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Power of integrated Security

SheldIO

Private Stealer

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SheildIO Private Stealer and What You Need to Know

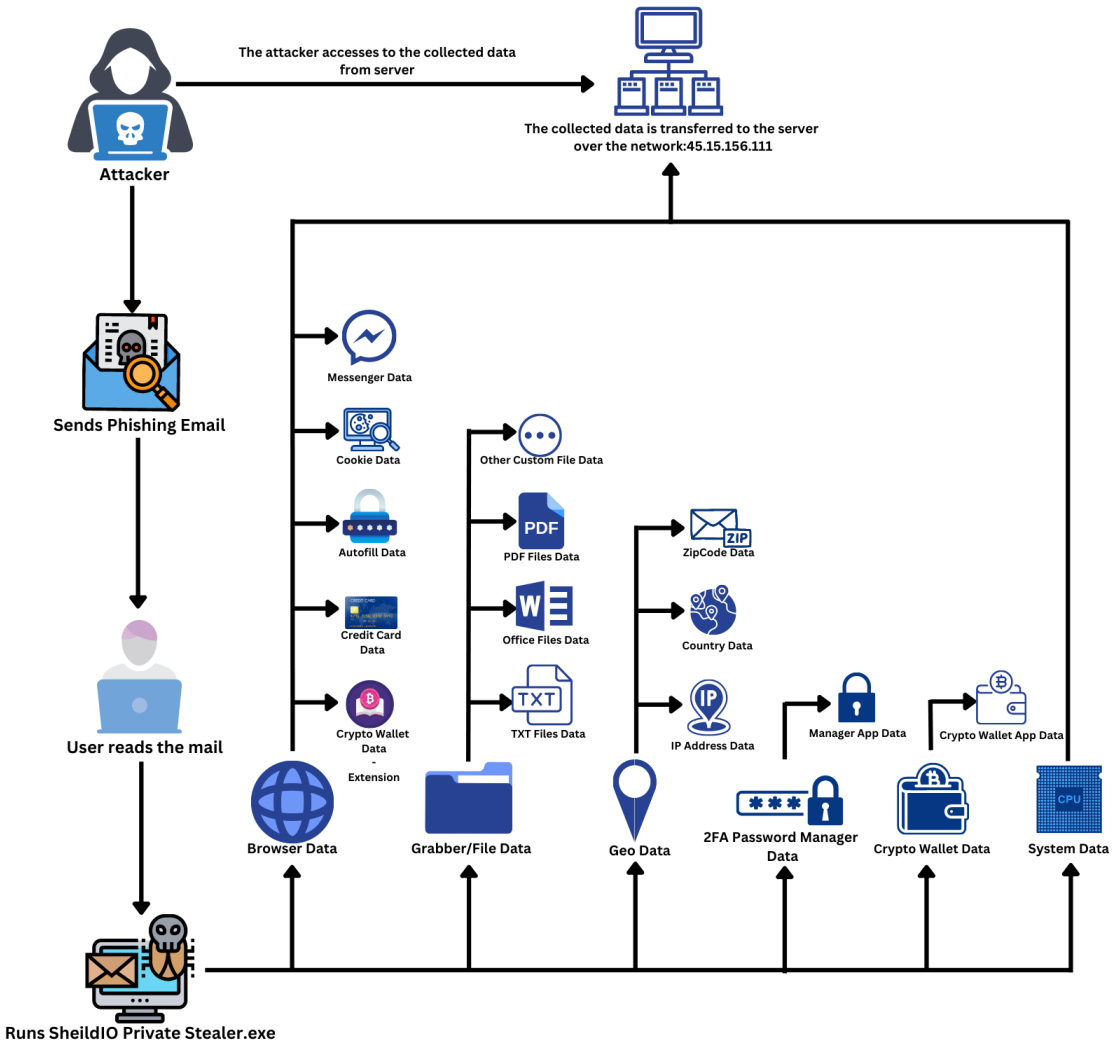
What is SheildIO Private Stealer?

Sheldio Private Stealer is known as a malicious software and poses a serious cyber threat by stealing data from users' computer systems. This malicious software typically attempts to trick users into downloading and running it on their computers through social engineering attacks or deceptive tactics. The primary function of this software is to scan the files and folders on the user's system and then capture the user's sensitive data, such as passwords, credit card information, and personal documents.

Another critical function of Sheldio Private Stealer is to transmit the stolen data to a remote server controlled by the attackers. This allows the attackers to have easy access to the sensitive information they have acquired. Attackers can use this stolen data for various purposes, such as gaining access to the user's various accounts using stolen passwords or utilizing credit card information for malicious activities.

To avoid detection and enhance the effectiveness of their attacks, Sheldio Private Stealer employs techniques to evade malicious software analysis and antivirus programs. Initially, the software examines other processes on the system before initiating its own to prevent antivirus detection. These tactics enable the attackers to use this malicious software as a long-term threat. Consequently, it is crucial to protect against such malicious software by using up-to-date antivirus software, creating strong passwords, performing regular system updates, and maintaining vigilance. Additionally, refraining from opening suspicious email attachments or downloads and avoiding software downloads from unknown sources are important security measures.

Infection Chain



SheildIO Private Stealer Overview

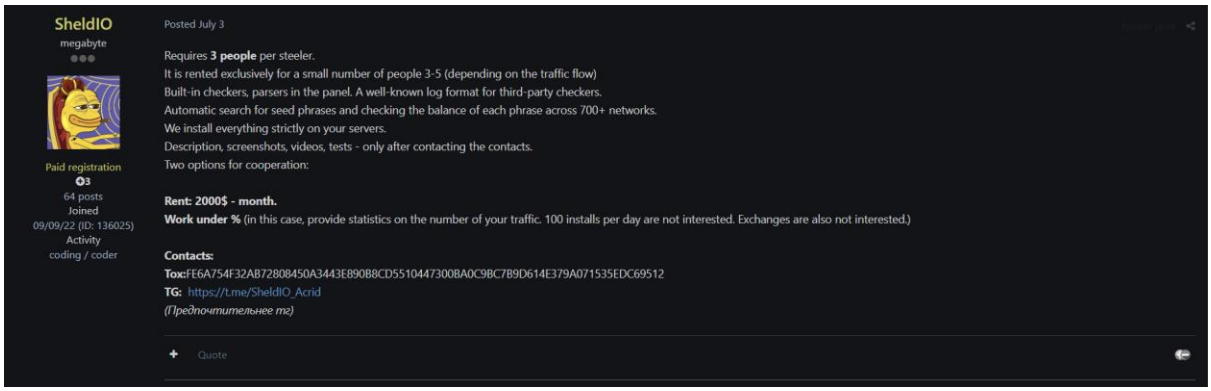


Figure 1- Dark Web Information about stealer

A stealer is a type of malware that is designed for covertly stealing sensitive information. A stealer aims to get data such as usernames, passwords, credit cards, saved crypto wallets and all other personal information.
SheildIO - Private Stealer is a stealer that aims to steal personal data of infected system. Everything is managed through a single dashboard in this system.

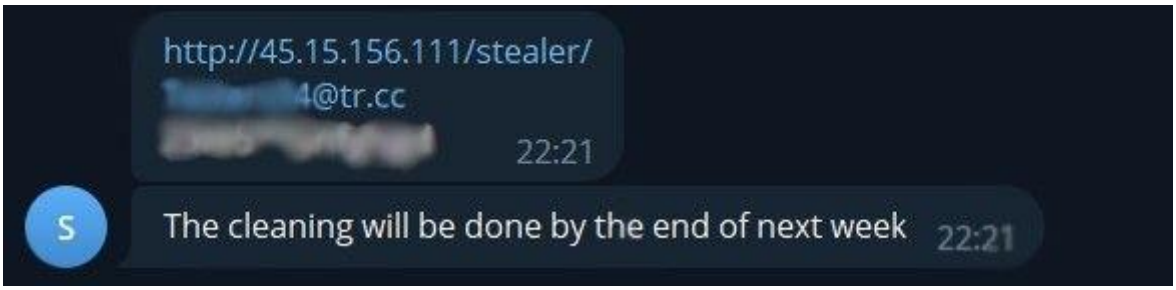


Figure 2- Telegram speech

Once the product is purchased, the seller creates an account for the user with a license. When the license expires, the system becomes unusable until payment is received again. The seller can install the dashboard software onto their own server and provide it to the customer, or if the customer has their own server, the necessary software to set up the dashboard system is provided to them, and the customer installs the software on their own server.

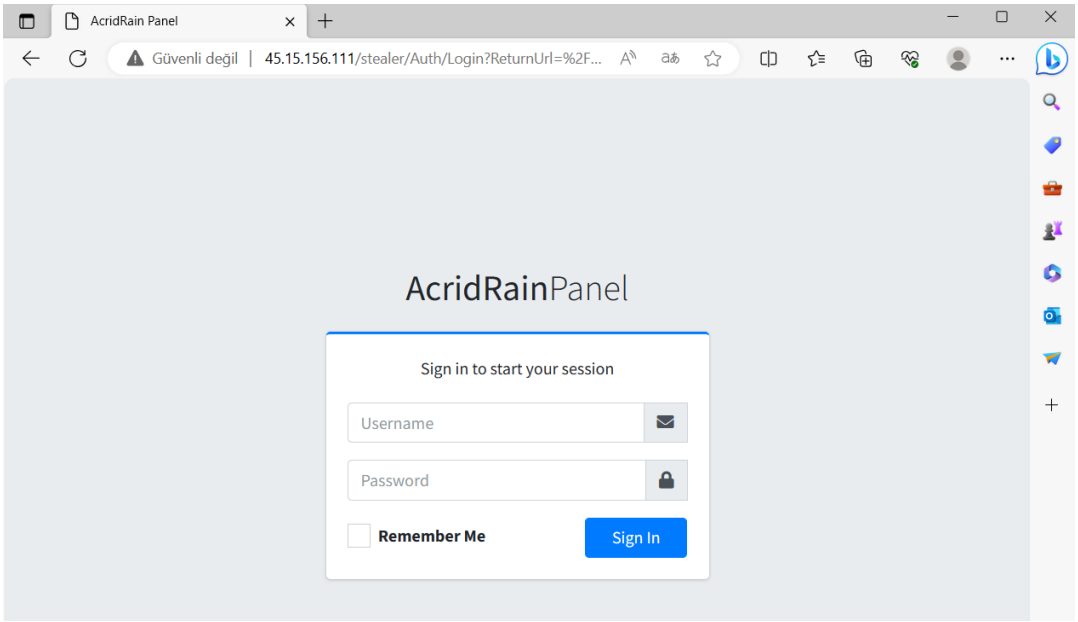


Figure 3- AcridRain Panel

The seller created the dashboard on the server: **"http[:]//45.15.156.111/"**. Once the connection is made, the user is initially directed to the login section.

