Baidu Stages De Facto DDOS Attacks (Updated)

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***Summary**: A 2-hour investigation reveals that Tux Machines is now the victim of an arrogant, out-of-control Baidu*

T*UX MACHINES* has been mostly offline later this morning. It has evidently become the victim of Baidu's lawlessness, having fallen under huge dumps of requests from IP addresses which can be traced back to Baidu and whose requests say Baidu as well (we tried blocking these, but it's not easy to do by IP because they have so many). They don't obey `robots.txt` rules; not even close! It turns out [2] that others suffer from this as well. These A-holes have been causing a lot of problems to the site as of late (slowdowns was one of those problems), including damage to the underlying framework. Should we report them? To who exactly? Looking around the Web, there are no contact details (in English anyway) by which to reach them.

Baidu can be very evil towards Web sites. Evil. Just remember that. ?

Update: 3 major DDOS attacks (so far today) led to a lot of problems and they also revealed that not Baidu was at fault but botmasters who used "Baidu" to masquerade themselves, hiding among some real and legitimate requests from Baidu (with Baidu-owned IP addresses). We have changed our firewall accordingly. We don't know who's behind these attacks and what the motivations may be.

Site News

Links:
[1] http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/122
[2] http://web-robot-abuse.blogspot.co.uk/2006/09/baiduspider-bad-bot-ignores-robotstxt.html