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What’s going on with you lately? You’ve been on edge a lot and it’s affecting your game.

I know it’s silly, but this troll on Commlord has gotten under my skin.

Here we go with the politics again. That’s all just a distraction. Focus on what’s important: Wondre.

Troll? What kind of troll? Is he trashin’ our team?

No, it’s political.

That leftist rally and then people don’t have the facts? That’s dangerous.

This means a lot to you, I know but—

Check this out. I dug into his profile and it’s connected to some sort account in Korea. Do you realize what this means?

Perhaps you have too much time on your hands?

Shouldn’t you be practicing, instead of messing around on Commlord?

This guy is clearly a troll. I don’t know why I bothered to reply.

You will never get it. Politics is important to me—

Oh man. This is really going to send the media into a frenzy. While our hero sorts the right times by talking about these “synthetic videos.” The real issue is that they are so focused on the “Lab’s dividend.”

Rachel, I don’t think I am in the mood for a lecture right now—

Sigh...
Cheerin' around
like no one knows
than you've got
criminal...

Bad guy
Billie Elish

Woof!

Hi Chewie...
That's a
good boy...Miss me?
Oh... time to get Mr. Chairman on the line...

Could I get a 3D win appointment with the chairman, right now?

It’s a bit short notice, but I am sure he could squeeze you in, considering you’re his favorite niece!

Thank you. I wanted to set your minds at ease. The videos you’re seeing on these deepfake sites are showing up on porn sites and finding their way to other social media sites. It’s not with a troll. These videos are trying to be real. They’re getting worse!

On the other hand, the tech behind these altered videos is getting more advanced, and the hardware cheaper. Deepfakes used to be the preserve of a few. Today, you can rent a high-speed computer for NIXON’s alternative moon landing video. It’s an instant classic...

Nowadays, thanks to the low cost of GPUs, just about anyone has the processing power to make deepfakes. Just as we call them low-end GPUs, cheap fakes!

Yeah, but...

This is scary, especially in an election year! All this is being done to undermine our democracy. This has Moscow written all over it!

Guys, this is the x86 CPU used to describe enhanced processing units. They are specialized electronic circuits designed to improve performance on a specific task. They are often used to enhance the performance of computers, workstations, and game consoles, as well as other devices that need to deal with large amounts of data.

Andrew Wilson calling...

Maybe it’s time we dug deeper. I can tell you a little more about deepfake technology. Before I have to go.
A BRIEF HISTORY OF DEEPFAKES.

THE TERM "DEEPFAKE," A COMBINATION OF "DEEP LEARNING" AND "FAKE," IS USED TO DESCRIBE SYNTHETIC VIDEO OR AUDIO CONTENT, WHICH IS OFTEN CREATED WITH MALICIOUS INTENT TO SPREAD MISAND/OR DISINFORMATION. THE TERM WAS FIRST USED BY AReddit USER IN 2017.

THE FIRST DEEPFAKES THAT GAINED NOTORIETY WERE MOSTLY FOCUSED ON NON-CONSENSUAL PORNOGRAPHY, Creating SYNTHETIC MEDIA, OFTEN USING CELEBRITIES AS SUBJECTS, TO GARNER WIDESPREAD SHARING. IN MANY CASES, THE SYNTHETIC MEDIA HAS BEEN USED AS A WAY TO SHAME, HUMILATE, AND MANIPULATE VICTIMS AROUND THE WORLD. TECHNIQUES HAVE RANGED FROM FACE-SWAPPING TECHNOLOGY TO MUCH MORE COMPLEX APPLICATIONS.

THE TECHNOLOGY IS REPORTED TO HAVE EMERGED INITIALLY FROM ACADEMIC RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - BERKELEY AND WAS DEFINED BY COMPUTER VISION EXPERTS IN SILICON VALLEY. THE MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS ARE ATTRIBUTED TO A PAPER PUBLISHED BY A TEAM AT BERKELEY TITLED "VIDEO RE-WRITE: DRIVING VISUAL SPEECH WITH AUDIO." IN THIS PAPER, THE TEAM FOCUSED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SYNCING LIP MOVEMENTS AND SPEECH AT A TIME WHEN APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE SPACE OF MACHINE LEARNING WAS LARGELY THEORETICAL.

