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ICS Lab 3 – Cybersecurity Case Study

Sony Pictures Entertainment Hack

- a. Employees of Sony Pictures Entertainment.
- b. Researchers believe that attackers used two tools to hack Sony Pictures. They are:
 - setMFT: can be used to timestomping, which changes the dates associated with files and stops them from appearing to investigators looking for evidence of a hack.
 - afset: also timestomps files and tries to hide hacking evidence from investigators. But the researchers say the tool didn't work completely, therefore it didn't hide all files it was supposed to.
- c. On 24th November 2014.
- d. Sony Pictures Entertainment's system was targeted. The attackers had taken huge amount of private data, deleted original copies from the computers and left messages to threatening to release the information if Sony Entertainment didn't agree with their demands.
- e. There was a movie called "The Interview" produced by Sony Pictures Entertainment. It was a comedy movie about two journalists who travel to North Korea to assassinate Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Attackers wanted to stop showing this movie. Therefore, they left a message that "stop immediately showing the movie of terrorism".
- f. Attackers stole data from Sony Pictures, and they leaked the information to journalists. They posted five Sony movies (four unreleased) to file sharing networks. And also leaked thousands of confidential documents, everything from private correspondence among Sony executives to salary and performance data about Sony employees.