SIT282 Computer Crime and Digital Forensics
ASSIGNMENT 2

Report Title: Forensic Analysis of Suspected Drug Manufacturing Operation

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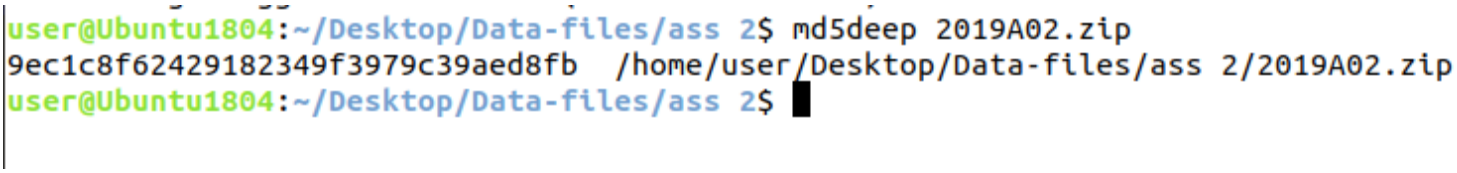
DIGITAL FORENSIC PROCEDURE

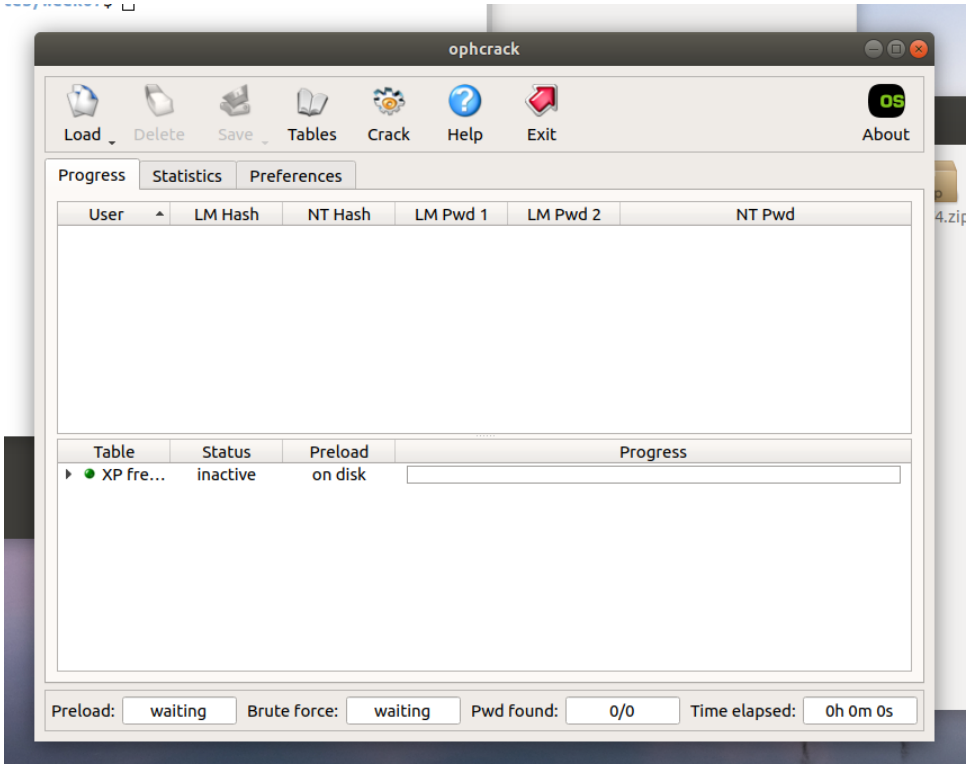
1. Explain how you downloaded the file, what precautions you took, and how you ensured its integrity.

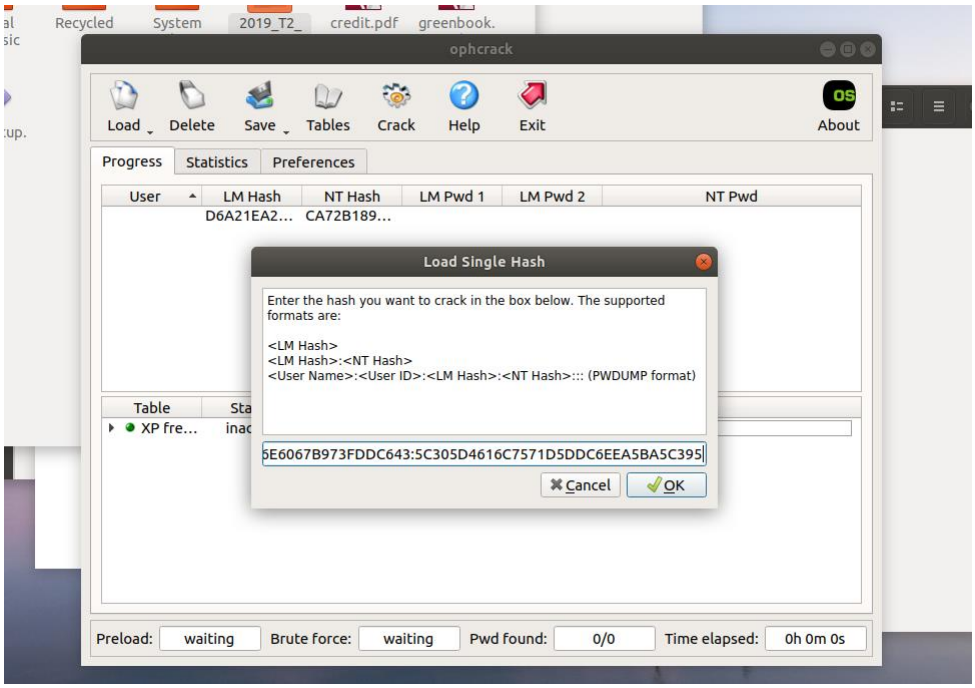
File Download Procedure	*I downloaded the zip file from the link* [*http://www.deakin.edu.au/~zoidberg/2019A02.zip*](http://www.deakin.edu.au/~zoidberg/2019A02.zip)
Precautions Applied	*I made sure my antivirus software was up-to-date and was active during the download process.* *I ensured the download took place over a secure network connection.* *Used a dedicated, isolated lab environment to prevent potential contamination and any security risks to my main system.*
Method used to ensure Integrity	*I verified the md5 hash value of the executable file within the ZIP archive to be* 9ec1c8f62429182349f3979c39aed8fb, ensuring the file was not tampered with during the download.

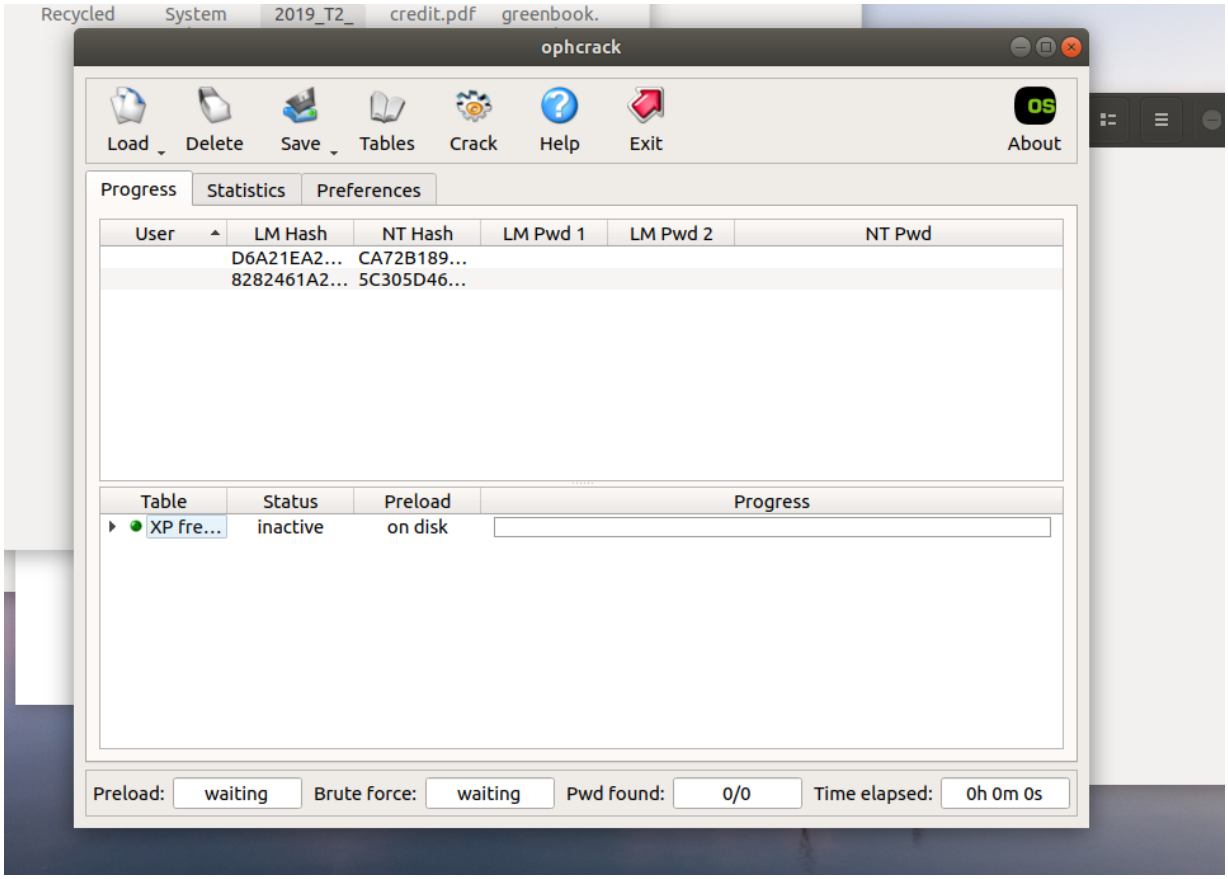


2. Describe how you decrypt two given NTLM hash values by using OphCrack, including screen shots.

- *First, I loaded the NTLM hashed into the OphCrack tool.*
- *Then, I used the rainbow table in that came default with the OphCrack tool.*
- *Finally, I initiated the decryption process and waited for the hashes to be cracked.*
- *the first hash value D6A21EA26063C42FC9876E4B0C51BC82:CA72B189F412A384D96B785A08176773 was decrypted into* ***DickCheney***
- *the second hash value* 8282461A2BDAF626E6067B973FDDC643:5C305D4616C7571D5DDC6EEA5BA5C395 was decrypted into **DonaldRumsfeld**






