


# Threat Group Cards: A Threat Actor Encyclopedia

Archived: 2026-04-05 17:10:46 UTC

## APT group: GCHQ

Names	GCHQ ( <i>real name</i> ) Government Communications Headquarters ( <i>real name</i> )	
Country	 <a href="#">UK</a>	
Sponsor	State-sponsored	
Motivation	<a href="#">Information theft and espionage</a>	
First seen	1919	
Description	<p>(<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>) GCHQ gains its intelligence by monitoring a wide variety of communications and other electronic signals. For this, a number of stations have been established in the UK and overseas. The listening stations are at Cheltenham itself, Bude, Scarborough, Ascension Island, and with the United States at Menwith Hill. Ayios Nikolaos Station in Cyprus is run by the British Army for GCHQ.</p> <p>As revealed by Edward Snowden in The Guardian, GCHQ spied on foreign politicians visiting the 2009 G-20 London Summit by eavesdropping phonecalls and emails and monitoring their computers, and in some cases even ongoing after the summit via keyloggers that had been installed during the summit.</p> <p>Other publicly exposed major APT activities from GCHQ involve the wholesale worldwide spying from programs such as, together with <a href="#">Equation Group</a>, <a href="#">INCENSER</a>, where various international Internet trunks were tapped.</p>	
Observed	Sectors: <a href="#">Government</a> , <a href="#">Telecommunications</a> . Countries: <a href="#">Belgium</a> , <a href="#">UK</a> .	
Tools used	<a href="#">Regin</a> .	
Operations performed	2009	GCHQ intercepted foreign politicians' communications at G20 summits < <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2013/jun/16/gchq-intercepted-communications-g20-summits">https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2013/jun/16/gchq-intercepted-communications-g20-summits</a> >
	2010	Operation Socialist Breach of the infrastructure of the Belgian telecommunications company

	Belgacom. < <a href="https://theintercept.com/2014/12/13/belgacom-hack-gchq-inside-story/">https://theintercept.com/2014/12/13/belgacom-hack-gchq-inside-story/</a> >
Information	< <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GCHQ">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GCHQ</a> > < <a href="https://www.electrospaces.net/2014/11/incenser-or-how-nsa-and-gchq-are.html">https://www.electrospaces.net/2014/11/incenser-or-how-nsa-and-gchq-are.html</a> >

Last change to this card: 17 July 2020

Download this actor card in [PDF](#) or [JSON](#) format

---

Source: <https://apt.etda.or.th/cgi-bin/showcard.cgi?u=9d92be76-3493-4c22-a22c-73e34bb2bb66>