

# **WE CAME IN PEACE – THEY DON'T HACKERS VS. CYBERWAR**

**FX of Phenoelit - DeepSec 2012**

# WHO THE FUCK IS FX?

- ⊞ Specializing on attack techniques since ~20 years
- ⊞ Focus on communication infrastructures
  - ⊞ Routers of US and Chinese making
  - ⊞ Security cleared handheld devices
  - ⊞ Office infrastructure for dead trees
- ⊞ Reverse engineer
  - ⊞ Reading code instead of blogging
- ⊞ Token hacker at military and diplomatic conferences







# BUGS ARE MILITARY



9/9

0800 Antcom started  
 1000 " stopped - antcom ✓  
 1300 (032) MP-MC ~~1.58264000~~ 1.58264000 { 1.2700 9.037847025  
 (033) PRO 2 2.130476415 } 9.037846995 connect  
 connect 2.130476415 } 4.615925059(-2)  
 connect 2.130676415

Relays 6-2 in 033 failed special speed test  
 in relay " 11.00 test.

Relay  
 2145  
 Relay 337

1100 Started Cosine Tape (Sine check)  
 1525 Started Multi-Adder Test.

1545



Relay #70 Panel F  
 (moth) in relay.

First actual case of bug being found.  
~~1630~~ 1630 Antcom started.  
 1700 closed down.

Filed by Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, US Navy





# KERNEL MEMORY CORRUPTION EXPLOIT WRITTEN IN FORTRAN: 1972 JAMES P. ANDERSON, US AIR FORCE



```

10 DIMENSION INSC(100)
20C -----
30C -----
40C INS IS THE ARRAY INTO WHICH INSTRUCTIONS ARE PLANTED
50C BY THE PENETRATOR
50C -----
70C -----
80 DATA INSC(1)/0635004/
90 DATA INSC(2)/02755004/
100C -----
110C -----
120C THE VALUE OF IBRK IS EQUIVALENT TO TRA 0,3
130C -----
140C -----
150 DATA IERK/0710013/
160C -----
170C -----
180C SETS UP THE RETURN
190C -----
200C -----
210 ASSIGN 200 TO N1
220C -----
230C -----
240C PLACES THE RETURN IN THE ARRAY
250C -----
260C -----
270 INSC(3)=N1
280C -----
290C -----
300C ASSIGNS VALUE 1 TO INTEGER VARIABLE N2
310C -----
320C -----
330 N2=1
340C -----
350C -----
360C NEXT STATEMENT CAUSES X3 TO BE LOADED WITH THE ADDRESS
370C OF THE FIRST WORD OF THE ARRAY INS
380C -----
390C -----
400 INSC(N2)=INSC(1)
410C -----
420C -----
430C COMPILES AS A DIRECT TRANSFER TO THE INTEGER VARIABLE IBRK
440C -----
450C -----
460 G0 TO IBRK
470C -----
480C -----
490C CONTROL RETURNS HERE FROM CODE IN INS
500C -----
510C -----
520 200 PRINT 201,INSC(4)
530 201 FORMAT(1X,012)
540 STOP
550 END

```

```

20 DIMENSION IFIL(33)
30 DIMENSION ICHR(64)
40 DIMENSION IDUM(13),JDUM(24)
50 DIMENSION IBIG(24)
60 ASCII ICHR,JDUM
70 DATA ICHR/00600000000000,00610000000000,00620000000000,
80 00630000000000,00640000000000,00650000000000,00660000000000,
90 00670000000000,00700000000000,00710000000000,00430000000000,
100 00430000000000,
110 01000000000000,00720000000000,00760000000000,00770000000000,
120 00400000000000,01010000000000,01020000000000,01030000000000,
130 01040000000000,01050000000000,01060000000000,01070000000000,
140 01100000000000,01110000000000,00460000000000,00560000000000,
150 01350000000000,00500000000000,00740000000000,01340000000000,
160 01360000000000,01120000000000,01130000000000,01140000000000,
170 01150000000000,01160000000000,01170000000000,01200000000000,
180 01210000000000,01220000000000,00550000000000,00440000000000,
190 00520000000000,00510000000000,00730000000000,00470000000000,
200 00530000000000,00570000000000,01230000000000,01240000000000,
210 01250000000000,01260000000000,01270000000000,01300000000000,
220 01310000000000,01320000000000,01370000000000,00540000000000,
230 00450000000000,00750000000000,00420000000000,00410000000000/
240 DATA IFIL/036002000,0001356,0200141,0,0,0,0,
250 0001361000000,0001372001363,0001364000000,0,0,
260 0740000000000,0,02000002,0510102010000,0000220202020,
270 0760000000000,0777777777777,0510102010000,
280 0000220202020,0202020202020,0202020202020,0777777777777,
290 0510102010000,0000220202020,0202020202020,0202020202020,
300 0102122113062,0040040040040,0040040040040,0040040040040,
310 0777777777777/
320 KKK=2
330 LLL=2
340 DATA IP3/01373/
350 DATA IP4/01376000000/
360 DATA IP5/01414001400/
370 DATA IP6/01401000000/
380 DATA IBRK/0710013/
390 DATA IP77/0770000000000/
400 DATA IP1/02001433/
410 DATA INSC(1)/0635004/
420 DATA INSC(2)/02755004/
422 DATA IP98/0060000000000/
430 DATA IP99/051010303000301/
440 G0 TO(600,601),KKK
450 600 CONTINUE
460 ASSIGN 677 TO N1
470 INSC(3)=N1
480 N2=1
490 INSC(N2)=INSC(1)
500 G0 TO IBRK
510 677 PRINT 678,INSC(4)
520 678 FORMAT(1X,012)
530 G0 TO 602
540 601 CONTINUE
550 D0 77 I=1,33
560 INSC(I)=IFIL(I)
570 77 CONTINUE
580 INSC(3)=IP1
590 INSC(2)=IP3
600 INSC(8)=IP4

