

Interrogating National Security in the Age of Globalization: A Third World Review

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Abstract

This paper explores the linkages between globalization and national security as well as the threat it constitutes to national security in Third World Countries in the 21st century. Globalization is a commodiously buzz concept with its multiple strands which means different things to different people around the globe. It has variously influenced every aspect of the nation state, especially doing national security concomitantly, through the Western ideas of neo-liberalism, capitalism, consumerism and so forth are spread all over the globe, destroying pre-existent culture and national boundaries of sorts. Three central arguments are made here: First, that the mass media being the oxygen of globalization transcends national boundaries of the nation state evokes major challenges to national security frontally; as it fostered supra-territorial relations that threaten the latter. Second, through examination of historical transformations globally, it poses the question as to whether the nation state as the basis of international order and relations can be sustained. This is arising from the enormous power and influence of non-state actors on the world stage. Third, that doing national security in the global village with its attendant new trends whether the usually strong relationship that existed between the media and the state will still be maintained? But this is rather contentious.

Key Words: Globalization, Mass Media, National Security, Nation State, Global Village and Third World Countries.

Introduction

Globalization, through the instrumentality of the nation state, has transcended national boundaries, and persistently permeated the various aspects of the globe through its oxygen, the mass media. And what apparently comes to mind as to the role of the mass media vis-à-vis national security in this age of globalization is put into consideration is the responsibility of the former in the protection of the latter. This opinion might have shaped the “reflective theorists” view that the quality of a nation’s mass media is a reflection of the level of the nation’s development, that the mass media develop with the nation, and that whatever significant changes in the scope, sophistication and purpose of the mass media are evidences of political modification in that society. This theory is based on the premise that the mass media and national development are connected in a kind of symbiotic relationship. But like other theories, the social realities around it are in a state of constant flux. The fact is that, the adequacy of this theory has actually spent its usefulness to the era when the mass media were territorially bound, that is, before this age of modern technology-driven globalization when the communications media have transcended the national boundaries of nation states.

The Problem

This raises the question of the problem in interrogating the relationship between the mass media and national security in the global village, which is very critical to this paper, raises a double-layered problem. The first layer has to do with the plausibility of the expectation that the symbiosis in the “reflective theory” vis-à-vis national security is sustainable in this era of “simultaneous happening”, that is an age where the fusion of television and satellite has created the Marshall McLuhan global village, in which news unfold in the glare of the camera and nothing can be secret or concealed. The second layer of the problem dwells in the predicament in balancing national security with the ethics of the practice of the mass media profession

without compromising to authoritarianism, especially against the backdrop of the ever longing quest of objectivity.

This reality, therefore, aptly captures as well as justifies the need to provide scholarly insight to further examine the extent of the intrusiveness of this double-layered problem in the articulation of the mass media, especially in third world countries is sine qua non. The above issues and others not mentioned provoked a reflection of the national security in the age of globalization really is. Can national security be still sustained in the “traditional secrecy” or “classified” omnibus strands? And to what extent is this achievable in the “global village”? Going forward, this paper attempts to appraise these issues and more as the paper is structured to dwell on the concept of national security, impact of globalization on the mass media, national security in a global village, national security and the internet as well as a conclusion is explored here.

The Concept of National Security

National security is more of a commodious word whose subjective interpretation led to profound conflict and misapplication, especially the mass media and the government that usually postures as its constituent. Thus, it is one phenomenon that is open according to Tunde Thompson to different interpretations and readily lends itself to varied or divergent perceptions, and for him, with each perception believing itself to be the ultimate or normative form. So, in engaging the responsibility of the mass media towards the security of any nation, Fred Awgu submits that, it is essential to postulate from the outset, and in spite of the divergence of opinions, the basic constituents of the concept of national security.

Although the origin of the concern or interest in national security is traceable to the Westphalia Peace Treaty of 1648, where the idea of the modern nation state was created as the basis of international order and relations. But its transformation as an academic concept began in the United States where the earliest mention of the idea was made at Yale University in 1790. This was followed by a long interregnum of a one hundred and

fifty five years that is until the end of the Second World War in 1945 before the United States of America (US) adopted it as an instrument of policy.

