

# Cyberspace

and the

## Changing Nature of Warfare

Kenneth Geers



## Real World vs Cyberspace

- What's the difference?
- Now integral part of every pol/mil conflict
  - Propaganda, espionage, reconnaissance, even warfare
- The Internet's amplifying power
  - Victories in cyberspace can become victories on the ground



## Cyber Warfare

- Nuclear, Chemical, Biological ... Digital?
- Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)
  - IP-enabled personnel, munitions, sensors, logistics
- Before, during, after fighting
  - I&W, D&D, e-mail campaigns, blog poisoning
- Assassination of computer geeks?



## Cyber Warfare Strategy

- 1. The Internet is vulnerable to attack
- 2. High return on investment
- 3. Inadequacy of cyber defenses
- 4. Plausible deniability
- 5. Participation of non-state actors



#### S1 The Internet is Vulnerable

- Imperfect design
  - Hackers can read, delete, modify information on or traveling between computers
- Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE) database grows daily
  - Difficult to guard all holes into your network



## S2 High Return on Investment

- Common attack objectives
  - Research & Development data
  - Sensitive communications
  - Limited only by the imagination
- The elegance of computer hacking
  - Less expensive
  - Less risk



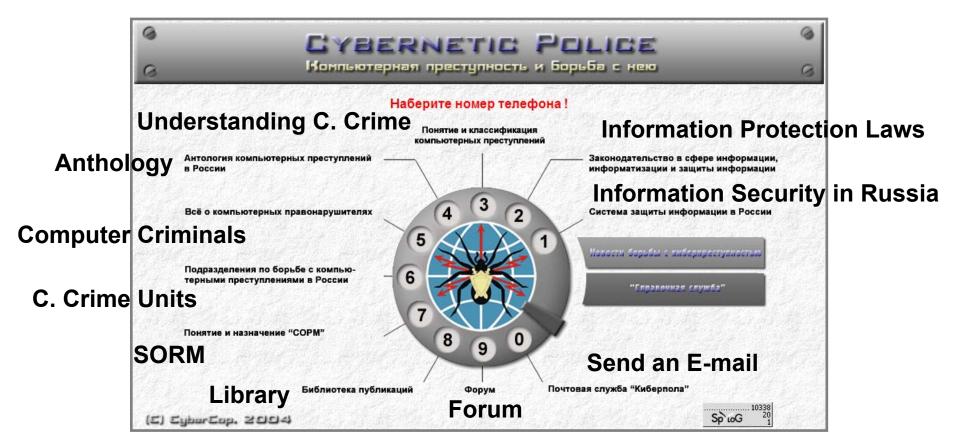




## S3 Inadequacy of Cyber Defense

- Still an immature discipline
- Traditional skills inadequate
  - New skills highly marketable
- Investigations slowed by international nature of Internet
  - Cultural, linguistic, legal, political barriers
  - No help for state-sponsored operations





http://www.cyberpol.ru/





#### Республики:

Отдел "Р" МВД Республики Горный Алтай: Altay

Отдел "К" МВД Республики Мордовия: Mordoviya

МВД Республики Татарстан: Tatarstan

Отдел "К" МВД Республики Чувашия: Chuvashiya

Края:

Отдел "К" УСТМ ГУВД Алтайского края: Altay

Отдел "К" ГУВД Красноярского края: Krasnoyarsk

Отдел "К" УВД Приморского края: Primorskiy

Отдел "К" УВД Ставропольского края: Stavropol'

Области:

Отдел "К" УВД Архангельской области: Arkhangel'sk

Отдел "Р" УВД Владимирской области: Vladimir

УФСБ России по Воронежской области: Voronezh

Отдел "Р" УВД Кировской области: Kirov

Отдел "К" УВД Костромской области: Kostroma

Отдел "К" УВД Липецкой области: Lipetsk

Отдел "К" ГУВД Нижегородской области: Nizhniy

Отдел "Р" УВД Новгородской области: Novgorod

Отдел "К" УВД Оренбургской области: Orenburg

Отдел "К" ГУВД Самарской области: Samara

Отдел "Р" УВД Тамбовской области: Tambov

Отдел "Р" УВД Тульской области: Tula

Отдел "Р" УВД Ульяновской области: Ul'yanovsk

Отдел "К" УВД Читинской области: Chita

Автономные округа:

Отдел "К" УВД Ханты-Мансийского AO: Khanty-Mansi



# CCDCOE International Correspondence

Здравствуйте, уважаемый Kenneth Geers!

Можем дать следующие ответы на Ваши вопросы.

Вопрос: Получали ли вы в прошлом запросы об информации из-за рубежа?

Ответ: Да. Каждый день 89 подразделений Национального центрального бюро Интерпола России по Еmail получают и обрабатывают много поручений и запросов от правоохранительных организаций стран членов Международной организации уголовной полиции Interpol.

