

Joint Regional Intelligence Center



JOINT INTELLIGENCE NOTE

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(U//FOUO) Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist-White Supremacist Accelerationist Groups Use Element Messenger for Recruitment

(U) **Source Description**: Accelerationist Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist-White Supremacist (RMVE-WS) TamTam Messenger Channels

(U) Investigative Area: Domestic Violent Extremism

(U) Information Summary

(U//FOUO) On 24 June 2022, Z-Cell, an RMVE-WS group formed mid-2022, established a TamTam Messenger account following persistent bans on Telegram. Initially, Z-Cell uploaded numerous images encouraging individuals to commit acts of violence, and to join Z-Cell. Follow-up posts asked individuals to message directly to Z-Cell on Element platform to join the group.

(U//FOUO) On 14 July 2022, Accelerationist Front, an RMVE-WS group affiliated with Z-Cell, announced on its TamTam Messenger account the establishment of a recruiting account on Element.



(U) Z-Cell Logo (Left); Accelerationist Front Logo (Right)

(U//FOUO) Analyst Note: To date, Z-Cell and the Accelerationist Front have not been particularly active on TamTam Messenger. Z-Cell appears to be using TamTam Messenger account as back-up to its Telegram account. The extent of which these groups are utilizing Element is unknown; Z-Cell requires direct messaging between individual users; the Accelerationist Front's Element account is either an individual user or is set to private.

(U//FOUO) At this time, the CFIX and JRIC are not able to determine how many individuals are involved in Z-Cell and Accelerationist Front, or whether the groups have more than an online presence.

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(U) What is Element?

(U) According to its website, Element is a decentralized Matrix-based end-to-end encrypted messenger application (app) that can be accessed through a desktop app on macOS, Windows, and Linux systems, Internet browsers, and apps for iOS and Android devices. Users can utilize Element's home server or host their own server for complete control. Privacy settings for chat rooms and conversations can be set as public, limited to a team, or fully private and invite-only. Creating an account only requires a mobile phone number to receive a verification text.

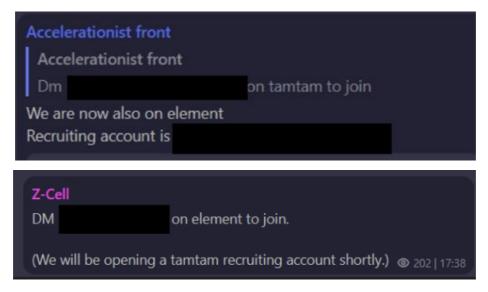


(U) Element's Logo

(U) Features of the app include:

- (U) End-to-end encryption;
- (U) Public and private chat rooms;
- (U) File sharing;
- (U) Video and audio calls; and
- (U) The ability to "bridge" to other chat networks such as Slack, Skype, Signal USBUS, Discord USBUS, Telegram, and Twitter USBUS.

(U) Screenshot(s)



(U) CFIX/JRIC Disposition

(U//FOUO) Unless specifically noted, the social media reporting in this product originated from users whose affiliation and credibility are unknown. This is raw information that is being provided to federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial counterterrorism and law enforcement officials and private sector security partners for intelligence purposes (i.e. identification of tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) used or suggested by violent extremists, and/or developing investigative leads).

(U) Please contact the CFIX at (407) 858-3950 or <u>CFIX-Counterterrorism@ocfl.net</u> or the JRIC at (562) 345-1100 or <u>iric@jric.org</u>, for additional information regarding the content of this report.

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(U) First Amendment Acknowledgement

(U) The CFIX and JRIC recognize that Americans have constitutionally protected rights to assemble, speak, and petition the government. The CFIX and JRIC safeguard these rights and report on only those activities where the potential use of rhetoric and/or propaganda could be used to incite violent or criminal acts. Additionally, potential criminality exhibited by certain members of a group does not negate the constitutional rights of the group itself or its law-abiding participants to exercise their individual liberties under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

(U) Tracked by: CFIX-2, CFIX-10, HSEC-8, JRIC INs M & O

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