The concept of national security was baptized as an official guiding principle of foreign policy in the United States in 1947 when, following the passage of the National Security Act of 1947 by the Congress, President Harry Truman sign it into law on July 26th, 1947. This was followed by the historic 1949 amendment, this Act established a National Security Council to advise the president, provided for a single Department of Defence to replace the trinity services, gave statutory status to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and created the Central Intelligent Agency (CIA) to gather information, correlate and evaluate intelligence activities around the globe. The Act however did not define national security, which was conceivably advantageous, because its omnibus strands makes it a powerful instrument that can be invoked whenever any issue is perceived to be threatening the interests of the state.

National security is a highly subjective concept that has no one acceptable or universal definition. Despite the crosscurrent in the opinion of experts the convergence is that, it is the requirement to maintain the cooperate existence or survival of the nation state through the use of economic, military and political power, and the exercise of diplomacy. In all of this, though, it is a relative concept; but it cannot lose its basic composite nature, consisting of the physical and the non-physical dimensions. Stated differently, despite the fact that the security of any nation is defined by its circumstances, there is the fundamental truth that some components of national security are corporal while others are incorporal.

Historically therefore, national security was been defined in association with freedom from military threats and political coercion, the concept of national security, has since assumed a more broad, more divergent and non-military character, having now comprise the threats to the economy, energy and environment-related issues as well as threats to the core values that the nation state espouses or be at the danger of losing its rights to other nations. Also that, it was initially conceived that the threats to national

security could only come from conventional foes like states, but the robust contribution of scholars on the subject of national security have tended to show that non-state entities like multinational organizations, narcotic cartels, terrorists organizations, and other bureaucratic institutions can also pose a grievous threat to the national security of any nation. This is condensed to mean that the mass media as non-state actor purveyors at the level of the bureaucratic institutions undermines the national security of the nation state.

Sometimes, especially in third world countries national security is associated with the doctrine of military defence that is developing military capability to contend with perceived external threats to the country's territorial integrity. It is in this light that national security is being conceptualized as the capacity to maintain its sovereignty and protect its territory internally and externally, even in a war situation. This notion is obviously militaristic, and attaches too much importance to the role of the military in defining national security, while it downplays other non-military concerns, such as peaceful co-existence and development that are fundamental. There is also the tendency to see national security often conflated with regime security that any threat to the administration as threats to national security. Thus, they were characterized by excessive use of state powers suppressing perceived enemies of the regime.

This notwithstanding, the realization that national security encompasses more than just military defence of territory but also internal stability and socio-economic well-being. Also that national security has both internal and external dimensions. In light of this Ate has noted, national security can be explained as the defence and protection of the sovereignty of the country and of its territorial and political jurisdictions against external and indeed internal threats. It is however pertinent to note that the imperative of national security is essentially the protection of life, property and economic resources of the country by constituted authorities, utilizing the security apparatus of the state. Therefore, Robin Luckham observed that, it is not just physical survival of (the people and their state) which is at issue, but

also the satisfaction of their needs for food, health, clothing, education and shelter.

While not disagreeing with the above submissions the Microsoft Encarta defined national security is the;

Concept of safety for the territory and population of a state, and by extension the policies adopted for its preservation, security is sometimes defined as the assurance of future welfare. In this broad sense national security might be regarded as the whole range of measures affecting the economic and social welfare of a population, as well as provision against aggression from abroad or subversion from within.

Similarly, national security is best defined as the capacity to control domestic and foreign conditions that public opinion believes necessary for self-determination or autonomy, prosperity and well-being of the people. Therefore, a nation is secured largely that it does not lose its national pride and values; or be able to subdue any attempts of aggression or win wars. This is so because the ultimate aim of national security is to protect any attempt of external threats or aggressions, shares consciousness of its citizens and the ideals of the state. By and large, the survival of the nation state is the ultimate goals of its governing institutions that include individuals, groups associations, police or its armed forces etc.

