

Should Asperger's hacker be deported to U.S.?

COMPUTER hacker Lauri Love must be aware of, and may even have been inspired by, the case of fellow Asperger's sufferer Gary McKinnon, who came within a whisker of deportation to the U.S. for hacking into its defence systems. Love is alleged to have caused millions of dollars' worth of damage to U.S. defence computers. President-elect Donald Trump is looking to restrain military expenditure so a deterrent sentence may be in order. Theresa May, then Home Secretary, had a nightmare having to waste time and effort getting McKinnon off the hook. The last thing she needs as she tries to renegotiate our

international trade deals is a copycat case which could sour relations with the incoming U.S. President.

TERRY HICKMAN, Southampton, Hants.

OUR courts have sanctioned the extradition to the U.S. of Lauri Love. Once there, he'll be put on trial for hacking into the computer systems of the U.S. Missile Defence Agency and Nasa, and infiltrating the computer systems of the FBI. If found guilty, he will be subject to imprisonment. Love suffers from Asperger's syndrome. Medical opinion suggests that, if jailed, he'll try to commit suicide. If he was able, with a PC bought from a High Street chain, to access secret computer files, think of the havoc that professionals in Russia, China or

North Korea could inflict. If Love is to be extradited, he shouldn't be put on trial, but should instead be greeted with open arms and asked to explain how he was able to infiltrate those files.

He should then be given unlimited resources to infiltrate the computer systems of any organisation which threatens Western democracy.

TERRY GOMERSALL, Chesterfield, Derbys.

THE signing of the extradition order was mere rubber stamping. Love has 14 days to lodge his application for permission to appeal. The High Court will grant this if the grounds are considered 'reasonably arguable'.

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