INTRODUCTION

Welcome to The Rough Guide to the U.K. This handy guide will tell you what you need to know to get around in the British Isles. It won't give you nice demographics on the population---but it will tell you the cheapest place to eat and drink, give you info on the places to see and avoid and what you must or mustn't do in each area. This is an exciting time in the U.K.---especially with the recent downturn of the military government and the return of the monarchy. This is a country in transition, and while we try to keep all information within this publication, in fact, some articles may seem to contradict each other. This is because of the difficulty of finding out what's going on in these areas. We have tried to separate the "hustle from the bustle" but where this is impossible we have included as much information as we can, and leave you to judging for yourself.

Therefore, we accept no responsibility for loss, injury or inconvenience as a result of information contained in this guide. Finally, in the words of Britain's legendary bard, Spinal Tap, "Have a good time, all the time" and remember if you can't be good---be careful.

INTRODUCTION: A Brief Recent History Of The U.K.

The United Kingdom has been going through some turbulent times recently. The Scottish uprising in 1962 started the rot; as the MLA cracked down on resistance, but found that the tighter their rules became, the more the resistance grew. People staffed-off as conscientious objectors argued that, while they'd gladly join up to defend their country, suppressing the Scots was not what they had in mind. The influx of refugees into NORWESTMARLATH--the empyrean city that is connected with the allegedly shifty relationship between the various military districts has also seen a rise in resistance.

Lord Fairbanks, and Lord Edwards from NORWESTMARLATH started campaigning for greater help from the other Council members. It was not forthcoming. The Norwegians, once the leaders of the council, had now become dictators. They started relocating the transients out of their district. Other council members protested, but Fairbanks said he had no choice. Their ruling was supported by the council.

The other members stated that they all had their duties and said that Fairbanks was looking after his district. They then refused to handle the refugees and returned them to NORWESTMARLATH. Fairbanks closed his borders, leading to refugee camps along the NORWESTMARLATH/MIDMAREMARLATH border.

At this point Lord Hill made an impassioned plea to the others not to forget the Scottish command. The Council resolved to send reinforcements to the Scottish theater, and also to Northern Ireland where violence had increased in response to internalockeying on the Council. To counteract MLA and MLA intransigence the council also declared the formation of a Demilitarized zone around Ulster.

When Fairbanks only sent a handful of men north, claiming he needed the rest to try and stop the flow of refugees, many soldiers, deserted, stating that they didn't want to fight their brethren. The Council started bickering again as to what to do---abandon Scotland, return to a version of pre-gassing in order to bolster their dwindling armies, or ask the U.C. for help (God forbid). While the debate raged, another try landed in the ointment---a pretender to the throne, Victoria, emerged, reminding the Britons of their glory and life in the "good old days."

With a campaign lacking the heady days of Elizabeth I or the original Victoria, and the British Empire, the Restoration movement gathered momentum. Realizing that the MLA was stretched to the breaking point, the Pretender made a plan to link up with an American revolution. This plan was greeted with an impassioned speech that was well received. Her campaign platform apart from bringing back the "good old days" also stated that Britons shouldn't oppose other Britons. At first, the actual campaign was small--word of mouth, slogans sprayed on walls, pirate radio and TV broadcasts, and the occasional innkeeper insert on millions of bills.

Again, the Council bickered about how to combat the threat of a Monarchical rebellion, and their inaction enabled the campaign of civil disobedience to gain a foothold in many of the major conurbations.

Major Corps started to get behind the campaign--some covertly, others overtly. The UK, market had already been run with an iron rod by the MLA and a few companies could get a foothold. They sensed a chance to open up a market that had been denied by the Council, and threw their lot behind the Restoration. One or two Corps decided to back the MLA in the hope they would be awarded a lucrative defense contract once the Restoration failed. The major backers for the Restoration were the Imperial Metropolitan Industries and the Hailant Corporation who, while they were main contractors to the MLA and therefore "guaranteed" were always mindful of the Council's power and ability to withdraw contracts and virtually run companies overnight. They also felt protected from other markets they might wish to exploit, and land we mean.

Areas like North Wales, the Borders, parts of the Wash and Cornwall became totally independent from the Council, who found themselves almost powerless to react as a cohesive unit. Then the Council fell apart---it became every man for himself.

Some set up kings of their regions, whilst Hill and McKenney threw in with the Monarchs hoping they would find the help and credibility they needed. Other areas to throw in with the Restoration...
**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Those wishing to enter the United Kingdom must have the following:

- A valid visa
- No criminal record
- A valid Tourist Ticket
- A Corporate or Military Pass

Visa requirements vary depending on which country you are from but are relatively easy to obtain for citizens of the United States. The actual requirements are the same as those needed to visit any member state of the E.E.C. In fact, for those wishing to visit Britain from the E.E.C. or vice versa, no further permits are required.

If you are entering the country for employment purposes then you must have a job already lined up in which case your employer will give you a pass that enables you to enter the country. This pass will, depending on your job, allow you to move around the country in varying degrees.

Those of you who are on holiday then the English Tourist Board can provide with a Tourist Ticket that will give you the opportunity to visit Britain. Depending on how much you spend, the ticket will give you access to other areas of Britain.

There are, of course, other means of getting into the country—sniffing for instance if just good old bribery but be very careful if you intend to use nefarious means to enter the country.

With full ceremony at Westminster Abbey, the Monarchy was restored to Britain for the second time in its history. Queen Victoria II announced that Lord Hill would become the first Prime Minister of the new democracy and that Lord Mackenzie had been appointed Chief of Staff to the various military services which, in turn, were to be returned to the control of the people by privatisation. Thus Lord Mackenzie became the Chairman and Managing Director of British Combined Forces, PLC., aka, BCF.

To ease the transition to the new Democracy, the Corps and the military cracked down hard by introducing a state of emergency and the same restrictions that had caused the uprising in the first place.

The MARLATHS were abolished to make way for districts based on the old kingdoms—minus Wessex, Mercia, Sussex, and Cornwall. Movement between various regions was severely restricted. This did much to calm the situation, although pockets of resistance still existed in North Wales, most areas of Scotland and parts of East Anglia.

For breaking the Restoration, the Corps demanded something in return—a lesser-fee style of government that let them do whatever they wanted within the confines of law. Of course, Lord Hill invited various corporate executives along with selected members of the general public to sit on a constitutional subcommittee whose brief was to look at the entire system of government. These various committees would report to the Democratic Government Committee—the DGC, chaired by Lord Hill, who would then approve any suggestions before passing them before Queen Victoria II for Royal assent. Finally, this tortuous process came up with a solution to the first problem—that of electing Members of Parliament.

An elected central Parliament was to be set up, but with its members coming from the local governments and the charter. Anybody could stand for a local government seat as long as they could raise the £50,000 needed for a deposit and were backed by five responsible members of the public. This means doctors, members of the law profession, members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces and ranking Corporate officials. The elections for local government were to be by the old "first past the post method" rather than any form of proportionality. This created a huge upsurge and down the country, with many saying that minorities would be left out and suppressed because they didn't have any say in government. Another committee came up with a directly-elected Parliament with proportional representation. Both suggestions were before the DGC, which, at press time had not produced its final report yet. In fact there is a growing number of political activists who say it has no intention of reporting, thus leaving both the Military and the Corps with as much inactivity as they want.

During this time, many of the old military companies were privatised—such as the Royal Ordnance Factory; food and many other local agricultural companies became part of Imperial Metropolitan Agriculture. Other companies were acquired by the Hillard Corporation.

At present the "first past the post" method is used to elect members to local government, and this method will continue until a decision is finally made regarding the overall system. Some, none happens in the U.K., and people were allowed to move around the country as long as they had the paperwork allowing them to do so. That travel was easy; many of the major roads were either in a bad state of repair or subject to a severe tax. The rail network had also been severely curtailed in a way of reducing movement, as yet no investor had come forward to get the trains moving again to many parts of the country. The skies are fairly unrestricted as long as you keep out of certain areas—after all, whoever could afford to fly must have corporate or military backing, right?

Terrorist attacks still occur—many backed by Scandinavian eco-terrorists who try to eliminate all capitalism caused by British industry. Despite all this, many companies are investing in Britain as a cheap and easy way to get into the huge EC market without having to put up with the torturous regulations that abound within the rest of the EC.