This brings us into an insider's view when Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations recognized that national security is composed of "physical security, economic security, and psychological security". And also strengthening this non-military dimension of national security's composition, General Maxwell Taylor wrote that;

The national valuables in this broad sense include current assets and national interests, as well as the sources of strength upon

which our future as a nation depends. Some valuables are tangible and earthly; others are spiritual or intellectual. They range widely from political assets such as the Bill of Rights, our political institutions and international friendships, to many economic assets which radiates worldwide from highly productive domestic economy supported by rich natural resources. It is the urgent need to protect valuables such as these which legitimizes and makes essential the role of national security.

The convergence of all the views that no nation should see national security as exclusive preserve of its military or its security forces. All its citizens share the burden of security. This is because, all the citizens are national security assets as well as security managers. Besides, national security is oriented towards creation of social harmony, promotion of political understanding, provision and protection of basic needs for the citizens. It comprises internal and external affairs, security agencies and the maintenance of peace as well as economic well-being. In fact, a national security is attainable, when its social system is freed of fear, threats, aggression or subversions from within or outside. On the whole therefore, it is pertinent to note Gen. Maxwell Taylor's above submission to protect those valuables, whether tangible or intangible, that comprise national security in the interest of the nation state.

It is expedient to state that, when the mass media are tasked with responsibilities within the context of national security, the implication is that there are expectations that they, for instance, must not only use their reportage to shore up the psychological dimension of this security, but they according to Fred Agwu must also not report anything that may compromise national intelligence and harm the national interest. But to him, this is quite a daunting responsibility on the part of the mass media

because such expectations severally task media practitioners in the area of balancing the so-called national security with the ethics of the journalism profession. But the point of emphasis is that, in a globalized world that has attained sophistication the fusion of television and satellites, culminating in a situation where the communications media have transcended national boundaries and now report events as they happen, everything is reported, leaving little or no room for censorship or secrecy in the guise of national security. We shall therefore interrogate the impact of the mass media in the age of globalization in the next segment.

Impact of Globalization on the Mass Media

Globalization is a complex phenomenon. This is sequel to the diverse scholarly contributions on the meaning of the phenomenon. There is no consensus as to whether it is a process leading to an end or an end in itself. Viewed from this perspective, it is rather a process that orchestrates the enormous dynamism that humanity has transformed in the march of civilization. Stated differently, socio-economic and political globalization began with the complex association of the Old and New Worlds, as it is called, became a momentous event in human history. The ceaseless migration of people, the worldwide movement of trade, the disorienting experiences of cross-cultural encounters as well as traversing the long and short movement of history, from the ancient, through the middle ages marked the true beginning of modern global history. Albrow and King therefore affirmatively postulated that globalization is a process through which the global population is bounded in a single society. They contend it is an economic process of integration which has social and cultural dimensions as well. This is that globalization is also an ongoing process by which regional economies, societies, and culture have become integrated or woven through a globe spanning network of communication and trade.

In fact the summary of the idea of globalization can be explained in the following expression as, $G = M + C + MN + ICT$ (where G = Globalization; M = Mercantilism; C = Capital; MN = Multinational Corporation; ICT =

Information Communication Technology). Globalization affects us all directly. Clarifying this point perhaps best expresses Kofi Annan with his famous statement that: "it is said that opposing globalization is like opposing the law of gravitation". And it has since come to stay, as we live in the global village of Marshall McLuhan, who in the 1960s, "proclaimed the advent of a global village", a sort of borderless world in which communications media would transcend the boundaries of nations. This is the globalized age of the fusion capable of transmitting messages via electromagnetic waves of television and satellites that marked a turning point in advancing the globalization of communications, the global village where time would cease, distance or space vanishes and humanity would live in a simultaneous happening.

Accordingly, this "instant and global information", which is technology-driven is uniquely defined by the swift transition from mechanical to electric technology culminating every human experience. This is the "electric age of information", in which, according to Marshall McLuhan, with instant electric technology, the world itself can never again be more than a global village. In this so-called global village, there begin a war of information exchange that superseded the traditional sense of war but the pen daily becomes mightier than the sword. Nonetheless, it was not until the 1960's, with the launch of the first geo-stationary communication satellites, John Thompson noted that communication by electromagnetic transmission became fully global, thus making the globalization of communication a distinctive phenomenon of the 20th century.

