Tuesday presidential preference primaries held. Nine	Many
		states hold Republican primaries; two hold caucuses. Trump	
		wins 7 states and by far the most delegates. On Democratic	
		side, Clinton wins in state primaries; Sanders wins only one	
		state primary – Vermont, but wins in states that held	
		caucuses – Minnesota and Colorado.	
	4	Russian Alexander Dugin posts "In Trump We Trust," on	NPR
		YouTube. Sometimes called "Putin's Brain," Dugin is an	
		influential political analyst and philosopher with ties to the	
		Russian government. In the video, he endorses Trump's	
		candidacy, criticizes both Clinton and Trump's GOP rivals.	
		He also says that Bernie Sanders won in the Super Tuesday	
		primaries, but Clinton people bribed the electors.	
	?	Russian hackers begin going through e-mail accounts and	ICA

Month	Day	Event	Source
		networks of Democratic Party officials and political figures.	
	?	DCCC hack takes place sometime in March or April when	NYT
		staffer clicks on a phishing e-mail.	
	15	Florida Presidential Preference Primary is held. Trump and	
		Clinton both win.	
	16	WikiLeaks publishes searchable archive of e-mails sent to	WikiLeaks
		and from Clinton's private e-mail server while she was	
		secretary of state; e-mails were obtained through a Freedom	
		of Information Act request.	
	19	John Podesta, Clinton Campaign chair, is hacked when he	WP
		clicks on a spoofed Google link to change his password.	
	21	Trump says Carter Page is a member of his foreign policy	Factcheck,
		team. Page is an American businessman with ties to Russia.	Bloom-
		His private equity firm, Global Energy Capital, LLC	berg
		specializes in investments in the energy industry,	
		particularly oil and gas, including Gazprom, the large	
		natural gas company majority-owned by the Russian	
		government.	
	22	During the Arizona presidential primary, numerous reports	KVOA,
		emerge of party affiliations being dropped or switched.	Anon
		Reports are disproportionately those of Sanders voters,	
		which leads many of them to blame the DNC or Clinton	
		campaign.	
	22-24	An online petition is filed at WhiteHouse.gov demanding	K12 News
		investigation of party affiliation changes in the Arizona	1112110113
		primary. Within two days, the petition has 100,000	
		signatures, the threshold for requiring a response from the	
		White House. The petition states that many voters were	
		disenfranchised who had changed their affiliation from	
		Independent to Democrat.	
	26	An article by the "hacktivist" group Anonymous about the	Anon.
		Arizona primary problems reveals that its author asked	
		several hackers to scan AZ secretary of state site for	
		vulnerabilities. One of them found a massive one in less	
		than a minute—an SQL injection attack. The article links to	
		detailed information about how to conduct such an attack. It	
		says that it may release an addendum later that details the	
		specific SQL vulnerabilities of the Arizona voter database.	
		Three months later, both Arizona and Illinois state voter	
		databases are found to have been attacked using SQL	
		injection.	
	29	Trump announces Paul Manafort, a longtime Republican	Factcheck,
		operative, will be his campaign convention manager.	New
		Manafort worked for more than a decade for pro-Russian	Yorker
		entities in Ukraine, including Viktor Yanukovych, former	TOTACI
		Citatics in Oktaine, including viktor randkovych, former	

