**Attack on Twitter Could Have Serious Effects**

**攻击推特或将会产生重大影响**

It was late in Wednesday afternoon when Twitter accounts of several famous people in America all asked followers to “give back to the community.”

周三下午晚些时候，美国几位名人的推特账号都发出声明要求粉丝们“回馈社会”。

The message from Tesla founder Elon Musk’s Twitter account said, “You send $1,000, I send back $2,000. Only doing this for the next 30 minutes.” The message provided a link of letters and numbers for followers to donate their bitcoins. Bitcoin is a form of digital money not supported by any government but exchanged by many people online.

特斯拉创始人埃隆·马斯克推特账户发消息称，“你给我发1000美元，我就回你2000美元，仅30分钟内有效。”这条消息附带了一个由字母和数字组成的链接，让关注的人捐赠比特币。比特币是一种数字货币，不受任何政府的支持，但有很多人用它在网上交易。

Soon the Twitter accounts of Microsoft’s Bill Gates, Amazon’s Jeff Bezos, and company accounts for Apple joined the appeal. Former U.S. President Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democratic presidential candidate, also joined in. Billionaires Michael Bloomberg and Warren Buffett wanted people on Twitter to do the same. Entertainers Kayne West and Kim Kardashian and boxer Floyd Mayweather all asked their followers to “give back.”

很快，微软的比尔·盖茨、亚马逊的杰夫·贝佐斯和苹果公司的官方推特账户也发出了这一声明。美国前总统奥巴马和民主党总统候选人拜登随后也加入了进来。亿万富翁迈克尔·布隆伯格和沃伦·巴菲特也在特特上发出了相同的声明。艺人坎耶·维斯特、金·卡戴珊和拳击手弗洛伊德·梅威瑟都发推特要求关注他们的人进行此类“回馈”。

Over $100,000 in bitcoins were sent to the appeal before Twitter could disable the accounts and removed the posts. The social media company said it was a “coordinated social engineering attack.” It said someone targeted “some of our employees with access to internal systems and tools” to take control of the accounts.

在推特公司关闭这个账户并删除所有帖子之前，该虚拟账户总计收到超过10万美元的比特币。该社交媒体公司推特表示，这是一次“协调的社会工程攻击”， 有人袭击了“部分有权使用内部系统和工具的内部员工账户”来操控这些账户。

Jack Dorsey, the company’s founder, called it a “tough day for us at Twitter.” But the attack was not the first incident of this kind at the social media company.

该公司创始人杰克•多尔西称这是“这对推特来说是艰难的一天”，但这次袭击并非这家社交媒体公司第一次发生此类事件。

In 2017, President Donald Trump’s account disappeared from the pages of his millions of followers. The company brought it back online after 11 minutes. An investigation found it was removed by a Twitter employee on his last day of work.

2017年，美国总统特朗普的数百万关注者发现他们关注的特朗普的账户突然消失了。公司在11分钟后将其恢复上线。据当时的一项调查表明，特朗普的账户是一名推特员工在离职前最后一天操作删除的。

Cybersecurity experts warn that attacks on accounts with millions of followers could have serious effects around the world.

网络安全专家警告称，攻击拥有数百万粉丝的账户可能在全球范围内造成严重影响。

Michael Gazeley is managing director of the internet security company Network Box. He told the Associated Press, “If you receive a tweet from a verified account, belonging to a well-known and therefore trusted person, you can no longer assume it’s really from them.”

迈克尔·盖斯利是互联网安全公司“网盒”的常务董事。他对美联社说，“如果你收到一个经过认证的知名且值得信任的账户发来的推文，你可能会怀疑这条推文是不是他们本人发出的。”

Twitter says its verified accounts are proven to be real by the company.

推特表示，该公司经过认证的账户都是真实的。

U.S. Senator Ed Markey has another worry. He said in a statement: “...imagine if these bad actors had a different intent to use powerful voices to spread disinformation to potentially interfere with our elections, disrupt the stock market, or upset our international relations.”

美国参议员埃德·马基表达了另一担忧。他在一份声明中说：“……想象一下，如果这些坏人有着其他目的，利用很有影响力的人来散布谣言进而或将干扰美国选举，扰乱股市，或者扰乱我们的国际关系。”

Senator Josh Hawley noted that millions of users depended on Twitter not just to send tweets but also to communicate privately by direct messaging. He called on Twitter to work with the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or FBI, to secure the site.

参议员乔希·霍利指出，数以百万计的用户依赖推特不仅是为了发送推文，而且还会通过它互相直接发送消息进行私下交流。他呼吁推特与司法部和联邦调查局合作以确保网站的安全。

“A successful attack on your system’s servers represents a threat to all of your users’ privacy and data security,” said Hawley.

霍利表示：“对系统服务器的一次成功攻击表明它对所有用户的隐私和数据安全构成威胁。”

The Reuters news agency reported Thursday that the FBI is now investigating the attack.

周四路透社报道称，联邦调查局目前正在调查这起袭击事件。

I’m John Russell.

约翰·拉塞尔报道。

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