Technological advancement has not only shattered social boundaries of the world, it has brought tremendous transformation in all fields of life. This is made possible in the fields of science and technology that has shrunk the world to a global village. People all over the globe now live in close proximity. They share their joys and sorrows with distant people. It is the media that creates the experience of global shared time, especially by informing people around the globe about "events" or "happenings" that they share. Essentially therefore, communications give people an

opportunity to contact other people in distant locations whatever the time. Global communication system have thus changed the relationship between localities and social circumstances in the world.

It is because of globalization the world is fast shrinking. Ideological differences has also critically played out with the instrumentality of the mass media to export a worldwide single culture of the West on others. This is cultural imperialism as a result of globalization, which does not recognize the reality of cultural relativism. On the whole, globalization is an imperialist tool while the mass media are seen as the instruments for maintaining neo-liberalism and consumerism at a global scale by Time Warner, Disney/ABC, Sony/CBS, CNN, among others, driven by information capitalism.

The McLuhan vision of a global village in mass communication came to reality in 1991 when Ted Turner's Cable News Network (CNN), "the very definition of news was rewritten from something that has happened to something that is happening at the very moment you are hearing of it. This was well situated by the New York Times when it observed that, by dint of the "CNN Effect", history now unfolds in real time before the cameras, living no room for any form of cancellation of facts or details. With this global TV breakthrough, all previously held views that all politics is local, and opined on the contrary that politics can be universal, and that the citizenry can take a deep interest in events remote from in every way and can respond to the reportage in global rather than nationalistic terms.

Since the CNN, however, other social media like Facebook, Twitter, Google and the Internet, in general, have emerged to further influence the dynamics of events and connect people in different locations around the globe into instant witnesses of history at all time, irrespective of national interests. The current focus on globalization of technology (ICT) is the connection created by networks of social media. Social media is a brilliant tool that can be easily used by those who have access to it. As access is gained globally, it creates opportunities to those who use it to outsource ideas as well as implement change. For example, the "Arab Spring" as it is

called (a euphemism for the Arab Awakening or Revolution that began on December 17, 2010) demonstrated capacity of social media activism like never before.

The global communications networks have made “the world psychologically smaller” and has forced the concept of nationalism recede. The fact that media systems are transcending the barriers of the nation state has made it look as if the media globalization as necessarily contributing to erode the power of nation states to control and regulate the media within national boundaries. It is seen also to have changed the very nature of the previous strong relationship that existed between the media and the state. The state continues to matter because it can still play a role in shaping media policy and national television systems. In Nigeria for instance as elsewhere in the third world has had a tradition of regulating public service broadcasting in an attempt to use the media to enhance the public good and to provide education and culture to the citizenry. The increase in power of multinational media conglomerates has meant that the state has been undermined in its capacity to subordinate them to a regulatory regime.

And as Meyrowitz noted, “many of the things that define national sovereignty are fading. National sovereignty wasn’t based only on power and barbed wire; it was based also on information control. This is that nations are losing control over information borders...” More so, the “CNN Effect” and others created the opportunity the world had in watching the June 1989 Tiananmen square massacre in Beijing, China, even though it was helpless in stopping the flow of blood for example. Because of this interconnectivity, events that would have been otherwise concealed by national governments in the guise of national security were shared by the global media.

National Security in the Global Village

As aforementioned, doing national security in the era of modern globalization has remained contentiously precarious. It is crystal clear that the multinational media revolution of Cable TV networks are the tools

which spread around the world Western ideas of neo-liberalism and consumerism as the greatest impediment of the traditional conception of national security. While not underestimating the power of the media Kofi Annan recognized that, "... in spite or even because of all the globalizing forces ... the sovereign state remains a highly relevant and necessary institution; indeed, the very linchpin of human security". This is not to suggest that the nation state has been absolutely undermined, globalization challenges their ability to perform their traditional responsibility of providing security to the citizens in all aspects.

Perhaps the most significant development of the last two decades in international communication is the increasing concentration of the mass media, especially in the third world countries and many other societies, is it threat in many aspects of societal values like family structures and religious beliefs. These traditional belief systems are either customized to suit western life styles or outrightly destroying pre-existent cultures and national interest and or impose a high degree of cosmopolitanism and hybrid identities that are non-territorial in nature. Advances in satellite broadcasting has, therefore, fostered supra-territorial relations that not only threaten national culture but also that of national security.