Recycled
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D6A21EA2...
CA72B189...
8282461A2...
5C305D46...
Table
Status
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Pwd found:
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Time elapsed:
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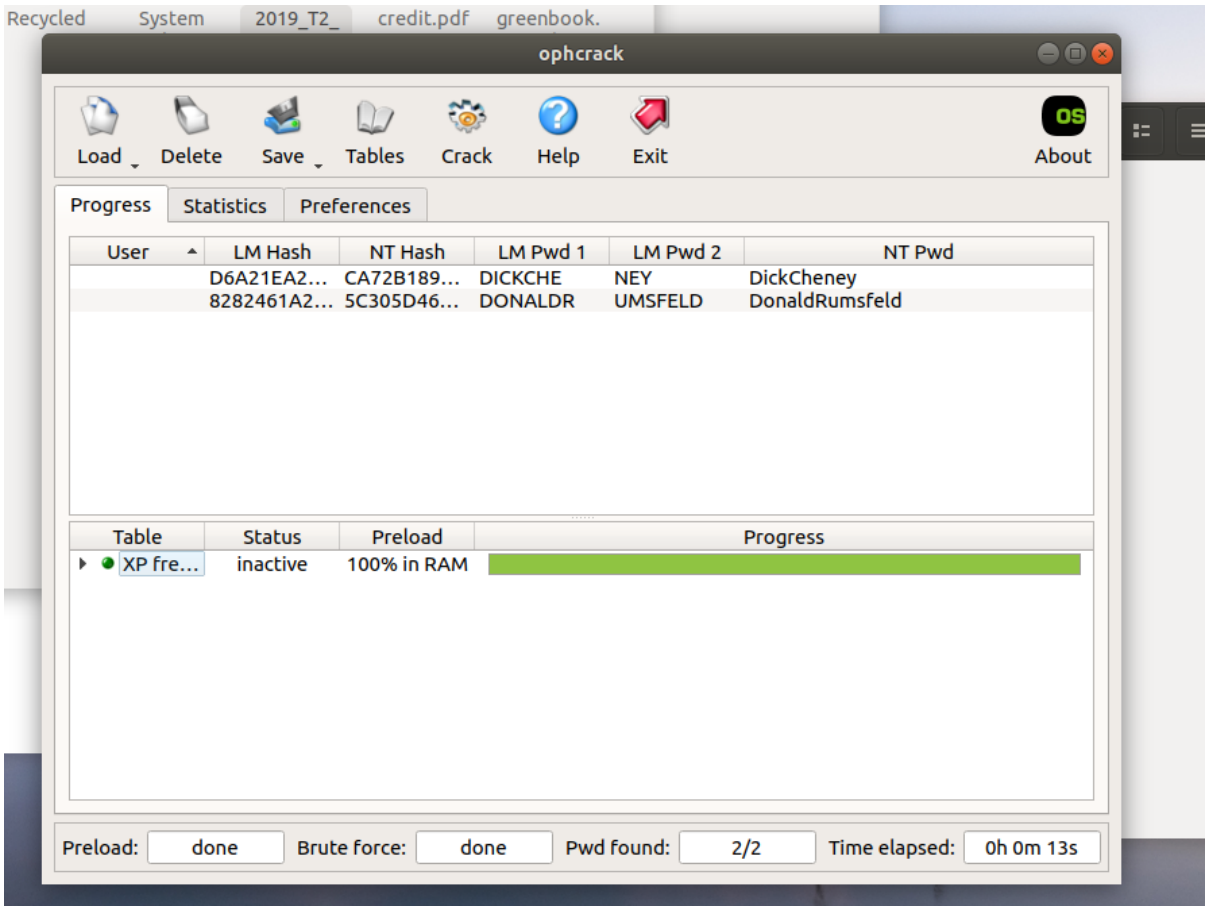
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credit.pdf
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Load
Delete
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Crack
Help
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About
Progress
Statistics
Preferences
User
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NT Hash
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LM Pwd 2
NT Pwd
D6A21EA2...
CA72B189...
DICKCHE
NEY
DickCheney
8282461A2...
5C305D46...
DONALDR
UMSFELD
DonaldRumsfeld
Table
Status
Preload
Progress
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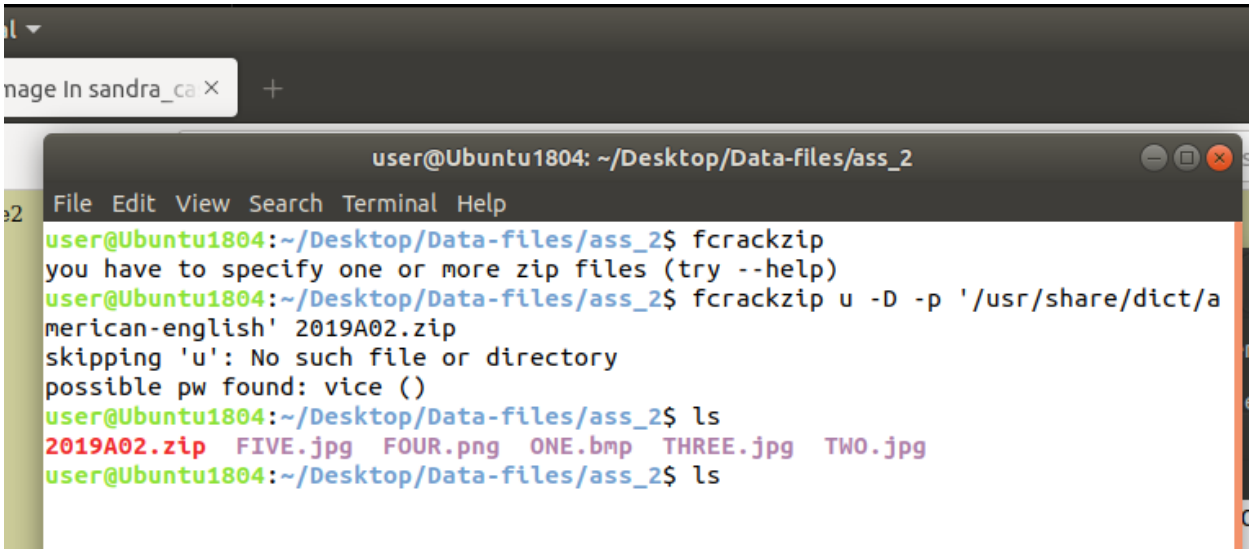
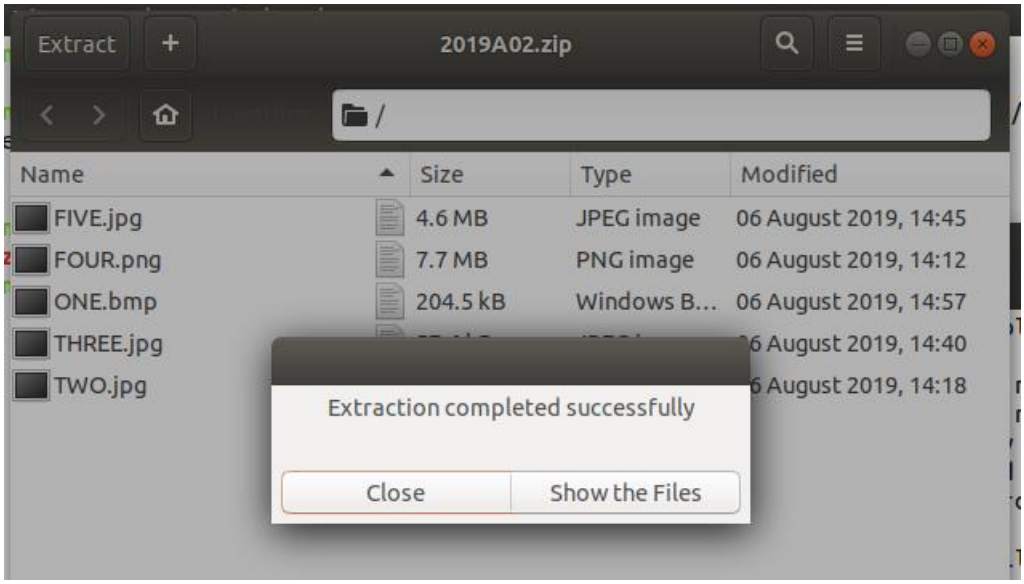
inactive
100% in RAM
Preload:
done
Brute force:
done
Pwd found:
2/2
Time elapsed:
0h 0m 13s

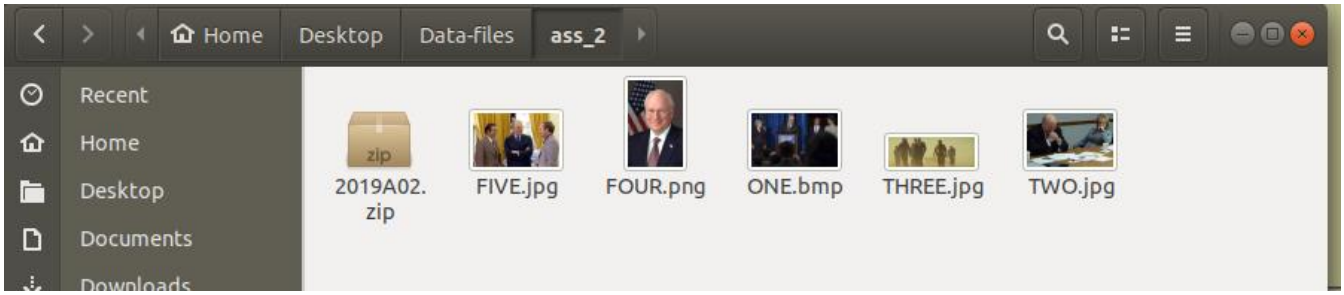
3. Describe the process that you apply to open the downloaded file. Describe whether there is a relationship between this process and the information obtained in Step 2.

Steps performed to open the file were:	1. *I extracted the contents of the zip file using fcrackzip tool.* 2. *For that, I first, brute forced the ZIP file using the word list american-english.* 3. *Then the password was found using brute forcing. It was **vice*** 4. *Then, I opened the ZIP file, it asked for a password since it was password protected. I typed the password vice.* 5. *Finally, the files inside the ZIP file got extracted and was in a viewable format.*

There is a relationship between the decrypted NTLM hashes and how to open the downloaded file because of the thorough technique used in the investigation. Even though the passwords derived from the NTLM hashes weren't used to unlock the ZIP file, recording this process is essential since it demonstrates a comprehensive investigation of all potential entry points and there are possibilities of these passwords being used later. In the end, brute forcing was required to open the ZIP file, highlighting the importance of adaptability and a variety of techniques in digital forensic investigations.

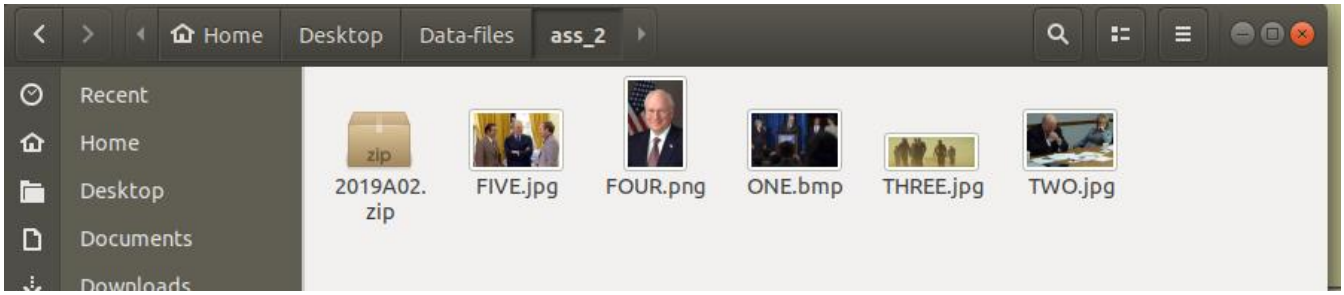


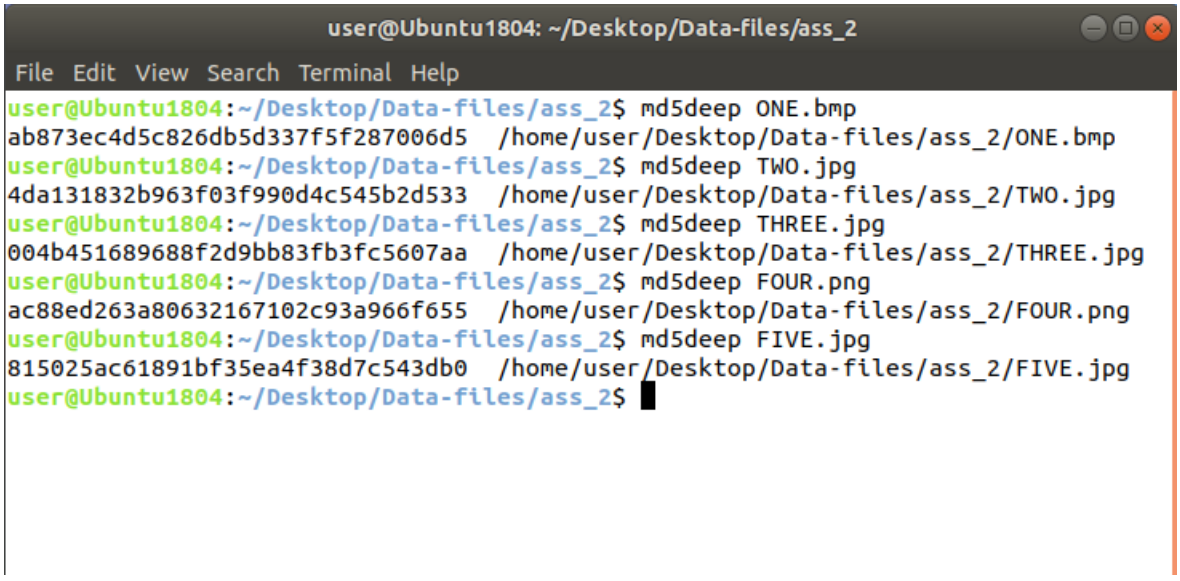



Home
Desktop
Data-files
ass_2
Recent
Home
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
zip
2019A02.zip
FIVE.jpg
FOUR.png
ONE.bmp
THREE.jpg
TWO.jpg

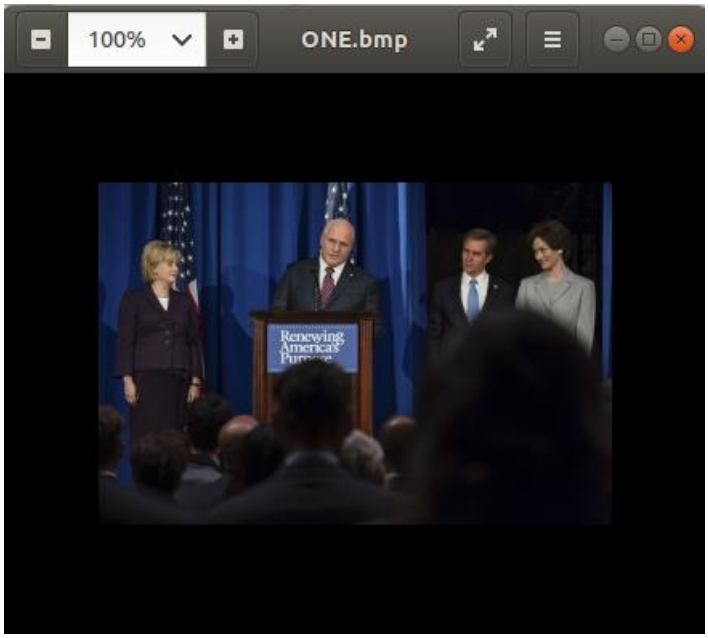
4. Describe the actual content of the encrypted file that you identified in Step 3. If there are multiple files, list their file names, types and MD5 hash values. Describe the visual contents in each file.

