

Palpatine Investigation

Ferris State University

DFOR 310

Professor Jasun Hawkins

Alexis Cherpes

May 2, 2025

Table of Contents

Overview	3
Imaging the Hard Drive.....	3
FTK Imager	3
Presentation of Evidence	6
Forensic Explorer.....	6
Registry	8
Active File Review	10
Axiom.....	10
Media	14
Documents	24
Recycling Bin	28
Encryption & Credentials	29
Conclusion	30
Appendix of Terms	32

Overview

As the assigned forensic examiner, I was assigned to investigate a device that was seized from the suspected Sith Lord, Chancellor Palpatine. This report summarizes a forensic investigation in connection with allegations that Chancellor Palpatine, was involved in Sith-related activities. Tools such as FTK Imager, Forensic Explorer, and AXIOM are present in this investigation and with help from them a disk image was created and analyzed in a controlled environment.

Imaging the Hard Drive

FTK Imager

After securing the laptop from the suspect and bringing it to a secure lab, I used FTK Imager to capture an image of the file in a controlled setting to preserve the evidence integrity. I have a sterile, verified-clean hard drive that I will use to store the forensic disk image of the suspect's drive. Creating the disk image took about 5 minutes and once it was done, drive verify results, and an image summary is given. It is crucial to create a disk image to preserve the original evidence by making an exact bit-for-bit copy of the suspect's drive. Figure 1.1 shows the hashes provided for the device. Hashes are digital fingerprints of the data used to verify that the contents of a disk image have not been altered during analysis.

Drive/Image Verify Results	
Name	Palpetine.E01
Sector count	13312000
MD5 Hash	
Computed hash	d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1
Stored verification hash	d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1
Report Hash	d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1
Verify result	Match
SHA1 Hash	
Computed hash	4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129
Stored verification hash	4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129
Report Hash	4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129
Verify result	Match
Bad Blocks List	
Bad block(s) in image	No bad blocks found in image

Figure 1.1

Image Summary

Case Information:

Acquired using: ADI4.7.3.81

Case Number: finalpractical#002

Evidence Number: #002

Unique Description:

Examiner: Alexis Cherpes

Notes:

Information for C:\Users\acher\OneDrive\Desktop\Cases\FinalExam\palpatine:

Physical Evidentiary Item (Source) Information:

[Device Info]

Source Type: Logical

[Verification Hashes]

MD5 verification hash: d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1

SHA1 verification hash: 4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129

[Drive Geometry]

Bytes per Sector: 512

Sector Count: 13,312,000

[Image]

Image Type: E01

Case number: Palpatine

Evidence number: 1

Examiner: Zach Rogers

Notes: Chancellor Palpatine is suspected of being a Sith Lord.

Acquired on OS: Win 201x

Acquired using: ADI4.7.1.2

Acquire date: 12/6/2024 10:28:15 PM

System date: 12/6/2024 10:28:15 PM

Unique description: Image of main drive.

Source data size: 6500 MB

Sector count: 13312000

[Computed Hashes]

MD5 checksum: d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1

SHA1 checksum: 4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129

Image Information:

Acquisition started: Wed Apr 30 22:07:02 2025

Acquisition finished: Wed Apr 30 22:07:54 2025

Segment list:

C:\Users\acher\OneDrive\Desktop\Cases\FinalExam\palpatine.E01

COMPUTED HASH : d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1

COMPUTED HASH : 4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129

Image Verification Results:

Verification started: Wed Apr 30 22:07:54 2025

Verification finished: Wed Apr 30 22:08:32 2025

MD5 checksum: d14337904bf0b9164ecf75ac8d5dc7b1 : verified

SHA1 checksum: 4fca3b7dc0e976b23c5589768feef04592900129 : verified

Presentation of Evidence

Forensic Explorer

I used Forensic Explorer to analyze the disk image previously captured from the suspect's drive. This software provides a detailed examination of the items without altering the original data. After launching the program I created a new case called PalpatinePractical shown in Figure 1.2. Once the case is set up, I added the disk image by selecting the "Add Image" option and navigating to the file's location. Figure 1.3 and Figure 1.4 show the criteria I am setting for what I want to look for.

