

Facebook says estimated 10 million saw Russia-linked ads

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facebook says ads that ran on the company's social media platform and have been linked to a Russian internet agency were seen by an estimated 10 million people before and after the 2016 election.

The company turned 3,000 ads over to three congressional committees Monday as part of their investigations into Russian influence in the 2016 election. In a new company blog post, Facebook's Elliot Schrage said the ads appeared to focus on divisive social and political messages, including LGBT issues, immigration and gun rights. In many cases, the ads encouraged people to follow pages on those issues.

Fewer than half of the ads — which ran between 2015 and 2017 — were seen before the election,

with 56 percent of them seen after the election. Some of the ads were paid for in Russian currency.

Congressional investigators have recently focused on the spread of false news stories and propaganda on social media and have pressured Facebook, along with Twitter and Google, to release any Russia-linked ads. Facebook's ads were turned over to the House and Senate intelligence committees and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The company already has given similar material to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into the Russian meddling.

Facebook said last month that the ads appear to have come from accounts associated with a Russian entity called the Internet Research Agency. The company said it found 450 accounts and about \$100,000

was spent on the ads.

Schrage, Facebook vice president for policy and communications, said in the blog post that the ads included "political messages across the ideological spectrum." He said for 99 percent of the ads, less than \$1,000 was spent.

The company said some of the ads were paid for in Russian currency, but that isn't always a way of identifying suspicious activity. Schrage defended the site's ability to target certain demographic groups, but said "ads containing certain types of targeting will now require additional human review and approval."

The company is also making clear that it takes the right to free speech seriously and will never be able to remove all objectionable content.

"Even when we have taken all steps to control abuse, there will be political and social content that will appear on our platform that people will find objectionable, and that we will find objectionable," Schrage writes.

Another Facebook official, Joel Kaplan, the company's vice president of global policy, said in a blog post Monday morning that the company is planning to hire more than 1,000 people to staff teams that review advertisements globally. Facebook will also update its policies to require better documentation from advertisers who want to run ads related to the U.S. election, including a requirement that the advertisers will have to confirm the business or organization they represent.

Kaplan said the company's poli-

cies already prohibit "shocking" content, direct threats and the promotion of the sale or use of weapons, but said "going forward, we are expanding these policies to prevent ads that use even more subtle expressions of violence."

Twitter has said it found postings linked to the same Facebook accounts, and the House and Senate intelligence panels have asked both companies, along with Google, to testify publicly in the coming weeks. None of the companies has yet said whether it will accept the invitations.

It is unclear whether the Facebook ads turned over to Congress will eventually be released publicly. Several lawmakers have said the American public should see them.

California Rep. Adam Schiff said he hopes to release the ads.

BRIEFLY

Attempted murder charges filed in Canada car, knife attack

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Prosecutors on Monday filed charges including attempted murder against a man suspected of ramming his car into a policeman, stabbing him and then injuring four people while leading officers on a high-speed chase.

Abdulahi Hasan Sharif faces five counts of attempted murder, five counts of dangerous driving and one weapons charge in connection with the incident late Saturday in the western city of Edmonton.

The 30-year-old suspect is a Somali refugee who was previously investigated for allegedly espousing extremism. An Islamic State group flag was found in the car, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called it a terror attack.

Police have said terrorism charges are expected.

Catalonia urges mediation with Spain in dispute

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Catalan separatists called for international mediation with the Spanish government as they pushed ahead Monday with plans to declare unilateral independence this week after a violent police crackdown scarred a disputed secession referendum.

The referendum debacle only deepened Spain's most serious political crisis since democratic rule was restored in 1978. The violence on Sunday in the prosperous northeastern region left more than 890 civilians and 430 police injured when anti-riot squads moved into polling stations and dispersed voters.

Shocking videos and photos of police dragging people by the hair and kicking them were flashed around the globe, leading some European leaders to warn about any further escalation of violence.

Brazil's anti-corruption judge says massive probe near end

SAO PAULO (AP) — The judge overseeing a sprawling corruption probe into billions of dollars in kickbacks to Brazilian politicians and officials said that the investigation is nearing an end.

Judge Sergio Moro didn't set a timeline for when the "Car Wash" probe might wrap up. However, he said he is personally "a bit tired" of the work and believes it is in its final phases.

The "Car Wash" investigation began in March 2014 in the southeastern state of Parana, where Moro works. It has ensnared many of Brazil's elite and spawned related probes that have expanded nationwide and to several nations.

Investigators uncovered a scheme in which major construction companies colluded with officials at state oil company Petrobras over the awarding of inflated contracts. Over the course of a decade, billions of dollars of kickbacks went into the pockets of politicians and other officials.

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*Use this Savings Award on any shopping trip you choose at any Oregon Safeway or Albertsons store and S.W. Washington stores serving Clark, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Skamania, Walla Walla and Klickitat counties by 10/10/17. This \$10.00 Savings Award excludes purchases of Alcoholic Beverages, Fluid Dairy Products, Tobacco, US Postage Stamps, Trimet Bus/Commuter Passes, Money Orders, Container Deposits, Lottery, Gift Cards, Gift Certificates Sales, All Pharmacy Prescription Purchases, Safeway Club Savings, Safeway or Albertsons Store Coupons and Sales Tax. One Savings Award redeemable per household. COUPON CANNOT BE DOUBLED. Online and in-store prices, discounts, and offers may differ.

0 00000 77005 7

<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Value Corner Milk Gallon. Whole, Fat Free, 1% or 2%.</p> <p>1.99 ea WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>Limit 2</p> <p>0 00000 77273 0</p>	<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Starbucks Coffee Bags 10 to 12-oz., K-Cups 10-ct., O Organics™ Coffee Bags 10-oz. or Pods 12-ct. Selected varieties.</p> <p>5.99 ea WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>Limit 2</p> <p>0 00000 77488 8</p>	<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Lucerne® Sliced, Shredded or Chunk Cheese 20 to 32-oz. Selected varieties.</p> <p>4.99 ea WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>Limit 6</p> <p>0 00000 77358 4</p>
<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Honeysuckle Whole Turkey Breast Bone-in. Frozen.</p> <p>1.29 lb WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>Limit 1</p> <p>0 00000 77411 6</p>	<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Red, Green or Black Seedless Grapes</p> <p>99¢ lb WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>0 00000 77378 2</p>	<p>clip or CLICK! just for U Valid 10/4/17 thru 10/10/17</p> <p>Signature Cafe® Whole Chicken</p> <p>5.99 ea WITH CARD AND COUPON</p> <p>0 00000 77220 4</p>

Prices in this ad are effective 6 AM Wednesday, October 4, 2017 thru Tuesday, October 10, 2017 (unless otherwise noted) in all Safeway or Albertsons stores in Oregon and S.W. Washington stores serving Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, Walla Walla and Klickitat Counties. Items offered for sale are not available to other dealers or wholesalers. Sales of products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine limited by law. Quantity rights reserved. SOME ADVERTISING ITEMS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL STORES. Some advertised prices may be even lower in some stores. On Buy One, Get One Free ("BOGO") offers, customer must purchase the first item to receive the second item free. BOGO offers are not 1/2 price sales. If only a single item purchased, the regular price applies. Manufacturers' coupons may be used on purchased items only — not on free items. Limit one coupon per purchased item. Customer will be responsible for tax and deposits as required by law on the purchased and free items. No liquor sales in excess of 52 gallons. No liquor sales for resale. Liquor sales at licensed Safeway or Albertsons stores only. © 2017 Safeway Inc. Availability of items may vary by store. Online and in-store prices, discounts and offers may differ.