Content description	*The actual files that were extracted from the downloaded ZIP files were image files. There were totally 5 image files extracted.* *In the **ONE.bmp** file it was a group of people on a stage. Looks like white house's speech giving stage. Then I observed that it was from the movie called Vice.* *In the **TWO.jpg** file there were two people sitting near a table being anxious about something while looking down at a file on the table. This was also a scene from the movie Vice.* *In the **THREE.jpg** file I saw a group of people walking on a sandy place. This was also a scene from the movie called Vice.* *In the **FOUR.png** file, I saw an elderly person face.* *In the **FIVE.jpg**, there were a group of three people discussing something.*

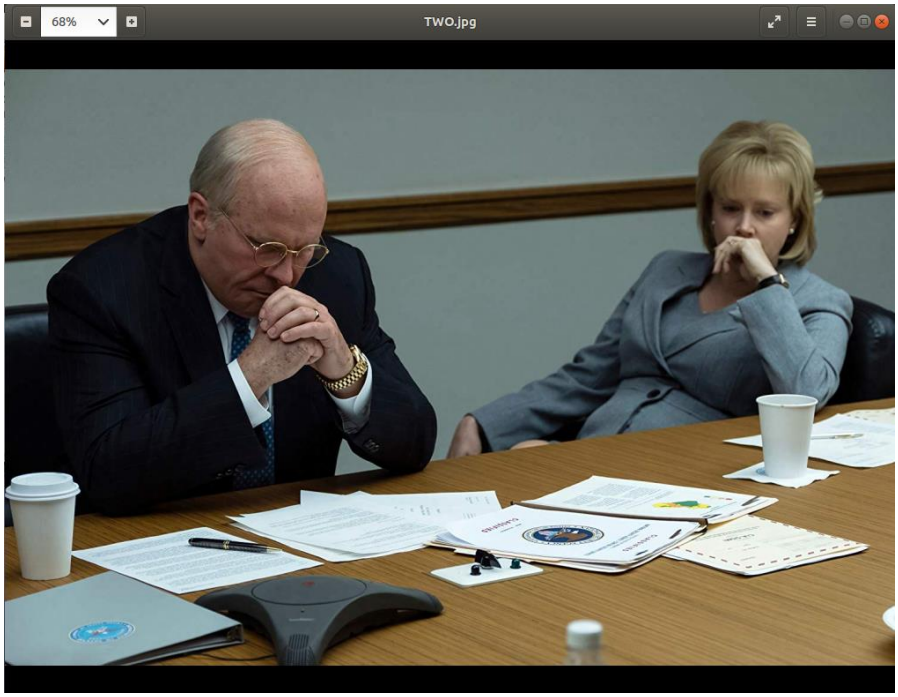




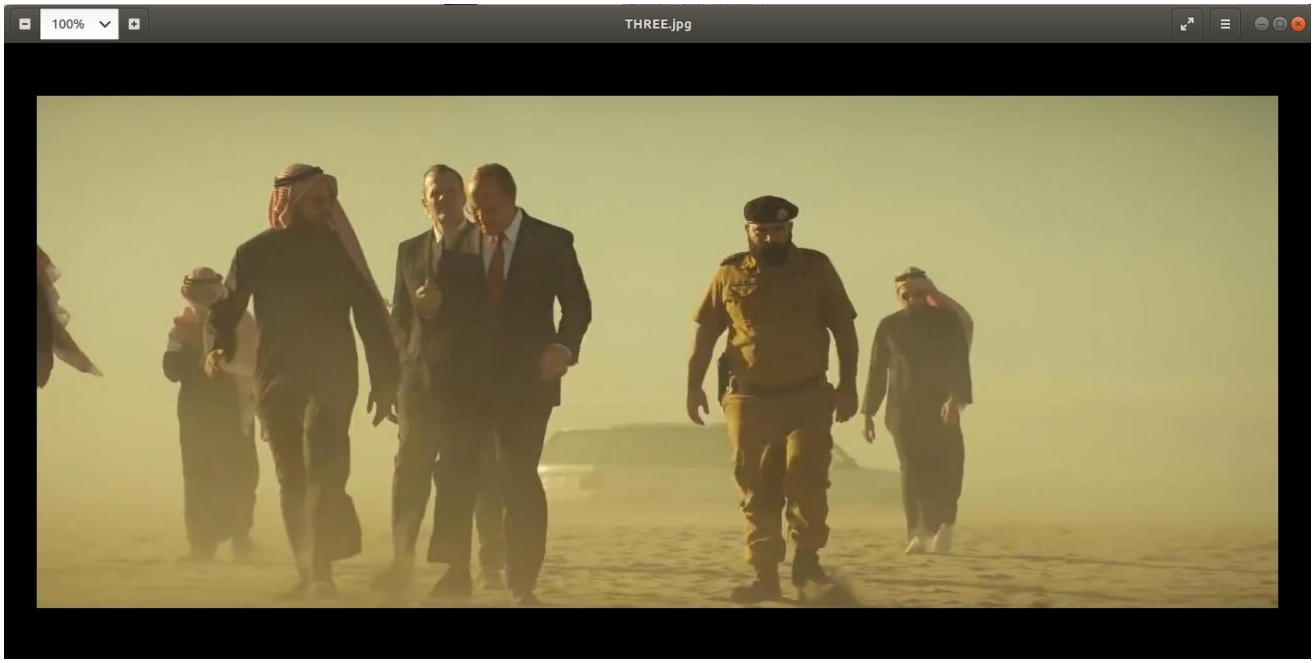
File Name	File Type	MD5 Hash Value
ONE	.bmp	ab873ec4d5c826db5d337f5f287006d5



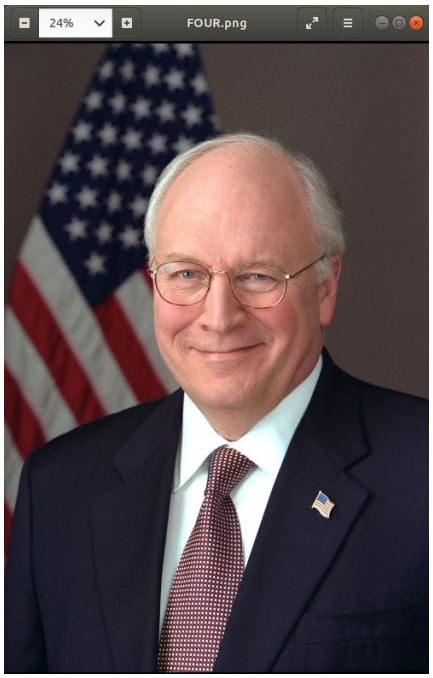
File Name	File Type	MD5 Hash Value
TWO	.jpg	4da131832b963f03f990d4c545b2d533



File Name	File Type	MD5 Hash Value
THREE	.jpg	004b451689688f2d9bb83fb3fc5607aa



File Name	File Type	MD5 Hash Value
FOUR	.png	ac88ed263a80632167102c93a966f655



File Name	File Type	MD5 Hash Value
FIVE	.jpg	815025ac61891bf35ea4f38d7c543db0

5. What tools will you now use to proceed your investigation and why?

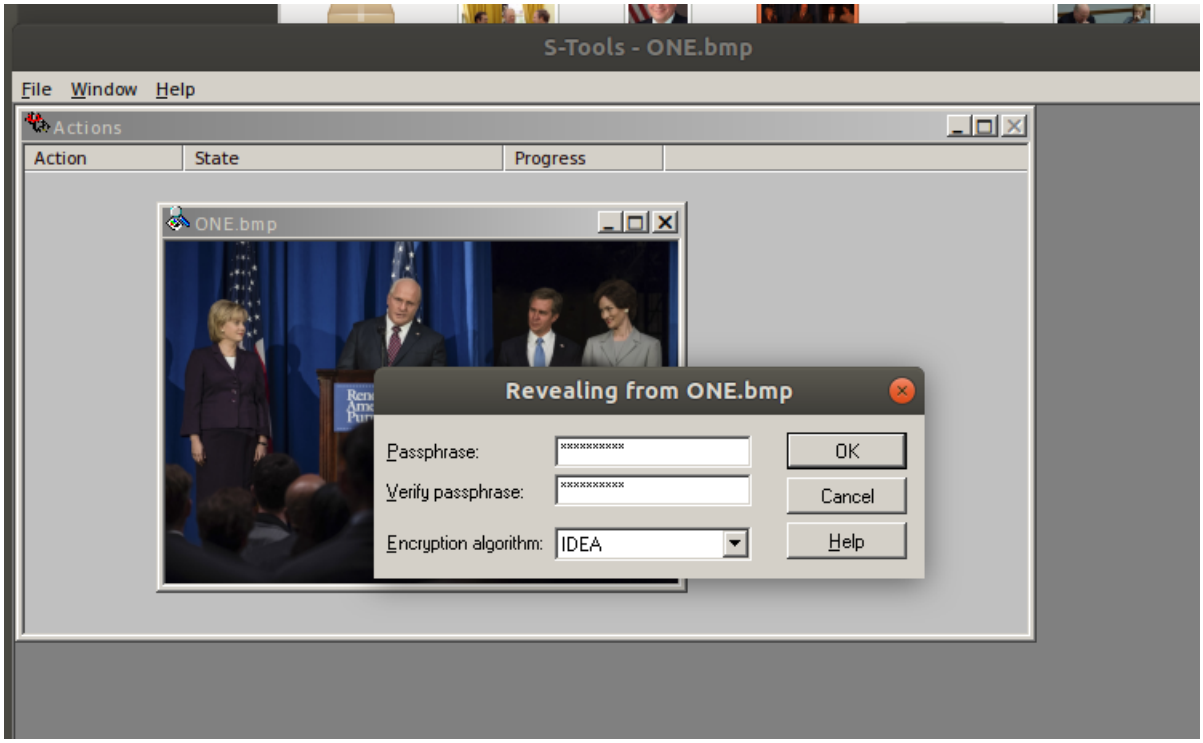
Tool	*Reason*
S-Tools	*S-Tools is a steganographic analysis tool designed specifically for BMP files. Because BMP files are uncompressed and have a consistent data structure, they are useful for data concealment and are frequently used in steganography. In this instance, ONE.bmp was analyzed using S-Tools in order to find and extract any hidden information that might be present in the picture and be important for the inquiry.*
jpseek	*JPG picture steganographic content analysis is the specialty of jpseek. Because JPG files are so widely used, there is less reason to suspect them when it comes to data concealing. TWO.jpg was examined using jpseek to make sure that no hidden information was missed, as it is necessary to carefully check all JPG images for hidden messages or data.*
Foremost	*With the help of its own data structures, headers, and footers, the data recovery utility Foremost is able to extract files. It works especially well for extracting files that might have been buried or erased. Foremost was utilized on THREE.jpg in this experiment to retrieve any possibly embedded or obscured data that conventional viewing techniques could overlook. This guarantees the discovery of all relevant evidence.*
OpenPuff	*OpenPuff is a flexible steganography application that works with a variety of file formats, including PNG files, and enables data extraction and concealing. Because of their lossless compression, which maintains the concealed data without sacrificing image quality, PNG files are utilized in steganography. Because it is capable of efficiently locating hidden data that could be essential to the inquiry, OpenPuff was selected to examine FOUR.png for any hidden information.*
CrypTool	*A powerful tool for cryptography analysis, CrypTool can perform a wide range of encryption and decryption operations. Although its main purpose is not steganography, it is capable of deciphering encrypted data buried in files. In this instance, CrypTool was used to examine FIVE.jpg in order to locate and unlock any encrypted data that may have been contained. This allowed investigators to completely access any information that might have been hidden in the picture.*
HxD	*HxD's ability to perform detailed examination and manipulation of the FIVE.jpg's binary data provides a deeper level of analysis. It helps in identifying and extracting hidden data, verifying the integrity of the file, and uncovering any embedded content that other tools might miss.*

6. Describe how your investigation proceeded at this point, including screen shots.

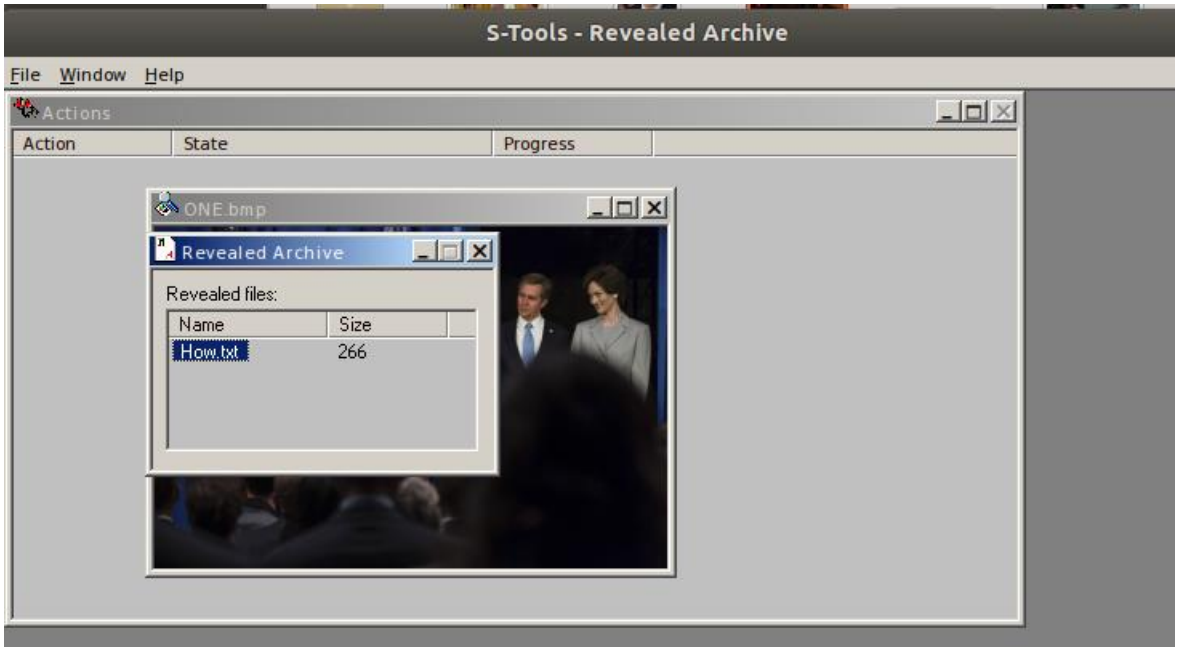
1. *For the first image file, ONE.bmp, I used the S-Tools to reveal any hidden files inside it.*