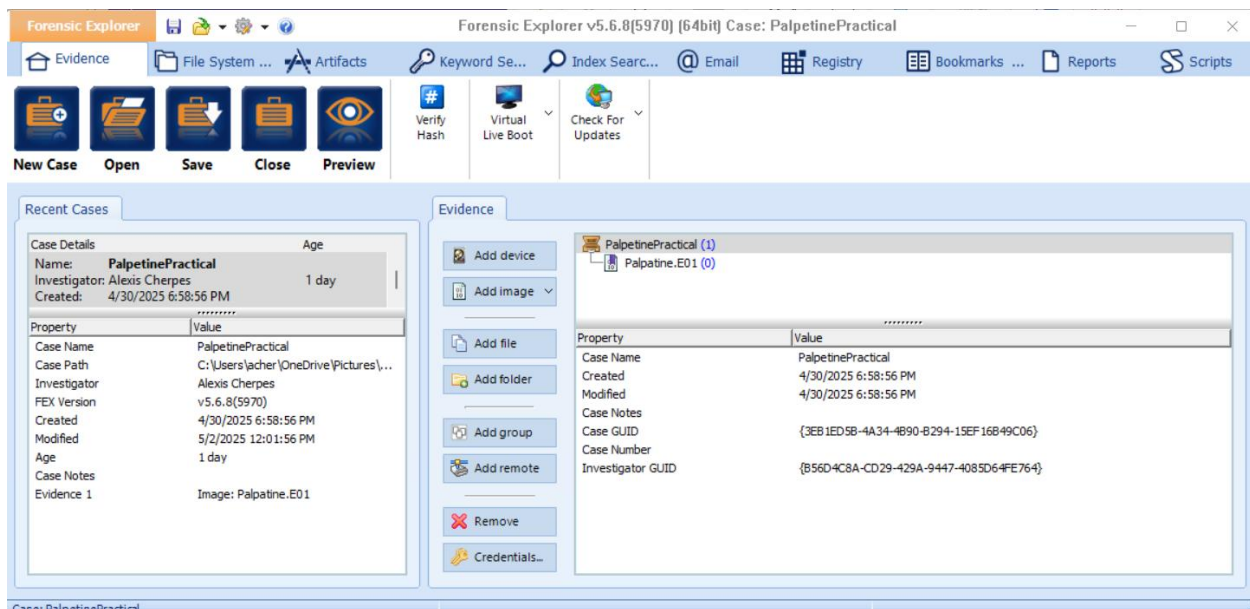


Figure 1.2

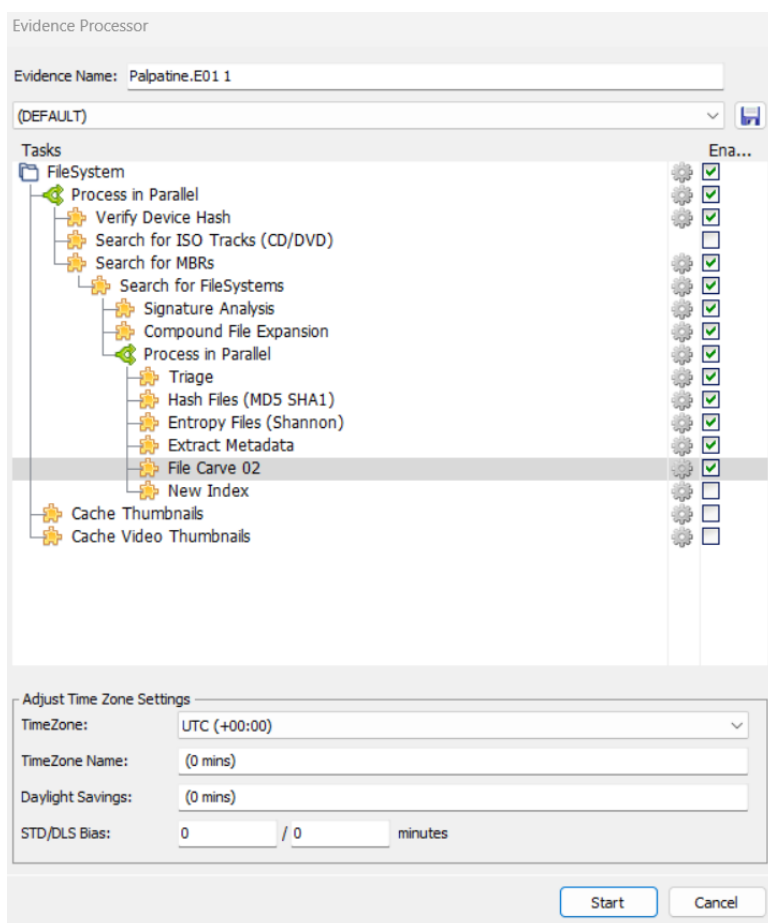


Figure 1.3

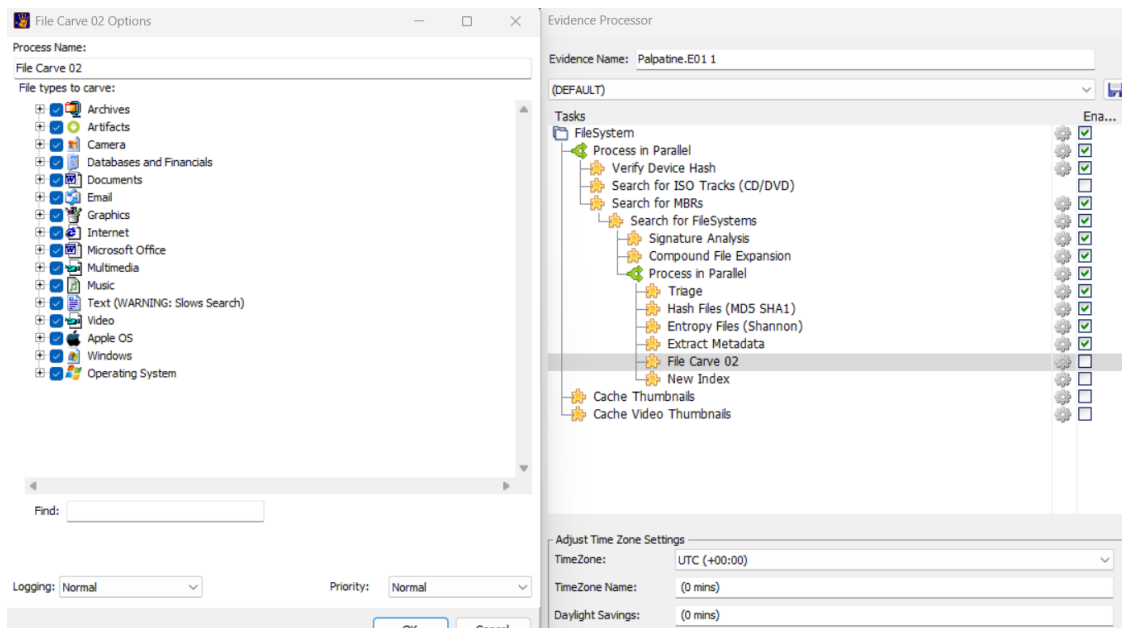


Figure 1.4

Registry

The windows registry is a critical source of information in forensic investigations and is found exclusively on Windows operating systems. It stores configuration settings, user activity, and system information. The registry hives that I was looking for were SAM, System, Software, and NTuser.dat because these contain data relating to user accounts, system configuration, installed programs, and user-specific activity. *Figure 1.5 and 1.6* show the path to where the registry would be. Going from the image to the Root folder, to the Windows folder, down to Systems32, and then into config. However, in this case, no registry hives were present in the image, meaning either they were deleted, the system was incomplete, or this is not a Windows operating system. The reason we would want to look at the Security Accounts Manager (SAM), is because it contains the user names and the passwords on this machine. The System hive contains detailed configuration data about the operating system such as the computer name. The Software hive provides valuable information about the system including the default user name,

the operating systems installation date, and a list of installed applications. The last hive is NTuser.dat and this contains valuable information about user activity.

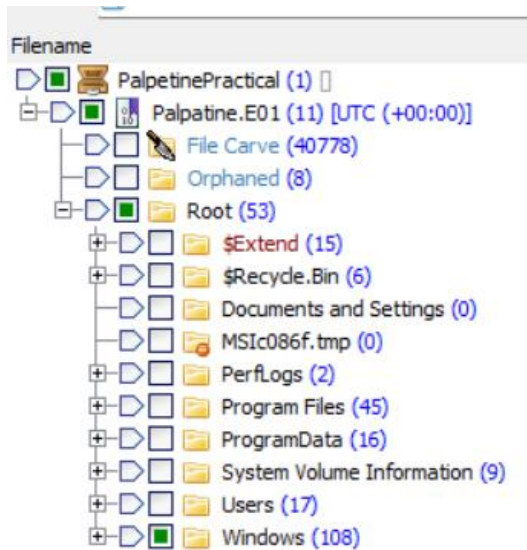


Figure 1.5

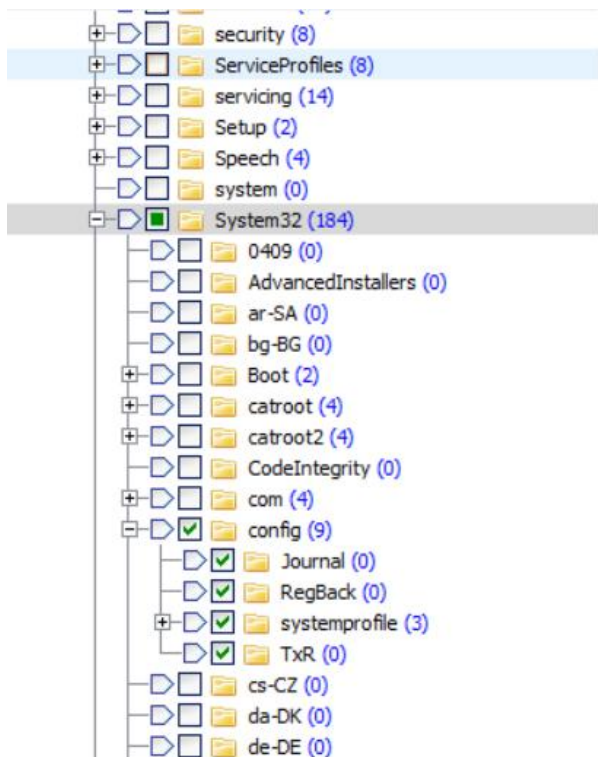


Figure 1.6

Active File Review

Axiom

The following software I used is AXIOM. Figures 1.7-2.4 show how I went about making a new case for this investigation.

