

Task 1 : Operation SILENT CHAIN 0

The raw patrol reports contained a suspicious string that stood out as Base64. Decoding it revealed the hidden **codeword**.

```
[2025-07-05 11:15Z] Routine Patrol - Yankee35: "Uploaded journal to fallback blog. Codeword: U0NfQWxwaGExNQ=="
```

Flag: FL1TZ{SC_Alpha15}

Task 2: Operation SILENT CHAIN 1

The folder password is the previous flag : SC_Alpha15

The recovered email dated **[2025-07-10 22:50Z] – Comms Channel Update** referenced a secondary channel for secure comms.

This alias was identified as the handler's online identity for covert updates.

```
[2025-07-10 22:50Z] - Comms Channel Update

Assets positioned across Grid Yankee35 and fallback point Charlie-7.
Greenlight pending—Phase Sigma will initiate once confirmation is received.

For secure comms, all directives will now route through the handler's
secondary channel: @syriaobserver.

Ensure full synchronization with the handler before EOD.
```

Flag: FL1TZ{@syriaobserver}

Task 3: Operation SILENT CHAIN 2

The alias **@syriaobserver** was mentioned as active on **technical forums**, hinting at a digital footprint tied to code or tool distribution.

Following this trail led to a **GitHub account** with multiple repositories. One repository, **net_watchdog**, contained a lightweight Python tool for sysadmins.

Inside the source code and configs, a file named **OPSEC_Notes.txt** revealed the operative's real identity

net_watchdog / OPSEC_notes.txt



syriaobserver Add OPSEC notes file

Code

Blame

7 lines (6 loc) · 228 Bytes



```
1  OPSEC Notes - July 2025
2
3  Operative contact: David Holmes
4  Last check-in: 2025-07-12
5  Status: Awaiting further instructions
6  Location: Northern Syria Safehouse Alpha
7  Remarks: Maintain radio silence until next transmission
```

Flag : FL1TZ{David_Holmes}

Task 4 : Operation SILENT CHAIN 3

David Holmes's GitHub account contained a repository **AstraNet (Corporate Solution)**, which included a contact file revealing the CEO's first name (**Richard**) and that his last name starts with **V**.



AstraLink Systems Contact Information

For inquiries about AstraNet or AstraLink Systems services, please use the following contacts:

General Support

support@astralink.co.uk

Sales and Partnerships

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Executive Contact (CEO and Co-founder)

richard.v@astralink.co.uk

Please note: This project is intended for internal use. External deployments require written authorization.

Using David's full name and the company name, and following the instruction to "follow Holmes's professional footprint and technical contributions," his LinkedIn account was located.



David Holmes


Network Infrastructure Lead at AstraLink Systems

London Area, United Kingdom · [Contact info](#)

Message

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 AstraLink Systems

About

Experienced network infrastructure lead with a decade of expertise in designing, deploying, and managing secure communication systems across high-demand environments. Currently heading network operations at AstraLink Systems, focusing on resilient logistics infrastructure in EMEA regions. Passionate about building scalable solutions for global organizations and driving operational excellence under critical conditions.

In the project section, the **AstraNet repo** was linked, along with a thank-you message for **Mr. Vance**, revealing the CEO's full name: **Richard Vance**.

Projects

AstraNet – Secure Communications Toolkit

Mar 2024 - Present



Associated with AstraLink Systems

Led development of AstraNet, a lightweight secure communications framework designed for distributed logistics and critical operations. The toolkit enables encrypted messaging, resilient multi-node routing, and automated failover, ensuring operational continuity in high-risk environments.

Special thanks to **Mr. Vance** for his leadership in driving this initiative and providing strategic oversight during the project's deployment phase.

Contributed to system architecture, encryption implementation, and API integration for partner logistics platforms.



GitHub - syriaobserver/AstraNet: Secure communication toolkit for distributed logistics networks. AstraNet provides a lightweight API for encrypted messaging, resilient routing, and automated...

