SquirrelMail for Webmail

Quick and Dirty
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for AfNOG 2010

Background

- Started in 1998 by two brothers Luke and Nathan Ehresman

- Named after squirrels for their agility

- www.squirrelmail.org

- It supports IMAP and SMTP protocols and can be setup to support a wide range of MTA and implementations

- Its written in PHP

Why Squirrelmail

- Squirrelmail is stable and scales well in most environments

- Continues to have features support in plugins including password change and server-side filters

- Its fast with options header caching and supports server side indexing – works well with Dovecot and Cyrus IMAP

- It has a light interface due to php

- Additional resources would be required to make it scale for large scale implementations

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Summary on Apache

- In configuring apache the main file is /usr/local/etc/apache22/httpd.conf
  - Uncommenting all the required includes are done here
  - This file is also responsible for loading library module e.g php
  - Additional system wide configurations are done here.
  - More specific configs should be done in includes files
- Virtual-hosts are defined in the /usr/local/etc/apache22/extra/httpd-vhosts.conf
- SSL and Virtual-hosts are defined in the /usr/local/etc/apache22/extra/httpd-ssl.conf
- More specific configs including apache directory access permissions should be done in the /usr/local/etc/apache22/Includes/*.conf
- Installation of Squirrelmail will require PHP to be preinstalled.

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Installing Squirrelmail

- PHP must have been installed and working for Squirrelmail to work

- A Resource Record for **"webmail"** subdomain should be created in your DNS Servers

- Squirrelmail is installed from ports

  $ cd /usr/ports/mail/squirrelmail

  $ make install clean

Configuring – Step I

- Squirrelmail is a web-mail service

- First step is to do the virtual hosts on apache.

- Since we require and want to force everyone to go through an SSL interface we set it up as follows;

  *<VirtualHost *:80>*

  ServerName webmail.name.afnogws.gh

  RewriteEngine on

  RewriteCond %{HTTPS} ^off$

  RewriteCond %{HTTP_HOST} (.)*

  RewriteRule ^(.)/? https://%1/$1 [L,R]*

  </VirtualHost>

- **CAVEAT:** SSL does not work in Name Based Virtual Hosting environment only in an IP Based Virtual Hosting. On a shared server it will generate name warnings