There are the beginnings of another uprising in the direct urban sprawl and poorer rural areas, as many begin to suspect this government has no intention of giving the power back to the people.

This is the state of the U.K. at the moment—the old military dictatorship has gone, but though a Queen now sits on the throne, the lot for the ordinary people is still very much the same—the rich have much and the poor have nothing.

The Monarchy

Operation Cornwall was launched by D.I.S. the Security Service to stop the short-lived MLA revolt led by King Charles III and the Royal Marines. Its job was to eliminate any possibility of the re-establishment of the monarchy by taking and terminating any possible heir to the throne. Unfortunately for the MLA, this operation was thwarted from the beginning, for after Charles's death, people with connections to the Royal family went to ground and through the determined and ruthless agents of D.I.S. eventually tracked them down. Two of the most legitimate heirs were already far from the grasp of the MLA.

Charles's brother Andrew had been a ranking member of the Royal Navy when the MLA swept to power. He had been with his brother at Devonport when the last stand of the Monarchy had taken place, and like the King, he too had been liquidated in the interests of national stability. Andrew's family were handed up and dealt with, but unlike Charles, Prince Andrew had been named before. He had divorced his first wife in 1984 and she had gone to the US with their two daughters and her financial advisor/lover. At the time, the divorce had been a bitter blow to the already unpopular Royal family and court officials had been diligent in making the separation as quiet as possible, providing a quantity of Royal treasury to assure that the Prince's former wife did not mix with the media.
This document appears to be a historical or political analysis, discussing events related to the British monarchy and the IRA (Irish Republican Army), among other topics. The text references a period of unrest and the influence of intelligence organizations. It mentions the Cartel, a group that was involved in financing and planning operations for the IRA. The text also touches on the concept of 'The Restoration,' a term used to describe a period of political transition or renewed focus on authority and control. The document seems to be part of a larger work, possibly a historical or political analysis, given the context and the references made within the text.
A S WE MENTIONED IN OUR INTRODUCTION TO THIS GUIDE THE ACTUAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO BE DECIDED ALTHOUGH THE BASIS OF GOVERNMENT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY REVERT TO SOME SORT OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY.

Britain itself is divided into sixteen Local Government Districts. Each of these districts is bordered by major access roads that are subject to a set budget from the central government. Movement between these various districts is regulated by the use of travel permits--both local and national. These permits must be presented when crossing a district border on an Access Road; however, it is possible to cross borders if you stick to minor roads, the only problem is that the roads are deliberately left unmaintained and there is always the possibility of running into a border patrol.

At the moment each local government is directly elected from constituencies within that district and holds office for a term of two years. The actual head of the district, the Administrator is appointed by the government in Westminster and is supposed-

bers and that the Germans are running it all but the Brits are quiet happy to keep it as it is, thank you very much. They get most of the benefits but at half the cost to its industry in terms of various regulations. As the European bank loan for the Detling bank, as its was nicknamed in the 90’s due to its opulent construction is based in London much of the E.C.'s monetary policy is run (quietly) by Britain. This, obviously, should not be the case as the devolution is required by the various countries saw Lord Hill to keep the truth in mind has also used the current State of Emergency to revoke the free movement of E.C. citizens. Britain only seems to let in those members who sympathize with Her views on monetary policy. Again, this is not too concerning but this has made no formal complaint yet.

Britain has good relations with the African states and has recently started an investment program in many countries—a quick look at the list shows that the states involved are the old outposts of the British Empire and, again one or two of the African states is quietly concerned.

Another area that Britain is looking towards is South America. She has started a major investment program in the former British Honduras which is beginning to worry many of the states there too.

That special relationship which the United States fostered along with the union but both the MLA and the new government has been sensible enough to keep on good terms with all of the various administrations—especially those looking for arms. Royal Enfield and Heckler & Koch, UK are, literally, making a killing in the Americas.

Britain's relations with the Far East range from good Singapore, Japan and Taiwan to bad China. The relations with China rapidly deteriorated when Chris Patton was appointed as the Governor to oversee the return to Chinese rule of Hong Kong.

His insistence of the introduction of democratic reform severely annoyed the government in Beijing. The final hand over of power in 1997 rendered scenes reminiscent of the American pull out from Saigon with people scrambling to get out of Hong Kong in any way that they could.

The heavy-handedness used by the Chinese created the problem of the Hong Kong boat people which created a major political row back home. These people were British subjects and should be allowed to enter the UK. The government only intervened when Chinese gunboats started firing on escaping ships.

The political scandal created by this whole affair was one of the reasons behind the military takeover. The MLA saw an opportunity to divert attention away from what was happening in the U.K. by forcing the issue with the Far East. Both Japan and Taiwan backed the British "humanitarian" efforts with money and supplies. Finally the U.N. had to step in to prevent a major war. The ensuing treaty allowed most of the former British subjects to settle in Taiwan, Japan and Singapore where their willingness to work at low wages was utilized in return for economic aid for China.
the Social Chapter of the Maastricht treaty in the early 1990’s its business didn’t have to worry about things like maximum working hours or minimum wages—just making large profits. While business took a downturn during the reign of the MLA, the open market along with a cheaper workforce than the rest of the EEC means that business is flooding into the country.

Another advantage is that while Britain is part of the Single Market, its business regulation is not as lax as that in the rest of Europe thereby allowing companies to expand even more. Add in many Government incentives i.e., bribes and you can see why companies are flocking to the UK—to them it’s the most attractive market in the world.

The Government is very pleased with this and says that this will bring prosperity to the country as a whole, although many pundits advocate that high company profits doesn’t help the country and that a decent wage paid so that the people can spend it on other services is what really counts.

British companies themselves have, traditionally been very aggressive business-wise and have continued to be so in all sectors of the world.

The main players are, of course, the Hillard Corporation and Imperial Metropolitan Agriculture two detail these corporations later although many others are expanding rapidly both in Europe and worldwide. In fact, many are looking toward the old British stamping grounds of Africa and the Far East as ripe for the picking—especially India with its cheap workforce and large fertile plains.

**SPECIAL NOTE: ALL PRICES HEREIN ARE EXPRESSED IN EUROBUCKS #6M**

**CORPS**

**Imperial Metropolitan Agriculture, PLC**

“**GIVING THIS DAY, YOUR DAILY BREAD.**

**Known Corporate Profile**

**Headquarters: Bristol SW 6 Connect**


**Name and Location of Principal Shareholder:** Sir Randolph Christmas KBE, Bristol, holding 31.6% of total shares.

**Employees:** Worldwide: 300,000

**Worldwide Troops Covered:** 5,000

**Equipment and Resources:** MLA has an immense amount of land to protect and is extremely well equipped to deal with any threat. MLA maintains a fleet of some 1,100 AFVs of varying class. Fifty-brh, helicopter gunships and numerous armored land vehicles. It is rumored to have several squad sets of battle-tested troops but this is as yet unproven. In addition to this military hardware MLA has twelve corporate jets. Each office has at least two heavy AVs, two helicopters and a surgery-capable infantry.

MLA has very high access to British military hardware and maintains a standard platinum premium credit account with the British Combined Forces.

**Background**

The old adage “Bread and Circuses” is one that the Martial Law Authority definitely subscribed to; they firmly believed that as long as the population was fed and entertained they would ignore, or at least be apathetic to, whatever government ruled their daily lives. In order to deal with feeding the people of the United Kingdom the MLA decided to form the Army Franchise Agricultural Development Committee which would place the country’s food requirements under nominal Army control. The committee was staffed by a group of planning experts and headed by Sir Randolph Christmas, an ambitious young MLA commissar who had a good deal of corporate experience under his belt prior to the ascension of the new government.

Christmas and his fellow committee members had a free hand to do whatever was required to keep the people fed and content, and under his guidance the ARFFRCIEV ruthlessly purged and controlled both Agrocorp and small farmer alike. Any resisting corporate effort was silenced either by seconded ARFFRCIEV troops or by life terms on the Isle of Wight Penal Colony. Of course, as the MLA corporations continued to expand the over the media these atrocities were largely unnoticed by the general public and by 2009 the committee controlled all of the country’s food requirements from production to retail distribution.