Вопрос: Что мешает улучшению международного сотрудичества?

Ответ: Разные правовые нормы в действующих национальных законодательствах. Требуется их частичная унификация.

Вопрос: Вы думаете было-бы трудно найти общую почву чтобы поделиться информацией?

Ответ: По международным соглашениям мы без особых проблем обмениваемся разведывательной и иной информацией о преступлениях и правонарушениях со специальными службами зарубежных государств. В последнее время часто проходят совместные совещания, семинары и конференции наших сотрудников с сотрудниками FBI (USA).

Вопрос: Вы думаете что боязнь утери национального суверенитета -непреодолимое препятствие?

Ответ: Обмен информацией на основе двухстороннего или многостороннего Договора (юридического акта) не опасен для национального суверенитета.

Спасибо за вопросы. Были рады Вам помочь.

С уважением, ...



## Foreign Relations Law (U.S.)

 "It is universally recognized, as a corollary of state sovereignty, that officials in one state may not exercise their functions in the territory of another state without the latter's consent."



## S4 Plausible Deniability

- Maze-like architecture of Internet
  - Investigations often find only hacked box
- Smart hackers route attacks through ...
  - Poor diplomatic relations
  - No law enforcement cooperation
- The problem of the last hop, retaliation



### S5 Non-State Actors

- Nation-states like to control international conflict
- Transnational subcultures spontaneously coalesce online, influence political agendas
  - Report to no chain-of-command
- Globalization, Net aid in following, shaping events
- Challenge for national security leadership:
  - Could it spin delicate diplomacy out of control?













#### 'UFO Hacker' Tells What He Found

Nigel Watson ☑ 06.21.06

The search for proof of the existence of UFOs landed Gary McKinnon in a world trouble.

After allegedly hacking into NASA websites — where he says he found images of what looked like extraterrestrial spaceships — the 40-year-old Briton faces extradition to the United States from his North London home. If convicted, McKinnon could receive a 70-year prison term and up to \$2 million in fines.



### www.youtube.com





## The New York Times

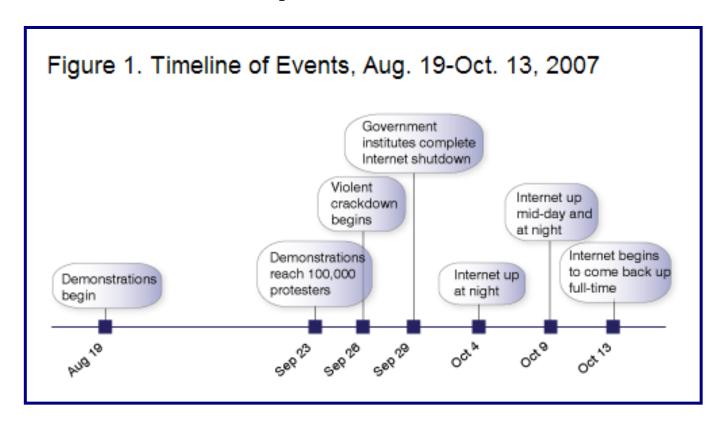
# Monks Are Silenced, and for Now, the Web Is, Too

October 4, 2007

It was about as simple and uncomplicated as shooting demonstrators in the streets. Embarrassed by smuggled video and photographs that showed their people rising up against them, the generals who run Myanmar simply switched off the Internet.



## OpenNet





## Internal Security First

- The East German dilemma
- Computers to the Rescue
  - Processing power, databases, automated analysis, decryption, speech recognition, transcription, Artificial Intelligence, neural networks







#### World Press Freedom Index 2006 - The rankings

1	Finland			0,50	
-	Iceland			0,50	
-	Ireland			0,50	
-	Netherlands			0,50	
5	Czech Rep	159	Nepal		73,50
6	Estonia	160	Ethiopia		75,00
-	Norway	161	Saudi Arabia		76,00
8	Slovakia	162	Iran		90,88
-	Switzerlan	163	China		94,00
10	Hungary	164	Burma		94,75
		165 166 167 168	Cuba Eritrea Turkmenistan North Korea		95,00 97,50 98,50 109,00







## Cyber Warfare Tactics

- 1. Espionage
- 2. Propaganda
- 3. Denial-of-Service (DoS)
- 4. Data modification
- 5. Infrastructure manipulation



## T1 Espionage

- Second oldest profession, v 2.0
  - Elegance of remote intelligence collection
- Old vulnerability, new advantage?
  - Convergence, speed, practical crypto, steg, OSINT
- Danger not in data theft, but giving to "handler"
  - Old methods: Brush passes, car tosses, dead drops
  - New methods virtually the same
- Targeted collection: how would you fare?





