

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Russia-Aligned Hackers Abuse Viber to Target Ukrainian Military and Government](#)

Stanley - January 13, 2026, 10:55 pm

Russia-Aligned Hackers Abuse Viber to Target Ukrainian Military and Government

The Russia-aligned threat actor known as UAC-0184 has been observed targeting Ukrainian military and government entities by leveraging the Viber messaging platform to deliver malicious ZIP archives.

"This organization has continued to conduct high-intensity intelligence gathering activities against Ukrainian military and government departments in 2025," the 360 Threat Intelligence Center said in

<https://thehackernews.com/2026/01/russia-aligned-hackers-abuse-viber-to.html>

Hackers - January 14, 2026, 4:46 am

More LNK methods....

Quote:The attack chain involves the use of Viber as an initial intrusion vector to distribute malicious ZIP archives containing multiple Windows shortcut (LNK) files disguised as official Microsoft Word and Excel documents to trick recipients into opening them.

The LNK files are designed to serve a decoy document to the victim to lower their suspicion, while silently executing Hijack Loader in the background by fetching a second ZIP archive ("smoothieks.zip") from a remote server by means of a PowerShell script.

Mooooookie - January 14, 2026, 10:41 pm

Using trusted messaging apps can make these phishing campaigns more difficult to detect for some.