



WikiLeaks: The Response

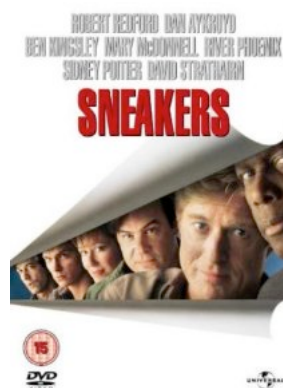
Vermont InfraGard
Northfield, VT
25 February 2011

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Gary Kessler Associates

with thanks to Dr. James Ramsay, ERAU

Why Are We Here Today?

- The leak of "secret" information has always been not a matter of *if*, but *when*
 - Now that the latest WikiLeaks event has occurred, what are the ramifications and implications?
- In particular, what is the impact on InfraGard (and other information sharing organizations) if there are "no more secrets"?



Some Background



- WikiLeaks is an international, non-profit organization that publishes submissions of otherwise unavailable (i.e., secret) documents from anonymous sources
 - Launched in 2006 by The Sunshine Press
 - By 2007, claimed a database of more than 1.2 million documents
 - All submissions are vetted, as are the submitters (if known)
- Claim to have been "founded by Chinese dissidents, journalists, mathematicians, and start-up company technologists, from the U.S., Taiwan, Europe, Australia and South Africa"

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Julian Assange

- Australian publisher, journalist, software developer, and Internet activist
- Founder, spokesperson, and EIC of WikiLeaks
 - Self-described "heart and soul of this organization, its founder, philosopher, spokesperson, original coder, organizer, financier, and all the rest" (*Wired*)
 - Heads nine-person advisory board
- *Hero of the Universe or Spawn of the Devil?*



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Timeline -- 2006-2009

- Dec. 2006 -- Memo by Somali sheikh to assassinate government officials
- Aug. 2007 -- Documents about corruption by ousted Kenyan leader and his family
- Nov. 2007 -- *SOPs for Camp Delta* (2003), about Guantanamo Bay detention facility
- Feb. 2008 -- Documents about illegal activity in Cayman Islands' branch of Swiss Bank
- Mar. 2008 -- Secret "bibles" of Scientology
- Sep. 2008 -- Sarah Palin's Yahoo! e-mail
- Nov. 2008 & Oct. 2009 -- Membership list of British National Party
- Jan. 2009 -- Telephone transcripts related to Peru oil scandal
- July 2009 -- Accident at Iran's Natanz nuclear facility
- Sep. 2009 -- Internal memos about Kaupthing Bank, shortly before Iceland's banking sector collapse
- Nov. 2009 -- E-mail correspondence between climate scientists

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Timeline -- April 2010

- *Collateral Murder* video
 - Apache helicopter gun sight footage of July 2007 Baghdad airstrike, killing Iraqi civilians and journalists
 - Pilots thought men were carrying weapons; they were actually carrying cameras
 - U.S. military conducted "informal" investigation but still has not released results (e.g., sworn depositions or battle damage assessment)

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Timeline -- June 2010 (1)

- In June, PFC Bradley Manning arrested for releasing classified information
 - From Jan. - June, provided numerous documents including *Collateral Murder* video and 260,000 diplomatic cables
 - Motivation unclear but he was unhappy in the military; recently demoted from SPC; and influenced by the hacker notion that "information wants to be free"



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Timeline -- June 2010 (2)

- Manning claims:
 - "Everywhere there's a U.S. post, there's a diplomatic scandal that will be revealed" (*Wired*)
 - The cables "[explain] how the first world exploits the third, in detail, from an internal perspective" (*Washington Post*)

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Timeline -- July 2010

- Afghan War Diary
 - 92,000 documents related to the War in Afghanistan released to *The Guardian*, *NYT*, and *Der Spiegel*
 - Detailed many individual incidents related to friendly fire and civilian casualties
 - 1.4 GB encrypted "insurance file" added to AWD page in case WikiLeaks or founder Julian Assange were in any way harmed

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Timeline -- October 2010

- Iraq War Logs
 - 400,000 documents related to the War in Iraq released
 - Contents mapped location of every death in Iraq and alleged that U.S. government ignored reports of torture in post-War Iraq
 - Pentagon claims that this is "the largest leak of classified documents in its history" (*BBC*)

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Timeline -- November 2010 (1)

- U.S. diplomatic cables
 - Release of the first of 251,287 leaked confidential (*not* TS!) diplomatic cables from 274 U.S. embassies, between Dec. 1966 and Feb. 2010
 - Cables also published by media in France, Germany, Spain, U.K., and U.S.

