

MOSAIC: little bug (invalid requests)

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- *From:* JF Mezei <jfmezei.spamnot@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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This has been happening on and off (irregular and not reproducible at will, but happens enough that you remember it). This was happening both with 3.8 and now with 4.0

Essentially, double clicking the middle button will open a link in a new window. But sometimes, the request sent to the server is invalid. A reload then works.

For instance,

<http://webinfo.parl.gc.ca/MembersOfParliament/MainMPsCompleteList.aspx?TimePeriod=Current&Language>

gives a list of elected MPs and when you double middle click on an MP's name, you get his profile/contact info in a new window. In order to reproduce the problem, I have to open perhaps 5 or 6 windows before it happens. And I have seen this happen on many different web sites over the years. Don't know why it happens and have no information on what triggers the problem. It truly seems random.

With a FAILED request TCPTRACE reveals:

```
0B00000A B874063C 00409CAC 68000045 0000 E..h..@.<.t.....
5BD6EB05 019A3B6C 500081C8 | 6B52C5C0 0010 ..Rk...PI;.....[
6D654D2F 20544547 | 00008766 00F01850 0020 P...f...GET /Mem
746E656D 61696C72 6150664F 73726562 0030 bersOfParliament
3F787073 612E504D 656C6966 6F72502F 0040 /ProfileMP.aspx?
6175676E 614C2639 31343837 3D79654B 0050 Key=78419&Langua
0A0D0A0D 453D6567 0060 ge=E....
```

Note that the request has just one line followed by a blank line and does not contain a Host: line which is pretty well required these days for the web server to know what web site it needs to serve.

In the new window, the following is displayed apparently by MOSAIC:

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ERROR

Requested document (URL

<http://webinfo.parl.gc.ca/MembersOfParliament/ProfileMP.aspx?Key=78419&Language=E>)
could not be accessed.

The information server either is not accessible or is refusing to serve
the document
to you.

The URL in the URL: field of the new window seems correct. a RELOAD of
the page works and this is what the outbound packet looks like:
(obviously, the request is much more complete).

```
0B00000A 4071063C 0040AFAC CD030045 0000 E.....@.<.q@....  
367C31E7 0168036D 500083C8 | 6B52C5C0 0010 ..Rk...Pm.h..1|6  
6D654D2F 20544547 | 0000EBD1 00F01850 0020 P.....GET /Mem  
746E656D 61696C72 6150664F 73726562 0030 bersOfParliament  
3F787073 612E504D 656C6966 6F72502F 0040 /ProfileMP.aspx?  
6175676E 614C2639 31343837 3D79654B 0050 Key=78419&Langua  
410A0D30 2E312F50 54544820 453D6567 0060 ge=E HTTP/1.0..A  
69746163 696C7070 61203A74 70656363 0070 ccept: applicati  
74616369 6C707061 202C6C6D 782F6E6F 0080 on/xml, applicat  
61202C6C 6D782B6C 6D746878 2F6E6F69 0090 ion/xhtml+xml, a  
6D74682D 782F6E6F 69746163 696C7070 00A0 pplication/x-htm  
682F6E6F 69746163 696C7070 61202C6C 00B0 l, application/h  
74202C6C 6D782F74 78657420 2C6C6D74 00C0 tml, text/xml, t  
74786574 202C6C6D 74682D78 2F747865 00D0 ext/x-html, text  
6D74682F 74786574 202C6E69 616C702F 00E0 /plain, text/htm  
202C6369 7361622F 6F696475 61202C6C 00F0 l, audio/basic,  
6D69202C 66666961 2D782F6F 69647561 0100 audio/x-aiff, im  
782F6567 616D6920 2C706D62 2F656761 0110 age/bmp, image/x  
736D2D78 2F656761 6D69202C 706D622D 0120 -bmp, image/x-ms  
0D666967 2F656761 6D69202C 706D622D 0130 -bmp, image/gif.  
6A2F6567 616D6920 3A747065 6363410A 0140 .Accept: image/j  
6765706A 702F6567 616D6920 2C676570 0150 peg, image/pjpeg  
616D6920 2C676E70 2F656761 6D69202C 0160 , image/png, ima  
2F656761 6D69202C 676E702D 782F6567 0170 ge/x-png, image/  
6F702D78 2F656761 6D69202C 66666974 0180 tiff, image/x-po  
69202C70 616D796E 612D656C 62617472 0190 rtable-anymap, i  
2D656C62 6174726F 702D782F 6567616D 01A0 mage/x-portable-  
2D782F65 67616D69 202C7061 6D746962 01B0 bitmap, image/x-  
70616D79 6172672D 656C6261 74726F70 01C0 portable-graymap  
62617472 6F702D78 2F656761 6D69202C 01D0 , image/x-portab  
6567616D 69202C70 616D7869 702D656C 01E0 le-pixmap, image  
67722F65 67616D69 202C6267 722D782F 01F0 /x-rgb, image/rg  
0A0D6D62 782D782F 6567616D 69202C62 0200 b, image/x-xbm..  
2D782F65 67616D69 203A7470 65636341 0210 Accept: image/x-  
782F6567 616D6920 2C70616D 74696278 0220 xbitmap, image/x
```

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2F656761 6D69202C 70616D78 6970782D 0230 -xpixmap, image/
6477782D 782F6567 616D6920 2C647778 0240 xwd, image/x-xwd
6F646E69 77782D78 2F656761 6D69202C 0250 , image/x-xwindo
65706D2F 6F656469 76202C70 6D756477 0260 wdump, video/mpe
69746B63 6975712F 6F656469 76202C67 0270 g, video/quickti
2F6E6F69 74616369 6C707061 202C656D 0280 me, application/
6C707061 202C7470 69726373 74736F70 0290 postscript, appl
70706120 2C666470 2F6E6F69 74616369 02A0 ication/pdf, app
202C6976 642D782F 6E6F6974 6163696C 02B0 lication/x-dvi,
202C3232 38636672 2F656761 7373656D 02C0 message/rfc822,
3A6E6F69 7463656E 6E6F430A 0D2A2F2A 02D0 */*..Connection:
6573550A 0D657669 6C412D70 65654B20 02E0 Keep-Alive..Use
736F4D5F 534D5620 3A746E65 67412D72 02F0 r-Agent: VMS_Mos
4F3B6669 746F4D28 20302E34 2F636961 0300 aic/4.0 (Motif;O
20584156 20322E37 5620534D 566E6570 0310 penVMS V7.2 VAX
7762696C 20202941 3030362D 30303034 0320 4000-600A) libw
0A0D6369 61736F4D 5F32312E 322F7777 0330 ww/2.12_Mosaic..
61702E6F 666E6962 6577203A 74736F48 0340 Host: webinfo.pa
736E6574 78450A0D 61632E63 672E6C72 0350 rl.gc.ca..Extens
616D6F44 2D796669 746F4E20 3A6E6F69 0360 ion: Notify-Doma
0A0D6E6F 69746369 72747365 522D6E69 0370 in-Restriction..
6F697372 65562420 3A326569 6B6F6F43 0380 Cookie2: \$Versio
41203A65 696B6F6F 430A0D22 31223D6E 0390 n="1"..Cookie: A
64496E6F 69737365 535F5445 4E2E5053 03A0 SP.NET_SessionId
34636434 75326635 347A6377 626C343D 03B0 =4lbwcz45f2u4dc4
0A 0D0A0D64 61686834 67707335 03C0 5spg4hhad....