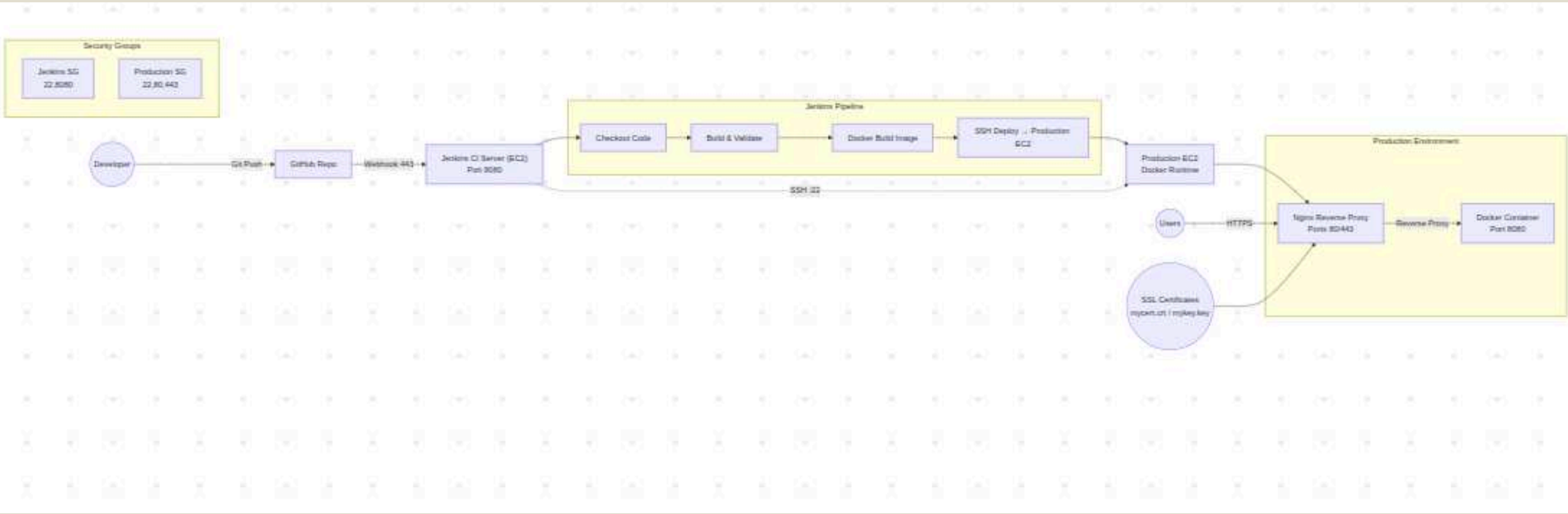
End-to-End DevOps CI/CD Pipeline on AWS

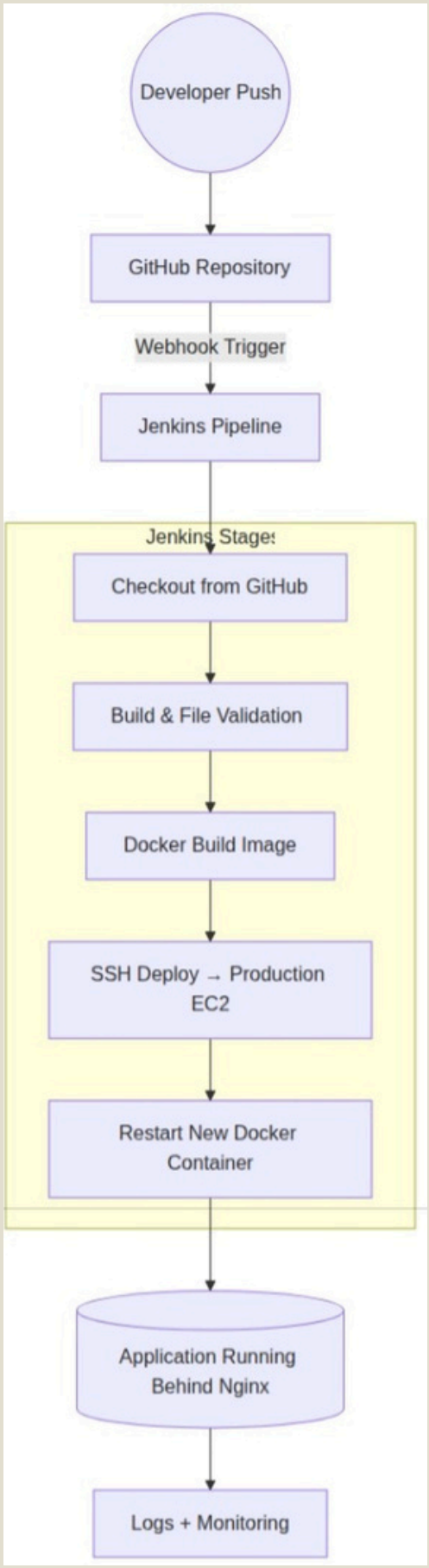
MOHAMED ELBARGUI — DevOps Case Study | 2025

by MOHAMED ELBARGUI | 2025

Architecture Diagram



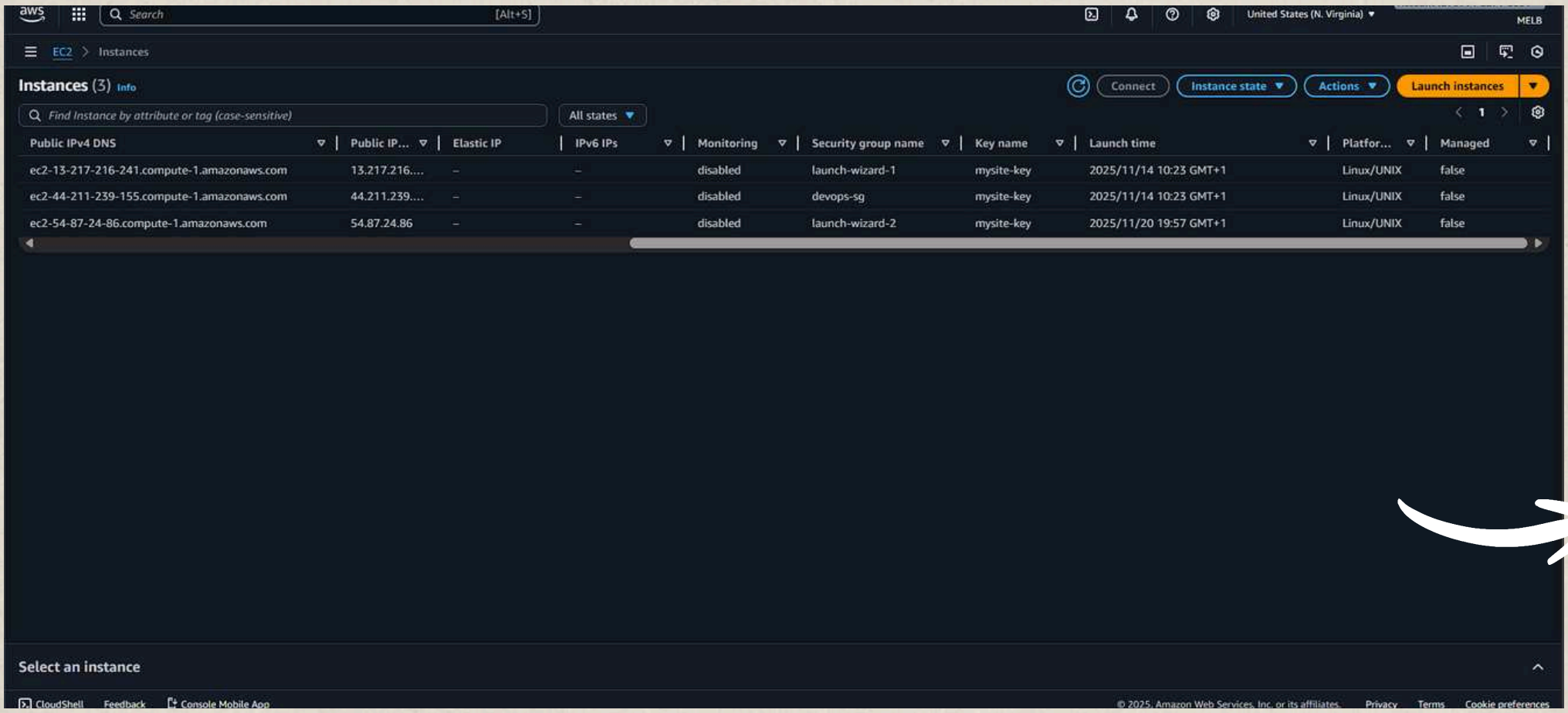
CI/CD Pipeline Diagram



AWS Infrastructure Overview

Three EC2 instances forming the CI/CD architecture

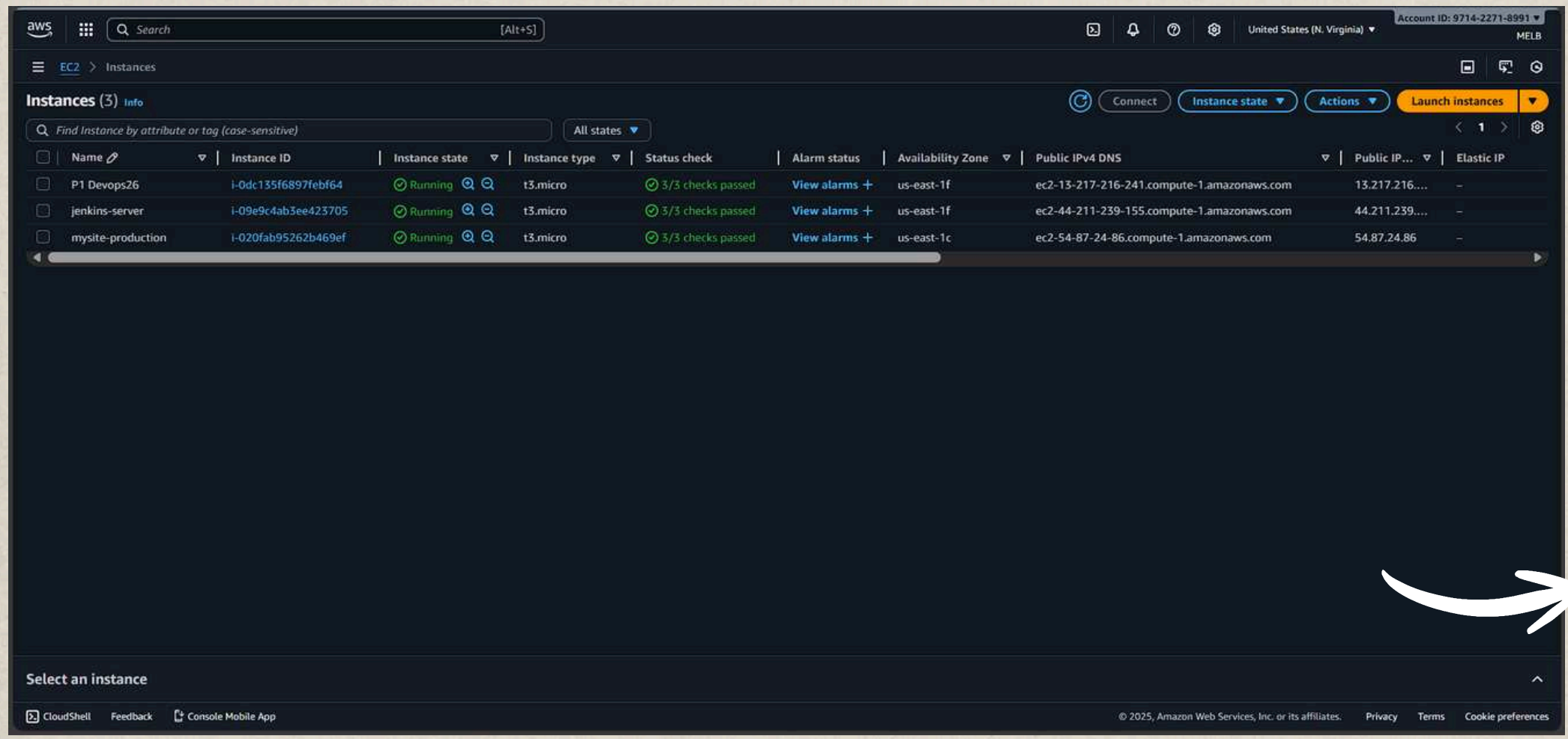
EC2 Instances Table



This dashboard shows the full AWS EC2 infrastructure.

- 3 instances deployed on Ubuntu 24.04
- Public & private IPs assigned
- Security Groups configured for SSH, HTTP, HTTPS & Jenkins
- Each instance mapped to a different role (CI, Webhook, Production)

EC2 Instances Again



Detailed view of the running EC2 instances.

