

# THE DEEP SEA DISRUPTION OF SCYLLA & CHARYBDIS

20¢



*WE'D LIKE TO THANK THE REAL HUMANS OF THE SATORI TEAM  
FOR THEIR WORK IN DISRUPTING SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS:*

**INNA VASILYEVA  
NICO AGNESE  
JOAO SANTOS**

**VIKAS PARTHASARATHY  
MARION HABIBY**

*AND MANY MORE BRAVE HUMANS*

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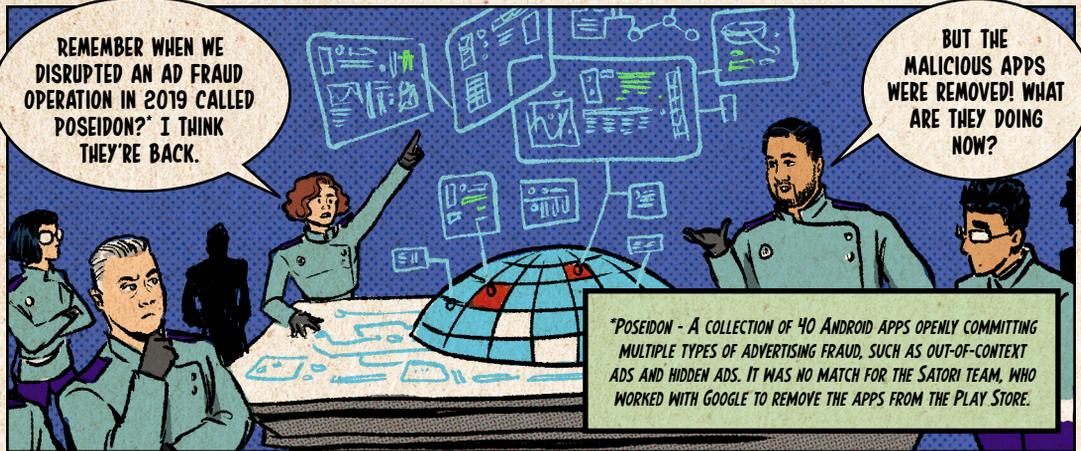
IT WAS A TYPICAL DAY IN THE OFFICE FOR HUMAN'S SATORI THREAT INTELLIGENCE & RESEARCH TEAM...UNTIL THEIR MONITORS GLOWED WITH A NEW FRAUD THEY FOUND.



HEY EVERYONE, I THINK YOU'RE GONNA WANT TO SEE THIS.

REMEMBER WHEN WE DISRUPTED AN AD FRAUD OPERATION IN 2019 CALLED POSEIDON? I THINK THEY'RE BACK.

BUT THE MALICIOUS APPS WERE REMOVED! WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

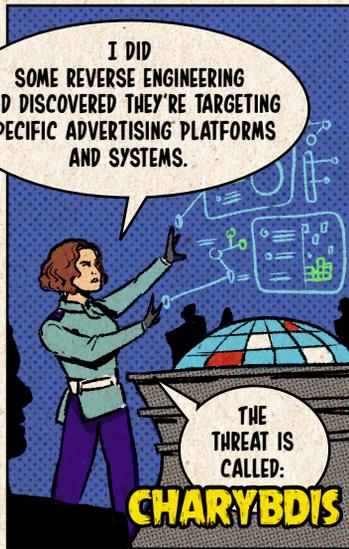


*"POSEIDON - A COLLECTION OF 40 ANDROID APPS OPENLY COMMITTING MULTIPLE TYPES OF ADVERTISING FRAUD, SUCH AS OUT-OF-CONTEXT ADS AND HIDDEN ADS. IT WAS NO MATCH FOR THE SATORI TEAM, WHO WORKED WITH GOOGLE TO REMOVE THE APPS FROM THE PLAY STORE."*

WELL FOR STARTERS, THEY'RE USING CODE OBFUSCATION TO HIDE THE FRAUD INSIDE... NEW APPS!

I DID SOME REVERSE ENGINEERING AND DISCOVERED THEY'RE TARGETING SPECIFIC ADVERTISING PLATFORMS AND SYSTEMS.