The availability to use social media creates global connections coupled with the "CNN Effect" has created the globalization of television as well as the globalization of the globe, the awakening of a village consciousness, which portend the sense that human beings are all connected in a web regardless of locations and irrespective of national consciousness and security circumstances. But despite imperialism criticism, the intrusiveness and challenge that the globalized television network has imposed on national security was such that when the former US President W.H. Bush senior was reported to have stated that, he learned more from CNN than he did from the CIA, he was simply affirming that global communications have changed intelligence gathering and even penetrated and compromised the holy of holies, the sanctuaries that used to harbour some of the components of the so-called national security. Interestingly, however Fred Agwu

reportedly quoted the New York Times that, in the early 1990's, the US Secretary of State and Defence utilized information from CNN to find out current issues on diplomacy or combat. According to him, because its speed and accuracy in newsgathering outstripped the work of the National Military Intelligence Centre and that of the CIA.

This cutting edge of technology has largely compelled third world countries to be vulnerable as they are living in rapidly and constantly changing times, change is around them, about them, with them and without them. The vulnerability of the national security of these nations to global communications is more demonstratively eloquent in the 2011 presidential elections debacle in Cote d'Ivoire is one example. During the confrontation between the two factions of Laurent Gbagbo and Allassane Quattara over the disputed Presidential election the role of the AFP, a French-based international wireless service questionably or hastily reported the surrender of incumbent Gbagbo, apparently to promote France's national interest and undermine support for Laurent Gbagbo. It also tell the story of the multinational media as veritable instruments and tools for the propagation of France's neo-colonial politics and the perpetuation of that country's hegemony in the African continent as well as undermining the national security concerns of Cote d'Ivoire as a sovereign nation state.

Also, for the sake of its national security interest, the Nigerian local media downplayed the broadcast of horrid images of carnage and destruction that manifested in the outburst of protests that swept through northern Nigeria as a fallout of the April 16, 2011 Presidential election; but global media like the CNN and Aljazeera screen shot the conflagration on their news desks to the chagrin disappointment of the Nigerian government. So, as it were, prior the "CNN Effect", the horrifying images were the sort that the Nigerian authorities would have gagged in the name of protecting national security. Obviously, the government took exception and blamed the whole saga on the global media's reportage is another example.

Beside the above, there is also the tendency of Western news or media not giving considerably reasonable airtime space to advertise African issues

vis-à-vis the third world countries despite the “CNN Effect”, which the developing or third world countries accuse them of perpetrating latent racism. This indifference of the international media organizations depriving or starving Africa among other third world nations was vehemently criticized by the first African Secretary General of UN, Dr. Boutros – Boutros Ghali, particularly the “CNN Effect”, for practically side lining or consciously keeping African issues out of the headlines.

Nonetheless, the indifference of the Western media to third world countries national security challenges was a clear neglect that compounded the conflict ridden strands mostly occasioned by these economically backward nations on the world stage. The net implication is that there exists too numerous instances of bias coverage of Western media, culminating in the outbreak of many African and other third world conflicts around the globe, especially the civil wars in the Mano River Basin countries of Sierra Leone and Liberia, genocide in Rwanda or the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo etc. while enormous coverage was given to the war in the Balkans in the same period. This is a clear case of marginalization and a double standard of sort in the global information age by the media.

In the Zimbabwean crisis Marie-Soleil Frere corroboratively reported that, media agents that were gathering news for international media organizations bitterly learned that “the story for Western media was the plight of the 4,000 dispossessed white farmers”, while they, as African journalists, “might have sought to highlight the plight of the hundreds of thousands of displaced farm workers as well”. The implication of this is that the Western media are Eurocentric or westernize because they tend to reflect the priorities of the West as the Western ideas that dictate the global media agenda or standard, and forges and relays the policies of the West on the rest of the globe.

