

Writeup - The Archive Leak

This challenge can be solved in two ways, one by converting both the given files in **.eml** file extension and opening both the files in an email viewer or by decoding the base64 from the mail1.txt and mail2.txt to image.jpg and database.zip

- mail1.txt was a decoy file and the image could not be reconstructed from the mail as the image IHDR chunk was corrupted.

```
mails#ls
mail1.txt  mail2.txt
mails#base64 -d mail2.txt > database.zip
mails#ls
database.zip  mail1.txt  mail2.txt
mails#
```

```
mails#file database
database: POSIX tar archive (GNU)
mails#mv database database.tar
mails#tar -xvf database.tar
database/
database/flag.png
mails#
```

```
mails#file database.zip
database.zip: gzip compressed data, was "database.tar", last modified: Mon Oct 20 07:18:01 2025, from Unix, original size modulo 2^32 40960
mails#gunzip database.zip
gzip: database.zip: unknown suffix -- ignored
mails#mv database.zip database.gz
mails#gunzip database.gz
mails#ls
database  mail1.txt  mail2.txt
mails#
```



