



This one with the right knowledge on what to look for is quite easy to spot.

On the surface this can take some digging but we will show how to find the 15 packets that create the flag.

I am not going to dig into all the rabbit holes I went down first, before I stumbled across this odd item that made it stick out like a sore thumb. (looking at protocol hierarchy, DNS tunneling, etc.)

The key to solving this challenge is to look at Conversations, and it is not the most or least conversations, it was a one-way conversation that had traffic going in one direction.

Filter on Packets B -> A and this is really easy to spot some odd stuff going on here.

Ethernet	IPv4 · 33	IPv6	TCP · 71	UDP · 138							
Address A	Address B	Packets	Bytes	Packets A → B	Bytes A → B	Packets B → A	Bytes B → A	Rel Start	Duration	Bits/s A → B	Bits/s B → A
192.168.128.1	224.0.0.251	1	85	1	85	0	0	75.195912	0.0000	—	
10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	15	840	15	840	0	0	39.284915	14.0112	479	
10.200.2.3	10.200.2.7	2	936	1	592	1	344	174.124246	0.0097	488 k	
192.168.100.2	192.168.100.6	2	936	1	592	1	344	187.016501	0.0106	448 k	
10.200.2.7	216.58.194.131	6	388	4	264	2	124	32.615016	23.4814	89	

Line two above has 15 packets sent and 0 received. Filter on this conversation and our answer is there somewhere.

In the Identification field of the TCP packet is our flag:

ip.addr==10.200.2.6 && ip.addr==104.236.250.248								
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Request URI	Identification	Info
1310	39.28491...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6600 (26112)	29465 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1311	40.28538...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6c00 (27648)	24866 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1326	41.28620...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6100 (24832)	44038 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1381	42.28729...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6700 (26368)	24851 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1441	43.28998...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x7b00 (31488)	61718 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1489	44.29072...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x3200 (12800)	32267 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1649	45.29118...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x4500 (17664)	48896 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
1886	46.29171...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6100 (24832)	51459 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2047	47.29221...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x7300 (29440)	38167 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2081	48.29253...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x7900 (30976)	49177 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2135	49.29320...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x3400 (13312)	36353 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2212	50.29395...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x4d00 (19712)	13852 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2398	51.29499...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x6500 (25856)	21784 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2514	52.29558...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x7d00 (32000)	32019 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0
2542	53.29609...	10.200.2.6	104.236.250.248	TCP	56		0x0a00 (2560)	61462 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=512 Len=0

Identification: 0x6600 (26112)	
> Flags: 0x0000	
...0 0000 0000 0000 = Fragment offset: 0	
Time to live: 64	
Protocol: TCP (6)	
Header checksum: 0xa41d [validation disabled]	

0000	00 04 00 01 00 06 08 00 27 03 8f 7c 00 00 08 00
0010	45 00 00 28 66 00 00 00 40 06 a4 1d 0a c8 02 06	E..(f...@.....
0020	68 ec fa f8 73 19 00 50 89 1d 00 00 00 00 00 00	h...s...P.....
0030	50 02 02 00 40 a9 00 00	P...@...

This displays one character at a time in ASCII on the right-hand side.

Flag: flag{2Easy4Me}

Covert Channel – Busy Day

150

Just a normal day at the office. Get to work looking at that useless traffic!

Unlock Hint for 10 points

traffic.pc...

You can start by looking at the protocol hierarchy and conversations as good practice to start off with on here, but we will see that most of the traffic is encrypted and we will look at that last if we have to look into it.

Let's start off by looking at the low hanging fruit of DNS traffic:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
701	13.85783...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	142	Standard query response 0xca87 AAAA encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com AAAA 2607:f8b0:4000:816::200e
848	15.06472...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	89	Standard query 0xb4bc A encrypted-vtbn1.gstatic.com
849	15.06475...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	89	Standard query 0x5943 AAAA encrypted-vtbn1.gstatic.com
850	15.34764...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	132	Standard query response 0xb4bc A encrypted-vtbn1.gstatic.com A 172.217.9.14
851	15.34766...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	144	Standard query response 0x5943 AAAA encrypted-vtbn1.gstatic.com AAAA 2607:f8b0:4000:806::200e
966	17.05963...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	79	Standard query 0xecb8 A team.5charlie.com
967	17.05972...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	79	Standard query 0xa6ba AAAA team.5charlie.com
968	17.09286...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	112	Standard query response 0xecb8 A team.5charlie.com A 52.222.72.221
969	17.11597...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	161	Standard query response 0xa6ba AAAA team.5charlie.com SOA dns1.registrar-servers.com
981	17.27655...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	89	Standard query 0x30d0 A ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org
982	17.27658...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	89	Standard query 0xd9d5 AAAA ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org
984	17.29570...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	234	Standard query response 0x30d0 A ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org CNAME ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org.edgesu
985	17.29582...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	286	Standard query response 0xd9d5 AAAA ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org CNAME ocsip.int-x3.letsencrypt.org.edge
1070	17.80116...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	81	Standard query 0xd0c1 A use.fontawesome.com
1071	17.80122...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	81	Standard query 0xc3c3 AAAA use.fontawesome.com
1072	17.80160...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	82	Standard query 0xbcd4 A fonts.googleapis.com
1073	17.80163...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	82	Standard query 0x09d6 AAAA fonts.googleapis.com
1074	17.81893...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	228	Standard query response 0xc3c3 AAAA use.fontawesome.com CNAME fontawesome-cdn.fonticons.netdna-cdn.co
1075	17.81895...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	167	Standard query response 0xd0c1 A use.fontawesome.com CNAME fontawesome-cdn.fonticons.netdna-cdn.co
1101	17.83496...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	118	Standard query response 0xbcd4 A fonts.googleapis.com A 216.58.194.138
1104	17.83521...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	130	Standard query response 0x09d6 AAAA fonts.googleapis.com AAAA 2607:f8b0:4000:80d::200a
1491	24.02320...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	74	Standard query 0x3b9e A www.ltdan.me
1492	24.26117...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	112	Standard query response 0x3b9e A www.ltdan.me CNAME ltdan-me A 104.236.250.248