```

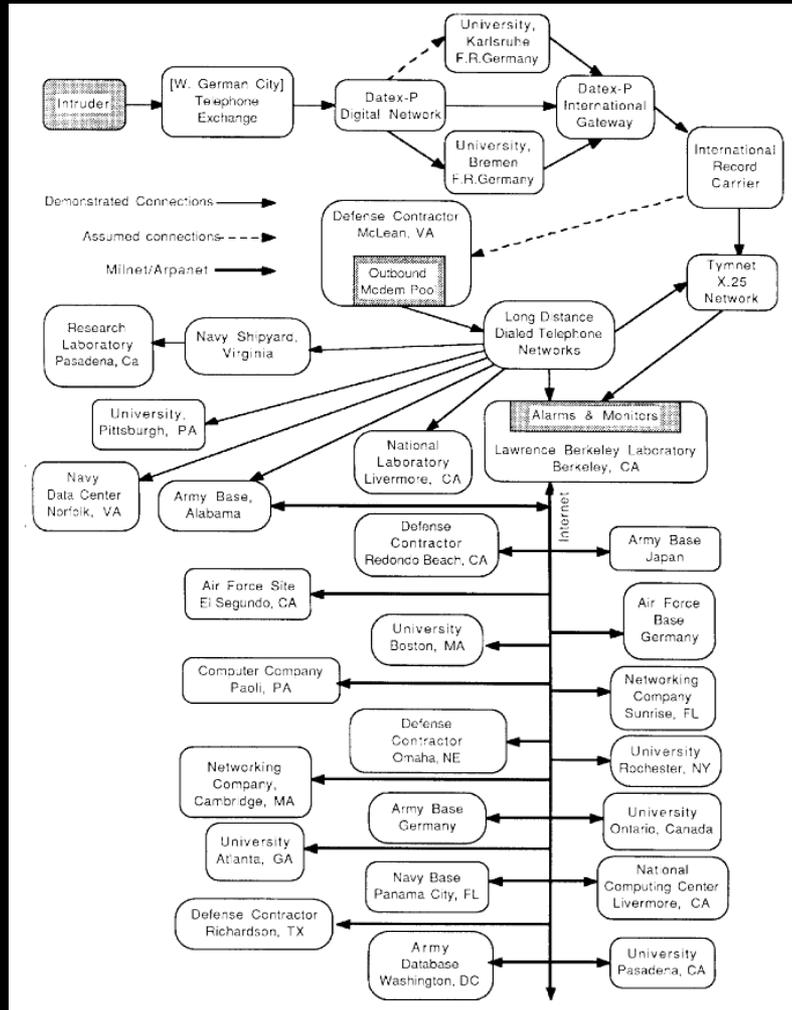
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630 INSC(25)=0
640 INSC(16)=IP99
650 INSC(26)=0
660 INSC(26)=0
670 101 FORMAT(1X,14,1X,012)
680 66 CONTINUE
685 PRINT 101,INSC(25),INSC(25)
690 D0 79 I=34,500
700 INSC(I)=0
710 79 CONTINUE
720 ASSIGN 200 TO N1
730 INSC(4)=N1
740 N2=1
750 INSC(N2)=INSC(1)
760 G0 TO IBRK
770 200 CONTINUE
780 G0 TO(604,605),LLL
790 604 CONTINUE
800 D0 615 I=1,40
810 IF(INSC(1)) 616,615,616
820 616 PRINT 101,I,INSC(I)
830 615 CONTINUE
840 G0 TO 602
850 605 CONTINUE
860 J=0
865 G0 TO 714
870 715 CONTINUE
880 IF(INSC(102+J) .NE. INSC(105+J)) G0 TO 805
882 IF(INSC(102+J) .EQ. 0) G0 TO 805
890 714 CONTINUE
900 IF(INSC(102+J) .EQ. IP77) G0 TO 716
910 INSC(102)=INSC(105+J)
920 INSC(103)=INSC(106+J)
930 INSC(110)=INSC(110+J)
940 INSC(111)=INSC(111+J)
950 5 FORMAT(1H,3(012,1X))
960 ENCODE(IDUM,1)INSC(102),INSC(103),INSC(110),INSC(111)
970 1 FORMAT(4(012))
980 DECODE(IDUM,13)(IBIG(I),I=1,24)
990 13 FORMAT(4(02))
1000 D0 99 I=1,24
1010 IK=IBIG(I)+1
1020 JDUM(I)=ICHR(IK)
1030 99 CONTINUE
1040 PRINT 3,(JDUM(I),I=1,24)
1050 3 FORMAT(1H,12(A1),1X,12(A1))
1060 713 J=J+12
1070 G0 TO 715
1080 716 CONTINUE
1090 INSC(25)=INSC(25)+1
1100 G0 TO 66
1120 805 J=J+1
1130 IF(J .GT. 500) G0 TO 716
1140 IF(J+100 .GT. 500) G0 TO 716
1150 IF(INSC(100+J) .EQ. IP98) G0 TO 807
1160 IF(INSC(100+J) .EQ. IP77) G0 TO 716
1170 G0 TO 805
1180 807 CONTINUE
1190 G0 TO 715
1200 602 CONTINUE

