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FM DIRECTOR FBI (288-HQ-1234199)

TO ALL FBI FIELD OFFICES/IMMEDIATE/

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FBI - Information

JUL 08 1999

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SECTION ONE OF THREE SECTIONS

CITE: //1301//

PASS: NIC WARNING STAFF TO NATIONAL WARNING COMMUNITY; JTF-CND

APPROPRIATE DOD FACILITIES, SERVICE COMPONENTS AND TARGET

LOCATIONS; NIPC TO FEDCIRC, CARNEGIE MELLON CERT.

SUBJECT: NIPC INFORMATION SYSTEM ADVISORY (NIPC ADVISORY 99-016).

GROUP IN EXISTENCE SINCE 1984) RELEASED A PRODUCT CALLED QUOTE

BACK ORIFICE UNQUOTE AT LAST YEAR'S DEFCON VI HACKER CONVENTION.

CDC HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO RELEASE A NEW VERSION OF BACK ORIFICE

(BACK ORIFICE 2000) ON JULY 10TH AT THE DEFCON VII CONVENTION

LAS VEGAS. THE PRODUCT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS A FREE DOWNLOAD

ON THAT DATE.

2: (U) THE ORIGINAL 1998 RELEASE OF BACK ORIFICE INCLUDED THE
FOLLOWING CAPABILITIES:

A. RETRIEVAL OF SYSTEM INFORMATION INCLUDING CURRENT USER, CPU
TYPE, WINDOWS VERSION, MEMORY USAGE, MOUNTED DISKS AND DRIVE
INFORMATION, SCREENSAVER PASSWORD, AND PASSWORDS CACHED BY USERS
(DIAL-UPS, WEB AND NETWORK ACCESS, ETC).

B. FILE SYSTEM CONTROL: COPY, RENAME, DELETE, VIEW, SEARCH,

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COMPRESS, AND DECOMPRESS FILES.

C. PROCESS CONTROL: LIST, SPAWN, KILL.

D. REGISTRY CONTROL: LIST, CREATE, DELETE, SET KEYS AND VALUES.

E. NETWORK CONTROL.

F. MULTIMEDIA CONTROL (INCLUDING SCREEN CAPTURE).

G. PACKET REDIRECTION AND SNIFFING.

H. APPLICATION REDIRECTION (SPAWN MOST APPLICATIONS ON A SPECIFIC PORT, SUCH AS TELNET).

I. HTTP SERVER (UPLOAD AND DOWNLOAD FILES).

J. RUNS ON START-UP WITH NO ENTRY IN THE TASK LIST.

3. (U) BACK ORIFICE 2000 WILL REPORTEDLY INCLUDE SEVERAL FEATURES NOT FOUND IN THE ORIGINAL VERSION, INCLUDING WINDOWS NT COMPATIBILITY (THE ORIGINAL PROGRAM ONLY WORKED ON WINDOWS 95/98), OPEN PLUG-IN ARCHITECTURE FOR 3RD PARTY ADD-ONS, STRONG CRYPTOGRAPHY, AND OPEN SOURCE CODE AVAILABLE UNDER GNU PUBLIC LICENSE.

4. (U) ASSESSMENT.

A. (FOUO) BACK ORIFICE 2000 WINDOWS NT COMPATIBILITY COULD

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SECTION TWO OF THREE SECTIONS

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TEXT CONTINUES:

GREATLY INCREASE THE POTENTIAL FOR DAMAGE TO NETWORK

INFRASTRUCTURE. THE PREVIOUS VERSION ONLY AFFECTED WINDOWS 95/98

MACHINES, GENERALLY USED AS NETWORK CLIENTS. HOWEVER, INFECTION

OF NETWORK SERVERS (COMMONLY RUNNING WINDOWS NT) COULD

DRAMATICALLY INCREASE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF AN INFECTION IN

TERMS OF BOTH DATA LOSS AND CONNECTIVITY DISRUPTION.

B: (FOUO) THE EXPECTED COMBINATION OF OPEN SOURCE CODE AND PLUG-

IN ARCHITECTURE WOULD MAKE BACK ORIFICE 2000 POTENTIALLY MORE

DESTRUCTIVE AND DIFFICULT TO ERADICATE THAN ITS PREDECESSOR. THE

ORIGINAL BACK ORIFICE WAS FOLLOWED BY A SMALL NUMBER OF

THIRD-PARTY ADD-ONS; IT APPEARS THAT CDC IS MAKING AN EFFORT TO

ENCOURAGE THIRD-PARTIES TO ENHANCE BACK ORIFICE 2000, IN LINE

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WITH THE GENERAL PHILOSOPHY OF OPEN-SOURCE PROGRAMMING ADVOCATES. EXPECT SIGNIFICANT VARIANTS TO APPEAR AFTER THE INITIAL RELEASE WHICH COULD INCLUDE VARIOUS PROPAGATION FEATURES, REMOTE INFORMATION TRANSMISSION, OR CORRUPTION AND DESTRUCTION OF DATA. THESE VARIANTS MAY REQUIRE ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE AND NETWORK PROTECTION UPDATES. EXPECTED BACK ORIFICE 2000 FEATURES COULD EASILY INCORPORATE CUSTOMIZED MALICIOUS CODE WITH THE BASIC PRODUCT.

