

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange slams Wired magazine on Twitter

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Editor-in-chief of controversial whistleblowing website, WikiLeaks, says U.S. technology magazine "has an agenda and is not to be trusted."



Julian Assange

The founder of [WikiLeaks](#), [Julian Assange](#), has launched a verbal broadside against US technology magazine Wired, claiming the publication "has [an] agenda, doesn't check facts and is not to be trusted".

Assange, the editor-in-chief of the controversial whistleblowing website, also claimed the Condé Nast title is a "known opponent and spreader of all sorts of misinformation about WikiLeaks", pointing to what he claimed were false reports in the magazine that the site was due to release as many as 500,000 classified US documents from the Iraq war online on Monday.

Kevin Poulsen, a senior editor at Wired, is "responsible for a tremendous amount of other completely false information [about] WikiLeaks", Assange [alleged on Twitter](#).

Hours after WikiLeaks' combative dispatch, Poulsen hit back in [a post on Wired's website](#). "Assange is notoriously sensitive to critical press," he wrote. "He has a strong personality, and at times his reaction reflects that."

The dispute stems from [a Wired article](#) about the circumstances of the arrest of 22-year-old US private Bradley Manning, who was subsequently charged with passing classified material relating to the Iraq war to WikiLeaks. Assange demanded an investigation into what role Wired played in the arrest, and now claims that the spread of "misinformation" has "dramatically ramped up" since then.

Assange went on to say that the claim made in a Wired blogpost published on Monday that WikiLeaks is preparing to release hundreds of thousands of classified documents on the Iraq war is "another fabrication".

Poulsen defended Wired from Assange's accusations, saying that the publication has charted both WikiLeaks' "successes, and its setbacks" and that no "substantive factual errors" had been published

without correction.

"I won't claim that I wasn't affected by Assange's accusations last June — mostly channeled through proxies — that I played a role in the arrest of accused WikiLeaks' source Bradley Manning," he said. "But Assange is wrong to think that those false claims have changed the tone of our WikiLeaks coverage... We're pleased to be among a handful of news outlets that regularly break news about it, and we plan to go on, without favour or animosity."

The Pentagon yesterday urged news organisations not to publish classified documents due to be released by WikiLeaks, calling the site a "disreputable organisation".

Colonel David Lapan urged Wikileaks to "return the stolen documents to the United States government and [...] not publish them". He added: "The concern is that WikiLeaks as an organisation should not be made more credible by having credible news organisations facilitate what they're doing."

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<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2010/oct/19/wikileaks-julian-assange-wired-magazine>

Cleaves Alternative News. <http://cleaves.lingama.net/news/story-2158.html>