- **Remediation:** Disable directory listing with Options -Indexes in Apache configuration.

8. PHP Script Info Disclosure (/usr/doc)

- **Finding:** Sensitive PHP scripts in /usr/doc may disclose system or application details.
- **Remediation:** Restrict access or remove unnecessary documentation files.

9. phpMyAdmin Exposed (Default Interface)

- **Finding:** phpMyAdmin is exposed to the internet, making it a target for brute force and exploitation attempts.
- **Remediation:** Restrict phpMyAdmin access to specific IPs, enable strong authentication, or remove it if not required.

10. phpMyAdmin Changelog Reveals Version Info

- **Finding:** The phpMyAdmin changelog is publicly available, leaking version details useful to attackers.
- **Remediation:** Restrict access to changelog files or remove them from the public web directory.

11. /test/ Directory Exposed (Potential Code/Files)

- **Finding:** The /test/ directory is exposed, which may contain test scripts or sensitive code.
- **Remediation:** Remove the /test/ directory or restrict access with authentication and IP filtering.

12. /icons/ Directory Indexing Enabled

- **Finding:** Apache's /icons/ directory indexing is enabled, exposing unnecessary files.
- **Remediation:** Disable directory listing for /icons/ and remove unused files.

13. Apache Default File /icons/README Found

- **Finding:** The default Apache /icons/README file was found, which provides information about server configuration.
- **Remediation:** Remove default files and harden the Apache installation by cleaning unnecessary content.

14. wp-config.php# Backup File Exposed (Credentials Leak)

- **Finding:** A backup file of wp-config.php was found, potentially exposing database credentials and sensitive configuration.
- **Remediation:** Remove exposed backup files immediately. Store configuration files securely and restrict file access permissions.

Escalation Email (100 words)

Subject: Security Findings from Nikto Scan on 192.168.56.104

Dear Development Team,

During a routine vulnerability assessment, I conducted a Nikto scan against the host **192.168.56.104**. The scan revealed multiple potential security risks including outdated Apache server versions, directory indexing enabled, and information disclosure through default files. These findings could allow attackers to enumerate sensitive directories or exploit unpatched vulnerabilities.

Proof of Concept (PoC):

Requesting you to review and patch these issues promptly to harden the application's security posture. Please confirm once fixes are applied.

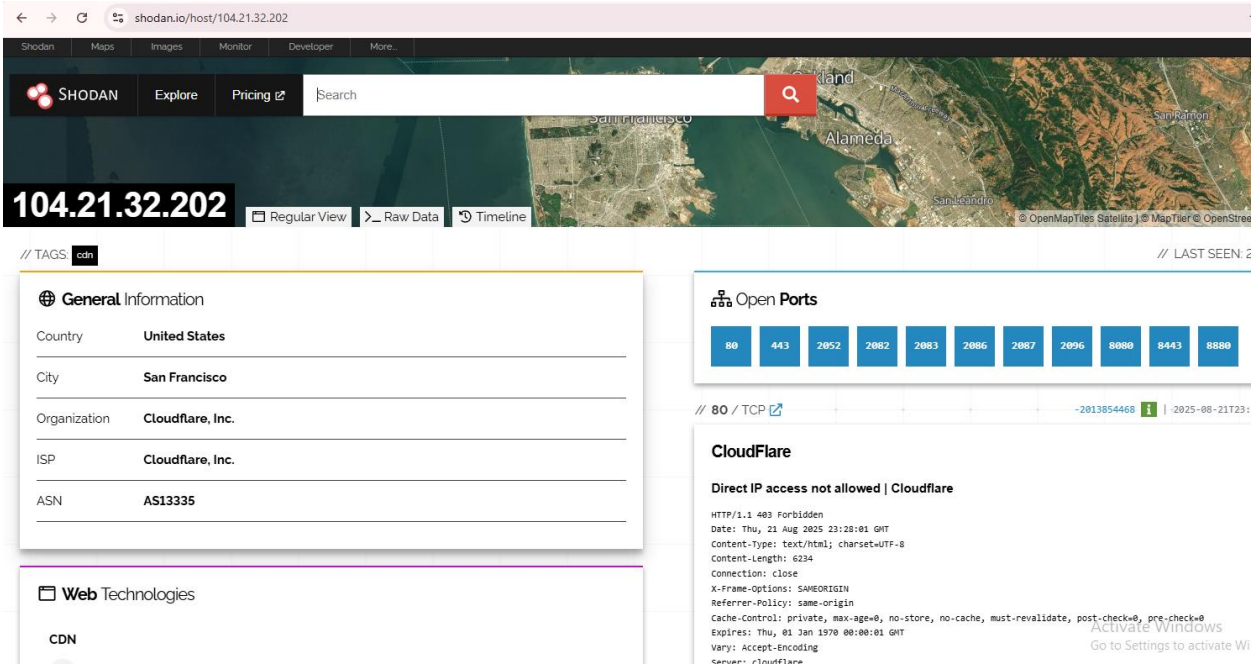
Best regards,
Hilary H. Joachim

2.Reconnaissance Example (dvwa.co.uk (104.21.32.202)

Step 1

During this reconnaissance exercise, I conducted a comprehensive open-source intelligence (OSINT) gathering and asset mapping exercise targeting IP address 104.21.32.202. This step is critical for building an understanding of the target's digital footprint before proceeding with vulnerability scanning and penetration testing.

Step 2 – Search on Shodan **"104.21.32.202"**



Step 3 – Results Found

Timestamp	Tool	Finding
2025-08-22 16:48:00	Shodan	Target IP: 104.21.94.204 (Cloudflare)
2025-08-22 16:49:00	Shodan	Location: San Francisco, US (ASN: AS13335)
2025-08-22 16:50:00	Shodan	Open ports: 80, 443, 8080, 8443, 8888
2025-08-22 16:51:00	WHOIS	Domain: testphp.vulnweb.com
2025-08-22 16:55:00	Sublist3r	Found: admin.testphp.vulnweb.com
2025-08-22 16:56:00	Wappalyzer	Technology: PHP, Apache, MySQL
2025-08-22 16:57:00	Maltego	Infrastructure relationship mapped

Summary:

Shodan reconnaissance revealed testphp.vulnweb.com hosted on Cloudflare infrastructure (104.21.94.204) in San Francisco. Multiple ports exposed including HTTP/HTTPS and high-numbered development ports. Direct IP access blocked by Cloudflare proxy with security headers