- Jenkins server (port 8080)
- Webhook listener handling GitHub triggers
- Production server running Docker + Nginx

All instances are active and connected in the pipeline.

ss -tulnp | grep nginx

```
elbargui26@DESKTOP-E3VA77O:~$ sudo ss -tulnp | grep nginx
[sudo] password for elbargui26:
tcp   LISTEN 0      511          0.0.0.0:80        0.0.0.0:*    users:(("nginx",pid=225,fd=5),("nginx",pid=224,fd=5),("nginx",
pid=223,fd=5),("nginx",pid=221,fd=5),("nginx",pid=220,fd=5),("nginx",pid=217,fd=5),("nginx",pid=216,fd=5),("nginx",pid=215,fd=5)
,("nginx",pid=211,fd=5),("nginx",pid=210,fd=5),("nginx",pid=208,fd=5),("nginx",pid=206,fd=5),("nginx",pid=205,fd=5))
tcp   LISTEN 0      511             [::]:80           [::]:*    users:(("nginx",pid=225,fd=6),("nginx",pid=224,fd=6),("nginx",
pid=223,fd=6),("nginx",pid=221,fd=6),("nginx",pid=220,fd=6),("nginx",pid=217,fd=6),("nginx",pid=216,fd=6),("nginx",pid=215,fd=6)
,("nginx",pid=211,fd=6),("nginx",pid=210,fd=6),("nginx",pid=208,fd=6),("nginx",pid=206,fd=6),("nginx",pid=205,fd=6))
elbargui26@DESKTOP-E3VA77O:~$
```

Verification of Nginx service on the production server.

- Port 80 open (HTTP)
- Nginx worker processes running
- Reverse proxy ready to receive traffic
- Confirms the server is correctly hosting the website

Security Groups & Network Configuration

EC2 Security Groups – Key Network Rule

Jenkins Server (SG: devops-sg) :

- Port 22 → SSH access
- Port 8080 → Jenkins UI
- Port 80 → Used by webhook listener

Production Server (launch-wizard-1)

Jenkins Server (SG: devops-sg) :

- Port 80 → HTTP
- Port 443 → HTTPS (Reverse proxy ready)
- Port 22 → SSH

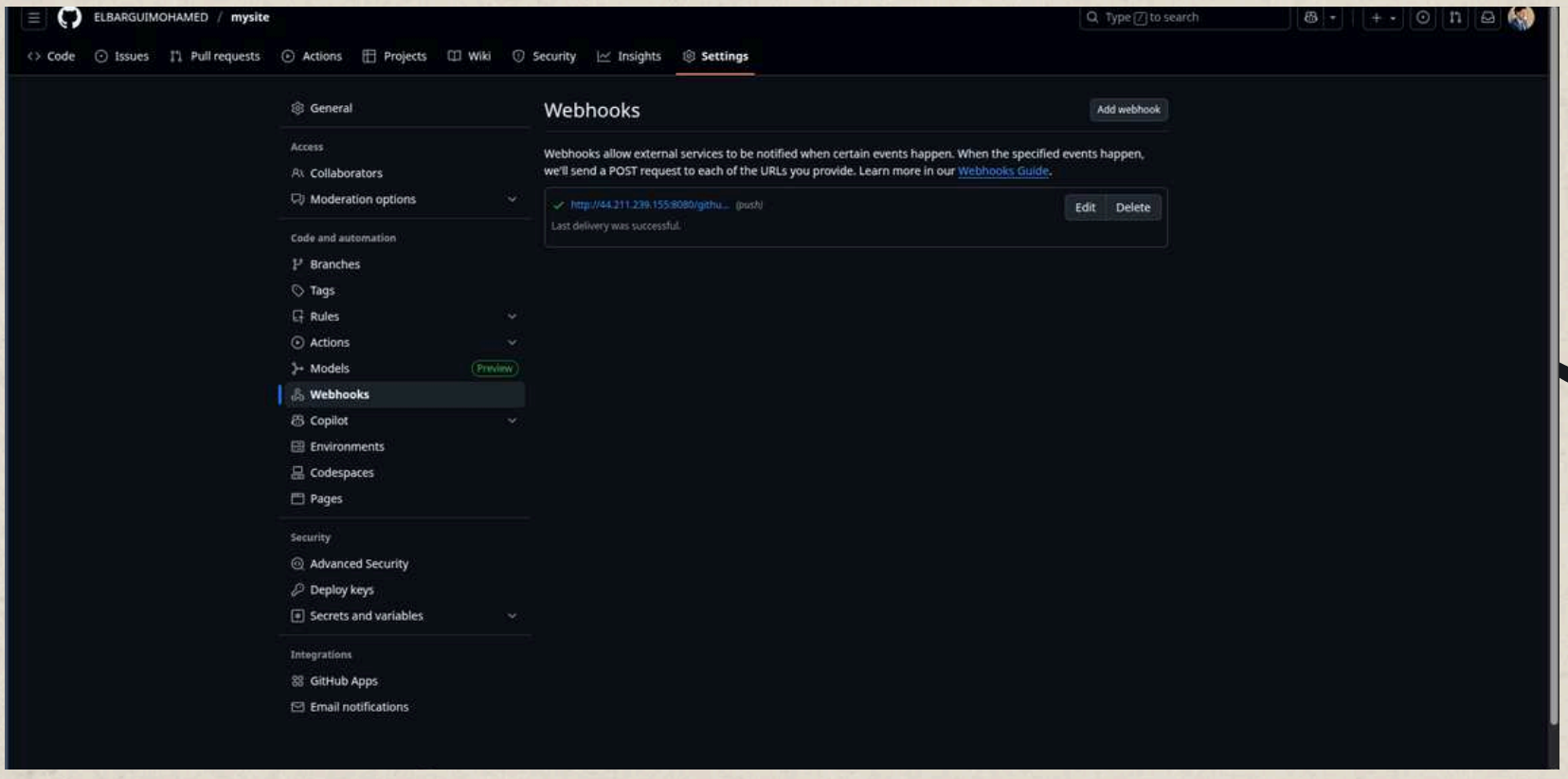
Webhook Listener / Tools Server (launch-wizard-2)

Jenkins Server (SG: devops-sg) :

- Port 22 → SSH
- Port 80 / 443 → HTTP/HTTPS

Security Groups & Network Configuration

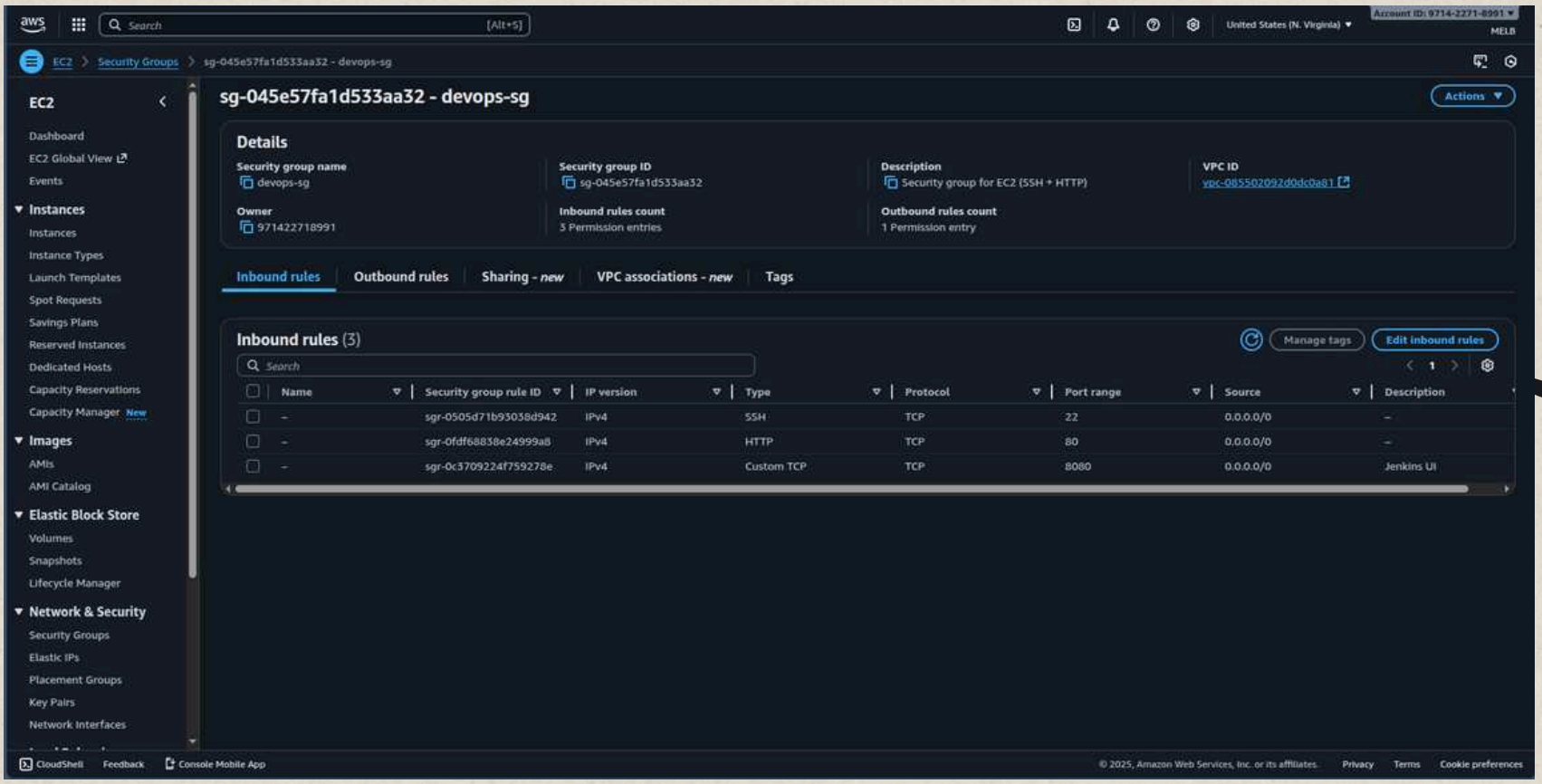
GitHub Webhook Configuration



The repository is connected to the Jenkins server through a webhook (port 8080).
Every push triggers the CI pipeline automatically

Security Groups & Network Configuration

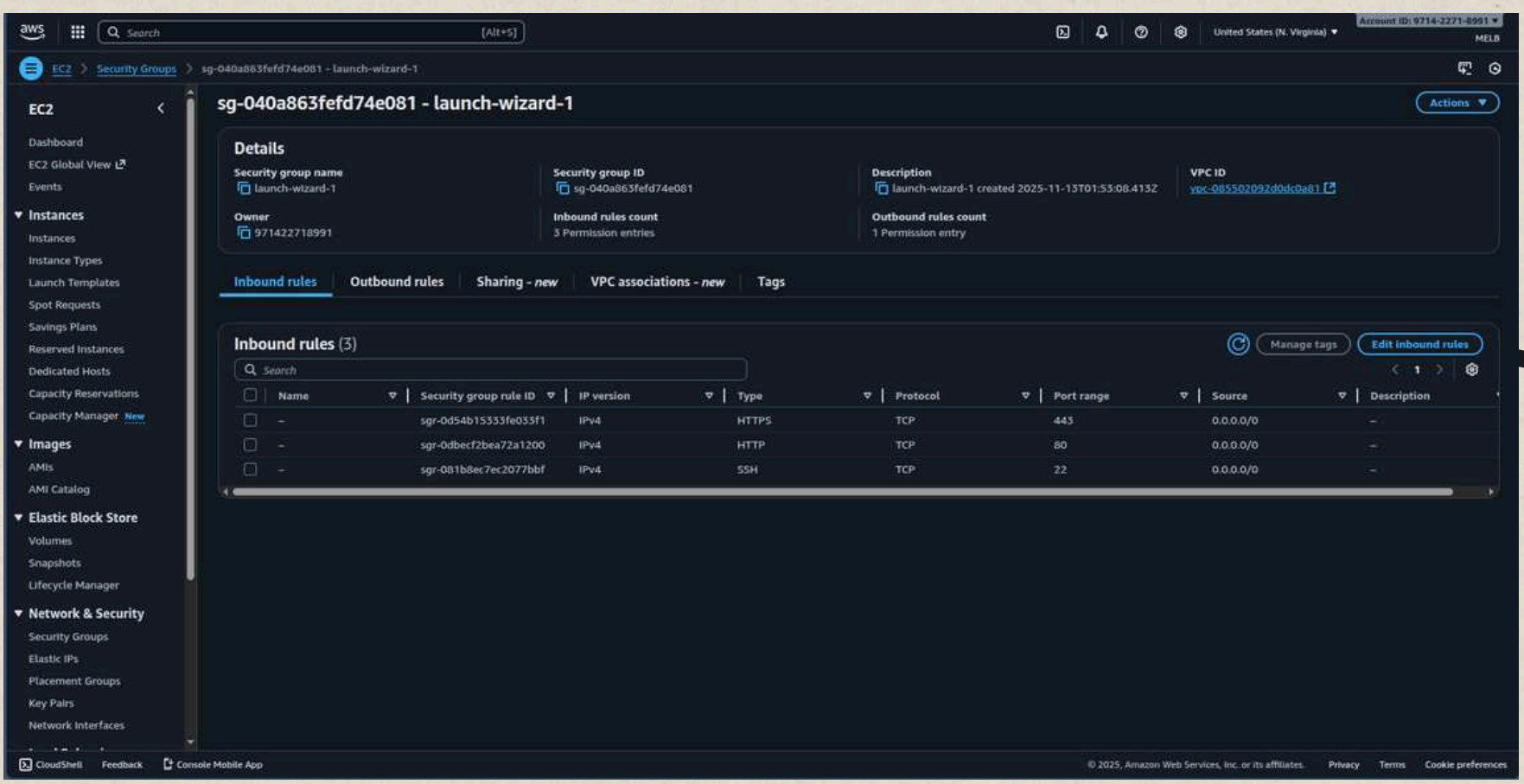
Jenkins Server – Security Group :



Security rules allow SSH (22), Jenkins UI (8080), and HTTP (80).
This ensures Jenkins can receive webhooks and run builds securely.