DEEPFAKES HAVE COME BY WAY OF NOT ONLY VIDEO BUT AUDIO TOO. THE ABILITY TO USE READILY AVAILABLE AND AFFORDABLE SOFTWARE TO CREATE FAKE SOUND OF VIDEO HAS BECOME AVAILABLE TO THE Masses AS THE COST OF GRAPHICAL PROCESSING UNITS HAS FALLEN AND THE NECESSARY PROCESSING POWER TO MAKE A DEEPFAKE, WHICH WAS ONCE OUT OF REACH, HAS BECOME MORE ACCESSIBLE.

ACADEMICS HAVE ALSO BEEN HARD AT WORK SHOWCASING THE EXTENT TO WHICH DEEPFAKES CAN BE USED TO INFLUENCE MAINSTREAM MEDIA. MIT PRODUCED A VIDEO OF PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON WHERE THEY PLAYED OUT AN ALTERNATIVE MOON LANDING STORY. THAT DEEPFAKE WAS USING A PRESIDENT OF YESTERDAY... FAST FORWARD TO AN ELECTION YEAR AND IMAGINE HOW VIDEO ALTERATION SOFTWARE CAN MANUFACTURE VIDEOS OF A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WITH DEVASTATING IMPACTS ON THE CONFIDENCE OF VOTERS IN THE INFORMATION THEY INGEST.

- Good evening. - my fellow Americans.
In March 2019, the CEO of a UK-based energy firm was asked over a call, by someone he then thought to be the head of his German parent company, to transfer 20,000 euros to a Hungarian supplier.

According to the company’s insurance company, fraudsters had leveraged deepfake technology and artificial intelligence to construct a life-like recording of the German group head’s voice. The money was syphoned off to Mexico and channeled to other accounts.

The financial, political, and social threat posed by deepfakes (and today cheap fakes), is a very real risk about which society at large needs to develop awareness and resilience.

News reports later detailed that the CEO had been convinced that it was the head of the parent company on the basis of a German accent and his recollection of his boss’ voice and made the transfer all within an hour’s time. Reportedly, the same source tried to request additional funds to be transferred but by then the UK CEO had grown suspicious and did not authorize any additional transfers.

The men who went to the moon to explore in peace
One technique for the creation of a DeepFake video involves swapping a person’s face and replacing it with another, using a facial recognition algorithm and a deep learning computer network called a Variational Auto-Encoder (VAE).

VAEs are trained to encode images into simpler low-dimensional representations (think of zooming into a picture to see the pixel) and then decoding those representations back into images. For instance, if you wanted to transform a video of anyone speaking, you would need two auto-encoders, one trained on images of the subject’s face, and one trained on images of a wide range or diversity of faces.

The images of faces used for both training sets can be curated by applying an algorithm for facial recognition. This algorithm is able to capture video frames for a diversity of faces in various naturally occurring poses and lighting conditions.

Training the machine is why the term machine learning is used to describe this particular application of artificial intelligence. Once the machine has learned or is ‘trained,’ it is then possible to combine the encoder trained on the diverse faces with the decoder trained on the subject’s face. This results in the subject’s face being able to be placed on someone else’s body.

will stay on the moon to rest in peace
HOLLYWOOD HAS LEVERAGED DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY WITH GREAT SUCCESS, SUCH AS "GEMINI MAN" WHERE A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET PRODUCES A YOUNGER VERSION OF WILL SMITH THAT BATTLES WITH HIS CONTEMPORARY SELF. SIMILAR DE-AGING EFFECTS CAN BE SEEN IN "THE IRISHMAN" PRODUCED BY NETFLIX IN 2019.

While these productions spare no expense at big budget deepfake work, one does not have to search too long on YouTube to find plenty of examples of cheap fakes. One of the most prominent examples uses Will Smith’s face superimposed on Keanu Reeves’ face in a scene from "THE MATRIX." This was created by a YOUTuber using a free software.