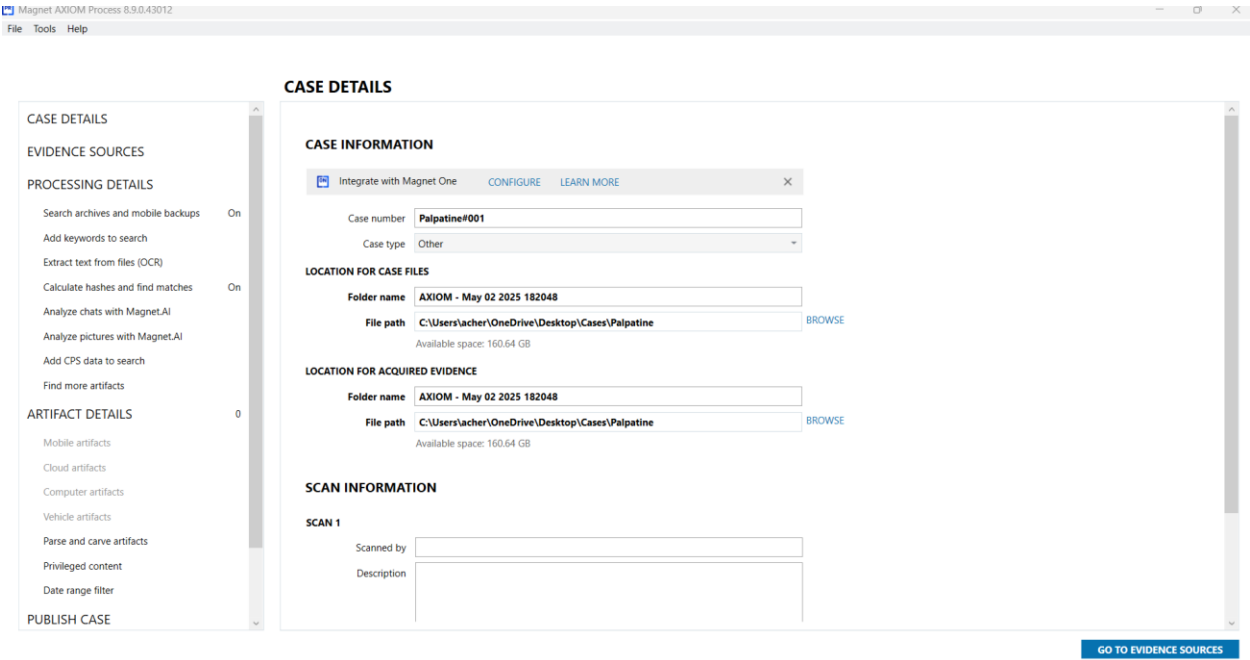


Figure 1.7 – Label the case and create a folder for this case to go into

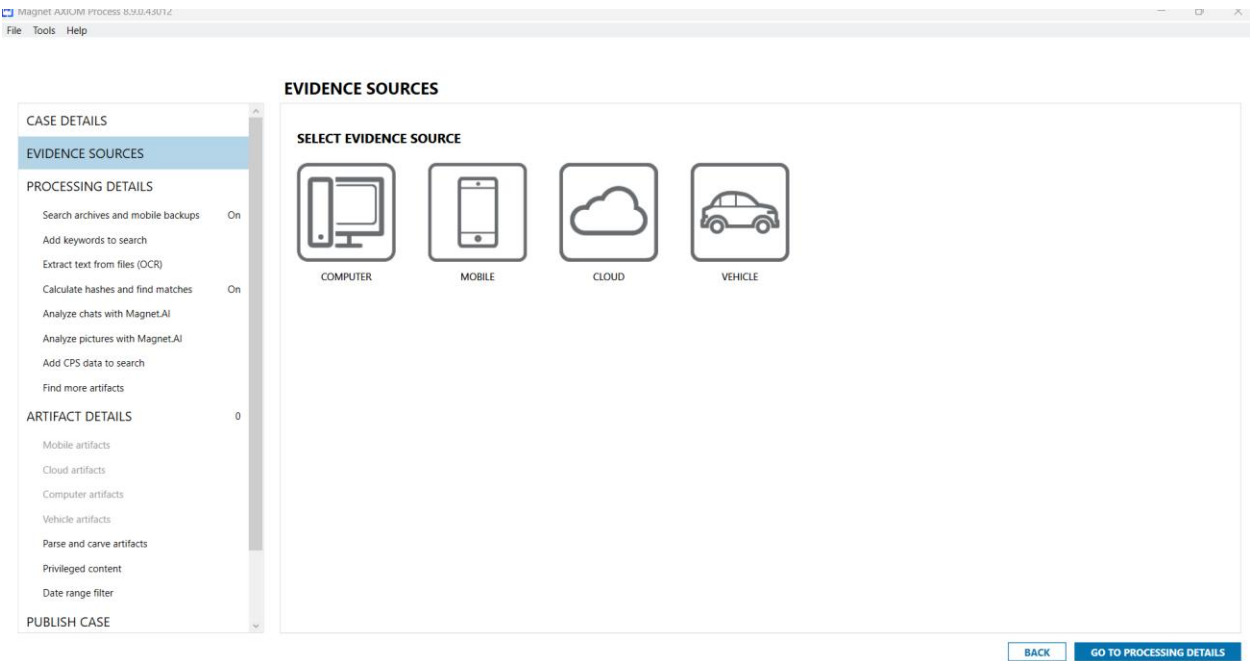


Figure 1.8 – Select “Computer”

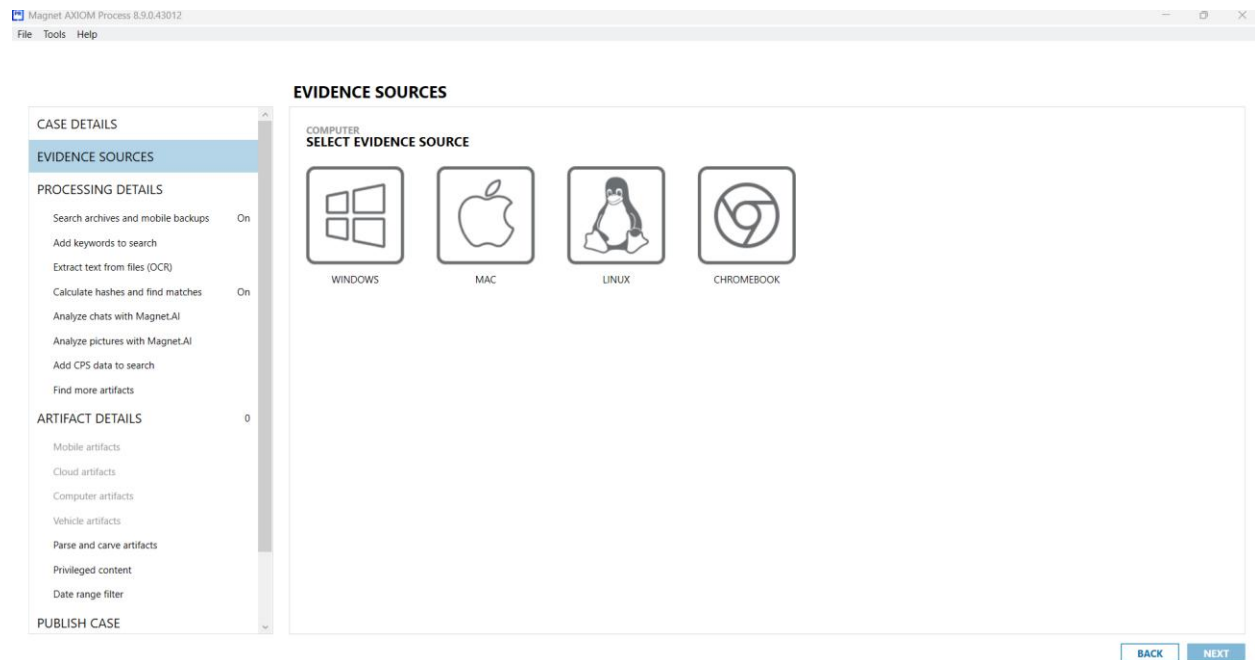


Figure 1.9 – Select “Windows”

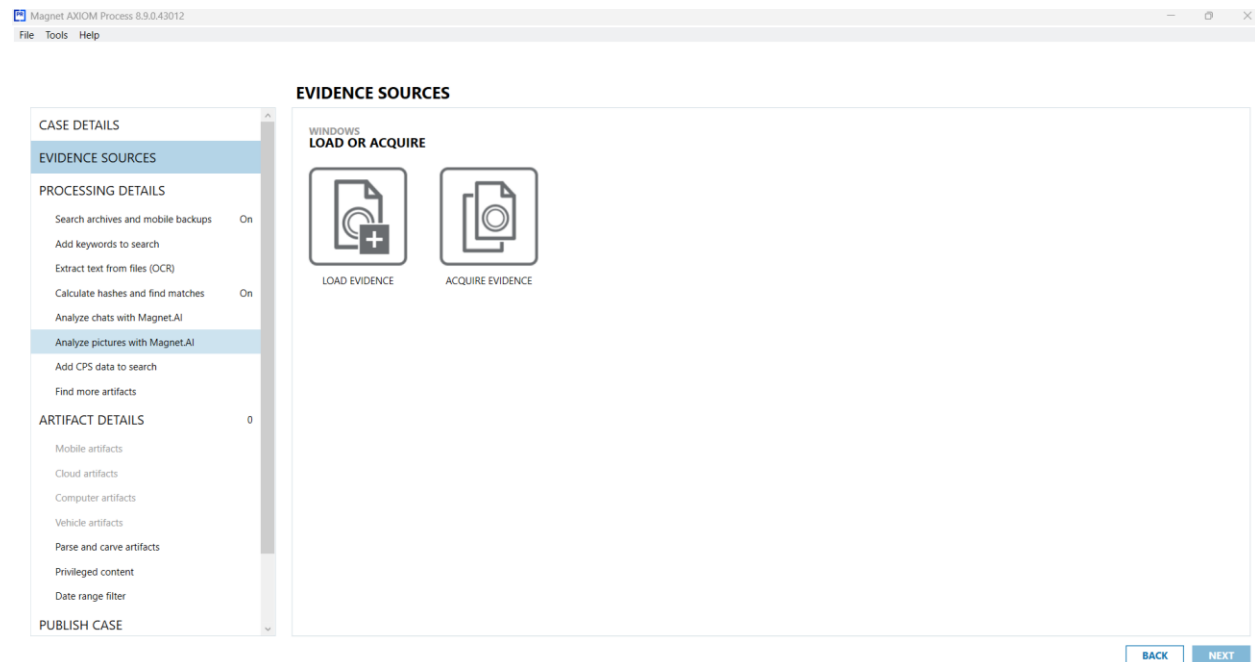


Figure 2.0 – Select “Load Evidence”