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Month	Day	Event	Source
		informative and interesting.	
	7	Goldstone again e-mails Trump Jr. about meeting with "Russian government attorney." He says Emin asked him to schedule meeting with the attorney. The implication is that the request was based on the June 6 phone call between Emin and Trump Jr.	Guardian
	7	During the California Presidential Primary, unauthorized changes to party affiliation are reported in Riverside County. District Attorney Michael Hestrim concludes that in at least 6 cases hackers made changes to registrations using private information to access state central voter-registration database. State system did not record the IP addresses of the computers. Later, Hestrim indicates system is old and vulnerable. He says it uses DOS.	Time
	9	Trump campaign staffers Trump Jr., Kushner, Manafort meet at Trump Tower with Russian attorney Natalia Veselnitskaya to obtain information damaging to Clinton. Other participants include Rinat Akhmetskin, a Russian American lobbyist with links to Russian intelligence; Ike Kaveladze, vice president of a Russian real estate firm; and Anatoli Samochornov, translator and former State Department contractor.	NPR, Factcheck
	12	Wikileaks claims to have damaging Clinton documents. Julian Assange, founder of the whistleblowing organization, says some documents being released contain enough evidence to indict Hillary Clinton.	Telegraph
	14	Washington Post publicly reveals DNC hack for first time.	WP, Telegraph
	15	Crowdstrike, a cybersecurity firm hired by the DNC to investigate the hack, announces that Russia is behind the cyberattack. The firm concludes that the hack was carried out by Cosy Bear and Fancy Bear, names for two hacking entities working for the Russian government's intelligence services on political and economic cyberattacks.	Factcheck
	15	In a blog post, a hacker called Guccifer 2.0 takes credit for the DNC hack, releases some documents including DNC opposition research on Trump, and says he has given documents to WikiLeaks and it will publish them soon. Guccifer is later identified by U.S. intelligence as the persona used by Russian intelligence to release hacked docs to the media and WikiLeaks.	Factcheck
	15	Trump releases statement alleging that the DNC did the hacking themselves to distract from the campaign issues.	Factcheck
	20	Manafort is named campaign chairman, replacing Corey Lewandowski who was fired.	Factcheck

Month	Day	Event	Source
	Late	Illinois state elections system is hacked by Russians, using SQL injection attack. Hacker goes into one of 109 jurisdictions and inserts malicious code instead of data for voter registration. Hacker was able to access software to be used by poll workers on Election Day. Forensics shows that the hacker attempted to change or alter data. The hacker opened "back door" to access 15 million files on past and present voters back to 2006.	Bloom- berg
	28	Arizona Secretary of State's office issues statement that access to state's online voter registration services is being temporarily suspended for maintenance but will be restored after the weekend.	Time
	30	Arizona's cyber response team is told by FBI that it believes a voter registration system credential was compromised. Secretary of State's office investigates and confirms that a system computer is infected with malware. System is taken down for 9 days.	Time
July	5	In a surprise move, FBI director James Comey holds a news conference to announce that FBI will not recommend any charges against Hillary Clinton as a result of its investigation of her e-mails.	WP
July	8	Trump foreign policy adviser Carter Page goes to Moscow to speak at the New Economic School commencement. His comments are critical of American policy toward Russia.	Factcheck
	12	Illinois hack is discovered by contract worker. When Illinois officials take down the site, they find that about 90,000 files have been stolen.	Time
	18-21	Republican National Convention is held in Cleveland, Ohio. Trump advisers J.D. Gordon and Carter Page meet with Russian ambassador Kislyak. Gordon later says it was about softening the GOP stand on Ukraine. Trump staffers change platform's call for supplying "lethal defensive weapons" to supplying "appropriate assistance."	WP
	22	Wikileaks discloses almost 20,000 emails from the DNC hack. Guccifer 2.0 claims to have supplied the emails.	Telegraph
	24	DNC chair Debbie Wasserman-Schultz resigns on the eve of the party convention based on fallout from the leaked emails showing DNC supported Clinton over Sanders.	Many
	25-28	Democratic Party National Convention begins in Philadelphia.	
	25	FBI says that it is investigating cyberattack on DNC networks.	WP
	25	RT reporter says blaming Russia distracts from real issue, which is unfair treatment of Sanders by the DNC.	NPR
	25	Trump tweets: "The new joke in town is that Russia leaked	Factcheck