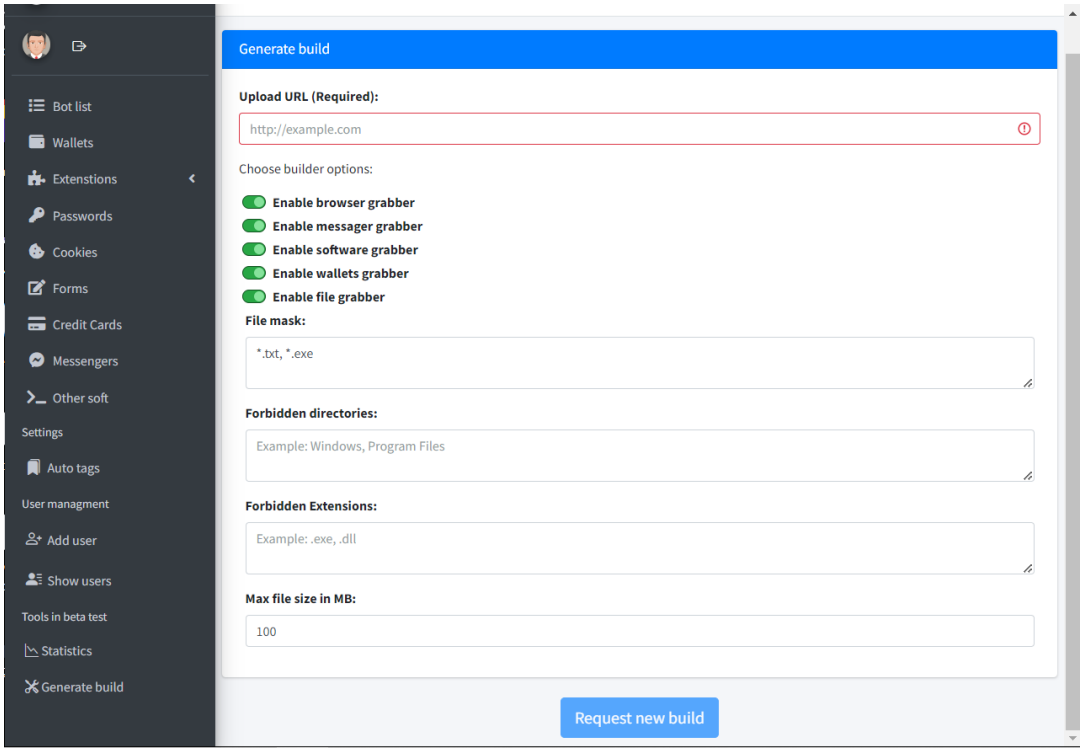


Figure 4- Generate build section

When the user logs into the system, the user can create the malicous file from the 'Generate Build' section. The features of the malicious software to be created are set through the 'Generate Build' section as well. In this section, there are options that the user can configure, such as 'File Mask', 'Forbidden Directories', 'Forbidden Extensions', and 'Max File Size'.

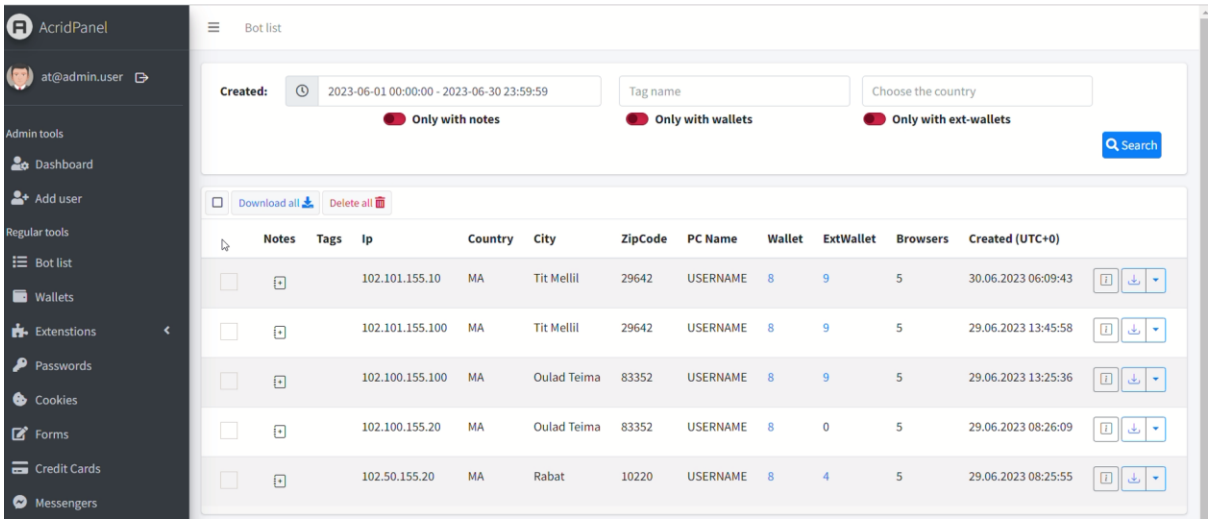


Figure 5- Bot List section

The infected systems can be monitored from 'Bot List' section. In this section, the system user can see all the infected systems with the information of; 'Notes, Tags, IP, Country, City, ZipCode, PC Name, Wallet, ExtWallet, Browsers and Created TimeStamp'. The user can filter for the options he wants to monitor. Also the user can select the infected system for accessing the data.

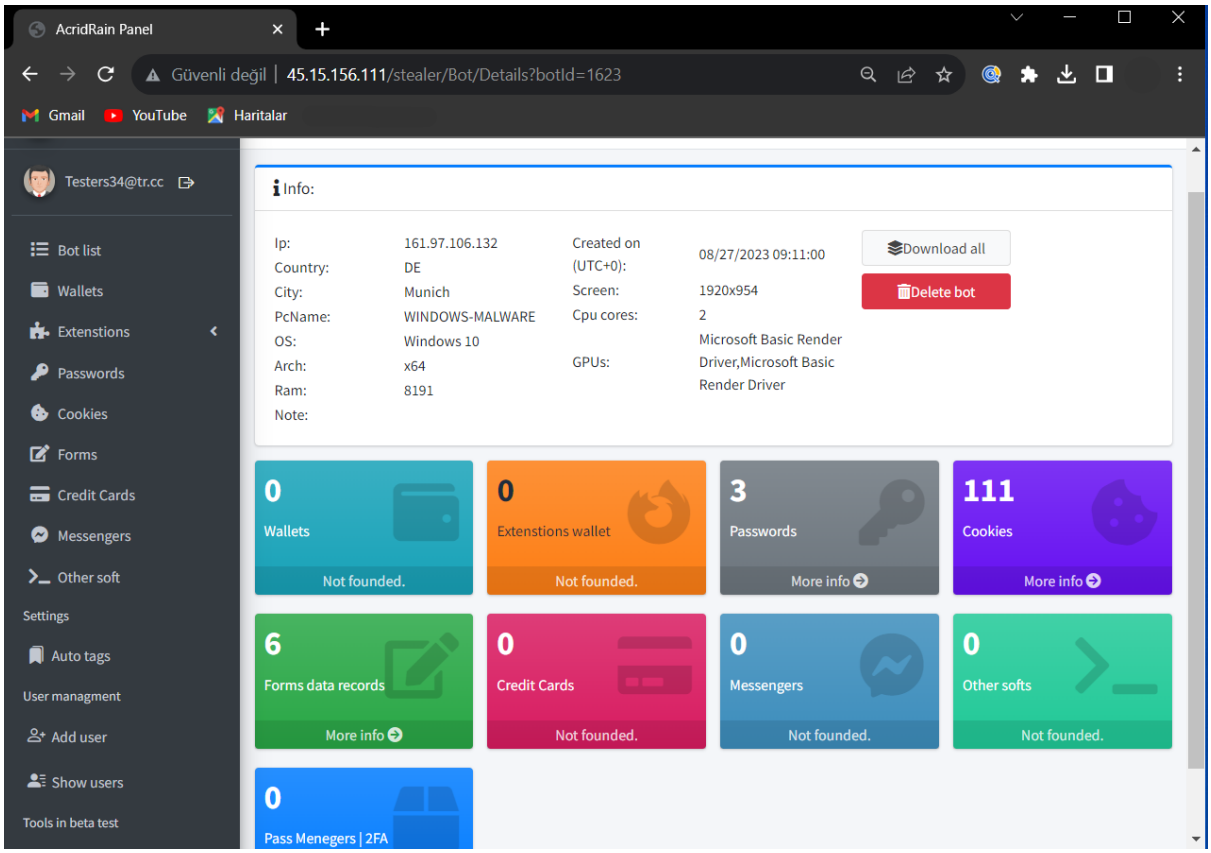


Figure 6- Features display

Once an infected system is selected on the dashboard, the user can see a list of features that the malicous build file sends to the server.

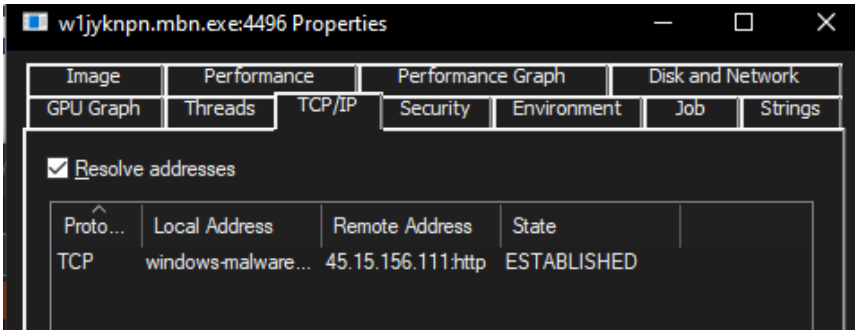


Figure 7- TCP/IP

The build makes a connection with the server that the system user uses. And all the data that's logged from the malicous build is being sent to that server.

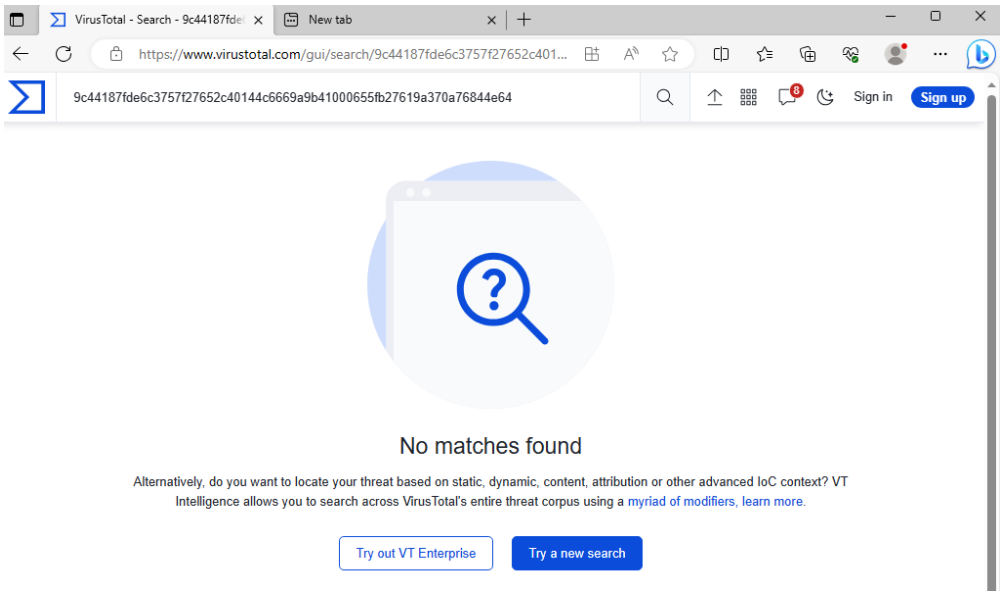


Figure 8- VirusTotal result

The hash information of the stealer does not appear in the VirusTotal results. This situation indicates that the software hasn't been scanned by anyone. For viruses, this is often observed in newly released products.