Security Groups & Network Configuration

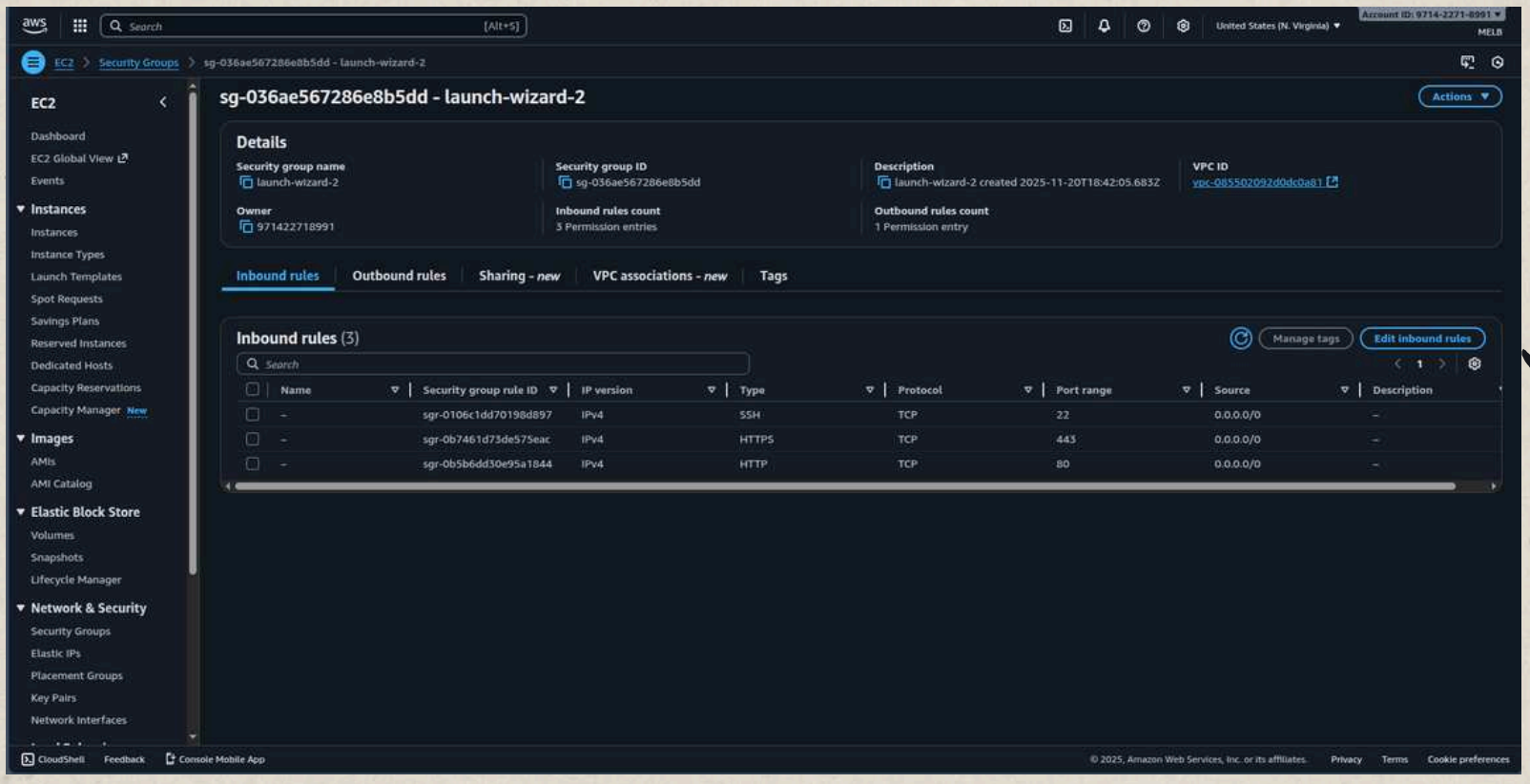
Tools/Webhook Server – Security Group



Production machine exposes ports 80/443 for the public website.
This server runs Nginx acting as a reverse proxy for the deployed site

Security Groups & Network Configuration

Production Server – Security Group

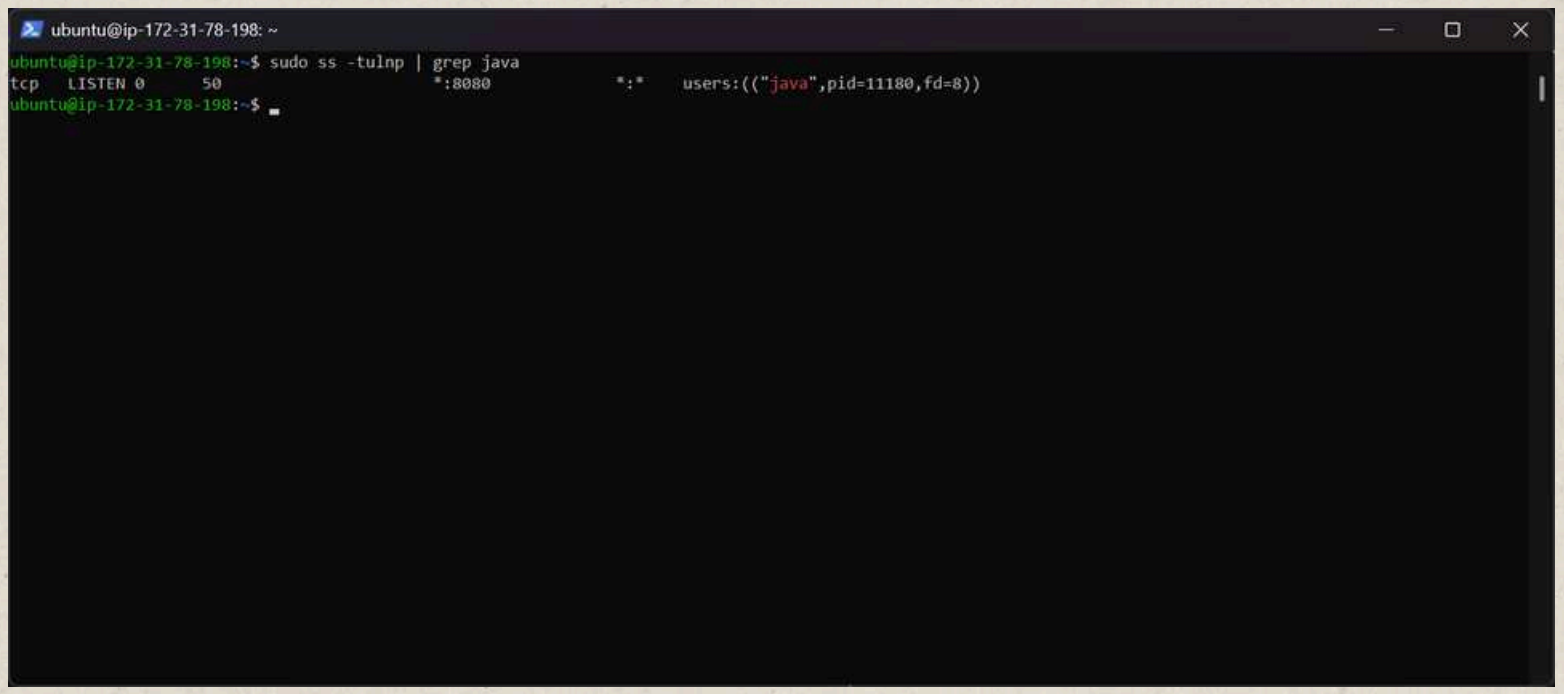


Handles automation, webhook routing, HTTPS preparation, and CI utility tasks.

JENKINS INSTALLATION & SETUP

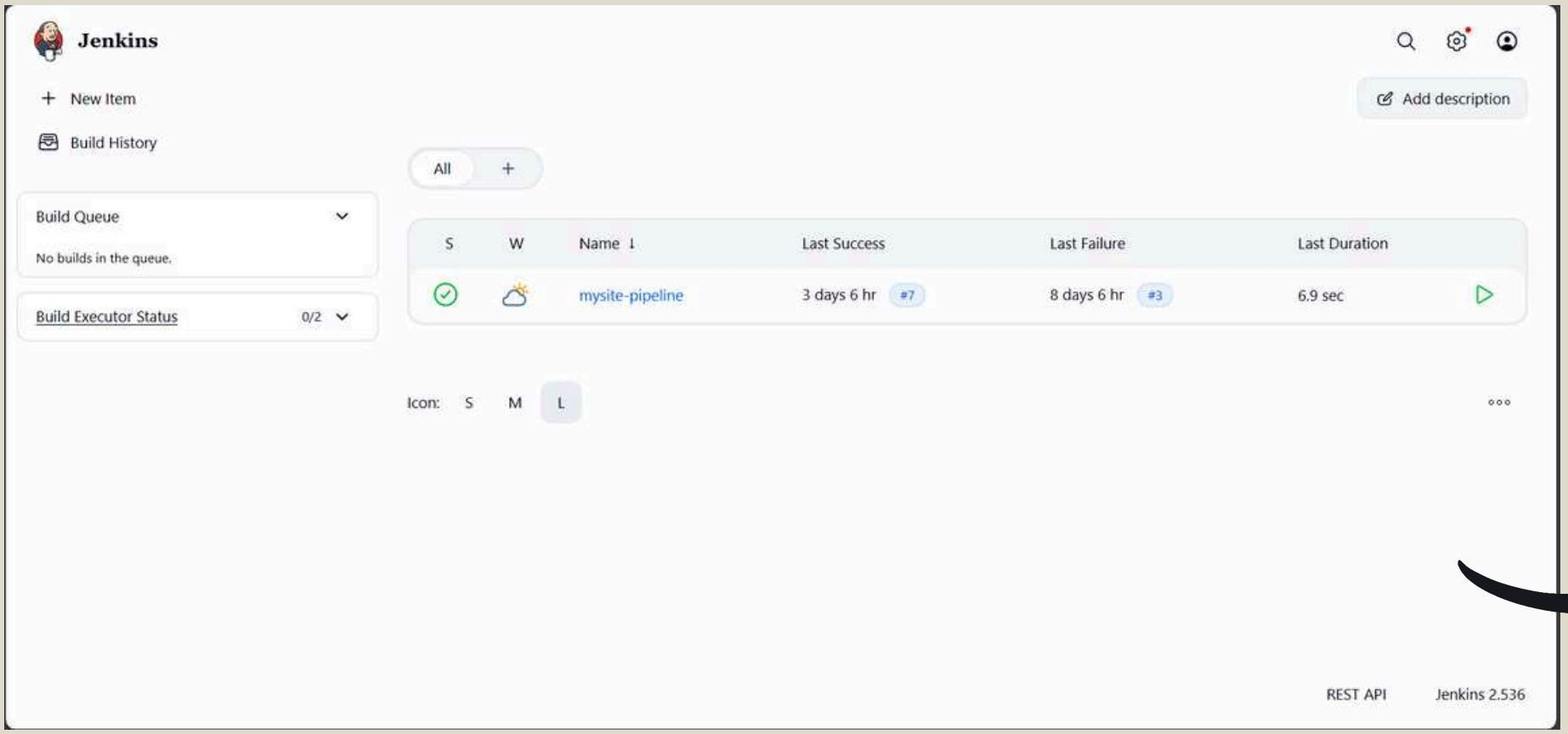
Three EC2 instances forming the CI/CD architecture