Christmas had most certainly fulfilled the mandate set for him by the MLA government and he swiftly moved to take advantage of his good standing, initiating a greater, bold plan that he had prepared long in advance. Christmas and his committee produced an ambitious report that intended the MLA to fulfill the possibility of solid revenue as well as continuing to feed the masses. He reported confidently that great trading opportunities existed if only the ARFFRCIEV could form itself into a legitimate Corporate Identity which would be acceptable to the world of commerce.

In a meeting that reportedly lasted just fifteen minutes the MLA regional commanders gave their unanimous support to his “plan for progress,” and within days Imperial Metropolitan Agriculture was formed. As an additional token of their support the MLA provided the company with a section of ARMINTAC personnel to act as a market research unit and two regiments of MLA troops complete with AV support that could form the basis of a security force, a force which Christmas had eloquently argued was necessary to secure IMA farmland from internal danger, namely, nomads. It would be, he stated unfair and unwieldy to expect MLA forces to be at the beck and call of the new corporation, especially with the many other security matters that the government had to attend to. The MLA had been totally doped and with one foul swoop nave, created a Corporate monster which they would never control and would eventually have an active hand in their ultimate destruction.

In the years that followed, more trouble was wrought by the IMA Corporate machine, to the extent that any UK business involved, however loosely, in food production and sale was potentially at its mercy. If a company peaked the interest of the IMA boardroom, it was instantly doomed, as before long security forces would descend in droves to seize company premises and equipment while cruelly efficient market intelligence agents eliminated the previous ownership. From that moment on the company becomes another asset in the IMA empire. It was more than a face saver; it was an invasion from which there was no right of appeal and no legal recourse, for the IMA carried the authority and support of the MLA.

IMA also sent Agricultural Potential Teams all over the countryside. Their job was to assess all currently under utilizes farming land and offer said assessment make a “feasible land purchase” which was yet another concession that the MLA had foolishly handed to IMA. Any land then selected, including what in some cases had been previously national parks or common pasture, was claimed by the corporation and made ready for seeding. Topographical features were lain waste by dedicated land clearing and deforestation squads, local populations found themselves evicted and moved to the rapidly growing metropolises and communities, which of course pleased the MLA who were eager to keep the U.K. population in large, easily controlled cities. With frightening speed Britain’s traditional villages all but vanished to make way for massive, flat expanses of arable farming land.

It is clear then that IMA gained assets and thus wealth for little or no investment of its own. The end result of which made the corporation extremely cash and stock rich. In the UK, it had no rivals and corporations among the major mainland Europe were wary watching it. Soon IMA was expanding its security force and doing battle with lesser Agrocorps on the international market as well. Notable corps in this period of rapid growth were the purchases of large tracts of the Canadian province of Alberta and portions of the Amazonian basin. In the latter case MLA completely wiped out the South American Agrocorps that dared oppose it. Eventually IMA did not just prey on selected U.K. corporations. As it grew more ambitious, safe behind its government mandate and support, IMA began to pillage other markets and soon no UK corporation was safe from this rubber bannon company. IMA expanded its portfolio of corporate rape with a dizzying variety of businesses, until even larger corporations as the massive Hillard Group owny now struck trading deals to avoid expensive and crippling conflicts.

Despite the fact the IMA owed its existence to the Martial Law Authority, Randolph Christmas foresaw that the government could not hold on to power plagued as it was by civil strife and nationalistic up-risings. Christmas knew that the country was being starved of overseas investment, as corporations wished to trade with a country that still had a non-corporate controlled government. But the problem was that if the MLA fell it was likely that IMA would fall with it. A clandestine meeting was held with Lawrence Hillard of the Hillard Corporation regarding the fragility of the UK government. During the meeting Hillard casually announced that his corporation had secured the safety of the remaining heirs to the throne, a deal was then struck to work together, plotting the downfall of the MLA, while protecting their own mutual existence.

The truce with the Hillard Corporation stands today with the two CEO’s reportedly good friends and good partners. Such an
Background

Sir Lawrence Hilliard, MSc, PhD, was a physicist working on the JET fusion reactor project when he developed a working form of magnetic-hydrodynamic generator (MHD) for steady norm-loss power production. From a point on the name Hilliard has become synonymous with innovation and technical excellence and the man himself heralded as the greatest scientist not to win the Nobel Prize. Using capital raised on his reputation he set up Lawrence Hilliard Innovation Ltd in January 1981 and began assembling one of the finest development teams outside of the Pacific Rim. A year after their first product, the LHI C-1000 industrial energy cell, was launched amid an avalanche of media speculation and became an overnight success.

The rest as they say is history. Renamed the Hilliard Corporation in 2001, the business continues to grow at a remarkable rate and now has interests in just about every area of the technical arena. By the end of the millennium Sir Lawrence had already achieved his first aim, namely, to break into C Magazine’s Top 100 list within 10 years, number 93 to be precise. When interviewed by the Times Business Supplement he was asked if he was satisfied with the corporation’s performance and replied “Hardly. I won’t feel that my job is done until we sit atop the food chain as the single most powerful, insidious fish in the Corporate ocean.” Do you have a time scale for this goal? “As long as I am alive to see it, if I don’t really mind, but if I was forced to put a limit on such things I would have to say ‘not more than 30 years.’”

The company has interests in just about everything, but the closer it is to the cutting edge the more likely it is that HC will be sniffing around. More than anything it acts as a holding company for its ever increasing stockpile of assets. Such assets include a larger number of smaller concerns that it has taken over. The actual number of such acquisitions is hard to calculate but the company continues its current policy it should reach around 730 by the end of the year.

The business is only successful on the World Stock Exchange because of the massive profit margins that it regularly achieves, 41.8% last year. That combined with the more generous and regular dividends earns a shareholder loyalty that is the envy of the rest of the World. As a consequence the often shady methods by which the company achieves its aims are overlooked in favor of growth. If Hilliard goes down, then so does IMA and if that happens the knock-on effects are huge on the European economy could be disastrous. Better to leave them to it and hope that they don’t come after you.

In the UK, circa 2022, only IMA is larger and it is unlikely that either will do anything to jeopardize their highly profitable relationship, at least not until they have to. Until that date the pair are content to use their combined strength to further their collective and individual aims. HC has reached 61 and are still climbing but as to whether or not they can realize their founder’s dream only the great god ‘The Market’ knows for sure.

As for Hilliard himself, what can you say. He is a genius, accomplished businessman, lothario, egomaniac, psychopath with his hands firmly inside of the throat of the British future. Like the US Marine Corps Colonel, he decides on his battle plan, gives his orders, and his army of technicians carry them out with the kind of blind loyalty that you only normally see in the military. He is a hard taskmaster who leads from the front of you. Tall of a man you had better be prepared for the consequences. The USMC has “Unfit, corps, God and Country” as their creed where white employees of HC have simply “Hillard and the Queen.”

Sir Ranolph Christmas, KBE

Sir Ranolph is a relatively young CEO at forty-two years of age, he is a vibrant personality and an extreme patriot almost to the point of zealous nationalism. He harbors a special disdain for German industry and is keen for his corporation to make as many damming inroads into the German economy as possible. This has made him enemies of Rudolf Meller (Chairman, EBM) and Erich Kessler, chief executive, IEC, not a pair to get mixed up with. Though charming and rich, Ranolph is sadistic and would rather rip out your lungs than tell the truth.

The Hilliard Corporation

"BIGGEST, BEST, BOLDEST, BADDEST"

Known Corporate Profile
Headquartes: London
Regional offices: Every capital in Europe has at least one HC office while the UK has them in Aberdeen, Bolton, Cambridge, Dublin, Manchester, Milton Keynes, Newcastle and Reading. As for the rest of the world, there are offices in Alaska, Boston, Chicago, Paris, Toronto, Washington D.C., Cairo, Cairo, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Brisbane, Sydney, LEO (Crystal Palace)
Name and Location of Principal Shareholder: Sir Lawrence Hilliard, MSc, PhD, London, who holds 63.1% of all shares.
Equipment and Resources: Almost anything that money can buy. Reported equal to that of IEC (Coupable 11, possibly greater.

