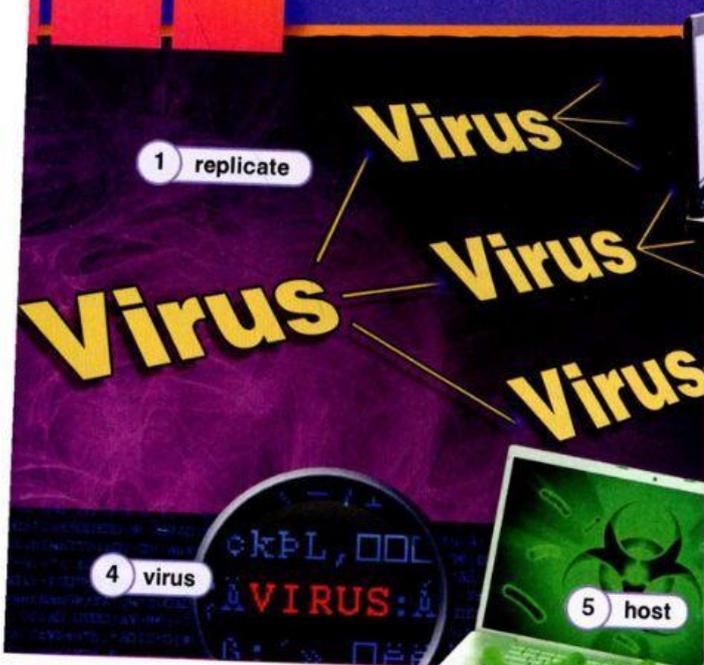


# 7 Hackers and viruses



Wilmington Daily Post

## LINCOLNSHIRE BANK LOCAL MAN ARRESTED ON Hacking Charges

(Wilmington) - Donald Greene has been arrested by Interpol on computer hacking charges. Interpol claims that Greene, a computer **hacker**, planted **viruses** on unwitting **host** computers. It is thought that Greene used a method called "**piggybacking**" to gain access to computers when their owners **logged in**. This gave him access to the computer's protective firewall and allowed him to disable it.

Interpol says that Greene has done over \$50 million in damage. Most of this damage was done when he used **overwriting viruses** to overwrite and destroy files on government computer systems. But Greene targeted home computers, too. For these, anti-virus software was unable to stop Greene's viruses because he included **anti-antivirus viruses** with them. These viruses essentially shut down anti-virus software. Greene is also alleged to have used **resident viruses**. These viruses **imbed** themselves in a file or disk drive. When **resident extensions** are included with them, they become a part of the computer's operating system. This makes them nearly impossible to get rid of. As with all viruses, Greene's viruses are said to have **replicated** themselves quickly to **infect** multiple computers.

### Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- How do computer viruses impact business?
- What should people do when their computers are infected?



### Reading

2 Read the newspaper article. Then, choose the right answers.

- What is the article mainly about?
  - new types of computer virus
  - a man who is investigating viruses
  - the capture of a man who used viruses
  - a way to protect computers from viruses
- Which type of virus was the most harmful?
  - overwriting viruses
  - anti-antivirus viruses
  - resident extensions
  - resident viruses
- What can be inferred about resident viruses?
  - They can disable firewalls.
  - They aid hackers with piggybacking.
  - They do less damage than anti-antivirus viruses.
  - They do not always include resident extensions.

### Vocabulary

3 Match the words (1-7) with the definitions (A-G).

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 — piggyback         | 5 — anti-antivirus virus |
| 2 — hacker            | 6 — resident extension   |
| 3 — host              | 7 — virus                |
| 4 — overwriting virus |                          |

- a virus that attacks anti-virus software
- a program file that installs itself without permission
- an add-on that makes a computer virus part of the host computer's operating system
- a virus that copies its code over and destroys the files of the original data
- to gain unauthorized access to a computer system by using the owner's connection
- a computer system that has a virus attached to it
- a person who illegally exploits computer hardware and software