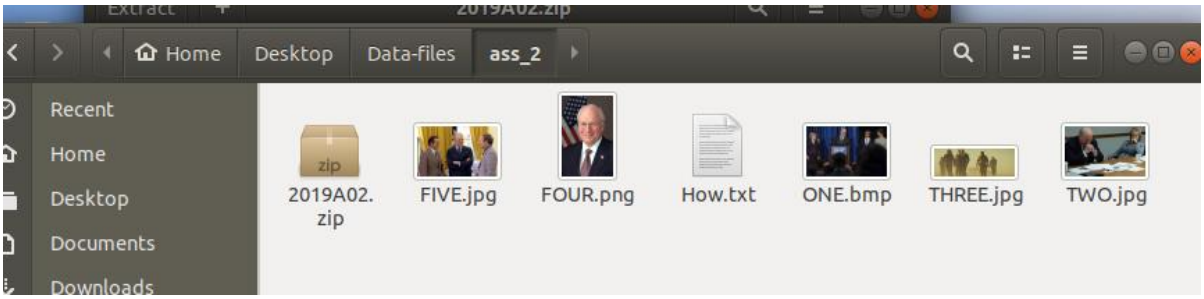
For that I first opened the tool using the command ***wine ~/Desktop/win-tools/jphide\ and Stegbreak/S-tools/S-Tools.exe****. then drag and dropped the ONE.bmp file inside it*

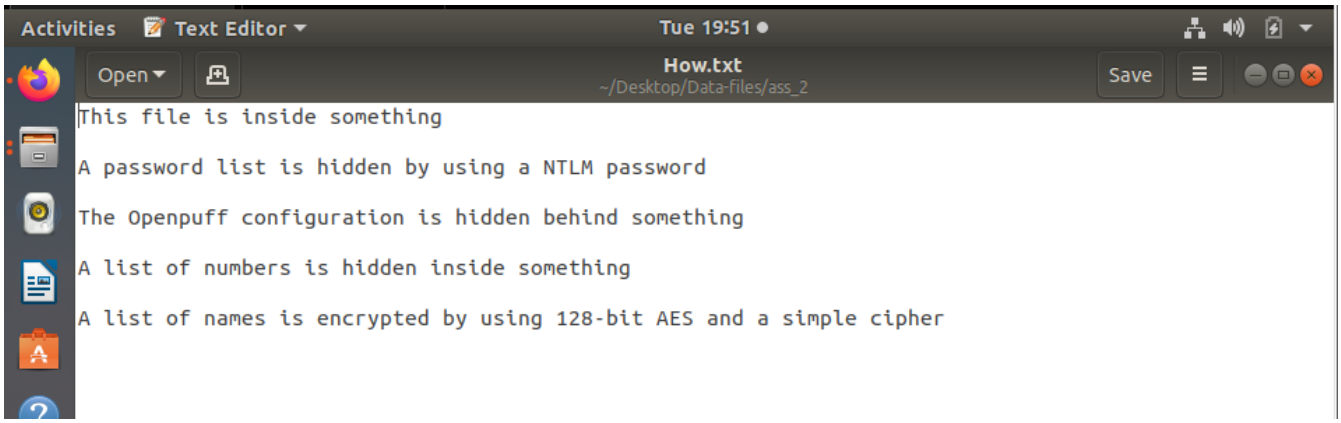
Then I right clicked the image file and selected the reveal option. It prompted for a password, since I have extracted two passwords using the NTLM hashes, I used the first password, ***DickCheney*** *on this to reveal the hidden file.*



After entering the password, a text file was revealed, How.txt. I opened it using the text editor and found some clues on how to find the rest of the hidden files and evidences.



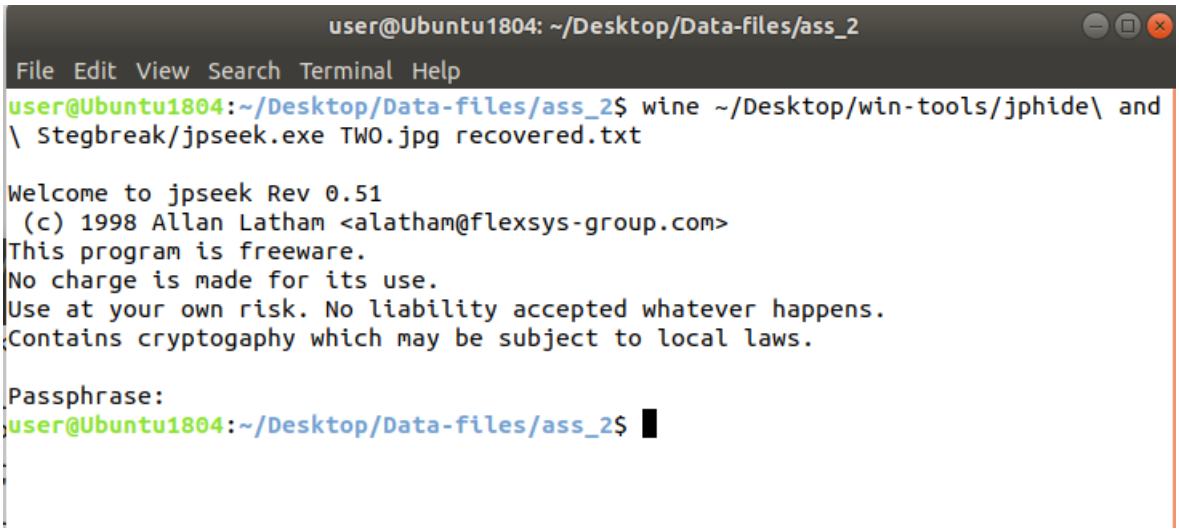




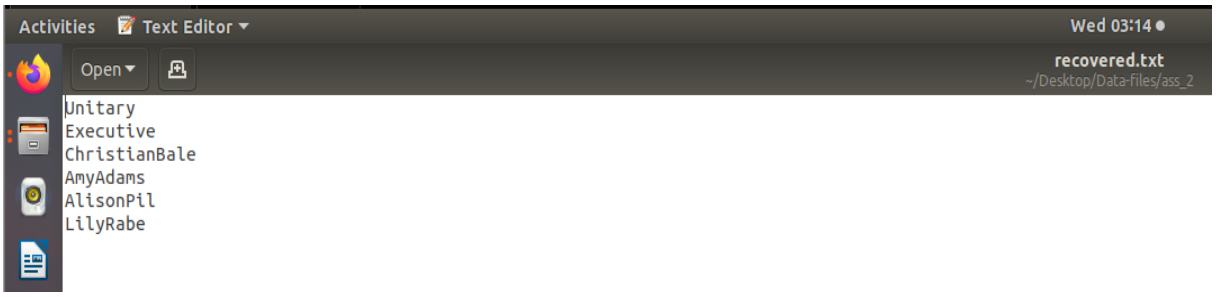
2. *Since I have now found the hidden file in the ONE.bmp, I'll now move on to the TWO.jpg file. The How.txt file says that a password list is hidden using the NTLM hash password. Using this clue, I started to analyse the TWO.jpg.*

   For that I used the tool jpseek to recover the hidden password list inside it. In order to do that, I typed in the command ***wine ~/Desktop/win-tools/jphide\ and\ Stegbreak/jpseek.exe TWO.jpg recovered.txt.***

   When prompted for the passphrase, I entered the second NTLM password ***DonaldRumsfeld.***

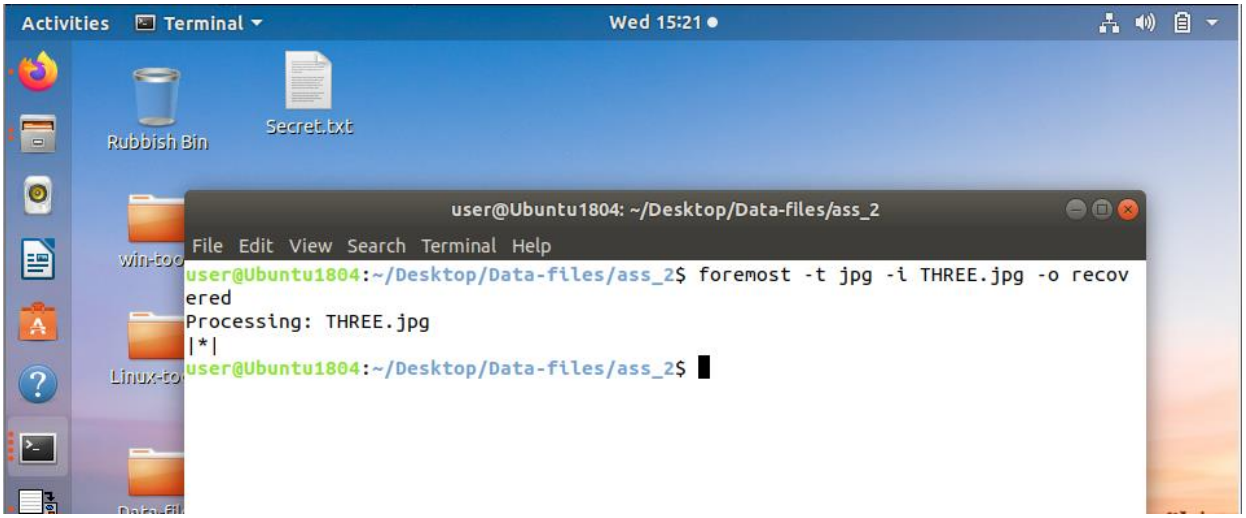


A text file was extracted, recovered.txt. it contained a list of passwords, as mentioned in the How.txt file.