HOW DARE THEY! IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY READ OUR RESEARCH AND ADAPTED.



THE THREAT IS CALLED:

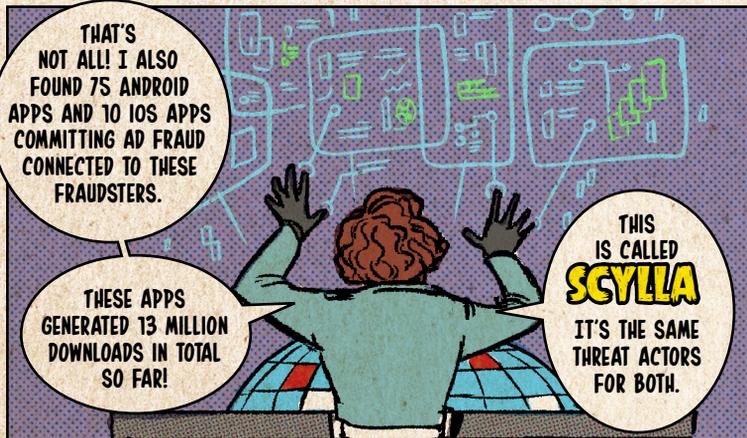
**CHARYBDIS**

BUT JUST LIKE LAST TIME, THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT.

THAT'S NOT ALL! I ALSO FOUND 75 ANDROID APPS AND 10 IOS APPS COMMITTING AD FRAUD CONNECTED TO THESE FRAUDSTERS.

THESE APPS GENERATED 13 MILLION DOWNLOADS IN TOTAL SO FAR!

THIS IS CALLED **SCYLLA** IT'S THE SAME THREAT ACTORS FOR BOTH.



WE HAVE TO SHUT DOWN CHARYBDIS AND SCYLLA!

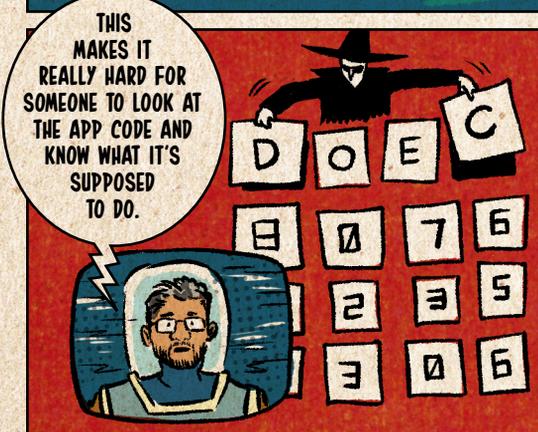
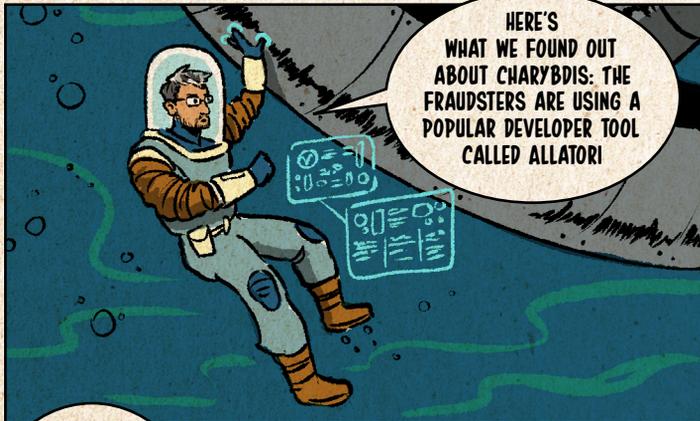
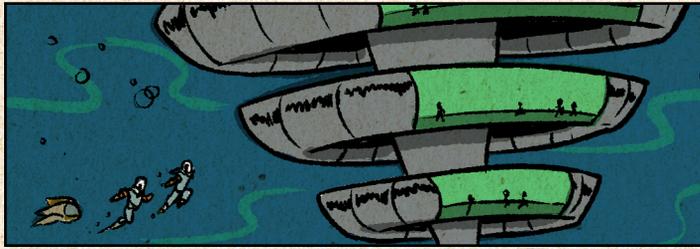