Jenkins Installation – Port 8080 open



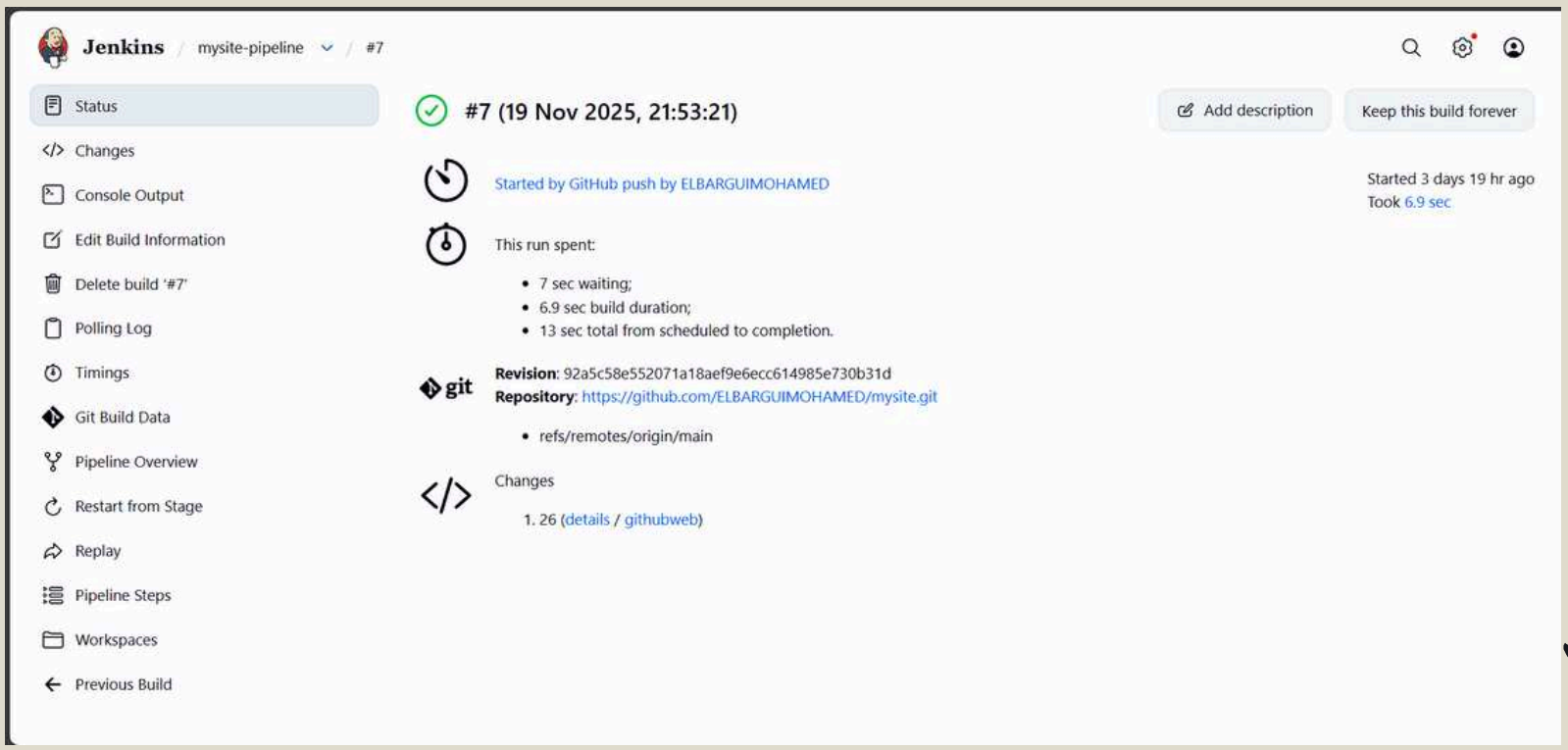
Opening Jenkins port (8080)
Allowed inbound traffic for Jenkins UI so the server can be accessed publicly.

Jenkins UI access



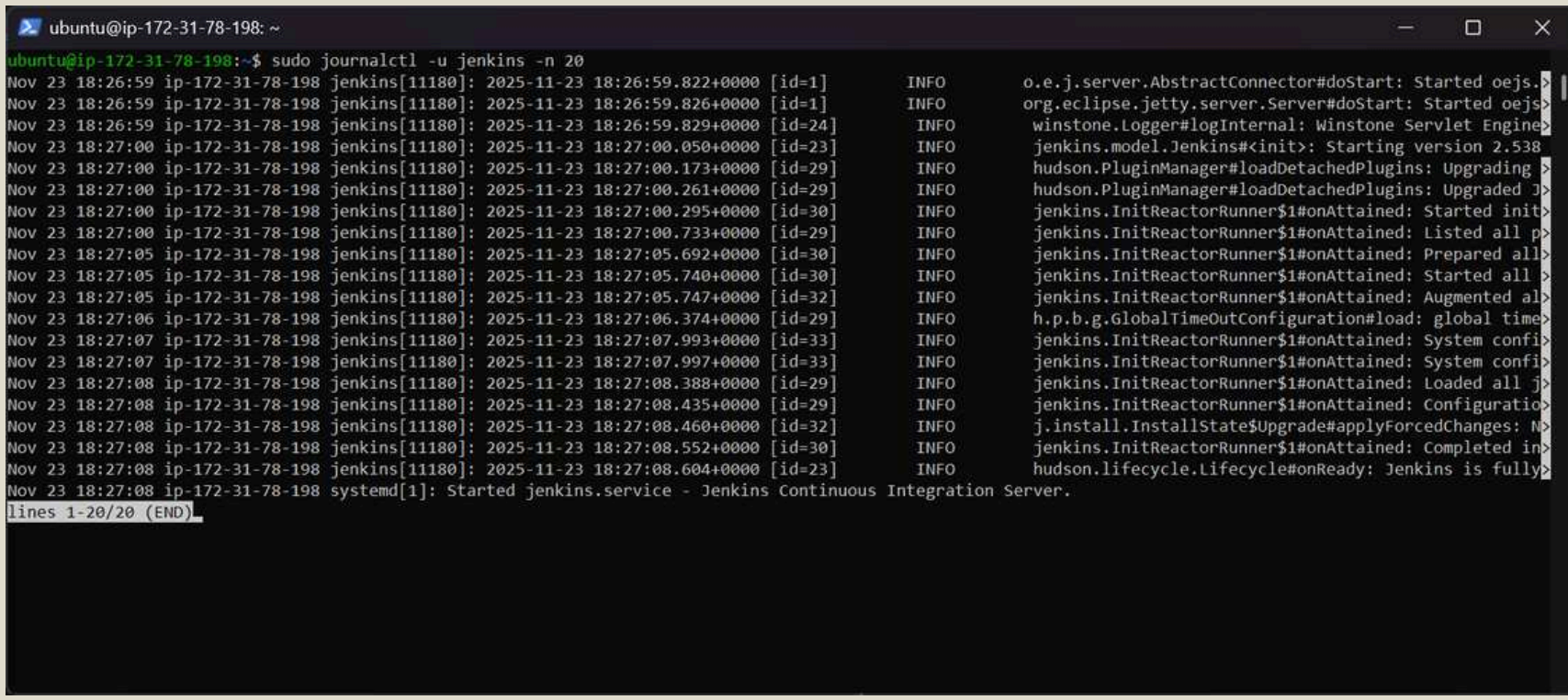
Jenkins running successfully and accessible from the public IP on port 8080.

Jenkins Service Status



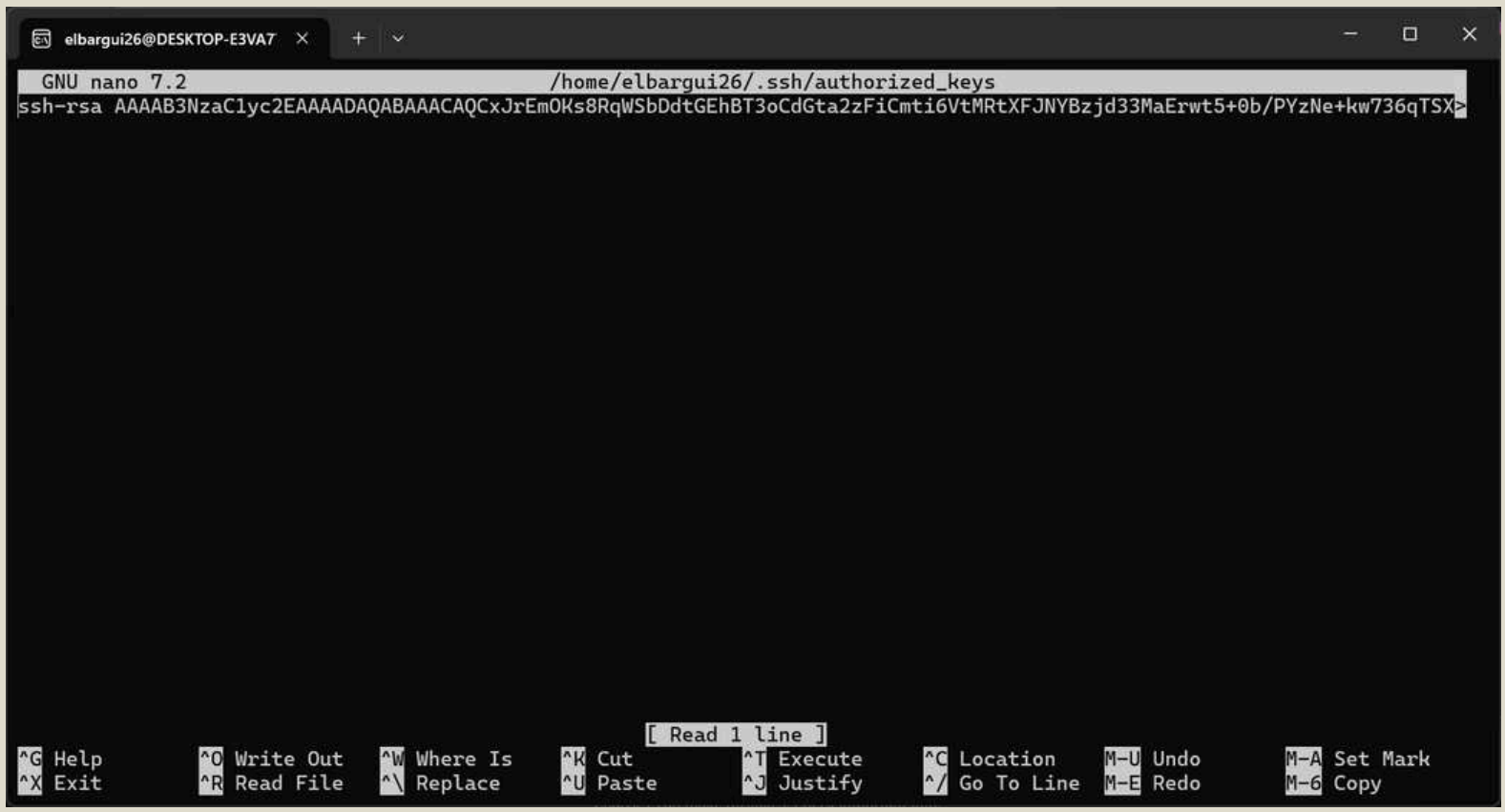
Service is active and running using systemd, confirming stable installation.

Jenkins startup logs



Verified that Jenkins plugins were loaded and the service completed initialization.

SSH access to Jenkins server



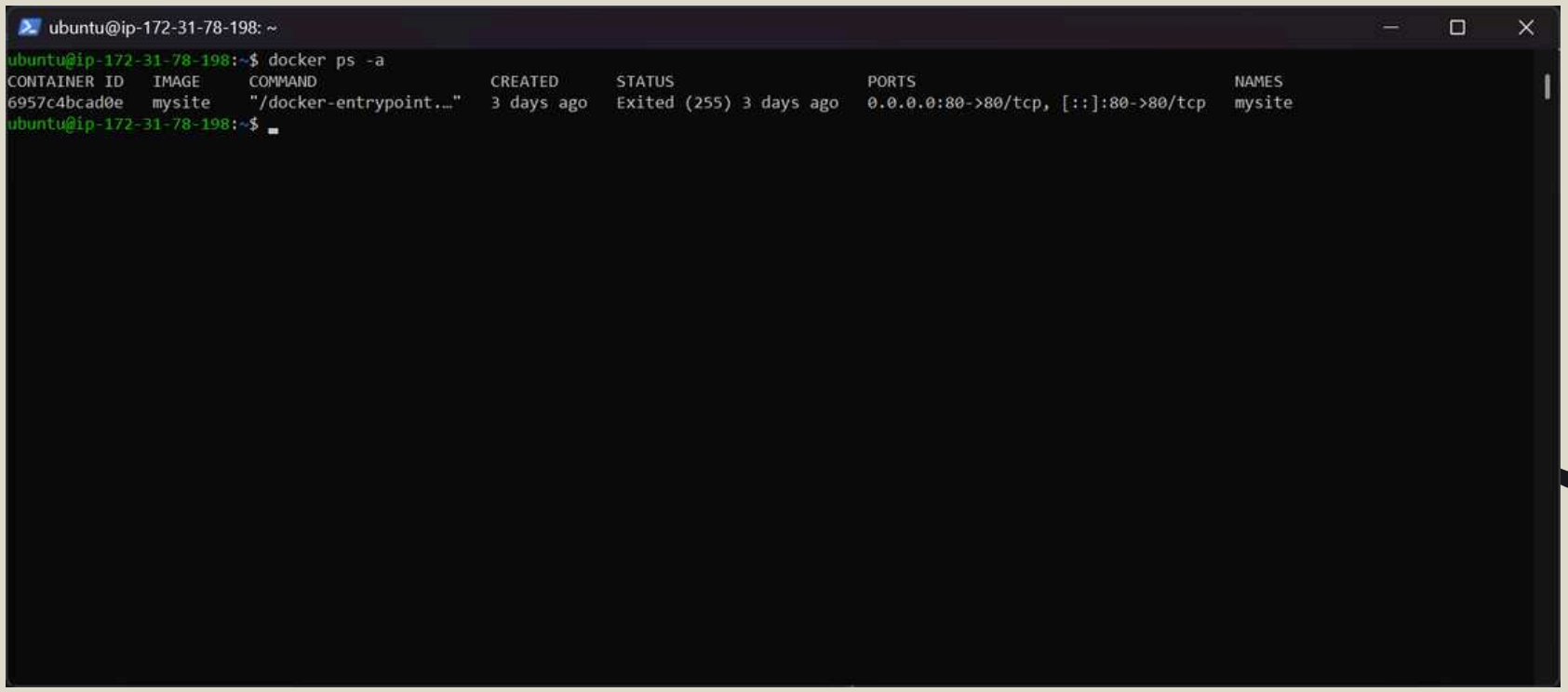
Connected using the EC2 key to manage Jenkins installation and configuration.