The English Tourist Board

Known Corporate Profile
Headquarters: London
Name and Location of Principal shareholder: Derek Trotter, Piccadilly, London holding 19.7% of all shares.

Employees:
Worldwide: 5500 Troops: 1250 Cover: 35

The Crown Jewel of England!
Well-Known British Companies and their Fields of Influence

Famish had been one of the United Kingdom's few genuine success stories, a vibrant company that had grown from virtual- ly nothing to a place among the top 50 firms in the country. The company had expanded rapidly in the past ten years, but it had not been without its share of challenges. The market for household appliances was highly competitive, and Famish had to work hard to maintain its position.

The rise of the Internet had been a mixed blessing for Famish. On the one hand, it had allowed the company to reach a wider audience and expand its customer base. On the other hand, it had also opened up new channels for competitors to enter the market.

Politics and Government

A new government had recently been elected, promising to focus on improving the country's infrastructure and investing in new technologies. Famish had already begun to prepare for these changes, investing in research and development to ensure that it remained competitive.

The ETB London Heritage Tour

Termin Lockyear, travel commentator, writes:

"My opinion of the United Kingdom has, I admit, become confused. With the gradual growth of tourism, the English Tourist Board has been hard at work promoting the country to international visitors. Famish had been an important part of this effort, and I believe that the company deserves credit for its contributions.

Day Two

You awake bright and early, ready for a fun packed day touring old London Town. First stop today is the exciting, thought-provoking and all new improved British Museum. Tours of hundreds of magnificent exhibits are interactive or a trip down "memory lane" where miniature red buses will take you on a magical trip through time from the occupations of the Romans to a gnomesome realistic recreation of the execution of evil MLAD despot Lebor Naomh whose timely death allowed the Restoration of the Monarchy.

After you have taken your fill of this marvellous attraction, we speed you across the city to the famed Parliament House which stands solidly in the shadow of Big Ben, the world's tallest and probably one of the most famous landmarks. The tall clock tower still keeps perfect time despite two world wars and three terrorist bombs. You'll have lunch at the brand new "Roundhead Restaurant" the English Tourist Board has spared no expense in converting what were once the old parliament offices to a plush eating experience that truly manages to capture the atmosphere of the old House of Commons, so you are bound to enjoy yourself whatever your order order!

This was all very entertaining; one thing's for sure, the ETB certainly know how to look after their clients.

In the afternoon we step back in history once more. Boarding ETB's very own hydrofoil we transport you in perfect comfort along the mighty Thames to the infamous Tower of London. Due to the rising water table not all of this mag-
ROUGH GUIDE TO THE U.K.

Day Three

Your last day in London and we have saved the very best for last. The English Tourist Board is proud to present "The Royal Procession." 

First stop is Clarence House, once home to King Charles III's grandmother, sadly this glorious residence also became the headquarters of the infamous and much feared ARAMINTAC throughout the dark days of the Martial Law Authority. As you enter the house you will first get a glimpse of the throne room. Marvel at automata, holograms and realistic sounds and smells provide an amazing insight into the workings of the dreaded secret police. Then step into the house's Royal past as our expert guides give you a moving portrait of the illustrious House of Windsor. Move quietly through room after room and splash after splash, gaining a deeply personal view of a Royal Family complete with their private letters, family photos, even their clothes. The Clarence House tour gives us an ideal opportunity to get a feel of the family of our glorious, orphaned Queen and the perfect taster for the highlight of the procession.

The English Tourist Board now takes you to the heart of royal pageantry and status, Buckingham Palace. After completing a few security checks you pass through golden gates and into another world.

"Simple Security check... Arasasa would be proud of the British Combined Forces having manned the gates of the palace. Every bag pocket and orifice was searched...let me tell you it really detracts from the magic of the day." Within the palace fabulously adorned rooms usher you like visiting dignitaries into a splendid throne room that words cannot adequately describe, toward elegant gold and velvet seats where you will be astounded by a special greeting from the Queen herself. Our perfect holographic regent gives you a warm and personal welcome to her realm and her home.


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

"We...now this was really good. I had to say a disclaimer preventing me from giving the details of what Queen Yoko said but it was definitely inspiring...excellent." Immediately after your Royal audience a fantastic tour begins on which only the most private apartments are off limits; there is simply too much detail to fill in full but some of the highlights include art and treasure rooms, state rooms and the option of a meal served in the Royal banquet hall.

"I had the meal...very nice all fresh, no prepackage or killer here. All elegantly served by impervious-looking servants... I felt really out of place." The English Tourist Board is additionally proud to announce that a strictly limited number of Royal bedchambers have been secured for our clients use, so if you wish an extra special night, see your representative for details.

"Needless to say I asked about the offer and was staggered to learn that just one night would set you back 2000 Pounds Sterling for to the coldhalls. That's us by the way. Also get this, you only get a room subject to British Combined Forces security vetting. I still had bruises from the Buckingham Palace gates so I passed on this offer." After your magical trip to the seat of Royalty we take you to the peaceful splendour of Westminster Abbey, where you will get a chance to pay homage to the famous manses of the House of Windsor, who have been recently lain to rest in this gallery of heroes with full, if belated, honors.

Then finally, it's back to the London Crown Hotel for your last night in the capital of England.

"My final thoughts? Well, it is very sleek and supremely organized but you are definitely not seeing the true face of this country, though of course, could be a good thing. However, I couldn't help feeling wrapped in cotton wool by the ever present care of the English Tourist Board and it got a little claustrophobic at times, though saying that, I think that England at least is certainly on the move and there is definitely lots to see here. The price, well as all good Harrods assistant will tell you 'if you stand to ask the price, sir cannot afford it...see you.'"


LAW AND ORDER

The following sections detail some of the more important things that you as a visitor, should bear in mind on the subject of law and order.

Perhaps the greatest problem facing a new regime is that of public order. How to give the happy balance between crime prevention, law enforcement and the prosecution of its more boisterous citizens. For the power puppeteers of the corporations it was, until recently, a headache that would not go away.

Consider the problem. The reasons that prompted the Corps to move against the military and reinstate the Monarchy in the first place. Under Martial Law they were severely restrict ed in what they could achieve both at home and abroad. It is true that some made huge profits from servicing the wasteful needs of the military machine, but they were the minority. With that said, there was only a finite market for the lucky few to exploit and so it was in everyone's interest to remove all obstacles.

So you disposed of military rule and installed a new Monarch of your own, what do you do about law enforce ment? If you rebooted the old publicly-accountable Sav ways? Ed's constabulary system you are just letting loose a watchdog that will more than likely spend most of its time watching you. No one Corp could take on the job by itself, and who would want to work that closely with their rivals? Thus it was decided that, in the spirit of the almost-free market, they would divide the country into sections and put the law requirements of each out to tender. Being the central force behind the demise of the MLA, it is IMA and the Hilliard Corporation who are primarily responsible for the awarding of the various contracts. Their principal concern is to ensure that no one interest gains much influence or grows too powerful for comfort. Impact from the increasingly able to announce that a strictly limited number of Royal bedchambers have been secured for our clients use, so if you wish an extra special night, see your representative for details.

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The Civic Order Bill - 2022

Before any tenders could be processed however, the Corps ensured that they were protected by repealing the Criminal Law Act of 1978 and replacing it with their own Civic Order Bill (2022). This bill reclassified offenses into 5 bands ranging from Drunk and Disorderly at the bottom of band I to Industrial Espionage at the top of band V (see the following page for details). The bill is prosecuted on a local basis in the traditional way, but is presided over by a civic judge. There is only one method of appeal which is very, very expensive and involves the evidence being reviewed by a minimum of five senior magistrates, who then make their decision on a majority basis.

There is also provision made for repeat offenders. Each crime has a point value attached to it equivalent to its band. When a person is convicted the band value is added to any previous crimes and the sentence assessed on the resultant value. I.e., being found guilty of a band II crime after a band I crime would mean that the defendant would be sentenced according to the band III guidelines. If at any time an individu al's Criminal Conviction Count for 3C for short exceeds 10 points, then public execution is mandatory.