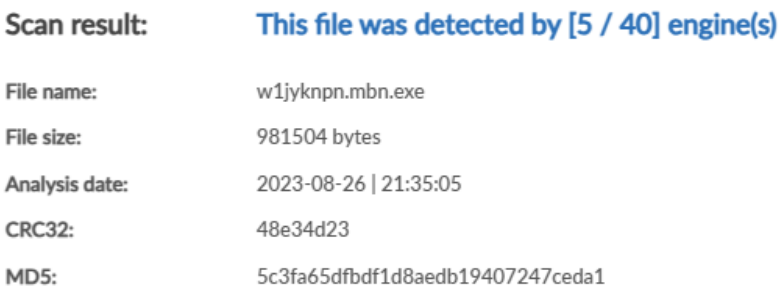


Figure 9- Detection result

On kleenscan, the malicous build file has a detection rate of 5/40 which is quite low for a stealer. The most used antivirus programs are being bypassed with this stealer.
Bypassed cyber security products; Microsoft Defender, Kaspersky, Comodo, Sophos, Trend Micro, Avira, Bitdefender and more.

SheldIO Private Stealer Technical Analysis

Static Analysis

File Name	w1jyknpn.mbn.exe
MD5	5c3fa65dfbdf1d8aedb19407247ceda1
SHA256	e730f494aac938f77be6c05bda35de0a986f7884
File Type	PE/32

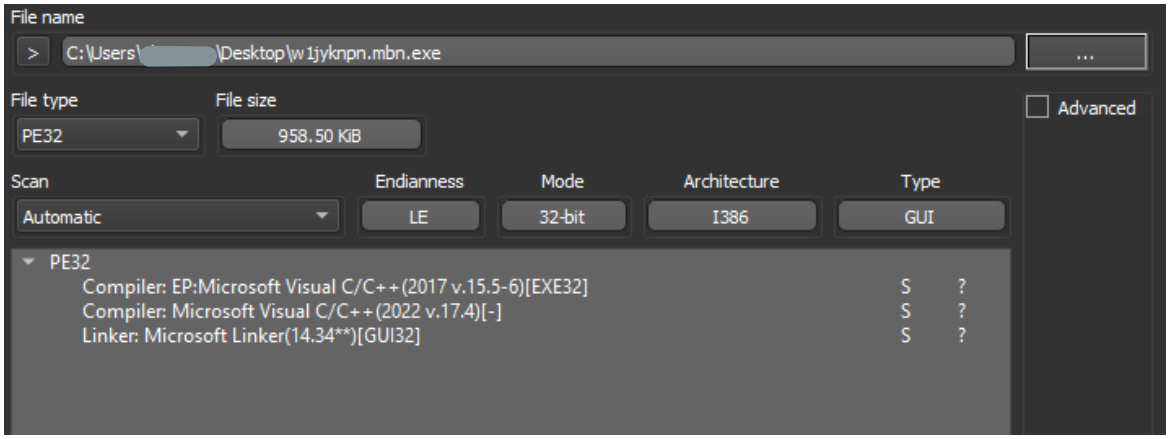


Figure 10-Information about file

The file has **958KB** of disk space and was developed in **C++.** No packaging process was detected.

first-bytes-hex	4D 5A 90 00 03 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 FF FF 00 00 B8 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
first-bytes-text	M Z . . . . . @ . . . . .
file-size	981504 bytes
entropy	6.685
imphash	n/a
signature	Microsoft Visual C++
tooling	Visual Studio 2015
entry-point	E8 AD 04 00 00 E9 7A FE FF FF 83 61 04 00 8B C1 83 61 08 00 C7 41 04 48 24 4C 00 C7 01 40 24 4C 00
file-version	n/a
description	n/a
file-type	executable
cpu	32-bit
subsystem	GUI
compiler-stamp	Sat Aug 26 19:18:56 2023 | UTC
debugger-stamp	Sat Aug 26 19:18:56 2023 | UTC
resources-stamp	n/a
import-stamp	0x00000000
exports-stamp	n/a

Figure 11- PEStudio result of Sheldio malware

This is a 32-bit executable binary file. Compile information and other detailed information about the file appear in the figure.

Dynamic Analysis

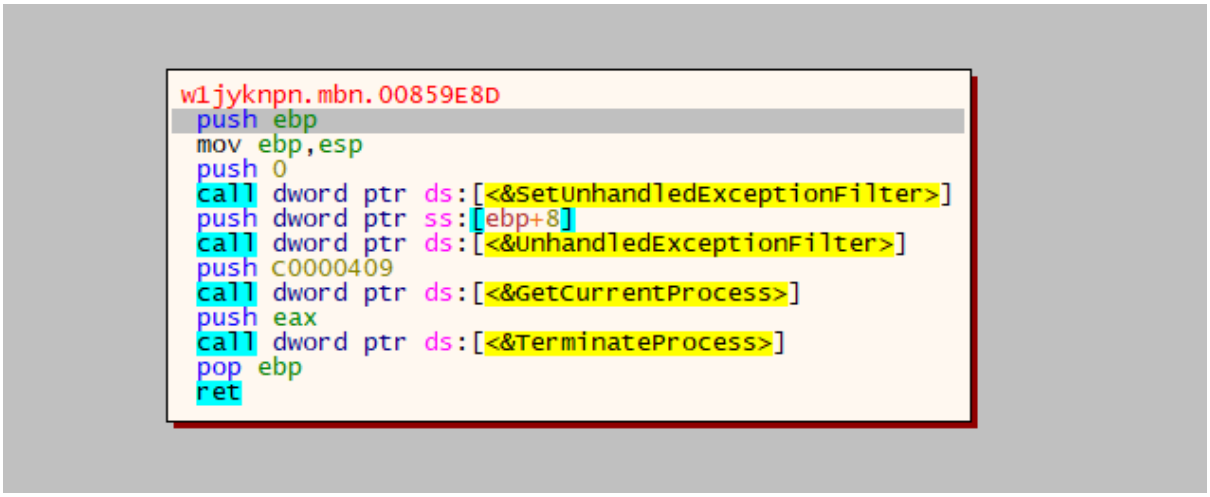


Figure 12- Anti-debug technique

The malicious file first used the **IsProcessorFeaturePresent API** to determine whether it was operating in debug mode or not.

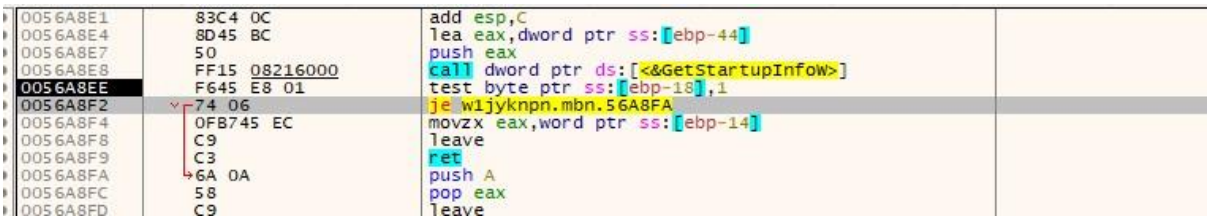


Figure 13- Used GetStartupInfow

Malicious file utilizes the **GetStartupInfoW** API to examine the startup conditions and operating system environment of the target system. This enables the malicious software to conceal itself, thwart monitoring and analysis processes, and better time its attacks on the target system.

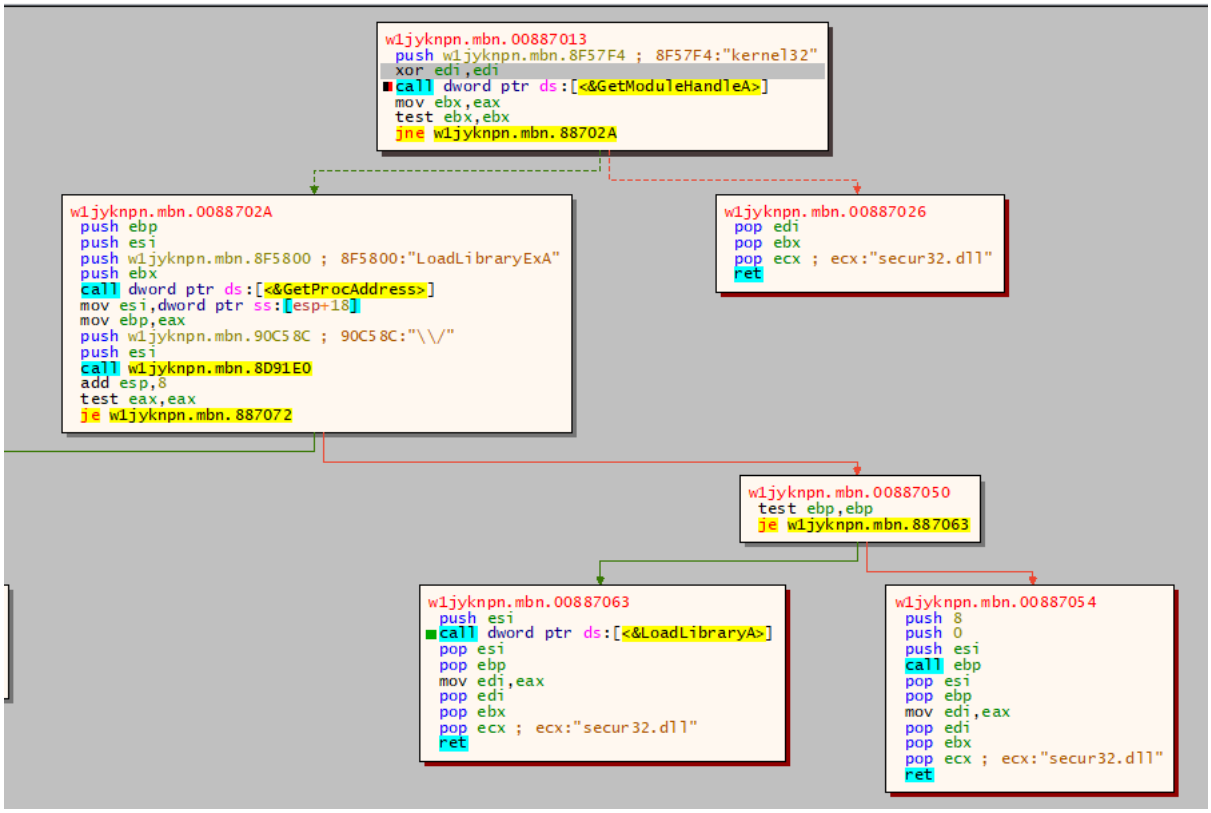


Figure 14- API hashing

The malicious file employs API hashing by utilizing functions like **GetModuleHandleA, GetProcAddress, and LoadLibraryA** to dynamically resolve and obfuscate API function addresses, making it more challenging to detect or analyze the specific API calls it makes during runtime.

