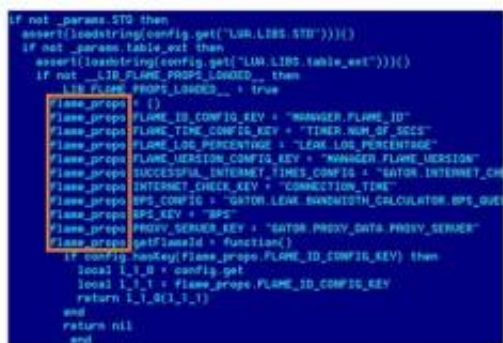


US, Israel made Flame virus to thwart Iran: report

June 19 2012



```

if not _perms.STD then
    assert(!loadstring(config.get("LUA.LIBS.STD"))){}
    if not _perms.table_ext then
        assert(!loadstring(config.get("LUA.LIBS.table_ext"))){}
    if not _LIB_FLAME_PROPS_LOADED then
        LIB_FLAME_PROPS_LOADED = true
        Flame_props = {}
        Flame_props[FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY] = "MANAGER.FLAME_ID"
        Flame_props[FLAME_TIME_CONFIG_KEY] = "TIMER.NOW_OF_SEC"
        Flame_props[FLAME_LOG_PERCENTAGE] = "LEAK.LOG_PERCENTAGE"
        Flame_props[FLAME_VERSION_CONFIG_KEY] = "MANAGER.FLAME_VERSION"
        Flame_props[SUCCESSFUL_INTERNET_TIMES_CONFIG] = "GATOR.INTERNET_CHECK"
        Flame_props[INTERNET_CHECK_KEY] = "CONNECTION.TIME"
        Flame_props[SQS_CONFIG] = "GATOR.LEAK.BANDWIDTH.CALCULATOR.SQS_QUEUE"
        Flame_props[SQS_KEY] = "SQS"
        Flame_props[PROXY_SERVER_KEY] = "GATOR.PROXY_DATA.PROXY_SERVER"
        Flame_props[getFlameId] = function()
            if config.HasKey(Flame_props[FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY]) then
                local I_T_ID = config.get
                local I_T_I = Flame_props[FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY]
                return I_T_ID(I_T_I)
            end
            return nil
        end
    end
end
    
```

A program of the computer virus known as Flame pictured in May 2012. The United States and Israel collaborated to create the Flame computer virus as part of an effort to slow Iran's suspected nuclear weapons drive, The Washington Post reported Tuesday.

The United States and Israel collaborated to create the Flame computer virus as part of an effort to slow Iran's suspected nuclear weapons drive, The Washington Post reported Tuesday.

The newspaper, citing "Western officials with knowledge of the effort," said the sophisticated malware was designed to spy on Iran's computer networks and send back intelligence used for an ongoing cyberwarfare campaign.

The Post said the US [National Security Agency](#) and CIA worked with

Israel's military on the project.

A number of reports had linked Israel and the United States to Flame and another virus called Stuxnet which caused malfunctions in Iran's nuclear enrichment equipment.

US officials have not publicly discussed the matter except to say that they are focused on cyber efforts as part of defense and intelligence.

"This is about preparing the battlefield for another type of covert action," one former high-ranking US intelligence official told the Post.

The Russian security firm Kaspersky, first credited with discovering Flame, said last week the malware had strong links to Stuxnet.

Kaspersky said its research shows the two programs share certain portions of code, suggesting some ties between two separate groups of programmers.

The New York Times reported June 1 that President Barack Obama accelerated cyberattacks on Iran's nuclear program and expanded the assault even after the Stuxnet virus accidentally escaped in 2010.

The [cyberattack](#), aimed at preventing Iran from developing [nuclear weapons](#) and keeping Israel from launching a preventive military strike, sowed widespread confusion in Iran's Natanz nuclear plant, the Times said.

(c) 2012 AFP

Citation: US, Israel made Flame virus to thwart Iran: report (2012, June 19) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-06-israel-flame-virus-thwart-iran.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.