

राईहवाCTF

CHALLENGE NAME :
[Nautical Quest: Lost to Found]

DEV :
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CATEGORY : [OSINT]

LEVEL: [Medium]



2025

Challenge Description: In July's heart, a shadowed plight,
Armed men emerged in fading light.
With whispered threats, the brave were led,
To paths unknown, where hope had fled.
Flagformat:vishwaCTF{IMOCODE_CountryCode}

Solution:Step 1: Initial Analysis

The word "nautical" implies something related to the sea, ships, or sailing. Upon analyzing the poem, several critical clues emerge:

"July's heart": Indicates that the incident took place in July.

"A shadowed plight, armed men emerged": Points towards a maritime crisis involving armed personnel.

"To paths unknown": Suggests the ship was forcefully taken to an undisclosed location, hinting at a hijacking or theft.

Step 2: Event Identification

Searching through maritime records and news articles led to identifying a significant incident involving the hijacking of the MV Arctic Sea in July 2009. The vessel vanished mysteriously and was later found near Cape Verde, far from its intended route.

If the 50-point hint was taken, a Wikipedia article about this incident was provided:

MV Arctic Sea - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MV_Arctic_Sea
Wikipedia

Step 3: Decoding the Flag Format

The required flag format is VishwaCTF{IMOCODE_CountryCode}.

IMO Code: Ships are uniquely identified by their IMO number (International Maritime Organization). The IMO number for MV Arctic Sea is 8912792.

Country Code: The ship was eventually found near Cape Verde, whose telephone country code is 238.

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