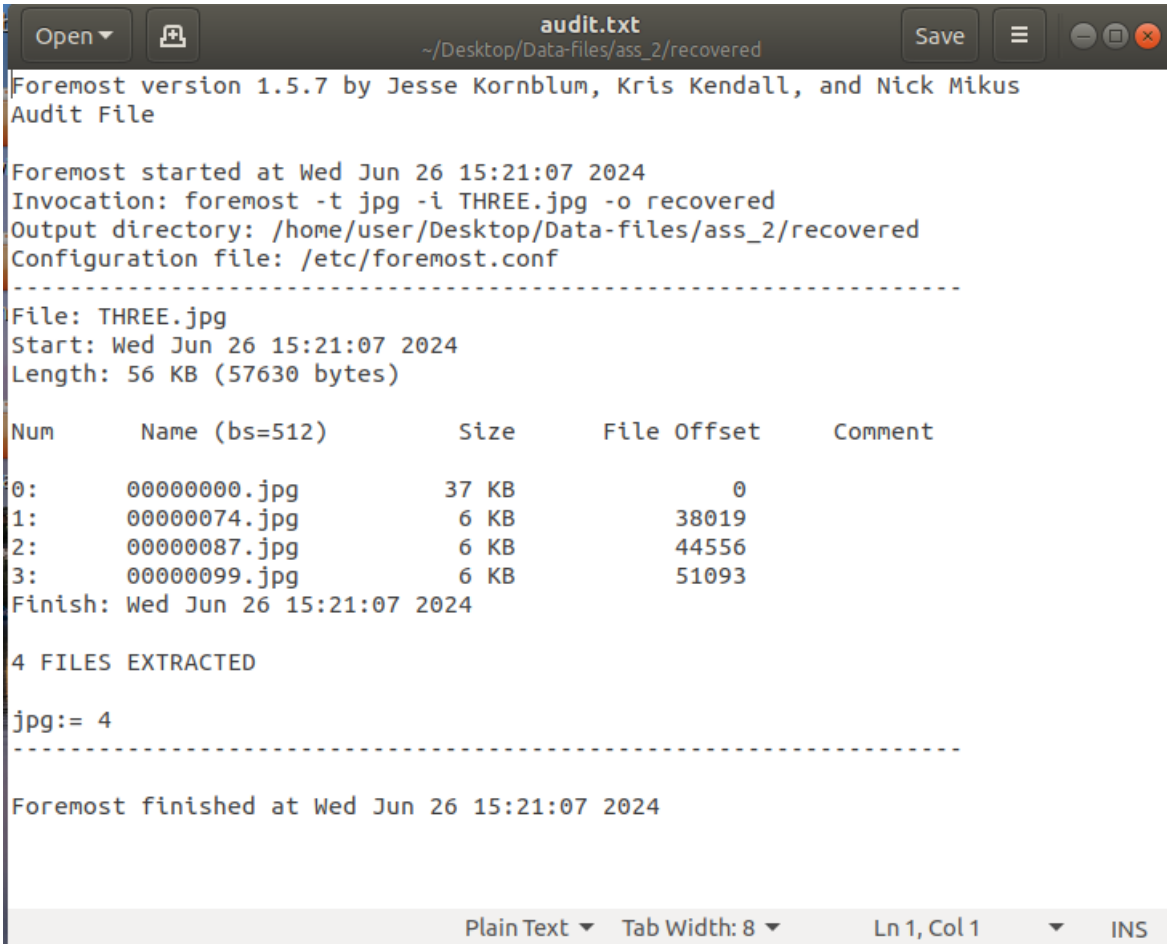


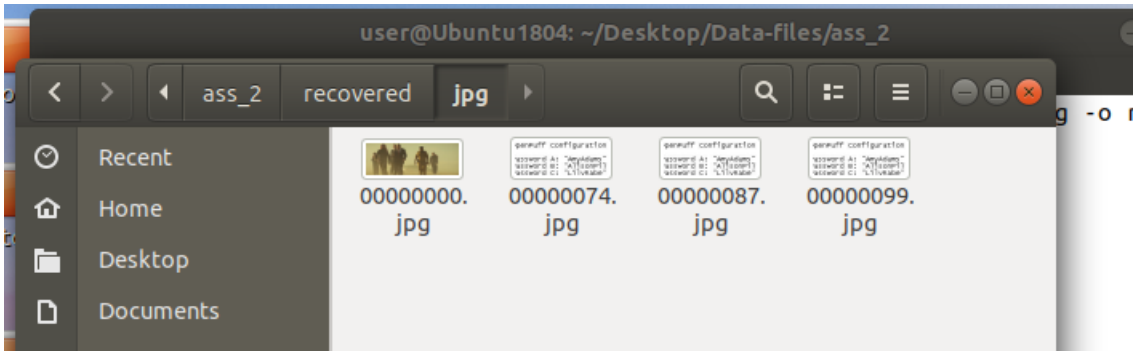
3. *According to the How.txt, now we should find the OpenPuff configuration. For that let's analyse the THREE.jpg. it was said that the OpenPuff file configuration has been hidden. So, I decided to use the tool called Foremost on THREE.jpg to recover any hidden OpenPuff configuration files.*

   I used the command ***foremost -t jpg -I THREE.jpg -o recovered.***



There were four text files extracted in the folder recover. Three of them contained the same OpenPuff file configuration and the fourth one contained an audit.txt file.

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Desktop
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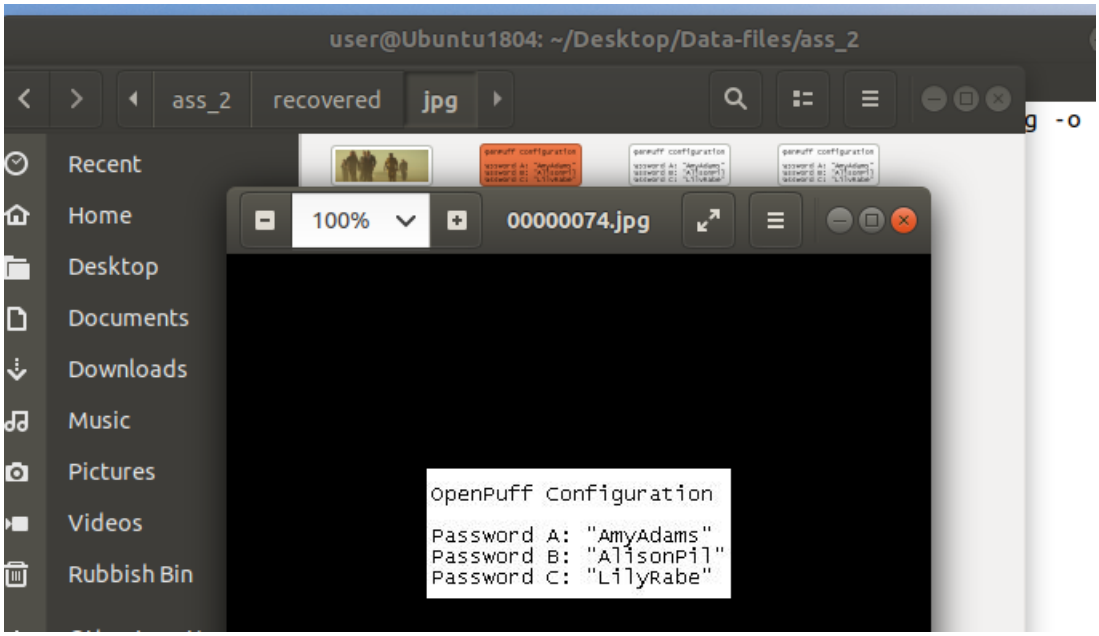
user@Ubuntu1804: ~/Desktop/Data-files/ass_2
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Documents
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Music
Pictures
Videos
Rubbish Bin
100%
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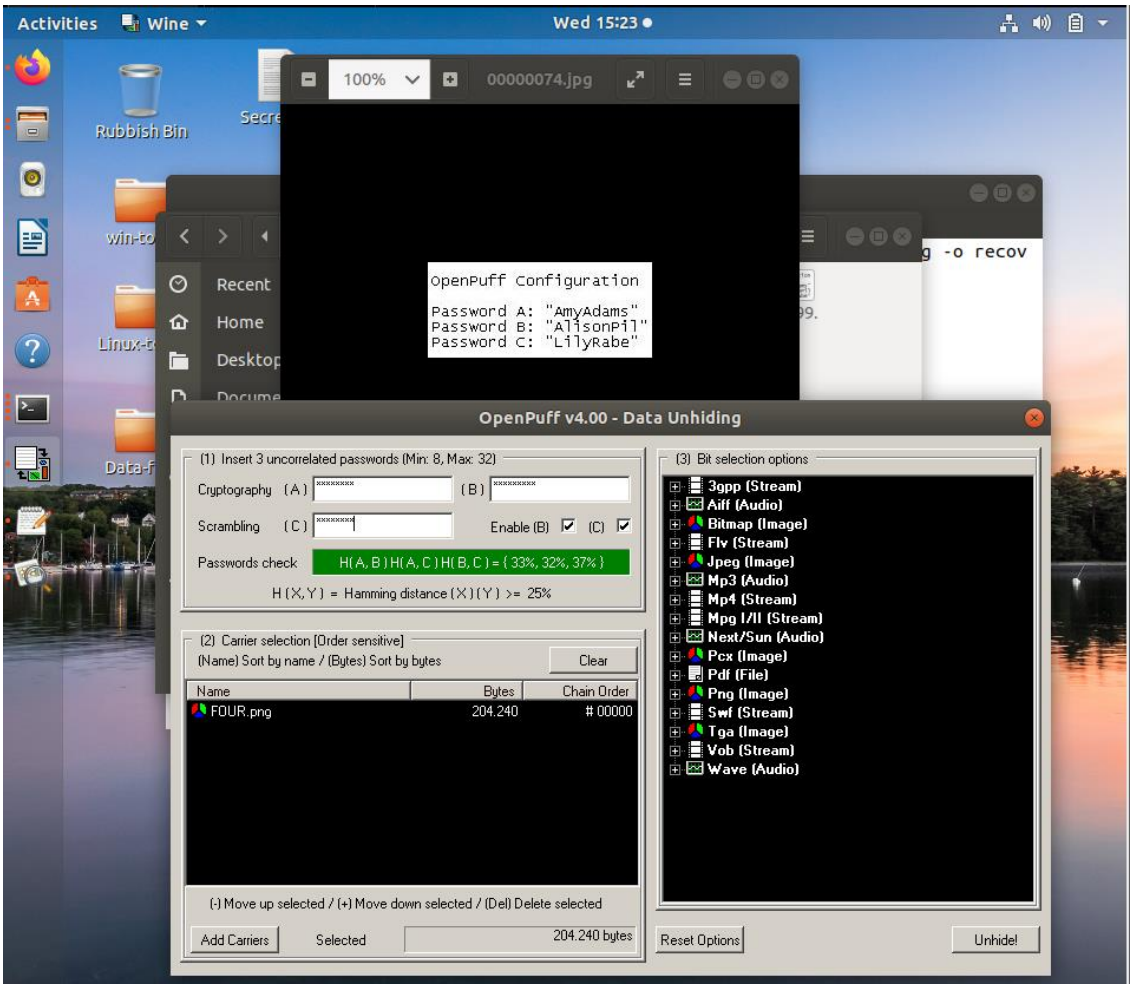
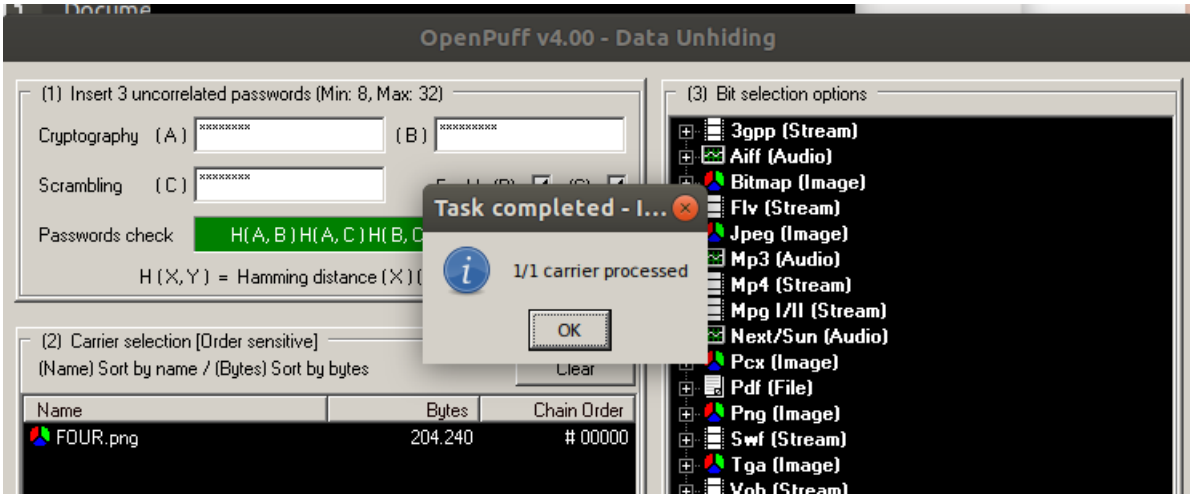
OpenPuff Configuration
Password A: "AmyAdams"
Password B: "AlisonPil"
Password C: "LilyRabe"

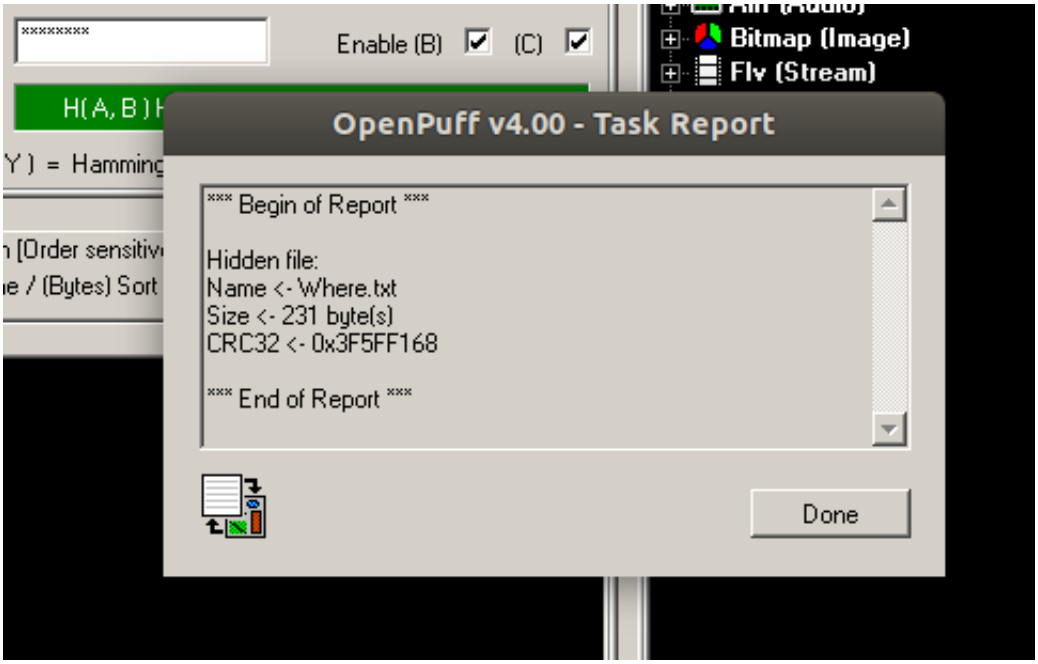
4. *Now moving on to the FOUR.png file. Since we have now got the OpenPuff configurations, we can use that to extract the hidden list of numbers from the FOUR.png file as mentioned in the How.txt file.*