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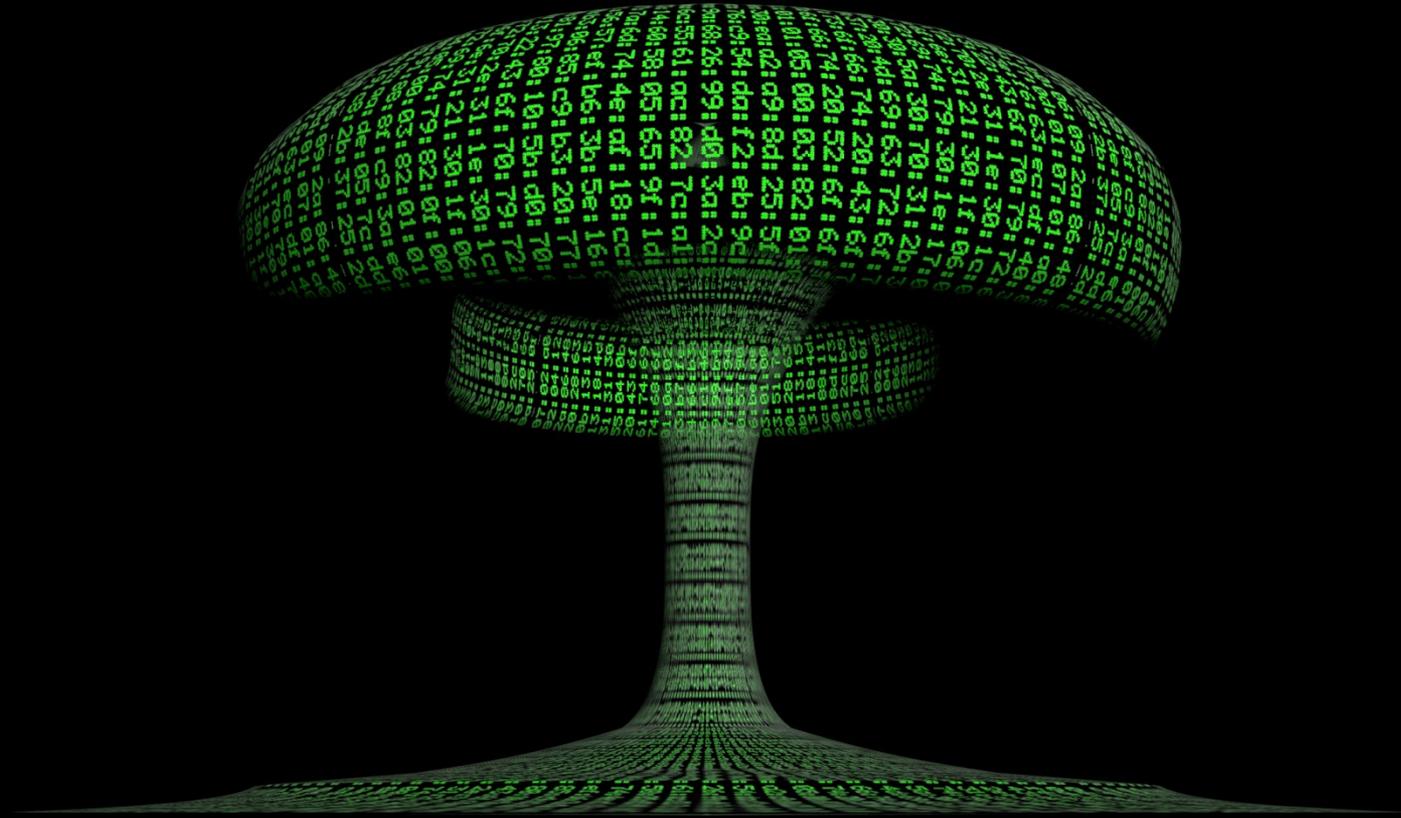
# 1980 STYLE APT



"STALKING THE WILY HACKER", CLIFFORD STOLL, May 1988 vol. 31. No. 5 COMMUNICATION OF THE ACM







Lesson to be learned:

**WE WERE ALWAYS HOBBYISTS  
IN A PROFESSIONAL GAME**



# THE REAL PROBLEM: LIABILITY

- ⊞ Critical infrastructure is owned and operated by private entities
- ⊞ Private entities cannot ensure protection and resilience caused by their inability to purchase accordingly
- ⊞ This inability is caused by the lack of product liability in computer products
  - ⊞ Computer products are a major economic factor
  - ⊞ Changing the no-liability paradigm would cause this industry to break down
- ⊞ According to Chris Wysopal, Veracode's CTO, 74% of so-called security products fail independent testing – more than any other type of software
- ⊞ The DoD acquires IT systems worth \$40bn p.a.
  - ⊞ 80 months development
  - ⊞ 6 months testing



# THE NATO

- ⊞ Recognized Cyber Defense in the 2010 Strategic Concept and the Lisbon Summit Declaration
- ⊞ NATO Defense Ministers approved a revised NATO Policy on Cyber Defense in 2010
  - ⊞ Focus on preventing cyber attacks and building resilience
  - ⊞ NATO Computer Incident Response Capability (NCIRC)
    - ⊞ €58 million contract, operational by end of 2012
- ⊞ NATO Communications and Information Agency
  - ⊞ “[...] facilitate bringing all NATO bodies under centralized protection and provide significant operational benefits and long-term cost savings”
- ⊞ Crisis Management Exercise CMX 2012
  - ⊞ Test NATO technical and operational cyber defense
  - ⊞ Austria, Finland and Sweden participated as players
- ⊞ “We do not see a need for offensive cyber capabilities in NATO.” – MG Jaap Willems NATO ACT (ACOS C4I)