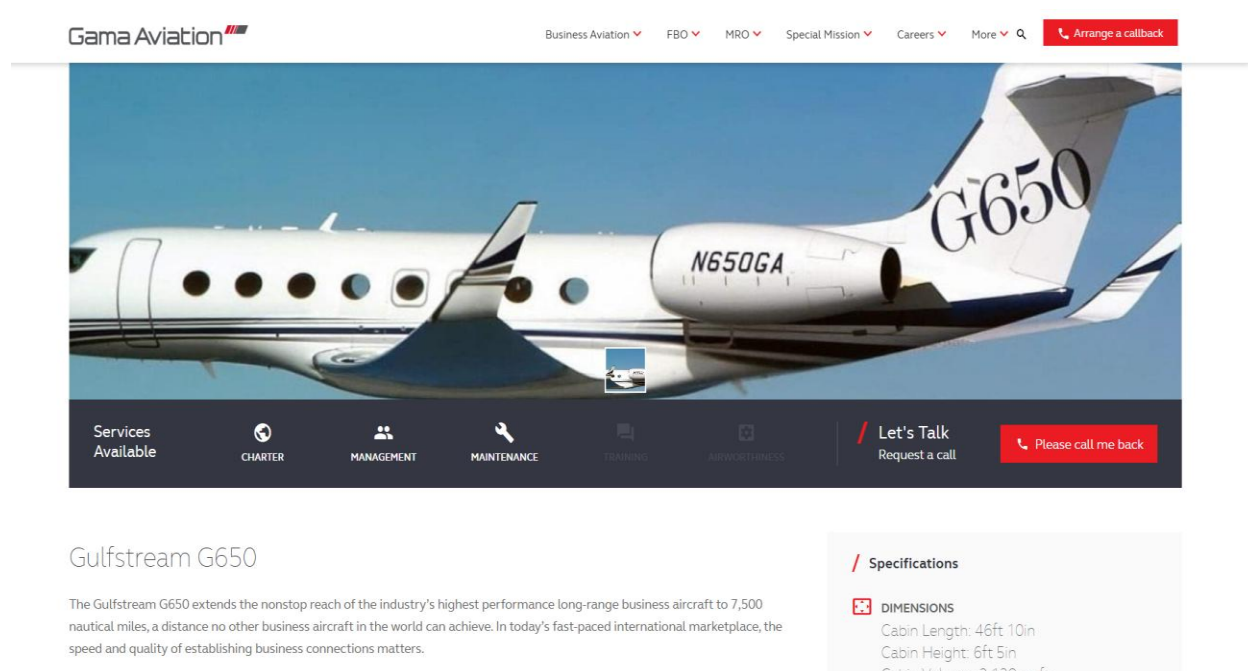
Flag: FL1TZ{Richard_Vance}

Task 5: Operation SILENT CHAIN 4

A leaked email from **Richard Vance** authorized a high-priority air transfer.

The aircraft was a **Gulfstream G650**, chartered through **Gama Aviation**.

Following the trail, the key was **Gama Aviation's** website: searching for the G650 led to an article showing the plane with its registration number **N650GA**.