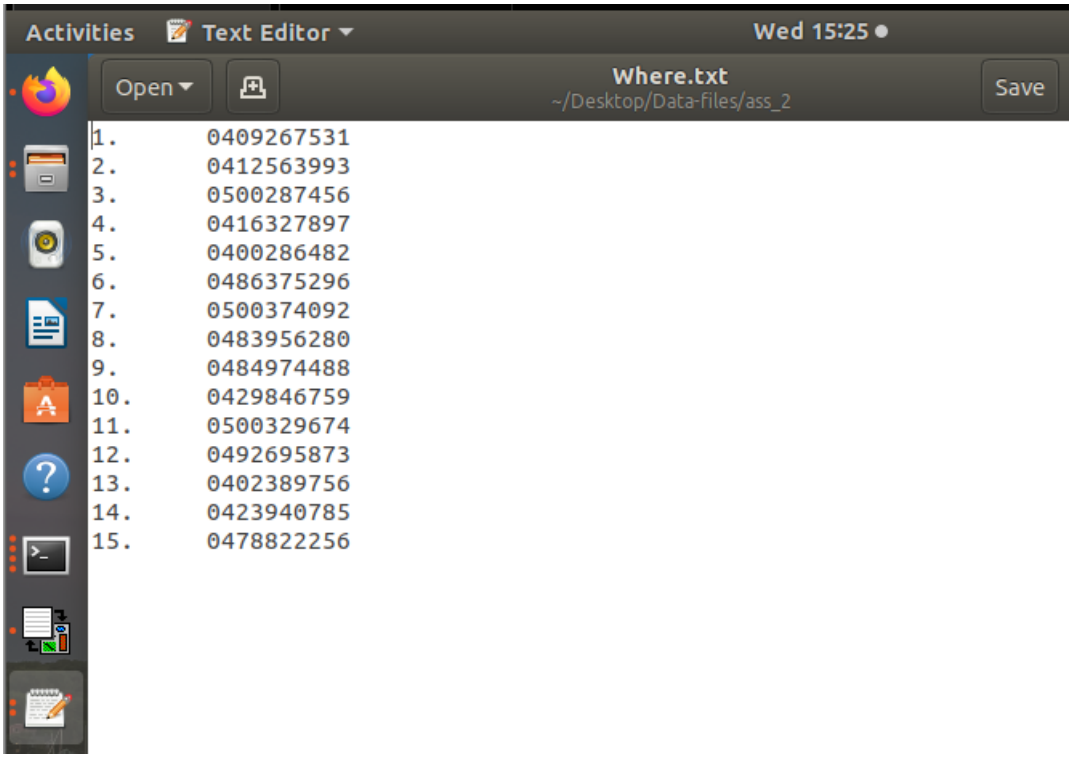
   For that I opened the OpenPuff tool, entered the OpenPuff configuration that I got in the previous step. Then added the carrier as FOUR.png. now I clicked the Unhide button.



After unhiding, a text file, Where.txt got extracted containing a list of numbers. As I suspect, these could be the phone numbers of the members involved in the drug warehouse



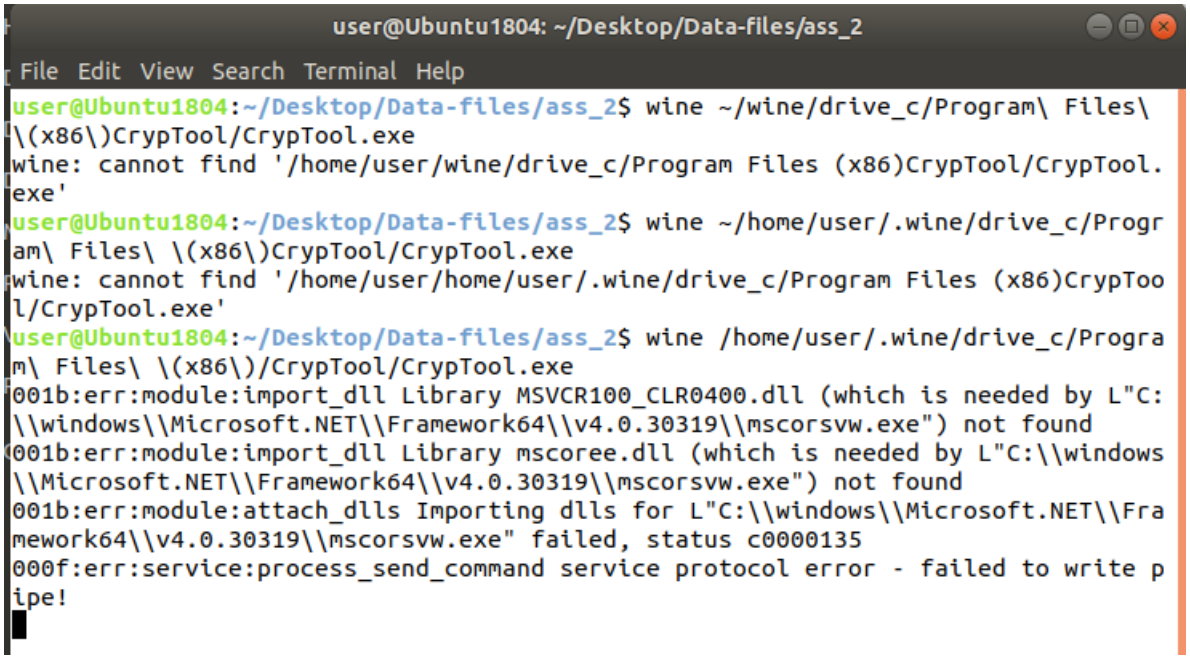

Enable (B)
(C)
Bitmap (Image)
Flv (Stream)
OpenPuff v4.00 - Task Report
*** Begin of Report ***
Hidden file:
Name <- Where.txt
Size <- 231 byte(s)
CRC32 <- 0x3F5FF168
*** End of Report ***
Done

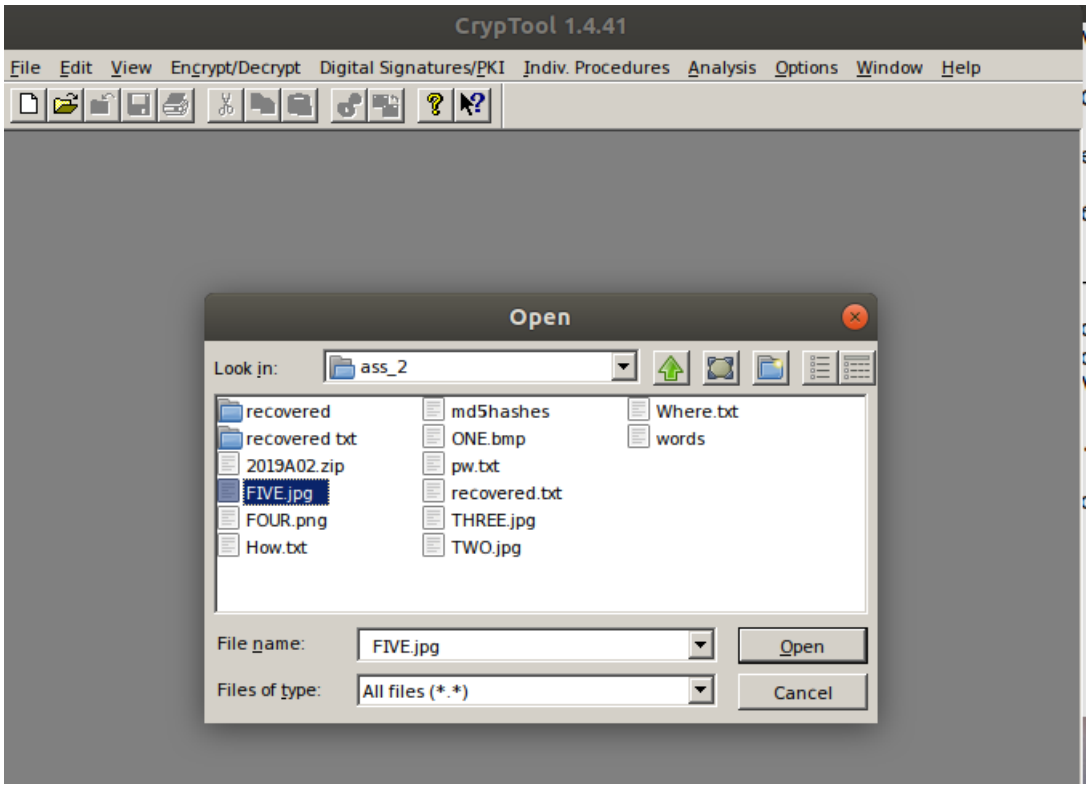

Activities
Text Editor
Wed 15:25
Open
Where.txt
~/Desktop/Data-files/ass_2
Save
1. 0409267531
2. 0412563993
3. 0500287456
4. 0416327897
5. 0400286482
6. 0486375296
7. 0500374092
8. 0483956280
9. 0484974488
10. 0429846759
11. 0500329674
12. 0492695873
13. 0402389756
14. 0423940785
15. 0478822256

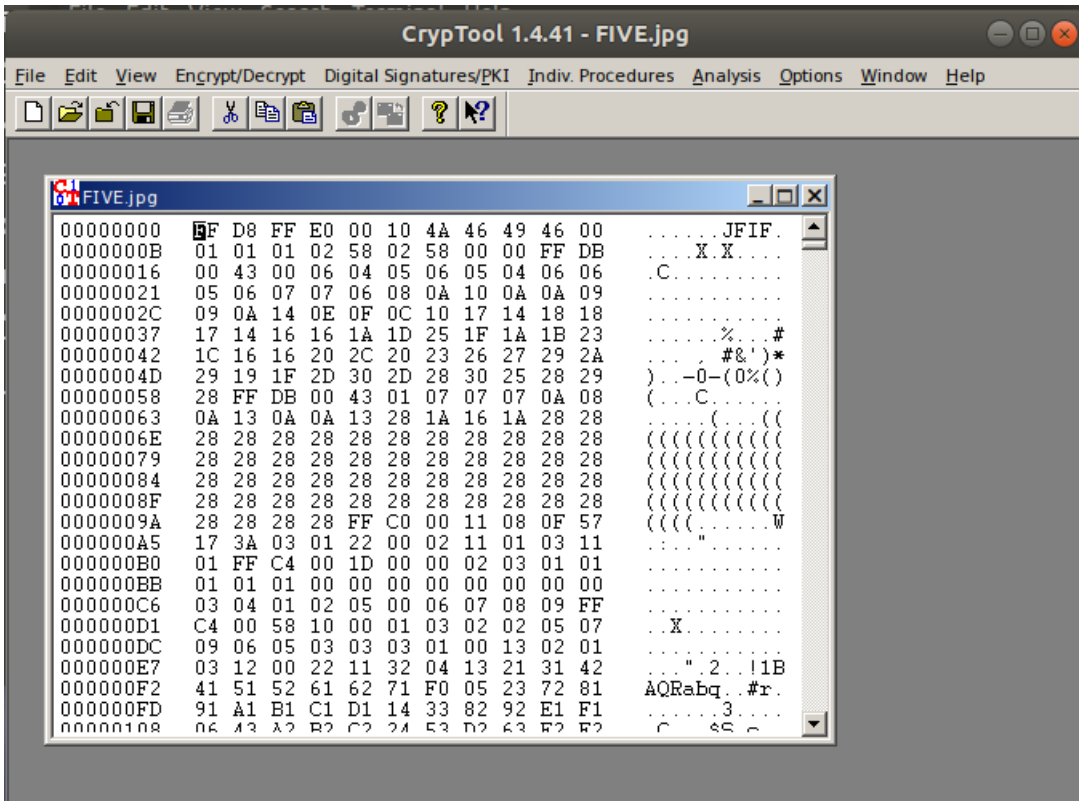
5. *Now according to the How.txt, the last clue states that a list of names are hidden, so in order to find that, I'll have to now analyse the FIVE.jpg.*

   To do that, I used a tool called CrypTool to decrypt and extract any hidden information in the FIVE.jpg image file. I entered the command ***wine /home/user/.wine/drive_c/Program\ Files\ \(x86\)/CrypTool.exe***

   For that I first loaded the FIVE.jpg in the Cryptool and decrypted it using the AES encryption and then tried to decode it using Base64 decoding. But unfortunately, it didn't work. For the AES decryption key, I converted the name ChristianBale that was found from the list of passwords found earlier into hex value using an online tool duplichecker.com.






