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# Ghosts of REvil:

## An Inside Look with the Hacker Behind the Kaseya Ransomware Attack



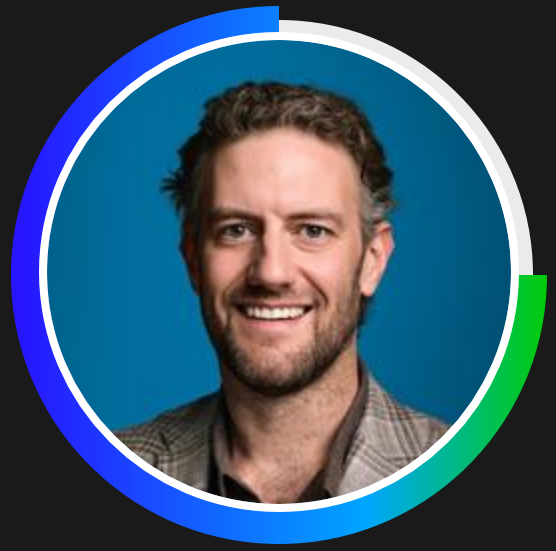
ANALYST1™

# Hosts for Today



**Jon DiMaggio**

Chief Security Strategist, Analyst1



**John Fokker**

Head of Threat Intelligence, Trellix

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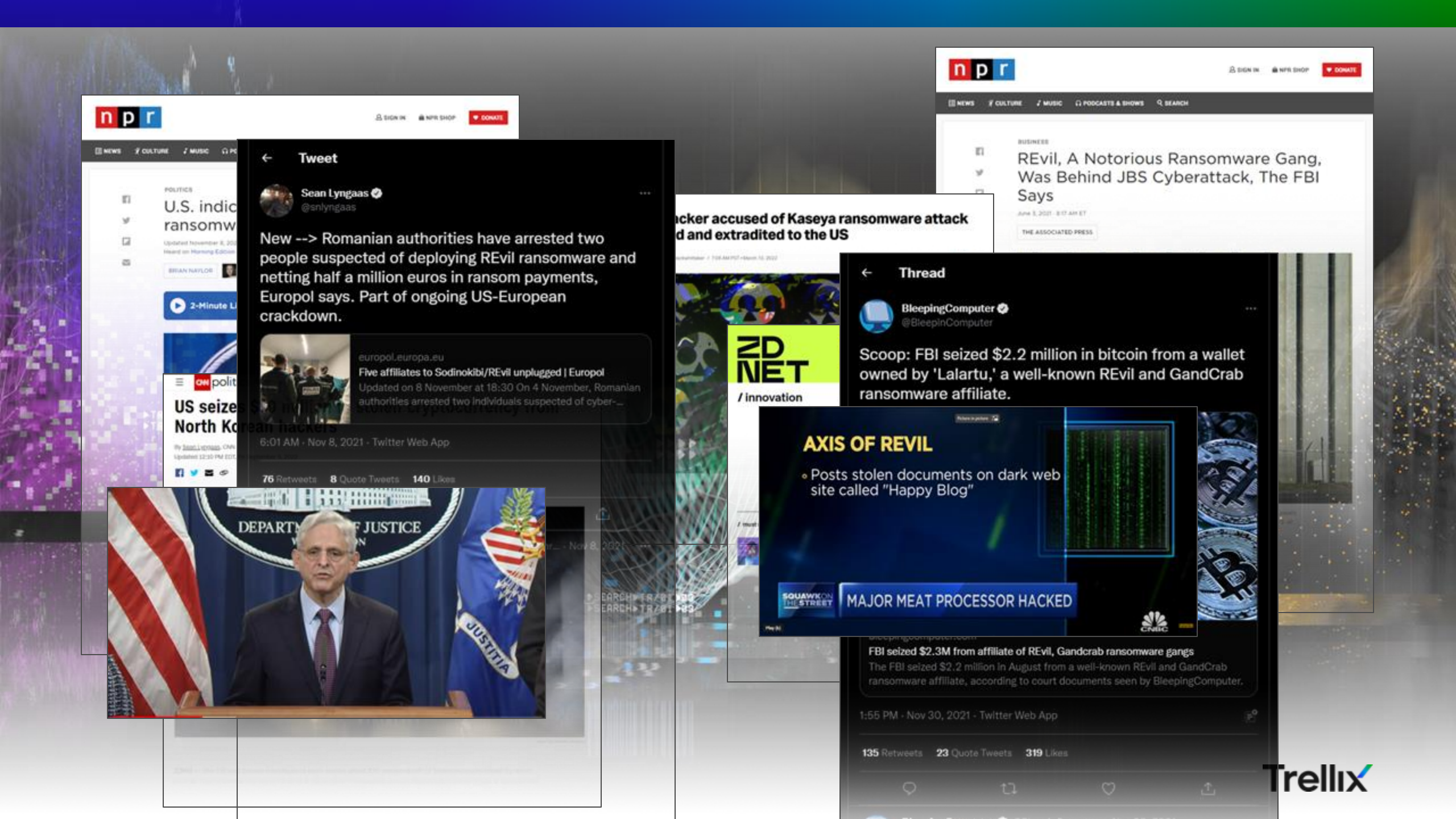
npr
REvil, A Notorious Ransomware Gang, Was Behind JBS Cyberattack, The FBI Says
Tweet
Sean Lyngaas
@snlyngaas
New --> Romanian authorities have arrested two people suspected of deploying REvil ransomware and netting half a million euros in ransom payments, Europol says. Part of ongoing US-European crackdown.
europol.europa.eu
Five affiliates to Sodinokibi/REvil unplugged | Europol
Updated on 8 November at 18:30 On 4 November, Romanian authorities arrested two individuals suspected of cyber-...
6:01 AM · Nov 8, 2021 · Twitter Web App
76 Retweets 8 Quote Tweets 140 Likes
ZDNET
/ innovation
Thread
BleepingComputer
@BleepinComputer
Scoop: FBI seized $2.2 million in bitcoin from a wallet owned by 'Lalartu,' a well-known REvil and GandCrab ransomware affiliate.
AXIS OF REVIL
Posts stolen documents on dark web site called "Happy Blog"
SQUAWK ON THE STREET
MAJOR MEAT PROCESSOR HACKED
CNBC
FBI seized $2.3M from affiliate of REvil, Gandcrab ransomware gangs
The FBI seized $2.2 million in August from a well-known REvil and GandCrab ransomware affiliate, according to court documents seen by BleepingComputer.
1:55 PM · Nov 30, 2021 · Twitter Web App
135 Retweets 23 Quote Tweets 319 Likes
JUSTICE
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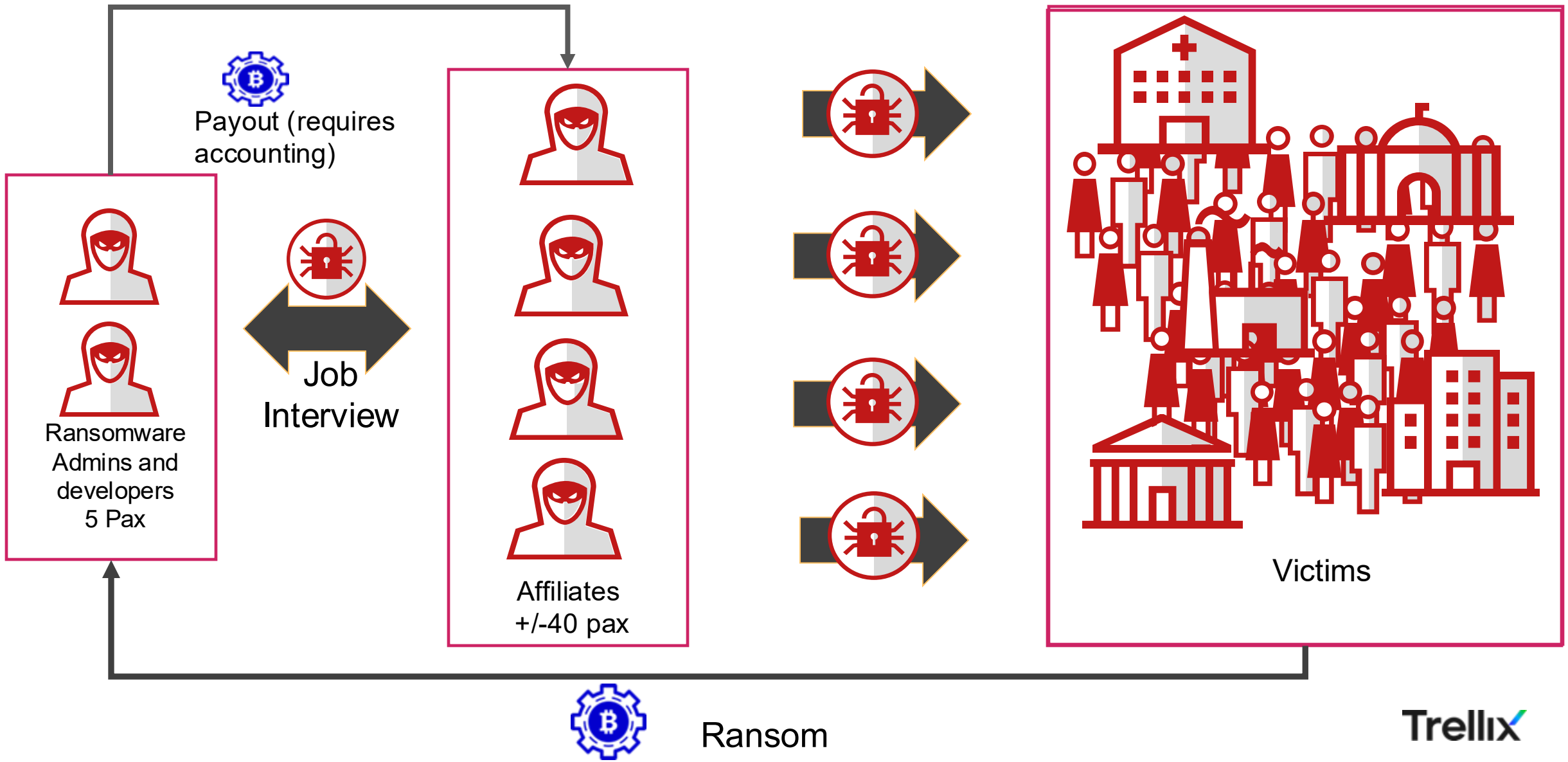
# Revil Ransomware-as-a-Service (RaaS) Model

