

URL Authorzation Problem

Source:

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I have created a web application that is utilizing Forms Authentication and URL Authorzation for application security.

The problem arises when an authenticated user (the authentication ticket cookie has been set) attempts to access a sub directory or file where I have explicitly denied them access. For example the code in the root web.config is as follows:

```
<authentication mode="Forms">
  <forms loginUrl="authAgent.aspx"
    name="csgOperationsAuthTicket"
    protection="All"
    timeout="60"
    path="/"
  />
</authentication>

<authorization>
  <deny users="?" />
</authorization>
```

A web.config created in a protected directory called "protected" has the following authorization tags:

```
<authorization>
  <allow users="admin" />
  <deny users="*" />
</authorization>
```

Now if i attempt to visit a page within the "protected" sub directory the forms authentication ticket is created for the user however if i attempt to access the directory as any other user but "admin" I do not get an access denied page or message. Instead it stays at the loginUrl page (seems to reload over and over). If I do access the directory as "admin" everything works fine.

Is there a way to display an access denied page to the user?

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Note that when I use Windows authentication a nice access denied page is displayed. If you try to use forms authentication the user is left hanging. This cannot be by Microsoft's design can it? Is it a bug?

Any insight is **GREATLY** appreciated.

Thanks