There is no age of accountability in the new bill and the only concern is to ensure that no child may be sentenced beyond the scope of band II until the age of sixteen. This does not mean that they cannot be executed or given life imprisonment, just that it takes longer for their 3C to reach the 10 point threshold.

As a result of the above the ordinary man on the street can see no perceivable difference between the Civic Order Bill and Martial Law, but the massive influence of the Corps ensures that their operatives are free to protect their interests. A brief summary of the major crimes and how they are banded is provided for your reference but you should read the "Don't Wake the Lion" section for details of the more serious no's.
Don't Wake the Lion

Besides the rather generalized list above, there are a few things that you should be wary of. Perhaps most important of these is gin control. The British still liecely maintain their traditional opposition to publicly-owned firearms. More specifically, the Cops sponsored government were greatly persuaded that a transitional state of emergency existed, and a stricter form of gun control was called for.

All concerned knew that there was no way to launch the flow of munitions onto the open market and so concen-
trated on the prosecution of related offenses. In addition, they made illegal a weapon to be carried without a gun

camera fitted. Evidence from such a device is now the only means by which a paa of self-defense can be substantiated. Without it, you're sunk and the only alternative is not to get caught in the first place. That's not all, for some areas even the possession of any weapons is strictly prohibited (see the Law Code section for details). So be very careful if you don't want to find yourself in a behavioral correction program or worse.

A side issue and almost as important to the metropolitans of the Commons is that of offensive cyberware. Tippers, micromissiles and just about everything else cyber are all

a-b-o-a as far as these idios are concerned. Don't they know what it's about? Etc. There is no real legislation, but such censors are considered unsporting and a very dim view

s' taken of their use. That is not to say that you can't equip yourself as you see fit, just keep a low profile about it.

Related to both the foregoing is smuggling. You with your innocent, cherub-like face, will probably get away with the idea piece of illegal equipment but if you're caught traf-

ficking in the stuff, then you can kiss thisworld goodbye. The best way of avoiding this is to arrange to pick up all your equip-

ment before your arrival. One thing, however, the quality and availability of cyberware and weapons are probably not what you are used to. The only easily accessible source is the black market, whereby you should be prepared to pay more for inferior equipment. The best stuff is reserved for the cream of the Corporate armies and very hard to come by. On

the plus side the population are shying away from better weaponry and chrome so, if you're willing to take the risks, there is a fortunate be made out here.

Netrunners, you will notice from 'and IV of the crime classificati on that computer crime, of all types, carries some particularly harsh punishments for those who are dumb enough to get caught. It all depends on where you make your run but be especially careful if you intend nosing around in the data fortress of the City of London. These guys are underestimated by wise money as the gross nation-

al product of most countries. Their handsome donations to NetWatch afford them a certain elite status and their anti-

vasion defenses are probably the best in Great Britain. law are pretty good for Europe. EJ! The City aside, there is a
t lot of, comparatively poorly protected data to be found in the Net outside London. There is more than one way to skin a cat, so try to find a back door rather than ringing the bell

and waiting to die.

Finally a word of warning to any would be offenders. The law in the U.K., like that in most countries, is not averse to a bit of good-natured corruption but is by no means universal. Stealing to one man may mean your freedom—but to anoth-

er they may seal your fate faster than a reaper round through the eye. Be careful.

So there you have it, nothing that could put off a hard-

ered international operator like yourself.

If you're not such an individual, then you better go home

before you get terminally acquainted with the boys in blue. (ed, black glasses, but you know what I mean.) EJ! There is one point that ought to be made before we move on, the whole of Law and Order section deals with what hap-

pens when you break the law in a place where they still hold such an outmoded concept close to their hearts. What about the countryside or the free fire zones? Well it's like this, you'll probably be dead before you know what you did wrong, so why worry?

The Law Code

The actual penalties involved for the convicted vary from region to region and are expressed in a 3 digit code pre-
dictably called the Law Code. In order, each number means the following. First, the band if any, for which the death penal-

ty would be considered other than band V. Second, the

area's stance on firearms and armor and last, the aggres-
sion/tolerance level of the local cops. (This last digit was

added by us as a joke in our last guide but was so popular that it has become part of the Law Code. What said nothing changes? EJ! A more detailed description of the meaning of
each digit follows.
Police Structure

Once a given contractor is awarded the contract to police an area they are obligated to set up operations in a standardized way. Failure to provide the various required services puts them in severe jeopardy and will almost certainly bring about the termination of their contract by the employer. Each force is divided into three distinct divisions headed by a divisional commander and directly responsible to the Chief Constable for the area.

Community Division

Traditional law enforcement in the community and representing the caring side of the operation. Did I say caring? Well, at least they arrest you before they kill you. No, that's not quite the same but almost. Go quietly and you'll be okay, put up a fight and it could be your last. Whatever the circumstances of your arrest, it is much wiser to cooperate and try to sort out the mess later. The CIB spend most of their time on patrol and can be a useful guide if you're in an unfamiliar area. Most officers are trained to assist travellers of the least variety and are quite prepared to advise you on the safest routes, local night spots etc. If the area's Law Code requires you to register your arrival it is the CIB who command the protocol of registration. This is all very well in the commercial areas and the more expensive capital items sponsored by the public sector. Most famous of these is the Salmon Security who hold the contracts for Manchester and London. The Corps are anxious to ensure that this practice is curtailed by legislation before the potential gets out of hand. Salmon, being the biggest, is regarded as the yardstick by which all others are measured. If Salmon decreases their IMA and the Hilliard Corporation are inclined to keep them on a long leash rather than go through the headache of replacing them. Anyway, back to the point. Any given police force can buy what they want but since most are run by ex-forces personnel they tend to buy from JCF surplus or direct from the suppliers. This means that most are just as well equipped as any force, anywhere and a few are equipped better than many armies.

Traffic Division

These are the guys that you are likely to run into first when you arrive in a new area. They are responsible for the policing of all road and air traffic, operating toll gates and protecting the humbler traveler. You've seen the 'Hatchet' Ed Is included among them. They are the local Comder Response Unit, useful guys to have around if you run into Jackal trouble. All rather chummy, really, as long as you stay on the right side of the gray area that passes for law in these parts. Cross the line and look out, it may take weeks for them to catch you, but the walk will be a long one. A word of advice: As you may be aware, there is a country-wide paranoia when it comes to your aerial antics. Once a flight plan is registered, stick to it, unless you want to see what happens when an AV hits the dirt from a thousand feet. This is especially true when traversing district boundaries, borders JCF Border Patrol, doublecheck Ed Is or the cities of London and Westminster. Miss a way point and you'll be hit by so much firepower that it's doubtful if there will be enough debris left to hit the dirt in.

Tactical Division

The senior division with responsibility for just about everything else. If there is any situation that is likely to require any form of tactical response then these are the guys that they call. This doesn't only include the traditional roles of the SWAT and Psycho squads but a few less obvious scenarios. District customs control, surveillance, computer countermeasures, drug enforcement and mob busting are just a few of the more usual tasks that this bunch of maniacs are called on to perform. If you're lucky you'll never encounter them, but if you do then you had better have a decent runner with you. Like most remotely coordinated units the key to victory lies in disrupting their communications. The only alternative to this is an all-out firefight and if you lose, you can forget the idea of a Trauma Team coming to your aid. By the time they arrive it will be too late, and not even Dr. Frankenstein could bring what's left of you back to life.

Police Equipment

When it comes to weaponry, armor and other equipment there are no guidelines to be followed. Each force is free to purchase what ever they need and afford and they can afford within the confines of their budget. Some have even taken to having

Exercise Regiment to enforce the law in this area. Part of BCF PLC, the regiment was formed to take over the roles of both Customs House and HM Coastguard and is made up of elements of the special forces. Based at the Special Boat Service HQ in Poole. Dressed in dark suits and a Border Patrol as one of the toughest outfits in the BCF. All types of international traffic, in or out of the UK, has to be cleared by the CER before arrival or departure. Any unscheduled traffic can be challenged anywhere within 100 miles of the coast. Interception times vary from 6 to 20 minutes and any evasion or offensive action is met with ultimate force. If you're not carrying

the more expensive capital items sponsored by the public sector. Most famous of these is Salmon Security who hold the contracts for Manchester and Leeds. The Corps are anxious to ensure that this practice is curtailed by legislation before the potential gets out of hand. Salmon, being the biggest, is regarded as the yardstick by which all others are measured. If Salmon decreases their IMA and the Hilliard Corporation are inclined to keep them on a long leash rather than go through the headache of replacing them. Anyway, back to the point. Any given police force can buy what they want but since most are run by ex-forces personnel you tend to buy from JCF surplus or direct from the suppliers. This means that most are just as well equipped as any force, anywhere and a few are equipped better than many armies.