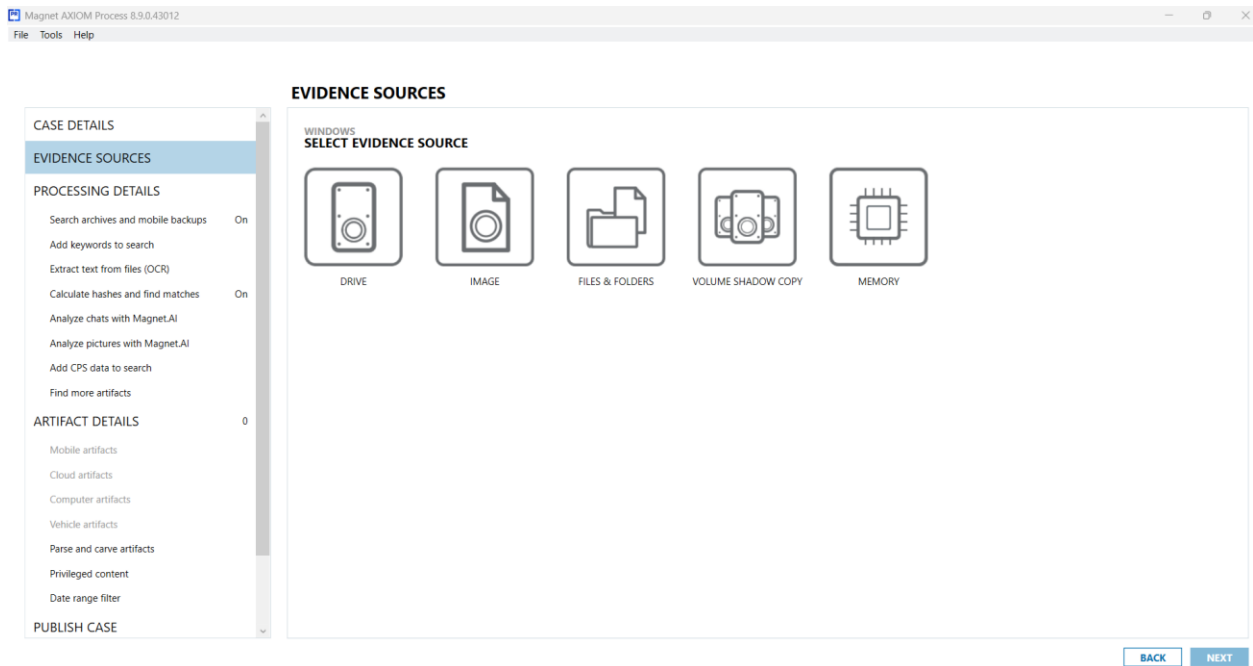


Figure 2.1 – Select “Image”

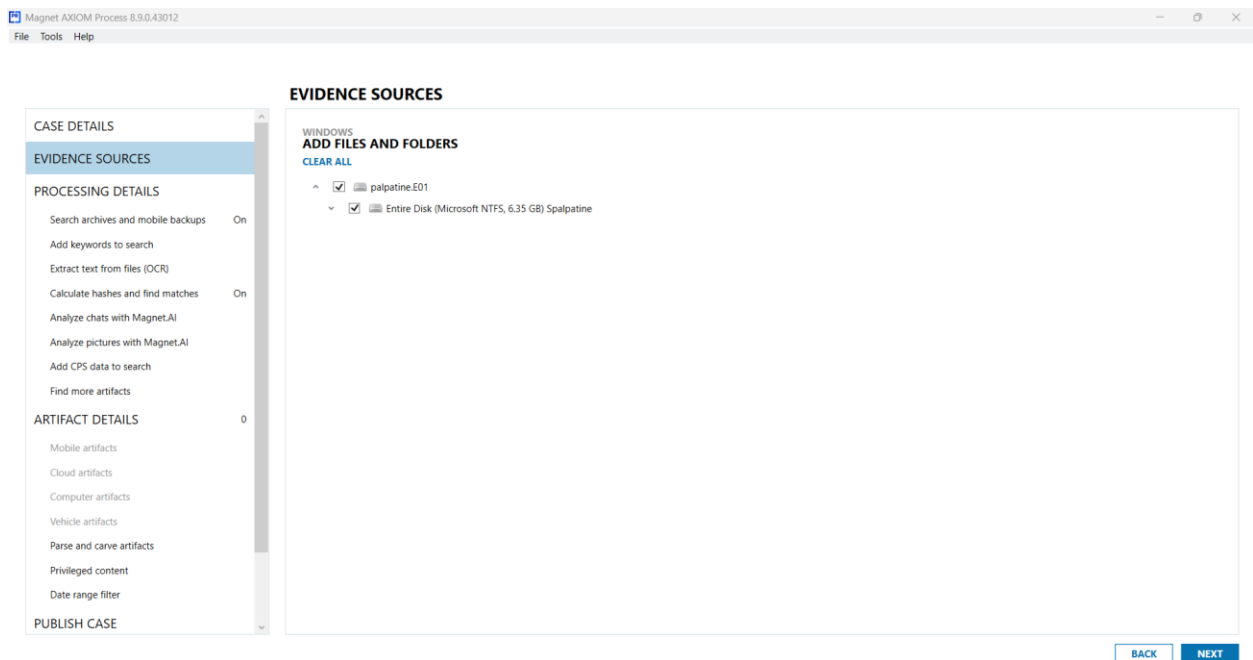


Figure 2.2 – Select the file

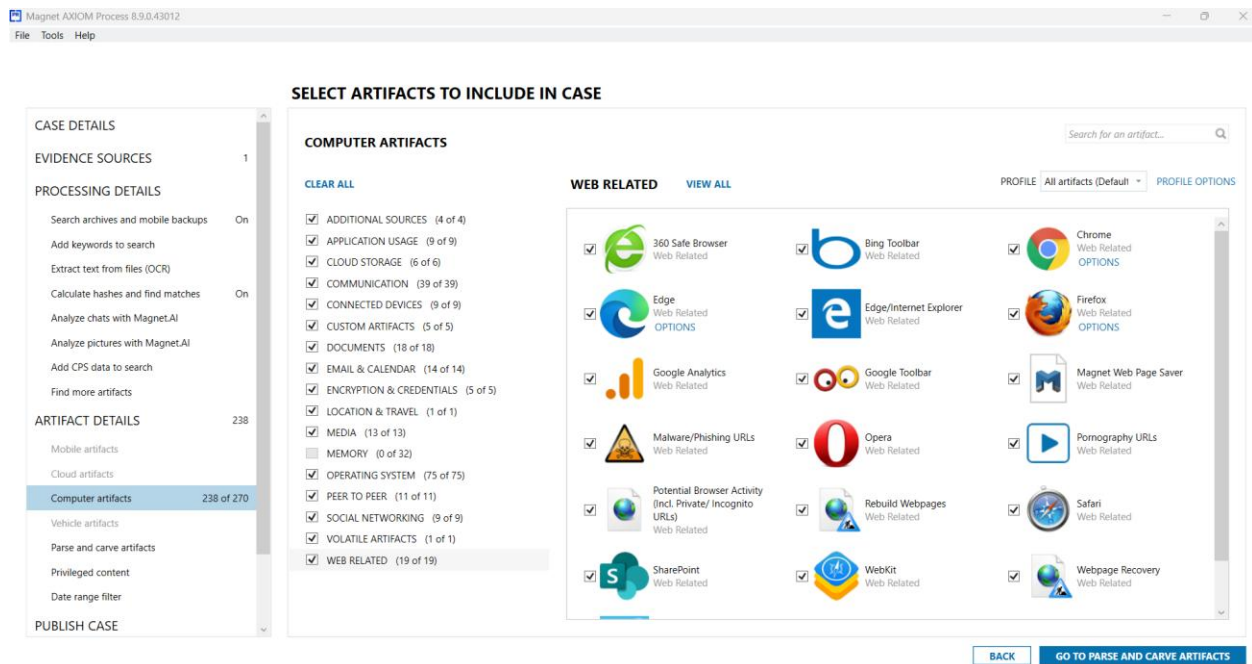


Figure 2.3 – Select the defaults up until “Computer Artifacts”, then select all the options

