Benton Response Summary

Who: We believe that the HSC-3 Surveillance, Communications Satellite was downed by operatives working for the Chinese government using information from the Nethken Corporation.

Why: We believe Chinese military are use this incident to further their ongoing development of cyber-warfare capabilities and to access further information that would allow them to bring down other satellites.

US Response:

Arrest and interrogate those involved.

Tighten security procedures at Nethken Corporation and within DHS.

Work with Nethken Corp. to further protect our satellite infrastructure.

Establish more formal and secure means of communicating and transferring information between DHS and US corporations.

Bring on additional, trained and experienced investigators to handle the large volume and complexity of information generated in cases of this magnitude and time sensitivity.

Downplay the incident publically to ease tensions and restore/maintain confidence.

Express the gravity of the situation with China through diplomatic channels.

Continue to develop offensive and defensive methods for cyber-warfare.