Disney released a significant paper in 2020 which details a new algorithm that is able to achieve significantly better quality synthetic video outputs for high-resolution videos. With the dawn of higher resolution television sets, this will become even more important as the minutiae of faces is more visible and low fidelity alterations may not provide for as compelling of an entertainment experience.

This is exciting technology for Hollywood because it allows for possibilities like recreating historical videos such as President Kennedy speaking during the Cuban missile crisis but using an alternative script. Many studio executives see the technology and its use becoming more pervasive in the coming years.
Another example where the technology has found a home, once again in the entertainment industry, is in gaming.

The growing inventory of artificial or synthetically generated voices can be purchased by gaming studios that are looking to offer a level of realism in their gameplay that previously could have only been offered by real voice actors.

Game studios are creating “voice-skins” for use in online games and social platforms. The gaming industry is larger than the world of movies and books combined and therefore the commercial potential here is likely to continue to gather interest.
While the number of deepfake and cheap fake videos continues to explode on the internet, a new set of organizations have emerged to identify, track, and report on these threat vectors.

Deep Fake Numbers

It's important for the voting public to be particularly vigilant about the content they see on the internet, and to seek out trusted sources. The constant churn of user-generated content mixed with planted cheap fakes is a particular area of concern for democracies around the world that grapple with the potential influence this type of media could have if voters are faced with election-related disinformation.

While many in the media are doing great work to uncloak and report on disinformation and even identify specific deepfakes, all of this talk about disinformation also feeds what is referred to as the 'liars dividend.' The public becomes increasingly hyperaware of the issue around the origin of content that they may even start to doubt the veracity of legitimate videos and media on the internet.

Some of these companies employ large teams that are scanning social platforms around the world and identifying the emergence of such media, recognizing that synthetic content has the potential to impact economies and people around the world.
A FEW MONTHS EARLIER, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

LENGRADSKAYA STATION

Комендантский проспект
Komendantskiy prospekt

Комендатура проспект
Komendantskaya prospekt
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE. CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK? WATER?

WE ARE VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR RESUME.

I AM GOOD FOR NOW. THANK YOU.

REALLY APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW HERE.

SO TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH CONTENT CREATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

VERY NICE. TELL ME, COULD YOU WRITE SOMETHING RIGHT NOW FOR ME IN AMERICAN ENGLISH?

I COULD YES.

WELL, I DID SOME WORK AROUND THE SCLERAL VIXUS IN AFRICA LAST YEAR THROUGH SOME FREELANCING PLATFORMS.

GOOD. I WANT YOU TO WRITE A PIECE ON “CORRUPTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS” IN THE UNITED STATES. I WANT YOU TO THINK “SENIORS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS.”

YES, BUT WHY WOULD THAT NEED A CAMPAIGN FROM THE U.S.?

IT’S A FOCUS RIGHT NOW IN THE STATES. WE HAVE AN INTEREST IN OUTLINES INJUSTICE. JUST LET ME SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO.
This is your station. Make sure you show me how many posts and what engagement you get daily in a status report.

Half an hour later, after a debrief with a new manager...

Isaac here. Will show you how to use the reporting system. Our founders like to see daily results.

Showtime! Let’s talk about today’s progress with the boss! We’re really starting to fill up the seats down there.

You are late on the engagement numbers from yesterday’s posts. What happened?
A FEW HOURS LATER AT AN IMPORTANT INVESTOR MEETING

I JUST WANT TO APOLOGIZE ON BEHALF OF THE NUMEWZ FOUNDERS. THEY ARE BOTH CURRENTLY INDEPENDED.

AS THE CFO, I WILL BE LEADING THIS DISCUSSION TOGETHER WITH MY COLLEAGUE, MR. BADU.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT NUMBER. I HAVE INVESTED IN SIMILAR COMPANIES IN ASIA AND EUROPE, BUT THEY HAD BEEN UP AND RUNNING FOR FIVE OR SIX MONTHS THAN THREE MONTHS.

THE FIGURES ARE FOR YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE TURNING OVER TENS OF THOUSANDS IN PROFITS EVERY MONTH. IT'S A SURE THING.