CrypTool 1.4.41 - FIVE.jpg
File Edit View Encrypt/Decrypt Digital Signatures/PKI Indiv. Procedures Analysis Options Window Help
FIVE.jpg
00000000 FF D8 FF E0 00 10 4A 46 49 46 00 ......JFIF.
0000000B 01 01 01 02 58 02 58 00 00 FF DB ....X.X....
00000016 00 43 00 06 04 05 06 05 04 06 06 .C.........
00000021 05 06 07 07 06 08 0A 10 0A 0A 09 ....
0000002C 09 0A 14 0E 0F 0C 10 17 14 18 18 ....
00000037 17 14 16 16 1A 1D 25 1F 1A 1B 23 ......%...#
00000042 1C 16 16 20 2C 20 23 26 27 29 2A ... , #&')*
0000004D 29 19 1F 2D 30 2D 28 30 25 28 29)..-0-(0%()
00000058 28 FF DB 00 43 01 07 07 07 0A 08 (...C......
00000063 0A 13 0A 0A 13 28 1A 16 1A 28 28 .....(...((
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000000DC 09 06 05 03 03 03 01 00 13 02 01 ....
000000E7 03 12 00 22 11 32 04 13 21 31 42 ...".2..!1B
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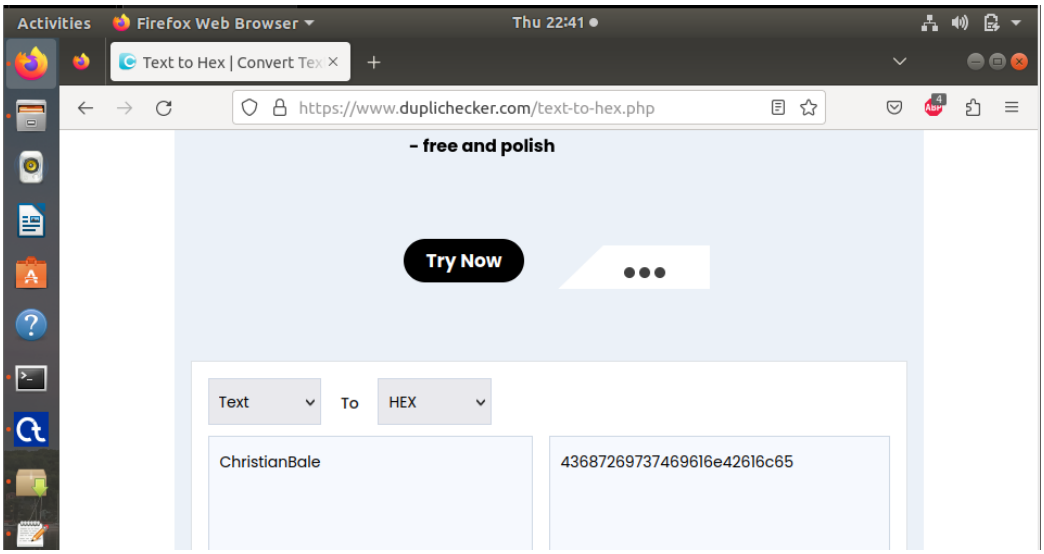
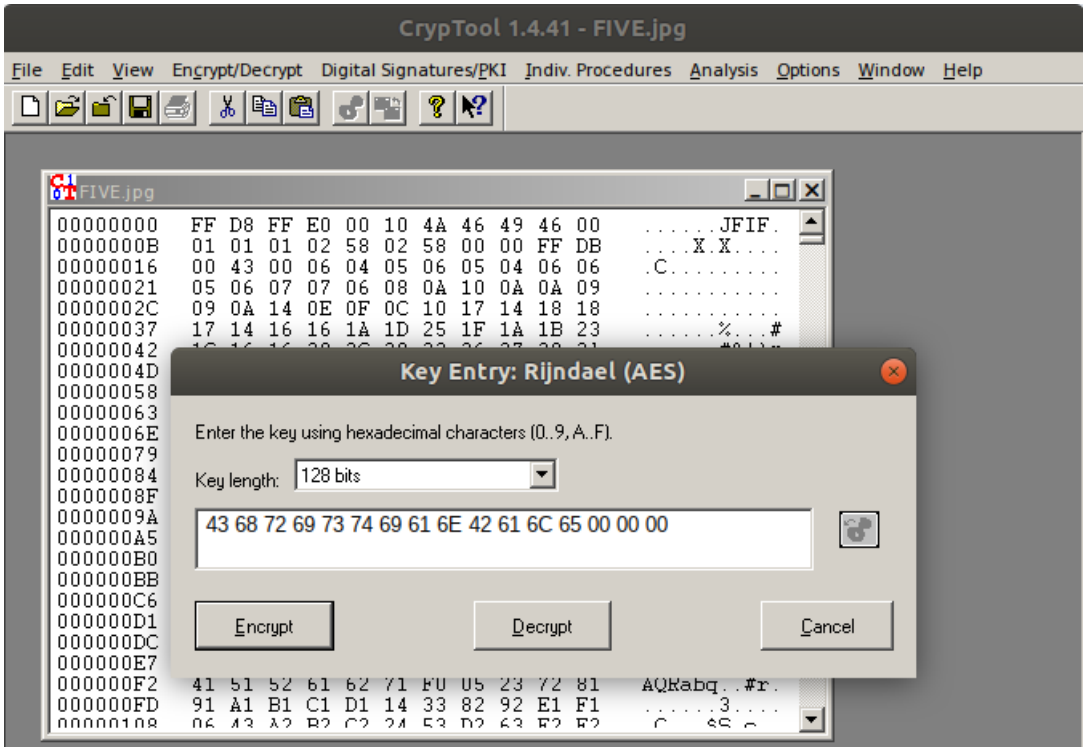
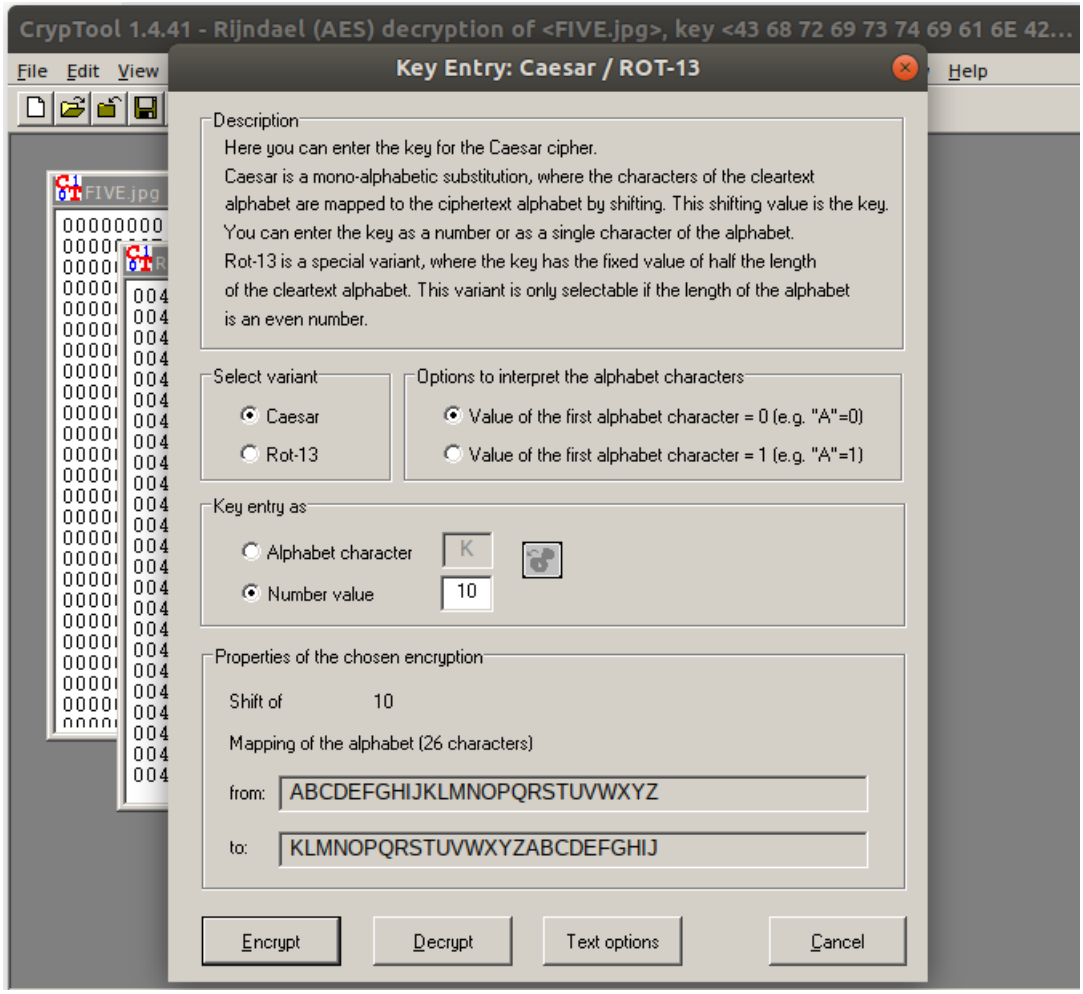
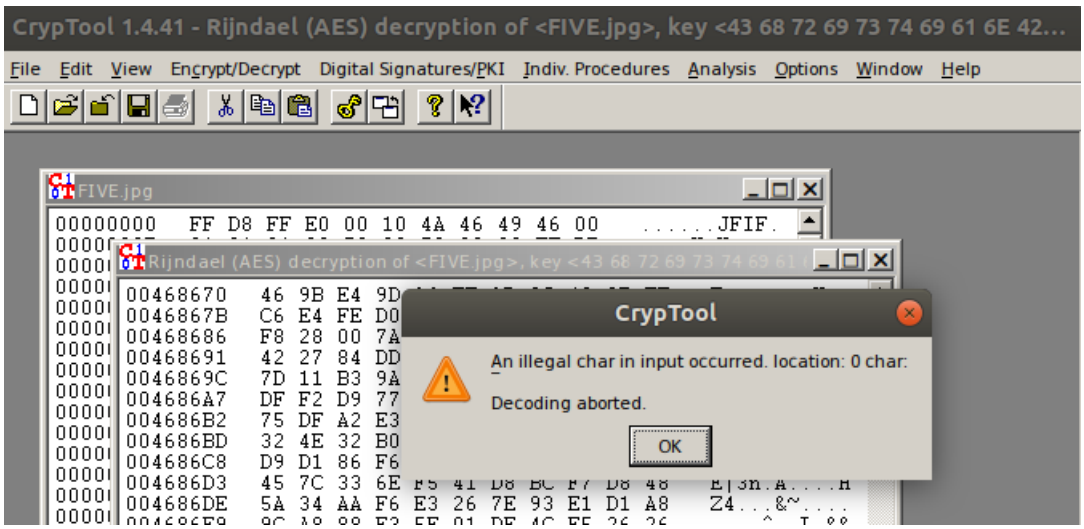
000000FD 91 A1 B1 C1 D1 14 33 82 92 E1 F1 ......3....

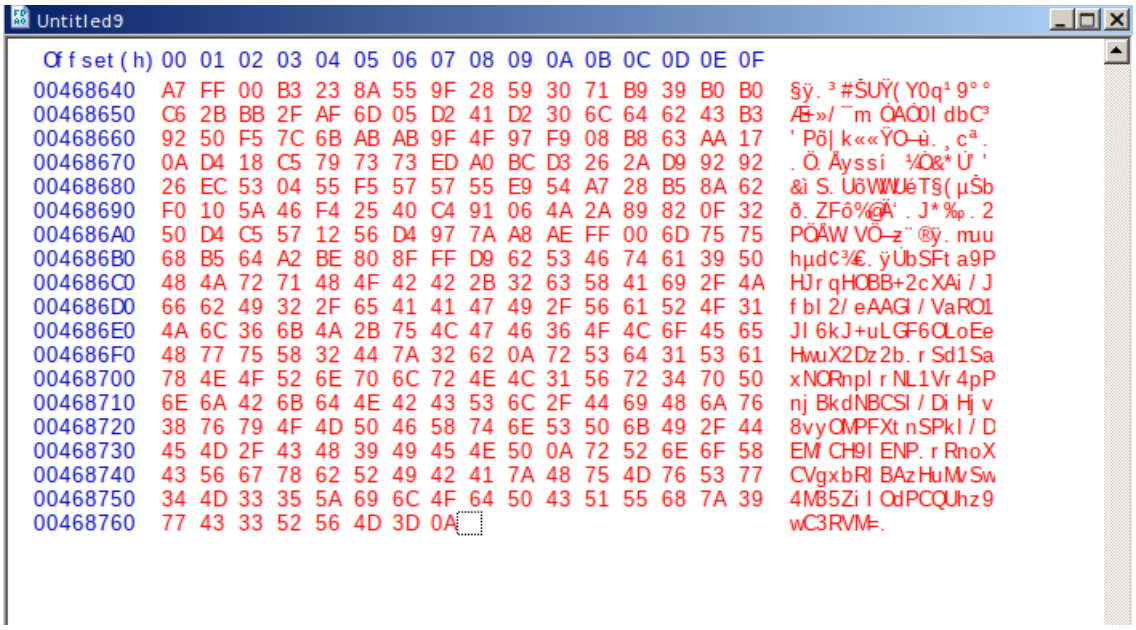

Activities
Firefox Web Browser
Thu 22:41
Text to Hex | Convert Tex
https://www.duplichecker.com/text-to-hex.php
- free and polish
Try Now
Text
To
HEX
ChristianBale
43687269737469616e42616c65

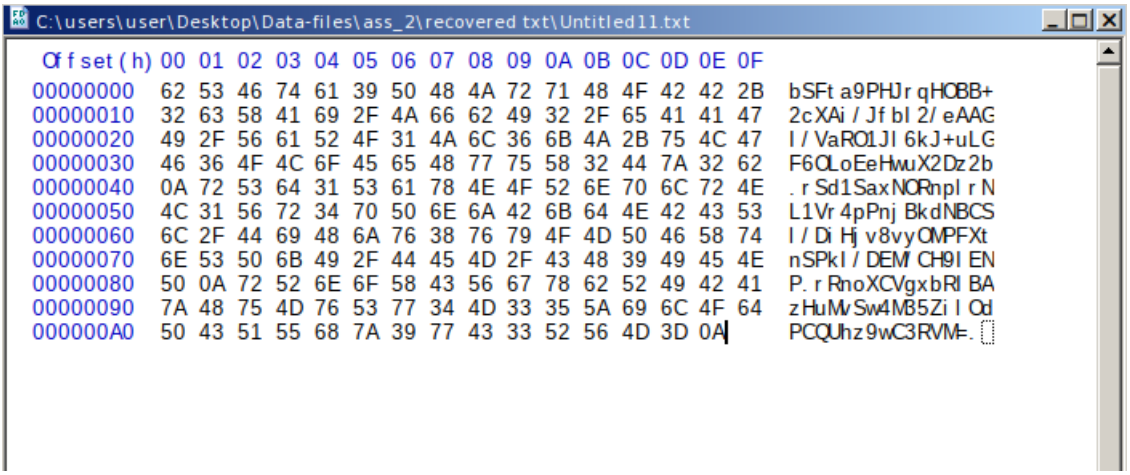

CrypTool 1.4.41 - FIVE.jpg
File Edit View Encrypt/Decrypt Digital Signatures/PKI Indiv. Procedures Analysis Options Window Help
FIVE.jpg
Key Entry: Rijndael (AES)
Enter the key using hexadecimal characters (0..9, A..F).
Key length: 128 bits
43 68 72 69 73 74 69 61 6E 42 61 6C 65 00 00 00
Encrypt
Decrypt
Cancel


