

Anonymous vandalizes US prison contractors' site

February 24 2012, By RAPHAEL SATTER , Associated Press

(AP) -- The website of an international prison contractor was defaced by hackers who on Friday replaced the company's home page with a hip-hop homage devoted to former death row inmate Mumia Abu Jamal.

Hackers allied to the loose-knit Anonymous movement claimed responsibility for vandalizing the site of Boca Raton, Florida-based GEO Group Inc., which manages some 60 custodial facilities in Europe, North America, Australia and South Africa.

A call to the GEO Group Inc. was routed to The GEO Group Foundation, a charitable organization linked to the company. The foundation's Abraham Cohen refused to discuss the attack, asking that questions be submitted in writing to the foundation's Executive Director Pablo Paez.

Paez didn't immediately respond to emails seeking comment.

Anonymous said in a statement posted to the stricken website that its hack was "part of our ongoing efforts to dismantle the prison industrial complex."

Earlier Friday, Anonymous claimed credit for defacing the website of a Dayton, Ohio-based chapter of Infragard, a public-private partnership for critical infrastructure protection sponsored by the FBI. The group's site was replaced by a video of Coolio's 1995 rap hit, "Gangsta's Paradise."

The FBI declined to comment on that attack.

[Anonymous](#), an amorphous collection of activists and Internet mischief-makers, has increasingly focused its energy on military, police and security companies in recent months. Among its most spectacular coups: The interception of a conference call between FBI and [Scotland Yard](#) cyber-investigators working to track them down.

At least one element within the group has promised weekly attacks on government-linked targets.

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Citation: Anonymous vandalizes US prison contractors' site (2012, February 24) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-02-anonymous-vandalizes-prison-contractors-site.html>

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