ADMITTEDLY, YOUR RETURNS ARE EXTRAORDINARY FOR A STARTUP UNDER 6 MONTHS AND THIS WOULD GIVE US A FOOTING HERE IN AFRICA, WHICH IS SO FULL OF OPPORTUNITY FOR US. OKAY, LET'S MOVE AHEAD.

RIGHT THIS WAY, MR. BADU, AND WE WILL START THE PAPERWORK FOR YOUR INVESTMENT.

THE FOUNDERS WILL BE REALLY HAPPY WITH THIS OUTCOME.

AND HE SAID THAT HE HAD OTHER FRIENDS WHO MAY ALSO WANT TO INVEST.

AND I'M JUST GLAD WE DIDN'T DIG TOO DEEP INTO THE ACTUAL WORK WE DO.
TWO TACOS PLEASE!

IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE AUSTIN DURING SOUTH BAY!

SO GREAT THAT WE HAVE THE FOOD TRUCK SCENE HERE!

WELL.. I WOULDN'T DO THAT FAST!

SO HOW ARE YOUR NUMBERS THIS WEEK?

THINK I NEED TO BOOST MY POSTS MORE... NOT QUITE HITTING THE BIG TIME YET. COMPAED TO SOME OF THE OTHERS WHO HAVE A MILLION LIKES. How DO THEY DO THAT?

DON'T WORRY IT'S ABOUT A/B TESTING THE COPY AND THE CREATIVE ASSETS USED IN THE AD AS IN KOWARDE WHAT WORKS BETTER. IMAGE A OR B, OR AGAIN COPY A OR B, HAPPY TO SHARE SOME OF MY TOP TIPS. I STILL TOP THE LEADERBOARD WITH MY ANTI-VAX VACCINE POST WITH TWO MILLION ENGAGEMENTS!

GETTING THE FEELING I SHOULDN'T HAVE STAYED IN THE WORLD OF BIG AGENCIES!

*PING*
US Senator caught red-handed on a “Video” taking bribes to push for a planning permit for a foreign group

Can’t believe these people! Why would anyone sell their integrity for a few dollars?

Do your homework! Check your sources. Remember to use accounts that show diverse people with followers and history. These are all ready for you.

Who did you say we get the videos from?

Find the username and passwords in the encrypted emails sent to you and DO NOT share it with anyone. Remember, we are tasked with making sure that the truth is out there!

Rachel
This Single0 guy is really getting on my nerves!

Andre
I’m seriously worried about how real it looks and the potential for this to go viral.

Rachel
I can’t believe that no one else is calling these bogus videos out!

Andre
All bogus! None of that is true...

Rachel
I’m going to report this to the social media platform!

Andre
Let’s hope they take the videos down.

Money will be in your account by next week. The bank must be holding it. Go speak and report back. I don’t want any unnecessary attention.

The video file of the senator taking the double bag of money is on the shared drive. Also, I have a special incentive for you all today! Person with the most retweets or likes today gets a beer on me!
Andre Jackson

 Occupation: Analyst
 Location: Los Angeles
 Education: NICT

Yeah, definitely the same Andre as on Controversy. It's amazing, and scary, how much information I can get from this site. No wonder cyberbullying is such a problem. People need to be more careful about how much they put out there...

Hey, remember everything from my profile? I love dogs, have a Cockapoo, your?

So, Andre. It turns out we have more in common than we thought. Seems we each have a passion for democracy, voter rights, sci-fi, and K-9 companions!

You're aware of everything from my profile, right? I love dogs, have a Cockapoo, your?

There is no cheeze in Star Trek.

Okay, we're not going to argue there on the greatest space sci-fi. Democracy is my real passion. I mean, the democratic process is the only thing holding us together in this country and when it is compromised that's when we start to lose our liberties.

Not "cheeze", "cheese", "cheeze!"

Hey, I get it, but let's try to keep it a little more low key.

I mean, all of this is hanging on by a thread, so few people actually realize what is at stake and how many entities want to see it destroyed.

Could we just take it down a notch?

I don't mean to get carried away there...

What do you mean?

Sorry...
WHAT GROUP IS THAT?