Justice and the Judiciary

As mentioned previously the trial procedure is pretty much the same as it has always been. A defendant is entitled to a trial by a jury of his peers and if convicted excepts sentence from the presiding judge. Nowadays however, little remains of the old Lord Chancellor's department and there is distinct lack of qualified legal personnel of all disciplines. This means that most cases are prosecuted in a circuit court and defendants are required to represent themselves. There is no longer any legal aid system and unless you can afford the astronomical fees of a proper lawyer you are more likely to be found guilty. So much for justice.

Ed Is.

Do not hand in your most expensive resources when your best bets are either bribery or escape because in most provinces the conviction means quite often one thing: public execution. The circuit judges are ruthless and tend to take special pleasure in making examples of naughty troublemakers who talk with funny accents. Most notorious of these is Senior Justice Louis Graves. Nicknamed "The Undertaker" he holds the single day record of 103 death sentences during the Wormwood Bombing trials of 1997. I don't mean to be a scarecrow but that's the way it is over here; but, like most things, your chances vary depending on the situation. For instance the major crimes offer far faster prosecution to those you suspect in the provinces. My advice to you simple, don't break the law and if you do don't get caught.

Customs & Excise

Not only a part of law and order but his just is as good a place as any to talk about it. As discussed in 'Do n't Wake the Lion' the UK is a dangerous place when it comes to the illegal importing of banned materials. It is the job of the Customs and
any dubious cargoes you have nothing to worry about and may as well do as you are instructed. If, on the other hand you're not exactly contraband-free, then you may as well fight because if you get caught you're likely to be executed anyway. You think he's kidding?... Again, thank you for playing Ed!"

**Prisons—Isle of Wight**

As far as prisons, there is only one, the Stockade on the Isle of Wight, and my advice to you is to avoid going there at all costs. Originally established by the MLA, it is perhaps the most repulsive place outside the Middle East. A tanker accident in 1999 left the entire island unfit for human habitation for three years before the entire project was successfully cleaned up. The Stockade is a small prison for short-term inmates. The population is around 100 inmates, and there is no watchtower or any perceivable guard. Apart from a small maintenance staff, there is no official presence. The centura compound takes up most of the island and is enclosed by a 50-foot wide, 40-foot high wall which is then surrounded by a further 40-foot high perimeter wall. Inside the fence to 60000 inmates at a time are locked live here they feel ill. Food deliveries are regular if a little unrefined and make the only contact the prisoners have with the outside world. This makes life more complex than the main compound.

Some would say that escape would be easy from such a place: the frequent rains and cannibalism if nothing else, certainly make it desirable. After all, moats are there to be crossed, and walls built to be scaled. However, it is not the physical barriers that keep the population contained but a rather devilish operation that each receives when they are convicted. A small capsule of a chemical-reactive compound is implanted near the canary artery, connected to a transmitter and subcutaneous display in the convict's neck. The display shows the subject's name, case number and time remaining on sentence. If an inmate attempts to leave the compound before his sentence clock reaches zero the transmitter loses contact with the prison's transponder and the capsule is detonated releasing a deadly and extremely toxic substance into the bloodstream. The ensuing reaction evolves hydrogen at a rate of 100000 weight/sec and causes them to explode into painful, fatal fires in around 0.2 seconds. Sometimes even explode for me real. You've all seen the old Bond film, can't you imagine the scene? Good. In addition, any inmate can be terminated by remote control at any time and can be tracked by satellite to an accuracy of one meter. So how do you get out if you're unlikely enough to find yourself inside? Well there are only three options here, none of which happen often. First, many similar institutions worldwide, if you survive long enough you may come to the attention of a Corp who may then buy off your conviction and recruit you. Second, find the money to buy off your sentence yourself and let's face it, if you had those kind of assets you wouldn't have been convicted in the first place. Or lastly, there is EscapaID—a twice-monthly newsletter that sets man against a nation in a 49 hour race to avoid death.

**EscapaID**

As mentioned above EscapaID is a highly popular slick game show which is syndicated throughout Europe and runs for 48 hours twice a month. The show is the creation of a single simple-minded and was based on Richard Bachman's story. Main, a handsome and flat-faced of the late 1980's EscapaID, unlike the work that inspired it, pits four teams of five convicts against a nation of amateur and professional bounty hunters. Each team is dependent on the mainland at a point of their choosing, given a 1 hour head start and challenged to survive for 48 hours. In the way is an army of bounty hunters led by the shows own elite unit "Bloodsport" and their leader Venom. For every contestant captured or killed the hunter receives a bounty of $10,000 and $100,000 plus a bonus for the speed with which they track them down.

In order to be eligible for the show you must have been on the island for no less than 3 months after which you can apply for inclusion on the waiting list. Once on the list an applicant can wait up to a year before getting their shot. Administered by an elected committee of senior prisoners and officials, the wait time can be shortened by any number of methods but bribery works best.

The main prize awaiting the prisoners is a pardon for their current crime, any previous convictions and cancellation of outstanding warrants. That's it unless of course they kill one of the other contestants (in a competing team), in which case they are entitled to the bounty like anyone else. Experience has shown that there is no way to survive unless the teams are given help and here we come to the kicker. In order to improve ratings the producers sweetened the pot by allowing participants aid for killing a competing escapee. This assistance can come in a number of different forms, i.e., weapons, transport, cash or the usual satellite blackbox. On their receipt for the yes/no viewers polls.

There are only a few rules. Namely that they cannot stay in one place for longer than one hour, if they do, their location is transmitted to the watching millions thanks to a satellite fix of their transmitters. All weapons you can use are those available in the area they are situated on the island. The island is constantly monitored by satellite. All contest can deliberately endanger the life of a member of the viewing audience. Apart from that anything goes.

For the chances of survival well that really depends on the watching masses. If the feel sympathetic to you, then, with a little luck, you might just make it. On the other hand, if the viewers don't like what they see when your record is transmitted then, watch out, it soon gets out that you'll make it past the first day. Of course, the amount of pedigrees, rackets and ex-cat collectors who have expired in the last few hours. The quickest ever kill came in Garn 29 when former Member of Parliament turned billionaire, B. H. On. Justice from Plain was shot in the head with a 1 minute, 5 seconds. The former Mr. On. Plain was also the former hunter to successfully escape following her subsequent conviction for the murder of what she called the "other woman". If Mrs. Plain can do it then so can you. If honestly... Not Ed!

**Crime, Organized and Otherwise**

Having discussed Law and Order it seems only logical that we devote some time to the subject of crime. After all laws are made to be broken.

There have always been organized crime syndicates, the Cosa Nostra. Yakuza. Triads are probably the most notorious and we shall get to them shortly but first, a bit of background. Yes, there is law in the form discussed previously but the British Isles have just gone through a constitutional monstrosity it will take some time before all the dust settles and the time is ripe for the enterprising law breaker of the 21st century. The Cosa Nostra is in place but most of the newly contracted law agencies are still on the learning curve. Their weakness is to be exploited and until the situation stabilizes the crime figures will continue to climb. It is not just the bigger organizations either, gang membership and everything that goes with it is also on the increase.

**The Syndicates**

Gangs there may be but the top of the tree still belongs to the organized crime families. Run like a business they use legal fronts to conceal their activities and launder the proceeds from the various operations. Gambling, prostitution, protection, robbery, drugs and extortion are their main sources of income but these highly structured groups are capable of just about anything. The current state of confusion permits them a previously unknown level of freedom and as a result they have been actively trying to expand their operations. This in turn has led to an upsurge in the level of violence between the rival factions as each tries to take overall control of the country.