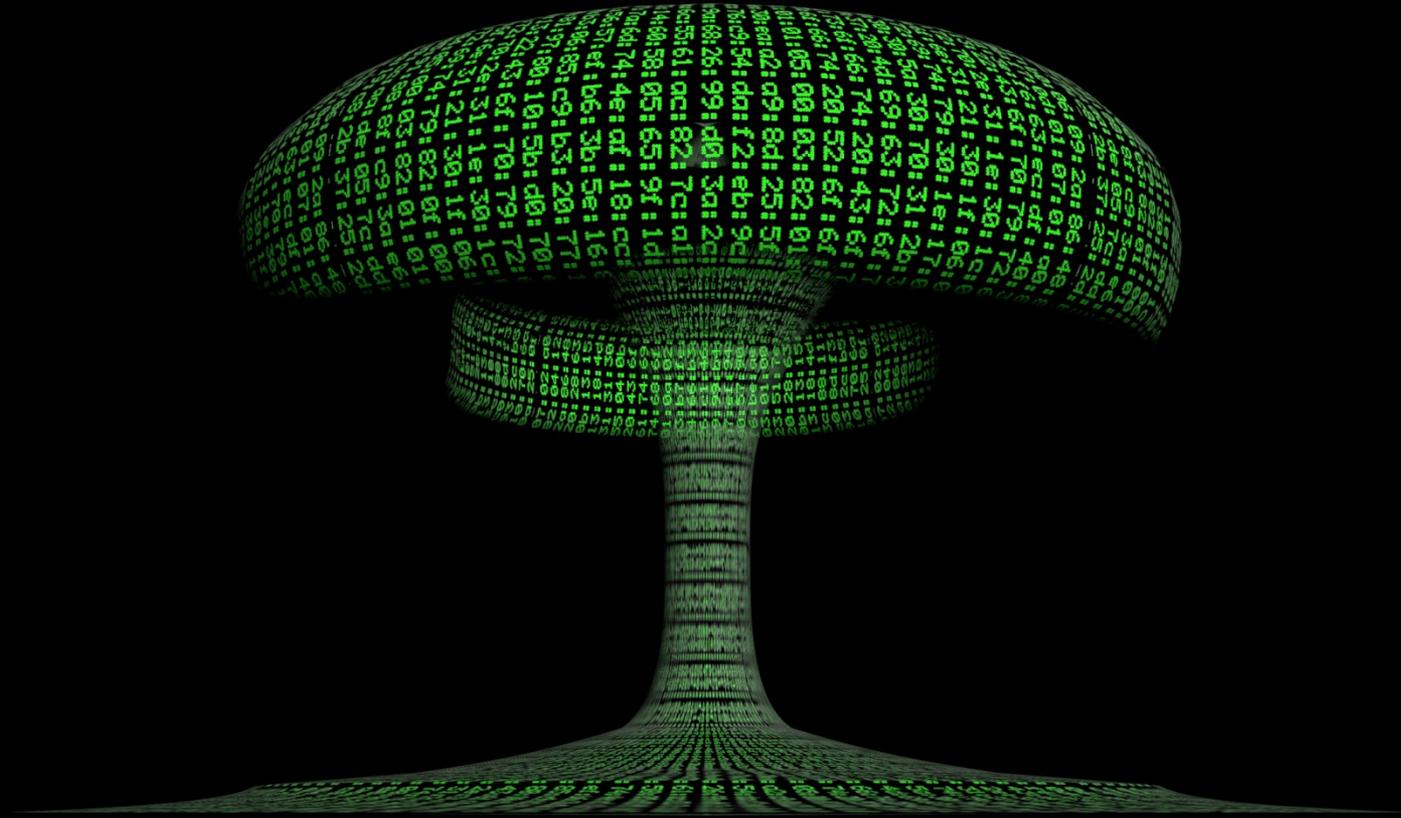


# MILITARY DEMAND

- ⊞ “Cyberspace Warfare Operations Capabilities (CWOC)” by USAF (BAA ESC 12-0011)
  - ⊞ Cyberspace Warfare Attack: The employment of cyberspace capabilities to destroy, deny, degrade, disrupt, deceive, corrupt, or usurp the adversaries ability to use the cyberspace domain for his advantage.
  - ⊞ Cyberspace Warfare Support
  - ⊞ Developing capabilities associated with Cyberspace Warfare Attack
  - ⊞ Developing and assessing cyberspace capabilities while disconnected from the operational cyberspace domain
  - ⊞ Situational awareness capabilities
  - ⊞ Capabilities to assess and visualize non-kinetic cyberspace domain effects
  - ⊞ Capabilities to support rapid implementation of effects-based cyberspace capabilities
  - ⊞ Unique characteristics resulting in the adversary entering conflicts in a degraded state







Follow the money to understand the strategy:

**THE BIG SPENDING TODAY IS IN  
OFFENSE**

# INTERNATIONAL LAW

- ⊞ International law makes a clear distinction between war and peace times
- ⊞ The regulations for times of war (“armed conflict” or “use of force”) are pretty clear
- ⊞ The regulations for time of peace not so much
  - ⊞ Intelligence work in foreign countries is not banned or regulated
    - ⊞ If an operative gets caught, local law applies
  - ⊞ States could seek litigation for damages from cyber attacks, similar to the OECD “Extended Producer Responsibility” in pollution
  - ⊞ States could also call upon the International Court of Justice for damages caused by digital sabotage
- ⊞ Note: War is no longer “declared” today, the UN Security Council decides according to Article 39
  - ⊞ War and armed attacks are in the eye of the beholder
  - ⊞ The right to self defend requires an armed attack



# ARMED CONFLICT

- ⊞ During an armed conflict, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Geneva IV) applies
  - ⊞ “Parties to a conflict and members of their armed forces do not have an unlimited choice of methods and means of warfare. It is prohibited to employ weapons or methods of warfare of a nature to cause unnecessary losses or excessive suffering.”
  - ⊞ “Parties to a conflict shall at all times distinguish between the civilian population and combatants in order to spare civilian population and property. Neither the civilian population as such nor civilian persons shall be the object of attack. Attacks shall be directed solely against military objectives.”
- ⊞ Attacking civilian infrastructure or using massively replicating malware would violate the convention
  - ⊞ But this being law, there are ways around it.



# CYBER-CONFLICT PREFERRED

- ⊞ Most States want to keep cyber operations below the threshold of an armed attack
  - ⊞ Rules of war do not apply, no UN
  - ⊞ The victim cannot invoke the right of self defense
  - ⊞ No issues with attribution
  - ⊞ Since operatives don't have to physically go somewhere, nobody gets caught
- ⊞ NATO especially doesn't like to promote cyber attacks: The victim could invoke Article 5 (mutual defense clause)
  - ⊞ Article 5 was only invoked once: 12.9.2001
- ⊞ Cyberwar is actually meant to be Cyber-Espionage, with 50% commercial focus