I AM PART OF A GROUP THAT WANTS TO PUSH BACK AGAINST THE DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGNS TARGETING OUR COUNTRY. WE COULD REALLY USE SOMEONE WITH YOUR KNOWLEDGE, CONNECTIONS, AND ATTITUDE.

WHAT DO YOU NEED ME TO DO?

WOW! MAN, THAT'S A LOT TO DIGEST.

I WILL NEED SOME TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT...

WON'T STOP TALKING.

YOU CAN HELP US WITH YOUR VAST KNOWLEDGE OF POLITICS AND HELP US MAKE SENSE OF POSSIBLE WACKETS OF THE DISINFORMATION. WE NEED PEOPLE THAT UNDERSTAND THE SYSTEM SO THAT WE CAN PROTECT IT.

SERIOUSLY, WHAT IS THIS? AIDAN, ARE YOU TRYING TO PUNK ME? THIS HAS TO BE A JOKE! THIS IS NUTS!

ALSO, YOUR OLD FRIEND ASHAN PATIL FROM NCCT IS ALREADY A MEMBER. WE COULDN'T STOP TALKING ABOUT YOU. WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, BUT I AM NOT LOOKING FOR ANY MONEY FROM YOU. WE WANT SIGNIFICANT RACISM!

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO?

THIS IS REAL ANDRE. YOU KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE. EITHER YOU ARE A PART OF THIS AND HELP US OR STAND BY AND WATCH OUR DEMOCRACY GET TAKEN PIECE BY PIECE.

IF I CAN'T HELP, MAYBE I CAN LISTEN.

YOU ARE LISTENING PERFECTLY.

NO, WE ARE JUST CITIZENS. THIS IS A GROUP OF CITIZENS DEFENDING THE TRUTH AND DEMOCRACY ONLINE. IT ISN'T EASY TO TELL YOU ALREADY, WE ARE IN NO WAY SHAPED OR FORMED TO ANY GOVERNMENT ANYWHERE.

WHY ME?

I AM NOT LOOKING FOR ANY MONEY FROM YOU. WE WANT SIGNIFICANT RACISM!

AREN'T YOU A JOURNALIST?

I AM.
HALF AN HOUR LATER...

ALRIGHT, I'M IN! THIS BETTER BE LEGIT, JUDE.

DO YOU HAVE A VALID PASSPORT?

TOTAIRY WHAT'S THE PLAN?

WE ARE GOING ON A LITTLE TRIP.

WHERE ARE WE HEADED, CANADA?

HALF NICE ONE!

JUST A LITTLE FURTHER THAN THAT.

I HOPE YOU LIKE KARTOFFELSPIEGEL?

FOOD ACTUALLY POTATO PANCAKES TO BE PRECISE, BUT GOOD GUESS IT'S A SPECIALITY IN EUROPE.

HIGH, IS THAT SOME KIND OF EUROPEAN DANCE?

MEET ME AT VAN NUYS AIRPORT IN FOUR HOURS. WE NEED TO MAKE TRACKS AGAIN TOWARD FOR A FEW DAYS. LET'S GO SO GIO!

SEE YOU GUYS THERE. I'LL BE ON THE 3 PM FLIGHT OUT OF LOGAN. I HEAR YOU GUYS WILL BE USING THE GULFSTREAM FROM LA!
WHAT? THIS IS A BIT MUCH! WHY DO WE NEED TO GO THERE?

HELL, WE HAVE A DATE WITH SOME GOVERNMENT CONTACTS THERE.

LOOK, IF WE ARE DOING THIS, I NEED TO BE IN THE LOOP ON EVERYTHING THAT WE ARE DOING. I CAN'T KEEP AVOIDING ALL THESE SURPRISES.

THAT'S FAIR...

THERE'S A LOT TO COVER. I'LL FILL YOU IN OVER THE COURSE OF OUR FLIGHT.

WE ALSO STRANDED IN AND READY TO GO.

I AM NOT A GOOD FLYER. DID I BEG TO MENTION THAT? ROUX SEEMS TO HELP.

YOU OKAY?

YES! GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU ARE AS SHARP AS EVER DESPITE THE FLIGHT ICKINESS! BUT A BASS RAP REX?