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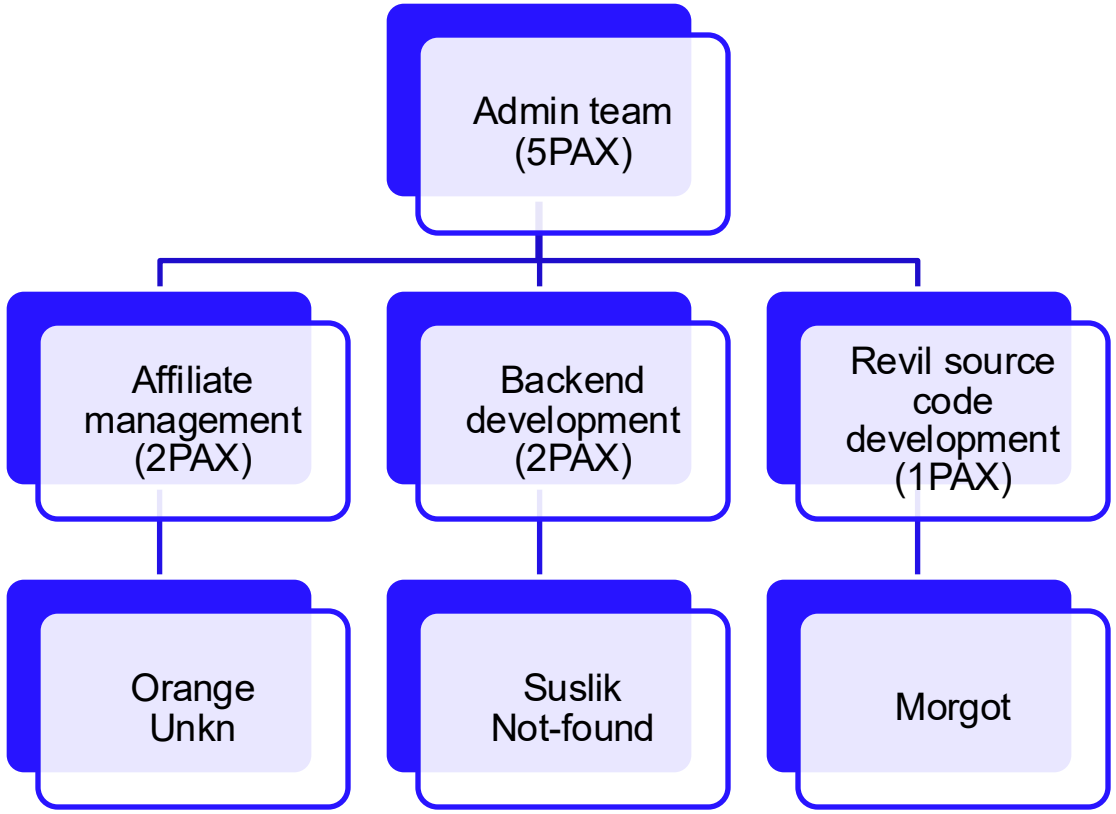
# REVIL Core Operators




**Alternative Jabber accounts:**

**Orange**: Bitcoin, FunnyCrab

**Unkn**: 8800553535, Crab

**Suslik**: Eddie Bravo

**Morgot**: Rcode, Quake3

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# REvil Key Success Factors

- Dedicated comms platform vs. Email negotiations
- Leak site to publish stolen data
- Stable Malware and Decryptors
- Increase of available affiliate spots strict selection
- Outsourcing or partnering with facilitating services (Malware obfuscation, Exploit Kits, Customer service Money laundering etc)
- Good administration of infections.




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# Accounting is Hard, but Affiliate Numbers Help…




Trellix developed a custom Config extraction tool, for internal use and LE incident response.

