mic

CSAW 2021 CTF

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My Epson InkJet printer is mysteriously printing blank
pages. Is it trying to tell me something?

⬇ scan.pdf

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Contents

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Writeup by: GoProSlowYo

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Writeup URL: GitHub

```
1   My Epson InkJet printer is mysteriously printing blank pages. Is it
       trying to tell me something?
```

Initial Research

The text seems to reference the printer "telling" us something. This 'something' is `MIC`'s in the printer page.

> Tiny dots are embedded on printouts by modern printers. Markings like these were used to trace NSA documents leaked to The Intercept by Reality Winner
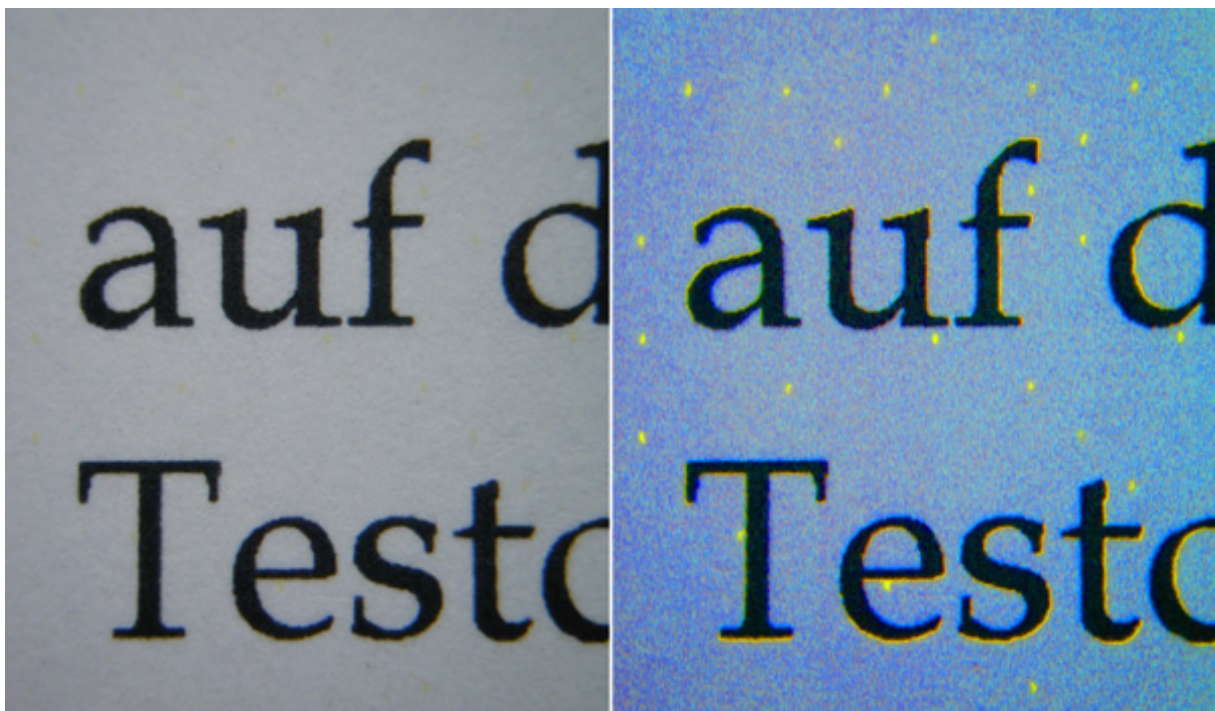

Figure 1: Yellow Dots: tiny yellow dots on the print-out representing the hidden code of an HP Color LaserJet 3700.

Getting the Flag from the Printed Pages

We wrote a quick one liner to dump the flag:

```
1  $ pdftoppm scan.pdf scan -png; for x in {01..34}; do echo -n $(python -
     c "print(chr($(deda_parse_print /home/kali/ctf/csaw21/mic/scan-$x.
     png | grep serial | cut -d '-' -f2 | sed 's/^0*//')))"); done
2  flag{watchoutforthepoisonedcoffee}
```


Victory

Submit the flag and claim the points:

flag{watchoutforthepoisonedcoffee}