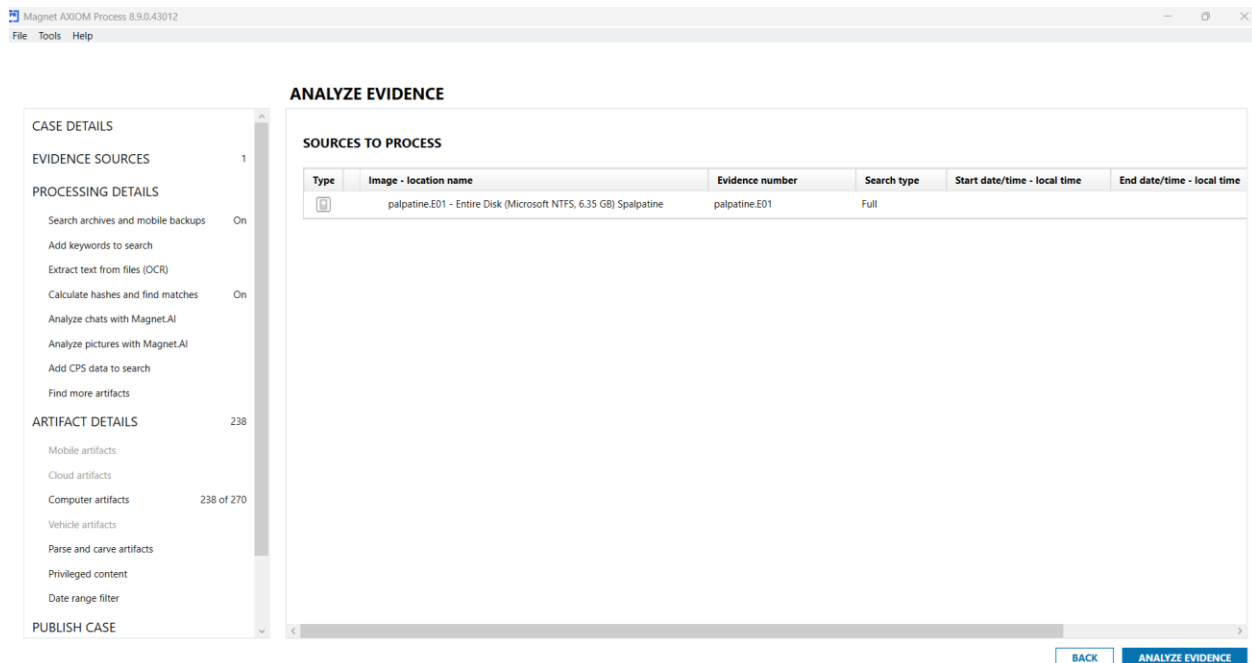


Figure 2.4 – Select all the defaults until “Analyze Evidence”, then analyze the evidence

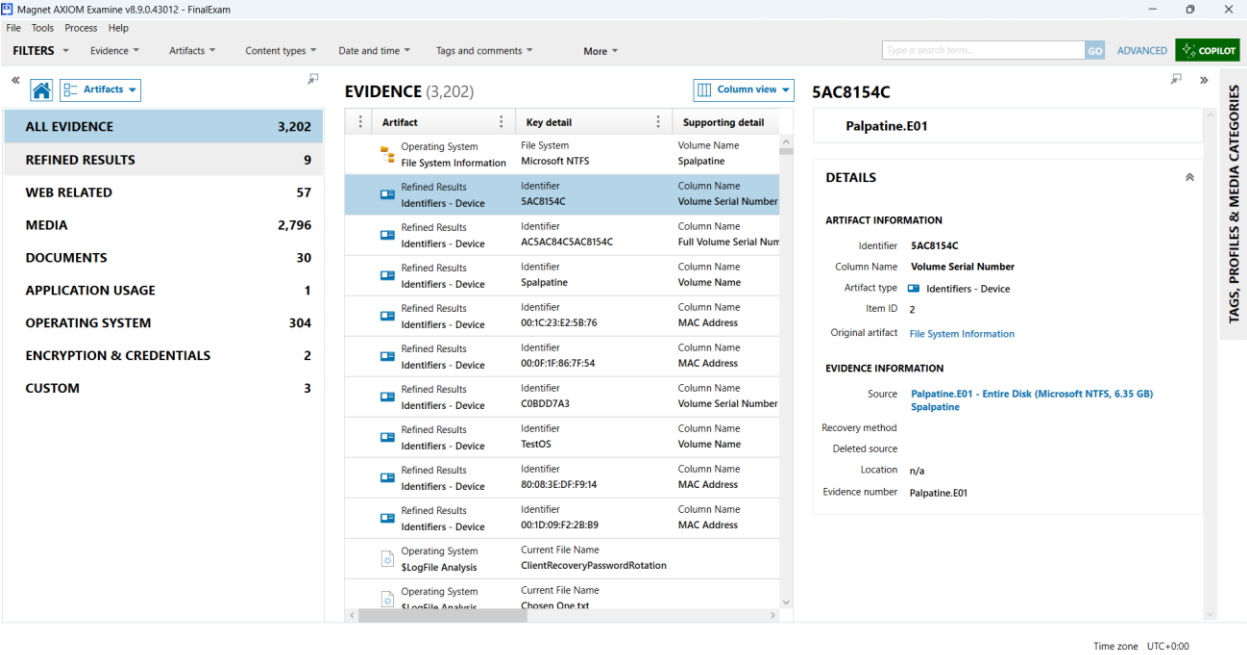


Figure 2.5 – Analyzed Evidence

Media

Figures 2.6 - 4.5 are pictures that were found in the media folder relating to Emperor Palpatine’s activities, including propaganda materials, visual documentation of known enemies and persons of interest, and imagery referencing strategic plans.

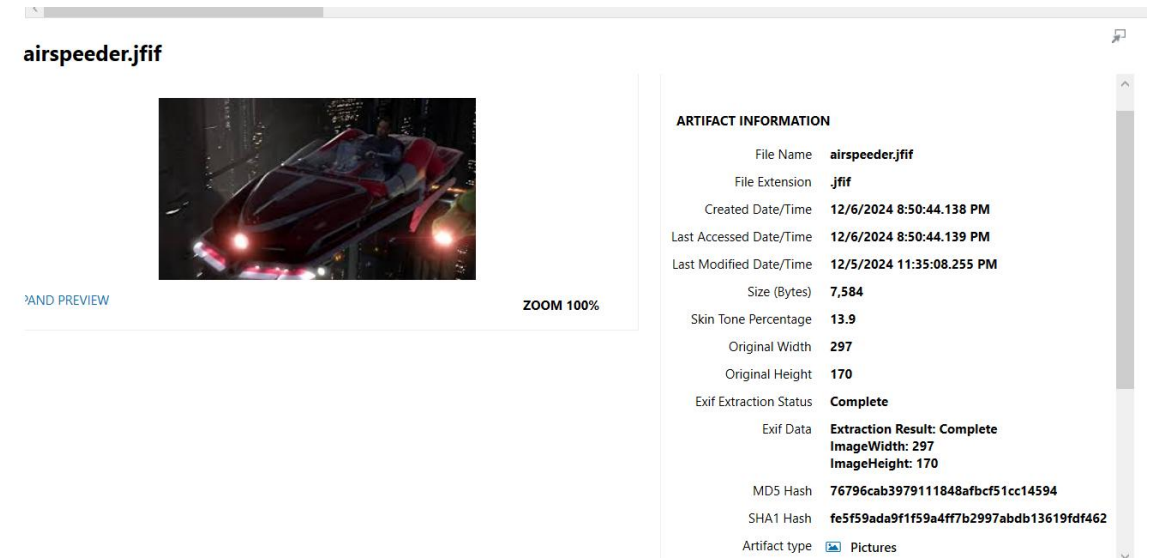


Figure 2.6 – Air speeder

chosen one.jfif



PREVIEW

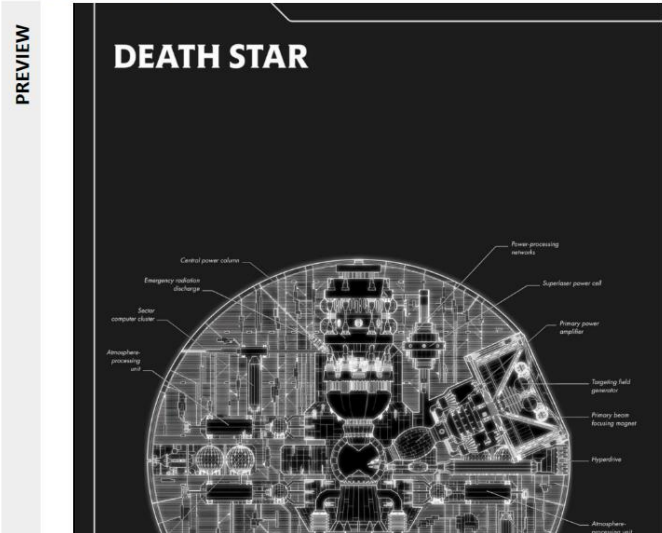
ZOOM 100%

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	chosen one.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.145 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.147 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:39:43.386 PM
Size (Bytes)	6,730
Skin Tone Percentage	26.4
Original Width	201
Original Height	251
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 201 ImageHeight: 251
MD5 Hash	d57747018db7abf6364147006d20f336
SHA1 Hash	6c9ccfcb97e2c44941413c197c9413fec7fff90f

