India Henry

CYSE201 - 7:25

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Read this and write a journal entry summarizing your response to the article on social cybersecurity

Social Cybersecurity seems to be a concept on the rise as more countries participate in information warfare, where forums that provide people with information are overloaded in what the article describes as an "information blitzkrieg" (Eddins, n.d.). Although, the social aspect of cybersecurity has always been a serious concept because the human factor of cybersecurity is possibly the area that needs the most attention. However, in this case, the "information blitzkrieg", when it comes to countries at war, seems to be aimed at overloading the media so the everyday person doesn't know what information is reliable and what information is propaganda.

The article uses Russia as an example of this information warfare, where they are fighting to wedge a divide in NATO countries and weaken the United States in the minds of the rest of the world. The article goes on to say that it isn't just about weakening the alliances the US has formed worldwide, but also about weakening the trust Americans have in each other by feeding into political, racial, and religious divides. It even goes as far as trying to weaken the relationship between the nation itself and the citizens who are a part of it.

Eddins believes that information warfare is the most prevalent type of warfare, and this information warfare is made possible through what is called "cognitive hacking"

where psychology, targeted marking, policy gaps between public and private institutions, etc. are used to shape a narrative that a government may want to feed the general population. There is a quote that states "If left unchecked, this emerging 'information blitzkrieg' will have strategic effects on par with the physical blitzkrieg unleashed at the outset of WWII" (Eddins, n.d.).

I honestly agree with the warning the journal is giving. We often hear the phrase "knowledge is power", and at the rate citizens can digest information in the age of technology, information is truly a tool that can make or break governments. That being said, if rivaling countries are given the means to overload the media with information, rather it's misinformation or factual, it is going to shape the mindset of not only the citizens of the targeted country, but the world. This can lead to similar devastation from WWII, even though it's not inherently violent, but it can become violent, leading to uprisings and possibly even the downfall of countries.

References

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