THE IDEA IS TO GET IN AND UNDERSTAND IF THE TEAMS THERE KNOW WHAT THEY ARE ACTUALLY DOING AND GET A FEEL FOR WHO THEY ARE COMMUNICATING WITH.

OH SPEAKING OF THE DEEPWATER, NO, ZERO... ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE IS THAT TROLL.

WE SUSPECT THE PLACE IS BEING RUN OUT OF MOSCOW, AND YOU REMEMBER THAT TROLL YOU WERE SO UPSET ABOUT? THE ONE WHO POSTED THE DEEPWATER? NO, ZERO...

I THOUGHT THAT GUY WAS FROM NORTH KOREA!

FIRST, IT MAY NOT BE A GUY. TAKE A LOOK AT ME FOR INSTANCE. PLenty of US ARE FEMALE NAKEDLY! SECOND, IT'S NEVER AS SIMPLE AS WEIRDING OUT. WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET IN THIS SPACE.
ALMOST CERTAINLY.
BUT THEY ARE USING A NETWORK OF LOCAL PAIRS ALONG WITH MORE
SOPHISTICATED DECEITFUL TECH THAN I
HAVE EVER SEEN BEFORE. OUR FIRST STOP
IS COURTESY OF AN OLD CONTACT: A
MOSCOW TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY.

FAIR ENOUGH. DO
YOU SENSE THAT IT'S OUR FRIENDS IN
MOSCOW?

DID YOU KNOW
THE GUY WHO CAME UP WITH
THE PERIODIC TABLE OF
ELEMENTS WENT TO SCHOOL
THERE?

SO WHAT'S
THE DEAL WITH WHERE
WE ARE GOING?

IT'S A MOVE IN
THE NETWORK, JUST ONE
THAT PAIR ANONYMOUSLY THE SAMP.
WE KNOW THAT THE POSTS ARE BEING
SEEN FROM THERE BUT I NEED
THE LINK TO MOSCOW.
UNFORTUNATELY, THEY HAVE GONE
OFF-DRIED ON COMMUNICATING
WITH THEIR MANAGERS.

SO YOU WANT
TO GO... WHERE?

ALAN TURNER IS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE
GREATEST CODEBREAKERS TO HAVE EVER LIVED. HE
HELD AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN CRACKING THE CODE NAZIS USED DURING WW2.

NOT QUITE. THIS MAY BE
A LOT MORE Bizarre THAn TRYING
TO PLAY TURNER. I HAVE A FEELING THAT
I NEED TO GET MY HANDS ON A MANAGER'S
PHONE TO SEE WHY THEY ARE CALLING. IT'S
LIKELY TO BE A BUSINESS, AND THE REASON WHY
WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TRACK IT AS OF YET.
ADEN WILL PRETEND TO BE A COMPETING
INVESTOR WHILE WE ARE THERE AND
CONTACT THEM WHILE I DO
WHAT IS NEEDED.

WOAAAH! STEADY THERE!
(CRAUGHT ?)

PRIVATE AIRFIELD OUTSIDE EUROPEAN CITY CENTER

ACTLY THINGS TIPPED ME OFF ON
SOME CHATTER ABOUT THE PLANS WE USE
ABOUT TO VINT.

46

47
I LIKE WHAT I HEARD...

IMPRESSION, indeed, what do you think?

...so based upon our profitability in the last two quarters, you can see that the opportunities for investment are quite lucrative.

You are fortunate to be among the first who are considering it.

EXCUSE ME, I have to attend to this as it’s another potential investor.

Well, that about does it. That’s a smoking gun if we ever needed one that was almost too easy.

Right then...

SO, IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN TELL YOU?

I think we have what we need. Let us think about it some more. It’s a lot of money, and the valuation is a bit rich for our fund. But we may be able to convince the investment committee given how well you all are doing.

Well, I certainly hope we can do business together. Thank you for coming!

What’s the offer? I can consider.

I am happy to consider another one.
GOTCHA! PROOF IN HAND! FINALLY!

PRIVATE AIRSTRIP OUTSKIRTS OF WEST AFRICAN CITY

WELCOME! WE HAVE BEEN EXPECTING YOU!