Some APIs resolved in runtime are:

AreFileApisANSI	GetUserDefaultLocaleName
CompareStringEx	IsValidLocaleName
EnumSystemLocalesEx	LCIDToLocaleName
GetDateFormatEx	LCMapStringEx
GetTimeFormatEx	LocaleNameToLCID
GetLocaleInfoEx	

Table 1- Resolved APIs

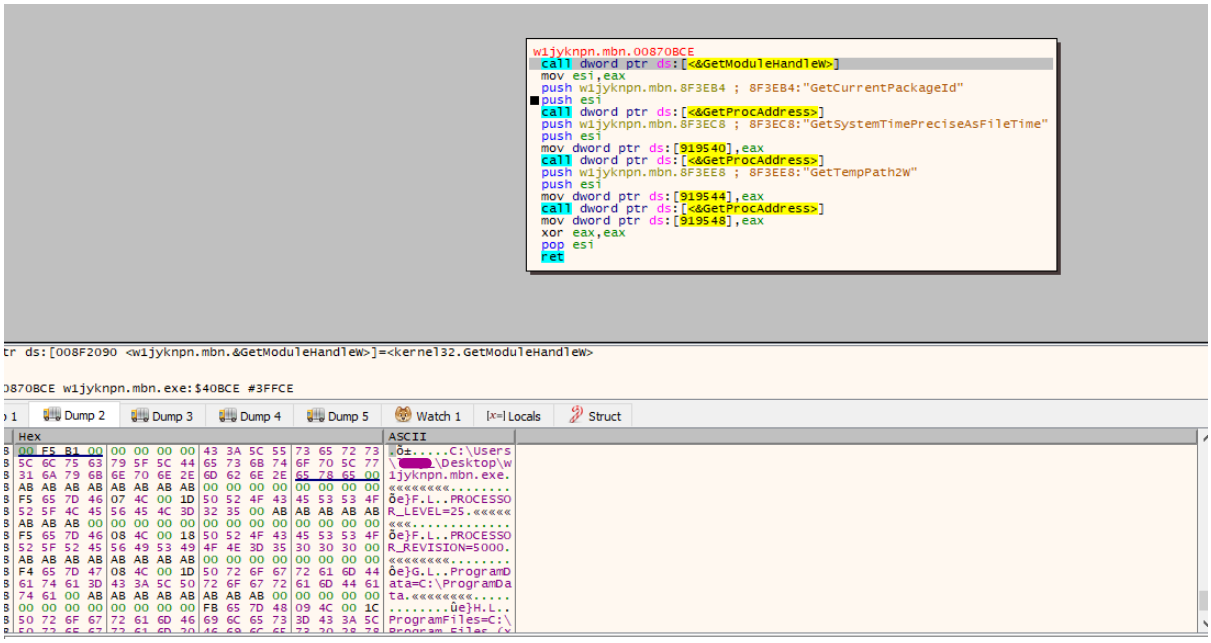


Figure 15- Get Temp Path

The malicious file utilizes the **GetTempPath API** to retrieve the file system path of the Temp directory, enabling it to ascertain the precise location of the Temp directory in the underlying file system. This information is instrumental for various file operations conducted during its execution.

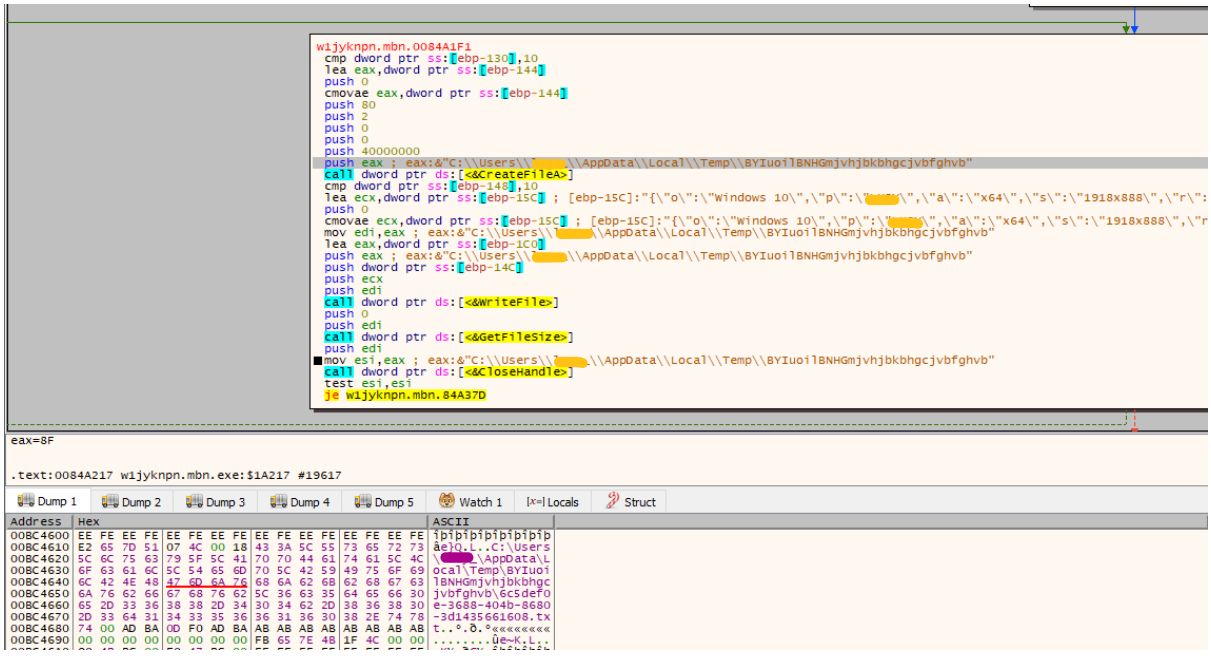


Figure 16- Create file

In this section, it creates a directory named **"BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb"** in the **"C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Temp\"** directory. It creates this folder to store the information it gathers.

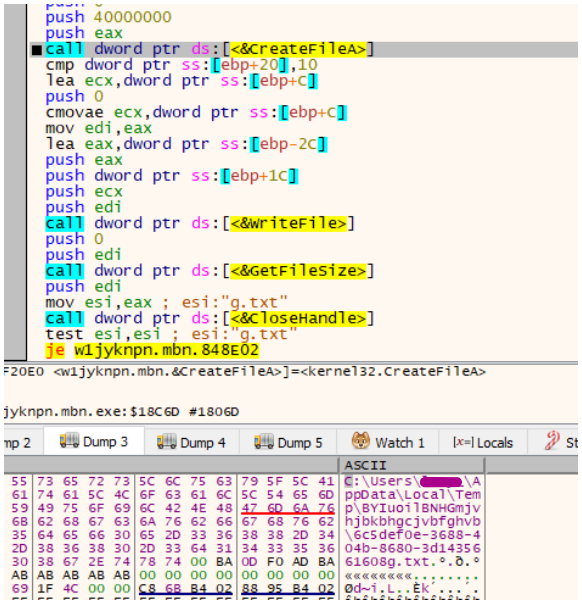


Figure 17- Create txt file

A text file named **"6c5def0e-3688-404b-8680-3d1435661608.txt"** is created in the folder created in the temp directory.

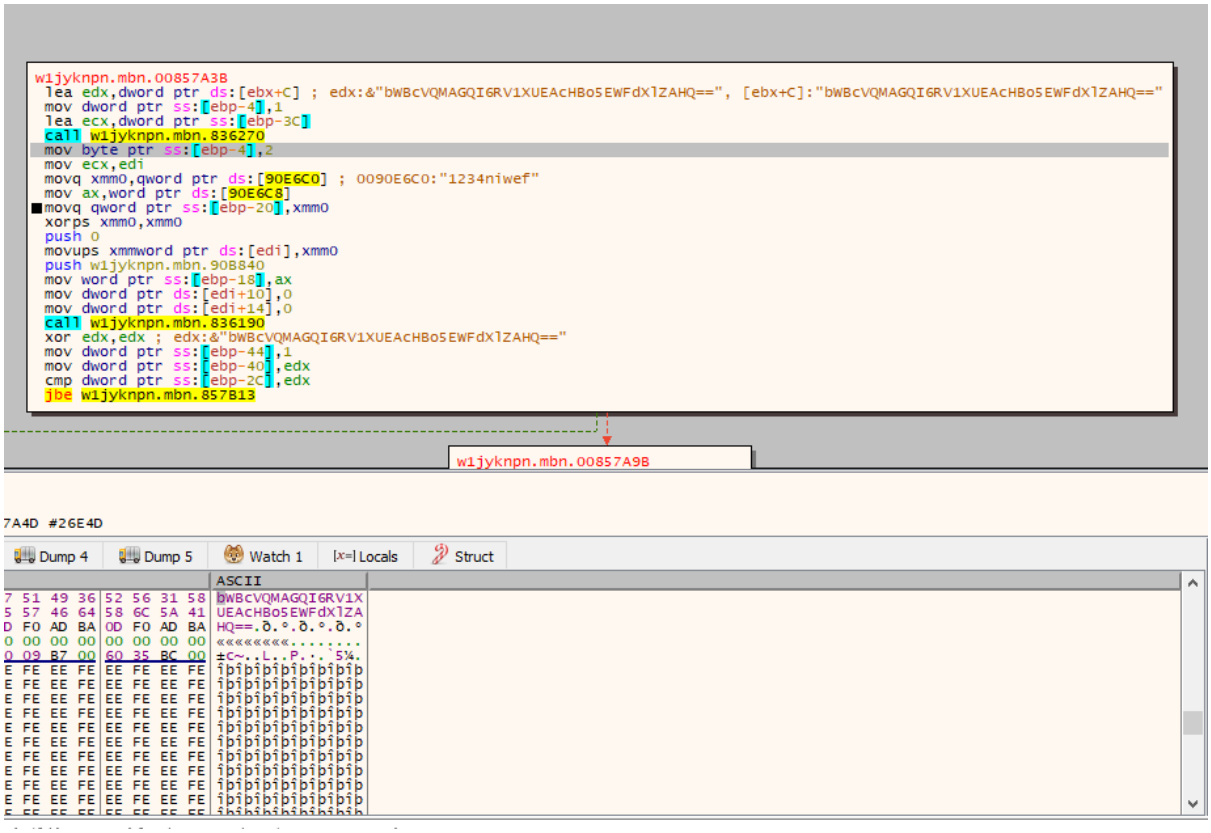


Figure 18- Encoding technique

The malicious file employs an encoding technique to scan for wallet names while evading detection by security products. It employs the **'123niwef'** key to decrypt and retrieve the wallet name that it will search for during its execution.