# CHINESE CODE OF CONDUCT

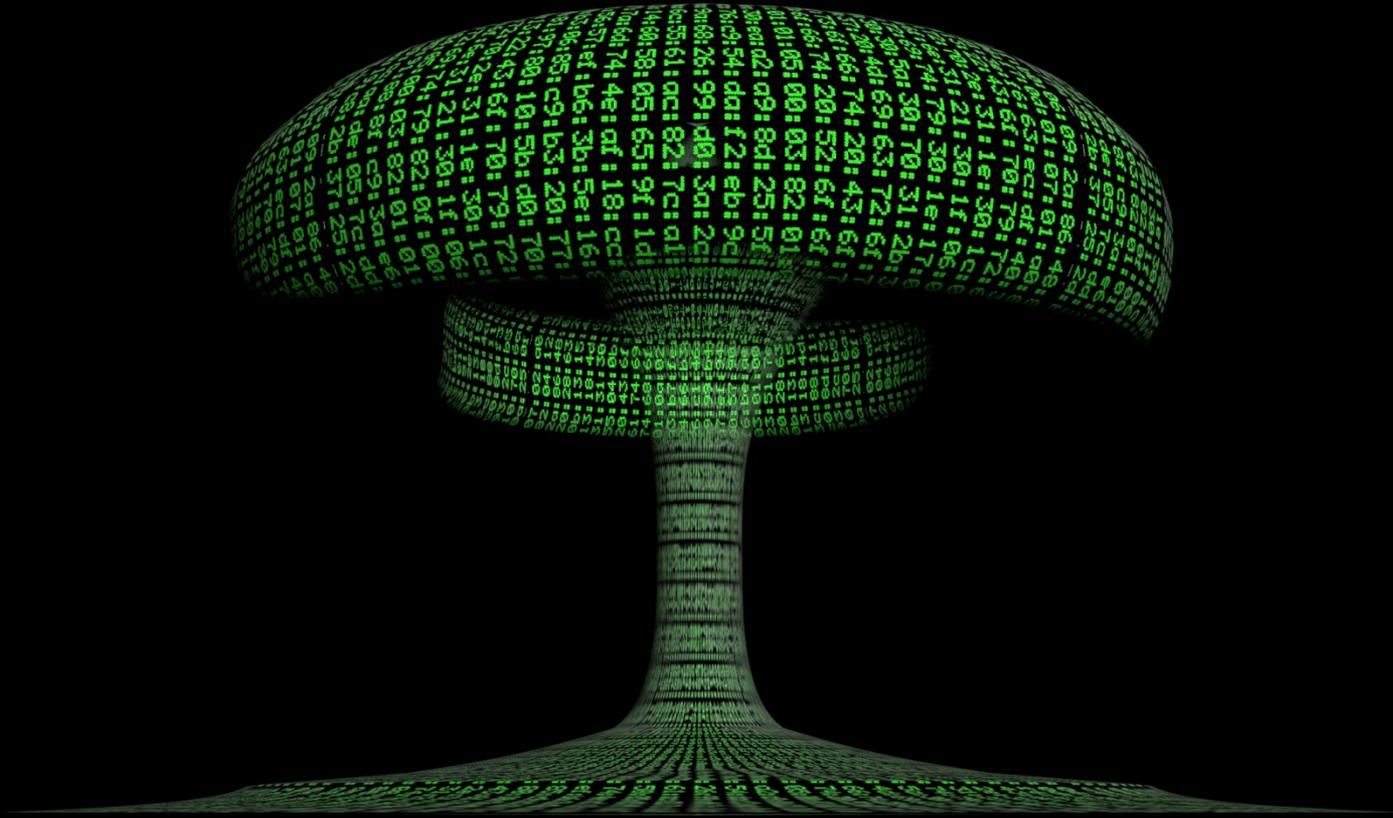
- ⊞ Submitted to the UN on September 12, 2011 by China, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
  - ⊞ "Not to use ICTs including networks to carry out hostile activities or acts of aggression and pose threats to international peace and security. Not to proliferate information weapons and related technologies."
  - ⊞ "cooperate in combating criminal and terrorist activities which use ICTs [...]"
    - ⊞ "[...] curbing dissemination of information which [...] undermines other countries' political, economic and social stability, as well as their spiritual and cultural environment"
  - ⊞ "ensure the supply chain security of ICT products and services [...]"
  - ⊞ "respect the rights [...] and freedom of searching for, acquiring and disseminating information"
  - ⊞ "establishment of a multilateral, transparent and democratic international management of the Internet"
  - ⊞ "settle any dispute resulting from the application of this Code through peaceful means and refrain from the threat or use of force"



# OUTER SPACE TREATY

- ⌘ Signed January 1967 by ~100 countries
  - ⌘ Exploration and use for the benefit of all mankind
  - ⌘ Free for exploration and use by all States
  - ⌘ Not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means
  - ⌘ Not place nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction in orbit or on celestial bodies or station them in space
  - ⌘ Celestial bodies shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes
  - ⌘ Astronauts shall be regarded as the envoys of mankind
  - ⌘ States shall be responsible for national space activities whether carried out by governmental or non-governmental entities
    - ⌘ Liable for damage caused by their space objects





The current state in cyberspace:

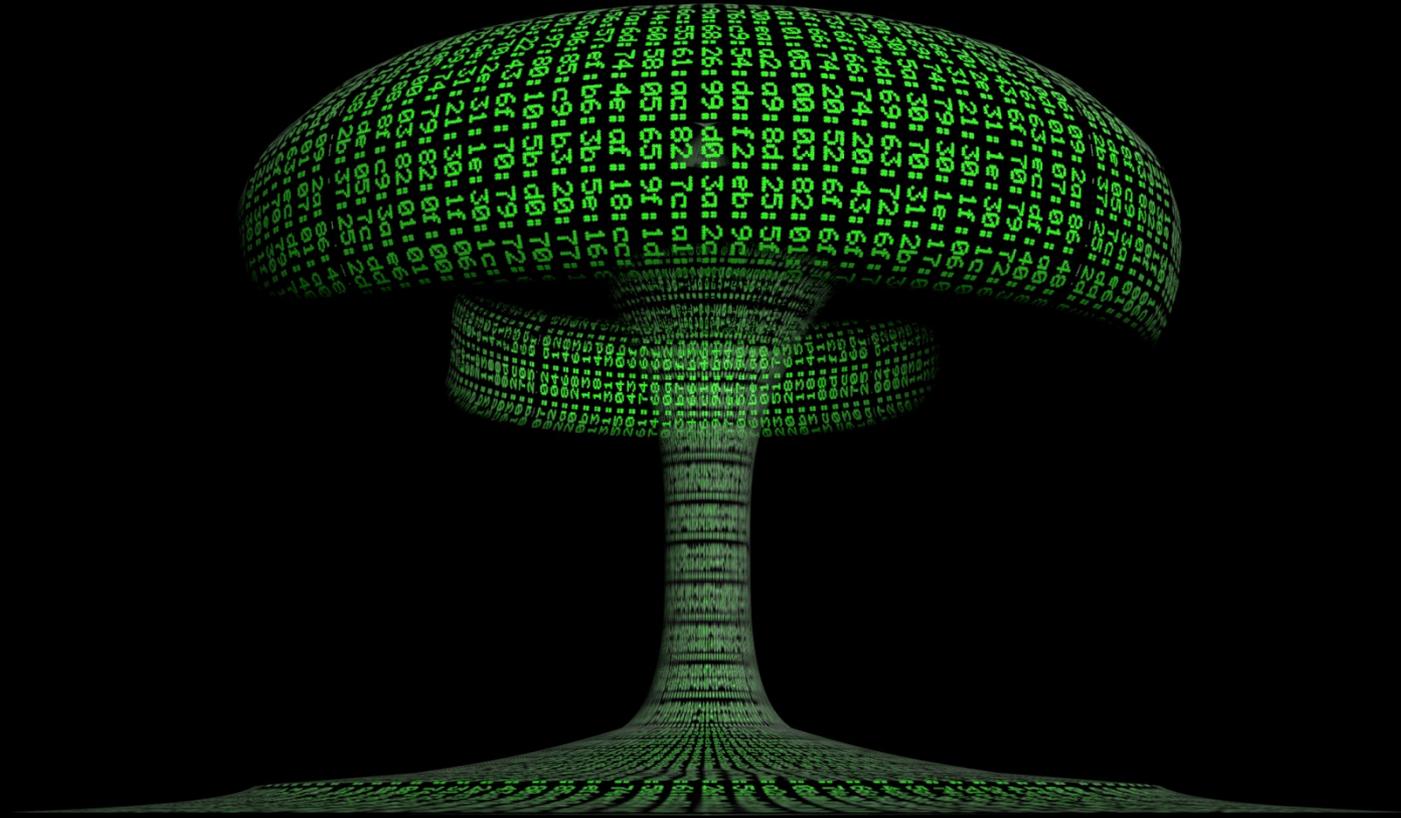
**BELLUM OMNIUM  
CONTRA OMNES**



# COOPERATION NEEDED

- ⊞ Defense research is years behind offense research
- ⊞ Real defense requires systematic changes
- ⊞ Systematic changes require a thorough and holistic understanding of the environment
- ⊞ The environment today is diverse and massively interconnected
  - ⊞ Network infrastructure
  - ⊞ SCADA and control system infrastructure
  - ⊞ Logistic and financial systems
  - ⊞ Production and supply chain security
- ⊞ Knowledge domain experts have more incentives for protectionism than for cooperation at the moment





Root cause analysis

# THE OFFENSE-DEFENSE ASYMMETRY



# CYBER IS THE NEW NUCLEAR

- ⌘ Recruitment of personal outside of ones own forces
  - ⌘ Hackers as the new version of Werner von Braun
- ⌘ Stuxnet as the “Sputnik Shock” for other players
  - ⌘ Have you heard of VirusBlokAda before?
- ⌘ The major players behave like with nuclear weaponry in the 60s
  - ⌘ “If you see the flash, duck and cover!”
  - ⌘ “If you hear Cyber, update and AV!”



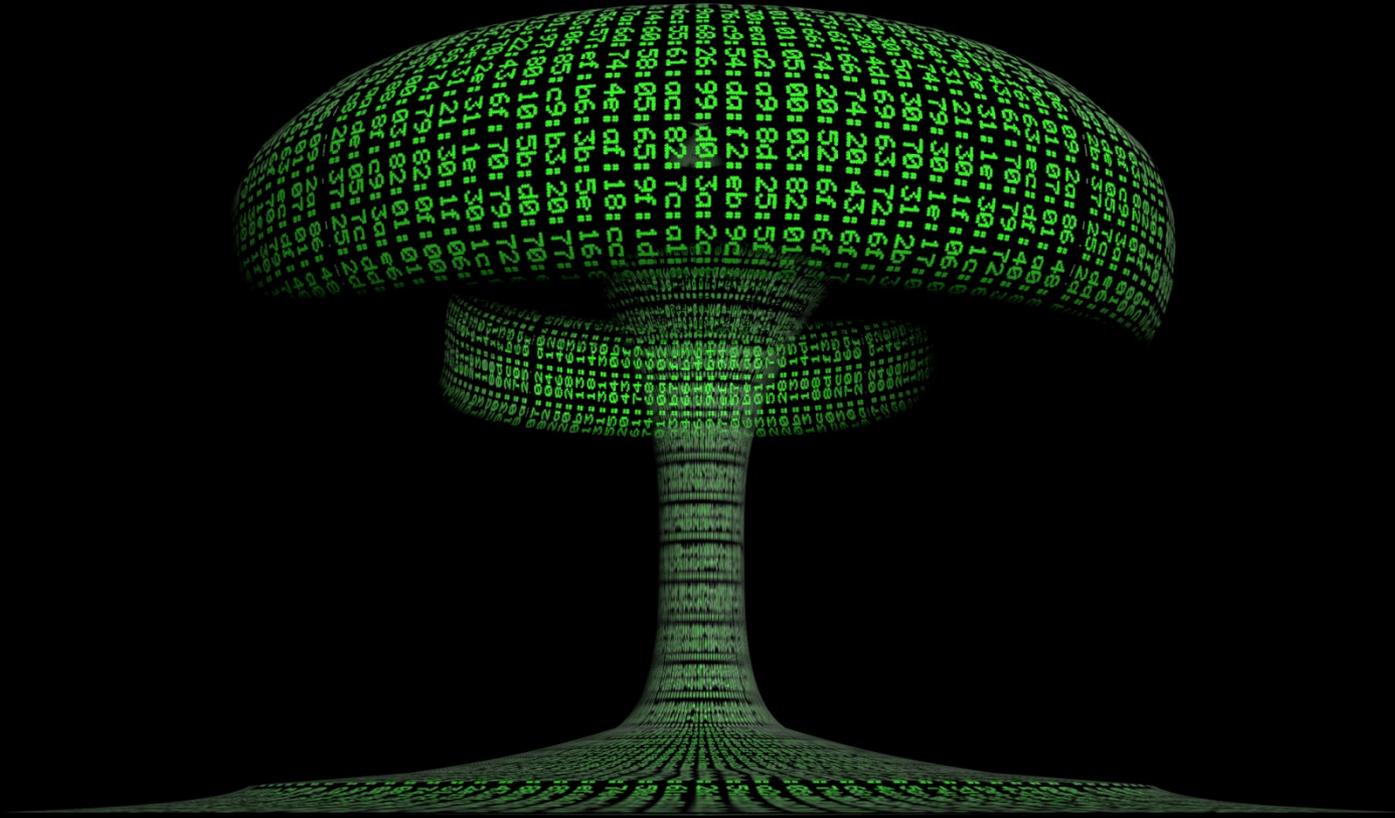
# THERE IS NO ABSOLUTE DEFENSE

- ⊞ We still believe in the unbreakable™ computer system
  - ⊞ It is unlikely that such a thing exists
- ⊞ What we see today is only an indicator of how bad our stuff actually is
  - ⊞ As long as we find bugs by “fuzzing”, we cannot have hope for anything
  - ⊞ If we manage to do away with buffer overflows in the future, attacks will move to different vectors
- ⊞ Also, there is always human stupidity to rely on
- ⊞ What we need is situational awareness, mitigation and recovery processes
  - ⊞ Get used to get hacked!
  - ⊞ Notice it when it happened!
  - ⊞ Know what to do when you noticed it.