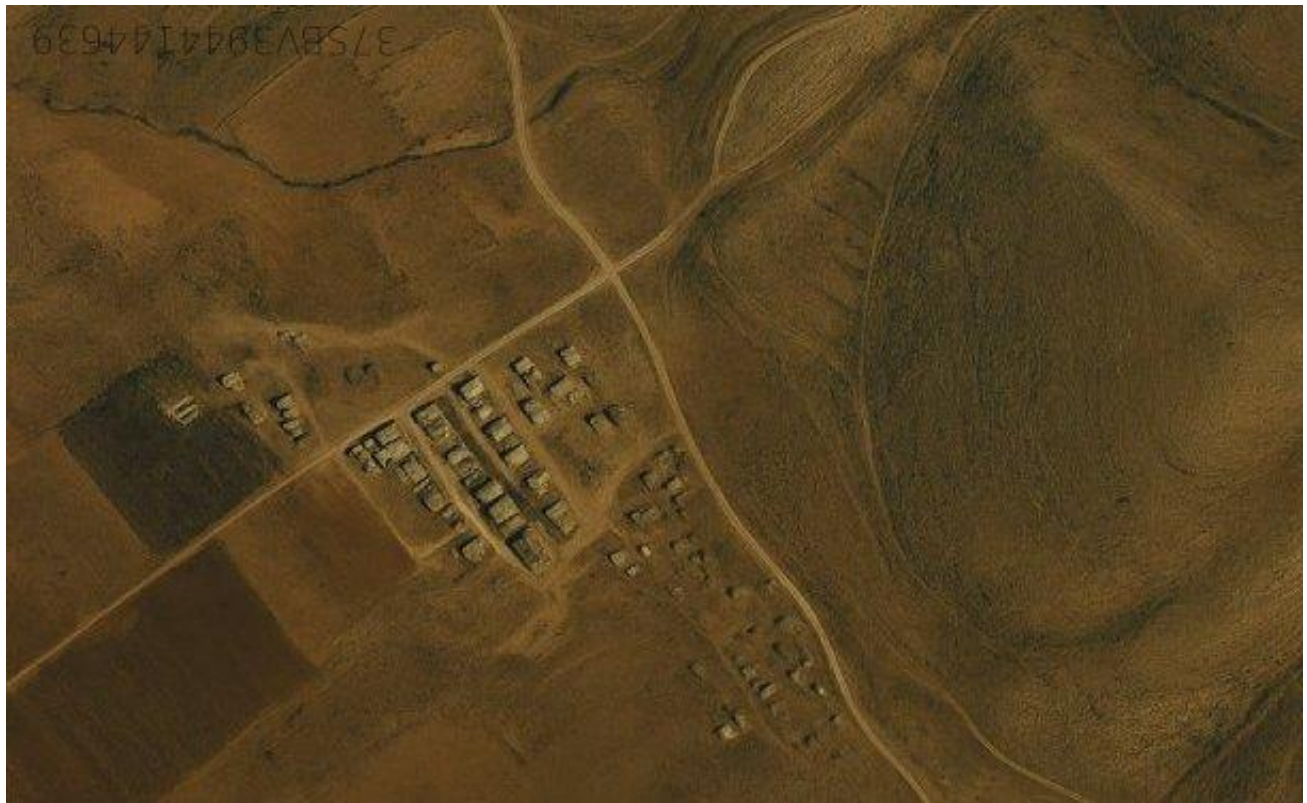
The screenshot shows the Gama Aviation website. At the top, the logo "Gama Aviation" is on the left, and navigation links "Business Aviation", "FBO", "MRO", "Special Mission", "Careers", and "More" are on the right. A red button "Arrange a callback" is also present. Below the navigation bar is a large image of a Gulfstream G650 aircraft in flight, with the registration "N650GA" and "G650" visible on the tail. Below the image is a dark navigation bar with links: "Services Available", "CHARTER", "MANAGEMENT", "MAINTENANCE", "TRAINING", and "AVIATION SERVICES". To the right of this bar is a "Let's Talk" section with a "Request a call" link and a red button "Please call me back". Below the main image, there is a section titled "Gulfstream G650" with a description: "The Gulfstream G650 extends the nonstop reach of the industry's highest performance long-range business aircraft to 7,500 nautical miles, a distance no other business aircraft in the world can achieve. In today's fast-paced international marketplace, the speed and quality of establishing business connections matters." To the right of this text is a "Specifications" section with a "DIMENSIONS" sub-section listing: "Cabin Length: 46ft 10in", "Cabin Height: 6ft 5in", and "Cabin Volume: 2,138 cu ft".

From there, all other details about the aircraft, including its registered owner and manufacturer serial number, were easily traceable(just google it).

Flag: FL1TZ{Gulfstream_Aerospace_Corp_6424}

Task 6: Operation SILENT CHAIN 5

The final task provided a corrupted image. Opening it in a **hex editor** and removing all junk data outside the JPEG **header (FF D8)** and **footer (FF D9)** revealed a photo of an abandoned house in the desert.



At the bottom of the image, a code was visible **37SBV3944144639** , which turned out to be **MGRS coordinates**. Decoding these coordinates with any online tool gave the **latitude and longitude**, yielding the last flag.

MGRS ↔ Lat/Long Converter

MGRS:

37SBV3944144639

To Lat/Long

Latitude:

35.611226

Longitude:

36.123452

To MGRS

Converted MGRS to Lat/Long:

Latitude: 35.611226

Longitude: 36.123452

Flag: : FL1TZ{35.611226_36.123452}