INFORMATION LEAKS REDUCES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

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Abstract: Confidential information leaks means vulnerability and security deficit. Confidential information leaks could be part of a scenario aiming to gain total control over population. States do not have permanent interests but permanent friends. Solidarity between states has limits that are tougher during crisis. Democratic and cross control among institutions is the best way of preventing institutions and public persons' tendencies to use information in their exclusive benefit.

Keywords: information leaks; security; conspiracy; manipulation; population control; secret services.

1. WHAT COULD BE THE OBJECTIVES OF INFORMATION LEAKS?

Although is almost impossible to prove I do believe that information leaks is part of a global and undeclared confrontation, that has "subversion as primary weapon." (Muchielli, apud Susanu, 2003:225) Many states use double standard in international relations, usually in secret, in order to save the appearances, and this is one argument that supports the above prognosis. International relations consist of a competition named "games" (Schelling, 1999:3-21) by some experts, which is mostly hidden and it is waged trough non-military components of the multidimensional and continuous confrontation: "The essence of foreign affaires influence strategies, events circumstances from other countries. (...) The aim of secret actions is to influence foreign government's actions. (...) These actions aim at the country's government, population as a whole or just a certain part of it." (Shulsky, Schmitt, 2008:129). Prudence that springs from history's lessons makes wise men to implement security measures for the situations when their friends and allies change political options and become neutral or even enemies. John Mearsheimer's Thus. opinion that describes diplomacy "pitiless and as

dangerous business and has all the chances to remain the same," (Mearsheimer, 2003:31-23) reflects the truth proved by Wikileaks revelations.

Wisdom that cannot be bought, sold or borrowed (Juridical and Antique Maxims, 1992:107) was and still is the foundation rock of any enduring human activity. On the other side, "Where ignorance is happiness, folly seems to be wisdom" said Th. Gray (1976:157). Lack or less than necessary wisdom was at the origins of many problems that is why our ancestors use to say "where is not head then the legs will suffer." So that it is necessary to approach information leaks with prudence, patience and wisdom. Wisdom means more than knowledge and skills. It is the result of study as well as experience, comprehensive approach of international security environment and an estimate of the consequences of action that has to be taken.

2. WHO COULD BE AT THE ORIGINS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION LEAKS?

We all know, or should know that in a true democracy nobody is above the law. It means neither persons nor institutions cannot initiate any action they want, unless their actions are legal. In order to respect the principle of

separation democratic power's states established cross control among institutions that aims to keep the balance among legislative, executive and juridical powers. Any accumulation of extra power by one of the main powers of the state is not possible without complicity of the others or as a result of their weaknesses. As a consequence, all the malfunctions that appear into the process of and implementation of the distribution responsibilities by the democratic state may generate a true chain of unpleasant events within the society, including breaking laws and society norms.

Confidential information leaks could be the result of the existing malfunctions within some state's institutions that possess information, which are released to public opinion without authorization. The success of information leaks is not possible without participation of some of those that work within political, informational, informatics and mass-media domains.

Professionals from intelligence organizations have responsibilities collecting, processing and distributing information. They are the fighters within "silent warfare." (Schulsky, Schmitt, 2008) During the process of collecting and could processing information appear malfunctions, which may or may not depend on those people that collect process and interpret them. Sometimes people make interpretation; mistakes like: erroneous negligence; insufficient experience; hurry; desire to be noticed and rewarded or bad intentions.

Collecting and processing data, the most the information known missions of component, which is part the multidimensional confrontation, always has been important. "Decision-makers and those that have to implement decisions could take unsuitable measures if they do not have valuable information or because misperception." (Schneider, 2003:11) There are many facts that confirm this conclusion from 1962 missile crisis to September 11, 2001 terrorist attack against USA, as well as "the facts that proves" nuclear program of Saddam Hussein regime in 2003. According to

Karl W. Deutsch, inaccurate information and wrong perceptions about different events have been the basis for wrong decisions that led to 20^{th} 50 % of the century conflicts.(Deutsch, 2006:51-52) One of the relevant cases from this category, which had important consequences over USA as well as over the world politics, was the one consisting in illegal revelation of the real identity of a CIA's agent - Valerie Plame-Wilson - by some senior clerks of George Bush Jr. Administration (Drumheller. Monaghan. International consequences 2008:170-172) were huge because the authors of this action suggested that she was using her official position for backing her husband's declaration that Saddam Hussein does not have any of ongoing weapons mass destruction program. The result of this action was the military attack against Iraq, based on the presumable hypothesis of hidden program for producing nuclear weapons, which were not found until current day. The above mentioned case is one of the most notorious that aimed to manipulate public opinion from USA as well as the most part of the world's one (Isikoff, Corn. 2006) Also, the situation already mentioned reflects convincible Vladimir Volkoff's (2007:29) opinion that "a crowd could be easily laid than an individual or a group of individuals."