Java process running

```
PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> ssh -i "$env:USERPROFILE\.ssh\mysite-key.pem" ubuntu@44.211.239.155
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.14.0-1016-aws x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:     https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:        https://ubuntu.com/pro

 System information as of Sun Nov 23 18:20:23 UTC 2025

  System load:  0.0               Temperature:           -273.1 C
  Usage of /:   56.9% of 6.71GB   Processes:             113
  Memory usage: 76%               Users logged in:       0
  Swap usage:   0%                IPv4 address for ens5: 172.31.78.198


Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

20 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

1 additional security update can be applied with ESM Apps.
Learn more about enabling ESM Apps service at https://ubuntu.com/esm


Last login: Sun Nov 23 16:56:24 2025 from 102.98.116.135
ubuntu@ip-172-31-78-198:~$
```

Confirmed Jenkins is running over Java on port 8080.

Docker environment verification

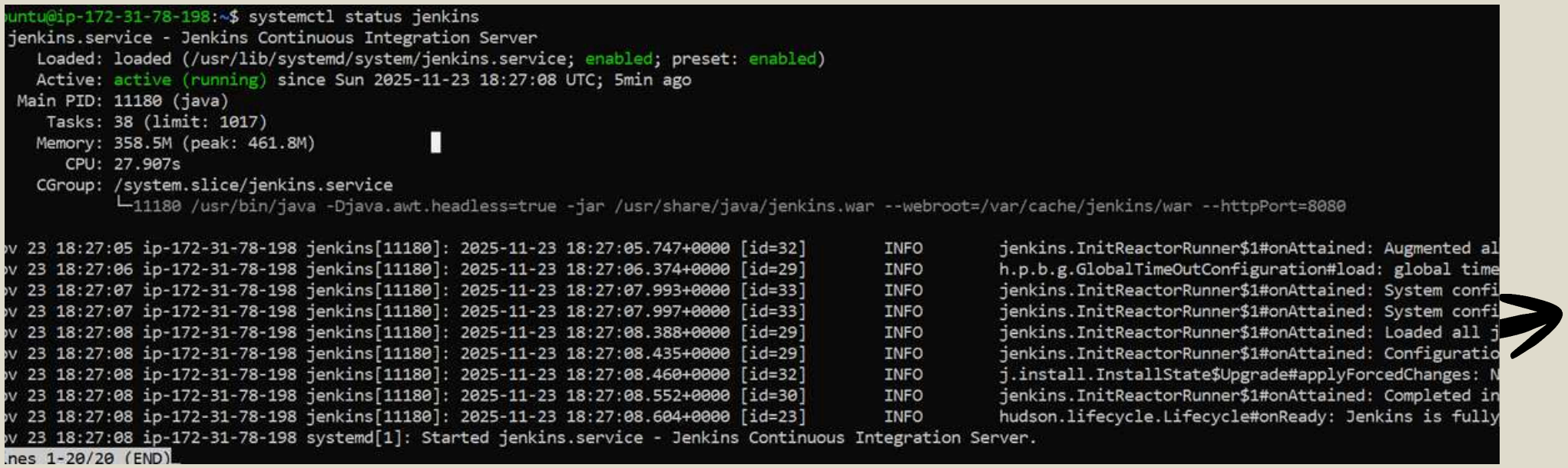


Confirmed Jenkins is running over Java on port 8080.

GitHub Integration & Webhooks

Three EC2 instances forming the CI/CD architecture

Verifying Jenkins Webhook Port (8080)

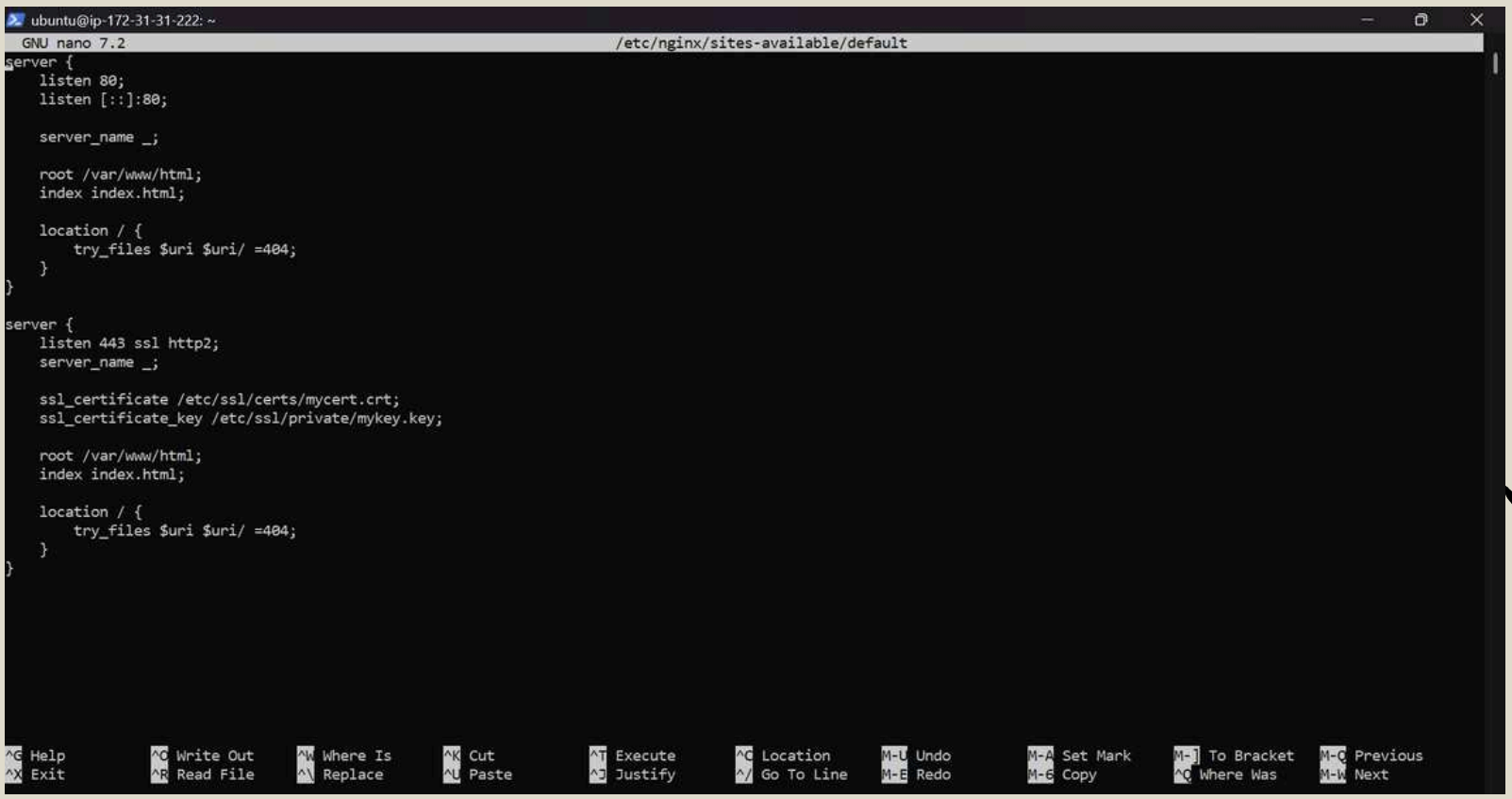


This screenshot confirms that Jenkins is actively running on port 8080 using the Java process.

The command :

sudo ss -tulnp | grep java
shows that port 8080 is listening, meaning Jenkins is ready to receive webhook events from GitHub without connection issues.

Jenkins Pipeline Triggered Automatically via GitHub Push



This image demonstrates that the CI/CD pipeline was successfully triggered by a GitHub push.

Jenkins detected the change through the webhook and executed the pipeline automatically.

The logs confirm:

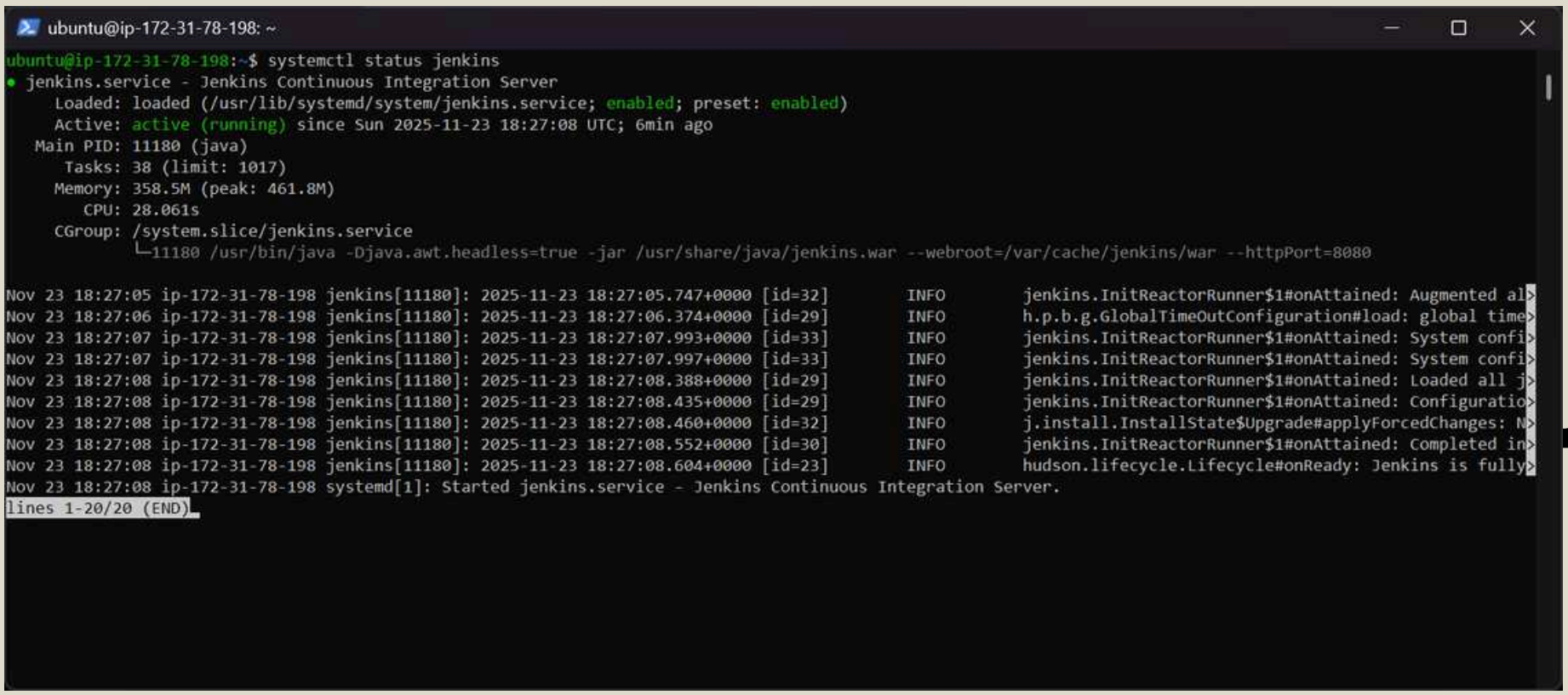
- Triggered by GitHub push event
- Source: origin/main
- Build completed successfully

This validates a fully working GitHub → Jenkins automated pipeline.

CI/CD Pipeline

Three EC2 instances forming the CI/CD architecture

Jenkins Pipeline Trigger Logs — Build Started Successfully



Explanation:

This screenshot shows the Jenkins service logs right after triggering a pipeline execution.