The real danger to society

# COLLATERAL DAMAGE

# THE CLOCK IS TICKING

- ✚ Mail to the NANOG mailing list on November 20, 2012:  
“Did anyone else experience issues with NTP today? We had our server times update to the year 2000 at around 3:30 MT, then revert back to 2012.”
- ✚ Affected were only the time servers of the United States Naval Observatory (USNO)
  - ✚ [tick.usno.navy.mil](mailto:tick.usno.navy.mil) and [tock.usno.navy.mil](mailto:tock.usno.navy.mil)
- ✚ Note: Turning back clocks is an excellent method to use expired certificates
- ✚ What else relies on time and broke silently because someone wanted to use an expired certificate?



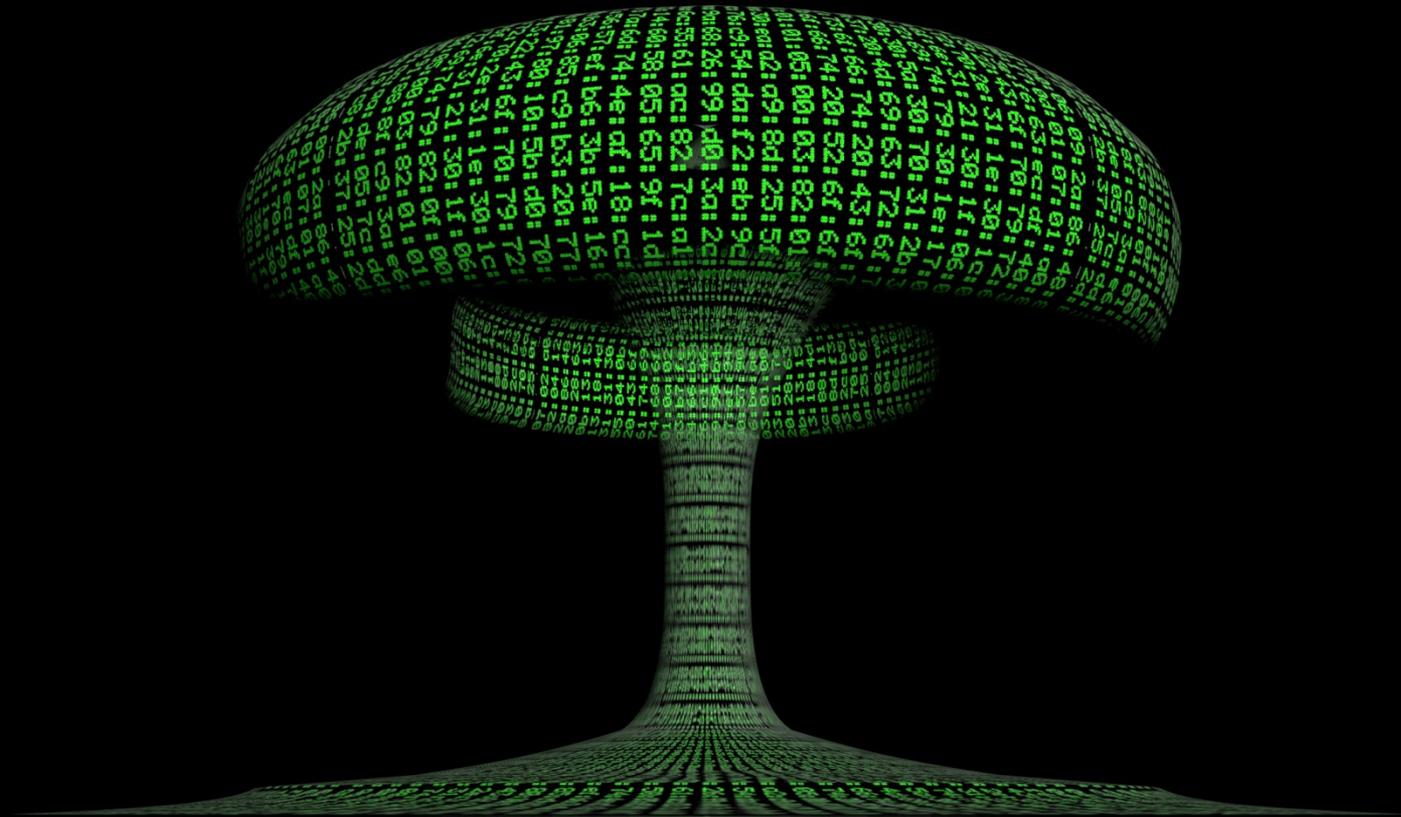
# THE REAL DAMAGE OF FLAME

- ⊞ Flame components were signed with a forged Microsoft certificate
  - ⊞ Using an unknown MD5 collision method
  - ⊞ Commonly overlooked is that this produced as many certificates as the attackers wanted
- ⊞ In this case, Microsoft was the victim, not a partner in the operation
- ⊞ Other governments exercise significant more power over their CA operators
  - ⊞ Why forge a certificate if you can just order your CA to give you one?
    - ⊞ You can still claim APT if discovered
- ⊞ Everything that relies on CAs is now hosed
  - ⊞ The model was broken before, but now it's obvious to the lamest cyber operations on the planet
- ⊞ We call that a Hindenbug









Taking sides

# CYBERWAR AND YOU

# DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YOU WHAT TO DO

- ⊞ „Do whatever you want. Trust your guts, your humanly feelings, your very limited knowledge. This is best effort.” – Julio Auto on exploit sales
  - ⊞ Most people that lecture you on ethics don't follow those themselves
  - ⊞ Keep in mind that exploit sales might be illegal
- ⊞ Is selling exploits better or worse than leaking docs to Wikileaks?
- ⊞ The argument of exploit resource deprivation by hackers is unfortunately invalid
  - ⊞ Defense contractors with large research departments and budgets are ramping up
  - ⊞ “We do what everyone else does right now, since nobody buys fighter planes anymore”



