

Anonymous gives Colombian president a hack attack

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Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos, pictured in April 2011, on Wednesday tweeted that his Facebook page had been hit by the hacker group Anonymous, which took a swipe at the country's independence celebrations.

Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos on Wednesday tweeted that his Facebook page had been hit by the hacker group Anonymous, which took a swipe at the country's independence celebrations.

"I regret the interference with the Facebook account that is in my name, and the messages that have been published there," Santos said in the microblogging service.

On Santos' personal page Anonymous left short phrases that are one of its calling cards, and a link to a video entitled "False Independence," as Colombia marks the 201st year of its independence from Spain.



The video says that the July 20 celebrations should not be held. It argued that the country needed to demand its full rights on all fronts, criticizing violence and <u>unemployment rates</u> in the South American nation of about 45 million.

Anonymous rose to infamy last year with <u>cyber attacks</u> in support of controversial whistle-blower website WikiLeaks.

The group was linked to attacks on Visa, Mastercard and <u>Paypal</u>, which blocked donations to WikiLeaks after it published thousands of US diplomatic cables.

Early this year, Anonymous took credit for breaking into the website of HBGary Federal, stealing tens of thousands of email messages and temporarily routing traffic to a page with a vitriolic message.

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