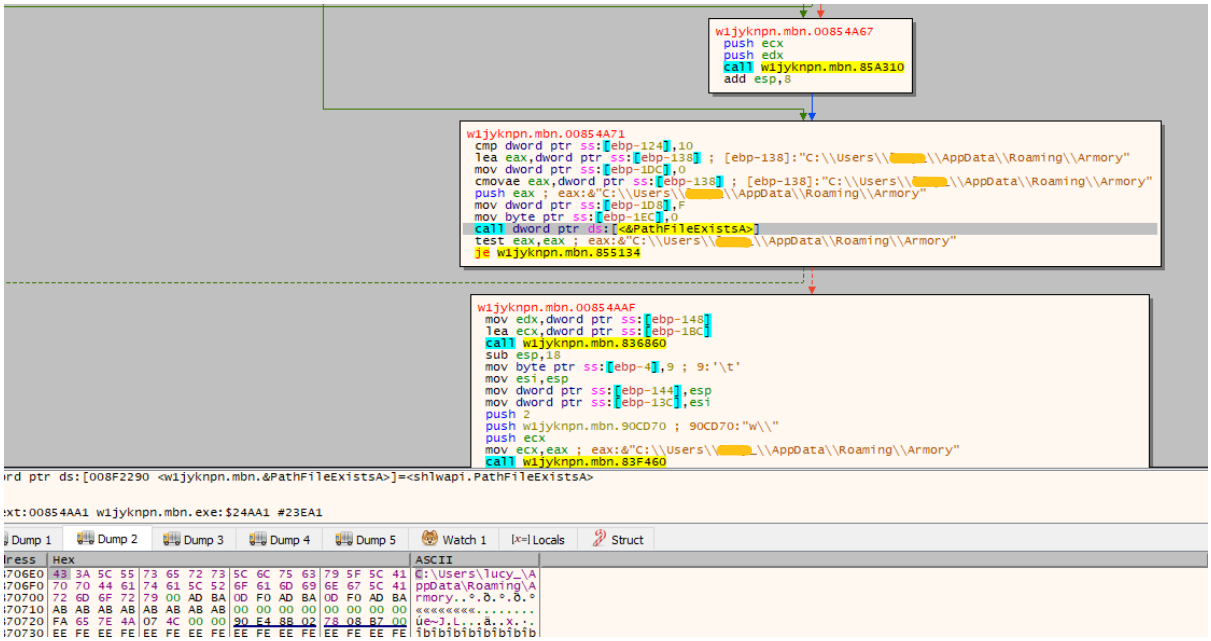


Figure 19- Decryption

The malicious file decrypts sequentially defined encrypted texts at runtime and checks the **wallets and others names it decrypts**, in order, under the Roaming and Local directories using the **PathFileExistA API.** This process involves decrypting the encrypted data and detecting wallet files located in specific directories.

AppData\\Roaming\\Armory\\wallets	AppData\\Roaming\\K-Meleon
AppData\\Roaming\\Electrum\\wallets	AppData\\Roaming\\TorBro\\Profile
AppData\\Roaming\\Bitcoin\\wallets	AppData\\Roaming\\AnyDesk\\chat
AppData\\Roaming\\Exodus\\exodus.wallet	AppData\\Roaming\\FileZilla\\filezilla.xml
AppData\\Roaming\\DashCore\\wallets	AppData\\Roaming\\GHISLER\\wcx_ftp.ini
AppData\\Roaming\\ElectronCash\\wallets	AppData\\Roaming\\Thunderbird\\Profiles
AppData\\Roaming\\Tox	AppData\\Roaming\\Psi+\\profiles\\default
AppData\\Roaming\\Waterfox\\Profiles	AppData\\Roaming\\Mozilla\\icecat\\Profiles
AppData\\Roaming\\FlashPeak\\SlimBrowser \\Profiles	AppData\\Roaming\\Mozilla\\Firefox\\Profiles
AppData\\Local\\NordVPN\\user.configLocal\ \ProtonVPN\\user.config	AppData\\Roaming\\MySQL\\Workbench\\co nnections.xml
AppData\\Local\\Google\\Chrome\\User Data	AppData\\Roaming\\com.liberty.jaxx\\Indexed DB\file__0.indexeddb.leveldb

Table 2- Decrypted names

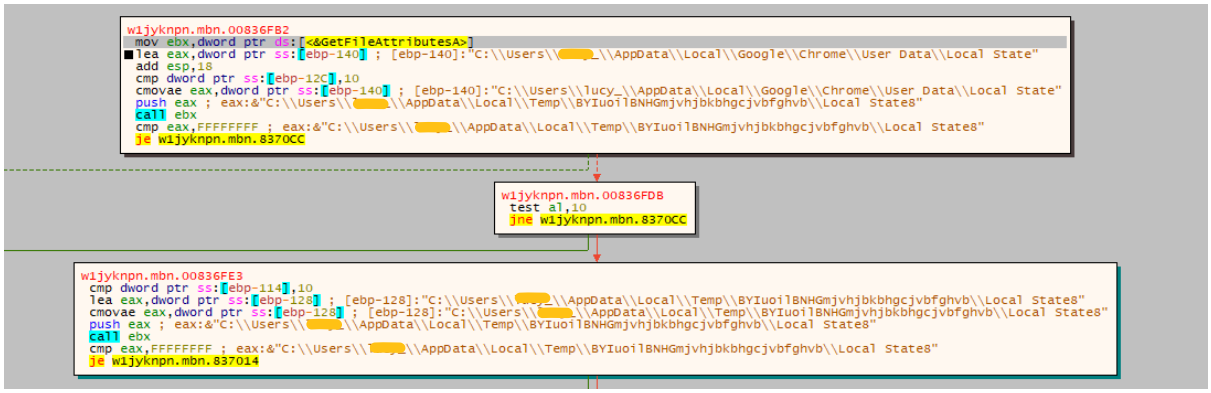


Figure 20- Gets informations from Local State

This malicious file utilizes the GetFileAttributes API to extract the **'Local State'** data from the **C:\\Users\\Admin\\AppData\\Local\\Google\\Chrome\\User Data** location on a target system. Subsequently, it creates **a new file named 'LocalState8'** in the 'Temp' directory to store the stolen information.

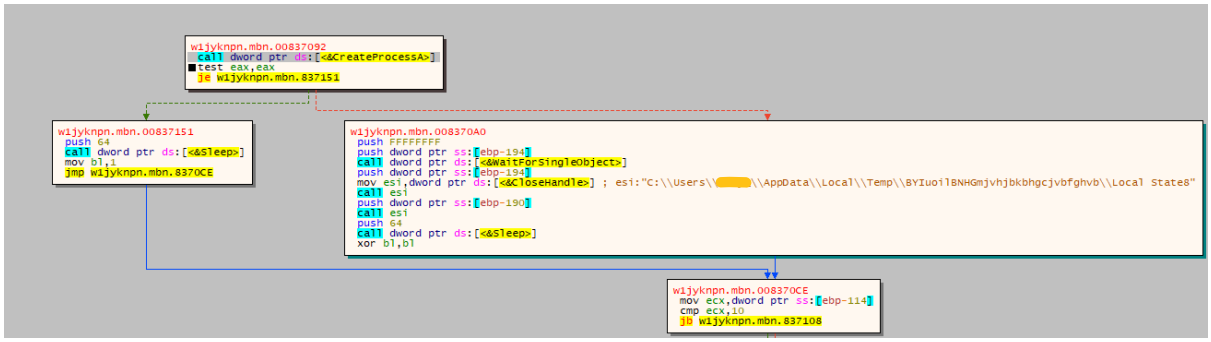


Figure 21- Created Local State8

A process is initiated by using the CreateProcessA API, leading to the creation of a folder named **"BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb"** in the **C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Temp** directory. Within this folder, it stores the **"LocalState8"** file.

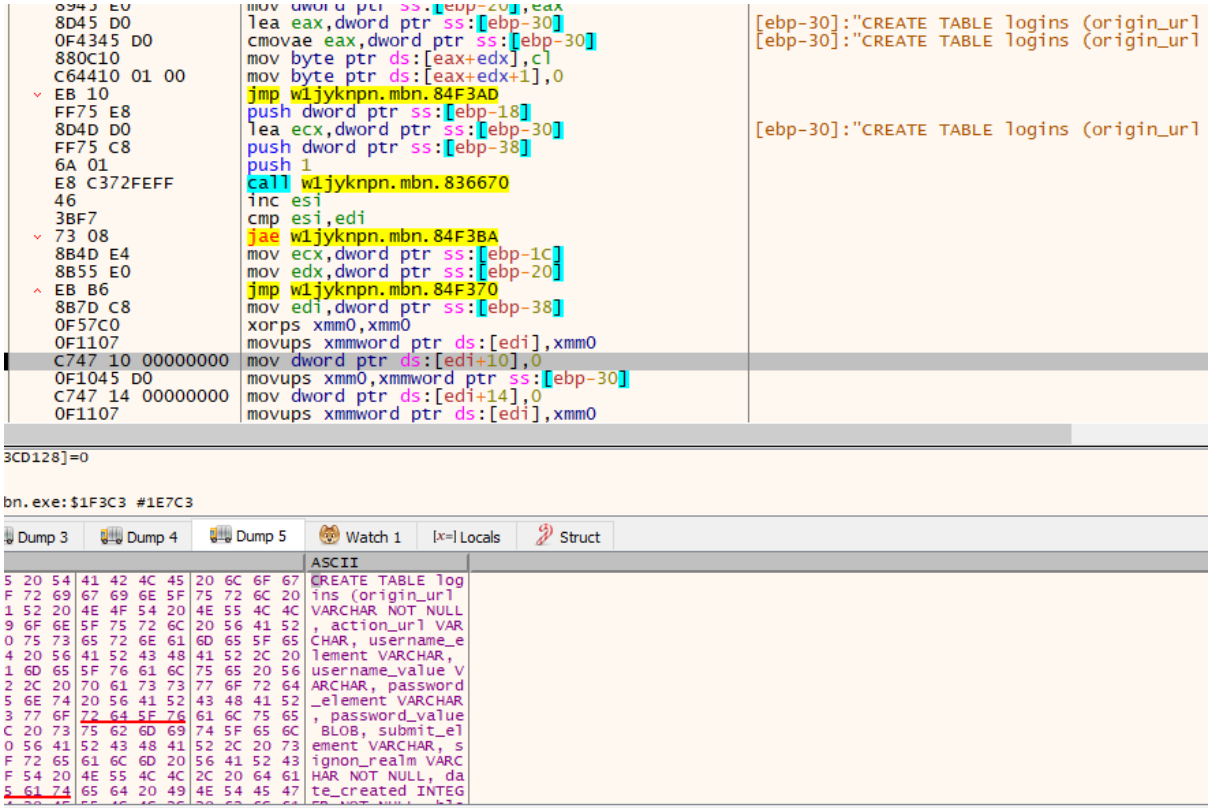


Figure 22- Created Login Data8

The malware extracted the following data from the Login Data database and stored it in the newly created **Login Data8** database table:

- **origin_url:** Source URL
- **action_url:** Action URL
- **username_element:** Username field element
- **username_value:** Username value
- **password_element:** Password field element
- **password_value:** Password value (BLOB)
- **submit_element:** Submit element
- **signon_realm:** Login area
- **date_created:** Date created (INTEGER)
- **blacklisted_by_user:** Blacklisted by user (INTEGER)
- **scheme:** Encryption scheme (INTEGER)
- **password_type:** Password type (INTEGER)
- **times_used:** How many times has it been used? (INTEGER)
- **form_data:** Form data (BLOB)
- **display_name:** Displayed name
- **icon_url:** Icon URL
- **federation_url:** Federation URL

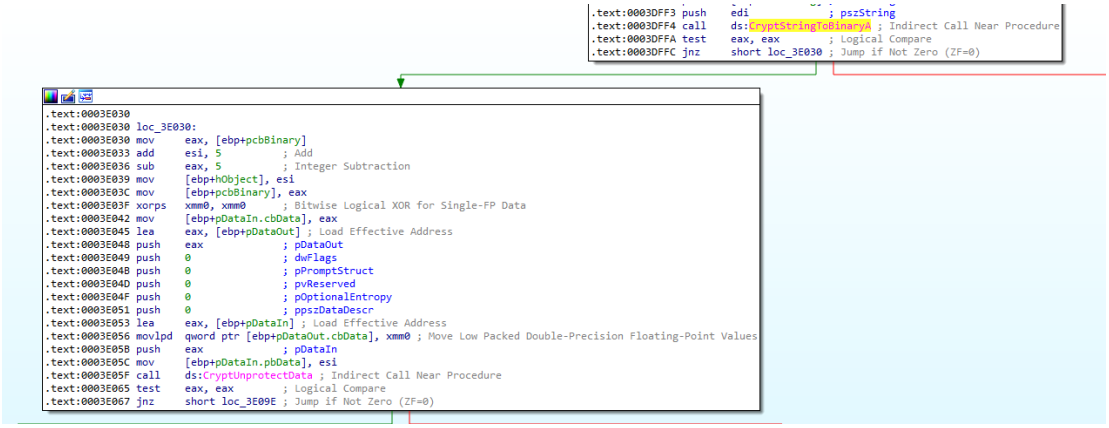


Figure 23- CryptUnprotectedData

"Login Data" files are SQLite databases, and they contain saved passwords for various Chromium-based browsers. In these databases, URLs are stored in the "original_url" field, and usernames and passwords are stored in the "username_value" and "password_value" fields, respectively. Passwords are typically encrypted. The latest versions of Chromium-based browsers encrypt saved passwords using the symmetric Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)-256 encryption key. This AES key is encrypted using the Microsoft Data Protection Application Programming Interface (DPAPI) during the encryption process. DPAPI supports two different data protection scopes: user-specific encryption and machine-specific encryption. Older versions of Chromium-based browsers directly encrypt passwords using the user protection DPAPI mechanism or AES key instead.

The "Sheldio Stealer" is a malicious program that can decrypt passwords that Chromium-based browsers have directly encrypted using DPAPI or the AES key. This is done by using the **"CryptUnprotectData**" function in the context of user protection DPAPI.

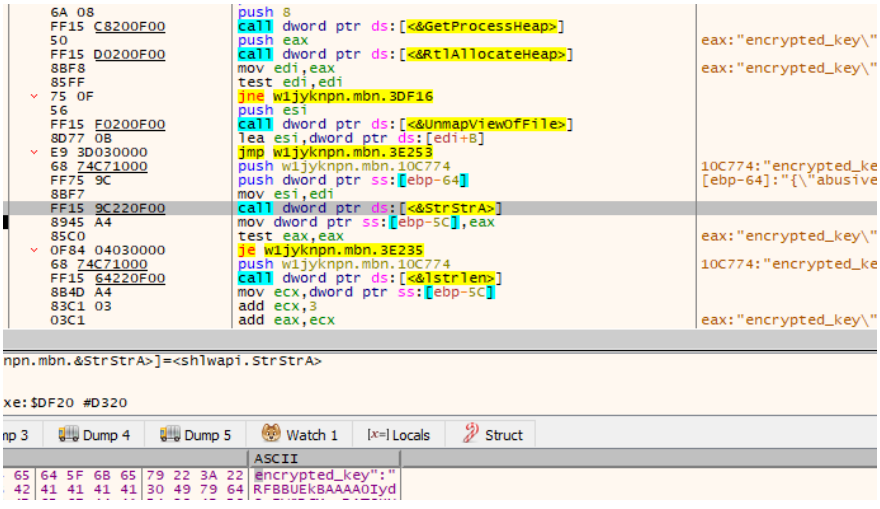


Figure 24- Encrypted_key

The malicious file obtains the encrypted key that is used to decrypt AES-encrypted passwords stored in the browser's database. This key is crucial for decrypting and accessing the saved passwords within the browser.

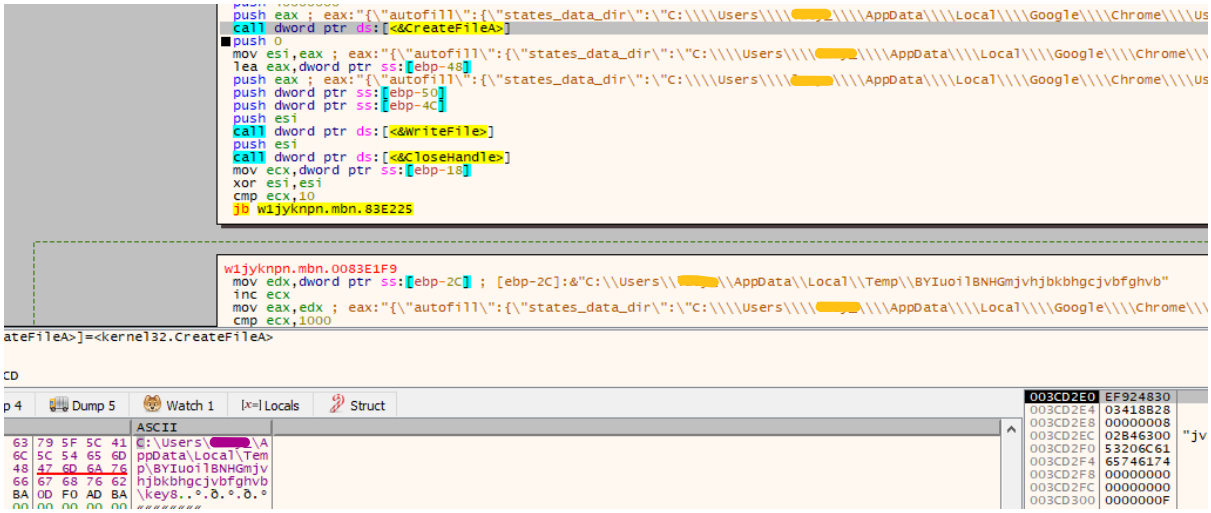


Figure 25- Created key8

The encrypted_key received from **C:\\Users\\Admin\\AppData\\Local\\Temp\\BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb** is saved encrypted in the **key8** file.

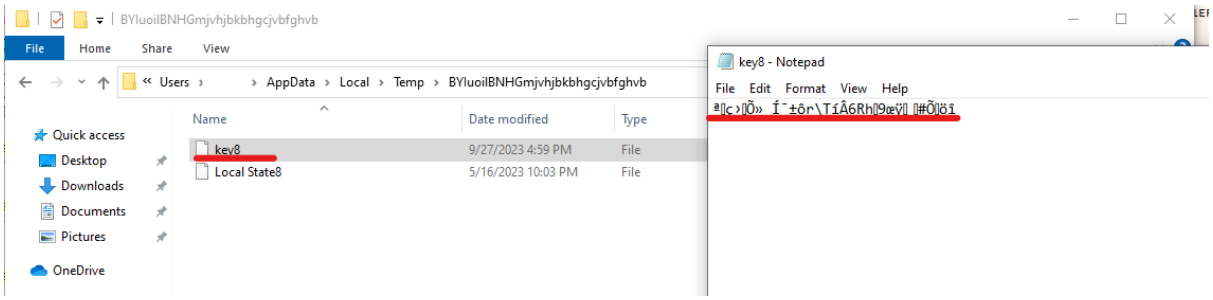


Figure 26- Created key8

"encrypted_key":"RFBBUEk.....Od5n"

“RFBBUEk” is base64 decoded to DPAPI, In this way, the encrypted key is kept as a long base64 in the Local State file. However, the malware encrypts this encrypted_key and sends it to the server. This is often done to make malware harder or prevent it from being detected by security products. "Such encryption and security measures help reduce the risk of detection so malware works more effectively.

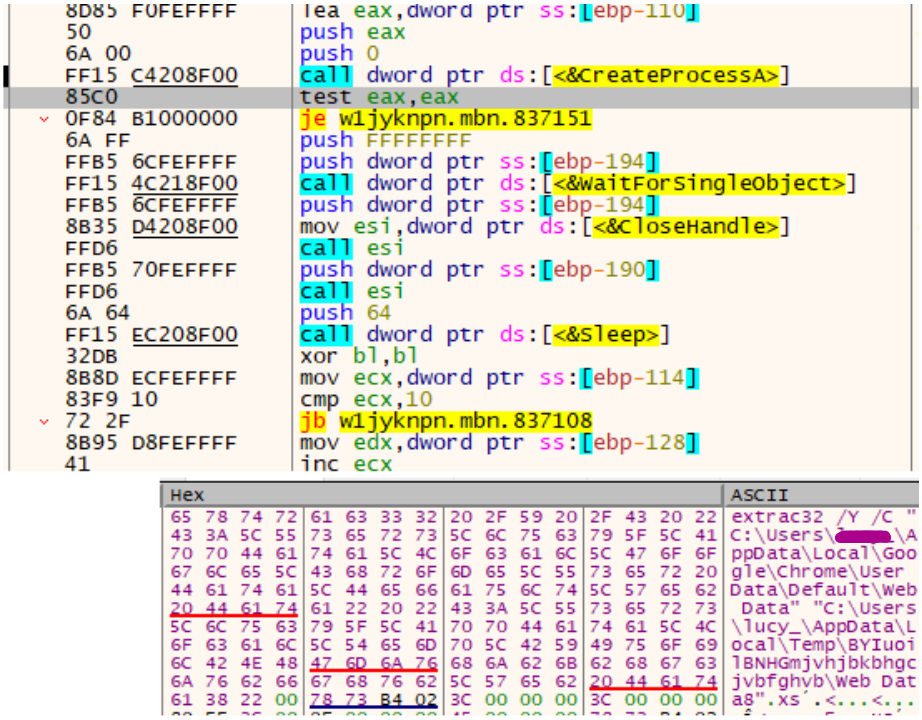


Figure 27- Created Web Data8

The malicious file initiates a process via the command prompt (cmd) using the **extrac32 /Y /C "%s" "%s"** command. Through this process, it extracts data from the **"C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\Web Data"** directory and copies it to the **"BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb\Web Data8"** folder it creates in the temporary directory.