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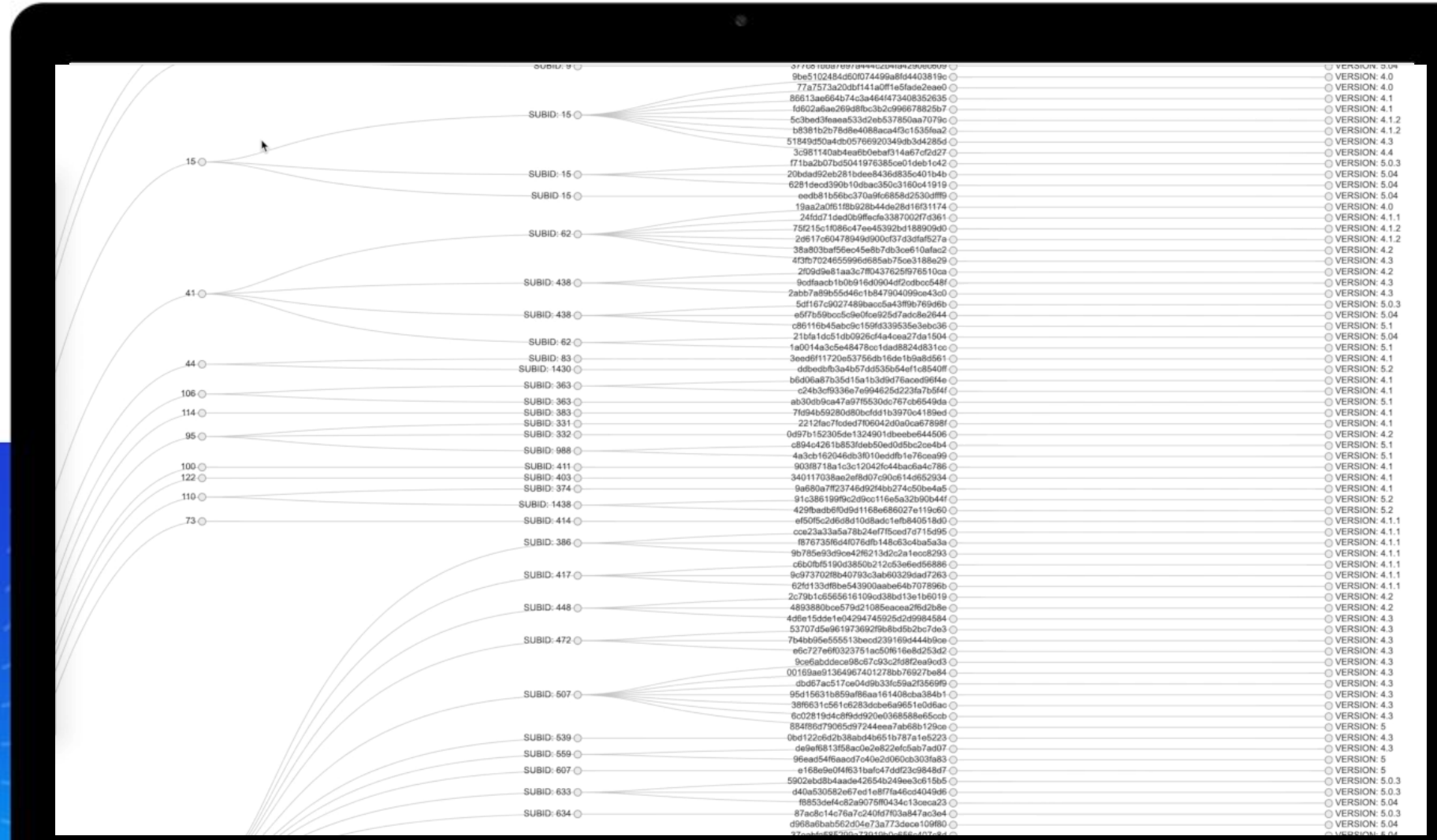
# Ransomware Accounting



| File Name | | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **pk** | | Public key of the attacker in Base64 |
| **pid** | | Affiliate number |
| **sub** | | Sub-account or campaign id |
| **dbg** | | Debug option |
| **fast** | | Option to encrypt the first 1 megabyte of each target file or all files |
| **wipe** | | Option to wipe specific files in the field ‘wfld’ |
| | **fld** | Folders whitelist |
| **wht** | **fls** | File whitelist |
| | **ext** | List of targeted extensions |
| **wfid** | | List of targeted folders |
| **prc** | | List of processes to kill |
| **dmn** | | List of C2 domains |
| **net** | | Option to specify the connexion to C2 |
| **nbody** | | Ransom not in base64 |
| **nname** | | Strings of malware name |
| **exp** | | Enable exploit CVE-2018-8453 |
| **img** | | Wallpaper ransom note in base64 |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SUBID: 1430
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SUBID: 383
SUBID: 331
SUBID: 332
SUBID: 988
SUBID: 411
SUBID: 403
SUBID: 374
SUBID: 1438
SUBID: 414
SUBID: 386
SUBID: 417
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SUBID: 507
SUBID: 539
SUBID: 559
SUBID: 607
SUBID: 633
SUBID: 634
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VERSION: 5
VERSION: 5
VERSION: 5.0.3
VERSION: 5.0.3
VERSION: 5.04
VERSION: 5.0.3
VERSION: 5.04

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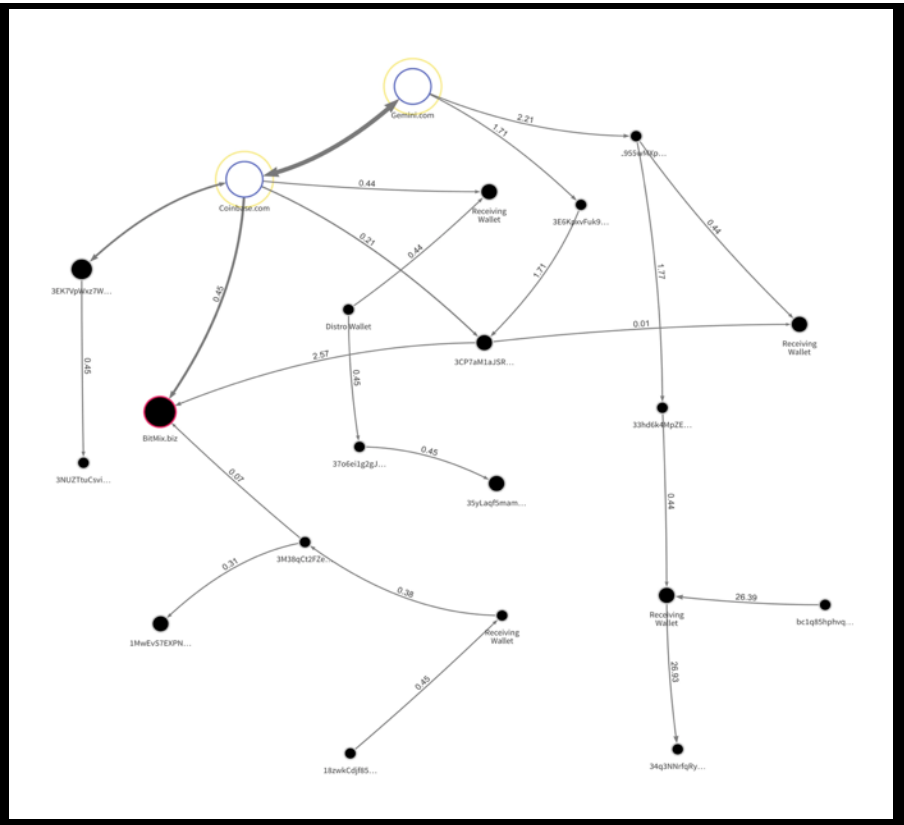
# But... Stay Humble

