

This briefing was developed for **The Blue Book Project**, lead by the Commonwealth of Virginia, support by CNA, and funded through a FEMA regional catastrophic planning grant.

Blue Book Project Goal: Develop a coordinated operational process to support local, state, federal, and private sector priorities; support Virginia residents; and ensure continuity of government while managing consequences from a coordinated nation-state cyberattack on critical lifeline services.





The Blue Book Project

People's Republic of China (PRC) Threat Briefing



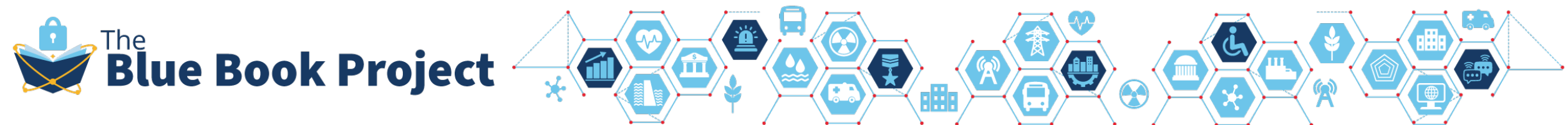
PRC threats to US critical infrastructure

Continuous threat of false and misleading information:

- The PRC is engaged in an ongoing global campaign to shape the information environment in its favor
- Driven by the assessment that the US/West is engaged in “public opinion warfare” with the PRC
- Would likely seek to exacerbate the impact of a cyberattack on US critical infrastructure (by the PRC or another threat actor)

Contingency-related cyber threat:

- The PRC is preparing for a potential conflict with the US over Taiwan
- Evidence suggests that PRC would likely seek to launch cyberattacks against US critical infrastructure in the run up to or during invasion of Taiwan



PRC capabilities and actors

Propaganda

- Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has an extensive propaganda apparatus and well-developed playbook
- Directs a massive state-run PRC media complex with global footprint
 - Xinhua, CGTN, China Daily, Global Times, CRI
- Augmented by foreign media outlets, journalists, and influencers

Cyber

- Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC)
 - Ministry of State Security (MSS) (HAFNIUM, APT 31)
 - Ministry of Public Security (MPS) (I-Soon)
 - Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT)
- Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) (organization is evolving)
 - Strategic Support Force/Cyber Force/Information Support Force

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

OPINIONS Editorials Columns Guest opinions Cartoons Submit a guest opinion Today's Opinions

Opinion | Qin Gang: The planet's future depends on a stable China-U.S. relations

By Qin Gang
January 4, 2023 at 6:03 p.m. EST

British vlogger reveals truths about Xinjiang's 'concentration camps'

33K views · 2 years ago

CGTN

Jason Lightfoot is a British video vlogger who's been in China for 10 years. In his latest video, he says...

4:13



PRC lines of effort in the public opinion war



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1. Generating pro-PRC multimedia content that is accessible, compelling, and appears credible

2. Amplifying the spread of pro-PRC content and maximizing channels for distributing it

3. Influencing local media to suppress criticism and promote China-friendly narratives

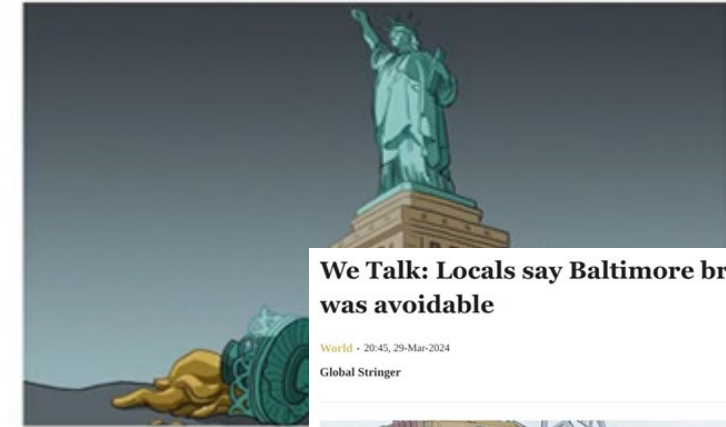
4. Using entertainment as a means of promoting Beijing's narratives

OPINION / OBSERVER

Slow rescue of Miami condo collapse shows 'beacon of human rights' is falling

By Lin Lan

Published: Jan 29, 2022 09:03 PM



We Talk: Locals say Baltimore bridge collapse was avoidable

World • 20:45, 29-Mar-2024

Global Stringer



The
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Examples of PRC operations

Disinformation campaign about origins of COVID-19

- PRC officials/media spread false narrative to deflect blame and undermine US credibility

PRC agents launched false text message campaign threatening national COVID-19 lockdown

- Experimental attempt to cause social disruption
- Tactics continue to evolve...



