

Putin Believes Everything He Reads on the Internet

By: Tino Gonzalez-Kakouris

INT. Newsroom

(Open on: Newscaster REBECCA reporting the morning news.)

REBECCA

Good morning viewers and thanks for tuning in to Chanel 4 news. I'm Rebecca Salstein with your world update. We have breaking news this morning coming in from Moscow, Russia as the city is up in arms. Our field correspondent Mike Suarez reports live from Moscow. Mike?

(Cut to MIKE reporting live in the crowded streets of Russia.)

MIKE

Thanks Rebecca, Mike Suarez here reporting live outside the Kremlin as tensions are high and chaos runs through the streets of Moscow. The country is in a state of panic as highly confidential emails were leaked from inside the Kremlin - Emails that threaten the safety of Russian president Vladimir Putin. I have a transcript of one of those emails now stating: "If you read this you are plagued with the curse of the Germagook. If you don't forward this to 10 people you know in the next 5 hours the Germagook will kill you in your sleep tonight!"

REBECCA

That's terrifying. Any leads on who could have cursed the Russian president?

MIKE

Sources have revealed that the threat came from an alias: XxLil\_Cutie\_Angle93xX. They have not been able reveal the true identity of this cyber terrorist or how to stop the Germagook.

REBECCA

I'm sorry, was that Lil Cutie  
"Angle" or "Angel"?

MIKE

"Angle", however, the principal  
investigator on the case believes  
it could just be a typo, but other  
sources claim it might be code for  
a deeper threat.

REBECCA

And why hasn't Putin forwarded the  
email to the 10 people as requested  
by the terrorist?

MIKE

Well that could very possibly be  
the solution, but I have a direct  
quote here from Mr. Putin stating  
that he'd "feel very bad" to curse  
10 other people with the Germagook  
just to save his own life.

REBECCA

The words of a true leader. Well  
simply put - there's no denying his  
courage.

MIKE

Just one minute. What's that? Yes,  
Rebecca, I just received update  
that yet another email threat has  
been received by Mr. Putin. The  
email reads: "IMPORTANT!!!!!! YOU  
REALLY MUST DO THIS!!!!!! THIS IS  
NOT A HOAX!!! Cut and paste this as  
your status or you will smell like  
farts forever!"

REBECCA

Farts? Oh no!

(Cut to Mike standing with Russian man NIKOLAI.)

MIKE

Yes, Rebecca. The public are very  
upset by this. I'm joined here now  
with a Mr. Nikolai Sokolov to get  
his opinion. Sir?

NIKOLAI  
(Russian Accent)

This is an outrage! We will have a president who smells like farts? FOREVER?! We are a proud people. We will not tolerate this.

MIKE  
Yes, Nikolai, a fart-scented president is pretty embarrassing. And we know all about embarrassing presidents.

REBECCA  
Good one Mike. And that's only if Mr. Putin survives the Germagook!

NIKOLAI  
Germagook is pest, and President Putin will crush pest. I once wrestled a full-grown Germagook with my bare hands when I was only seven years.

REBECCA  
But, what about farts?

NIKOLAI  
No. Sadly, I lost my brother Alexei during the Great Fart of '76. I'll never forget that day. I can still remember the stench.

REBECCA  
Gross.

MIKE  
Rebecca, I'm just receiving update that the previous email was forwarded by user alias "KiMmY\_PoWeR\_2000" which has been traced back to none other than North Korean dictator Kim Jong-Un. No word on why he wishes for Mr. Putin to smell like farts, but the Russians are not taking this insult lightly. When reached out for comment, Kim Jong-Un responded "Lolz" with a tongue-out winky emoji. No predictions on what this means for either party, but we can only hope for the best.

REBECCA  
Shocking. Thanks Mike. This has  
been a World Update with Channel 4  
News. I'm Rebecca Salstein.

(BLACKOUT)