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Statement by Secretary Jeh C. Johnson Concerning the Extradition of Sergey Vovnenko

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I commend the U.S. Secret Service, together with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, for their outstanding work in the apprehension and extradition of yet another alleged cyber criminal—Sergey Vovnenko. Vovnenko, a Ukrainian citizen, appeared in federal court in Newark today, after extradition from Italy. Vovnenko is charged with conspiring to hack into the computer networks of individual users and corporations to steal log-in credentials and payment card data.

According to the indictment, for almost two years, Vovnenko and his conspirators operated an international criminal organization that stole data, including, user names and passwords for bank accounts and other online services, as well as debit and credit card numbers and personally identifiable information. To carry out this crime, Vovnenko allegedly operated a "botnet" of more than 13,000 computers infected with malicious computer software programmed to gain unauthorized access to other computers and to identify, store, and export information from hacked computers.

Today's announcement is the latest affirmation of the Secret Service's skill and commitment to bring cyber criminals to justice, whether domestic or foreign. Congratulations on a job well done.

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