

US general says SKorea databases hacked

June 5 2014, by Youkyung Lee

The top U.S. military official in South Korea said a hacking incident might have compromised the personal information of thousands of South Koreans employed by the American command.

Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, commander of U.S. Forces in South Korea, apologized Thursday for the "possible theft" from two databases of private details of South Koreans such as names, contact information and work history.

About 16,000 current and former workers, almost all of them Korean nationals, and people who have sought jobs with the U.S. military in South Korea, are affected by the incident.

The U.S. military said no classified [military](#) data was compromised as the databases were on a separate network.

South Korean government, broadcasting and finance industry networks have been a frequent target of cyberattacks in the past. Some have been blamed on North Korea, which denies any involvement. Others have been attributed to hackers seeking to profit from data theft.

U.S. Forces spokesman Christopher Bush said an investigation by the U.S. Army was underway to determine who was responsible.

The U.S. has around 28,500 soldiers in South Korea as a deterrent against the North. The 1950-1953 Korean War ended in a truce so the peninsula is still technically at war.

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