

Reuters Hacked!

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The blogging platform of Reuters Newswire was [hacked](#) on Friday morning and a series of fake posts were published to highlight the nature of sculptured and managed 'news stories' the mass media routinely publishes for mass consumption. The trade in fiction and propaganda the mass media now specialises in was duly noted by aware citizens and activist groups worldwide. Gross misinformation, selective reporting and outright lies have become the tools of trade for the CFR controlled corporate mass media today. Be aware and beware, all citizens!



Some fake posts mixed with the 'real' news

"Reuters.com was a target of a hack on Friday," the company said in a statement. "Our blogging platform was compromised and fabricated blog posts were falsely attributed to several Reuters journalists."

One of the false posts purported to be an interview with Riad al-Asaad, the head of the Free Syrian Army.

"Reuters did not carry out such an interview and the posting has been deleted," the Reuters statement said.

In another seemingly related incident, a blog posted under the name of a Reuter's columnist based in Jordan, claimed that Syrian rebels had "acquired chemical weapons from Libya" including "mustard gas and sarin [sic]" and reported that members of the Free Syrian Army had been documented unpacking gas masks in the Syrian city of Aleppo.

The posting, which was only available briefly before being taken down by Reuters (and can be seen in a cached version [here](#)), read:

"Photographs from Aleppo seem to show rebels donning chemical weapons mask, others showing others in fresh unopened packaging, such as the M-42A1 gas mask. It is unlikely that the rebels have captured these masks from Syrian storage areas as they are manufactured in the United States, suggesting they may be part of the non-lethal aid that the Obama administration has tasked the CIA in handling to the rebels."

In the purported interview with al-Asaad, Reuters said, the FSA leader was alleged to have said his

forces were pulling back from the northern province of Aleppo after clashes with the Syrian army.

The Free Syrian Army, in turn, issued a statement denying that any such interview had taken place, and blamed President Bashar al-Assad's government for the false posting.

The report "was fabricated by the regime, as it seems the news agency was hacked", it said in a statement.

Thomson Reuters had no immediate information on who was behind the hacking, but given the nature of the false rumors contained in the posts it seemed clear that the hackers had a firmly pro-Assad bent.

Authentic Reuters journalists in Aleppo have reported Free Syrian Army fighters are still present in the city and outlying province where fighting continues.

The Reuters.com [blogging platform](#) was taken offline on Friday while the company works to address the problem.

<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/08/03-4>

Jungle Drum Prose/Poetry. <http://jungledrum.lingama.net/news/story-29.html>