Figure 2.7 – Picture of Anakin Skywalker labeled “Chosen One”

Blueprints.webp



ARTIFACT INFORMATION


File Name	Blueprints.webp
File Extension	.webp
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:23:18.114 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:23:18.719 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:55:49.460 PM
Size (Bytes)	150,478
Skin Tone Percentage	0.0
Original Width	910
Original Height	1079
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 910 ImageHeight: 1079
MD5 Hash	a1f6699a8db0048870a1cfa206729685
SHA1 Hash	32137f6149648b839e0081fb3b865ccc2524a5d0
Artifact type	 Pictures
Item ID	845

Figure 2.8 – Blueprints of the Death Star

city.jfif



PREVIEW

ZOOM 100%

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	city.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.152 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.154 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:25:44.677 PM
Size (Bytes)	12,698
Skin Tone Percentage	8.3
Original Width	275
Original Height	183
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 275 ImageHeight: 183
MD5 Hash	5347b2917cac8db6a8c39b9e80c2ec98
SHA1 Hash	c27fb5faa5a083a1924eae79f41eca8fa1fbc24

Figure 2.9 – City

meeting.jfif
w



REVIEW

ZOOM 100%

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	meeting.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.155 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.159 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:29:36.891 PM
Size (Bytes)	7,366
Skin Tone Percentage	7.3
Original Width	318
Original Height	159
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 318 ImageHeight: 159
MD5 Hash	64aba26d3c23fda1970cf7e5a25c067b
SHA1 Hash	92ab813176a917e0b4d1c087262055ff3217bda2

Figure 3.0 – Meeting with Lott Dod

clone war.jfif



PREVIEW

ZOOM 100%

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	clone war.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.160 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.162 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:32:02.995 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,897
Skin Tone Percentage	6.6
Original Width	259
Original Height	194
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 259 ImageHeight: 194
MD5 Hash	982170e1dd6d3ee89b0a58f864b4bee8
SHA1 Hash	2f394039d80c62df3efd1ce11e1fd9f1f3e3eba1
Artifact type	Pictures

Figure 3.1 – A picture of the Chancellor labeled “Clone War”

Mustafar.jpg

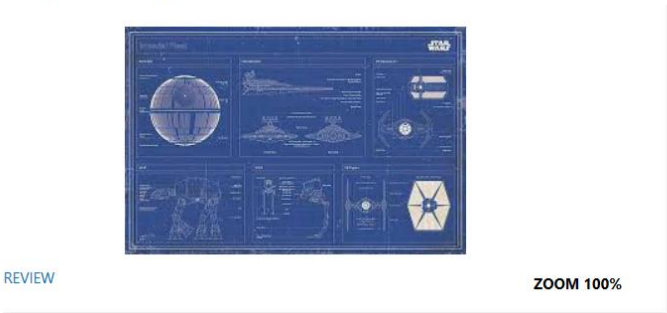


ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	Mustafar.jpg
File Extension	.jpg
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.168 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.170 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:30:56.317 PM
Size (Bytes)	72,134
Skin Tone Percentage	22.2
Original Width	900
Original Height	900
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 900 ImageHeight: 900
MD5 Hash	2e6fd7424c69d8e9229bb5bca7f0cf60
SHA1 Hash	bcd03d15e97aeea763e56671000f635ce68215f9
Artifact type	Pictures

Figure 3.2 – Planet Mustafar

moon station.jfif



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	moon station.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:23:15.929 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:23:15.931 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:45:54.946 PM
Size (Bytes)	9,998
Skin Tone Percentage	0.4
Original Width	275
Original Height	183
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 275 ImageHeight: 183
MD5 Hash	3579d0405634fdfa19bc050e1ef29780
SHA1 Hash	a7e788f1f9d54f33457bfdbebc7c4aa495460198

Figure 3.3 – Moon station blueprints

naboo.jfif



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	naboo.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.177 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.178 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:35:31.651 PM
Size (Bytes)	12,419
Skin Tone Percentage	34.7
Original Width	346
Original Height	146
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 346 ImageHeight: 146
MD5 Hash	3d76bbd3f07f9794f3596da253aa39a5
SHA1 Hash	9bdc72135864c1b99cbd8245531b95af920a0f2

Figure 3.4 – Planet Naboo, home to Princess Amidala

my toy.jfif



ZOOM 100%

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	my toy.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.048 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:57:06.115 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:38:47.305 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,097
Skin Tone Percentage	6.7
Original Width	224
Original Height	224
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 224 ImageHeight: 224
MD5 Hash	c11d34984ec11ee5020b03d0e468453f
SHA1 Hash	2ee8854ece52302af23e2dfed898279046b90ca4

Figure 3.5 – A picture of a lightsaber labeled “My Toy”

obi-wan.jfif



ZOOM 100%

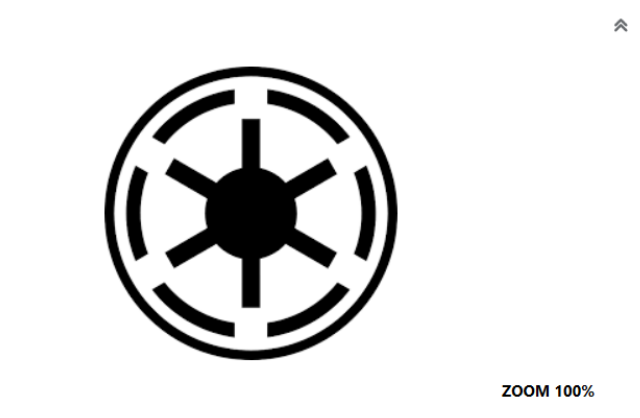
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	obi-wan.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:43.184 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.027 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:40:02.426 PM
Size (Bytes)	4,881
Skin Tone Percentage	42.4
Original Width	273
Original Height	185
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 273 ImageHeight: 185
MD5 Hash	99d60143327d811f69c3cd706f24f818
SHA1 Hash	565a8663432981fc7d06cce055521c5120126523

Figure 3.6 – Picture of Obi-Wan Kenobi

republic.png



DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	republic.png
File Extension	.png
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.060 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.064 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:28:52.400 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,472
Skin Tone Percentage	0.0
Original Width	225
Original Height	225
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 225 ImageHeight: 225
MD5 Hash	79109cdd618fb90f39f53dc39b38a691
SHA1 Hash	afb7f6460dc7ec53c601a229b31f1e708f3205a3

Figure 3.7 – Picture of the republic sign

robe.jfif



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	robe.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.074 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.076 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:32:48.123 PM
Size (Bytes)	4,372
Skin Tone Percentage	0.5
Original Width	159
Original Height	318
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 159 ImageHeight: 318
MD5 Hash	c4988373424270abef3a9fbd1d3e5c21
SHA1 Hash	7b9a8529f88bdf50aa6c4c6afb757800c3d96da9

Figure 3.8 – Jedi Robe

Senate building.jfif



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	Senate building.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.082 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.084 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:25:19.948 PM
Size (Bytes)	9,730
Skin Tone Percentage	7.2
Original Width	345
Original Height	146
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 345 ImageHeight: 146
MD5 Hash	57d79aa41d3f776997d1a90913279397
SHA1 Hash	5520b6243e72f4209f8fcc1041871199f7b56696

Figure 3.9 – Senate Building

senate chamber.jfif



DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	senate chamber.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.090 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.092 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:24:44.769 PM
Size (Bytes)	10,865
Skin Tone Percentage	31.9
Original Width	300
Original Height	168
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 300 ImageHeight: 168
MD5 Hash	4b4b8f961579351c4a4f4ef6a3e68428
SHA1 Hash	13dd84553678abb7d9cf774dd9a9b97b08dd7063

Figure 4.0 – Senate Chamber

separatist.png



ZOOM 100%

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	separatist.png
File Extension	.png
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.097 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.100 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:30:12.245 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,709
Skin Tone Percentage	0.0
Original Width	241
Original Height	209
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 241 ImageHeight: 209
MD5 Hash	a86d9a3f2f77ebe1096349069c58b24f
SHA1 Hash	e260145c11dbd5c417c8e4b93ed37fff343844dd

