

## Cyber-Warfare

Cyber Warfare & Terrorism - "The premeditated use of disruptive activities, or the threat thereof, against computers and/or networks, with the intention to cause harm or further social, ideological, religious, political or similar objectives or to intimidate any person in furtherance of such objectives."

*U.S. Army Cyber Operations and Cyber Terrorism Handbook 1.02.*

Types of Attacks - There are several methods of attack in cyber warfare, this list is ranked in order of mildest to most severe.

- Web vandalism: Attacks that deface web pages, or denial of service. This is normally swiftly combated and of little harm.
- Propaganda: Political messages can be spread through or to anyone with access to the Internet.
- Gathering data: Classified information that is not handled securely can be intercepted and even modified, making espionage possible from the other side of the world.
- Distributed Denial of Service Attacks: Large numbers of computers controlled by one person launch a attack against systems
- Equipment disruption: Military activities that use computers and satellites for coordination are at risk from this type of attack. Orders and communications can be intercepted or replaced, putting soldiers at risk.
- Attacking critical infrastructure: Power, water, fuel, communications, commercial and transportation are all vulnerable to a cyber attack.
- Compromised Counterfeit Hardware: Common hardware used in computers and networks that have malicious software hidden inside the software, firmware or even the microprocessors.

Cyber attack and warfare rules of engagement will undoubtedly require hundreds of pages to establish a decision framework. One of these areas will be the level of confidence in the identification of the entity behind an attack on a nation. Tracing and tracking cyber attacks back to those responsible is not an easy task. Usually this takes months or years not minutes and hours. Current intelligence and surveillance capabilities will provide only minimal assistance in this effort.

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