China accused of hacking into heart of Merkel administration





NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence Tallinn, Estonia



## The New Espionage

- Universal media and intelligence gathering
  - Binoculars, satellites, mass media, NMAP?
  - Territorial sovereignty not violated
  - Metadata and reading between the lines
  - Picture taking, not physical invasion … right?
  - If indefensible, normally not espionage!

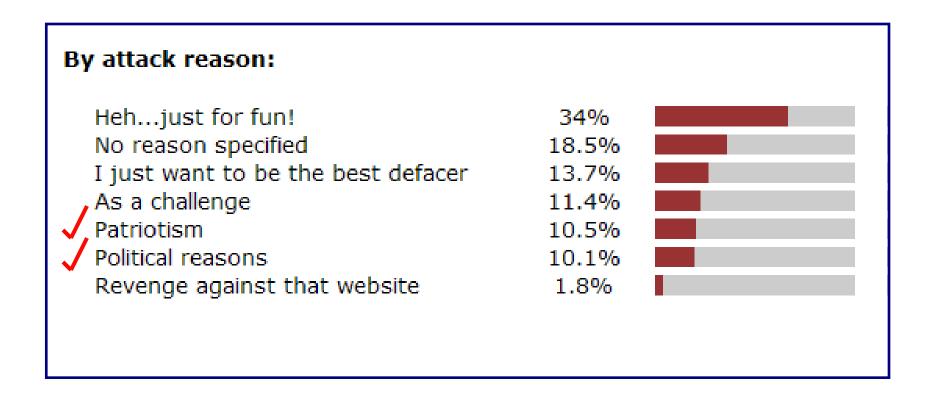


## T2 Propaganda

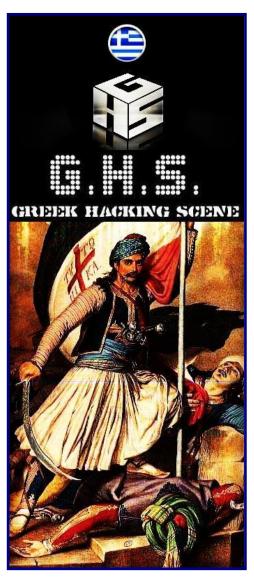
- Easy, cheap, quick, safe, powerful
  - Audience is the world
  - Drop behind enemy lines
- Does not need to be true
- Recruitment, fund raising, hacktivism
  - Censored information replaced in seconds
- Tech expanding rapidly (multimedia, Skype, etc)
- Appearance of technical prowess



### Zone-H Stats







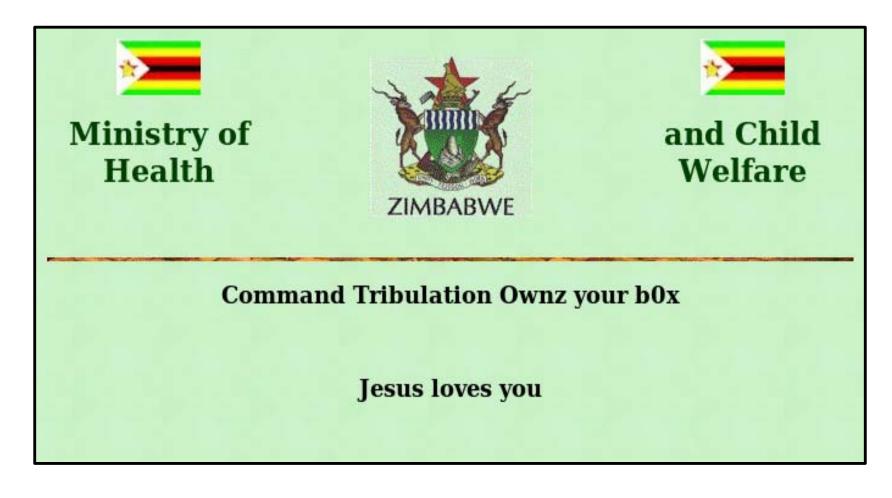














## T3 Denial-of-Service (DoS)

- Simple strategy
  - Deny computer resource to legitimate users
  - Most common: flood target with bogus data so it cannot respond to real requests for services/info
- Other DoS attacks
  - Physical destruction of hardware
  - Electromagnetic interference designed to destroy unshielded electronics via current or voltage surges



#### T4 Data Modification

- Extremely dangerous
  - Legitimate users (human or machine) may make important decisions based on maliciously altered information
- Website defacement
  - "Electronic graffiti" can carry propaganda or disinformation
- Holy Grail
  - Weapons, Command and Control (C2) systems



## T5 Infrastructure Manipulation

- Critical infrastructures connecting to Net
- SCADA security may not be robust
- Electricity especially important
- Infrastructure in private hands
- Seized hard drives: Microstran, Autocad, etc
- White House briefed on certain 0-days







## Case Study #1 Russia and Chechnya: 1994



# ЧЕЧЕНСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА ИЧКЕРИЯ **LEUE PECTYБЛИКА ИЧКЕРИЯ LEUE PECTYБЛИКА ИЧКЕРИЯ LEUE PECTYБЛИКА ИЧКЕРИЯ СОСУДАРСТВЕННОЕ ИНФОРМАЦИОННОЕ АГЕНТСТВО RUSSIAN TURKISH ENGLISH**



#### Professor U.Ezhiev's sons kidnapped

On the night of 9 March 2003, in Staropromislov district of the Chechen capital Grozny, the Russian servicemen kidnapped two brothers Ezhaevs -

Ruslan and Arby Umalatovich. Certain details of the incident have become known today.



