In 20 years, distributed denial of service attacks have gone from a curiosity, to a nuisance, to a serious threat. To combat these attacks, governments, companies, and individuals have developed various strategies. Today we explore some of the significant developments in the world of DDoS attacks, and how they have evolved over the years.

**DDoS Attacks and Website Defacement Attacks**

In 1996, the group 'Anonymous' launched Project Chanology in response to the Church of Scientology's lawsuit against the website ChurchofScience.org. The attack targeted Church websites and resulted in the defacement of their sites. This event marked the beginning of a new era in the world of DDoS attacks.

**Largest Bandwidth Attacks Reported (Gbps)**

The largest DDoS attack reported to date was the Lizard Squad attack on Sony's PlayStation Network and Xbox Live on Christmas Day, 2014. The attack reached a peak of 800Gbps, with a maximum of 1000Gbps reported.

**Smurf Attacks**

The Smurf Amplifier Registry was launched in 2000 to help discover and mitigate Smurf attacks. These attacks use a spoofed broadcast ICMP ping to cause some outages for some sites. The attacks are possible because routers do not check for spoofed addresses in broadcasts. The Smurf Amplifier Registry is designed to help discover and mitigate these attacks.

**Cyber Reflections**

The Trump campaign was targeted by Anonymous in 2016, just two months before the US presidential election. The campaign was a victim of a DDoS attack on their website. The attack was a response to the Innocence of Muslims video by Terry Jones.

**Sony Data Breach Camouflaged With DDoS**

On July 28, 2011, Sony suffered a data breach that lead to the exfiltration of millions of customer records for PlayStation Network users. The breach was camouflaged with a DDoS attack that targeted Sony's servers.

**Largest Attack Reaches 300Gbps**

On April 20-26, 2000, the largest DDoS attack ever recorded reached a peak of 300Gbps. The attack was carried out by a group known as the "Mafiaboy," who targeted several US banks and financial services firms, including JPMorgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, and Bank of America.

**DDoS Attacks Target Rio Games**

In 2016, during the summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, public-facing web properties and organizations affiliated with the Olympics were targeted by sophisticated, anonymous DDoS attacks. The attacks were aimed at disrupting the event's digital infrastructure and were considered a form of digital warfare.

**Real World Cyber Reflections**

Comprehensive Cybersecurity Legislation Introduced in Congress in 2013. The legislation was designed to provide a comprehensive framework for combating cyber threats, including DDoS attacks. The legislation was introduced in response to the growing threat of DDoS attacks and their impact on critical infrastructure.

**FBI Suggests Bank Cooperation**

In 2015, the FBI suggested that banks cooperate with law enforcement to help combat cybercrime. The suggestion came in response to several high-profile DDoS attacks that targeted financial institutions.

**DDoS And Geopolitics**

A look back at the news headlines and the increasing size of attacks through the years shows that the problem of DDoS attacks is not going away any time soon. It is clear that the problem is only getting worse, and it will require a coordinated effort from governments, companies, and individuals to find a solution.