

# HONEYBEE



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# A SURVEY ON HONEYBEE: ABOUT , WEAPON OF CHOICE , TECHNIQUES & ENGAGEMENTS

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## I. ABOUT

The honeybee is a campaign led by an unknown actor that targets organizations involved in humanitarian aid and inter-Korean affairs and has been active in Vietnam, Singapore, Argentina, Japan, Indonesia, and Canada. It has been an active operation since August of 2017 to February 2018.

## II. TARGET SECTORS

Organizations involved in humanitarian aid and inter-Korean affairs.

## III. METHODS USED

Generally, they use malicious documents such as the lure messages that contain a Visual Basic macro.

## IV. ENGAGEMENTS

- The actor behind Honeybee has been operating with new implants since at least November 2017 with the first known version of NTWDBLIB installer.
- On 15 January 2018, Advanced Threat Research discovered an operation using a new variant of the SYSCON backdoor.
- On 17 January 2018, a Korean-language Word document manual.doc appeared in Vietnam, with the original author name of Honeybee.

## V. COMMON ATTRIBUTIONS

- Contain the same Visual Basic macro code and author name as Honeybee.
- Used the same macro and same type of implant.
- These documents do not contain the typical lures by this actor, instead of using Word compatibility messages to entice victims into opening them.



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## VI. IOC

### C&C

1. [ftp.byethost31.com](ftp://ftp.byethost31.com)
2. [ftp.byethost11.com](ftp://ftp.byethost11.com)
3. [1113427185.ifastnet.org](http://1113427185.ifastnet.org)
4. [navermail.byethost3.com](mailto:navermail@byethost3.com)
5. [nihon.byethost3.com](http://nihon.byethost3.com)

### MD5

1. [fe32d29fa16b1b71cd27b23a78ee9f6b7791bff3](#)
2. [f684e15dd2e84bac49ea9b89f9b2646dc32a2477](#)
3. [1d280a77595a2d2bbd36b9b5d958f99be20f8e06](#)
4. [19d9573f0b2c2100accd562cc82d57adb12a57ec](#)
5. [f90a2155ac492c3c2d5e1d83e384e1a734e59cc0](#)

## VII. REFERENCES

- <https://attack.mitre.org/groups/G0072/>
- <https://www.mcafee.com/blogs/other-blogs/mcafee-labs/mcafee-uncovers-operation-honeybee-malicious-document-campaign-targeting-humanitarian-aid-groups/>
- <https://apt.thaicert.or.th/cgi-bin/showcard.cgi?g=Honeybee&n=1>