Month	Day	Event	Source
		the disastrous DNC e-mails, which should never have been	
		written (stupid), because Putin likes me."	
	26	NBC reports that three cybersecurity experts told them that	Telegraph
		Russian hacking groups, Cosy Bear and Fancy Bear, were	
		responsible for the DNC email leak.	
	27	Trump refuses to condemn Russia interference and asks	NPR
		them to release the 30,000 deleted e-mails if they have them.	
		He says real issue is what is in the e-mails, meaning	
		treatment of Sanders, which echoes statement by RT, two	
		days earlier.	
	28	The FBI begins investigating a possible hack of the DCCC	Telegraph
		(Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.	
	29	Reuters says DCCC was likely attacked by the same group	Telegraph
		that infiltrated DNC. The DCCC confirms intrusion was	
		similar to the DNC intrusion, but it is later concluded that	
		the DCCC was attacked by "Fancy Bear" only. The US	
		Department of Justice national security division begins to	
		investigate hacks to determine if national security is at risk.	
	30	A data program used by Clinton's campaign is also attacked	Telegraph
		by suspected Russian hackers.	
	Late	Clint Watts: "Once you see both the campaign echoing the	NPR
		messages and themes that are coming out from RT and	
		Sputnik News, when you see hacked materials of the DNC	
		strategically linked and timed in terms of their release to	
		influence the U.S. election in favor of Trump, then when you	
		see Trump get onto stages or make prepared speeches	
		where he refers to both Russia and Clinton's emails, it seems	
		very ominous, in terms of maybe there was some connection	
		between the two," said Watts. "At a minimum, they were at	
		least looking or aware of those lines or influenced by	
		Russian propaganda to be saying it almost near verbatim	
		throughout those months."	
	Late	Illinois finally reports hack to the FBI, a month after the	Time,
		breach. FBI sends a Cyber Action Team to do a forensic	Bloom-
		investigation of the system, from which it is able to develop	berg
		digital fingerprints that it sends to states.	
	31	New York Times reports on Manafort's business dealings	Factcheck
		with Ukrainian and Russian tycoons.	
August	Early	Secret CIA report arrives at White House for Obama and 3	WP
		senior aides. For the first time, White House learns that	
		intelligence has captured Putin's specific instructions about	
		damaging Clinton and helping Trump.	
	Early	CIA director John Brennan creates task force at CIA to keep	WP
		White House informed. Task Force includes specialists from	
		FBI, CIA, and NSA.	

Month	Day	Event	Source
	1	At Columbus, OH rally, Trump says he is afraid election	Time, WP
		will be rigged. He also says it would be a good thing to get along with Russia.	VVI
	3	Jeh Johson (DHS) considers declaring elections part of critical infrastructure.	Time
	4	Brennan warns FSB (successor agency to the KGB) director	WP
		Alexander Bortnikov about Russia's election interference in	
		a telephone call. Bortnikov denies interference, but agrees to relay message to Putin.	
	5	Trump adviser and long-time friend, Roger Stone writes in	WP
		Breitbart that Guccifer 2.0 was behind DNC attacks, not Russia.	
	6	Before leaving on vacation, Obama tells aides to get	WP
		consensus from U.S. intelligence agencies on Russia's role	
		and intentions, to assess the vulnerabilities of the election	
		system and to seek bipartisan support to publicly condemn	
		Moscow. The aides face obstacles at every turn. NSA is	
		reluctant to rate attribution with high confidence because	
		some intelligence is from another country.	
	8	Roger Stone says in speech to Southwest Broward	Factcheck
		Republican Club that he "communicated with Assange" and	
		next group of documents might pertain to Clinton	
		Foundation, but no telling what the October surprise might	
		be.	
	11	Brennan begins scheduling meetings to brief congressional leaders on Russian actions	WP
	12	Guccifer announces release of DCCC documents affecting	WP
	12	several house races, including several in Florida.	**1
	Mid	Around this time, GOP operative from Broward County,	Sun-
		Aaron Nevins contacts Guccifer 2.0 and asks for any records	Sentinel,
		related to Florida races. He receives a reply 10 days later.	WSJ
		Nevins instructs Guccifer to put files in a Dropbox he uses	
		for large data files. He receives a large quantity of DCCC	
		files which he posts on his HelloFla website. Nevins says he	
		did not contact Stone, but Guccifer 2.0 sent Stone a link to	
		the HelloFla website in a Twitter message.	
	14	NYT reports secret Ukranian ledger shows 12.7 million in	WP
		off-the-book payments to Manafort's consulting firm from	
		Russia-aligned Party of Regions	
	15	Jeh Johnson, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, convenes	Time
		conference call with reps from every state elections office	
		across the country. He offers them federal assistance,	
		including vulnerability scans, actionable info about threats,	
		and cybertools to help protect their systems from intrusion.	
	14	NYT reports that Manafort's name appears in secret ledger	Factcheck