#### Push and Pull

- World Wide Web
  - Real-time, unedited news from the war front
  - Net aids in following and shaping current events
- Average Net user
  - More information than heads of state ten years ago
  - Increasingly important role in international conflicts



## Examples

- Most effective info not pro-Chechen but anti-Russian
  - Digital images of bloody corpses, POWs
  - Real photos and fake photos used
  - Kremlin occasionally caught off-guard
- War funds bank account in Sacramento, CA
- As tech progressed, streaming videos
  - Ambushes on Russian military convoys



#### Government Reaction

- 1999: PM Vladimir Putin:
  - "we surrendered this terrain some time ago ... but now we are entering the game again."
  - Introduction of "centralized military censorship regarding the war in the North Caucasus"
  - Sought Western help to shut down <u>kavkaz.org</u>



## Case Study #2 NATO and Kosovo: 1999



- 1999: first major NATO military engagement
- First Cyber war!

**-**;)





#### Black Hand 1.0





#### Black Hand 2.0





#### Hacker Achievements

- NATO war website down, email down
  - "Line saturation" caused by "hackers in Belgrade"
- White House website defaced
  - Secret Service investigation
- Virus-infected email
  - 25 strains detected
- "Owned" U.S. Navy computer



Case Study #3

Middle East

Cyber War: 2000









www.hizbulla.org: October 25, 2000



Attacked by m0sad: 67 of which 54 are single IP and 13 mass defacements

#### Legend:

**H** - Homepage defacement

M - Mass defacement (click to view all defacements of this IP)
 R - Redefacement (click to view all defacements of this site)

\* - Special defacement

Time	Attacker		Domain	os	View
2001/01/03	m0sad	Н	sys.edu.pk	Windows	view   mirror
2001/01/02	m0sad	Н	saaa.org	Windows	view   mirror
2001/01/02	m0sad	Н	mustafadaas.com	Windows	view   mirror
2001/01/02	m0sad	Н	spicers.com	Windows	view   mirror
2001/01/01	m0sad	H M	modelli.com	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/31	m0sad	Н	dpi.net.ir	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/31	m0sad	Н	sysnet.com.pk	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/29	m0sad	Н	hrep.com.pk	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/20	m0sad	Н	isna.net	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/19	m0sad	Н	iugaza.edu	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/15	m0sad	Н	talkislam.com	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/12	m0sad	Н ≰	mfa.gov.ir	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/10	m0sad	Н ≰	dcaauh.gov.ae	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/03	m0sad	Н ≰	islam.gov.qa	Windows	view   mirror
2000/12/01	m0sad	Н	webhosting.ajeeb.com	Windows	view   mirror
2000/11/29	m0sad	Н	islamweb.net	Windows	view   mirror
2000/11/27	m0sad	Н	khaleej.com	Windows	view   mirror



לפנכים המדריך בישביל לדעת איך להפיל את האתר נכנסים לתפריט, התחל,שבצדל מטה של המסך,אחר כך נכנסים להפעלה,ואז כותבים את הפקודה הבאה ping 192.116.19.4 -t -webr ולוחצים אישור ולוחצים אישור ואז ייפתח חלון שחור כזה פשוט לעשות לחלון מזער והוא יירד אומר הרב הרבה ונשות

למטה ולהשאיר אותו פתוח, אם יעשו ככה הרבה אנשים האתר ייפול חזק,תודה לכולם על שיתוף הפעולה זה כתובת האתר

http://www.pna.net בבקשה העבירו לכולם לכל מי שיש ניוקים ופצצות לאימייל שיפוצץ את האימייל של החיזבאללה! זה האימייל!

webmaster@hezbollah.org

אם אין לכם תוכנה אז תורידו כאן

שלי החיובלה webmaster@hezbollah.org

נכנסים לתפריט, התחל,שבצד ימין למטה של המסך,או כך נכנסים להפעלה,ואז כותבים את הפקודה הבאה ping 198.81.240.41 -t -w 2600 ולוחצים אישור

