

## B. State Security

While the national security collective image may not dominate the world political landscape, one that is gaining significantly more exposure is characterized by a traditional concern with threats to the power and authority of the state apparatus. Particularly in the United States, though having echoes that reach across the world, concerns have been raised about the potential use of the Internet for strategic-military purposes. These concerns are embedded in a highly elaborate debate within military-intelligence circles -- again, based primarily in the United States -- about the changing nature of warfare, although the latter issue has far greater scope in terms of topics covered.<sup>32</sup> A second major related concern is the loss of state power and authority because of the unique properties of the Internet, particularly the widespread use of encryption technologies. While this collective image thus has several inter-related dimensions, each perceives the object of security to be the state, defined broadly to include the government and the total territorial space, infrastructure, resources, and people under its control.

The first dimension of this collective image sees the Internet as a potentially new medium of warfare in which states are actively planning to operate. Several studies, primarily within the United States security community, have suggested states are actively

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<sup>31</sup> See Joshua Gordon, "East Asian Censors Want to Net the Internet," Christian Science Monitor, (November 12, 1996).

<sup>32</sup> For sample discussions, see John Arquilla and David Ronfeldt, "Cyberwar is Coming!," Comparative Strategy, (Vol. 12, 1993), pp. 141-165; and "The Future of Warfare," The Economist, (March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1997).