## The downfall of REvil



# Bragging

| Date | TXID | Bot | Status | Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 hours ago | 048c100a3bd9ed6a9a5d90791a78290d4a1367880415d2c069... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.43707153<br>3988.98 USD |
| 11 hours ago | 16cd37ba2ab29973c202bbeab6dea3a9a1e9d0bf69a46952ec7... | [redacted] | ✓ | 26.38798971<br>240143.00 USD |
| 12 hours ago | 278dfb8f03f49f892bd2fbf17fd3dcf54fee33d32d580acb2c2856... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.44554645<br>4084.89 USD |
| 12 hours ago | 26584ef98f78beac075f0f3d11bf88ee601b71cd9aabf9dcb4d0d... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.44322399<br>4064.02 USD |
| 12 hours ago | 0b85c5b69e4b210b42a96eefec07f6f62559b9eaf0c0287659c4... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.44238799<br>4053.80 USD |
| 12 hours ago | 74fcaa7c5b6f5ebdd83d2c962c16325c65e43292f68b4a429a46... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.44189143<br>4050.42 USD |
| 12 hours ago | 91480ae15884f9b56f5fb83f26b016cefeb5302133504fcbb2145... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.43909627<br>4018.53 USD |
| 2 days ago | d569cef16b5e7f142dcae523a51d3a08074790053a630ff6d606... | [redacted] | ✓ | 1.71205268<br>15102.40 USD |
| 2 days ago | 5d97529a3a09a0a888156877357c63e4a3a0c72c1205a92998e... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.45300601<br>3984.26 USD |
| 2 days ago | fce34caa6506d5f02166d8006814f7f7ca11dd3d1fde41b0b1f78... | [redacted] | ✓ | 0.45414266<br>4009.63 USD |




**Lalartu made 300K USD in one weekend**

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# “Mo Money Mo Problems”

**Notorious B.I.G. 1997**

**Even for Cyber Criminals…**



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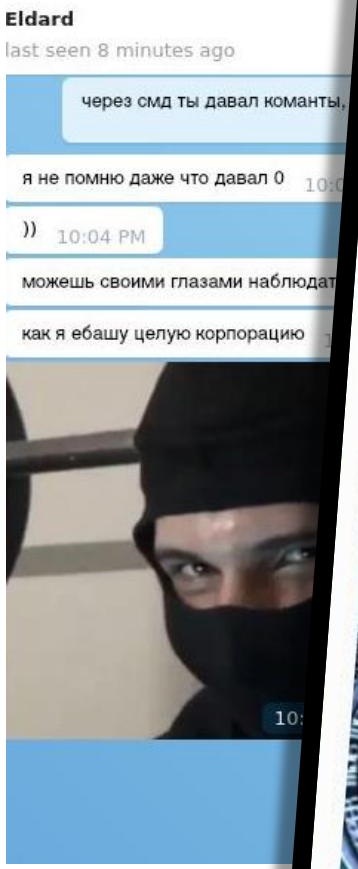
INFORMANT

# Snitches get stitches… or not?

Lalartu exp

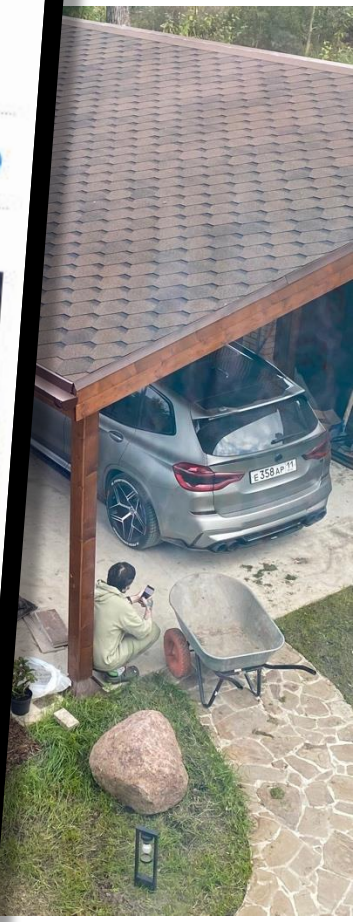



**FBI seized $2.3M from affiliate of REvil, Gandcrab ransomware gangs**

By Lawrence Abrams

November 30, 2021 04:46 PM 0



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FILTERS | Bot regist | Ran | From: 13 Dec, 2019 To: 13 I

| Info | Sub account | Price | Last visit | Bot reg ↓ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| F3018F6AC886AAD2<br>US 71.78 | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | a few seconds ago |
| EDEB12EC08725E2E<br>US 216.59. | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | a few seconds ago |
| 3C5B0ED23ECFA541<br>US 68. | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | a minute ago |
| 7146E02E22BD6C77<br>US 108. | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | a minute ago |
| 00F1CA8AFA582968<br>US 98.6 | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | a minute ago |
| 5A3D863116190E37<br>US 70.58 | waxXxXx | $6,500 | -- | 5 minutes ago |

## 8D34D09DEC106C2E CHA

### Base Information

1.6
Bot Version

United States 104.6
GEO

Friday, 13 December 18:24 (9 minutes ago)
Registration date

njevsm16
Extension

0
Visits

lalartu (33) / waxXxXx (2231)
User / SubAccount

Windows 10 Enterprise / 64bit
OS / Bit

en-US / no
Language / Ru?

**A53001555AEDCE85**
I uploaded. the universal decrypto...
support

**5007957F86022CBA**
meant http://decryptor.top/42B1...
support

**BC913DFFA8A1438E**
Say him to find $100 more from hi...
support

**42B1CB1EB8B22EBC**
Ok, thank you for information.
support

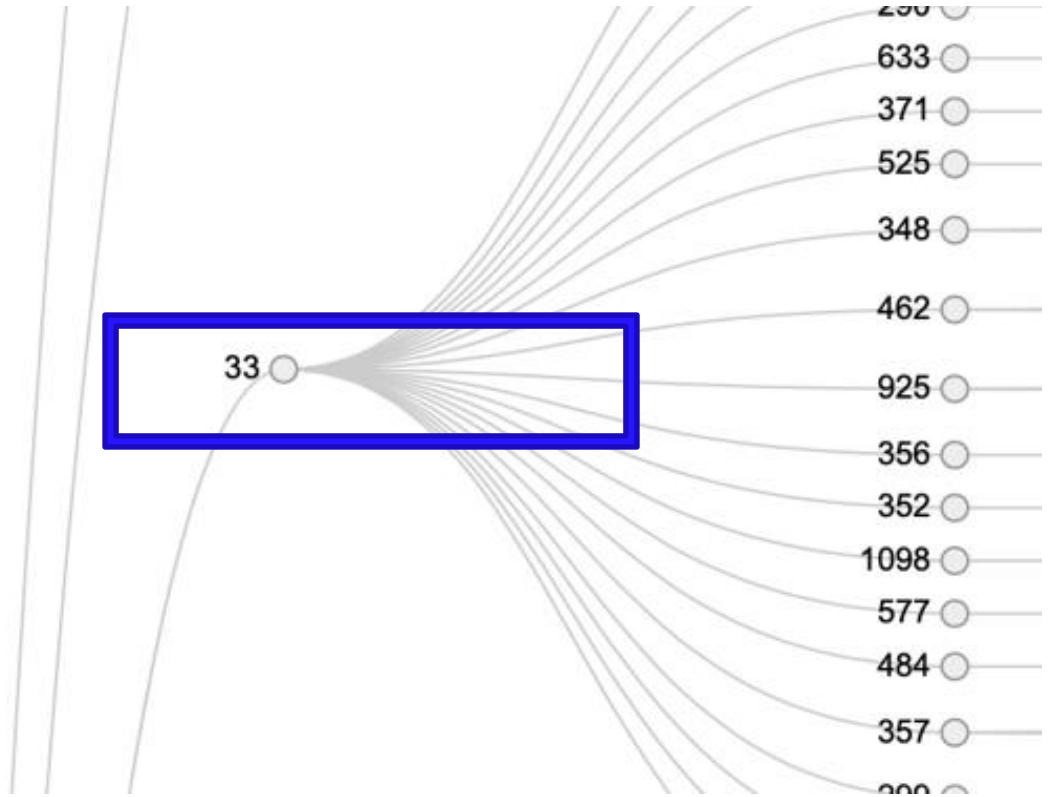
**49690BC634A9041A**
Thank you.
Data recovery: SLCUT