ואז ייפתח חלון שחור כזה פשוט לעשות לחלון מזער והוא יירד למטה ולהשאיר אותו פתוח, אם יעשו ככה הרבה אנשים האתר ייפול חזק,תודה לכולם על שיתוף הפעולה הורידו את התוכנה שמפילה את אתרי החיזבלה

www.wizel.com

www.pna.net

בבקשה העבירו את האתר הזה לכולם

הורידו את התוכנה שמפילה את אתרי החיזבלה

באתר זה, ניתן ללמוד דברים נוספים על הפלת אתרים של החיזבלה!

http://www.wizel.com

אם התוכנה לא פועלת לכם אז תוריד גם את הקבצים האלו

Msvbvm50.dll

Mswinsck.ocx

Comdlg32.ocx

downloads



#### Pro-Palestinian Counterattack

- Immediate, much more diverse
- Key difference: economic targets
  - Bank of Israel, e-commerce, Tel Aviv
     Stock Exchange
  - At least 19 countries: AIPAC, AT&T
- During 2006 Gaza fighting
  - 700 Israeli Internet domains shut down

#### **GROUP(I):** You will attack: "You will attack... IP: 212.143.256.4 IP: 212.143.256.4 ...these IPs: IP:63.194.226.226 http://web.archive.o. web/20010226185153/http://www.wizel.com/ IP: 194.90.202.20 **GROUP(II)**: and... Bank of Israel You Will Attack: Tel Aviv Stock Exchange www.bankisrael.gov.il Prime Minister's Office IP:161.58.232.244 www.wizel.com Tel Aviv Stock Exchange(www.tase.co.il) IP:192.116.46.129 www.pmo.gov.il(Prime Ministry Office) IP:147.237.72.93 www.wizel.com







the Muslim Directory online

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#### ummah.com

#### We have been forced to remove this site

The bandwidth providers to our ISP, after receiving many complaints from Zionists and their supporters in the UK, have threatened to cut off our internet connection if this site was not removed. We have therefore removed this site in order to keep the rest of ummah.com online.

Most sincere apologies,

The ummah.com team



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#### www.ummah.com/unity



- Due to complaints, moved and renamed:
  - <a href="http://defend.unity-news.com">http://defend.unity-news.com</a>
  - http://members.tripod.com/irsa2003
  - <a href="http://members.tripod.com/irsa2004">http://members.tripod.com/irsa2004</a>



Case Study #4

Sino-American

"Patriotic Hacker War": 2001



### April 26, 2001: FBI Advisory

 "Citing recent events between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC), malicious hackers have escalated web page defacements over the Internet. This communication is to advise network administrators of the potential for increased hacker activity directed at U.S. systems ... Chinese hackers have publicly discussed increasing their activity during this period, which coincides with dates of historic significance in the PRC..."



#### Downed EP-3 on Hainan Island

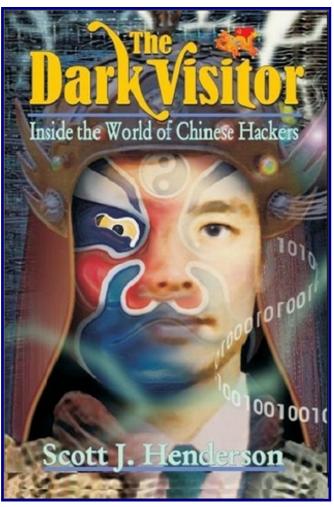




#### Critical Infrastructure Attack

- FBI investigated a Honker Union of China (HUC), 17-day hack of a California electric power grid test network
  - Widely dismissed as media hype
- 2007: CIA informed industry leaders that a tangible hacker threat to critical infrastructure is no longer theoretical







Case Study #5

Estonia: 2007

#### The North Atlantic Treaty

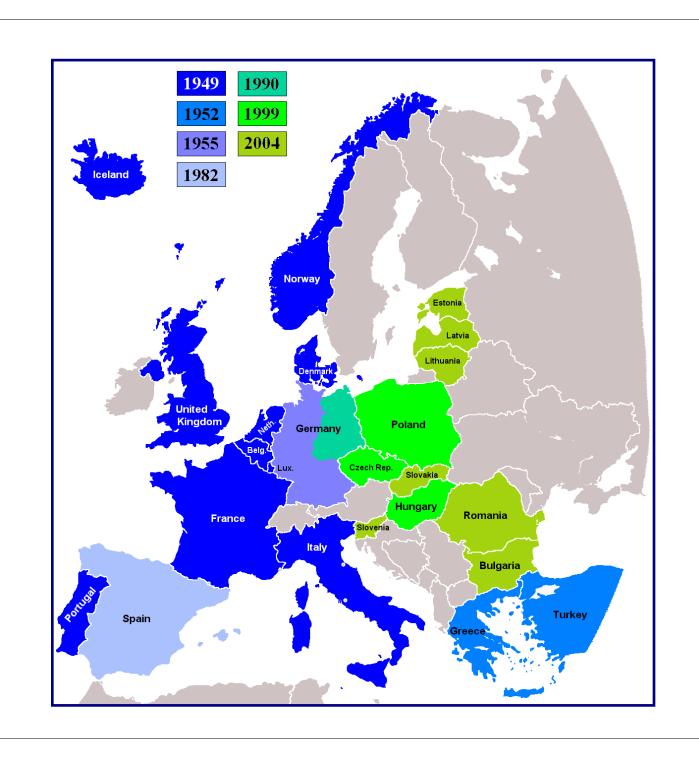
Washington DC, 4 April 1949

 Article 5: The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all ... each of them ... will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith ... such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.