Another important case of information leaks is the one consisting in CIA providing regularly information to The Washington Times journal (Laurent, 2005:77), which was considered a true press organ of Republican Party. In exchange for the information provided by the CIA, the journal use to violently attack any individual that was touching embarrassing issues for Bush Jr. Administration.

Political leadership of the states is responsible for the way of using information provided by intelligence organizations. Politicians from intermediate levels and experts may or may not timely and accurately elaborate prognosis about internal and foreign political evolution based on intelligence data. The prognosis could be timely submitted to the top level decision-makers but having a reduced accuracy because of low competence of the

authors or even because of their different interests from state or institution they suppose to honestly serve.

Sometimes, intelligence organizations could be used as lighting rod for politicians' mistakes because people working for secret services do not defend themselves publicly. It is the case of failure to prove the reality of Saddam Hussein regime's WMD program. CIA was publicly blamed by Bush Jr. Administration for this failure and its subsequent consequences (Drumheller, Monaghan, 2008:158-159).

In many situations politicians decide or lead influencing, manipulation and misinformation of public opinion from the world's states and communities. Eric Laurent said that President Clinton was the target of a campaign negative press multibillionaire Scaife Mellon - an important member of the Republican Party – that made a personal business from the destruction of the democrat president (Laurent. International public opinion is permanently considered in order to prevent the allies to change their opinions and to join the neutral states or even to the adversaries. Also, influencing public opinion is meant to increase number of the allies or to persuade some adversaries to join the neutrals' side. This objective is accomplished by manipulation. Usually, successful influence of the public opinion and of the adversaries' is the result of PSYOPS. These kinds of operations sometimes are seen as "black art," practiced by the masters of lies and deception. That is why decision-makers feel disgust manipulating people and tend to suppress the psychological dimensions of military operations (Collins, 2004:6-7). Public opinion and adversaries manipulation procedure requires a close correlation between information and misinformation in order to fulfill the established objectives of the PSYOPS. For some experts in this domain "man has been manipulated in his entire social existence. without technology, psychology, without advertising. When all this appeared, manipulation had already existed and the principles of doing this had already been accepted both by the subject of manipulation and the manipulator." (Hentea, 2008:47).

A former member of the USA's information organization wrote this: "In peace time the secrets are well hidden (...) buried manv fragmentary information, falsehood and, sometimes, true misinformation (...) some decades after the war ends, the documents come true revealing the hidden origins of celebrated victories and of the suffered defeats." (Allen, 2009:5-9) Many historic events can prove this assertion. Right after Russian Bolshevik Revolution from 25 October/07 November 1917, Lenin decided to publish secret treaties signed by France, Great Britain and Russia. Treaties had the goal of sharing among the above mentioned countries Central powers' territories after the end of World War I, and contained provisions to give the neutral states territories and facilities to convince them to join the Antante. First copies of the treaties were published in *Manchester* Guardian journal in 12 December 1917 (Johnson, 2005:29). Lenin wanted to show the world his firmness in promoting the idea of stopping the war, but his hidden goal was to undermine Great Britain and France internal and foreign credibility and to contribute to their defeat. Also, he probably wanted to pay for Germany's administrative, financial and logistic support during his travel from Switzerland to Russia, crossing Central Power's territories (Lecomte, 2010:13). The copies of the treaties published in Great Britain had influenced USA's public opinion. President Wilson made public a peace proposal in 14 points. The proposal was accepted by Germany (Milza, Berstein, 1998:80) although most of its troops were on France and Belgium's territories.

Informatics experts should care about data transmitting using devices that should not be detected or located. Also these experts have to protect the network against any interception or intrusion from hackers and other people seeking for fame.

Mass-media professionals could be part of information leaks having different reasons: desire for fame; the belief that serve a just cause; because they were offered material stimulants; because they were subject of

blackmail, threats and so on. Influencing power hold by mass-media is based on human specific way of reacting to images that catch and keep them "prisoners" to everything is visible and touchable. (Freud, 1992:68-69).