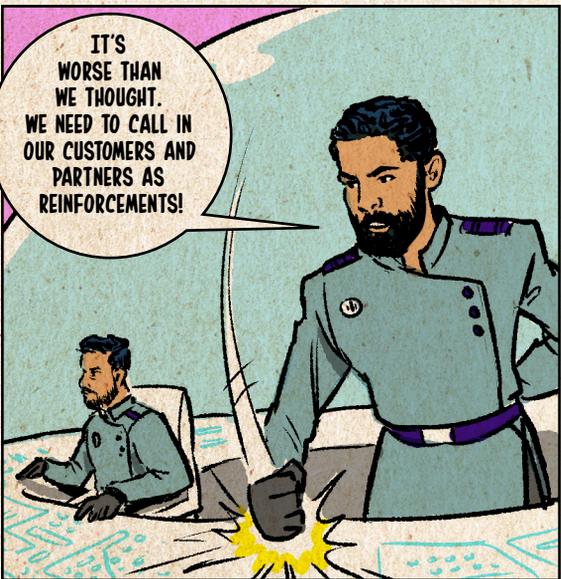
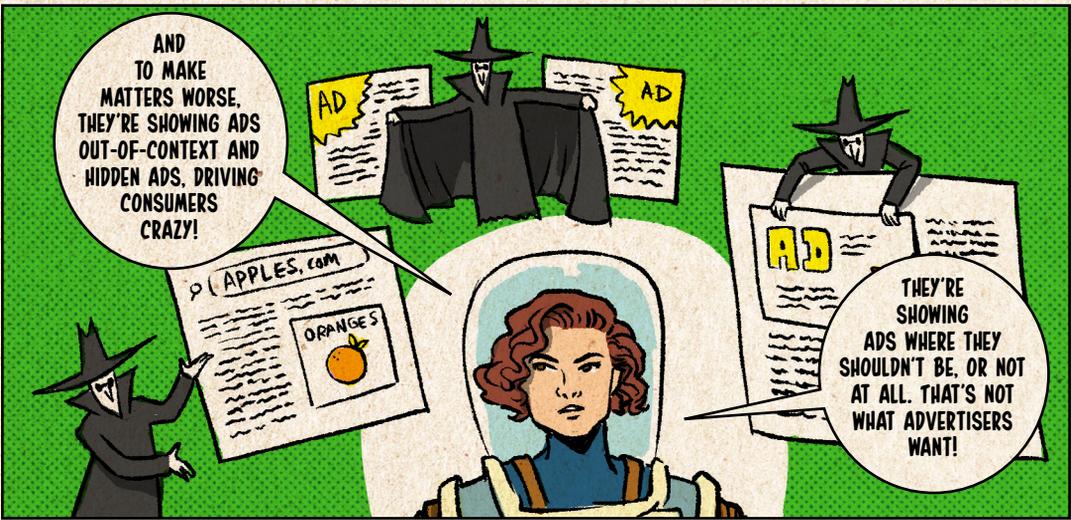
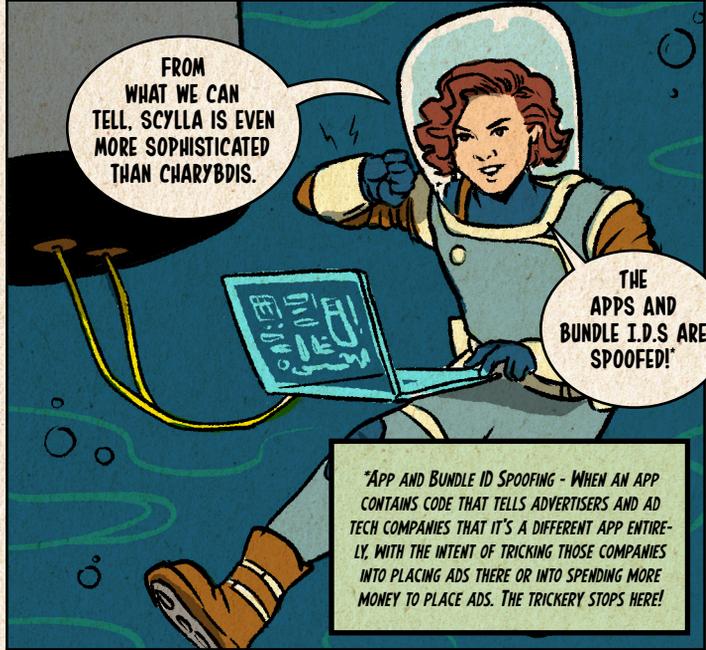
THIS IS WHERE WE DISRUPTED POSEIDON IN 2019. I WONDER WHERE THEY ALL WENT.