**The Firm**

The traditional face of organized crime in England: the Firm. After a period of low activity, are once again staking their mark on the underworld. Based in the slum areas of East London their influence spreads from as far south as Devon to just north of Newcastle. Of all the rival factions the Firm is probably the most dynamic, a newly-formed union between the various bosses allowing them to pursue their collective aims. The Firm want only one thing—namely, everything. In their eyes there are too many foreign interests taking a slice of their cake and it is about time that the British crime scene was restored to its rightful guardians. There is a kind of perverted national pride involved: British violence is the best, the highest evolution of the art and consequently should only be in the hands of the people that perfected it. Bring on the Americans, Italians, Chinese, Japanese and anyone else who fancies their chances, this time the Brits are ready.

**The Mafia**

The Americans, like the others, see things a little differently—and the mob intend to get their point across in no uncertain terms. A spin-off from the old Sicilian Cosa Nostra the Mafia have been expanding across the pond since the late 1930's. The modern day mob are no longer the oppressive force that they once were. Instead of terror they use their massive resources to bribe public officials into turning a blind eye. The other factions see them as a soft target and have been snuffing at their heels like a scavenging dog, but they may be in for a shock as the mob readies itself to bite back.

**The Yakuza**

Like the Triads and Cosa Nostra, these guys have been around for centuries. Steeped in tradition and mythology, they hold their massive membership's loyalty with the ancient doctrine of Giri (Nisou*). Once accepted into the clan the Yakuza* effectively signs their life away, as the only way to leave is death. They have a strong code of ethics that must not be violated which includes such things as total secrecy, personal no use of drugs and unthinking obedience to their superiors. The Yakuza*
do not suffer ailments lightly and still maintain the finger cutting ceremony (Hakusensu) to maintain performance. This involves a clan member severing a finger or knuckle and sending it to their superior as an apology.

Originally from the Osaka region of Japan, the Yakuza now have a global presence and are currently the fastest growing syndicate in Europe. Easily identifiable by the intricate tattoos that take the place of gang colors, they are probably the most violent group outside of the Triads. Like most of the main members they have their fingers (ohn), Ed! in every part of the criminal underworld drugs are their specialty. They are the most likely to challenge the Firm as they like the British have an almost nationwide influence in the UK.

The Triads

Originally from Hong Kong and Taiwan, the Triads are the militant side of the 'shogi' controlled Chinese community. Unlike their brothers in the U.S. it is likely that they will soon move against the more sedentary regime and grab control of the community for themselves. Concentrated mainly in Scotland and a small enclave in London, the Triads are all little worry to the others but they are rising fast and they are now a major threat to anyone. Their strongest forces are concentrated across the Channel in the Netherlands.

The Cosa Nostra

The blueprint for all of the Western outfits; the Cosa Nostra have been making moves outside of Italy for some time now. Some would say, what is the difference between them and the Mafia, well, quite a bit in the eyes of the Sicilians. The American Mob have gotten away from the old ways and no longer command the respect of the Italian families. The current state of British law and order has prompted them to move into one of the world's most buoyant crime markets and they intend to stay for a long time. It is possible that they will help the Mob in the fight against the rest and wait for their opportunity to teach them a lesson in the Sicilian way.

The South Americans

Led by the Colombians, most of the old South American drug barons have now moved into more diversified areas of crime. Driven by the need to escape the suffocating effects of poverty and unemployment, many have sought a living in the lucrative corridors of the underworld. Subtlety is not their strong point and many of their operations involve excess violence. Poorly organized, they do not present much of a threat but on their day are capable of taking on anyone in a stand-up fight. Besides the usual interests they are one of the few remaining sources for the white slave trade, making them of particular concern to the weary traveler. See pages 50 to 54 of Protect and Serve for more details on Organised Crime.

The Gangs

For those used to the gangs Stateside, the British variety may come as a nasty surprise. They seldom have fixed territories or wear identifying colors. Unless its match day. Ed! The most obvious and prevalent form of gang violence is the soccer hooligan. Football aside there are other forms of more familiar gang violence. Though there are no poser gangs as such there is still the traditional clashes between hordes from the myriad of different youth movements. Mods, rockers, punks, romantics, grinders and ravers are a few of the more common adversaries. See the old vidio Quasimodophono for information. Ed! The motive behind the aggression is always the same, you like one thing and we like another and so were going to stave your skull in. Finally there are the territorial gangs, not of a sort that you may be used to, we will go into them shortly but first a word on soccer and youth culture violence.

Soccer Violence

The world infamous British disease is still very much in evidence and has gained steadily worse over the last decade or so. Despite the authorities best efforts it is a problem that refuses to go away; the main reason being that soccer's gangs are not restricted to one strata of society. Bankers and barbers are united by a common love for their teams (a damn good scrap). Every Saturday somewhere there is going to be a war. The other reason that the authorities have failed to curtail the violence lies in their inability to predict where and when the next incident will take place.

Months beforehand, all the interested parties sit down and thrash out the details with a military precision that is disquieting to the casual visitor. Deaths are rare, however, with most disputes being settled with knives and head-to-head fighting as opposed to firearms. Ed! If you kill all the opposition who are you going to fight next week? Ed! This does not mean that there are not considerable risks to the innocent bystander, when two thousand people start kicking the living daylight out of each other you do not want to be in the middle of it. The visitor to the U.K. should be wary of pubs and clubs around soccer grounds if there is a match that weekend. If you're sensible, you should have no trouble. This statement is just as valid anywhere in the E.C. where the level of soccer violence if anything, is not as bad as that found here. (And always has been, Ed!)

Youth Culture Violence

Similar in nature to the soccer variety, this form of conflict springs from the lifestyle cultures of the 20th century. The youth of today have grown tired of the continuous stream of overplayed pop that passes for music and have adopted the sounds of an earlier era in an effort to be different. Ed! There's nothing new. Ed! They collect ageing recordings and adopt them as bibles of social comment and prophecy. They dress up in the image of their heroes and fiercely defend them from those who try to change it. Mods fight rockers, grinders fight romantics and punks fight everyone else.

Unlike soccer violence, deaths are common in these quasi-religious conflicts as each side's prepared to do whatever it takes to prove their side superior.

Gang Violence

Last, there are the territorial gangs. Based mainly in the London Guyisms of the rifle and the youth are organized in a way that is only possible if the State's efforts at coping with the various problems of employment and poor community. Some in both the police and organized crime circles can see the day coming when the gangs may unite against the system that spawned them. That day has come, look out for anarchy and mayhem as a war as it was in the past.
There is one particular form of gang that the visitor should be especially wary of, namely those which specifically target tourists. In their first few hours in a strange place a tourist is easy prey to the vultures of gangland. They will often follow their victims from the moment they arrive, waiting with almost monotonous-like patience for their opportunity to strike. The wise will travel by protected transport, i.e., CombatCab instead of by hire car as the distinctive registrants of the hire car fleet serve as a beacon for the hunters to follow. If you do choose to travel by hire car, don't stop for anything, not even the police. If they really want to stop you they will, so you must keep going. Once you have reached the hotel and given yourself time to acclimatise then it should have nothing more to worry about as long as you stick to the more secure areas during your stay.

If traveling in the countryside, especially in the North, beware of Jackalcor gang. Like the highwayman of the old days but without the friendly manner, these are groups of unaffiliated wanderers who prey on road traffic. The arterial roads to the borders are their favorite hunting grounds so be prepared.

BRITISH COMBINED FORCES, PLC

"Alright you crookie lot, let's get the introductions out of the way first. My name is RSA that's Regimental Sergeant Major to your McNutt. I've been asked by the editors of this guide to tell you about Her Majesty's Armed Forces and how they look today.

"Back in 2001 when the so-called 'Army' had their Coup, one or two important facts were left out of the history books; the main one being that the average squaddie was just following orders and didn't know that they were coming from Westminster. Fly the time we knew what was going it was too late. The only boys with a bit of savvy were the Marines and they pulled a fast one, alright. Okay, they were dejected. But it was bloody suspicious that towns like Poole and Lyme Regis had their own security forces by the following day. Why do you think that those towns were the safest in the UK during the Troubles? The number of undesirables that ended up in Poole Harbour with concrete walls is nobody's business.