Examples of PRC operations



CNA

Volt Typhoon

- Used "KV Botnet" malware to hijack privately-owned SOHO routers
- Gained access to US communications, energy, transportation, and water infrastructure

"The PRC has made it clear that it considers every sector that makes our society run as fair game in its bid to dominate on the world stage, and that its plan is to land low blows against civilian infrastructure to try to induce panic and break America's will to resist."
~FBI Director Christopher Wray



Examples of PRC operations



US Responsible for COVID-19

Designed to deflect focus from the PRC and defame a PRC adversary

- PRC officials and media outlets advanced the narrative
- Leverage PRC's global media network
- News articles (print and online), videos (YouTube), political cartoons, social media (Twitter), rap video, petitions (US White House website, Change.org)

U.S. should invite WHO to probe coronavirus origins at Fort Detrick, UNC

Source: Xinhua | 2021-08-26 00:17:57 | Editor: huaxia



BEIJING, Aug. 25 (Xinhua) -- A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said on Monday that the United States should invite the World Health Organization to probe coronavirus origins tracing into Fort Detrick and the University of North Carolina (UNC) theory.

Spokesperson Wang Wenbin made the remarks at a daily news conference.

Lijian Zhao 赵立坚
@zlj517
China government official

2/2 CDC was caught on the spot. When did pathogen zero begin in US? How many people are infected? What are the names of the hospitals? It might be the army who brought the epidemic to Wuhan. Be transparent! Make public your data! US owe us an explanation!



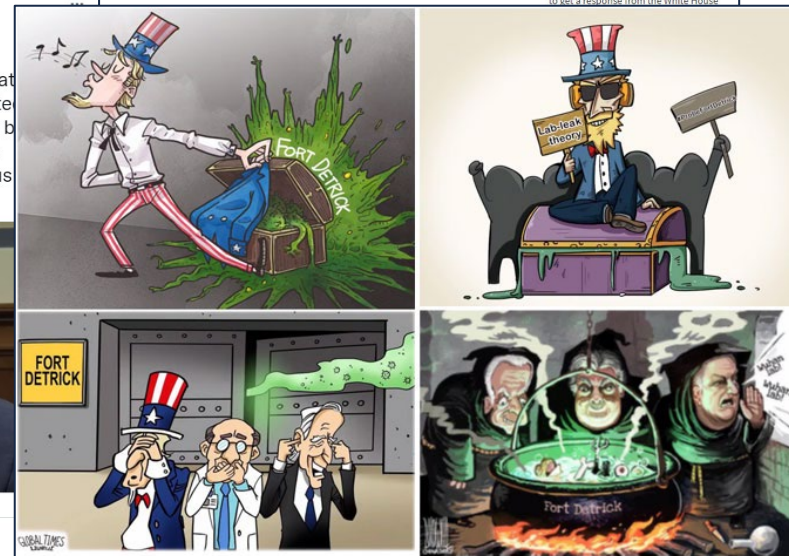
From **Global Times**
Stay informed
Get the facts about COVID-19 [Find out more](#)

10:37 AM - Mar 12, 2020 - Twitter for iPhone

WE the PEOPLE
YOUR VOICE IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Petition for information of Fort Detrick
Created by B.Z. on March 10, 2020

Sign This Petition
Needs 99,792 signatures by April 9, 2020 to get a response from the White House



YouTube Fort Detrick

How terrifying is the history of U.S. Fort Detrick lab?
27K views · 11 months ago
CGTN
Over 15 million Chinese have signed an open letter calling on the World Health Organization to probe coronavirus origins tracing into Fort Detrick and the University of North Carolina (UNC) theory.



Let's Connect



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Feel Free to email us with questions
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