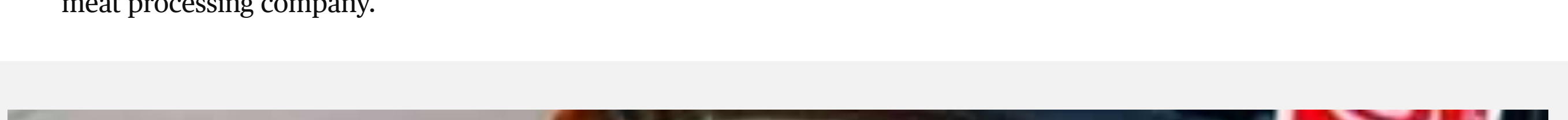




Russia's domestic intelligence service announced a special operation campaign against the notorious criminal ransomware group, REvil, Friday. According to the Federal Security Service (FSB), Russian authorities raided 25 addresses, resulting in the arrest of 14 individuals and seizure of more than \$1 billion worth of assets, 426 million rubles



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government websites, including the homepage for the Foreign Ministry, which temporarily displayed a message warning Ukrainians to "be afraid and expect the worst." Ukraine's security service said, **Friday**, "there are some signs of involvement [by] hacker groups associated with the Russian secret services."

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The White House acknowledged Friday that one of the bankers arrested had been involved in the Colonial Pipeline

We understand that one of the individuals who was arrested today was responsible for the attack against Colonial Pipeline last spring," a senior administration official briefed reporters, Friday. "We're committed to seeing those conducting ransomware attacks against Americans brought to justice."

Suspected REvil hacker Roman Muromsky, 33, has been detained following the raids, though it's unclear if the former leader of cybercriminal gang EvilCorp appears in the handout video.

"The court has granted the motion from the investigation to select two-month custody until March 13 as a measure of restraint for Roman Gennadyevich Muromsky," court spokesperson Kseniya Rozina said Friday. The court has also jailed Andrei Bessonov, Russian news agencies reported, Friday.

"The law of the Russian Federation prohibits extradition of Russian citizens to a foreign state," the source said, without specifying whether all the detained hackers were Russian nationals.

The U.S.-Russia collaboration marks a bright spot in an otherwise tense moment for the two countries, following a week of failed diplomatic efforts to curb Russia's military buildup bordering on Ukraine. As Ukraine's communication intelligence service responds to the cyberattacks targeting as many as 70 of its websites, U.S. and Ukrainian officials tell CBS News that

crisis. Threat actors are reevaluating whether they should continue their criminal activities in light of the arrests and indictments," Charles Carmakal, SVP and CTO of Mandiant told CBS News.

"Taking down a ransomware leader is like cutting the head off a hydra," Westin added. "New leaders will step in to fill the void. The relationship between ransomware gangs and Russian APT groups are well known and the true actors behind these groups will continue to operate with impunity."

"With these small groups working with illicit exchanges, there's an expression that a colleague of mine uses," Sheridan

Last summer, the State Department offered a reward of up to \$10 million for information leading to the identification or location of key REvil group leaders.



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