> Frame 1491: 74 bytes on wire (592 bits), 74 bytes captured (592 bits) on interface any, id 0
> Linux cooked capture
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.200.2.6, Dst: 192.168.17.1
> User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 39565, Dst Port: 53
> Domain Name System (query)

0000	00 04 00 01 00 06 08 00	27 de 73 45 00 00 08 00sE....
0010	45 00 00 3a 33 93 40 00	40 11 28 a9 0a c8 02 06	E...3@: @:.....
0020	c0 a8 11 01 9a 8d 00 35	00 26 de ae 3b 9e 01 00S- &.:...
0030	00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00	03 77 77 77 05 6c 74 64www.ltd
0040	61 6e 02 6d 65 00 00 01	00 01	an-me....

Domain Name System: Protocol

Packets: 8822 · Displayed: 266 (3.0%)

This cuts it down to 3% of the total packets.

Here we can see the usual stuff that we can ignore like google and such.

Some queries that seem interesting to look at are 5charlie.com, fontawesome.com, ltdan.me, flag, and flag.com

I started down flag and flag.com and quickly realized that they were not of interest, just a couple of pages temporarily moved. This is a Red Herring.

There were tons of packets sent to the 5charlie server, but none were of interest, so that also was a red herring.

The next one of interest was the ltdan.me, and the ip of 104.236.250.248, if we look around this, we see some interesting things happening.

1491	24.02320...	10.200.2.6	192.168.17.1	DNS	74	Standard query 0x3b9e A www.ltdan.me
1492	24.26117...	192.168.17.1	10.200.2.6	DNS	112	Standard query response 0x3b9e A www.ltdan.me CNAME ltdan.me A 104.236.250.248

ip.src == 104.236.250.248

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1535	35.01840...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	80 → 1234 [SYN, ACK] Seq
1561	35.80784...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP ACKed unseen segme
1572	36.80353...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
1596	37.80690...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP ACKed unseen segme
1631	38.80310...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP ACKed unseen segme
1651	39.80227...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
1653	40.85826...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP ACKed unseen segme
1655	41.81154...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
1657	43.00967...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
1674	43.80789...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
1923	44.82027...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2092	45.81039...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2121	46.82072...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2134	47.81704...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2151	48.81929...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2169	49.80641...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2171	51.00056...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2173	51.81785...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2175	52.81839...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2246	53.81283...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n
2256	54.81885...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP ACKed unseen segme
3344	55.82753...	104.236.250...	10.200.2.6	TCP	62	[TCP Previous segment n

Acknowledgment number (raw): 1711276033

0110 = Header Length: 24 bytes (6)

Flags: 0x012 (SYN, ACK)

000. = Reserved: Not set

...0 = Nonce: Not set

.... 0... = Congestion Window Reduced (CWR): Not set

.... .0.. = ECN-Echo: Not set

.... ..0. = Urgent: Not set

0000 00 00 00 01 00 06 52 54 00 12 35 00 00 00 08 00RT ..5.....

0010 45 00 00 2c 1b d0 00 00 ff 06 2f 49 68 ec fa f8 E.,,...../Ih...

0020 0a c8 02 06 00 50 04 d2 00 04 a9 61 66 00 00 01P...af...

0030 60 12 80 00 92 da 00 00 02 04 05 b4 00 00~.....

This shows the raw value of the acknowledgment number (tcp.ack raw). 4 bytes

Flag is in the sequence numbers on the ip.dst or acknowledgement number for ip.src.

Flag: flag{BouncinPackets!}