Month	Day	Event	Source
		recording millions of dollars from a pro-Russian party in	
		Ukraine. Manafort's lawyer denies Manafort received cash	
		payments.	
	14-17	Roger Stone initiates Twitter messages with Guccifer 2.0	Factcheck,
		after Guccifer's suspended account is reinstated. Reportedly,	WP
		he asks if he can help. According to Post interview, April 19,	
		2017, Stone says he was contacted by Guccifer after his	
		Breitbart article.	
	15	DCCC e-mails are published by Guccifer for Florida.	Politico
		Including six candidate-specific dossiers. These include	Florida
		Annette Taddeo and Joe Garcia in CD 26; Randy Perkins	
		and Jonathon Chane in CD19; Val Demmings in CD 10; and	
		Stephanie Murphy in CD 7. Of the group, only Murphy	
		wins in November.	
	Mid	Daniel's agency (white house cybersecurity) concludes New	Time
		Mexico and Florida have been hacked. In Tennessee hackers	
		had accessed state's campaign finance system.	
	17	In his first classified intelligence briefing as GOP	WP
		presidential nominee, Trump is told about direct	
		involvement of Kremlin.	
	18	FBI sends out a flash alert to all the states with the digital	Time
		fingerprints of the hackers from Illinois and Arizona.	
	19	Trump removes Manafort as campaign chairman. (Post says	Factcheck
		he resigns under pressure.)	
	19	Donald Trump's campaign hacked along with other GOP	Telegraph
		organizations. Malware is discovered on a Trump staffer's	
		email. But no documents are leaked as a result.	
	21	Stone tweets: Trust me, it will soon be Podesta's time in the	Factcheck
		barrel." This suggests he knows Podesta's e-mails, which	
		were stolen by Russians, will be leaked.	
	23	New York Times says FBI is investigating cyber intrusions	Telegraph
		that targeted its reporters and its Moscow Bureau. The	
		organization believes Russian hackers are behind attacks.	
	24	VR Systems is hacked by Russian military intelligence	NSA
		hackers.	
	29	DC think tanks under attack according to CrowdStrike, a	Telegraph
		cybersecurity firm. Targets include the Center for Strategic	
		and International Studies.	
	30	US intelligence officials reveal that they believe Russian	Telegraph
		hackers were behind two earlier attempts to infiltrate state	
		voter registration databases in Arizona and Illinois.	
	30	Florida Primary	
	30	VR Systems' server crashes, which impacts posting of	Talla-
		returns in several counties. Early posting (6:30) of returns in	hassee
		Broward allegedly causes high traffic.	Democrat

Month	Day	Event	Source
September	Early	Congressional leaders briefed by Comey and White House homeland security adviser Lisa Monaco about threats to election systems. Democrats want to go public with Russian interference while Republicans warn of undermining integrity of election.	WP
	2	FBI releases documents on Clinton's emails showing Clinton and her staff exchanged sensitive information in informal ways.	WP
	2	Putin calls hack a public service, although he denies knowing anything about it. Clinton responds that Putin is endorsing election inference. Trump says Clinton is not trustworthy.	WP
	4-5	Obama meets with Putin during G20 meeting in Hangzhou, China and tells him to stop interference or face consequences.	Time
	8	Trump campaign adviser Sessions meets privately with Kislyak, Russian ambassador to the U.S., in his Senate office. He says it is not in his capacity as a Trump campaign person. But fails to disclose the meeting during his confirmation hearing for attorney general.	Factcheck, WP
	8	In interview on RT, Trump says that it is unlikely Russia is behind hacks of DNC, even though he has already been briefed by U.S. intelligence that hack is by the Russians.	Factcheck, WP
	20	FBI and DHS hold a secret conference call with all 67 Florida SOEs to inform them about attempted hack of Florida voting system. Most likely they were told about the attempted hack of VR Systems a month earlier. The SOEs were told by the state not to comment to the press because "information about a possible security breach was protected by a state law that makes records about "suspected or confirmed information technology security incidents" confidential."	Miami- Herald
	22	Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrats on the Senate and House intelligence committees, go around the White House and issue their own statement on Russian interference.	WP
	26	1st presidential debate. Trump discounts reports that Russia hackers broke into DNC system, even though by this time he has been briefed on the intelligence. Clinton is overwhelmingly felt to be winner of debate, with Trump looking unprepared and not presidential.	Factcheck, WP
	26	Page steps down from campaign.	WP
	28	Republicans issue statement that calls on states to ensure security of their election systems but makes no mention of Russia. McConnell says he doubts intelligence, which stuns	WP

