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# Special Forces Likely Behind DNC Hack, Says Former Top KGB Agent

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Only trained special forces could have⊠been behind last year's cyber-attack on the U.S. Democrat Party, the⊠former head of the KGB's analytics department has claimed.

In an interview with Russian magazine⊠Ogonyok, Vladimir Rubanov claimed that "ordinary hackers" would⊠not have been able to break in the party's servers to leak thousands⊠of classified emails.

"This attack was against a political⊠party. What need does an individual hacker have to launch an attack⊠on a political party?"

Rubanov also warned that cyber-attacks⊠would continue to put an increasing strain on international ties. He⊠claimed that the attack on DNC servers — and Russia's alleged⊠role in

the hack — threatened any chance of the Kremlin building stronger ties with Washington.

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"[U.S. President Donald] Trump will now have to prove that he has nothing to do with Moscow," Rubanov said. "There's a chance that he'll now take a far harder stance toward Russia than Clinton ever would have in order to divert suspicion from himself."

Rubanov spoke at length about Russia's cyber-battalions, despite Kremlin officials' repeated claims that no such corps exists. He said that Moscow had at least 1,000 people engaged in online-military operations: but made sure to distinguish the well-drilled, government cyber-corps to hackers acting as "hooligans" online.

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"Sociologists have found that we Russians even have a kind of pride in our hackers," he said. "But in our fragile information society it is impossible to treat hacking as a prank. They are a threat."

"The main danger from increased hacking activity is attacks on critical infrastructure, which could lead to man-made disasters and the real loss of human life. This is a concern for all countries: but because of that, we have the chance to find a international solution."

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