### Ethnic Composition of Estonia

Ethnicity	Population	% of total
Estonian	921,062	68.6
Russian	344,280	25.6
Ukrainian	28,158	2.1
Belarusian	16,134	1.2
Finn	11,035	0.8





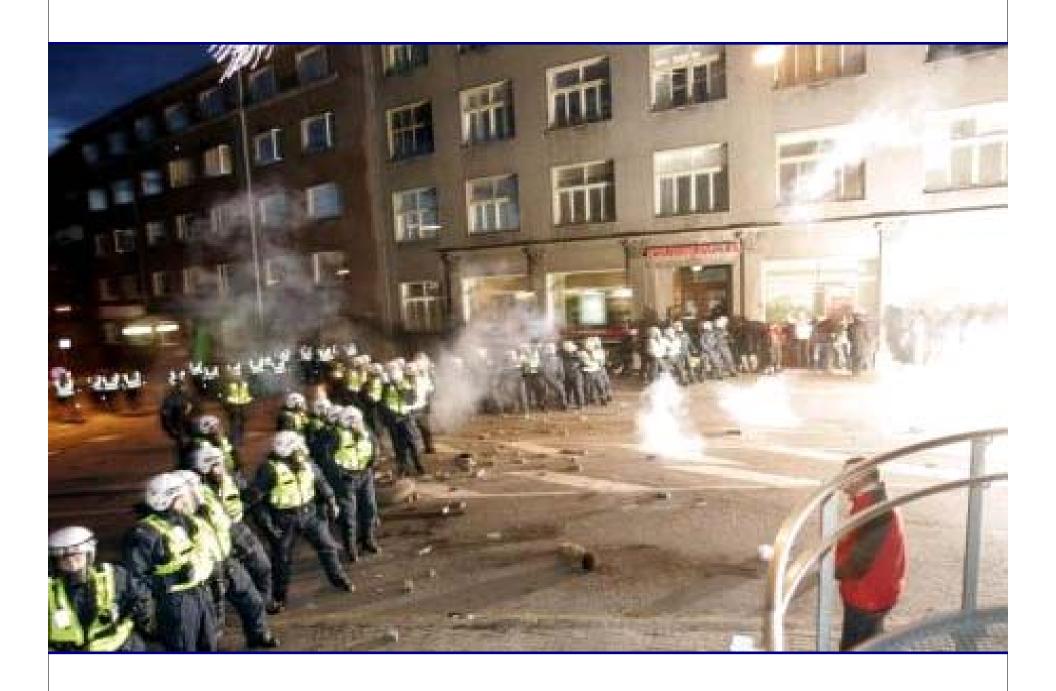




#### Relocation: April 26, 2007



NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence Tallinn, Estonia







# На 9-е МАЯ планируется повтор данной акции! Не дай унизить своих соотечественников, отомсти за издевательства !!!

<u>@ адреса eSSтонских депутатов</u>

#### Программа для рассылки писем

(пароль на RAR: nnm )

Нажми (пуск -> выполнить -> cmd)

введи ping -n 5000 -l 10000 эSSтонский\_сайт -t . и жми **ENTER** ВСЕ !!! Твои пламенные приветы полетели...

пример: ping -n 5000 -l 1000 www.riik.ee -t

Это З элементарных действия, после которых многие эстонские сайты просто перестанут работать!!!

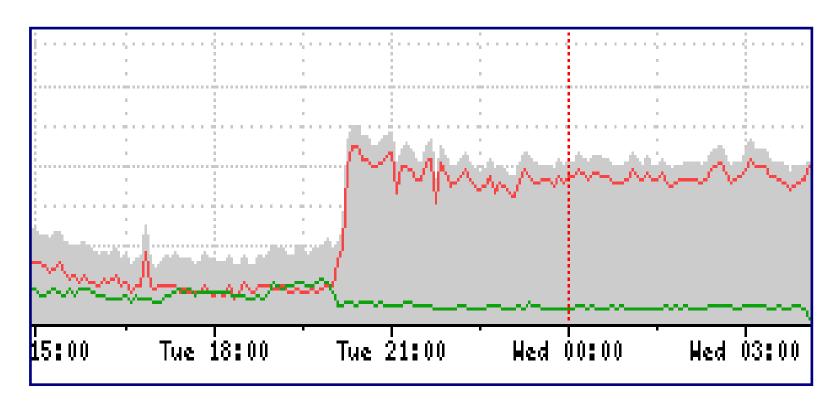
Или вот .BAT файл, который в автоматическом режиме последовательно пингует эстонские DNS и MAIL сервера. Цикл бесконечен :)