The consequence as experts opines that there is a slide from mass society as defined by the “CNN Effect” to segmented society because the Western media focus more on diversified, specialized information and hence audience become increasingly segmented by ideologies, tastes and

lifestyles. Thus it is evident that mass media plays very vital role to transform the whole world in to a global family but chose to trivialize Africa and other third worlds' fundamental issues of socio-economic, psychological and political security with contempt. Perhaps for the latent racist ideological guises, a large part of the information on Africa and many third world countries is left in the hands of NGOs that specialize in the study and analysis of conflicts (like the Human Rights Watch and the International Crisis Group). The point to emphasize is that NGOs reports and news does not have universal reportage as the CNN. The truth is that CNN and other cross border TV networks best embodies the instant, global dissemination of Africa and other developing nations' information in the digital age.

National Security and the Internet

The internet wields the world into an articulated digitalization characterized by virtual connectivity and visibility, which is the domain of Facebook, Google, YouTube and Twitter. This domain has presented the globe with a platform of limitless opportunities for progress and criminal activities as well. The irony of this progress is that is both indispensable and dangerous. It is for this irony as Sambo Dasuki, former Nigerian National Security Adviser noted that:

The emergence of cyberspace, a virtual global domain, is increasingly impacting almost every aspect of our lives. The domain is transforming our economy and security posture more than ever before, creating opportunities for innovations and means to improve general welfare of citizens. It is transforming many countries' growth, dismantling barriers to commerce, and allowing people across the globe to communicate, collaborate and exchange

ideas. However, behind this increasing dependence on cyberspace lies new risks that threaten the national economy and security.

It can be seen that, the cyberspace or internet has been a critical hotbed of criminality in the world. It has been increasingly exploited by criminals to plan and execute various forms of criminality. The activities of cybercriminals on the internet poses far-reaching implications for nations' national security. And as Nnamani noted "cyber-terrorist, spies, hackers and fraudsters are increasingly motivated to target ... due to the increasing value of information held within it and the perceived lower risk of detection and capture in conducting cybercrime ..." The implication is that, the internet, aided by technology-induced anonymity, has tremendously influenced cybercrime and so, national security.

The misapplication of the internet as means or agent of venting cybercrimes such as espionage, sabotage, terrorism financing and recruiting, human trafficking and so on is well established. This is in addition to the issue of the vulnerability of nation's cyberspace to different dimensions of cybercrime has added a new twist to the third world countries' national security conundrum. Hence as the internet breaks barriers daily, the inevitable outcome is that nations' especially third world countries will be increasingly exposed to national security issues deem inimical to their corporate existence. Available data indicate that Nigeria's (a third world country) cyber vulnerability status has been disturbing. For instance, in 2015, Nigeria suffered an estimated number of 2, 175 cyber-attacks, among which 585 were targeted on government websites. And, again, in 2016, she lost the sum of 550million to cybercrime. This account made Nigeria, by far, one of the worst hit country in terms of cost of cyber-crime as elsewhere in third world countries.

So, the arrival of the internet has not only questioned the orthodox or traditional understanding of territoriality; it has, in fact, eroded it by bringing about spheres of "ungoverned spaces" in its advantage. It is within

the “ungoverned spaces” that cybercrimes breeds and culminates into threats of national security. During the dot-com boom of the 1990s, therefore, many enthusiasts like Walter Wriston argued that the world was experiencing a “twilight of sovereignty”, in which the political powers traditionally exercised by states were being undermined by new information technologies that making borders impossible to police and rules difficult to enforce. With the rise of the internet as John Perry Barlow issue a “Declaration of Independence of Cyberspace”, where governments of the industrialized world were told, “you are not welcome among us. You have no sovereignty where we gather” is an overwhelmingly clear evidence of threat to the nation state.

But more importantly, the internet is the abode of cyber-vents like Wikileaks. The emergence of Wikileaks, a non-profit mass media organization that offers means of anonymously exposing confidential or highly classified documents, has become one of the greatest threats to national security in this age of globalization. In this clime, however, some of Wikileaks’ revelations borders on the notoriety perpetrated by the US Army Counter-Intelligence Centre, especially in 2007 and 2008 in Iraq and Afghanistan. Its other revelation include a copy of the US “standard operating procedures” at the Guantanamo Bay detention centre that revealed the use of “extreme psychological stress” on detainees. Interestingly however, the other publication was the massive leak of the state department diplomatic cables that got its publisher, Julian Assange, into a collision course with the US. According to him, the philosophy behind the leaks is that organizations, particularly military and intelligence organizations that are abusive under the pretences of national security be ridicule in the public arena to enable them to either reform or shutdown.