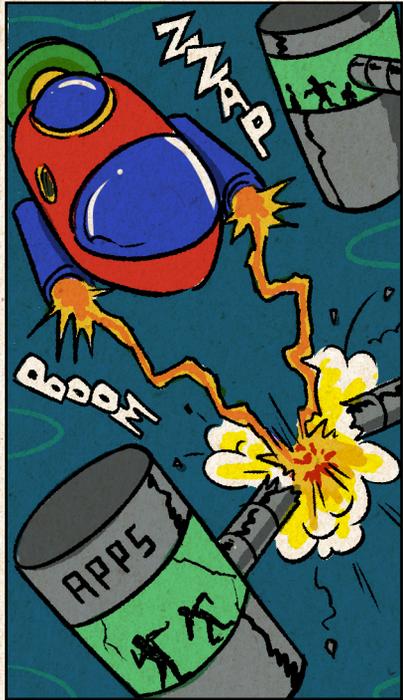
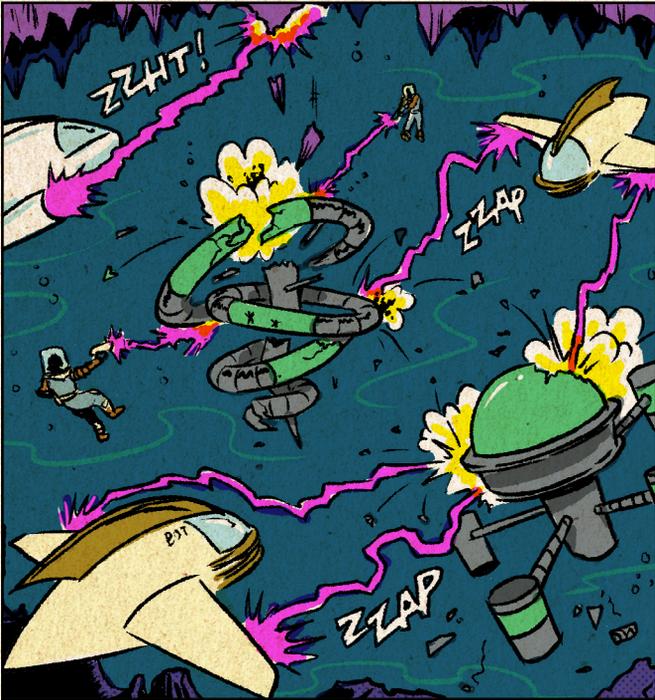
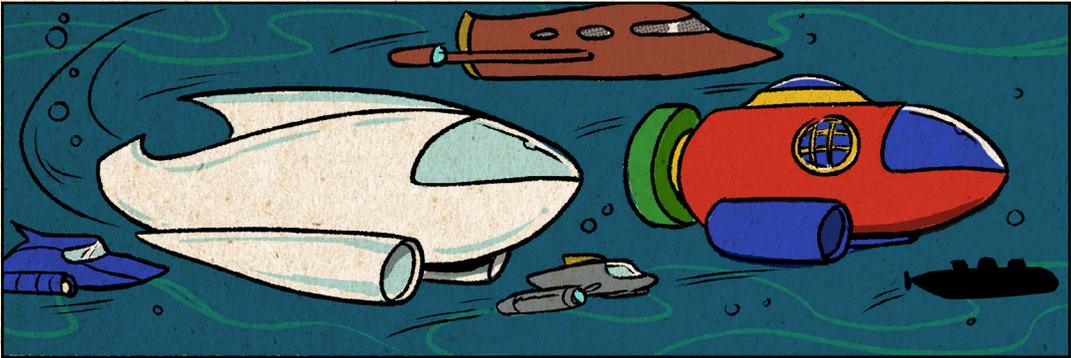
MAYBE THEY SET UP CAMP FOR CHARYBDIS AND SCYLLA NEARBY...