# THE MARKET'S CHANGE

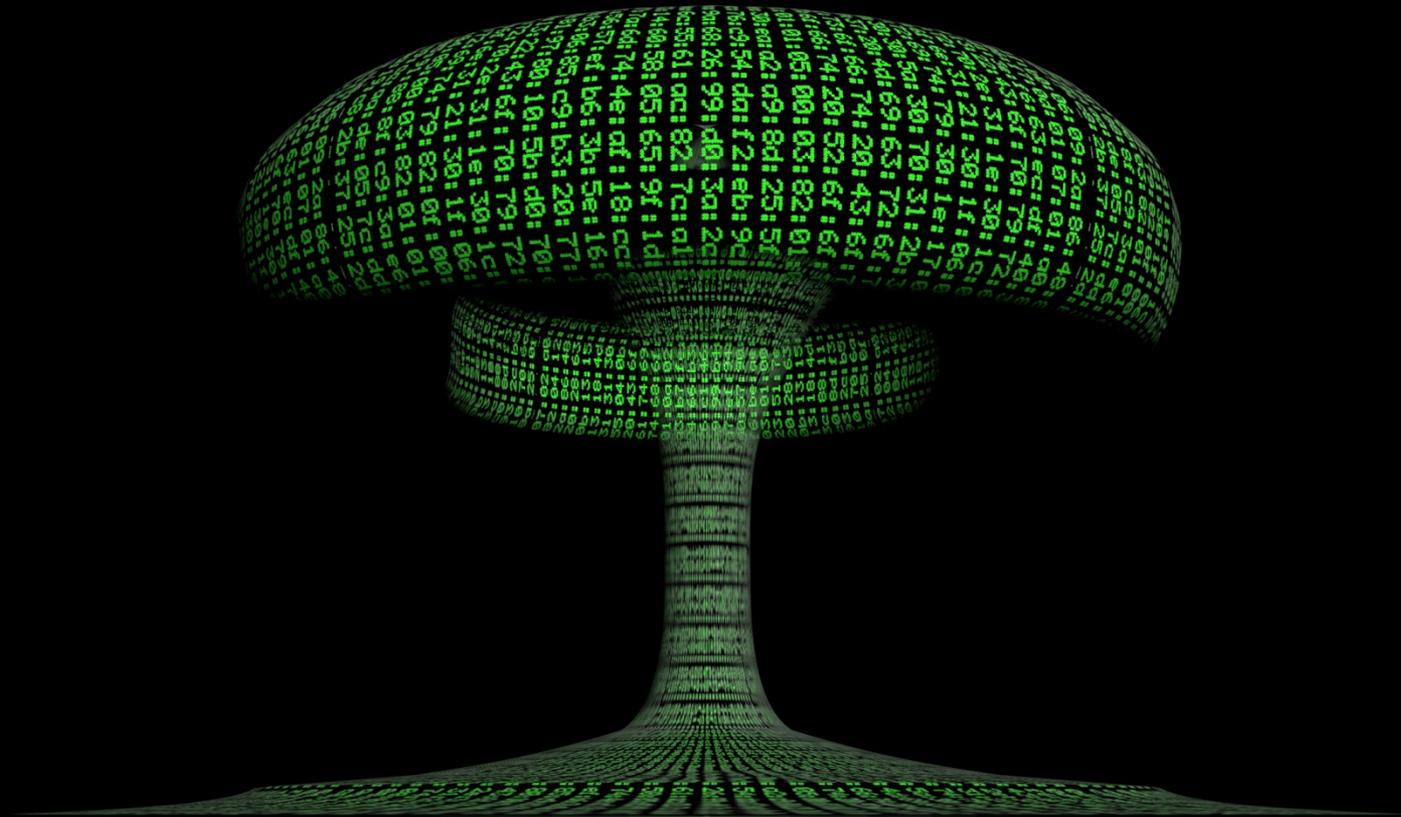
- ⊞ The prices paid for exploits incentivize new, more drastic approaches
  - ⊞ Hijacking of email accounts with commit permissions to open source projects
  - ⊞ Intentional introduction of vulnerabilities in outsourced commercial software development
    - ⊞ There is always the “Chinese Intern” method
  - ⊞ Stealing vulnerabilities from consulting engagements (client or consultant)
    - ⊞ Bug bounty programs are an entry drug
- ⊞ Full disclosure is already in significant decline
  - ⊞ Vulnerability scanners will increasingly lose efficiency, since they no longer scan for the vulnerabilities actually used in attacks
- ⊞ More and more 0day will be sold
  - ⊞ In 1958, MI5 considered 50% of Berlin residents to work for at least one secret service



# WHAT HACKERS CAN DO

- ⊞ Talk to your politicians and military
  - ⊞ They don't have anyone without financial interest to talk to
  - ⊞ Decisions must be made – the question is on what information basis
  - ⊞ Don't waste your time talking to LEO, they are not getting it
- ⊞ Innovate on the defensive side
  - ⊞ Join the LANGSEC movement ([langsec.org](http://langsec.org))
- ⊞ Hack stuff that is relevant and make it public
  - ⊞ It burns 0day that might otherwise be used
  - ⊞ This has the added benefit of being legal
- ⊞ Opportunism makes you rich right now, but destroys our future
  - ⊞ If you have or want to have kids, you might not want to have to explain why they can't have nice things





Full Disclosure Baby!

**WE CAN'T STOP THEM FROM  
MAKING WEAPONS, BUT WE CAN  
TAKE THEM AWAY!**





Congratulations, you've defeated General Leang



Command Efficiency: +13  
38%

Unit Moral: +14  
20%

Kill Ratio: +46  
34%

Enemy Killed: -28  
87%

Enemy Wounded: +05

Command Efficiency: -78  
83%

Unit Moral: -51.92%

Kill Ratio: -36.38%

Enemy Killed: -48  
90%

Enemy Wounded: -23  
76%

Enemy Captured: -87  
81%

**Thank you!**

END CAMPAIGN

EXIT