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Configuration – Step II

- Second Step step is to enable directory access on apache

  $ vi /usr/local/etc/apache22/Includes/ webmail.conf

- Inside the file

  <Directory /usr/local/www/squirrelmail/>

  Order deny,allow

  Allow from all

  </Directory>

Configuring – Step III

- Create the virtual host entry in httpd-ssl.conf

  $vi /usr/local/etc/apache22/extra/httpd-ssl.conf

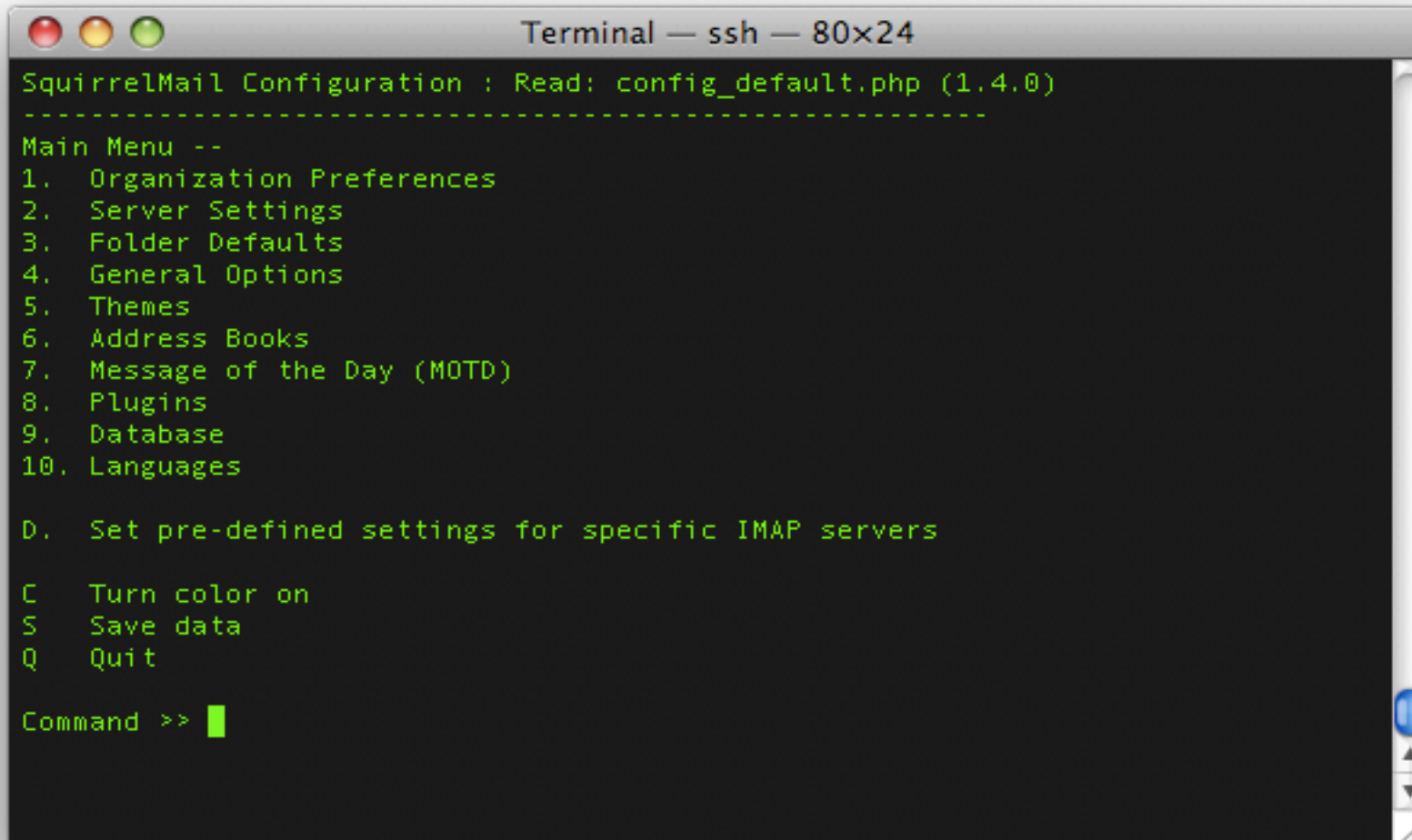- Make entries and provided in Virtual SSL Host Config exercise example.

- Restart apache

  $ apachectl restart

Configuring - Step IV

- SquirrelMail has its own configure options

    - $ cd /usr/local/www/squirrelmail/

    - $ ./configure

```
Terminal — ssh — 80x24

SquirrelMail Configuration : Read: config_default.php (1.4.0)
---------------------------------------------------------------
Main Menu --
1.   Organization Preferences
2.   Server Settings
3.   Folder Defaults
4.   General Options
5.   Themes
6.   Address Books
7.   Message of the Day (MOTD)
8.   Plugins
9.   Database
10.  Languages

D.   Set pre-defined settings for specific IMAP servers

C    Turn color on
S    Save data
Q    Quit

Command >>
```