Month	Day	Event	Source
		Democrats.	
	29	ABC News reports that hackers have tried to penetrate	ABC
		election systems in nearly half of U.S. states.	
October	1	ABC News reports that sources say hackers successfully	ABC
		gained access to voter registration system in Florida through	
		a private vendor, but no evidence was found that voter	
		information was affected. Report clearly refers to VR	
		Systems.	
	1	Stone tweets "Wednesday @Hilary Clinton is	SMG
		gone." (Wednesday was October 5.) Next day he goes on	
		Alex Jones Infowars and says "I am assured the motherlode	
		is coming Wednesday."	
	3	Stone tweets that his "hero" Julian Assange would soon	SMG
		"educate" the American people.	
	Early	Clint Watts notes that the Trump campaign is echoing	NPR
		nearly verbatim the messages and themes being put out by	
		RT and Sputnik News. He says the selection and timing of	
		the leaks of hacked DNC documents suggests Russia is	
		attempting to influence the election in favor of Trump. He	
		believes it suggests some connection between Russia and	
		the Trump campaign. He finds it "very ominous" and	
		suggests that the Trump campaign either has fore-	
		knowledge of Russian actions or is closely following and	
		acting on Russian propaganda.	
	4	Assange denies in news conference that he is targeting	Many
		Clinton, despite the fact that he used a FOIA request to	
		publish a searchable database of her e-mails from her	
		private server and then published e-mails stolen from the	
		DNC just prior to the party's convention that tended to	
		exacerbate divisions between Clinton and Sanders	
		supporters. Three days later Wikileaks begins publishing	
		hacked e-mails from Clinton campaign chair.	
	5	Stone tweets: "Payload coming" #Lockthemup. Two days	TSG
		later Wikileaks begins published Podesta's hacked e-mails.	
	7	US security officials formally accuse the Russian	Telegraph,
		government of directing cyberattacks on American political	WP
		organizations. "We believe, based on the scope and	
		sensitivity of these efforts, that only Russia's senior-most	
		officials could have authorized these activities," runs a joint	
		statement from the Department of Homeland Security and	
		Office of the Director of National Intelligence. (at 3:30)	
	7	Half hour after above accusation, Post publishes video of	WP
		Trump making lewd comments about women. This	
		overshadows the hacking news. (4:00)	
	7	WikiLeaks begins publishing emails hacked from the	Telegraph,

Month	Day	Event	Source
		account of Clinton campaign chair John Podesta. The messages include paid speeches made by Clinton, apparently showing her with a good relationship with Wall Street investment firms. (at 4:30)	WP
	9	2 nd presidential debate. Clinton mentions Russian hacking. Trump says maybe there is no hacking and Russia is always blamed, despite being briefed on intelligence much earlier.	Factcheck
	11	Podesta tells reporters that Russia is responsible for hack of his account and that Trump campaign knew Wikileaks would release information. He references Stone's comments about time in the barrel.	VF
	12	Stone claims to have communicated with Assange through a backchannel, but has never spoken to him directly. Assange denies this. In August, Stone told GOP group in Broward that he had communicated with Assange. Stone's comments about timing of release of Podesta documents also suggest foreknowledge.	WP
	12	CNN reports U.S. intelligence believes VR Systems was hacked by Russians.	CNN
	19	Final presidential debate — Trump refuses to accept U.S. intelligence community assessment that Russians stole DNC e-mails. Clinton says Putin supports Trump because he would rather have a puppet as President of the U.S.	Factcheck, WP
	19	Hackers create operational e-mail account, elevationsystem@outlook.com and sent e-mails, spoofing U.S. Company #2.	NSA
	27	Hackers create new operational e-mail account, vr.elections@gmail.com.	NSA
	28	Comey announces FBI will again investigate Clinton's use of a private e-mail server after discovering e-mails on Weiner's computer in a separate investigation.	WP
	Late	White House distributes its 15-page plan to deal with Election Day attack to top cybersecurity officials across the federal government.	Time
	31	Administration delivers final pre-election warning to Russian concerning the election meddling.	WP
	31- Nov1	Trojanized MS Word documents sent to local election offices by Russian hackers last modified on this date.	NSA
November	1-7	122 e-mails sent from hackers with trojanized MS Word documents apparently stolen from VR Systems hack. According to Wayne County, Indiana clerk Debra Berry based on information from VR Systems, Florida jurisdictions were primary focus of attack. Florida counties known to receive e-mail are: Hillsborough, Pasco, Citrus, Clay, and Volusia. The data on Citrus e-mail indicates that it was sent	NSA, Fox 59, Miami- Herald