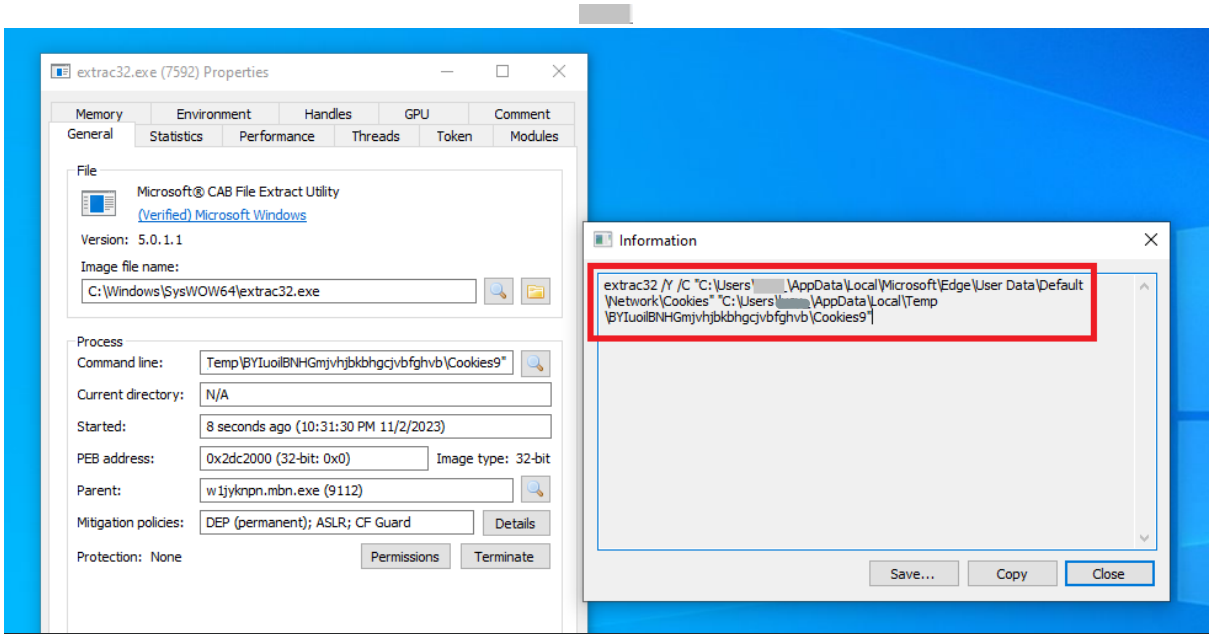


Figure 28- Command Line

It performs all this process sequentially for **Local State, Login Data, Web Data and Cookies.**

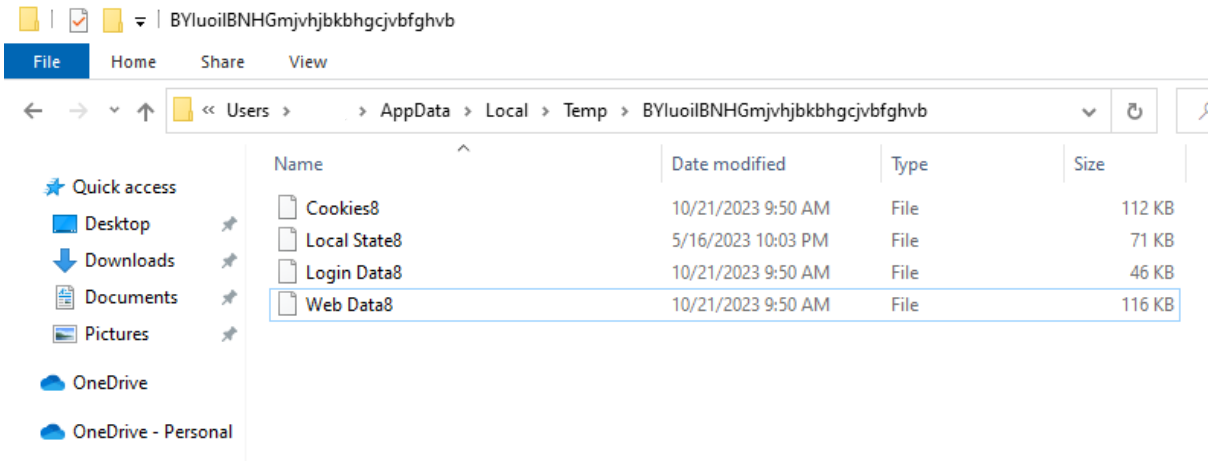


Figure 29- Created Files

The created files are stored in the **"BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb"** folder as shown in figure 23.

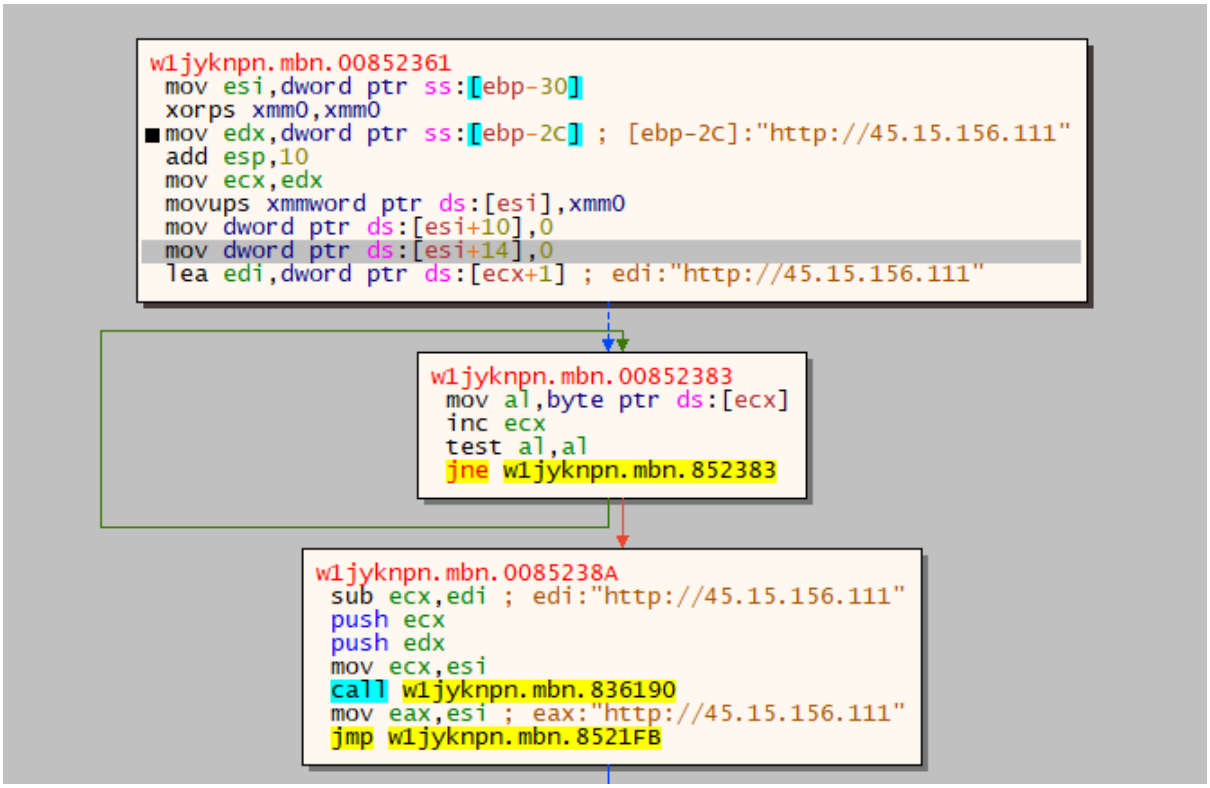


Figure 30- C&C operations

After gets the files, it establishes communication with the server and transmits the data.

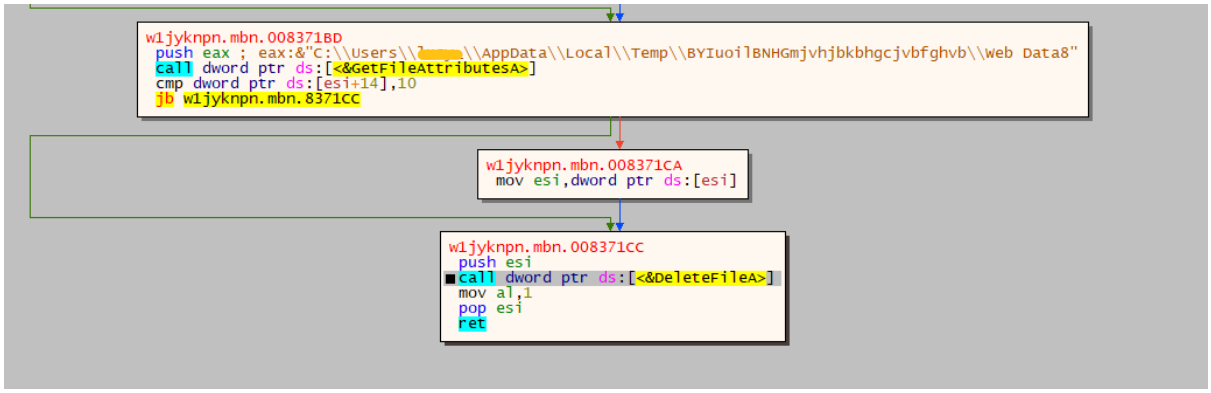


Figure 31- Delete Files

After transmitting the files, it proceeds to systematically delete all the saved files one by one.

Figure 32- Edge Browser

The malicious file performs similar actions for the **Edge browser** as it does for the Chrome browser. It utilizes the **FindFirstFileA API** to conduct a search operation.

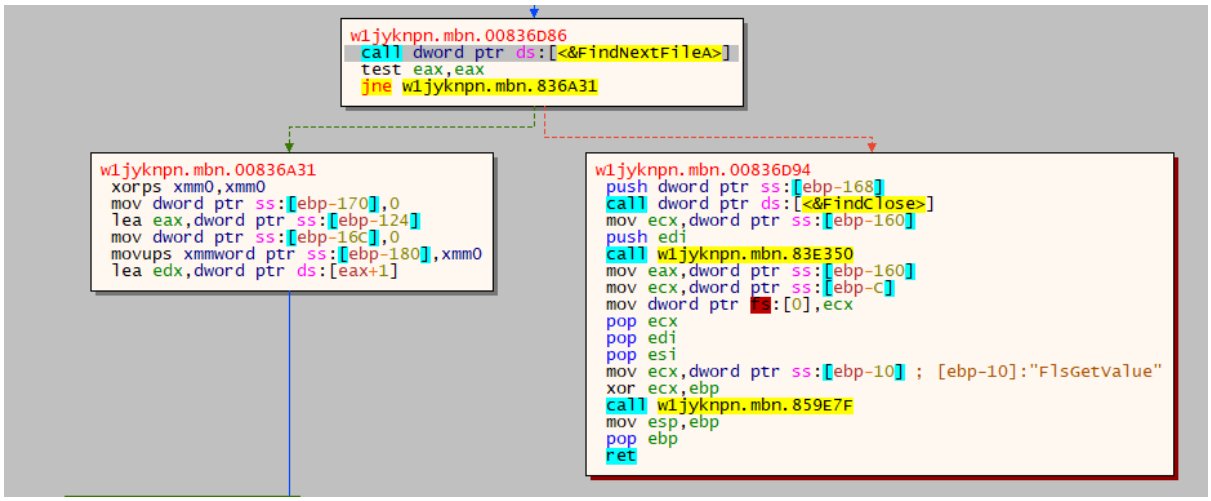


Figure 33- Search operation

The malicious file sequentially scans directories located under the Edge directory using the FindNextFileA API.

