

“WikiLeaks” activity is as a threat to the informational security: Reaction of B.Obama’s administration

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Abstract. On November 28, 2010, the USA diplomatic telegrams were published on sites of «WikiLeaks». What «WikiLeaks» revealed to the world in 2010? The Obama's administration wants you to believe it's a criminal enterprise. The American establishment media — even in the face of all these revelations — continues to insist on the contradictory. But here's a look back at what «WikiLeaks» exposed.

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Introduction

Recently the website “WikiLeaks” is being focused more often. “Unmasker of the American government”, “The area for the government secrets”, “The most honest site” – in half a year the popularity of this resource has considerably increased due such slogans. Without any exaggeration the whole world was drawn into the scandal which was started by “WikiLeaks”. The site “WikiLeaks” has begun functioning since December, 2006, and from the very beginning it takes its stand as a place for publishing any exposing materials. However this resource begins to attract general attention only lately [1]. In given article is made an attempt to find out in what way “WikiLeaks” activity influences policy B.Obama’s administration in the sphere of informational security.

Main body. Chronology of leaks

The first large-scale leak of the USA secret military information was occurred on July 26, 2010. The site “WikiLeaks” edited almost 90 thousand secret materials, concerning the USA operations in Afghanistan in 2004-2009. There were announced directives on performing operations with maps in appendix, reports about hostilities with inhabitants and occasional shoot-outs with coalition supporters. Pentagon had claimed on such a case that publication of the documents threatened lives of American soldiers and their allies. The Chief of the United Committee of the heads of the USA armed forces staffs admiral Mike Mullen declared that authors of “WikiLeaks” publications have “blood on arms”. On the contrary the movement «Taliban» reported about thoroughness of learning materials concerning Afghans who cooperate with Americans and promised to execute them as traitors [2].

On October 22, 2010, “WikiLeaks” edited 400 thousand unknown documents about war in Iraq, according to them 100 thousand people died in 6 years of that war, 2/3 among them were peaceful population. The American military men, as a rule, did

not reveal facts neither tortures, executions at Iraqi prisons nor assassinations of civil citizens. Even in this case Pentagon had claimed publication on “WikiLeaks” as a threat to the national security of the USA [3].

On November 28, 2010, the USA diplomatic telegrams were published on sites of “WikiLeaks”. There were Depeche about the international cases of 1966-2010 and were sent from 274 embassies. The content of Depeche include in diplomatic analysis of the world leaders, evaluations of countries, where these embassies were located, also discussion of many international and local questions from Middle East till nuclear disarmament, from war against terrorism till closing prison in Guantanamo [4].

Reaction of B.Obama’s administration to “WikiLeaks”

The USA authorities every time negatively censured publications of materials on “WikiLeaks”. For example, the Chief of State department H.Klinton, giving commentaries the last big leaks, informed: “The USA considerably censured illegal exposure of these secret documents. It represents a danger for people’s life and threaten our national security and besides it prevents our efforts on solving common problems with other states” [5]. The Press-secretary of Pentagon D.Morrel named publications “Iraq dossier” as “shameful” and threatening lives of American militaries plus to the national security of the USA [2]. Nevertheless B.Obama’s administration made some attempts against “WikiLeaks”.

Firstly from the moment of publishing materials about war in Afganistan B.Obama’s administration consequently tries to stop “WikiLeaks” activity. Also there were some anonymous hacker attacks on site [6].

Secondly the USA authorities persecute on criminal case a founder of “WikiLeaks” J.Assange. At first he was blamed by Swiss powers in sex harassment and rape, but on 30th of November US

authorities began to investigate such an inquiry according to which it would be possible to classify actions of “WikiLeaks” founder as espionage. In addition the USA ordered social nets and micro blogging services to represent them personal dates and correspondences of J.Assange [7].

Thirdly site “WikiLeaks” was cut off most of finance support with the help of US government, additionally accounts of site and J.Assange were closed and freezing at pay system PayPal, MasterCard and Visa [8].

Fourthly B.Obama’s administration agitates in any way governments of foreign countries to actions which are aimed against «WikiLeaks» and J.Assange.

Measures of B.Obama’s administration in the sphere of strengthening the USA informational security

According to opinion of B.Obama’s administration, measures for persecution of J.Assange and “WikiLeaks” are not effective. It is urgently necessary to strengthen its own informational security so that to prevent such leaks in future.