3. WHO MIGHT BE THE SPONSORS OR SUPPORTERS OF INFORMATION LEAKS?

All potential participants to confidential data leaks need to have supporters among employees working for state's institutions convicted. The employees should have direct access to confidential information or suppose to protect that information. The confidential data leaks initiators are looking for such kind of employees because they are the weak link of the protection information system. If they do not participate, then the leaks are practically impossible. Stealing data about French aircraft Mirage and sending them to the Israelis by an engineer working for the project 2003:79); sending data about (Thomas, American nuclear program to the Israelis by Jonathan Pollard (Thomas, 2003:81-84); sending data about American helicopter that was killing Iraqi civilians to Wikileaks organization by American military analyst Bradley Manning (Domscheit-Berg, Klopp, 2011:175); "The Five from Cambridge" (Parish, 2002:54) that were spying for USSR are just a few examples of "weak links," from the very many that existed and considerably influenced world's history.

4. HOW SECRET COULD BE SOME DATA FOR PUBLIC OPINION?

The notion of secret and the access to secret data should be seen trough the meaning of "need to know" principle, which reflects the responsibilities and level of the job within the organization's hierarchy. This principle exemplifies the rule of law within a democratic state. In other words, curiosity the specific feature of human nature – should be restricted to the necessity to know certain data. It means that secret data have to be protected from people with bad intentions or from adversaries. One of the most secure

methods is the one of restricting access to secret data in order to prevent dissemination to persons like ones mentioned above.

What a pity that those provisions could be used for hiding illegal actions, pretending that security reasons require imposing restrictions for certain activities. This was the case of "Watergate affair," of secret CIA's flights, of population overseen and control by the political police from communist states and so on.

5. INFORMATION LEAKS MEANS VULNERABILITY AND SECURITY DEFICIT

Mao's opinion that "power springs from rifle's barrel" (Meisner, 2008:90) is no longer entirely true. Information had and will continue to have a more and more important role in any decision, from individual to community level. Currently, more than in any other previous historic era, information is a decisive factor in any type of confrontation, especially the political one. The owner of valuable information could influence (manipulate) adversaries' decisions knowing their intentions, strength and even decisions, could take adequate measures for protecting his community and to take an important advantage to win the confrontation.

The Germans and the Japanese as well were defeated on the field of information protection during the Second World War. Their machines for encrypting communications – the Germans' Enigma (Garlinski, 1979:16) and the Japanese Purple (O'Toole, 1991:384-397) - were no longer encrypted for the Allies as a result of good cooperation among the USA, Great Britain and Resistance fighters from the territories occupied by the Germans. In their turn, the Soviets were successful within information confrontation with the Japanese, especially due to their spy Richard Sorge's activity (Prange,

Being well informed means to be better prepared for any situation and to restrict the field of action for unpleasant surprises. Correct and timely information is a mandatory condition for any success. Any plan, program

and strategy do not have chances for fulfilling their objectives if they are not based on correct information and the ways of acting are not to the circumstances of environment. All great military and political leaders had been wanted to eliminate risks caused by the lack of information or disinformation. Napoleon 1st used to say that the power of the unknown cannot be measured (Mirea, 1973:45), and Chinese Sun Tzu stated that the one who knows the enemy and knows himself will not be in danger during battles, whilst the one who does not know' himself or the enemy will be defeated in all battles (Sun Tzu, 1994:179).

This way of thinking is viable inside of economic domain too. The economic competition is tough and businessmen use any type of means, including information leaks, for gaining new markets and defeating their competitors. Also, politicians, leaders of terrorist organizations and organized crime were and will be interested in having secret data for using them at the moments when they presume to gain the best advantages. Many dictators were looking to control public opinion in order to protect themselves against any internal and foreign adversaries. Stalin's spy mania (Soljenitsyn, 1997:176) pushed him to kill all people convicted to spying aiming to catch real spies no matter that most of them were innocent. It is said that Saddam Hussein was close to Stalin way of thinking because, according to the Department of State from USA, he used approximately 25% of the adult population as informers (Salinger, Laurent, 1991:18).

Prior to the "Six Days War" (5 to 11 June 1967) between Israel and Arab states, the Israel's secret service Mossad had one informer within each Egyptian's military base. Also, within Egyptian Central Command from Cairo there were 3 commissioned officers as informers. The information delivered by all its informers helped Israel to know Egyptian's operation plans, details about intimate life of commissioned officers as well as political leaders from Egypt. As a consequence, Israelis were successful to plan and execute combat as well as psychological operations, using

information provided by their informers (Thomas, 2003:51-53).