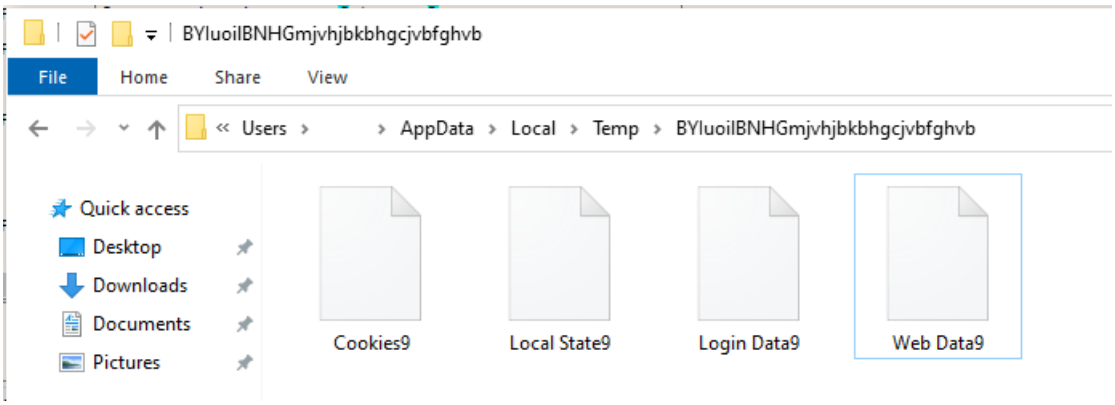


Figure 34- Created Files

It extracts the received data from **C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Edge** and stores it in files with names such as **Login Data9, Cookies9 and Web Data9** in its own temporary directory named **BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb.** It **sends datas to the server** and deletes the files it creates, as implemented in the Chrome browser.

Network

864	31.783228	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP Window Update] 80 → 51278 [ACK
865	31.783276	192.168.109.129	45.15.156.111	TCP	10274 [TCP Window Full] 51278 → 80 [ACK]
866	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=552035
867	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=553495
868	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=554955
869	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=556415
870	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=557875
871	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=559335
872	31.783485	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP ZeroWindow] 80 → 51278 [ACK] S
873	31.786765	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP Window Update] 80 → 51278 [ACK
874	31.786778	192.168.109.129	45.15.156.111	TCP	1514 [TCP Window Full] 51278 → 80 [ACK]
875	31.786846	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP ZeroWindow] 80 → 51278 [ACK] S
876	31.790386	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP Window Update] 80 → 51278 [ACK
877	31.790386	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 [TCP Window Update] 80 → 51278 [ACK
878	31.790405	192.168.109.129	45.15.156.111	TCP	5894 [TCP Window Full] 51278 → 80 [ACK]
879	31.790532	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=563715
880	31.790532	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=565175
881	31.790532	45.15.156.111	192.168.109.129	TCP	60 80 → 51278 [ACK] Seq=26 Ack=566635

Figure 35- Wireshark traffic

In the Wireshark traffic analysis, it was observed that a request was sent to the IP address 45.15156.111, and subsequently, a response was received.

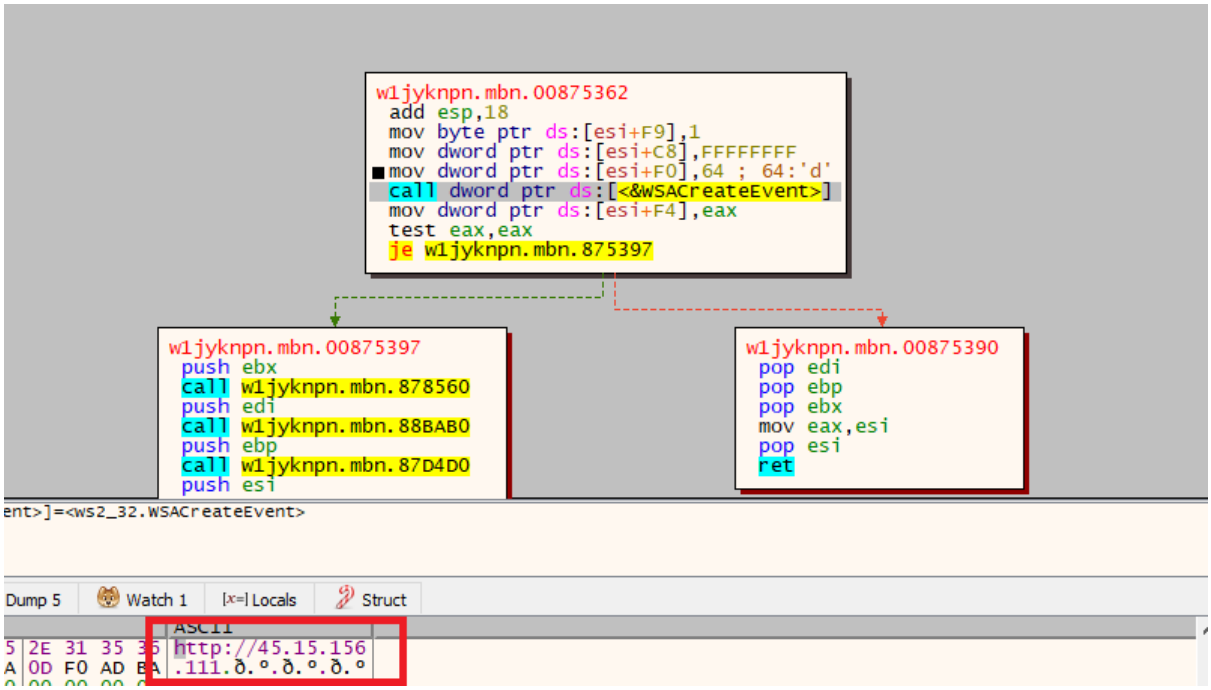


Figure 36- Winsock operations

The **WSACreateEvent** is utilized in the specific context of the IP address **45[.]15.156.111**, indicating its involvement in the initialization and configuration of Winsock components as part of the network communication API

IOCs

IPs :

IOC Type	IOC
IPv4	45.15.156[.]111

HASHs:

IOC Type	IOC
MD5	5c3fa65dfbdf1d8aedb19407247ceda1
SHA1	e730f494aac938f77be6c05bda35de0a986f7884
SHA256	9c44187fde6c3757f27652c40144c6669a9b41000655fb27619a370a76844e64

YARA RULE

```
rule Sheldio{
meta:
    author = "Kerime Gencay"
    description = "Sheldio Stealer Rule"
    file_name = "w1jyknpn.mbn.exe"
    hash = "5c3fa65dfbdf1d8aedb19407247ceda1"
strings:
    $s1 = "fV1UXQBJMwQSYQ==" //Login Data
    $s2 = "ZldRFCoIAwQ=" //Web Data
    $s3 = "1234niwef"
    $s4 = "BYIuoilBNHGmjvhjbkbhgcjvbfghvb"
    $s5 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6QUNfXEYX" //Roaming
    $s6 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6TV5IWlgCCCsjD3JUVFxMMjkFCgBpXVdA"
    $s7 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6TV5IWlgCCCsMBWVSU0doPhsYAw9sVEE="
    $s8 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6VFlHXVALGxUMFGRtYkFbCAAbABU="
    $s9 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6Sxx/VlgLBhk=" //K-Meleon
    $s10 = "bX5cVw8FKyIJb1ZeVmgtAQUKC2VtZ0BRHEkzBBJh" //UserData
    $s11 = "bXxWQBkGBQ46Q15dWF0LGg==" //"Network\\Cookies"
    $s12 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6dEZbURwMAgg6WldKRxoGBQA="
    $s13 = "bWBcVQMAGQI6VF5AcUYBNScXCWZYXlY="
    $s14 = "ZltdUAEeBEU1ZUNEVkZOW0dUVCBjAA=="
    $s15 = "QldHQAcHEBY="
    $s16 = "bX5cVw8FK1I1dFBAbwM9HRYXOlVCV0EUKggDBA=="
    $s17 = "bX5cVw8FKzQvUBFhRkYINSIWA3IRdlJADw=="

    $ipaddr = "http://45.15.156.111"

    $opc1 = {83 7D D8 10 8D 75 C4 B8 67 66 66 66 0F 43 75 C4 F7 EA C1
FA 02 8B C2 C1 E8 1F 03 C2 8B 55 C0 8D 0C 80 8B C2 03 C9 2B C1 8B 4F 10
8A 44 05 E0 32 04 16 8B 77 14 88 45 DC 3B CE}
    $opc2 = {33 F6 FF 15 78 20 4C 00 8B F8 85 FF 75 0B 89 35 70 96 4E
00 E9 2E 01 00 00 53 55 8B 2D B0 20 4C 00 68 00 58 4C 00 57}

condition:
    uint16(0) == 0x5A4D and
    filesize < 1MB and
    (any of ($s*,$opc*,$ipaddr))
}
```

MITRE ATT&CK TABLE

Discovery	Command and Control	Defense Evasion	Persistence	Credential Access	Reconnaissance
T1012 Query Registry	T1102 Web Service	T1027 Obfuscated Files or Information	T1047 Create or Modify Systems	T1539 Steal Web Sessions	T1566 Phishing
T1614 System Location Discovery					T1592 Gather Victim Host Information
T1217 Browser Information Discovery					

MITIGATIONS

- Configure firewalls on your network to block incoming and outgoing connections from suspicious IP addresses. This can prevent RATs from establishing communication with command and control servers.
- Keep your operating system, applications, and security software up-to-date. Updates often include patches that fix vulnerabilities exploited by RATs.
- Install antivirus and anti-malware software. Perform regular scans to detect and remove any malwares infections.
- If not needed, disable remote desktop services. If needed, ensure strong passwords and proper authentication methods are in place.
- Unplug or disable devices such as webcams, microphones, or USB drives when not in use. Malwares can abuse these devices for surveillance.
- Whenever possible, enable 2FA for all accounts, including email and cloud services. This can thwart unauthorized access.
- Monitor your system's running processes for any unusual or unfamiliar ones. Use task managers or specialized tools to detect suspicious activity.
- Ensure strong and unique passwords for all accounts. Avoid using easily guessable information.
- Be cautious of unsolicited emails, attachments, or links. Stealers can often be delivered through phishing emails.
- Allow only approved applications to run on your system. This can prevent malwares from executing even if they manage to infiltrate.
- Regularly review and update your firewall rules to ensure they're effective against malicious traffic.

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