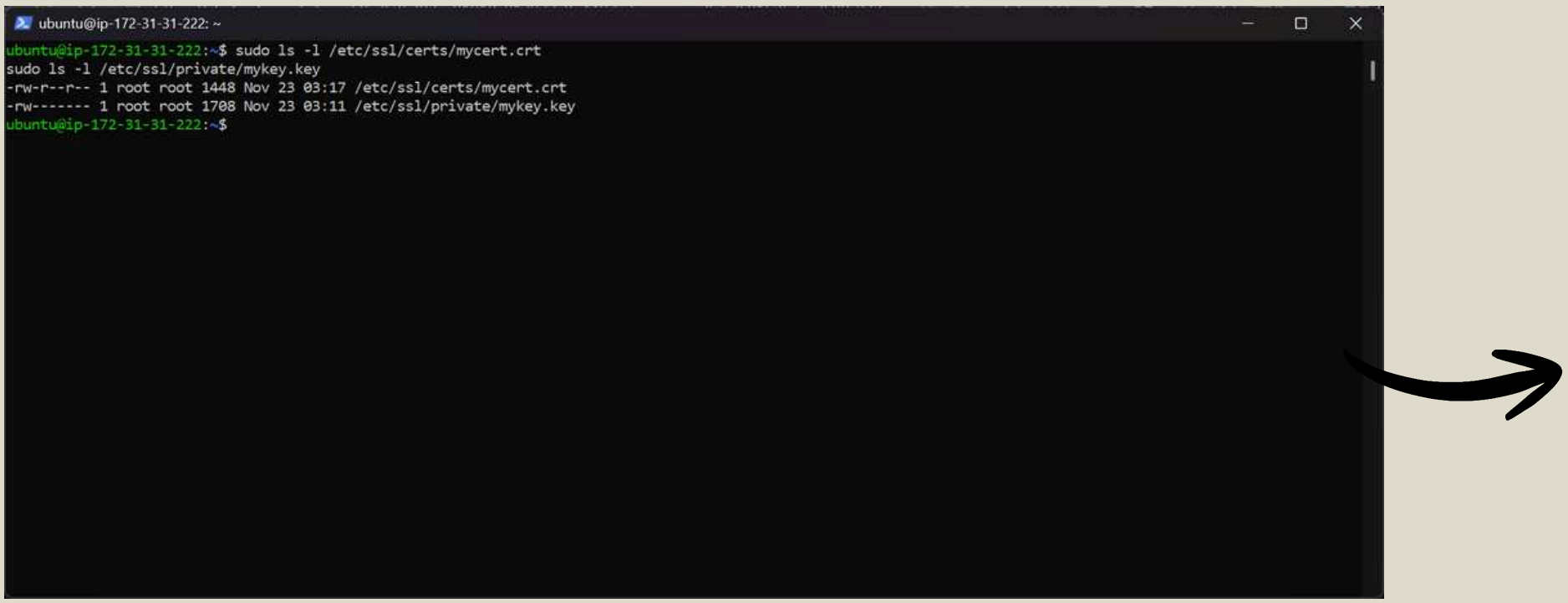
The logs confirm:

- Jenkins is running correctly on the server
- GitHub webhook triggered the pipeline
- Java process executed the Jenkins WAR file
- Pipeline initialization completed successfully

Purpose:

To prove that the CI/CD pipeline is active and responding to GitHub push events.

Verifying SSL Certificate and Private Key on the Production Server

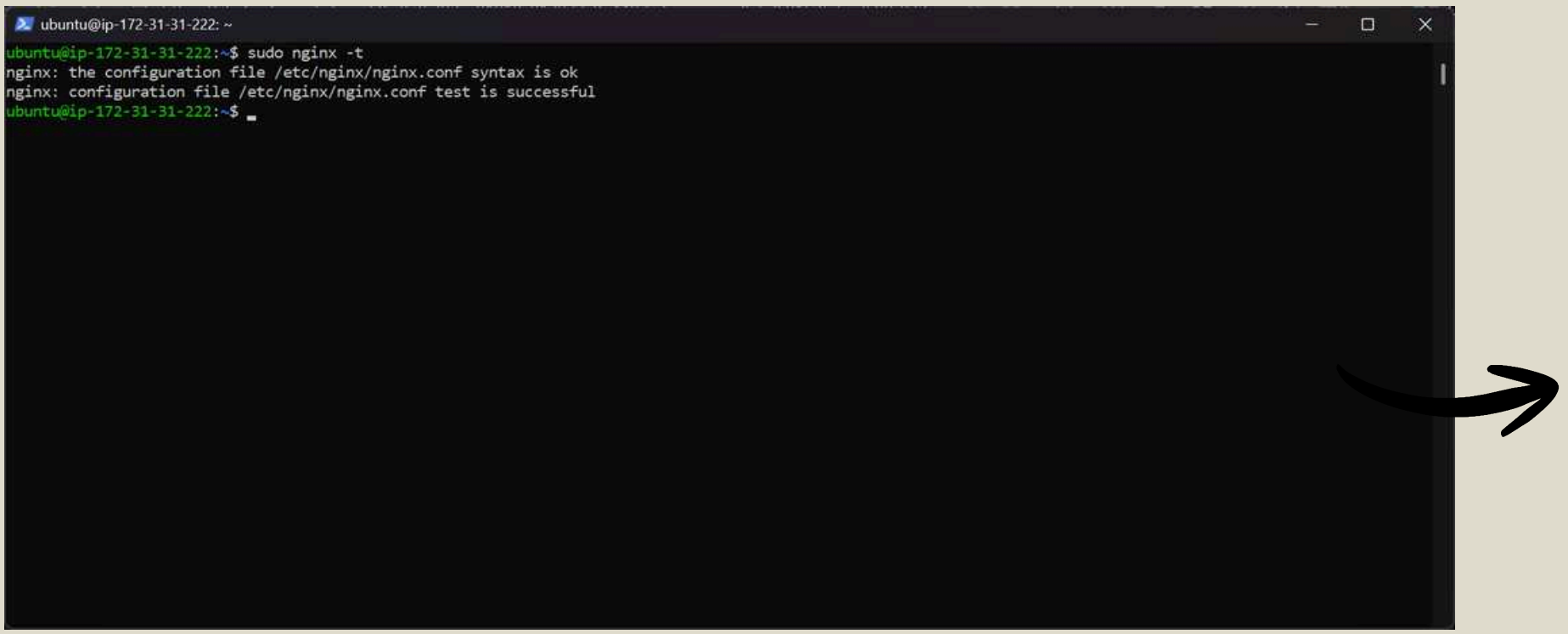


Here I validated the existence and correct permissions of:

- /etc/ssl/certs/mycert.crt
- /etc/ssl/private/mykey.key

This step is essential for enabling HTTPS for Nginx.
Correct permissions ensure that Nginx can read the certificate and private key safely.

Testing Nginx Configuration Before Deployment



Running confirms that the configuration file is valid:sudo nginx -t

- Syntax OK
- Configuration test successful

This avoids breaking the production web server after reloading Nginx.

Systemd Journal Monitoring During Deployment

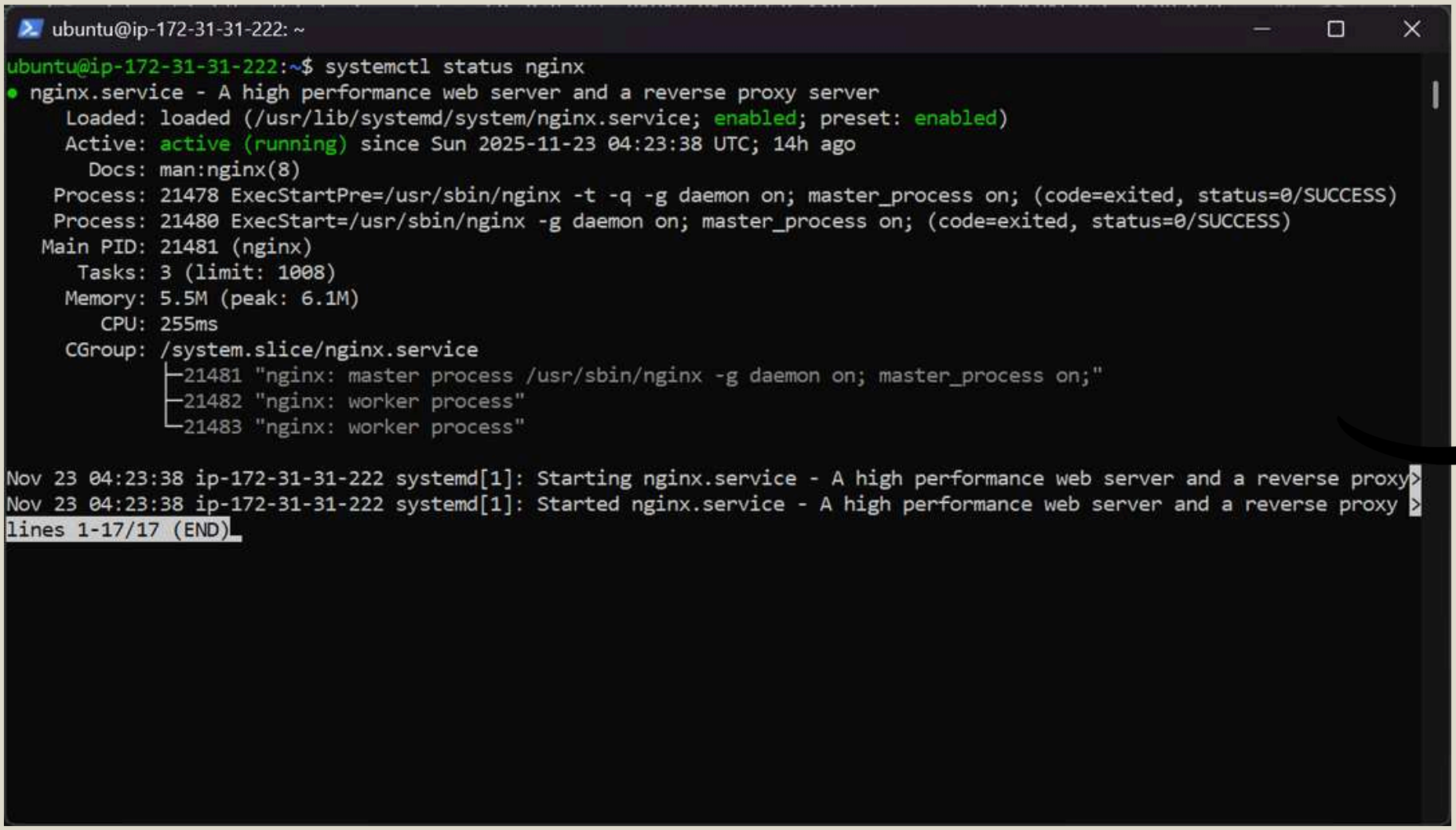
```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-75-161:~$ sudo journalctl -xe
   Defined-By: systemd
   Support: http://www.ubuntu.com/support

   The user manager instance for user 1000 has been started. All services queued
   for starting have been started. Note that other services might still be starting
   up or be started at any later time.

   Startup of the manager took 164921 microseconds.
Nov 23 18:46:28 ip-172-31-75-161 systemd[1]: Started user@1000.service - User Manager for UID 1000.
   Subject: A start job for unit user@1000.service has finished successfully
   Defined-By: systemd
   Support: http://www.ubuntu.com/support

   A start job for unit user@1000.service has finished successfully.

   The job identifier is 201552.
Nov 23 18:46:28 ip-172-31-75-161 systemd[1]: Started session-1614.scope - Session 1614 of User ubuntu.
   Subject: A start job for unit session-1614.scope has finished successfully
   Defined-By: systemd
   Support: http://www.ubuntu.com/support

   A start job for unit session-1614.scope has finished successfully.

   The job identifier is 201671.
Nov 23 18:46:50 ip-172-31-75-161 sudo[28813]:   ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/bin/ss -tulnp
Nov 23 18:46:50 ip-172-31-75-161 sudo[28813]: pam_unix(sudo:session): session opened for user root(uid=0) by ubuntu(uid=1000)
Nov 23 18:46:50 ip-172-31-75-161 sudo[28813]: pam_unix(sudo:session): session closed for user root
Nov 23 18:47:19 ip-172-31-75-161 sudo[28826]:   ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/bin/journalctl -xe
Nov 23 18:47:19 ip-172-31-75-161 sudo[28826]: pam_unix(sudo:session): session opened for user root(uid=0) by ubuntu(uid=1000)
lines 3359-3387/3387 (END)
```

Using to monitor system logs during deployment:journalctl -xe

- Ensures no background errors
- Confirms Nginx & Jenkins operations
- Helps detect permission or network issues

This step is part of safe deployment validation.

