

Response to Sweetheear's TeamSpeak Attack

As Read by Dr. Baskerville

29th House of Players Meeting - August 30, 2014

In the early morning of August 14, 2014, the now former Team Fortress 2 Department Chairman, Mr. Sweetheear executed an attack on Villoux's TeamSpeak server by abusing his permissions to edit, rearrange, and delete channels. His attack lasted from approximately 2:00 – 3:00 AM that morning. At approximately 7:20 AM, I was made aware of the attack and issued the following statement: "My fellow Villouxians, the system has undergone a most severe attack by the former Team Fortress 2 Department Chairman, Sweetheear. For the time being, the TeamSpeak server has reverted back to its format in March of 2014, meaning that all channels and badges have reverted back to that date. The Cabinet and the Council will be working around the clock to restore Villoux to its present order and glory, but will need a bit of time to do so. I request that you refrain from messaging me concerns about your rank or guild. I request patience and cooperation during this time, and I am certain that I shall receive it. We will begin restoring the server at 2:00 PM USCT. Much appreciation, my friends."

At 2:00 PM, I immediately began working on restoring all channels to their proper order, rewriting all channel descriptions, republishing all banners, reposting all links to website, relocking all private channels, and reinstating all members to their proper position. Fortunately, with the assistance of my Cabinet and the Grand Council Member, Mr. Cronus, we were able to fully restore Villoux's TeamSpeak server by 5:00 PM August 15, 2014, just one day after the attack.

In punishment for his act of treason against the system, I executed my authority to use the Varacka Ordinance and issued a system ban against Mr. Sweetheear on August 16, 2014. Whereas generally speaking, no one user has the permission to issue a system ban against another user, the Chief of Staff is granted the ability to do so in certain situations with the Varacka Ordinance, which states: "If a user attacks the system or members of the system and violates this ordinance, a System Ban is required to be issued by the Villoux Chief of Staff."

In order to help better prepare the system to recovery more quickly from some similar attack should one happen in the future, our TeamSpeak server will be updated once a month, opposed to quarterly. Additionally, the Grand Council is looking into the possibility of granting certain handpicked Grand Council Veterans the same TeamSpeak permissions as a TeamSpeak Operator, meaning that they have the ability to ban a user should the need arise. Whereas at this stage this is merely an idea, if the Grand Council finds it favorable, it will be worked into the TeamSpeak Ordinance by the end of next month. Furthermore, the TeamSpeak permissions of all Department Chairmen have been reduced moderately to limit the amount of damage that they could potentially cause.

I wish to highly stress the fact that another attack on Villoux's TeamSpeak server of this scale is nearly impossible. Throughout my five years as serving as Villoux's Chief of Staff, I have never seen such an attack launched on the TeamSpeak server by another system official, therefore I find the possibility of another attack to be extraordinarily low. I do, however, wish to thank the system's response to the attack. Everyone remained calm and patient, and managed to retain a formal decorum. I would especially like to thank the Executive Baskerville Assistant Veteran, Mr. Penguin, the Executive TeamSpeak Operator Veteran, Mr. Pwnzy, the Baskerville Advisor, Sen. Crepim, the Baskerville Advisor Manager, Mr. Alch, and the Realm of the Mad God Department Chairman, Mr. SoulThief for their swift efforts to keep me updated and informed on the matter