

Known Issues:

Target: Int'l Shipping Ports & Cargo Manifests

Issue: Unattributed Baskerville ransomware affects data integrity

Impact: Global Supply Chain Interference; Port Delays; Export and aid disruption

Potential Issues:

Target: Infect other critical industries

Issue: Baskerville impacts data integrity across sectors

Impact: Economic damage; Intensifies Covid crisis; Adversaries circumvent sanctions

Policy Options

Alpha | Threat Level: Moderate

These are baseline actions the government should already be doing

NSC names Cyber Unified Coordination Group to facilitate interagency responses

MTS-ISAC and USMARAD encourage all maritime shipping authorities to use alternative shipping methods and switch to analog cargo processing

ODNI (including NCIJTF) coordinates with IC through cyber threat intel integration centers to investigate Baskerville origin and prepare joint statement

Recommended

Bravo Option | Threat Level: Substantial

Deploy USCG to manage maritime traffic

U.S.-CERT and contractor initiate patch development

IC investigates missing goods with FBI assistance

CISA suggests cyber hygiene changes for ports

FFDRC researches distributed ledger technology

Escalation

Charlie Option | Threat Level: Severe

SEC suspends trading if volatility increases

Dept. of Commerce issues subsidies

FBI partners with INTERPOL & ODNI to investigate threat actors & missing goods

Deploy Navy in coordination with IMO

CFITF via CISA helps counter disinformation

Utilize Air Mobility Command to move critical shipments

USAID coordinates with local NGOs to avert humanitarian crises in Africa

Analysis & Recommendations

	Alpha Only	Alpha + Bravo Option	Alpha + Charlie Option
Strengths	Addresses seriousness of issue; low intervention; Easy , fast implementation	Allows flexible response; Positions government to get most info. Some fast implementation	Puts U.S. Government as leader in response; prepares for threat escalation.
Challenges	Uncoordinated public, private, and int'l response could delay resumption in shipping	As government coordinates more stakeholders, info is harder to direct .	Slower responses due to more government stakeholders
Opportunities	Allows for private-sector innovation & response	Allows government to easily pivot based on new information.	Develop cross-sector coordination capabilities; sets up economic rebound
Responses	Other countries may lead response coordination.	Show nat and internat leadership; maintains confidence in market and U.S. response	May be seen as gov. overreach if situation deescalates. May cause panic.
Effectiveness	Least Effective	Most Effective	Moderately effective

Recommendation:

Short Term: Support all Alpha actions immediately.

Mid-Term: Advocate Bravo Option rollout starts within 2 weeks.

Long-Term: Be Prepared to support Option Charlie, initiating international engagement and whole-of-government approach, if situation escalates.