Nginx Running Successfully — Web Server Ready



This screenshot confirms that the Nginx service is:

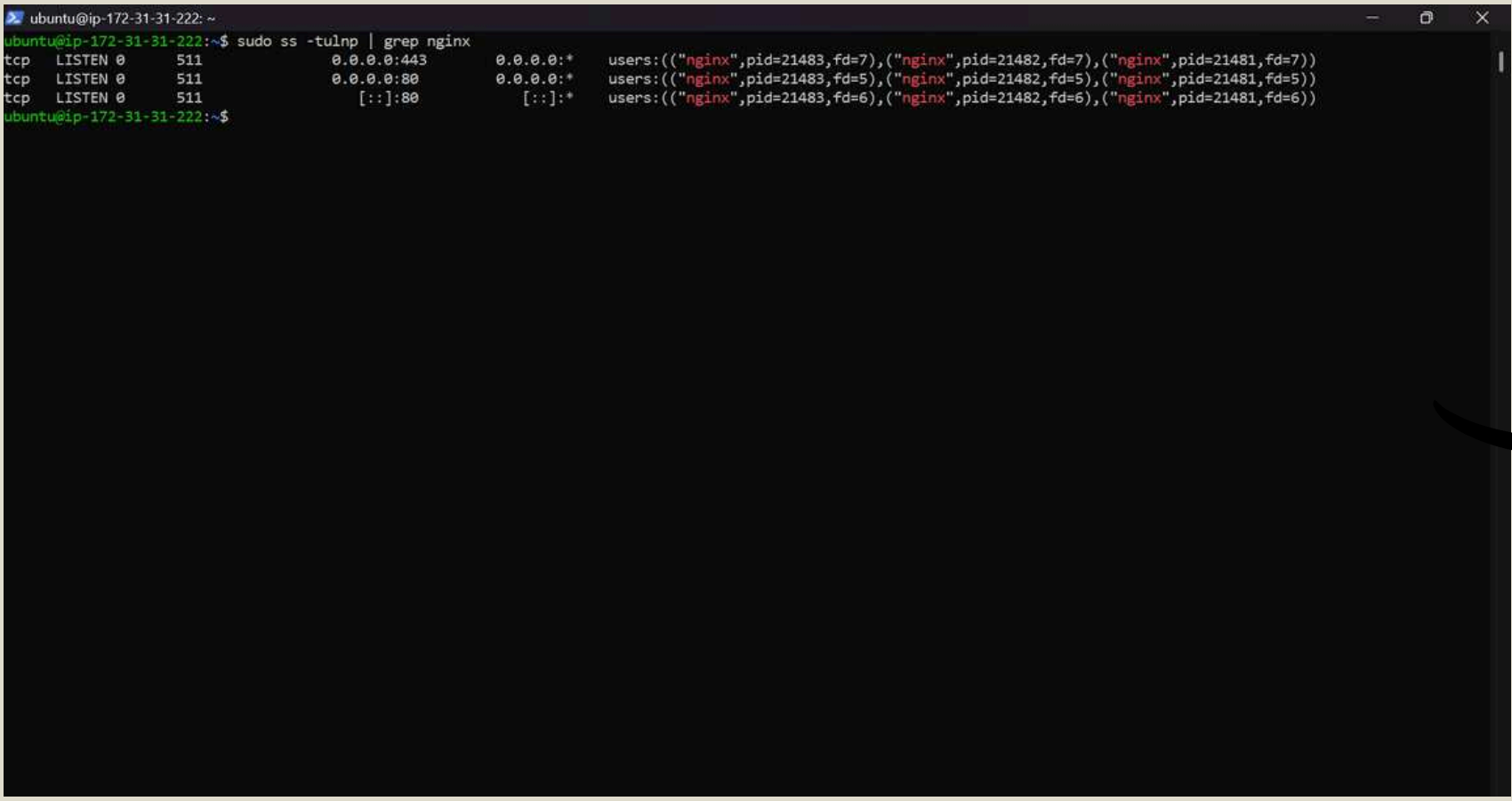
- Active (running)
- Loaded with no errors
- Worker processes functioning

This ensures the production web server is ready to handle traffic.

Nginx HTTPS & Reverse Proxy Ports

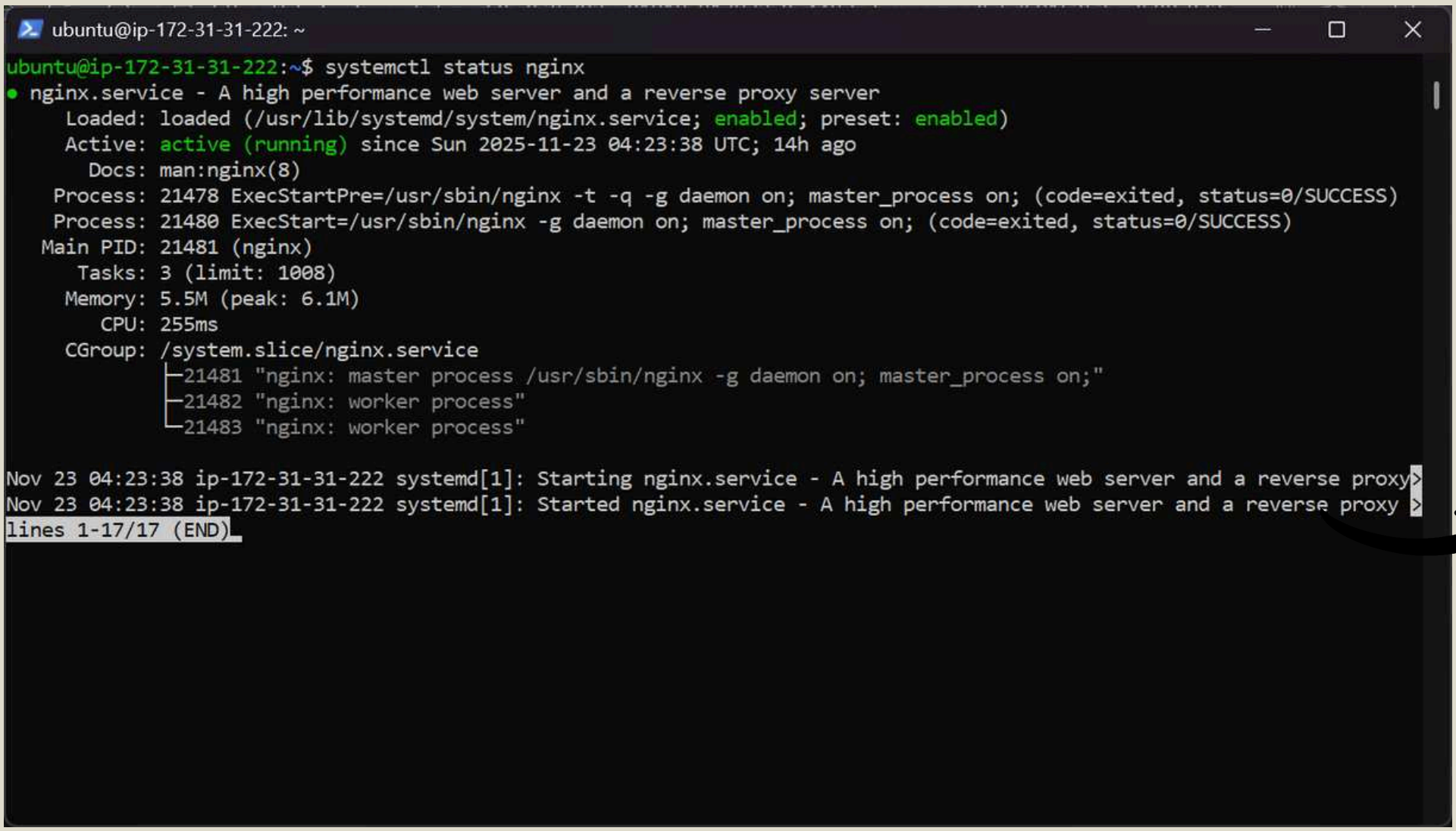
MOHAMED ELBARGUI — DevOps Case Study | 2025

Nginx Listening on Ports 80 & 443 (Reverse Proxy Ready)



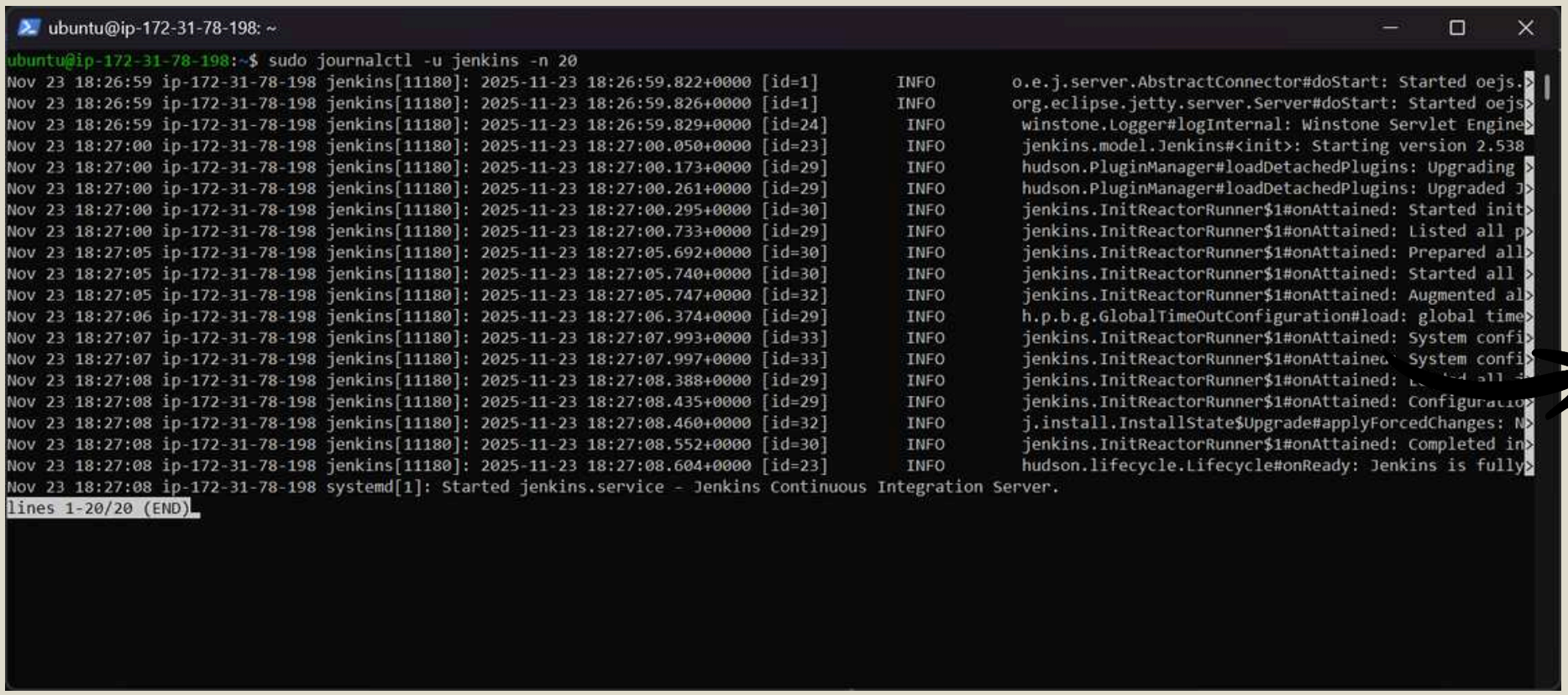
This command verifies that Nginx is correctly listening on HTTP (80) and HTTPS (443).
Presence of multiple worker processes confirms that the Nginx reverse proxy is active and ready to serve traffic.

Verifying the Deployed Web Application Container



This command lists all Docker containers.
It shows that the mysite container was successfully created and mapped to port 80, confirming that the app image was built and deployed during the CI/CD pipeline.

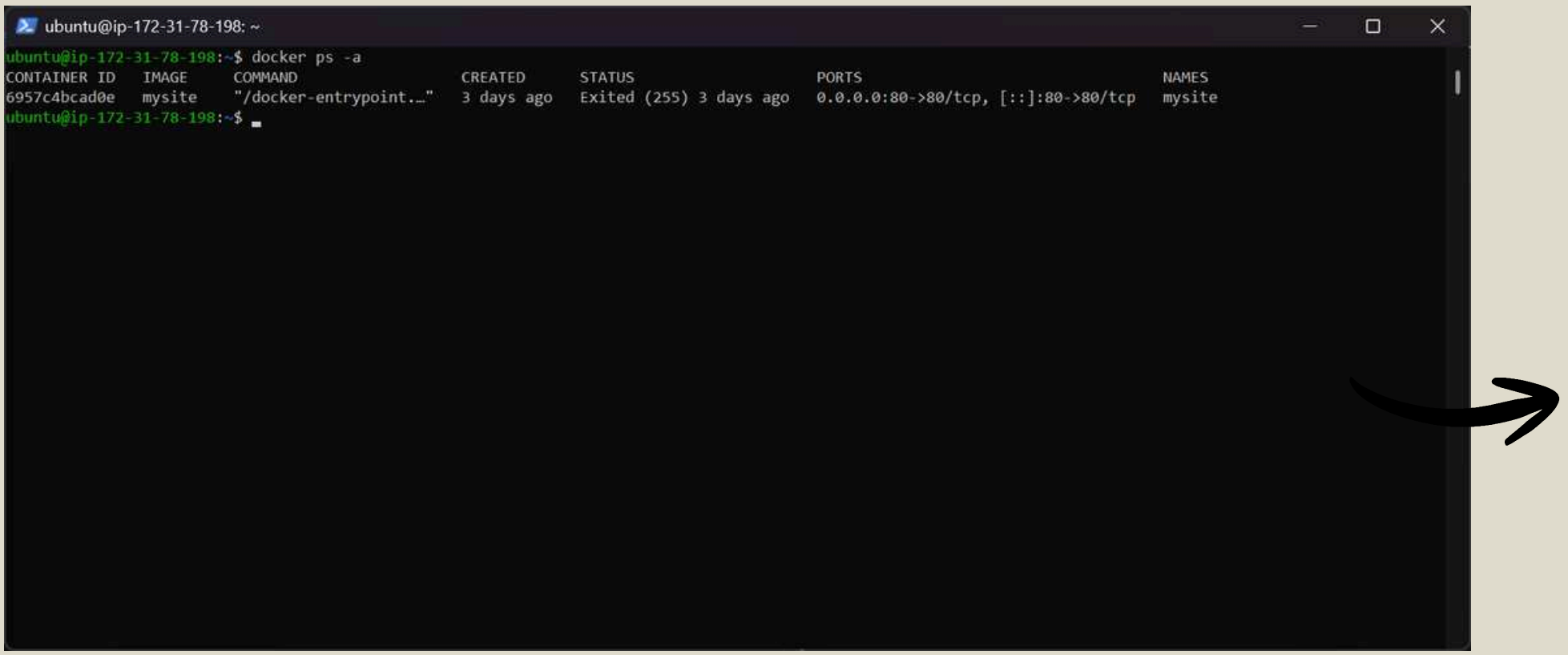
Jenkins Pipeline Started Successfully (Java Service Active)



These logs confirm that Jenkins is running on Java and the CI pipeline was triggered.