1. Organizational Preferences

2. Server Settings

- Select 2 for Server settings and 1 to change domain. Domain is "name.afnog.org.rw"
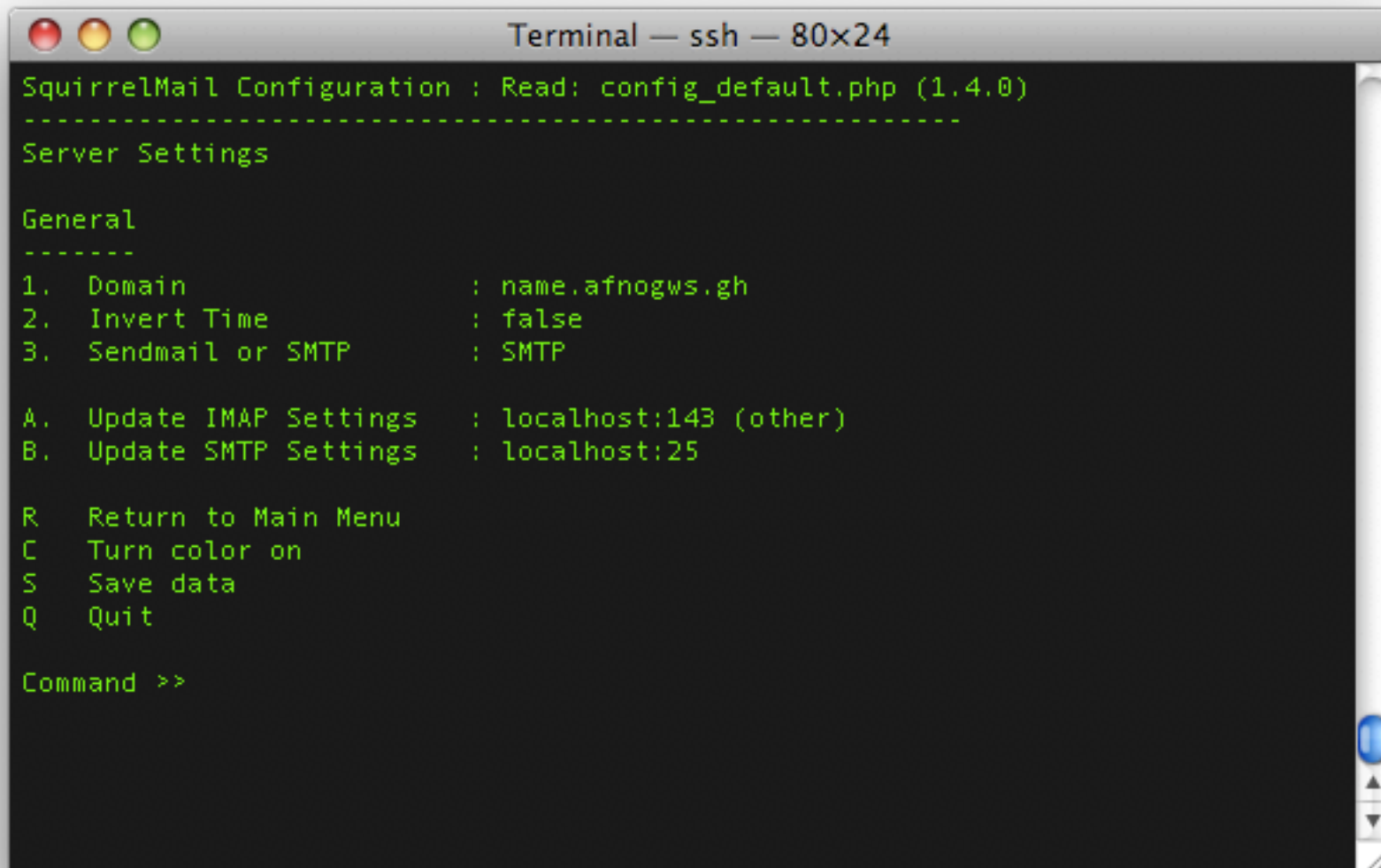
```
SquirrelMail Configuration : Read: config_default.php (1.4.0)
---------------------------------------------------------------
Server Settings

General
-------
1.   Domain                  : name.afnogws.gh
2.   Invert Time             : false
3.   Sendmail or SMTP        : SMTP

A.   Update IMAP Settings    : localhost:143 (other)
B.   Update SMTP Settings    : localhost:25

R    Return to Main Menu
C    Turn color on
S    Save data
Q    Quit

Command >>
```

D. Set Predefined IMAP Servers

Other Options

- Folder options: - directory default features and behavior of squirrelmail

- General Options: - Server side activities and optimizations

- Themes : - Look and Feel

- Addressbook : - Create or configure LDAP AB

- Plugins: - Install additional plugin features

- Database: - Define database for AddrBook

- Languages: - Change Languages

Configuring – Step V

- Once finished with the menu configuration

- Open the browser as per the configuration it should be
  http://webmail.domain.afnog.org.rw/

- It should redirect to https

- Logon using the username and password created in the pop3 & IMAP exercise.

Happy Webmailing