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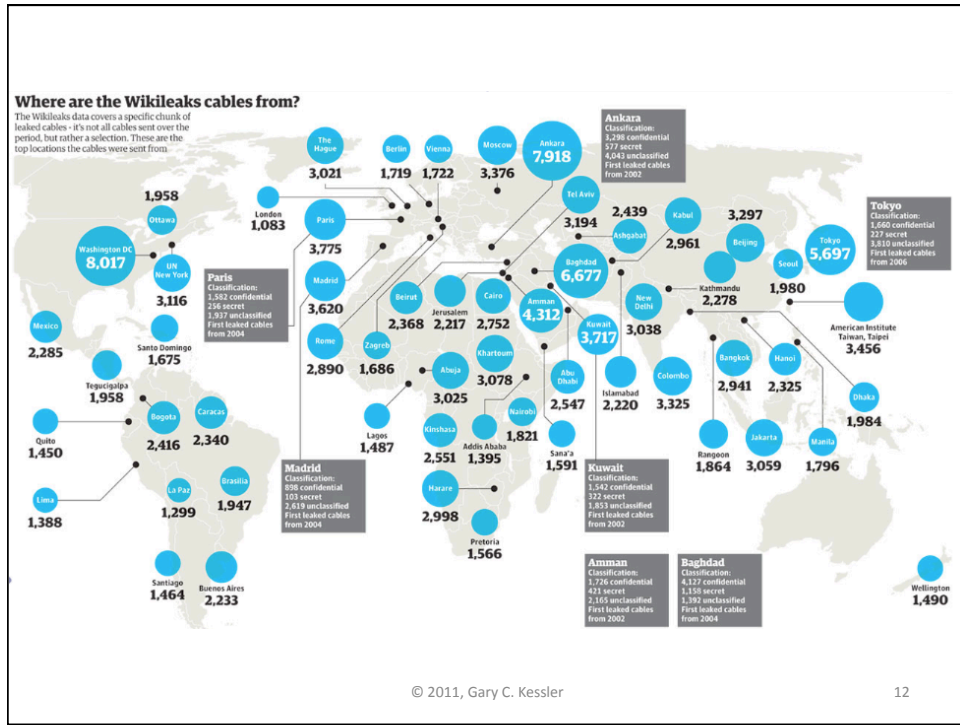
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Timeline -- November 2010 (2)

- Contents of diplomatic cables included numerous candid comments and revelations regarding:
 - Host countries of various U.S. embassies
 - Political maneuvering regarding climate change
 - Discussion towards reducing tension in the Middle East
 - Efforts and resistance towards nuclear disarmament
 - Actions and attitudes related to GWOT
 - Assessments of threats around the world
 - Opinions about leaders of various countries by U.S. personnel and each other
 - U.S. intel and counterintel efforts

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Response Has Been All Over the Map...

BRADLEY MANNING - CONSCIENCE WAS HIS GUIDE
Give a little Whistle
BITS OF CARELESS TALK ARE PIECED TOGETHER BY THE ENEMY

LOOSE LIPS Sink Ships

BUT OTHERS BELIEVE THE REAL CRIMINALS ARE THE ONES DOING THE DISCLOSING.

I DO NOT LIKE ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT FREAKS.
I DO NOT LIKE THESE WIKILEAKS!
I WOULD NOT READ THEM HERE OR THERE.
I WOULD NOT READ THEM ANYWHERE!

MAD I AM

BLOWING THE WHISTLE ON WAR CRIMES IS NOT A CRIME!

Bradley Manning, a 22-year-old Army intelligence analyst, faces decades in prison for allegedly sharing a video of a US helicopter attack that killed 11 civilians and wounded two children in Baghdad, Iraq with the Wikileaks website.

The Army covered up the evidence and declared the war crime "justified". Now they claim that exposing the massacre is criminal. The military also accuses Bradley Manning of having shared documentation of similar events in Afghanistan.

FREE ARMY INTEL ANALYST PFC BRADLEY MANNING
bradleymanning.org ★ couragetorealist.org

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Is It Criminal?