Jenkins plugins, build steps, and initialization sequence all executed successfully — meaning that GitHub webhook integration is working.

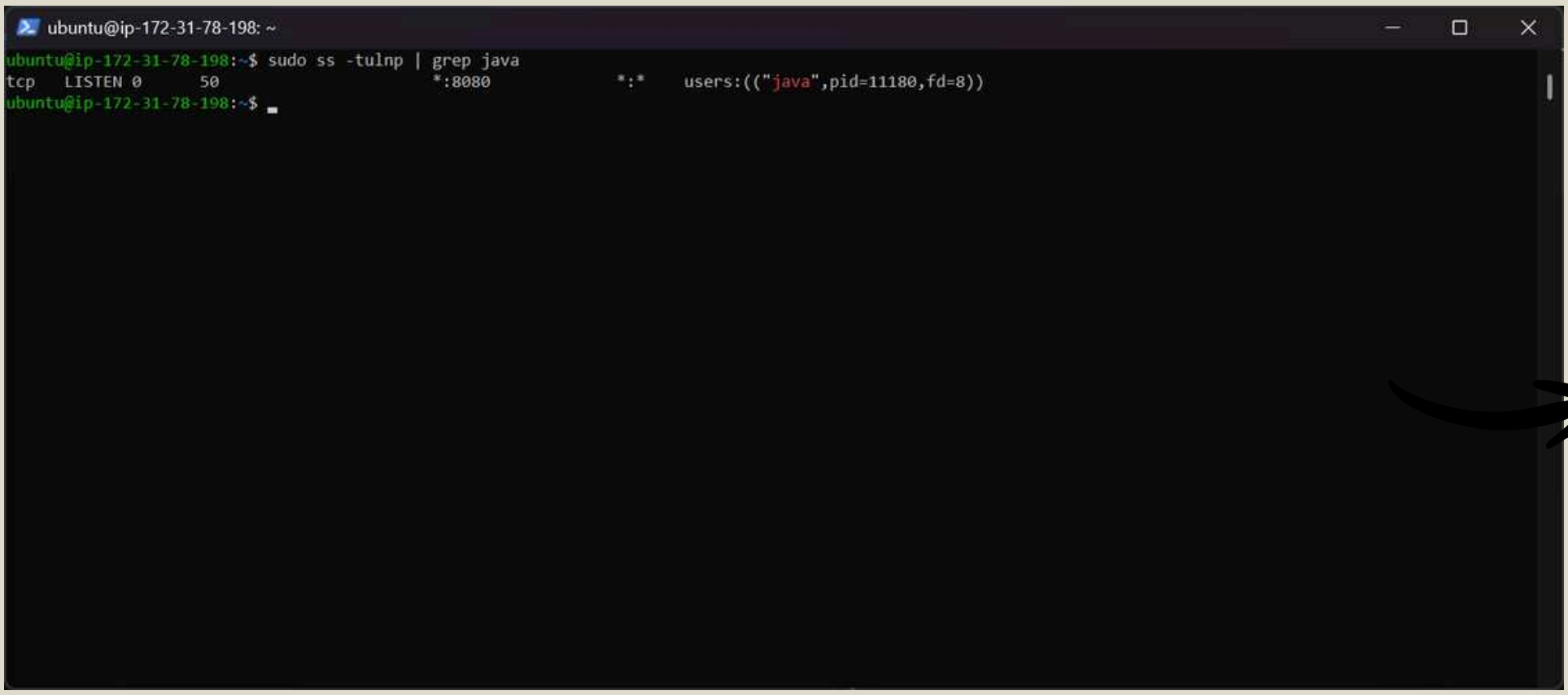
Validating Nginx Configuration Syntax



The systemd status confirms that Nginx is enabled, active, and running without errors.

This validates that the configuration is stable and serving as the main HTTPS reverse proxy

Nginx Reverse Proxy Running Successfully

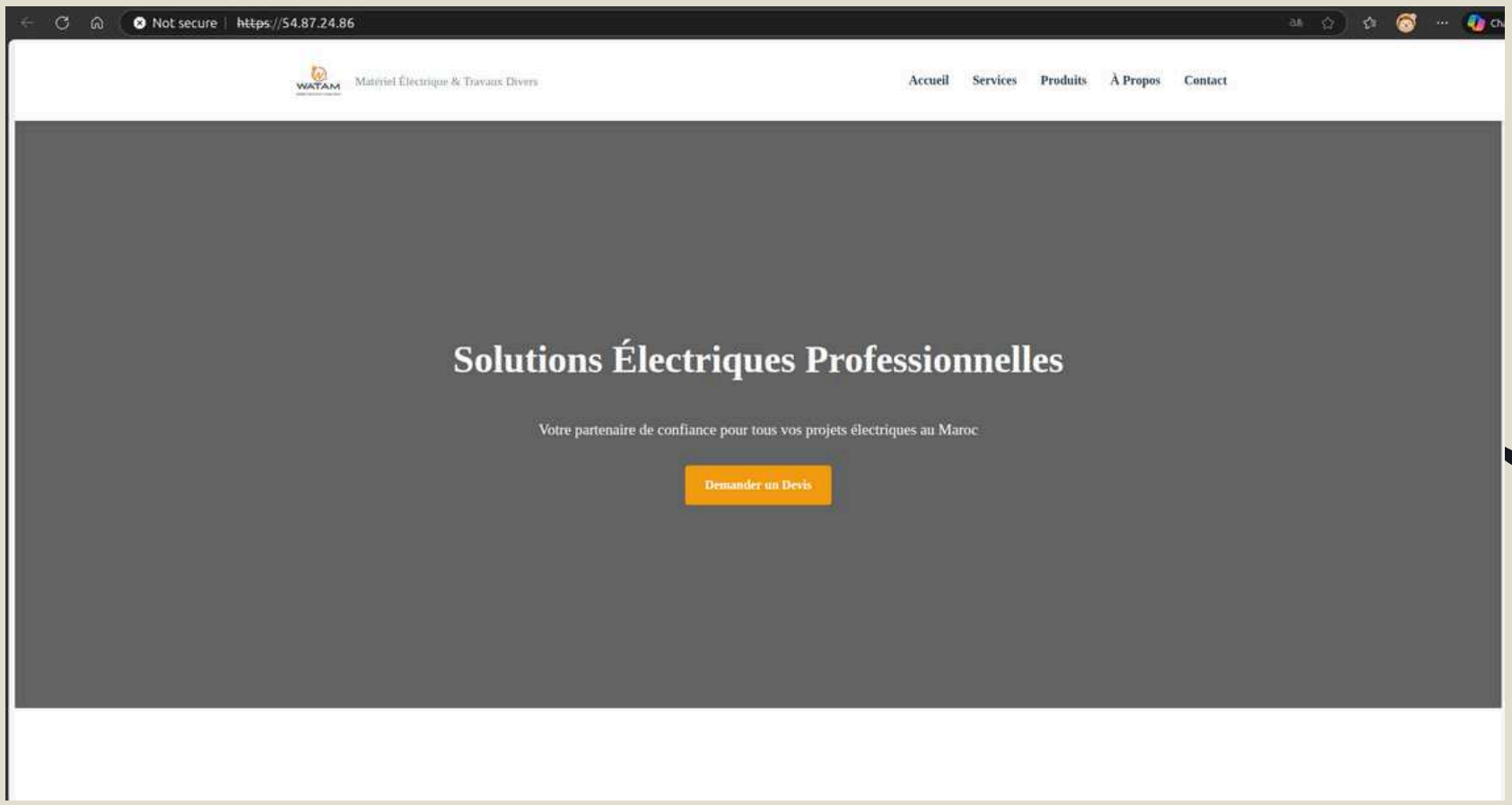


Executing nginx -t ensures the Nginx configuration file has no syntax errors.

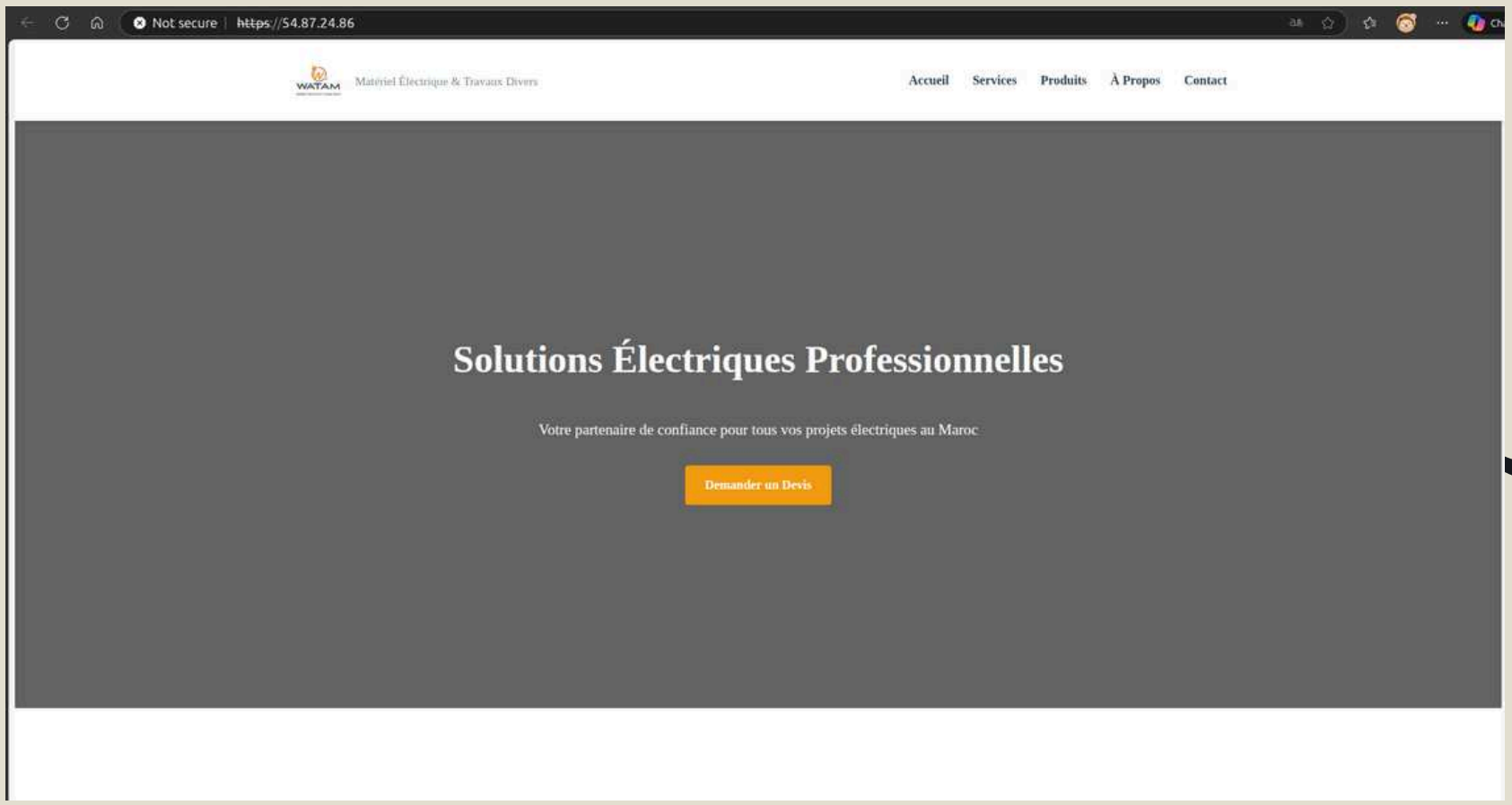
The “test is successful” confirmation means the server is ready to reload or restart safely

Result

HTTPS
https://54.87.24.86/



HTTP
http://54.87.24.86/



MOHAMED ELBARGUI — DevOps Case Study | 2025

Conclusion & Next Steps

This first DevOps project allowed me to build a complete CI/CD pipeline on AWS using Jenkins, Docker, Nginx, HTTPS, and automated deployment workflows.

I learned how to structure cloud environments, secure them, and design pipelines that reflect real industry practices.

Moving forward, I will expand this project with:

- Infrastructure as Code (Terraform)
- Automated SSL certificate renewal
- Full monitoring & alerting (Prometheus / Grafana)
- Blue/Green or Rolling deployment strategy
- A more advanced application with Front-End + Back-End
- A fully container-based architecture (Docker Compose / Kubernetes)

This project marks the beginning of my DevOps journey, and the next versions will be more complete, scalable, and production-ready.