Figure 4.1 – Separatist symbol

ship.jfif



ZOOM 100%

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	ship.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.106 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.109 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:36:16.479 PM
Size (Bytes)	7,354
Skin Tone Percentage	9.7
Original Width	318
Original Height	159
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 318 ImageHeight: 159
MD5 Hash	aa86410d3c1ef8c8e81f34c14778fcd8
SHA1 Hash	95831949b824bae276b1a8d5da056c82b5cc37b9

Figure 4.2 – Ship

speeder.jfif



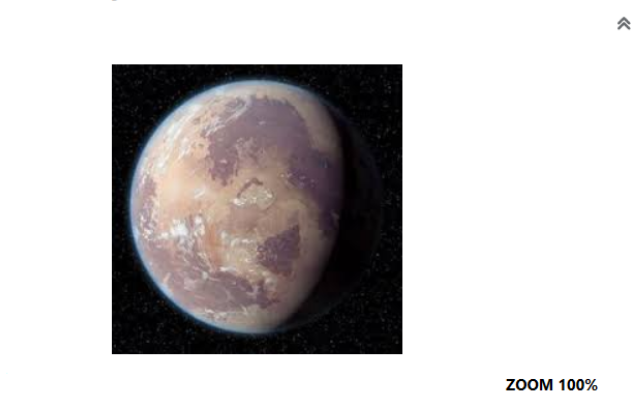
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	speeder.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.114 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.116 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:34:39.377 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,568
Skin Tone Percentage	9.4
Original Width	340
Original Height	148
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 340 ImageHeight: 148
MD5 Hash	1bdb81ab59b60c360ed5b7f1216ad825
SHA1 Hash	23c7a84ee22e54437af3e83b4f2054b5f823f409

Figure 4.3 – Speeder

tatooine.jfif



DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	tatooine.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.121 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.124 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:44:53.952 PM
Size (Bytes)	5,970
Skin Tone Percentage	23.7
Original Width	225
Original Height	224
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 225 ImageHeight: 224
MD5 Hash	32c9003a457e99ed5f77f077f2fbb702
SHA1 Hash	13b6314117e867aa5aac5ec550c892e616e9dd47

Figure 4.4 – Tatooine, home to Anakin Skywalker

yoda.jfif



ZOOM 100%

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	yoda.jfif
File Extension	.jfif
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.130 PM
Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:50:44.132 PM
Last Modified Date/Time	12/5/2024 11:39:28.880 PM
Size (Bytes)	6,099
Skin Tone Percentage	0.0
Original Width	275
Original Height	183
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 275 ImageHeight: 183
MD5 Hash	1d24fea4c24b3e68a55510d7d29b55a8
SHA1 Hash	a5b2dfe635bf716c3b9973677a4e2e66ce6b914d

Figure 4.5 – Jedi Grand Master Yoda

Documents

During the forensic examination, several documents of interest were recovered from the suspects system. These files provide insight into Emperor Palpatine’s communications, intentions, and affiliations. Some notable recovered documents were an agenda outlining planned activities, a chat log involving members of the Jedi Order, and a conversation discussing the identity of the “Chosen One”. Additional documents referenced the selection of a new apprentice, which suggests that the continuation of the Sith recruitment efforts. These findings may contribute significantly to understanding the scope of the suspects involvement in these operations. Figures 4.6 – 5.4 illustrate the contents, hash values, and creation dates of these documents, supporting their relevance to the ongoing investigation.

Chancellor's Agenda.pdf

PREVIEW

FIND

Chancellor's Agenda:
9:00 AM - Begin the day with a visit to the Coruscant Botanical Gardens
11:00 AM - Meeting with Merchant Guilds about new trade agreements
12:30 PM - Meeting with the ambassador of Alderaan
2:00 PM - Lunch outing with Senator Amidala
3:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Senate debate
8:00 PM - Discussion with Jedi Council about the progress of the Clone Wars
Always on the agenda - Destroy the Jedi!!!
For my future plans: LongLiveTheSith!123

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Filename	Chancellor's Agenda.pdf
File System Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:00:55.272 PM
File System Last Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:58:00.171 PM
File System Last Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:59:24.071 PM
Size (Bytes)	46,023
Saved Size (Bytes)	46,023
MD5 Hash	b2e6a26b8bcf3fcca2d117f20d78dc22
SHA1 Hash	ea44f43733a052c5e1f94fc68d3315c097ef
Artifact type	PDF Documents

Figure 4.6 -Chancellor’s Agenda

Jedi chat log.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

[Chancellor Palpatine] - Greetings Anakin, I wanted to express my condolences for the death of your mother.

[Anakin Skywalker] - Hello Chancellor, I appreciate your concern for my wellbeing, it has been difficult.

[Chancellor Palpatine] - It is gravely unfortunate that tragedies such as these are not preventable. Protecting others from death is a power the Jedi could never hope of achieving.

[Anakin Skywalker] - Does such a power exist?

[Chancellor Palpatine] - Come to my office later, I have something to tell you.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Filename	Jedi chat log.txt
Size (Bytes)	532
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:17:36.713 PM
Accessed Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:24:25.638 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:24:25.638 PM
MD5 Hash	7e4acd934f0439115c5153bda4c2177a
SHA1 Hash	a4d7661114f40e102a173c41494486c0f593ca73
Artifact type	Text Documents
Item ID	825

Figure 4.7 – “Jedi Chat Log” between Chancellor Palpatine and Anakin Skywalker

New Apprentice.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

I am in need of a new apprentice, Maul completed his task but was too weak to see the whole picture.

I have found great promise in the former Jedi; Count Dooku. He has the ability to serve my needs.

I will have him raise an alliance of Separatists against the Republic and have him create a secret droid army to incite civil war across the galaxy!!

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Filename	New Apprentice.txt
Size (Bytes)	354
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:53:25.425 PM
Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 8:58:31.687 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:53:32.580 PM
MD5 Hash	e0d8d48732fca344debb243c4e23a56e
SHA1 Hash	1a17c2b2f4d9455e9e5bcc25665b43c5fa3b5def
Artifact type	Text Documents
Item ID	833

Figure 4.8 – New Apprentice

brightfuture.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

Becoming Supreme Chancellor of the Galactic Republic was only the beginning.....so much power.....

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION


Filename	brightfuture.txt
Size (Bytes)	107
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:56:19.722 PM
Accessed Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:59:42.358 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:59:42.357 PM
MD5 Hash	c3b3e402bf8a158272102c0e658672bb
SHA1 Hash	427000e33cc12ec660dcf0aec903829832a7c5eb
Artifact type	 Text Documents

Figure 4.9 – Bright Future

Chosen One.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

[Darth Sidious] - My apprentice, I have discovered a possible threat to my plans. The Jedi have discovered a 'Chosen One' who is said to destroy the Sith a bring balance to the Force.

[Darth Maul] - Master, what would you have me do?

[Darth Sidious] - Go to Naboo, Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jin is set to train the boy in the ways of the Jedi, kill him.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION


Filename	Chosen One.txt
Size (Bytes)	353
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:31:52.553 PM
Accessed Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:32:02.078 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:32:02.078 PM
MD5 Hash	217133e6fd067218e4fba462efb654e3
SHA1 Hash	a35c958865390b5aa43a3cb30d8815d936ac265f
Artifact type	 Text Documents

Figure 5.0 – Chosen One, Darth Sidious's intentions are death upon him

HoloNet Log.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

[Darth Tyranus] - Master, I have heard news from Kamino that Jango Fett agreed to the deal and the production of a clone army has begun.

[Darth Sidious] - Have the 'modifications' been made?

[Darth Tyranus] - Yes my lord, a biochip will be implanted into each clone to force them to follow any order.

[Darth Sidious] - Splendid!


[Darth Tyranus] - Is there anything further you require of me, master?

[Darth Sidious] - Yes! You will eliminate Jedi Master Sifo-Dyas, he is the only Jedi aware of this army and the only one who could reveal my plans!

[Darth Tyranus] - It will be done.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Filename	HoloNet Log.txt
Size (Bytes)	600
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:32:30.878 PM
Accessed Date/Time	12/4/2024 4:06:16.893 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:34:54.915 PM
MD5 Hash	b5b02b29538f201cdbc71d9a15949354
SHA1 Hash	7e01ac2909315986b8ca7b1a8639924103acda9a
Artifact type	 Text Documents
Item ID	826

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	Palpatine.E01 - Entire Disk (Microsoft NTFS, 6.35 GB) \\Palpatine\Desktop\HoloNet Log.txt
--------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Figure 5.1 – HoloNet Log, Chat between Darth Sidious and Darth Tyranus talking about death upon Jedi Master Sifo-Dyas

Contingency Plan.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

Once every piece has been put into place, Order 66 can be executed to turn the Grand Army of the Galactic Republic against it's Jedi masters!