Inside of each of us there is an angel as well as an evil said Paolo Coelho (2003:45). but it depends on us the way we follow. Vladimir Volkoff (2002:55) believes that "human nature tends towards envy" while Aleksandr Soljenitin's (1997:153,196,201) opinion is that "man is not an evil but he does not let you to live (...) because the one that have eaten with you from the same plate will betray you." At his turn, George Orwell considers human being "a clay easy to model" (Orwell, 2008:222) quality that might explain why some of our fellow men have attitudes that range from coward and flattering twitter (Soljenitsyn, 1997:247) to the one of fanatic promoter of terror by conviction (Soljenitsyn, 1997:379).

The initiator of Wikileaks – Julian Assange - has declared that he wants to make a more transparent and better world by publishing the secrets that convict banks, states' institutions as well as Nongovernmental Organizations for their illegal practices (Domscheit-Berg, Klopp, 2011:12,28-30,276). Later on was proved that dictum "the road to Hell is paved with good intentions" is perfectly suitable to him. Assange's attitude was resembling to the ones he use to criticize: he was obsessed by having power; he use to consider most of other people as idiots, especially those that have different opinions than his one; he was a dictator with his partners; he does not allow his partners to challenge and control his activity; he was dreaming to become untouchable by gaining enough money and setting up a sophisticated system of companies that cannot be controlled. Being accused of sexual harassment by Sweden authorities he decided to hide and to threaten that he will publish more confidential and more embarrassing information for some certain states, although the accusations were not related to Wikileaks (Domscheit-Berg, Klopp, 2011) Andrei Luca Popescu (2011) wrote that "Wikileaks looks like a keyhole trough which an initiated eve can understand many things." For instance we could understand that anyone and anything has a price that is not assessed only in money and material benefits. The weakness of people is their interest promoted by all means. People could be convinced to spy or betray by promising to help them to accomplish their goals or by using blackmail or threatening them. Therefore, if a nation has senior officials as well as people in charge with secret data protection that cannot resist to blackmail or threats, or people that are more interested in their personal benefits than in state's security and national interests, then security of the state is in great danger.

6. MASS-MEDIA PART OF SOLUTION OR PART OF THE PROBLEM?

Mass-media are called sometimes "the fourth power of a state," and some other times "watchdog of democracy." No matter the name, mass-media have an important role in informing public opinion and in shaping a trend for supporting a certain decision. Thus mass-media could be resembled to a double cutting edge sword because they have both a positive as well a negative role within each society.

Mass-media facilitate, and sometimes stimulate more or less known authors to write and publish different scenarios about top events that catch public's interest. Some scenarios are meant to test audience reaction in order to envision the necessary elements to decision-makers for choosing the suitable tactics and means for influencing public opinion, while the others are designated to direct influence public opinion. One like these scenarios written by Al Hidell (2006:11) suggests that antiterrorist war is more like a smock curtain that mask USA's interest to Asia and its control Central energetic resources. This scenario and other more released to public opinion by "trustful sources that want to remain anonymous" aim to initiate, infer or stimulate a certain attitude within public opinion.

During "Watergate scandal" written press had a very important role in defending democracy's values by informing American public opinion about abuses produced by some FBI employees under the auspices of some senior officials of Nixon Administration. FBI agents mounted microphones inside Democrat Party offices from its Headquarters – Watergate building. Illegal activity was known by public opinion trough information leaks towards Bob Woodward – a journalist from Washington Post. Leaks' initiator was a mysterious person, nicknamed "Deep Throat," which proved to be Mark Felt (O'Connor, 2005), one of the deputies of recently died FBI director Edgar Hoover. Felt was lead by revenge because he was aspiring to the director position after Hoover's death.

Vladimir Volkoff (2010:20) considers of loudspeaker mass-media sort a misinformation operations within television is the Olympus and internet is Walhalla. "Fight for gaining supremacy over internet" (Dunnigan, 2010:20) is important because this way of communication is used by more and more private companies and governmental organizations. both nongovernmental ones for their business. According to James Dunnigan (2010:55), one third from USA's economic growth in 2001 was determined by internet. On the other side, using worms and informatics viruses and some other means and methods it is possible to steal information as well as to destruct computer networks, power plants, pipelines network for fossil fuels, communication systems and even command and control systems of the armed forces. Internet allows dissemination of a huge volume of information in a very short time, which is addressed to a huge number of persons, facilitating both information leaks and manipulation of people and communities as well.

