



The Iron Joke

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- **Difficulty** : Friendly/Easy

Description

The enemies are always talking about how strong the Iron Dome is, but they will never be able to stop the resistance.

viva palestina!

Hint 1:

```
</style>
<body class="background-image" >
  <h1 class="transparent-h1" > Hamas will never be able to break the Iron Dome &#128520; &#128520; &#128520;</h1>
<div class="center">
  <a class="button" href=".?file=blocked.txt" /> <h2> Bypass the Iron Dome !</h2> </a><h1 class="transparent-h1">
  <!-- hint: Find the flag.txt in the root directory -->
</div>
```

Hint 2:

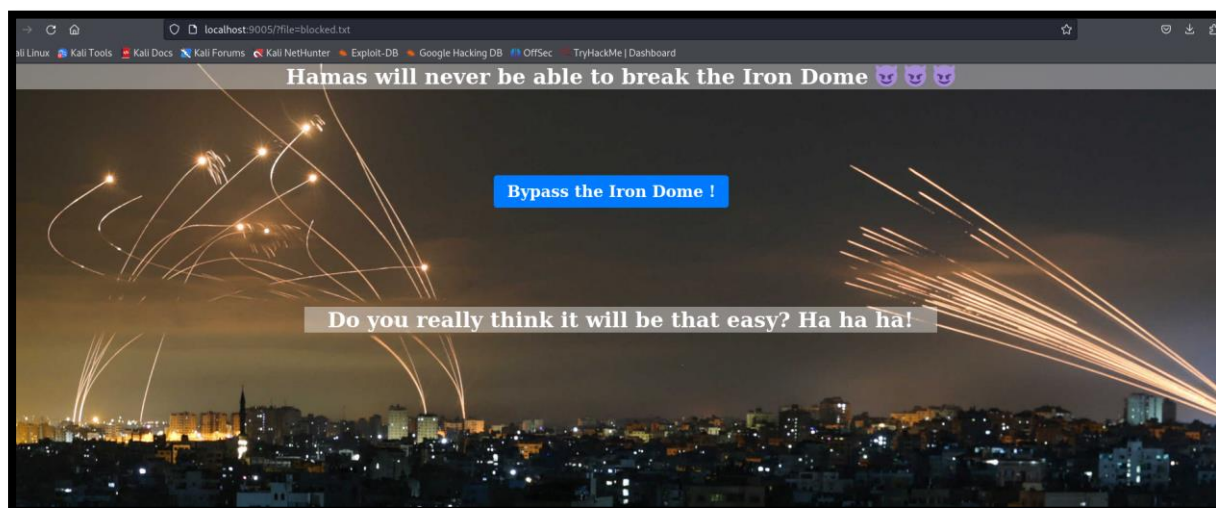
What do you know about directory traversal?

<https://portswigger.net/web-security/file-path-traversal>

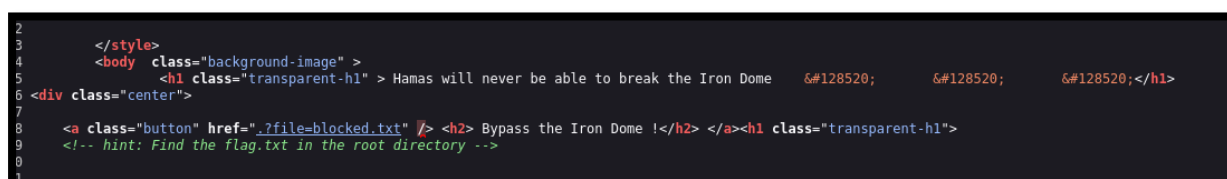


Solution

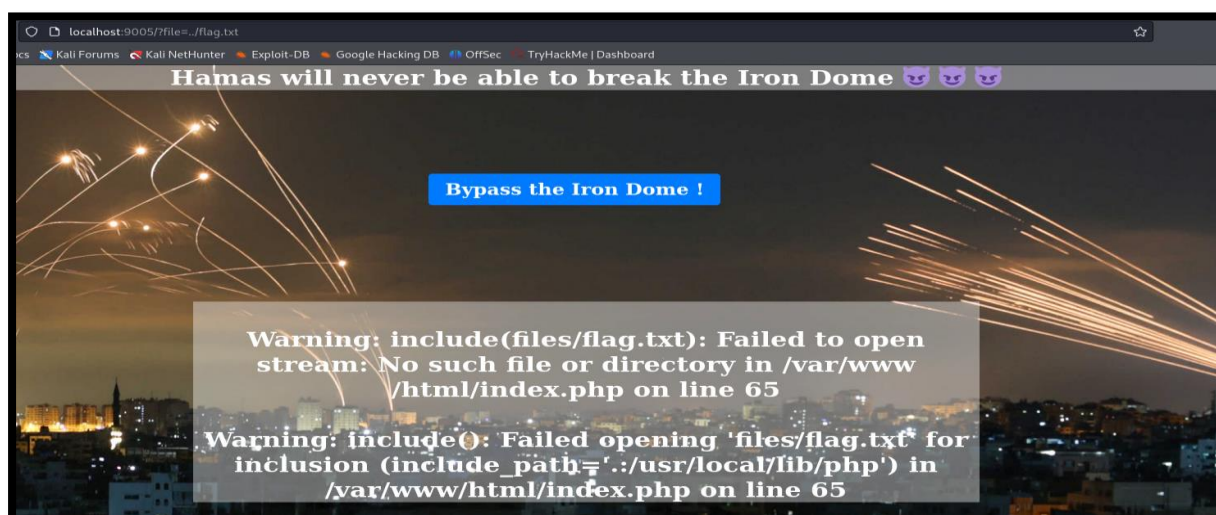
1. Click on the “bypass the iron dome” button.



2. Let's inspect the page to look for some additional information.



3. Let's try to perform directory traversal, but it looks like we are getting blocked by a filter.





```
<?php
$f='blocked.txt';
echo "<a class=\"button\" href=\"\".?file=$f\" /> <h2> Bypass the Iron Dome !</h2> </a><h1 class=\"transparent-h1\">";
if (isset($_GET['file'])) {
    if($file=$_GET['file']){
        $file=str_replace("../", "", $file);
        if($file!="../index.php"){
            include('files/'.$file);
        }
    }
}
?>
```

4. So, how can this filter be bypassed?

The answer is extremely simple. The `str_replace()` will only remove exact instances of `"../"`. Nothing else. It will not remove a `"."` or a `"./"`. So all you need to do is use `"..././"`, and once the `str_replace()` is run you will be left with a `"../"`. Below is a screenshot of retrieving the same `index.html` file, bypassing the filter using the above method. You can see the `..././` used to construct the `../` in the requested file path.

The final path:

`..././..././..././..././flag.txt`

5. And then we get the final flag.