Скопировать (красным) нижеприведённый текст, вставить в блокнот и сохранить как priveteSStonia.BAT (название можно любое) файл

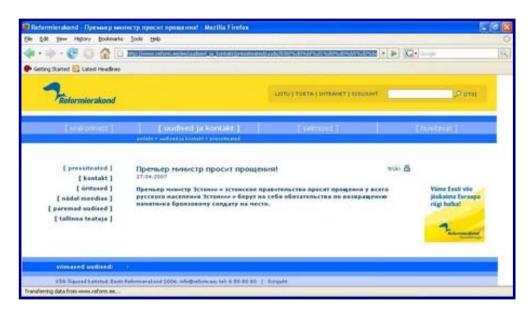
(ты можешь сам добавлять адреса )



#### May 9: Victory Day





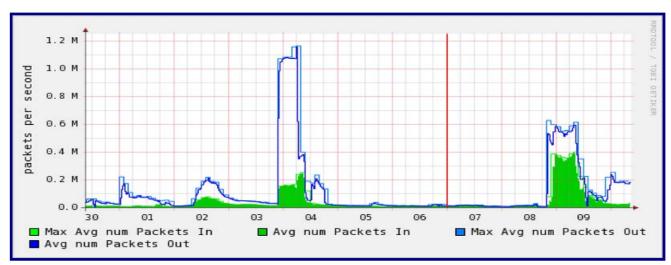


• «Премьер-министр просит прощения! Премьер-министр Эстонии и эстонское правительство просят прощения у всего русского населения Эстонии и берут на себя обязательства по возвращению памятника бронзовому солдату на место.»