**5F99630E849394F8**
Thank you.
Data recovery: SLCUT

**66CC254A[illegible]7E7A60**
it is your decision. I will pass the ...
Victim

# Accounting is a double-edged sword…

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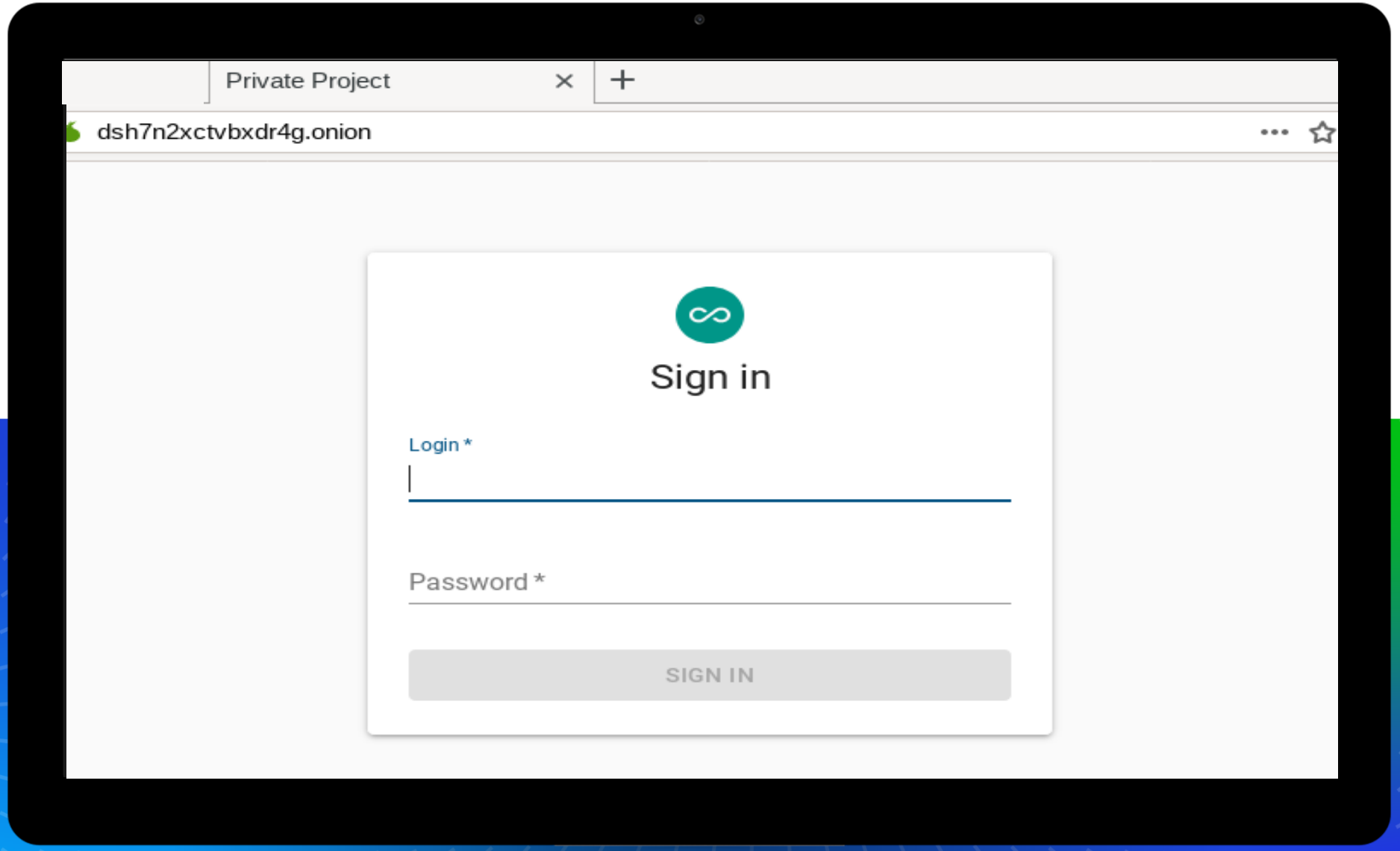
Private Project
dsh7n2xctvbxdr4g.onion
Sign in
Login *
Password *
SIGN IN