On account of this commanding USA armed forces prohibited using of any transmitted dates, including different USB-flashes and compact-disks at any operating system of US Ministry of Defense. It was reported in its order that prohibition could reduce the efficiency of work but for its non-observance the personal took risk to be punished according to service regulations. However this information became familiar to publicity due to leak of the textual order [9].

The State Department of the USA limited access of military to one of its data base on November 30, 2010 with the object of stopping information leaks henceforth.

On December 15, 2010 the commanding US Air Force closed the access its military to websites having scandal materials in order to reduce bad influence of “WikiLeaks”. The representative US Air Force mayor T.Totuns said: “This decision is followed in the frame of directive of 2010, which prohibits military of Air Force in access to sites of “WikiLeaks” for looking through or downloading any government information what is used for special purposes” [10]. Military of Air Force cannot use now more than 25 resources, in these number entered particularly, American “New York Times”, British “Guardian” and German “Spiegel”. Moreover the administrative budget administration of the White House closed access to “WikiLeaks” materials for its workers.

Still, experts doubt in efficiency of such prohibitions. Published documents by “WikiLeaks” immediately spread out in the Internet in numerous copies. Besides activists maintain activity of thousand mirror sites of “WikiLeaks”, which officially are not prohibited, but contain the same information as head portal [11].

The first discussion of “WikiLeaks” situation was conducted on 17th, December, 2010 at the Law Committee of Lower Palace of the USA Congress. The purpose of discussion was to find out if the federal law about espionage was applicable to this case. The former resident adviser on questions of national security K.Vainstain expressed apprehension that if administration of resource “WikiLeaks” would not be calling to account it could be an opinion about their “legal invulnerability”. It goes without saying in K.Vainstain’s opinion that it encourages “WikiLeaks” and other similar recourses. The Congressman L.Gomert supposes that it will necessary to review the criminal law for the USA Congress in order to prevent information leaks [12].

The Central Investigation Administration of the USA on December 23, 2010 organized the special group on counteraction of information leaks. This group was called as “WikiLeaks Task Force”. The main aim is analysis of happenings and foundlings out how diplomatic dépêche leaks can be harmful for CIA works. The publication of the materials damages severely trust of foreign partners to American state structures and theoretically can make a person who has desire who cooperate with CIA to refuse. The key role in “WikiLeaks Task Force” will play specialists from the Centre of Contrsecretservice Administration. Additionally to them more than 20 specialists from other divisions are included in this group.

The State Department of the USA on January 7, 2011 confirmed that the USA government had been moved some citizens from other countries who cooperated with the USA as informants and now they are possibly in danger because their names are mentioned in the published secret diplomatic documents. What is more, it is known now that in the beginning of December, 2010 the Task Force was organized about 60 members, their task is to define a set of people, who also may be in danger as a result of “WikiLeaks” activity.

Conclusions

Despite the obvious prejudice of USA given by “WikiLeaks” activity, the retaliatory measures of B.Obama’s administration may be called disputed and ineffective, and even ridiculous.

Firstly the prohibition for military to use flashes, moreover the prohibition to read mass media

information reminds us the Kazakh proverb: “Аузы күйген үріп ішер”, as the English proverb says “A burnt child dreads the fire” (similar measures on hackers attacks had been unsuccessfully undertaken on Pentagon during the Bush-younger ruling).

Secondly analytics consider in actions of B.Obama’s administration only demonstrative measures. There exists the opinion that the USA using “WikiLeaks” as a megaphone, with the object of saying that what cannot say directly.

Thirdly the fact that “WikiLeaks” continues its activity day after day may say only both about inefficiency of actions of B.Obama’s administration, and its unwillingness to stop recourse activity.

Fourthly “WikiLeaks” demonstrates apparently that at any question official and unofficial position of the USA as a rule coincide with, thus a lot of gossips about foreign policy of the USA disproof.

Fifthly there are some serious doubts of trustworthy foreign policy B.Obama’s administration. Who can assume that “WikiLeaks” was not firstly created as a special project for strengthen national and informational security of the USA, as peculiar simulation and an attempt of evaluating threats before future informational wars?

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