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Cyber warfare: A burgeoning threat

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State-sponsored hackers and non-state-affiliated collectives have launched cyber warfare on corporations and government entities, targeting information assets in their efforts to disrupt business and government operations. With the rise of worldwide interconnectivity through massive information networks, we are well into the age of “Postmodern Terrorism.” Cyber-war and cyber-crime events are increasing rapidly. Just earlier this year, the New York Times described multiple sophisticated hacking attempts on American banks. The hacker group calling itself Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Cyber Fighters claimed responsibility in online postings. In March of this year, American Express and JP Morgan Chase also found themselves the victims of sophisticated disruptive cyber-attacks that knocked both companies’ systems offline. In the same month, thirty-two thousand computers in the South Korean bank and television networks were incapacitated by a cyber-attack. As the incident rate and threat level of cyber attacks are on the rise, some governments are taking aggressive measures to manage these risks. For example, the Israel Defense Forces launched a cyber-defense control center in February of this year. American officials suspect the group and its attacks originated from Iran. The scale of these attacks is chilling as they “showed a level of sophistication far beyond that of amateur hackers. One cyber security expert noted: “The scale, the scope and the effectiveness of these attacks have been unprecedented”

Biography

Daniel Garrie has over 15 years of experience in cyber security, digital privacy, e-discovery, and Internet field and is the co-founder of a leading consulting firm, Law & Forensics LLC. He is also a serial entrepreneur having built and sold several successful Internet and mobile start-ups and currently is a partner at Pulse Advisory, a venture development firm, and is on the Board of Advisors of several start-ups including Get.it, Treemo Labs, Equivio, and Eccentex. He has served as an Electronically Stored Information Liaison, Forensic Neutral and Forensic Expert in state and federal court.

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