Reflective Writing Assignment

Introduction

Throughout the course I have learned many intriguing topics. All these topics have interesting points of view, and positions that cover a wide range of ethical concepts. Though all the topics had guided my viewpoint, there were three that had a deeper impact. These include:

1. Mariaarosaria Taddeo "An Analysis for a Just Cyber Warfare".

2. Vandekerckhove, W: Commers, M.S.R "Whistle Blowing and Rational Loyalty".

3. Zimmer, M "But the data is already public".
   These topics have a closer relevance to my career interest in red teaming and offensive cyber operations.

First Topic

The first topic is Mariaarosaria Taddeo "An Analysis for Just Warfare". Taddeo makes an agreement that Just War Theory can be applied to cyberwarfare. One concept she emphasis is the principle of discrimination. In traditional warfare, it is easier to distinguish between who are combatants and non-combatants. In, cyberwarfare that principle is more difficult to apply. Cyberwarfare can affect any individual indiscriminately. According to Taddeo, if cyberwarfare were too justifiable is needs to a follow an ethical guideline to not target civilians and nonmilitary infrastructure.

Since I have an interest in red teaming/offensive cyber operations, this principle changed my viewpoint to take a more ethical approach in terms of my career in cyber operations. Meaning, if I was in position where I was tasked to launch cyber-attacks on another country, I

first need to critical analysis of what affects this attack can cause on civilians, if there are any. Also, I need to consider if the cyberattack is necessary, and if there could be alternatives.

The key-take away is if I am in a position where I am red teaming or in cyber operations, I need to consider the nature of the cyber-attack that I could conduct. Also, when launching a cyber-attack, I must keep in mind to be cautious to not harm any civilians during that process.

Second Topic

The second topic is Vandekerckhove, W: Commers, M.S.R "Whistle Blowing and Rational Loyalty". One of the main concepts from Vandekrckhove is rational loyalty. The idea is that rational loyalty empathizes with the balance between an individual's loyalty to their organization or agency, and their moral duty to report wrongdoings/whistleblowing.

This topic has deepened my position in when it is appropriate to expose wrongdoings, even though I should display loyalty to whatever agency I could be working at. It is a concept I am still struggling with, because by nature red teaming/cyber operations conduct secretive tasks. Even if there were tasks that could be considered controversial, it doesn't mean I should expose that information to the public. There could be a potential that if I were to whistle blow such information could lead to more harm than good.

The key-take away is that if I was in a position in my potential career in red teaming/cyber operations I would need to be wise in my decision making. Perhaps in those moments where I know that there are wrongdoings being conducted, I should have courage to exposure them. However, I need to be wise in those moments and understanding when to be loyal or exposure wrongdoings. Though one of Vandekerckhove's arguments is that whistleblowing is being loyal to an agency, that argument could be made.

Third Topic

The third topic is Zimmer, M "But the data is already public". One of Zimmer's concepts is called dataveillance. It is the practice of continuous monitoring and collection of personal data from individuals. One key aspect Zimmer mentions about dataveillance is the risk of privacy. Since it involves continuous monitoring of consumer information, it does expose their private lives. This can cause consumers to have less control over their private information and raise legal issues.

Considering the nature of red teaming and cyber operations it will probably involve some sort of monitoring for people to stimulate cyber attacks or take down other hackers. Zimmer's concept has switched my previous position from not considering other people's privacy to considering other people's privacy. If I were in a position in cyber operations, I would need to consider not abuse dataveillance, respect other people's privacy, and set boundaries.

The key take away is in terms of dataveillance, I would need to respect people right of privacy, if ever enter the field of red teaming or cyber operations. Also, I would set boundaries to what is considered over-reaching. Though defining what is considered over-reaching is difficult, and I need to further research this.

Conclusion

Overall, this course has introduced a variety of ethical topics that offer different insights. I have gained much knowledge and use it to my journey into the career I want to pursue. Perhaps in the future I will use the knowledge I gained to help and teach others in the same career.