ANDREW PULLS OUT ALL THE PROTOCOL BOOKS. DO I TELL YOU THAT HE KNOWS THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY?

WE HAVE A GOOD MOTOR DECK AND A COURT-MANDATORY SEARCH WARRANT IN HAND! THANKS FOR THE TIP-OFF!

YOU GUYS MIGHT WANT TO HAVE FASTEN WE HEAR SOME CHATTERS ABOUT SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS. IF THAT HAPPENS, THERE IS NO TELLING HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE FOR A NEW LEAD TO SURFACE. YOU MAY NEED TO TAKE THEM TONIGHT.

HAVE FAITH, GENTLEMEN. WE HAVE THIS UNDER CONTROL, BUT IT'S FAR FROM OVER!

GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE STILL GREAT AT GETTING US BOTH IN ONE SHOTHELLO.
CRASH!

I AM INNOCENT! I SWEAR IT!

ROUND EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM UP. NO EXCEPTIONS!

FREEZE. THIS IS THE CENTRAL POLICE AUTHORITY!

SAVE YOUR BREATH FOR THE POLICE STATION.
I almost feel bad for them. Do you think they knew what they were done?

How could they not? I mean, they were manufacturing propaganda. It's pretty obvious isn't it?

I'm not so sure. Maybe from their perspective, they were making a difference. You never know who was involved and who just got caught up in all of this.

Later the same day outside the NewsWz office.

This makes no sense. They were all here just a few days ago. I should have known. It just seemed too good to be true.

Under Government Investigation

Business Closed Until Further Notice

The number you are calling is unavailable.
I believe some congratulations are in order! Well done everyone!

Our Dubai teams have reported that the takedown of those international trolls has resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number of incidents relating to disinformation online. It’s tread in the right direction and we have a lot to be proud of ahead of the election. But we must not let down our guard.

I am already hearing rumblings of activity by disinformation cells in other parts of Asia. These guys are nimble.

You were caught at a workstation creating false information for malicious use online. Your handle has also been traced as connected with this activity.

Please let me go! I am innocent! I swear it! We did nothing wrong! I was fired here. Please call my mother.

The courts will now decide if you are guilty. Don’t worry, you are not alone! Looks like you will all be getting a chance to become even better friends during your stay with us here at the station.

Hey, watch it! Our little storefront punch bell above our weight class. On a serious note, thank you for taking us along on the journey. I have learned so much! It’s great to be a part of Syovus.

Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Let’s just say it’s a “team sport.” Now Andie can go back to that storefront he calls an office and let the “professionals” deal with the next challenge.

We are just getting started, Andie. As we head into the final weeks ahead of the big election day. Rest assured that we will be calling on you again should something surface.
NOTES FROM CISA

Disinformation is an existential threat to the United States, our democratic way of life, and the infrastructure on which it relies. The Resilience Series (of which this is the first title) uses the graphic novel format to communicate the dangers and risks associated with dis- and mis-information through fictional stories that are inspired by real-world events.

The Resilience Series graphic novels were commissioned by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to share information to illustrate:

- Foreign actors are trying to influence U.S. security, economy, and politics through the malicious use of online media to create and amplify disinformation.
- While the strategy of using inaccurate information to weaken and divide a society is not new, the internet and social media allow disinformation to spread more quickly than it has in the past.
- Deepfakes, bots, and troll farms are just some of the emerging techniques for creating and spreading disinformation.

CISA encourages everyone to consume information with care. Practicing media literacy — including verifying sources, seeking alternative viewpoints, and finding trusted sources of information — is the most effective strategy in limiting the effect of disinformation.

For more information and further reading about disinformation, please visit the Countering Foreign Influence Task Force webpage, www.cisa.gov/cfi-task-force.

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We live in a world where the internet is rife with misinformation and disinformation. In a precarious digital world, the need for awareness about this risk is greater than ever. The Resilience Series graphic novels have been created as a medium to communicate the threat of inaccurate information and its impact on our world.

In REAL FAKE, the first story in the series, we meet the protagonist Rachel O’Sullivan, a gamer, patriot and member of Symous, a group fighting disinformation, deepfakes, troll farms and foreign interference in elections as Election Day approaches.