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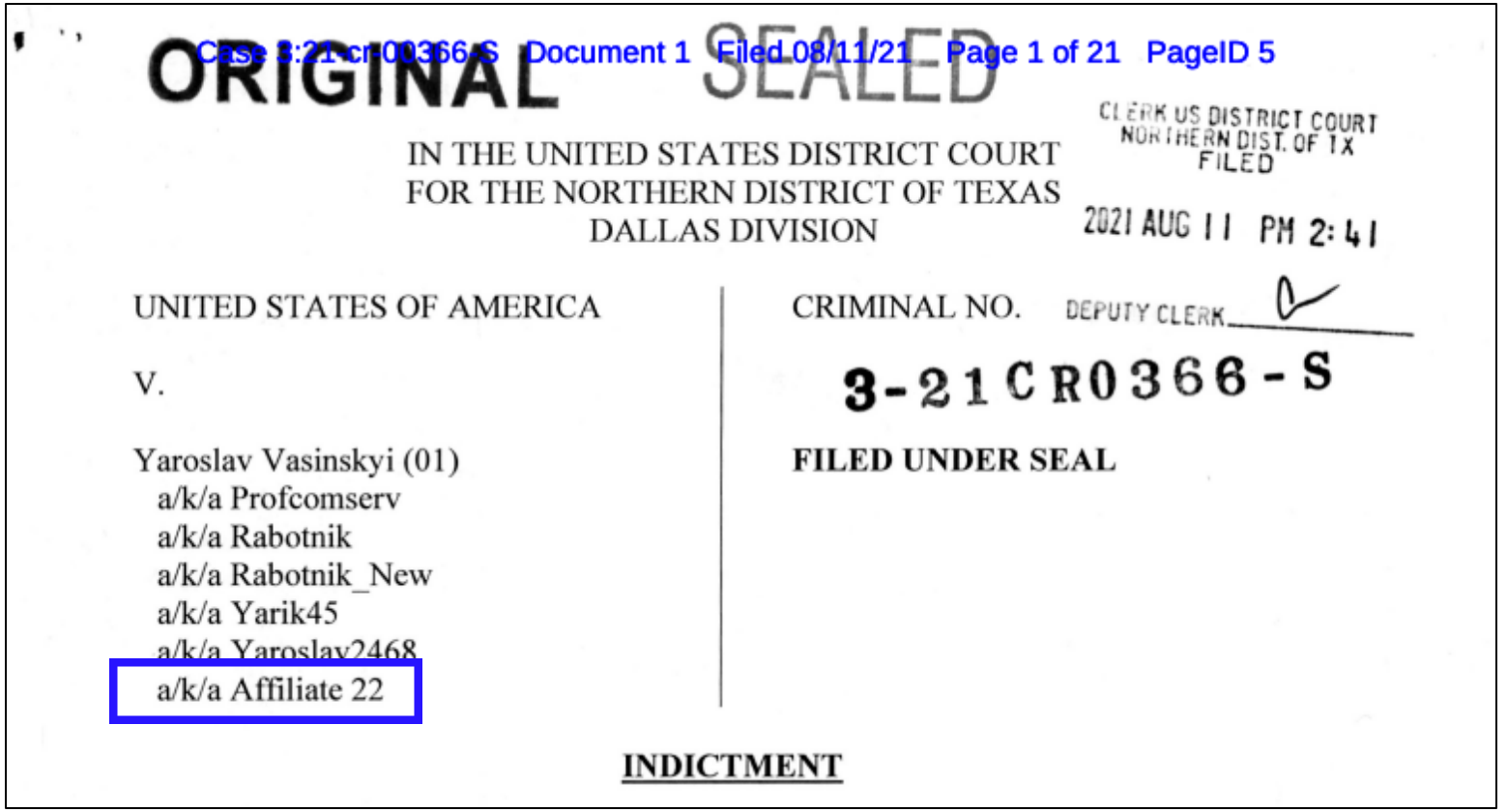
**Full Circle:** the ID nr 22 included on the indictment



Case 3:21-cr-00366-S Document 1 Filed 08/11/21 Page 1 of 21 PageID 5

ORIGINAL SEALED

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DIST. OF TX
FILED

2021 AUG 11 PM 2:41

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

DEPUTY CLERK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

Yaroslav Vasinskyi (01)
a/k/a Profcomserv
a/k/a Rabotnik
a/k/a Rabotnik_New
a/k/a Yarik45
a/k/a Yaroslav2468
a/k/a Affiliate 22

CRIMINAL NO. 3-21CR0366-S

**FILED UNDER SEAL**

**INDICTMENT**

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# Breaking His Silence

**Person in Custody: VASINSKYI, YAROSLAV**

C

**CorrLinks <info@corrlinks.com>**

**To:** Jon DiMaggio

Friday, February 7, 2025 at 16:52

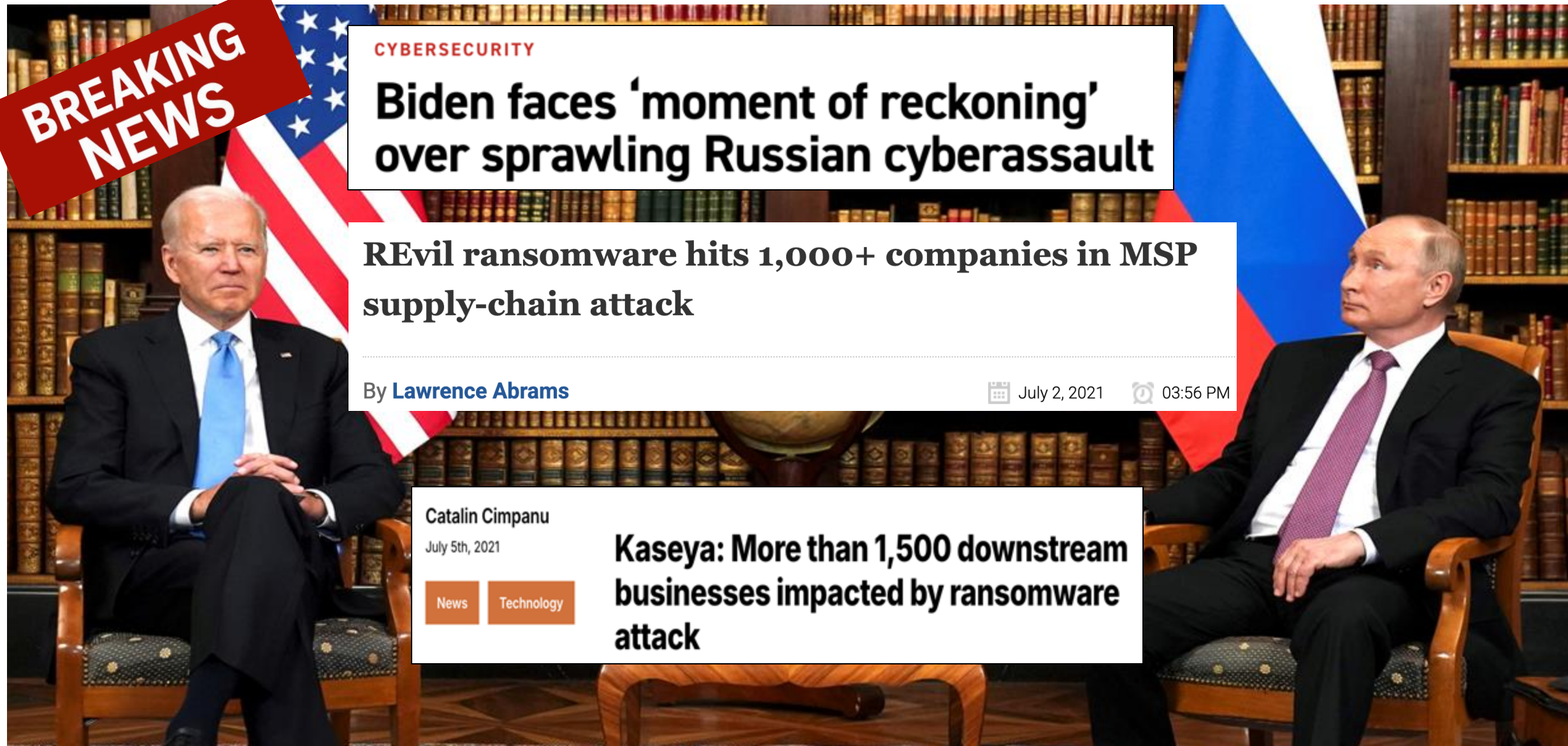
**External Sender** - From: ("CorrLinks" <info@corrlinks.com>)

This message came from outside your organization.

Learn More

This is a system generated message informing you that the above-named person is a federal person in custody who seeks to add you to his/her contact list for exchanging electronic messages.  There is no message from the person in custody at this time.