Mass-media's employees use manipulation for different reasons. Some of them want their products to be sold easier and the companies they work for to make more money and to be economic viable. The others want to serve certain interests of the political power, and not the least because the authors of media tricks desire celebrity. All those who manipulate do not have morality or regrets for their actions. They are guided by their own interests and for accomplishing this objective they could use all possible means. Their target is celebrity and fortune. The effects of their actions are important only if they bring profit. Hiding beyond of "trustees and well informed"

sources" could deceive the uninformed people or the ones too lazy for filtering information provided by mass-media trough their minds. The manipulators count on the people's tendency to trust the mass-media instead of the official agencies. Thus the media could deceive the public opinion by promoting insignificant people to the status "personality," including politicians almost overnight. This is a case of the Russian Vladimir Jirinovski and the Italian Silvio Berlusconi. They were promoted in a few weeks from ordinary people to party leaders 1994:44-45). A similar situation happened in USA where Charles Murray's case is the one for scholars, wrote Eric Laurent (2005:62-63). According to Alina Mungiu, Romanian literary critic Manolescu was a quite unknown but mass-media helped him to be promoted in the position of party leader (Mungiu, 1995:253).

A minor fact could be perceived as great, depending on the way it was released to the public opinion. In other words, the mass-media could not only make a mountain out of a molehill, but also could diminish the importance of a certain event, work of art, etc. through the way they deliver information and additional comments about them. As C. Hentea said, "the mass-media are both a mirror of the masses' will and a propaganda vehicle heading towards masses of people." (Hentea, 2008:52-53). Thus, the mass-media could be a subtle instrument for sustaining a dominant ideology of a human society as well for imposing a group's hegemony over all the others in that society.

7. WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM INFORMATION LEASKS?

Confidential information leaks towards mass-media or even adversaries have been in the past. Also, history registered betrayers of some spies and usage of the same spies by more parts into the same conflict. I envision that similar events will take place in the future too because the information war is continuous and politics of all states aim to promote their own interests. Life is a continuous fight that engages not only declared adversaries but

allies too. According to some sources Saudi Arabia (Laurent, 2005:177), considered the most important ally of the USA from the Middle East, is also one of the main sponsors for the Muslim terrorist organizations that want to recompose the Great Caliphate from Atlantic to Karachi. Any further evolution is possible, including "fratricide fights" among allies. I also envision that the results of information leaks will be fructified not only by the organizers but also by totalitarian regimes; organized crimes; mass-media and possible by some institutions from democratic states, especially those in charge with secret data protection.

Totalitarian regimes will have a new pretext for imposing tougher measures to repress any opposing forces, to intensify censorship and propaganda against all democratic states.

Extremist organizations may pretend, based on information leaks, that they have the best prove of Occident's guiltiness and of democratic states as a whole because they declare that protect human rights but in practice these rights are disobeyed firstly and repeatedly by the democratic states.

Organized crime can exploit the revealed vulnerabilities trough information leaks from any domain of activity, especially from political, diplomatic and military ones. They may intend to use blackmail in order to influence states and institutions leaderships' decisions, as well as to promote in official positions some people that work for them.

Mass-media's benefit is that information leaks offers them "hot topics" that help to rising number of radio listeners, to rise ratting to televisions as well as to increase number of sold newspapers and journals. Some journalists could identify opportunities for becoming famous and to be rewarded with prizes or to enroll in political parties on top positions.

Democratic states institutions, especially those in charge with protection of secret data could seek and receive political decision-makers and even public opinion for imposing tougher measures for population control. Listening to telephonic conversations, surveillance of all the activities from public

spaces as well as those from production ones might be among the most desired measures that will lead to reduction of citizens' rights.

8. WHO WILL LOOSE OF INFORMATION LEAKS?

First will be democracy because political parties that govern some states could be tempted to impose certain measures to allow them to maintain power for themselves. They may do that trough narrowing the possibilities of other political parties to gain political power within their states.

Secondly, states' citizens might be obliged to endure new measures that reduce individual liberties. Those measures will be in addition to disappointment caused by the elected people that deceived citizens' expectations of governing for building a prosper society ruled by the law.

Thirdly, all democratic states could enter into a period of erosion of their credibility as a result of some unlawful practices revealed by information leaks.

Fourthly, there might be possible actions that aim to gain control over some media's concerns by undemocratic forces. Those forces would like to obtain economic and political advantages or even political leadership of the states they are located in. Also, there might be possible censorship measures — direct or hidden ones — over mass-media because they have an important role in influencing public opinion.

Finally, mankind as a whole may confront with a decreased process of international security because of an increased distrust among states and a possible intensification of armed race. Also, globalization process could get into a deadlock as a result of a possible reinforcement of some barriers against free circulation of information, of persons and of products. These measures may diminish international exchanges among states of the world within economic, scientific and cultural domains.

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