

On 29/04/2023 8:05 pm, Kevin Loughrey wrote:

Dear Bob

In my closing years as a Senior Officer in the military, I headed a unique team called Operations Support Special Projects. We were focused on supporting Special Forces in the Middle Eastern Area of Operations. As a part of this my team developed software that would allow Special Force Units to opportunistically synchronise their databases using any available network in the world with complete security. On 7 Mar 2012, I met with the Chief of the Army and advised him that every Windows Server being used in the Department of Defence had a back-door put in the operating system which allowed the NSA access. Given that fact, the Chinese also knew about this because we knew the NSA leaked. Some weeks later, Edward Snowden confirmed what I had told the Chief.

I'm telling you this because there is not an on-line system in the world that cannot be broken into and that is particularly the case with any systems operating Windows servers. If you vote online, a specialised team could easily alter the totals without leaving a trace. Similarly, if the operators of that system have been compromised, they, too, can alter the totals and do all sorts of creative stuff to bias an election (such as print ballot papers such that their size is inappropriate for ballot readers - as happened in the Arizona Governor's Election). So I am very firmly against on-line voting.

Another reason for my opposition against on-line voting is, just as is the case with mail-in ballots, you can't be sure that the person who filled in the ballot was the actual person on the electoral roll nor can you be sure that person was not in some way pressured into voting a certain way. The only sure way to conduct an election, if it really matters, is voting in person, in the privacy of a ballot booth, in full view, and on paper with the counting being performed totally in the open under the watchful eyes of scrutineers.

Warmest regards

Kevin

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K.A.LOUGHREY LtCol(Ret'd) BE Mech(hons), psc, jssc, Grad Dip Strategic Studies
Mobile: 0416 276 624
<https://kevinloughrey.com.au>
1 Keith Hall Lane
KEITH HALL, NSW 2478