Cybercrime is a form of transnational crime that is perpetrated across national jurisdictions by mainly non-state actors. These non-state actors that now include the Wikileaks among other perpetrators of cybercrimes operate through a highly digitalized network of computer services that are dispersed in several localities, that is so sophisticated that if its servers are

subjected to any form of cyber warfare or attacks, it can route its traffic through some unrelated commercial servers and, thus, successfully evade shutdown. This is that cyber criminality involves a diffuse collection of standards, technologies and actors and dramatically different across layers, geographies and services. In addition, crime committed via many internet servers can appear simultaneously in all jurisdictions around the globe. In other words, information wired on this platform can easily flow across national borders without detection can pose grievous challenge to national security.

Given the complex and sophisticated level of digitalize networking enabled the likes of Wikileaks to survive the numerous attacks pervaded on it by US in publishing its state department diplomatic cables of classified information. Wikileaks is not alone in this use of the internet for cyber venting of classified documents either by way of mass media application or pure cyber warfare. States like Russia and China, for instance, also routinely engage in this dastardly act, especially cyber warfare and other attacks with impunity.

A great deal of Russia's contemporary history shows that she have consistently mounted successful cyber-attacks on the sovereign states of Estonia in 2007 and Georgia in 2008. While China is reputed to have seriously engaged in cyber warfare, and launched an active cyber espionage and sabotage programme that has severally targeted the US government and its industrial computer networks and apparently successfully hacked into the Pentagon email system in 2007. With these highly digitalized computer networks developed and owned by states as well as non-state entities like Wikileaks, it becomes increasingly difficult to guide against intrusions into the holy of holies or secrets and security of any state, no matter its level of technological development in this internet age. The internet is a computer based global information system composed of many interconnected networks makes an independent publisher anywhere in the globe to make state secrets vulnerable.

The emergency of this systemic digitalization as Jed Babbin has observed, this is much worse for developing or third world countries, unlike the developed world, they have not develop the necessary capability for combating cyber-attacks such as: a cyber-command with enormous defensive capabilities to employ; do not possess or have an army of resourceful computer scientists to deploy for counter offensives; and do not have very strong and proactive intelligence networks to rely. Arguably therefore, no matter what happens, the so-called national security will never be the same with the globalization of the mass media. As Germaine Greer put it, "regardless of what happens ... the construction of stateless, secure and indestructible internet drop boxes cannot be undone. He further stressed that, secrets will never be safe again". And whereas traditionally, Chinua Achebe remarkably admonished, the mark of a great power was its ability to win in a war, in an information age success depends not just on whose army wins but also on whose story wins.

Conclusion

In the light of the foregoing, the paper has strongly argued the place of national security in this era of modern globalization remained contentious. The central point perhaps is that some general direction can be made to suggest that the implication of globalization's use of the instrument of the mass media has hitherto set neo-liberalism and consumerism on the rampage is the endangerment of the traditional conception of national security. But the paper, however, maintained that, the state remains a highly relevant and necessary institution; indeed, the very linchpin of human security. The point to be made here is that, although the nation state has been absolutely undermined, globalization challenges their ability to perform their historic function of providing security to their citizens in all three of its aspects namely; physical security, economic security, and psychological security.

This is that the Marshall McLuhan, who, in the 1960s, proclaimed the advent of a "global village", a sort of borderless world in which

communications media world transcend the boundaries of nations. It is therefore the argument that with the fusion of television and satellites as envisioned, the global village where time would cease, space vanishes and humanity would live in a simultaneous happening (in camera) everything is practically laid bare, leaving little or no room for censorship or secrecy in the guise of national security for the sake of objectivity as the so-called “CNN Effect” amply demonstrated globally. This is the age dominated by information capitalism. It is also an era where previously local politics can be planetary, and that people can take a deep interest in events remote from them in every way and can respond to the reportage in global rather than nationalistic concerns. Thus the liberal-left slogan “think globally, act locally” has proven to have considerable appeal for the third world who seek to challenge the global system more fundamentally.

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