# What We Know About the Attack



# Attack Roles & Responsibilities







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# “The Meeting”

## QTOX Meeting – 2 Days Before Attack

Unprecedented high-level coordination meeting – "they never made a chat like that that before"

| UNKN | "Trump" | "0_neday" | "1_zeroday" | "Rabotnik" |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| (Tearn Leader) | (Head of Support) | (Coder) | (Exploit Provider) | (Vasinskyi) |

**Division of Labor:** REvil provides clean manual build → Vasinskyi prepares attack → "Old friends" execute



1. **Antivirus Evasion**
   REvil command manually cleaned the executable file (exe) from antivirus detection systems
2. **File Disguise**
   Re-encoded the executable into a certificate format to avoid detection
3. **MSP Delivery**
   Certificate was delivered to the Managed Service Provider through the compromised Kaseya platform
4. **Endpoint Distribution**
   Certificate copied from MSP to endpoint devices with random bytes added to make the file's MD5 hash unique, reducing antivirus detection
5. **Payload Activation**
   Certificate decoded back into executable format on the endpoint device and ransomware deployed
6. **Evidence Cleanup**
   Logs and operation history were systematically cleaned to remove traces
7. **Final Deletion**
   Operation was completely deleted from the MSP database to eliminate forensic evidence

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# The Hand-off




**“Yes, the REvil team had partners who were associated with (Russian) government authorities. “**

**“I wrote to my "old friends"— here are the instructions, log in here, run the command, or find someone who will run it. I'm not going to do it”**

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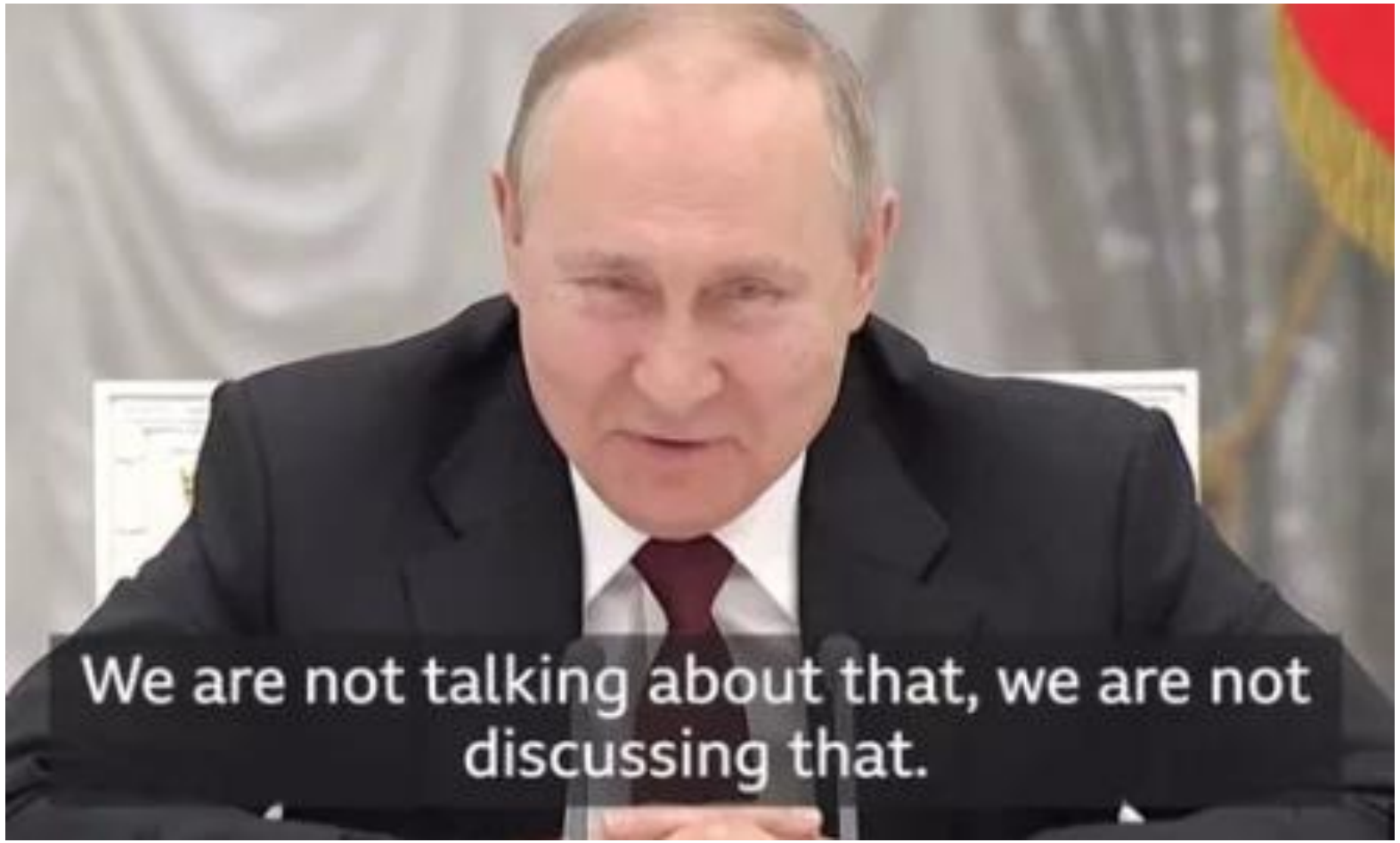
# Attack Motivation

**Motive:** Disruption, crippling downstream systems, collecting intelligence, and gaining access to critic al infrastructure

# Visinkyi's Silence

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# The Russian Connection

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# Working for Russian Intelligence

"Before REvil... I had gotten to know people with ties to government authorities. During my work with the ransomware group, those connections deepened."

“I got requests from intelligence agencies (usually before elections), though I only realized this after the job was done.”



# The Job You Can't Quit







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# Detained and Questioned in Ukraine







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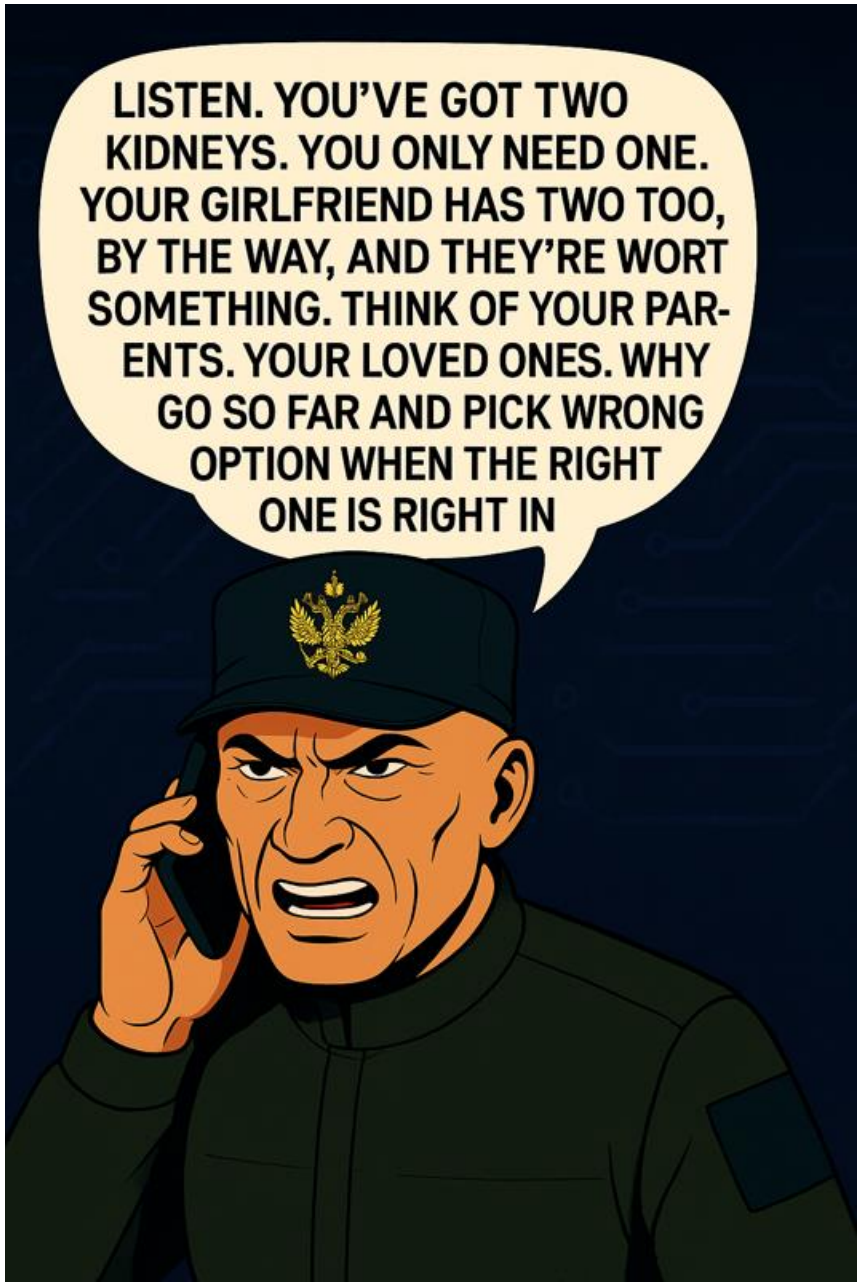


