

Week 11 Journal Entry 10

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

<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/Military-Review/English-Edition-Archives/Mar-Apr-2019/117-Cybersecurity/b/>

Answer: The article on social cybersecurity introduces a new and essential aspect of national security: how technology is being used to influence society, culture, and politics. It explains that social cybersecurity focuses on manipulating information to target humans and disrupt societies, rather than just protecting technology like traditional cybersecurity does. This form of manipulation is known as "cognitive hacking", where technology alters how people think and behave.

One central point that stood out to me was how information warfare is now a central part of modern conflict. The article highlights how countries, especially Russia, have been using information operations to weaken societies before physical conflict begins. This idea of "information blitzkrieg" is scary because it shows how easily people's beliefs and values can be manipulated through social media and other online platforms.

The article also talks about the role of bots and artificial intelligence in spreading disinformation. These bots can act like real people online, spreading false narratives, stirring up emotions, and creating chaos without anyone knowing who is behind them. This made me realize how vulnerable societies are to these attacks, especially when the information is spread quickly and widely.

Another important point the article makes is the shift from traditional warfare, which focused on physical territory, to a focus on the human domain, or the "information environment". Information and social media have become powerful tools for influencing people's opinions and decisions. The article suggests that understanding and defending against these threats is crucial for military and civilian institutions.

The article's most important takeaway is the need for better education and policies to protect people from social cyber threats. Our information environment is constantly evolving, and we need to be more aware of how easily it can be manipulated. The military and government must work together to develop policies that effectively respond to these threats while protecting individual freedoms.

In conclusion, the article opened my eyes to how social cybersecurity is becoming just as important as traditional cybersecurity. The manipulation of information can have serious consequences, and we must stay vigilant and informed to protect our societies from these emerging threats.