- Obama administration asked Australia, Germany, the U.K., and other countries to consider bringing criminal charges against Assange for the Afghan war leaks and to help limit Assange's travels across international borders (*Daily Beast* Web site)
- Joint investigation by U.S. Army and FBI may try to prosecute "Mr. Assange and others involved on grounds they encouraged the theft of government property" (*WSJ*)

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Were People Put At Risk? (1)

- Amnesty International and Reporters Without Borders criticized WikiLeaks for risking people's lives by identifying Afghans acting as informers (*NYT*)
 - A Taliban spokesman said that the Taliban had formed a nine-member "commission" to review the documents "to find about people who are spying." Taliban reportedly had a "wanted" list of 1,800 Afghans and was comparing that with names on the WikiLeaks site, stating "after the process is completed, our Taliban court will decide about such people"

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Were People Put At Risk? (2)

- WikiLeaks' leaking of classified U.S. documents has "endangered the lives of Afghan informants" and "the dozens of Afghan civilians named in the document dump as U.S. military informants. Their lives, as well as those of their entire families, are now at terrible risk of Taliban reprisal" (*WSJ* editorial)
- Julian Assange stated in an interview that WikiLeaks has withheld some 15,000 documents that identify informants to avoid putting their lives at risk

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Yes, Probably...

- DoD advises Senate Armed Services Committee that after a thorough review of 70,000+ WikiLeaks documents that there was no disclosure of any sensitive intelligence sources or methods (*CNN*)
 - There is still concern that Afghans named in the published documents could face Taliban retaliation



Secretary of Defense Robert Gates

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But Is There A Greater Good?



Adm. Mike Mullen,
Chairman, JCS

- "Mr. Assange can say whatever he likes about the greater good he thinks he and his source are doing, but the truth is they might already have on their hands the blood of some young soldier or that of an Afghan family" (*NYT*)

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Nations Respond (1)

- Australia
 - Australia Communications and Media Authority proposed blacklisting WikiLeaks (March 2009-November 2010)
- Germany
 - Home of Theodore Reppe, registrant of *wikileaks.de* domain name, raided (March 2009)

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Nations Respond (2)

- Iceland
 - WikiLeaks volunteers report intense surveillance and, in at least one case, detention by police, and seizure of computers
 - Icelandic press cannot substantiate these reports
 - In 2009, WikiLeaks posts documents about the Kaupthing Bank's significant exposure to debt default
 - KB obtains a court order blocking Iceland's national radio and TV from reporting this situation
 - As a result, the Icelandic Modern Media Initiative is enacted, sponsored by a WikiLeaks volunteer/member of parliament
 - Iceland ranks in top five countries for free speech (*Reporters Without Borders*)

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Nations Respond (3)

- People's Republic of China
 - WikiLeaks claims that government of PRC has (unsuccessfully) attempted to block all traffic to their site since 2007
- Thailand
 - The Centre for the Resolution of the Emergency Situation (CRES) is currently censoring the WikiLeaks Web site... and 40,000 others!

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Other U.S. Responses

- WikiLeaks access blocked at Library of Congress and to all U.S. federal government staff
 - "More damage will be done by keeping the federal workforce largely in the dark about what other interested parties worldwide are going to be reading and analyzing" (*DHS report*)
- Diplomatic cables are "still considered classified" and may be illegal to possess (i.e., read) (*U.S. Dept. of State*)

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Corporate Responses (1)

- Moneybookers stops collecting donations for WikiLeaks (October 2010)
- December 2010
 - EveryDNS drops WikiLeaks after DDoS attacks that "threatened the stability of its infrastructure"
 - Amazon.com severs relationship with WikiLeaks, citing violation of terms of service; denies pressure from U.S. gov't.
 - Tableau Software drops WikiLeaks from its data visualization site, citing pressure from U.S. gov't.

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Corporate Responses (2)

- December 2010 (cont.)
 - Hundreds of WikiLeaks Web site mirrors appear
 - Hacker group Anonymous calls for attacks on companies opposing WikiLeaks
 - HBGary is another lecture!
 - PayPal stops processing WikiLeaks payments, citing violation of AUPs but acknowledging pressure from U.S. Dept. of State

Wikileaks Mirrors

Find all the current Wikileaks Mirrors and Links here. Helpful, if the main site - wikileaks.org - is down.