CrypTool 1.4.41 - Rijndael (AES) decryption of <FIVE.jpg>, key <43 68 72 69 73 74 69 61 6E 42...
File Edit View
Help
FIVE.jpg
Key Entry: Caesar / ROT-13
Description
Here you can enter the key for the Caesar cipher.
Caesar is a mono-alphabetic substitution, where the characters of the cleartext alphabet are mapped to the ciphertext alphabet by shifting. This shifting value is the key.
You can enter the key as a number or as a single character of the alphabet.
Rot-13 is a special variant, where the key has the fixed value of half the length of the cleartext alphabet. This variant is only selectable if the length of the alphabet is an even number.
Select variant
Caesar
Rot-13
Options to interpret the alphabet characters
Value of the first alphabet character = 0 (e.g. "A"=0)
Value of the first alphabet character = 1 (e.g. "A"=1)
Key entry as
Alphabet character
K
Number value
10
Properties of the chosen encryption
Shift of 10
Mapping of the alphabet (26 characters)
from: ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
to: KLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJ
Encrypt
Decrypt
Text options
Cancel

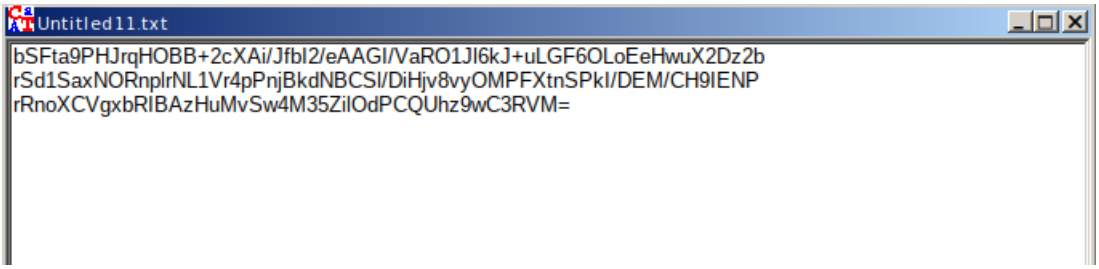

CrypTool 1.4.41 - Rijndael (AES) decryption of <FIVE.jpg>, key <43 68 72 69 73 74 69 61 6E 42...
File Edit View Encrypt/Decrypt Digital Signatures/PKI Indiv. Procedures Analysis Options Window Help
FIVE.jpg
00000000 FF D8 FF E0 00 10 4A 46 49 46 00 ......JFIF.
Rijndael (AES) decryption of <FIVE.jpg>, key <43 68 72 69 73 74 69 61
00468670 46 9B E4 9D
0046867B C6 E4 FE D0
00468686 F8 28 00 7A
00468691 42 27 84 DD
0046869C 7D 11 B3 9A
004686A7 DF F2 D9 77
004686B2 75 DF A2 E3
004686BD 32 4E 32 B0
004686C8 D9 D1 86 F6
004686D3 45 7C 33 6E
004686DE 5A 34 AA F6 E3 26 7E 93 E1 D1 A8
CrypTool
An illegal char in input occurred. location: 0 char:
Decoding aborted.
OK

So, to resolve it, I used the Hxd hex editor to analyse the FIVE.jpg. In that I separated the last part of the hex values, because they were a bit odd than others. That was without any jumbled words or symbols. So, I cut and pasted it as a new hex document.

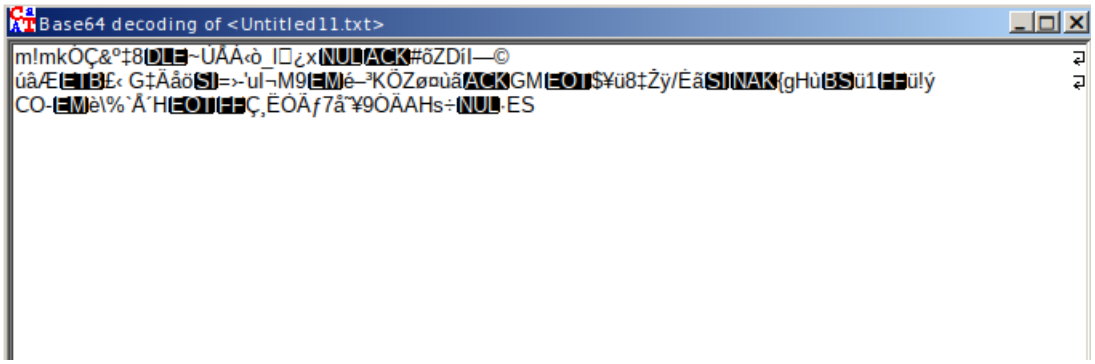




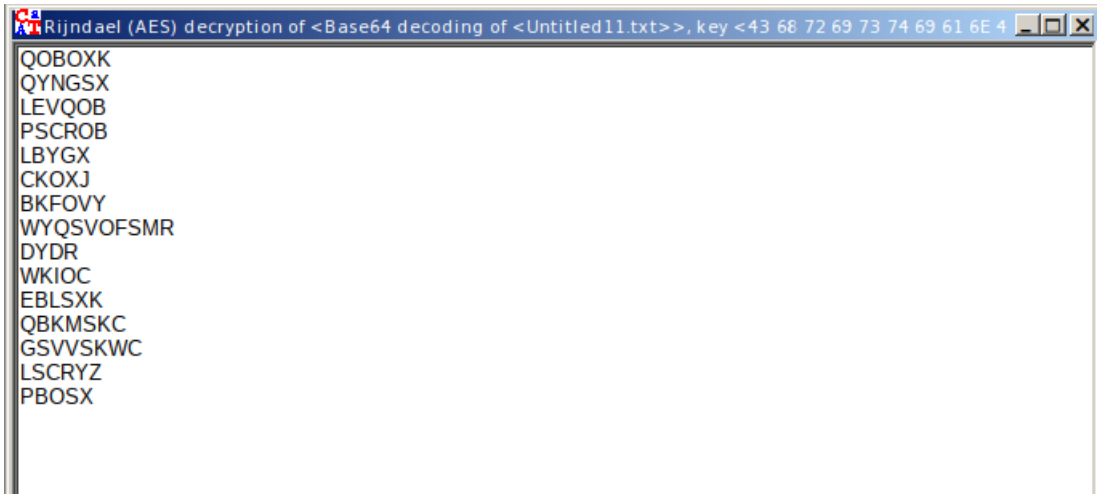
Then I saved it as a new text file loaded it in the CrypTool again and was able to observe encrypted words.



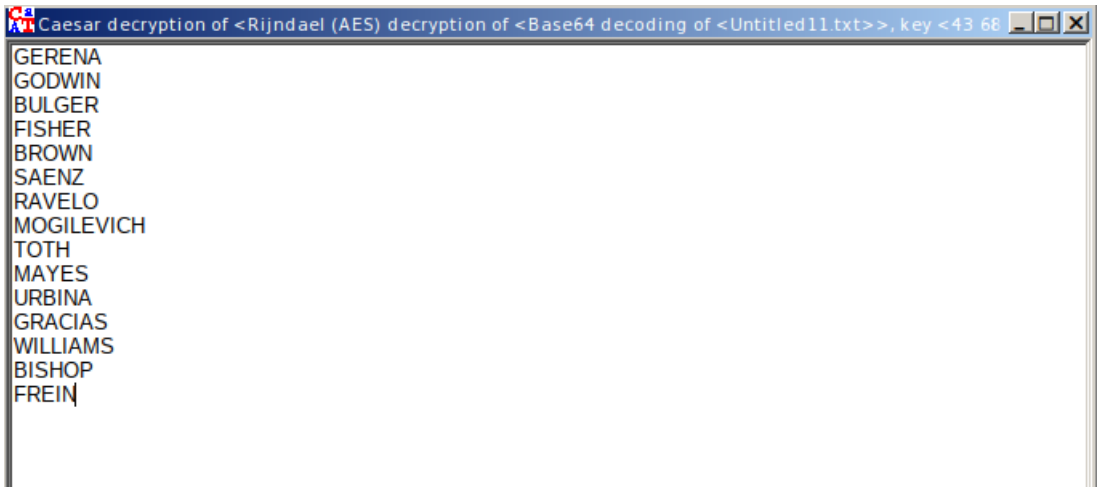
Now I first applied the Base64 decoding in it.



Then, I decrypted it using the AES decryption, the key I used was the hex value that I converted from ChristianBale. Then I was able to see some words but still a bit jumbled



Now to decrypt this, I used the Caeser cipher decryption, with some random keys. Finally, I was able to get a decrypted set of words that were mentioned in the How.txt. these words look like the names of the gang members that involved in the drug manufacturing.



So, this is the end of my investigation procedure.

DIGITAL FORENSIC REPORT

7. Write a two-page report for Sandra listing your findings and recommendations. Make appropriate suggestions on how a further investigation should proceed. Construct and complete a single-item evidence form as part of your report.

Findings and Recommendations

Case summary:

Five picture files were discovered after downloading and extracting a password-protected ZIP file that was discovered during the examination of a possible drug manufacturing activity. With the use of several steganographic technologies, every image was examined for hidden content. These are the investigation's conclusions and suggestions.

Summary of steps:

1. *Downloaded the ZIP file and verified its integrity using the MD5 hash.*
2. *Decrypted NTLM hash values to attempt accessing encrypted content.*
3. *Brute-forced the zip file to extract the image files.*
4. *Analysed each image file using appropriate steganographic tools:*
    - *ONE.bmp: analysed with S-Tools*
    - *TWO.jpg: analysed with jpseek*
    - *THREE.jpg: analysed with Foremost*
    - *FOUR.png: analysed with OpenPuff*
    - *FIVE.jpg: analysed with Cryptool and HxD.*

5. *Description of recovered items:*
    - *ONE.bmp: contained a hidden text file, How.txt providing clues for further analysis.*
    - *TWO.jpg: contained a password list hidden using NTLM hash password.*
    - *THREE.jpg: contained OpenPuff configuration files essential for further analysis.*
    - *FOUR.png: contained a text file, where.txt with a list of numbers, suspected to be phone number*
    - *FIVE.jpg: contained a list of names, decrypted using CrypTool and HxD, likely belonging to gang members involved in the drug operation.*

6. *Recommendations for further investigation:*
    1. *Further analysis of recovered data:*
        - *Verify the authenticity and relevance of the phone number and name recovered.*
        - *Cross-reference the names and numbers with existing criminal databases.*
    2. *Malware analysis:*
        - *Upload the executable file to virustotal to check for known malware signatures.*
        - *Conduct a detailed analysis of the executable to understand its function and potential threats.*

3. *Extended steganographic analysis:*
    - *Use additional steganographic tools to ensure no hidden content is missed.*
    - *Perform a deeper analysis on the extracted images for any overlooked data.*
4. *Collaboration with law enforcement:*
    - *Share findings with law enforcement agencies for a coordinated effort in dismantling the drug operation.*
    - *Utilize law enforcement resources for tracking and apprehending suspects based on the recovered data.*

Evidence Form *(Figure 1-11 of the text)*

The hazardous materials team *This form is to be used for only one piece of evidence.* *Fill out a separate form for each piece of evidence.*			
Case No:	*Case_2024_00002*	*Unit Number:*	*Unit_0002*
Investigator:	*Nirosh Ravindran*		
Nature of Case:	*Suspected Drug Manufacturing*		
Location where evidence was obtained:	*warehouse behind Roma St station in Brisbane*		
Item # ID	*Description of evidence*	*Vendor Name*	*Model No/Serial No.*
ID_0002_0001	*CD drives*	*Unknown*	*Unknown*
Evidence Recovered by:	*Moti*	*Date & Time:*	*10/03 @ 3.17 am*
Evidence Placed in Locker:	*Moti*	*Date & Time*	*10/03 @ 4.00 am*
Evidence Processed by	*Description of Evidence*		*Date & Time*
Nirosh Ravindran	*Downloaded a password protected zip file, 2019A02.zip from a secure link*		*10/03 @ 7.00 am*
	Decrypted the passwords from the NTLM hashes given		*10/03 @ 7.15 am*
	Extracted the contents in them which were 5 image files		*10/03 @ 8.00 am*
	Started investigating them		*10/03 @ 8.15 am*
	Finished the investigation		*10/03 @ 6.19 pm*
	Sent the Digital Forensic report to Sandra		*10/03 @ 8.00 pm*
			*Page _1_ of _1_*

-end of template -