Month	Day	Event	Source
		to Broward. Alachua found it later, but it was rejected by	
		system. Three Volusia staffers received e-mail. One opened	
		e-mail. None clicked on links. To date there has been no	
		known forensic investigation by states or counties	
		concerning the attack.	
	1	White House conducts war game to rehearse for a possible	Time
		Election Day attack.	
	6	Comey announces that the FBI found no evidence of	WP
		wrongdoing in the recently discovered Clinton e-mails.	
	Before	Before election day, NHS says 33 states and 36 counties took	Time
	8	advantage of cyber security assistance. Included cyber	
		hygiene scans, risk and vulnerability assessments, and	
		information on improving internet-connected systems such	
		as online registration, election night reporting, and such.	
	Before	NHS conducted remote scans of state voting systems for	Time
	8	vulnerabilities. Some states reported that they were	Time
	0	"hacked" by DHS.	
	8	General Election. The Feds ran a "situation room" with FBI	Time
	0	DHS, election crimes coordinators from Justice and	Time
		cyberintelligence agents in the DNI, Russia experts standing	
	10	by.	TATO
	10	Obama warns Trump about hiring Flynn as National	WP
	17	Security Adviser.	WP
	18	Trump designates Flynn as National Security Adviser	WP
	10	Trump picks Jeff Sessions for attorney general despite	VVI
	20	opposition to Sessions from minority community.	TATO
	28	In defiance of U.S. intelligence agencies' assessment, Trump	WP
		says he doesn't believe Russians interfered and called that a	
D 1	T 1	"laughing point, not a talking point."	T 1
December	Early	Along with two others, Sergei Mikhailov, head of	Telegraph
		cybersecurity at the FSB (successor agency to the KGB) is	
		taken into custody and a paper bag placed over his head. He	
		is accused of working with the U.S. and is charged with	
		treason. He worked for elections unit of GPU, the entity	
		responsible for the hacks.	
	1 or 2	Flynn, Kushner, and Russian ambassador Kislyak meet at	WP
		Trump Tower. Kushner proposes setting up a secret	
		communication channel between transition officials and	
		Moscow, according to intercepts of Russian	
		communications.	
	8	Carter Page is back in Russia to meet with "business and	WP
		thought" leaders.	
	9	The CIA reports to US lawmakers that it has evidence that	Telegraph
		the Russian hacking operation had the specific aim of	
		helping Donald Trump to win the presidency.	

Month	Day	Event	Source
	9	Post reports on secret CIA report that concluded that Russia	WP
		interfered in the election to help Trump win as well as to	
		undermine confidence in U.S. elections. Trump calls	
		findings "ridiculous."	
	9	Obama orders a comprehensive review by U.S. intelligence	WP
		agencies on Russian interference in U.S. elections going back	
		to 2008. After scouring through previously overlooked	
		intelligence, the analysts produce new reports showing how	
		extensive Russia's measures really were. Findings give new	
		urgency to NSC deliberations.	
	13 or	Kushner meets with Sergey Gorkov, chief of Russia's state-	WP
	14	owned Vnesheconombank, at Kislyak's request.	
		Vnesheconombank is a Russian government-owned	
		development bank that was placed on the U.S. sanctions list	
		in 2014 after Russia annexed Crimea. Russian Prime	
		Minister Dmitry Medvedev sits on the bank's supervisory	
		board.	
	16	FBI agrees with CIA that Russia tried to help Trump win.	WP
	22	The CrowdStrike cybersecurity firm says it has "high	WP
		confidence" that the group that hacked the DNC has ties to	
		the Russian military intelligence agency, the GRU.	
	29	President Barack Obama announces sanctions against	Telegraph
		Russia, in retaliation for the alleged cyber intrusions. This	
		includes the closure of two Russian government-operated	
		facilities on US soil and the expulsion from the US of 35	
		Russian diplomats.	
	29	Flynn discusses sanctions on the phone with Kislyak in	WP
		conversation picked up by U.S. intelligence.	
	30	Putin chooses not to retaliate.	WP

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