[Home](#) [News](#) [About](#)

- [wikileaks.org](#) - Original Wikileaks Page [redirected to mirror.wikileaks.info]
- [wikileaks.ch](#) - New Official Wikileaks Page [213.251.145.96, 178.21.20.8 and others]
 - [wikileaks.fi](#) - Mirror Finland [46.59.1.2]
 - [wikileaks.nl](#) - Mirror Netherlands [46.21.239.250]
 - [wikileaks.de](#) - Mirror Germany [87.239.128.202]
 - [wikileaks.eu](#) - Mirror Europe [88.80.13.160]
 - [wikileaks.pl](#) - Mirror Poland [88.80.13.160]
 - [wikileaks.at](#) - Mirror Austria [46.59.1.2]
 - [wikileaks.lu](#) - Mirror Luxembourg [85.93.215.133]
 - [wikileaks.se](#) - Mirror Sweden [88.80.6.179]
 - [wikileaks.no](#) - Mirror Norway [46.59.1.2]
 - [wikileaks.is](#) - Mirror Iceland [46.21.239.250]
- [nyud.net](#) - Mirror United States [129.170.214.192]
- [wikileaks.ca](#) - Mirror Canada [213.251.145.96]

Important Wikileaks Links

- mirror.wikileaks.info - Mirror of previous leaks [92.241.190.202]
- twitter.com/wikileaks - Official Wikileaks Twitter Page
- facebook.com/wikileaks - Official Wikileaks Facebook Page
- sunshinepress.org - Official Wikileaks Chat

Questions? - Write to wikileaks@wikileaks.info
 Last change: 6-January-2011

Corporate Responses (3)

- December 2010 (cont.)
 - Bank of America and MasterCard stop processing WikiLeaks payments
 - U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights suggests that Amazon.com, MasterCard, and Visa may be violating WikiLeaks "freedom of expression" by withholding services
 - Apple removes WikiLeaks app from its App Store

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Descendants of WikiLeaks

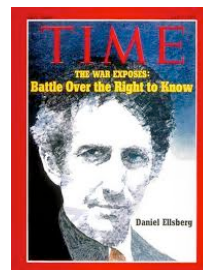
- *OpenLeaks*: Intends to be even more transparent than WikiLeaks
 - Premise: WikiLeaks has lost its openness
- *TradeLeaks*: Will be to stock trading what WikiLeaks is to politics
- *UniLeaks*: Focus on public educational institutions
- *Balkan Leaks*, *Brussels Leaks*, *IndoLeaks*, and *RuLeaks*: Focus on Balkans, EU, Indonesia, and Russia, respectively

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Haven't We Seen This Before?

- *The Pentagon Papers*: A 1,000 page secret study containing classified material about the Vietnam War (1971)
 - Daniel Ellsberg called "the most dangerous man in America"
 - U.S. Supreme Court: "Only a free and unrestrained press can effectively expose deception in government... paramount among the responsibilities of a free press is the duty to prevent any part of the government from deceiving the people and sending them off to distant lands to die of foreign fevers and foreign shot and shell."



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A Perspective From Another Era

- Winston Churchill (1874-1965)
 - *"It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried"*
 - *"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen"*

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Citizens in a Free Society...

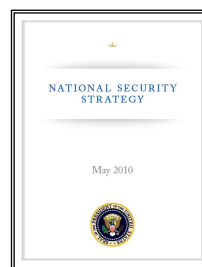
- ...have responsibilities as well as rights.
- As members of a free society, we are constantly in a struggle to balance what we are *allowed* to do with what *we should* do...
- "The open society, the unrestricted access to knowledge, the unplanned and uninhibited association of men for its furtherance - these are what may make a vast, complex, ever growing, ever changing, ever more specialized and expert technological world, nevertheless a world of human community" (*J. Robert Oppenheimer*)
 - Scientific director of the Manhattan Project, chief adviser to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, and stripped of his security clearance because of thoughtful, politically incorrect opinions about the role of science

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Tensions of a Free Society

- We faced many of these same questions in the aftermath of 9/11
 - Openness vs. secrecy
 - Will of the majority vs. needs of the minority
 - Transparency/accountability vs. efficiency/efficacy
 - Civil liberties vs. national security
 - (Of course, one result of 9/11 was the U.S. PATRIOT ACT...)



Civil Liberties

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