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# Warning Email

2 days before the attack



# WHY DIDN'T HE TALK

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# Arrest & Extradition






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# The Trophy & The Ghost



Vasinskyi's arrest and conviction was a big win for the DoJ

But there is still more work to do

**Are they even looking for REvil leadership? Appears not.**

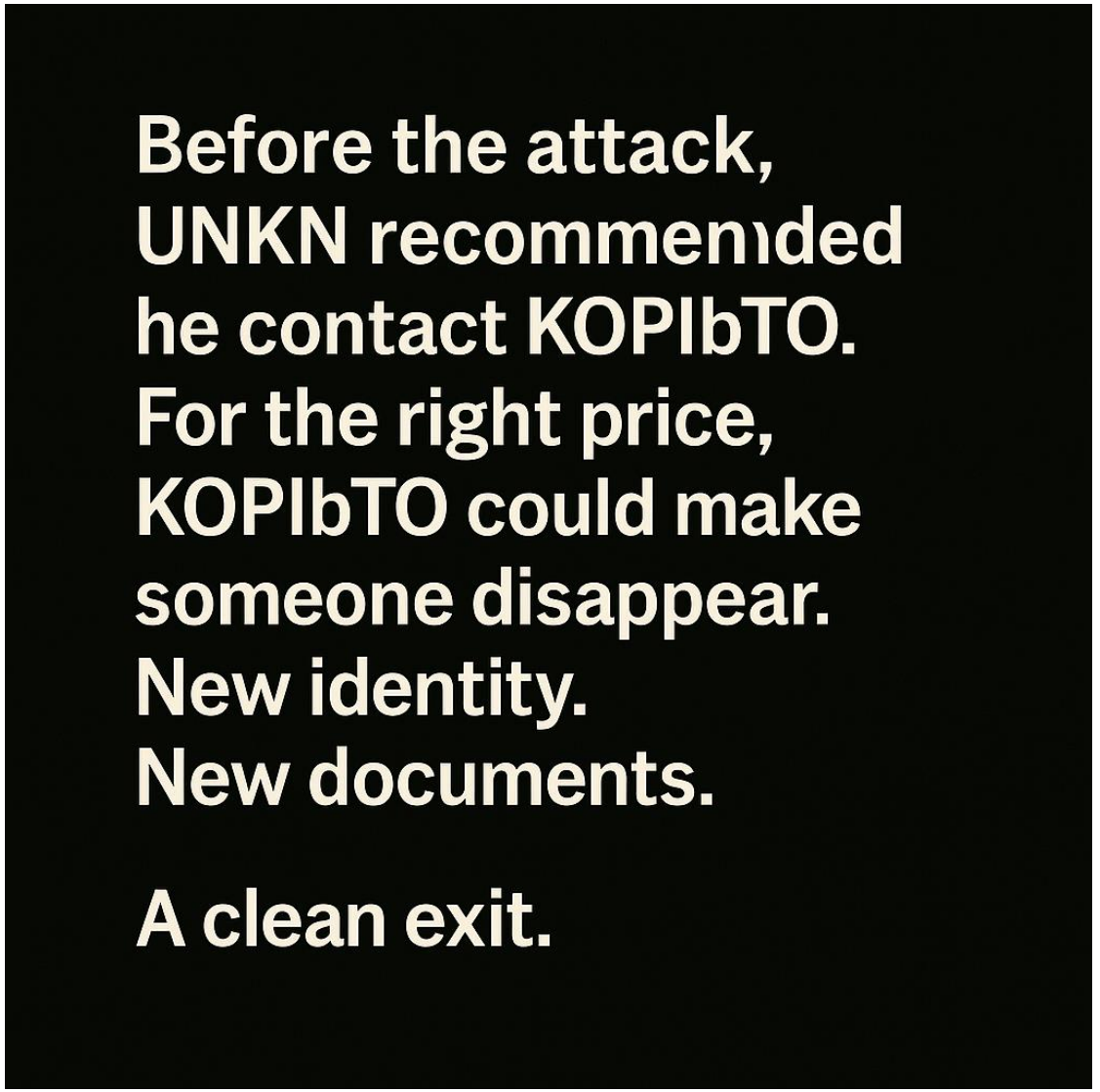
# HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?!




UNKWN was only ever online during specific time zones, either UTC–6 or UTC+8. (If it's –6, it's likely Latin America; if +8, it could be Russia or Asia.) He also frequently took long-haul flights of about 6–8 hours. After his disappearance, a theory emerged. Trying to figure out what happened, such as flight dates, approximate departure and arrival times, I gathered information over the course of several months to try to match it with a real identity.

–Vasinskyi

# The Vanishing Act

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# Why Disappear?

UNKN didn’t just disappear; HE HAD TO. The $70 million ransom demand, posted publicly by REvil after the Kaseya attack, may have gone too far. Based on everything Vasinskyi told me, it clashed with the deeper purpose of the operation. This wasn’t supposed to be about extortion. It was about disruption: crippling downstream systems, collecting intelligence, and gaining access to critical infrastructure. Putting a price tag on that risked undermining all of it.

**People like this shouldn't get to disappear into the dark without consequence.**

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# The Silence After the Storm – What Comes Next

**Revil should not be forgotten. Criminals don’t disappear, they evolve**

**Law enforcement momentum changed priorities:** Initial global push didn’t evolve into lasting pressure.

**Ransomware is evolving underground**: Smaller, splintered crews now operate quietly, drawing from the same playbook.

**Without consequences, the model persists**: REvil’s legacy lives on—not as a name, but as a method.

**The real story didn’t end—it just stopped being told**.

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# Q&A - Let's Talk About It

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