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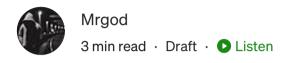
Search Medium



Write



















NOVA CTF 2023 (Forensics)

CHALLENGE: NOVA_VIRUS

CATEGORY: FORENSICS

CHALLENGE DESCRIPTION:

The player has been recruited as an agent by the Impossible Mission Force (IMF) to investigate a virus that has infected a top-secret government computer system. The virus is causing havoc within the system, and the player must find the source of the infection and extract the hidden flag.

Given File: nova_virus.bin



You've got yourself a mission here! Let's dive right in and see what kind of adventure we can have.

So, you want to identify the hash of a file called nova_virus.bin? Well, that's easy peasy lemon squeezy! Just use the command

```
$md5sum nova_virus.bin
```

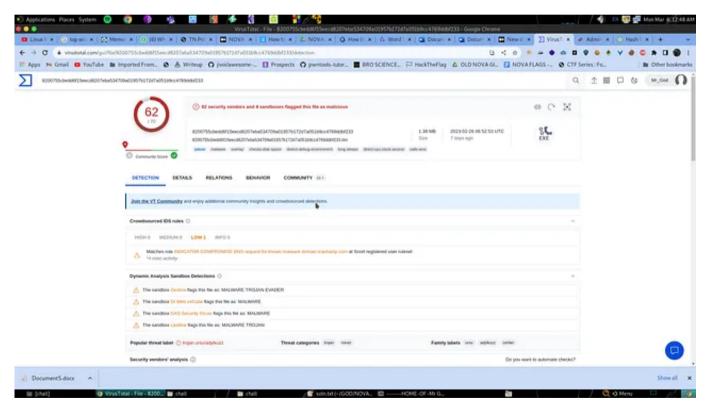
and voila, you've got your hash!

Hash

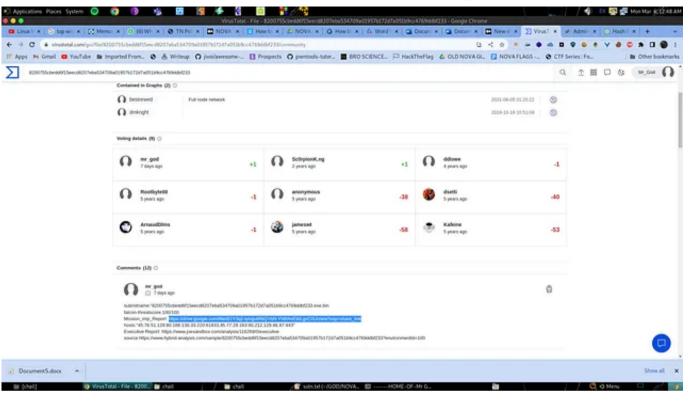
The hash is f2e1d236c5d2c009e1749fc6479a9ede.

Now, the next step is to check for this hash on VirusTotal. But wait, there's more! If you check the community section, you'll see a post by someone named **mr_god**. He's even given you a drive link! What a helpful guy.

Drive Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y3q2-iylvgutR6QYhN-YWhhvEWLgvC0U/view?usp=share_link



Virustotal



The guy..!

Wait ..! who is that guy?



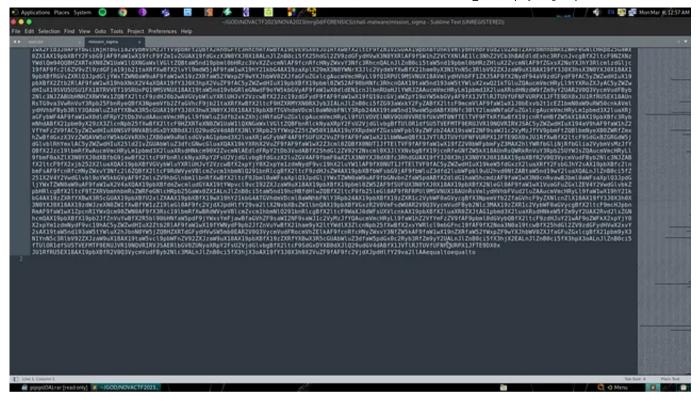
So, you click on the link and download a file called **mission_sigma**. But what's this? It's just a bunch of gibberish.



eeeeeeee....!!!

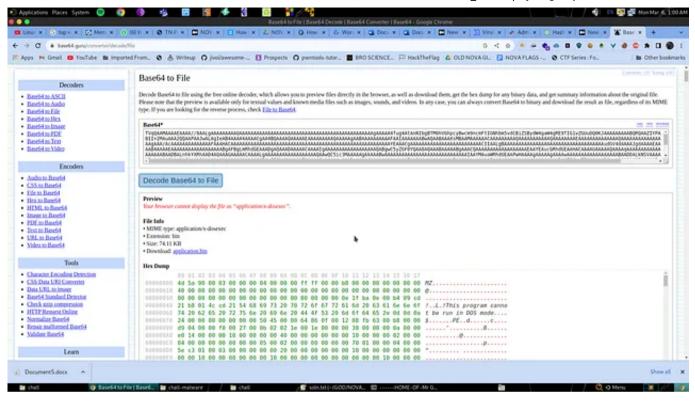
Don't panic! That gibberish is actually base64 encoded content.

But when i try to convert it into a file, it throws an error...!! After i noticed..!



equaltoequalto?

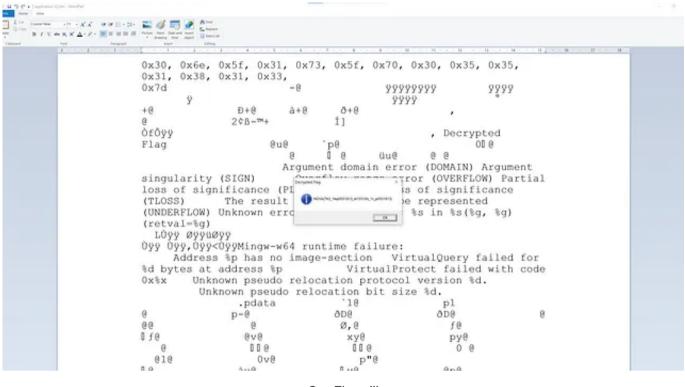
change that **equaltoequalto** ~ ==



decoded file

Now, it's time to decode that content. Just use your favorite base64 decoder and you'll get a file. And what's in that file, you ask? An .exe file, of course!

Execute that bad boy on your Windows machine and BAM! You've got yourself a flag!



Our Flag...!!!

The flag is NOVA{7h3_1mp0551813_m15510n_15_p0551813}.

Phew! What an adventure! Who knew identifying a file hash could be so exciting?