WAIT, THEY DIDN'T CHANGE THE ENCRYPTION STRING. LET'S FOLLOW IT AND SEE WHERE IT TAKES US!





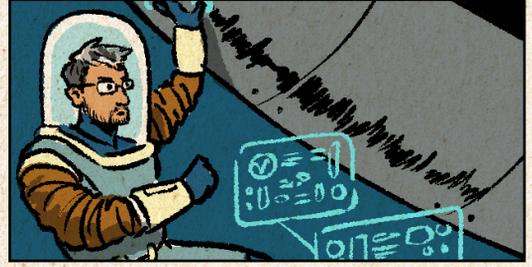
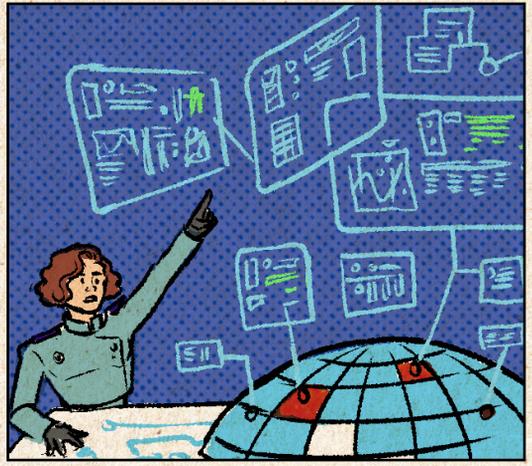




**TO BE CONTINUED...**

ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2022, HUMAN'S SATORI THREAT INTELLIGENCE & RESEARCH TEAM ANNOUNCED THE DISRUPTION OF THE AD FRAUD OPERATIONS CHARYBDIS AND SCYLLA. THEY WERE ADAPTATIONS OF AN OPERATION DISRUPTED BACK IN 2019 CALLED POSEIDON. IT BECAME OBVIOUS TO OUR RESEARCHERS THAT THE FRAUDSTERS WERE READING OUR RESEARCH INTO THEM, AND ADAPTING BASED ON THOSE FINDINGS. HOWEVER, OUR TEAM WAS CLEVER TO NOT INCLUDE EVERYTHING THEY DISCOVERED WHICH ALLOWED THEM TO UNCOVER THE FRAUDSTERS' SUBSEQUENT OPERATIONS.

CHARYBDIS WAS KNOWN FOR CODE OBFUSCATION AND SDK TARGETING OF POPULAR AD TECH PLATFORMS. SCYLLA WAS NOTABLY MUCH LARGER AND MORE SOPHISTICATED. THE SATORI TEAM UNCOVERED A COLLECTION OF 75 APPS ON GOOGLE'S PLAY STORE AND 10 APPS ON APPLE'S APP STORE THAT CONTAINED OBFUSCATED CODE SIMILAR TO CHARYBDIS. THE SATORI TEAM WORKED WITH THE GOOGLE AND APPLE APP STORE TEAMS TO TAKE DOWN THE APPS, DISRUPTING SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS FROM IMPACTING THE PROGRAMMATIC ADVERTISING ECOSYSTEM AND CUSTOMERS AROUND THE WORLD.



**READY TO  
DIVE DEEPER?**



CHECK OUT OUR  
FULL BLOG ABOUT  
CHARYBDIS & SCYLLA:



**THE FIGHT FOR HUMANITY  
ON THE INTERNET IS NEVER OVER!**

WE NEED YOU TO MAKE OUR  
MISSION A REALITY. SEE ALL  
OF OUR OPEN ROLES AT

[HUMANSECURITY.COM/CAREERS](https://humansecurity.com/careers)

 **HUMAN**

