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TALLINN
MANUAL
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL
LAW
APPLICABLE TO
CYBER
WARFARE

Prepared by the International Group of Experts
at the Invitation of The NATO Cooperative
Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence

CAMBRIDGE

THE WEAPONS AT
THEIR FINGERTIPS

10,000 BC

10 BC

1700 AD

1500 AD

1910 AD

2010 AD

TODAY

DRONE
STRIKE

CYBER-
ATTACK

KAL

CyCON

**International Conference
on Cyber Conflict**

TALLINN, ESTONIA





The Information Sphere Domain

Increasing Understanding and Cooperation

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Abstract. Recent discussions regarding the emerging field of cyber warfare have focused on the term “cyberspace,” and have included cyberspace as being considered its own war fighting domain, much like air, land, sea, and space. In this stage of the Information Age, the international community is grappling with whether it needs to define this information realm as a domain, similar to the air, land, sea, and outer space domains that already exist. History shows that there is always an advantage in a conflict to the side that *understands and operates* within a domain better than the opponent. In this paper, the authors propose a definition of a domain, define what constitutes a domain, posit how new domains are created over time, and describe the features of what is and is not a domain. These definitions and features lead to our proposal that the “Information Sphere” should be the preferred international term, and it is this “InfoSphere” that qualifies as a new domain, with features both similar to and different from the four existing physical domains.

Keywords. domain, information, cyber, cyberspace

Introduction

Since classical times, two domains of operation dominated military and civilian operations: land and sea. The advent of powered flight in 1904 initiated the opportunity for a third domain. Shortly thereafter, actions by opposing elements in this airspace began during World War I. The Army and Navy each developed its own air capabilities, and at the end of World War II, the Army Air Corps became the US Air Force—about 50 years after the first powered flight. In a similar manner, the dawn of the “space age” in 1955 encouraged each of the U.S. military services to invest in their own efforts in the space domain. By the mid to late 1980’s, with the advent of then US President Ronald Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), the US DoD acknowledged outer space as a fourth war fighting domain.

Based on the preceding observations, the historical trends for recognizing new domains tend to follow this sequence:

- First, the *capability* to begin to operate in that domain is developed, such as the first powered flight or the first space flight.
- Second, the capabilities to operate in that domain become relatively *commonplace*, such as air travel or Shuttle launches.



CYBER WAR

THE NEXT THREAT TO
NATIONAL SECURITY AND
WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

#1 BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *AGAINST ALL ENEMIES*

**RICHARD A.
CLARKE** AND
ROBERT K.
KNAKE

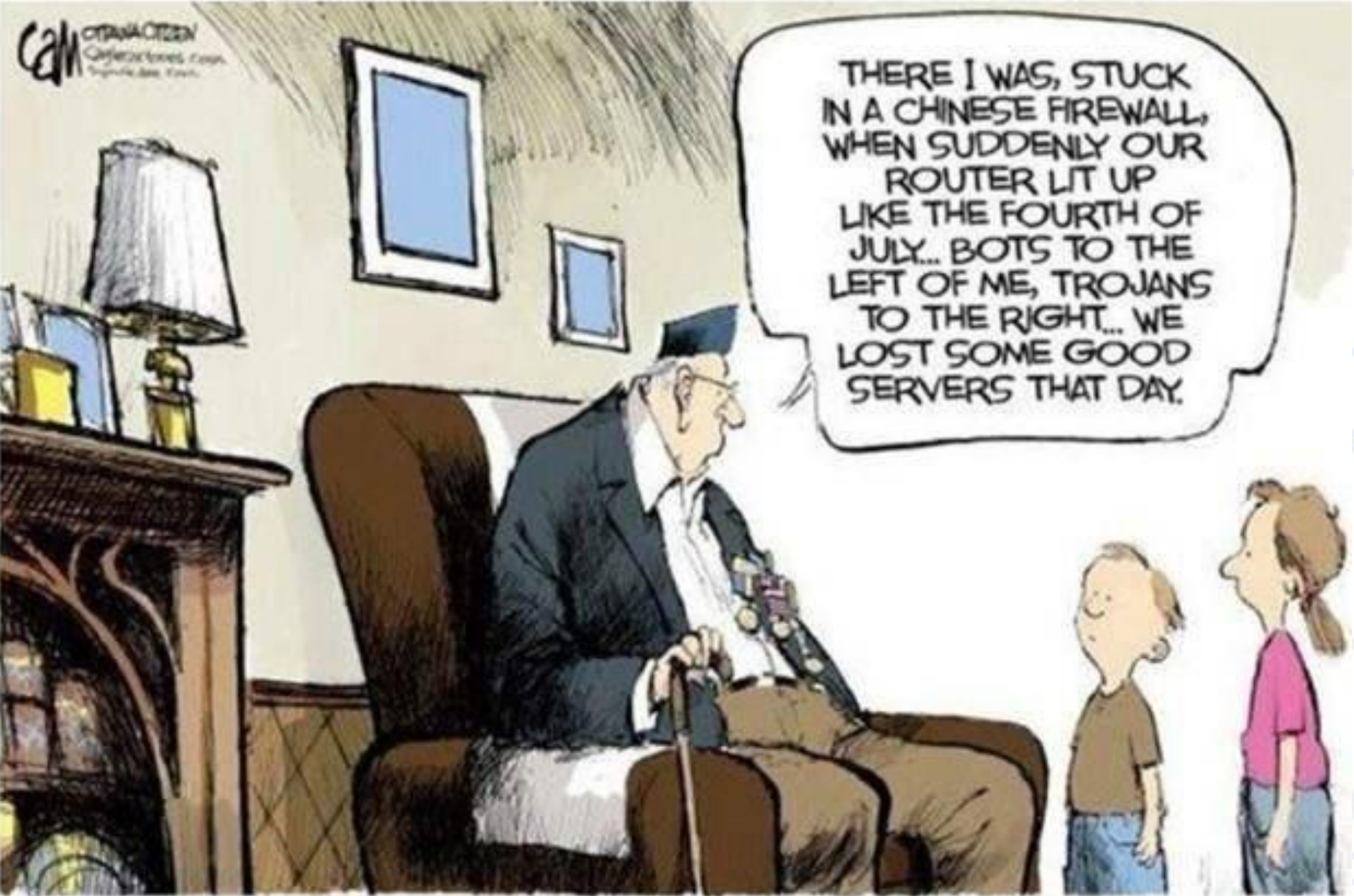


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CYBER
WAR
WILL
NOT
TAKE
PLACE

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THERE I WAS, STUCK
IN A CHINESE FIREWALL,
WHEN SUDDENLY OUR
ROUTER LIT UP
LIKE THE FOURTH OF
JULY... BOTS TO THE
LEFT OF ME, TROJANS
TO THE RIGHT... WE
LOST SOME GOOD
SERVERS THAT DAY.



FUTURE WAR STORIES



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