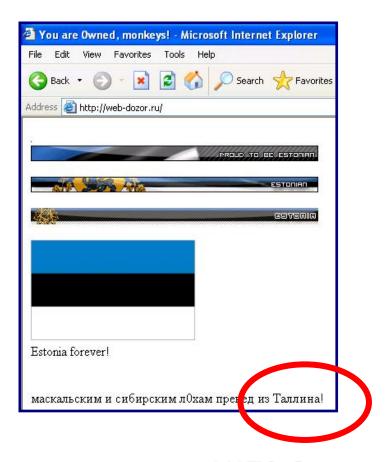








#### **Estonian Retaliation?**





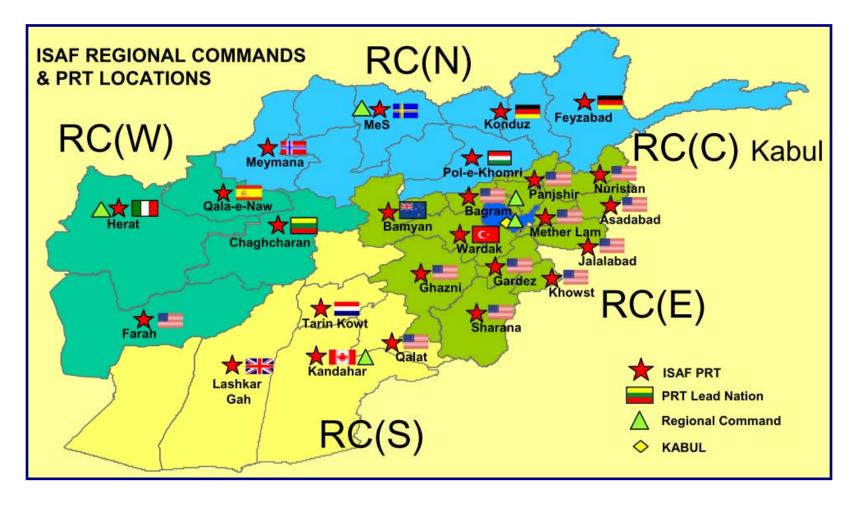


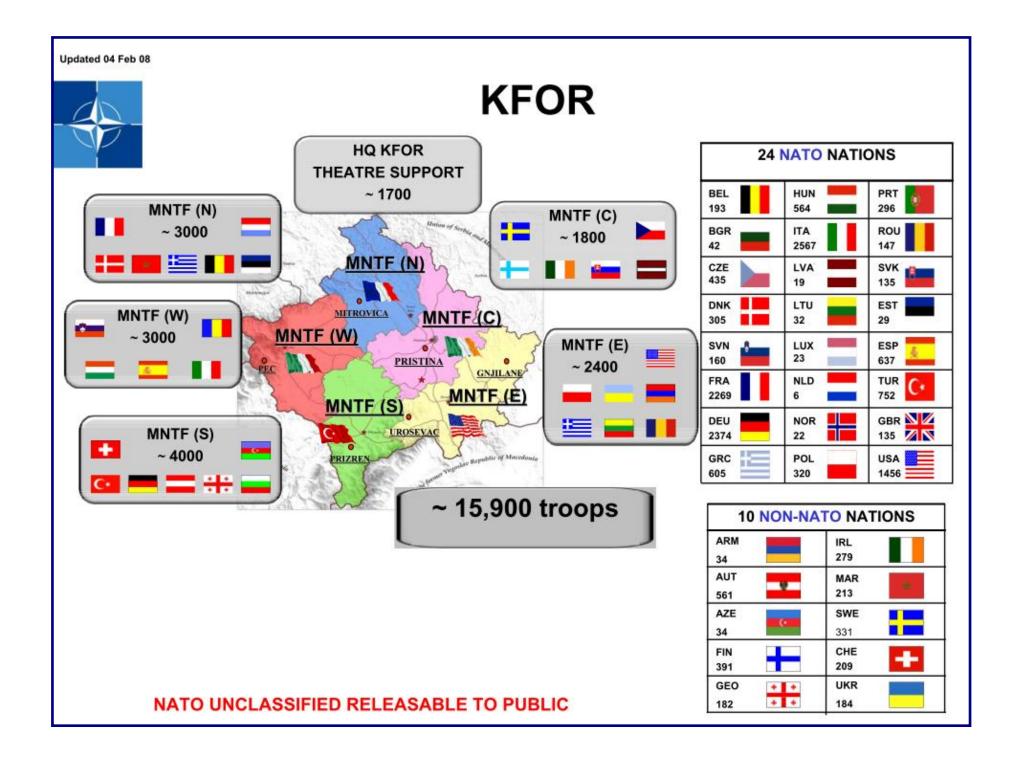


#### NATO: Dawn of Cyber

- 1999 Washington Summit (new "Strategic Concept")
  - No mention of cyber
- 2002 Prague Summit:
  - "strengthen ... to defend against cyber attacks"
- 2004 Istanbul Summit:
  - No mention of cyber
- 2006 Riga Summit:
  - "protect information systems ... against cyber attacks"
  - "develop a NATO Network Enabled Capability"









#### Centre of Excellence, Tallinn







### Strategic Thoughts

- Nation-states lose some control over conflict
- Geopolitical analysis required
  - Cyber conflict mirrors fighting on ground
- Attribution and the false flag
  - Concept: People's War
- Is national security at risk?
  - As with WMD, defense strategies unclear
  - As with terrorism, success in media hype



#### Tactical Thoughts

- Assume Breach!
- Collection/transmission of evidence
- Asymmetric advantage works both ways
- Set realistic goals
- Focus on core problems
- Blend art and science
- w/o competent ctrmeasures, much worse...



## The New York Times

July 1, 2008

#### Hackers Tag Lithuanian Web Sites With Soviet Symbols



By SARA RHODIN

MOSCOW — Hackers attacked about 300 Web sites in <u>Lithuania</u> over the weekend, with Soviet symbols and anti-Lithuanian slogans, officials said Monday.





# Cyberwar and real war collide in Georgia

By John Markoff Published: August 13, 2008

Weeks before bombs started falling on Georgia, a security researcher in suburban Massachusetts was watching an attack against the country in cyberspace.

Jose Nazario of Arbor Networks in Lexington noticed a stream of data directed at Georgian government sites with the message: "win+love+in+Rusia." E-Mail Article

Usten to Article

Printer-Friendly

3-Column

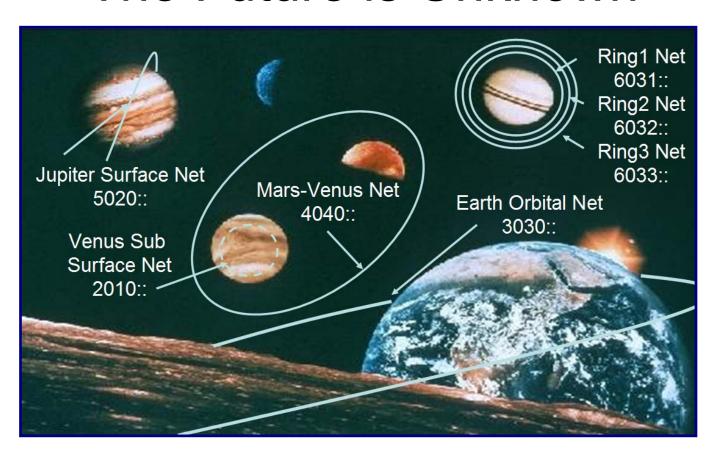
Format

Translate

Name Article



#### The Future is Unknown





#### **But It Begins Today**





# Cyberspace and the Changing Nature of Warfare

Kenneth Geers