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION


Filename	Contingency Plan.txt
Size (Bytes)	142
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:13:19.980 PM
Accessed Date/Time	11/26/2024 7:48:45.454 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:13:37.968 PM
MD5 Hash	21c53f45c332424bfa514865ae03aeaf
SHA1 Hash	c88f6de4e15f28aacde2af56838cd309d21e39fe
Artifact type	 Text Documents
Item ID	832

Figure 5.2 – Contingency Plan

Jedi Order.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

There are many enemies I have but none are as revolting as the Jedi.

I hate them all but a few I will make sure to get rid of are:

- Grand Master Yoda
- Mace Windu
- Obi-Wan Kenobi
- Qui-Gon Jin (eliminated)

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION


Filename	Jedi Order.txt
Size (Bytes)	212
Modified Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:01:03.619 PM
Accessed Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:01:21.939 PM
Created Date/Time	11/26/2024 6:01:21.938 PM
MD5 Hash	fc679e8d16071124a67312702e1af142
SHA1 Hash	c4503952522ba347928cc8cfe01b07bf90ede044
Artifact type	 Text Documents
Item ID	833

Figure 5.3 – Jedi Order, List of people Chancellor Palpatine plans to execute

Senate Meeting.txt

PREVIEW

FIND

Notes for next Senate debate:

- Reach out to Senator Breemu about new mining laws.
- Talk about new Separatist threat.
- Settle trade dispute.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION


Filename	Senate Meeting.txt
Size (Bytes)	148
Modified Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:02:36.465 PM
Accessed Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:02:42.357 PM
Created Date/Time	12/6/2024 9:02:42.356 PM
MD5 Hash	a5df923244d97e5a80a9a7e655a62ee6
SHA1 Hash	dcc551e1abddb7dfdb5b5f5978f422a0b2520fbd
Artifact type	 Text Documents

Figure 5.4 – Senate Meeting notes

Recycling Bin

During examination of the Recycle Bin, two notable documents were recovered, “New Apprentice.tx” and “Chosen One.txt”, shown in Figure 5.5 and 5.6. The presence of these files in the Recycle Bin suggests an attempt to delete potentially incriminating information. The New Apprentice.txt document outlines plans for recruiting or training a new Sith apprentice. While the Chosen One.txt contains references to an individual believed to fulfill an ancient prophecy. I believe both documents are highly relevant to the investigation.

OPERATING SYSTEM	253
\$LogFile Analysis	243
File System Information	1
LNK Files	5
Recycle Bin	4
CUSTOM	2
Carved Archives (content not searched)	1
File Signature Mismatch (Picture)	1

New Apprentice.txt	
Original Path	E:\Users\Palpatine\Documents\New Apprentice.txt
Type	File
Current Location	\$R2SVVNE.txt
File Size (Bytes)	286
Artifact type	Recycle Bin
Item ID	257
EVIDENCE INFORMATION	
Source	Palpatine.E01 - Entire Disk (Microsoft NTFS, 6.35 GB) Spalpatine\Recycle.Bin S-1-5-21-346071495-2028852961-265169757-1001\I2SVVNE.txt

Figure 5.5 – New Apprentice.txt in the recycling bin

Chosen One.txt

ARTIFACT INFORMATION	
File Name	Chosen One.txt
Deleted Date/Time	11/26/2024 8:23:44.305 PM
Security Identifier	S-1-5-21-346071495-2028852961-265169757-1001
Original Path	E:\Users\Palpatine\Desktop\Chosen One.txt
Type	File
Current Location	\$R015Q24.txt
File Size (Bytes)	532
Artifact type	Recycle Bin
Item ID	258
EVIDENCE INFORMATION	
Source	Palpatine.E01 - Entire Disk (Microsoft NTFS, 6.35 GB) Spalpatine\Recycle.Bin S-1-5-21-346071495-2028852961-265169757-1001\I015Q24.txt

Figure 5.6 – Chosen One.txt in the recycling bin

Encryption & Credentials

In the Encryption and Credentials section of the analysis, one file was identified as being encrypted, but attempts to decrypt it were unsuccessful due to issues with properly downloading the encrypted file. However, during the review, a separate document titled “Chancellors Agenda.pdf” was found to contain the phrase “LongLiveTheSith!123” on the very last line in response to “My Future Plans:”, and it is structured like a password. This information could be relevant to future documents with passwords.

The screenshot displays the Magnet AXIOM Examine v8.9.0.43012 - FinalExam interface. The left sidebar shows the 'ALL EVIDENCE' section with 3,202 items, and the 'REFINED RESULTS' section with 9 items. The 'WEB RELATED' section has 57 items, 'MEDIA' has 2,796 items, 'DOCUMENTS' has 30 items, 'APPLICATION USAGE' has 1 item, 'OPERATING SYSTEM' has 304 items, and 'ENCRYPTION & CREDENTIALS' has 2 items. The 'CUSTOM' section has 3 items. The 'ENCRYPTION & CREDENTIALS' section is selected, showing a list of 2 items. The main pane displays the details for the file 'M1033DSK.CSD' (Palpatine.E01). The details include:

- File Name: M1033DSK.CSD
- File Size (Bytes): 29,798,100
- Detected File Type: Encrypted Container
- File Created Date/Time: 7/13/2009 9:06:24.131 PM
- File Modified Date/Time: 6/10/2009 9:36:17.113 PM
- File Accessed Date/Time: 7/13/2009 9:06:24.131 PM
- MDS Hash: 10d394eb7fda56479bab31ba52540af0
- SHA1 Hash: 2465538bd73210c4c3577829616e78ac350c2275
- Artifact type: Encrypted Files
- Item ID: 1374

The right pane shows the 'TAGS AND COMMENTS' section, which is currently empty. The bottom status bar indicates the time zone is UTC+00:00.

Conclusion

This forensic examination was conducted in line with proper digital evidence handling procedures, beginning with the imaging of the suspect, Chancellor Palpatine's, device using FTK Imager. The imaging was performed in a controlled lab environment using a verified-clean hard drive to ensure the preservation of the original evidence. MD5 and SHA1 hash values were recorded and verified. This confirms that the image remained unaltered throughout the investigation process.

Although no Windows registry hives were recovered from the image, a significant amount of user-created content and system artifacts provided insight into Chancellors Palpatine activities. Some of the most incriminating pieces of evidence recovered were documents that directly linked Chancellor Palpatine to Sith related ideology and operations. These documents consist of the "Chancellors Agenda.pdf" document outlining daily schedules and long-term plans. The most revealing line was at the end saying, "My Future Plans: LongLiveTheSith!123". This phrase not only suggests allegiance to the Sith Order but also appears to function as a potential password. The next document was "New Apprentice.txt" document that was recovered from the Recycle Bin making note at who Chancellor Palpatine wants to become his new Sith apprentice. The "Chosen One.txt" was also recovered from the Recycle Bin and this document discusses the individual who is believed to be a prophesied chosen one. This suspect had the intent to sway the Chosen One. As for the Media files, dozens of images showed known Jedi, battle plans, the Death Star blueprints, and other visual content directly related to strategic planning.

The recovered items present Chancellor Palpatine as the central figure behind the Sith plans. These documents show premeditation, coordinated conspiracies, strategic political planning, and efforts to destroy key files.

Appendix of Terms

Active File Review – A process in digital forensics where non-deleted files is examined for relevant content.

AXIOM – A digital forensics software developed by Magnet Forensics used to recover, analyze, and report on digital evidence from devices.

Clone Wars – A fictional galactic conflict within the Star Wars universe.

Credentials – Usernames and passwords used to access secured systems, files, and applications.

Digital Forensics – The practice of collecting, preserving, analyzing, and digital evidence in a legally manner.

Encryption – The process of converting data into a coded form to prevent unauthorized access.

Evidence Image – An exact bit-for-bit copy of a storage device used to ensure the original data is not altered.

Forensic Explorer – Digital forensic examination tool that allows investigators to analyze data from forensic images.

FTK Imager – A tool that is used to create forensic images of digital storage devices.

Hash Value – A unique string generated by applying a hash function to data.

MD5 – A common hash function that produces a 128-bit hash value.

NTuser.dat – A window registry file that stores user-specific configurations.

Registry Hive – Stores system and user configuration data. Examples, SAM, SYSTEM, SOFTWARE, and NTuser.dat.

Security Accounts Manager (SAM) – A registry hive in Windows. Stores user account information.

SHA1 – A hash function that produces a 160-bit hash value.

Strategic Political Planning – Deliberate actions aimed at manipulating political systems.