5. (FOUO) RECOMMENDATIONS. BACK ORIFICE 2000 WILL LIKELY BE USED IN A SELECTIVE OR TARGETED MANNER SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS NETWORK SECURITY EXPLOITS. EXPECTED NT COMPATIBILITY WILL MAKE CORPORATE, GOVERNMENT, AND MILITARY SYSTEMS INCREASINGLY ATTRACTIVE TARGETS. THESE COMMONLY TARGETED GROUPS SHOULD AGGRESSIVELY REVIEW AND MONITOR COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY MEASURES TO PROTECT AGAINST THE KIND OF EXPLOITS CAUSED OR SUPPORTED BY BACK ORIFICE 2000. ADDITIONALLY, SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATION OF BACK ORIFICE 2000 FOR EXPANDED MALICIOUS IMPACT IS POSSIBLE, AND SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED.

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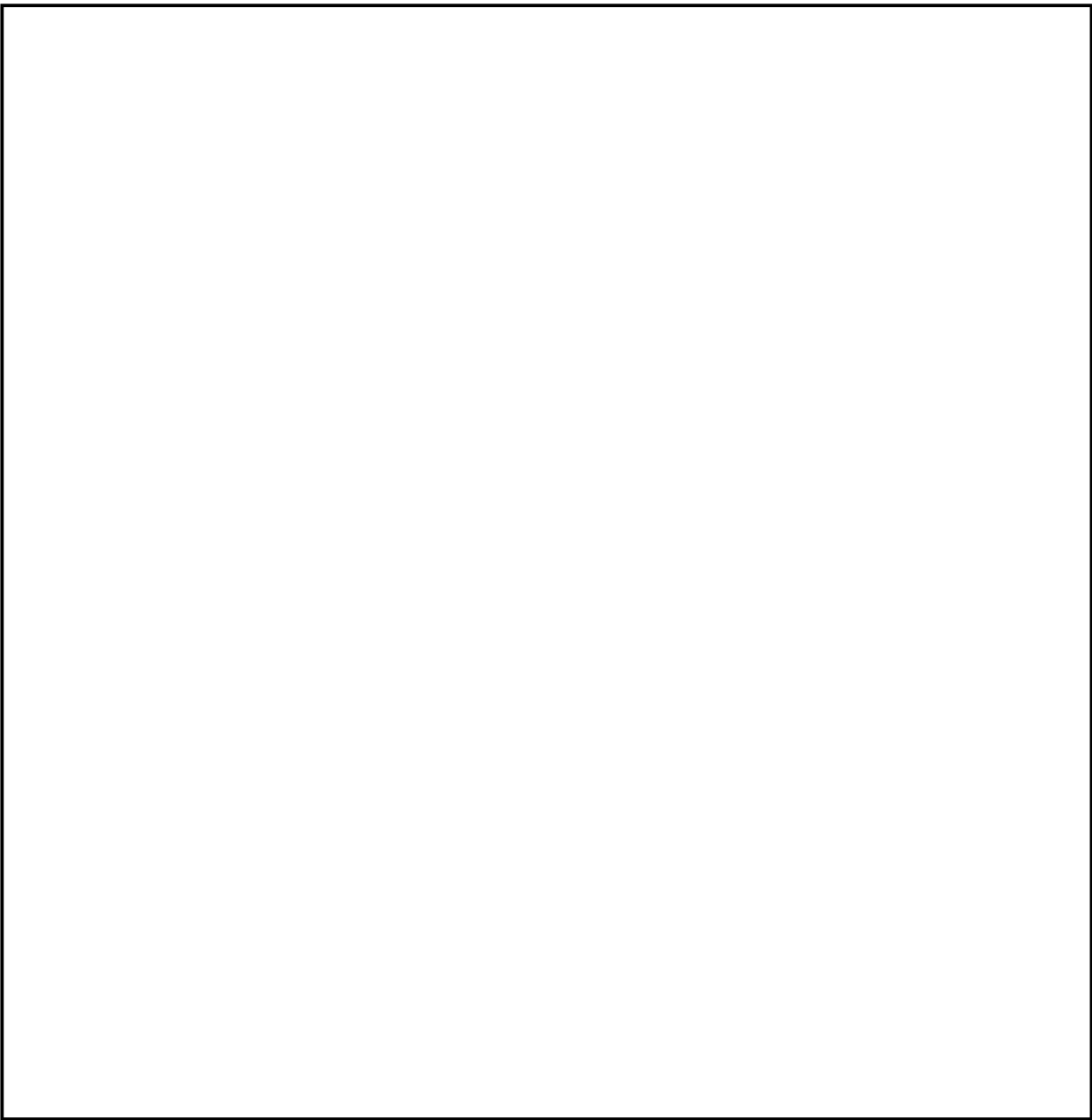
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TEXT CONTINUES:

6. (U) QUESTIONS AND REPORTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE NIPC WATCH
& WARNING UNIT, CERT ORGANIZATIONS, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
PERSONNEL, AS APPROPRIATE. THE NIPC WATCH & WARNING UNIT CAN BE
REACHED AT [REDACTED] (COMMERCIAL) OR [REDACTED]
(CLASSIFIED) FROM 6AM TO 11PM WASHINGTON LOCAL TIME, OR E-MAIL AT

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