PicoCTF Get aHead

When starting Get aHead there are a couple of hints present, the biggest one is the title which says “Head” which is a call you can do in an API. Another hint is given through the HTML which is the Red & Blue button that do get & post requests implying you can do an api call in their index.php

Using another writeup (source below) I learned a more quick way to doing requests which was using curl:

curl -I HEAD -i <http://mercury.picoctf.net:53554/index.php>

Using:

man curl | less +/-I

man curl | less +/-i

I’ll be able to learn what the unknown -I and -i in this curl command does, by pressing ‘n’ I’ll be able to navigate and by pressing ‘q’ I’ll be able to leave.

Using -I curl will only fetch the headers, if this isn’t present you will get the HTML instead.

Using -i is used to include things like cookies & urls, without this the command still works but assuming the source of this code comes from someone who knows much more than I do I’ll assume it’s a matter of best practice!

Text

Description automatically generated