LinkedIn: Kelvin Kimotho

CYBER TALENTS

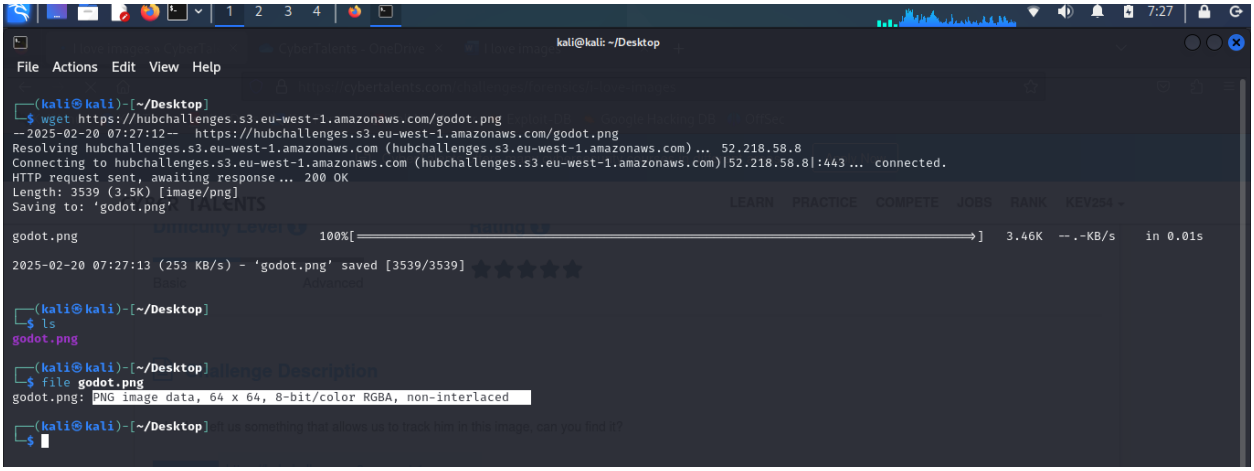
Challenge Name: I love images

Challenge Description

A hacker left us something that allows us to track him in this image, can you find it?

Solution

I first downloaded the image file into my machine using wget a command line tool used to download files from the internet.



I then went ahead and used exiftool a command line tool that enables us examine files meta data but i found nothing interesting.

```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$ exiftool godot.png
ExifTool Version Number         : 12.76
File Name                       : godot.png
Directory                       : .
File Size                       : 3.5 kB
File Modification Date/Time     : 2024:11:27 12:57:26+00:00
File Access Date/Time           : 2025:02:20 07:27:13+00:00
File Inode Change Date/Time     : 2025:02:20 07:27:13+00:00
File Permissions                : -rw-rw-r--
File Type                       : PNG
File Type Extension             : png
MIME Type                       : image/png
Image Width                     : 64
Image Height                    : 64
Bit Depth                       : 8
Color Type                      : RGB with Alpha
Compression                     : Deflate/Inflate
Filter                          : Adaptive
Interlace                       : Noninterlaced
Warning                         : [minor] Trailer data after PNG IEND chunk
Image Size                      : 64×64
Megapixels                      : 0.004

┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$
```

I then went ahead looking for possible strings embedded into the image, this was possible by using strings a command line tool that *looks for printable strings in a file. I came across some suspicious string ' IZGECR33JZXXIX2PNZWHSX2CMFZWKNRUPU====== ' which appeared to be a base64 encoding.*

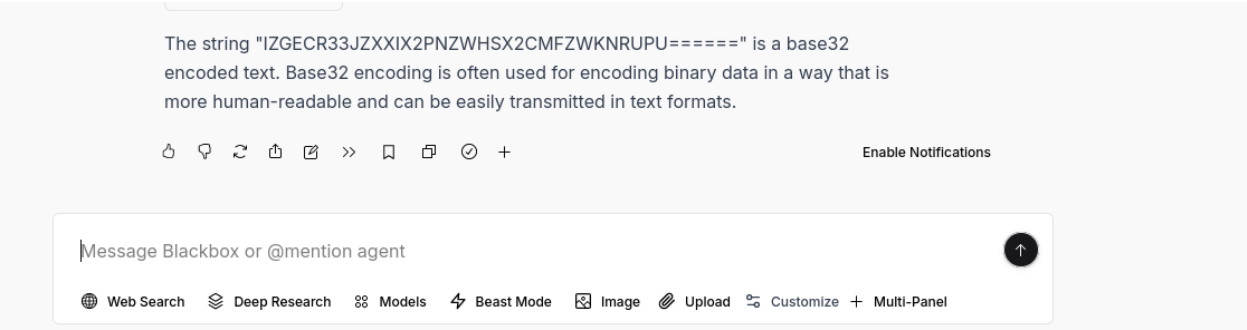
```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$ strings godot.png
IHDR
qIDATx
{pTU
\vvqtwj
QA!~
%EY}
4:$YF
B I2*
```

```
vL.I
VMqa.%
pDuF(
op+P
q}'ZA0
O-T&
IEND
IZGECR33JZXXIX2PNZWHSX2CMFZWKNRUPU======

┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$
```

I went ahead and tried decoding it using the base64 decoder tool on my machine but it turned out that the encoding was not a base64 encoding.

```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$ echo IZGECR33JZXXIX2PNZWHSX2CMFZWKNRUPU====== | base64 -d
!◆◆     ◆%◆◆!}◆5◆◆I}◆0VV(◆T=base64: invalid input

┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
└─$
```

I tried doing some research regarding encodings. Went ahead and made a prompt asking ai what encoding was the string and it identified it as a base32 encoding.



I then used the base32 decoder on my machine and captured flag was " FLAG{Not_Only_Base64}".