"But I digress. As well as disbanding the Marines, the Martial Law Provisional Council removed the Regimental system from the Army and for the keep better control, combined the Army, Navy and Air Force into one unified command. The British Combined Forces (BCF) were supposedly a cohesive force, but in reality it was just one big mess. We actually had interdepartment rivalry with the other forces. I believe the hell did the government expect foxtrotters, werabcats and fly-boys to work together on that scale?

"In theory the BCF should have solved the military problems of Northern Ireland and Scotland but the backstabbing and constant bickering within the service put paid to that. It was a complete waste of time—we may be the best trained troops in the world but its means bugger all if we can't work together.

"Things have changed a bit now with the Restoration of the Queen and us becoming a Public Limited Company. You even get a chance to work for the company. Mind you there are some others that more part are owned by the government and certain large corporations.

"Tony the Lord McKenzie was a member of the MUPC (Martial Law Provisional Council), his appointment as Chairman of the Board of BCF plc was a good idea. He's old military and knows how to run a arm as well as deal with the politics. It was his idea to introduce the free fire zones in Northern Ireland (CND) we're not supposed to be there but have you ever noticed how many of the Ulster Defense Regiment have English accents? He's a man after my own heart. He also introduced the regiments, albeit in a limited way, and to top it all he renamed the Royal Marines. Itl take an awful lot of clout to remove him from office should the need ever arise.

"The barbwire in the UK at the moment, nearly all assignments are dangerous but the most lethal are Ulster, the Scottish Borders and Highlands, and East Anglia. East Anglia is especially bad: if you remember your history well you may remember a place called the Ring of Brodgar the 'Fenian Police Action' in the 1960's and 70's. Well this place is worse—

"The floods and various terrorist attacks on pumping stations, the whole region is just one big waterlogged delta from Bournemouth to Great Yarmouth of bloody islands teeming with other booby traps or pirates.

"The Navy guys would give their right arm not to have to go in there in fact some have, come to think of it, but only after going into Ministry Forces personnel desert in the area, and many others have relatives in the area, so keeping an eye on the other members of your patrol is must. Of course, this doesn't make for a very high morale. Add to this the fact that you can't tell with East Anglia which are loyal and which aren't; you've got one major nightmare scenario. Many an enemy have been made from a loyal subject over a simple mistake in this area.

"East Anglia is really the domain of the Navy, Marines, and Special Boat Service (SBS). The fifty boats we have lost too many choppers in there. Most overflights have been stopped using both nets and flying by the scots.

"As to the other forces, they're based in the Scots, and the rest of the boys of the Border Patrol we can sure contain it.

"While the headquarters of the BCF are situated at Sandhurst, all the military and police regions of the United Kingdom have their own regional HQs and military bases. To give each region its own identity and 'family' feeling, a regiment named after it was formed from BCF troops and stationed there. To further regimental loyalty and trust with the residents of the area, most of the new recruitment for that regiment is done there.

"The regimental command centers for the UK land Regiments are stationed in the following locations:

The command center for the Wessex region is situated in the town of Newbury. Its resident regiment is the 1st Royal Wessex under the command of Colonel Nicholas Hardy. The Colonel has the nickname of 'Old Nick' owing to his violent temperament and his love for his air-elastic.

The Devon and Cornwall Command Center is based in the naval dockyards at Plymouth. Because of the joint responsibilities of the Army and Navy in this region the command center is under the joint command of Colonel Elizabeth Ryding and Commander Harris. One of the three naval task forces is permanently based here with the 'First's Own Devon and Cornwall. In the past there has been some friction between the Navy and the Army here and so there is a strong military police presence within the town. This is definitely not a town to be out in on a Saturday night.

Situated at Guildford the Sussex Command Center and its Regiment the Queen's Sussex Rifles are under the command of Colonel Sir John Travers. Travers is famous for his 'accident' in ordering his troops to shoot down an English Tourist Board Blimp. Relations between the ETH and this unit are particularly strained.

"One of the most dangerous commands in the BCF is that of East Anglia. The base at Caister, while quiet in itself, overseas the flooded rivers of the Wash and Fens. Although there is still a large land area here, the region is under the command of the Navill Rhineve Patrol. Ground support for the patrol is provided by the Anglian Commando. The base and military area are under the command of Rear Admiral David Nelson. Nelson, living up to his namesake, lost his eye and arm in a river ambush two years ago. With his cybernetic replacements, he is an imposing figure who has sworn to turn the area of pirates.

"Mercia, though the home of the BCF, also has its own Regional Command Center at Peterborough. The Royal Mercia Guards are often used by the Riverine Task Force in search and destroy missions around Peterborough. Their commander, Colonel Robert Brown, has been pushing central command for more assets especially SBSs in order to pacify the northeast area of this region.

"The Middle Anglia Command Center at Doncaster is one of the few bases under air force supervision. Centrally located in the LUC, the airbase there can respond to any threat in any direction. The ground forces in this region are led by the Royal Lincoln Green jackets. The commander for this area is Wing
commander Jennie Holmes. One of the first women to achieve the rank of Wing Commander in the British Air Force.

The Lindsey Does command area has strong elements of all three branches of the military. Always strongly independent, this region has always had an intense rivalry with its neighbors. The White Rose Regiment is based at Lindley as it is the traditional home of the regiment. The White Rose Regiment is under the command of Colonel Eric Boycott, a keen cricket player.

The Lindsey Does command area is situated in the town of Lindley. Its regiment is part of the inter-regimental cricket league and this has led to some serious rifts between the regiment and its rival from over the border in Lindley Dale. The military police always make a strong argument at cricketing fixtures when the two regiments are scheduled to play each other.

The Lindsey Does is under the sole command of the Scottish Border Police. The main base for the SBP is the fortified compound at Carlisle. A series of rapid response fire bases are situated along the line of Hadrian's Wall (Carlisle, Haltwhistle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne). These bases are heavily fortified con-

queens! Welsh Guards based at Swansea in South Wales can trace their history back hundreds of years. It was their ancestors who fought the Zulu army at Rorke's Drift.

The Welsh Guards, living up to its proud history, is one of the best-looking regiments in the British Army. The regiment is a ceremonial unit and is often used for ceremonial duties. It is a tradition that the regiment is led into battle by the Commanding Officer, the Colonel-in-Chief, accompanied by the standard bearer and the standard. The regiment is often seen in parades and other official events.

The Welsh Guards are a unique unit and are often referred to as the 'Blue Division'. They are a highly trained and disciplined unit and are often used for ceremonial duties.

The regiment is under the command of Colonel Arwel Williams, although not your typical cavalry officer having his beard is often seen on recruitment videos with his dress uniform and comb comb and medals. It is this unit that is sent to new clients in the north.
two to six aircraft. At least four flights of six Kestrels are permanently stationed at the Riat Red Rapid Response bases on the Scottish border. The squadrons are made up of four fighter/interceptor, two strategic bomber and two bomber/ground-attack. Most of these squadrons are held, under heavy security, at bases inside the HMC zone. Over half of the remaining flights are assigned to ground support missions with various law enforcement agencies.

The transport and protection of personnel to and from near orbit is handled by another arm of the Air Force. The British Combined Orbiting Forces deal exclusively with orbital and interface transport and combat. The mainstay of their equipment are squadrons of intergalactic cunston which are based at Orbit Air's two UK facilities, the London Spaceport and the Midlands Spaceport launch center. If you think the normal fly-boys are bad wait till you meet these vacuunsmen. These lunatics actually enjoy 3-give landings and steering chicken with orbital debris. Scary stuff to think about when you're sitting in the cargo bay on final approach to a hot drop zone.

Right, let's talk about the average BCF soldier. It has always been said that the British soldier was the best trained and most professional in the world. In these days of constant change this statement is one of the few things that still holds true. I should know, I am one, and if anyone wants to argue about it, they can contact me through the NNAAI that's the BCF post office to you lot.

"Now the average squad that has the following skills and training. As you can see from the following list, the training given is really second to none.

**Basic Training**

"All BCF personnel have to go through this basic training whether they are officers, pilots or plain old squadlies. In some cases, especially pilots and support staff, the rifle training is changed to either Submarine or Handgun. The BCF does not teach Brawling, any army that does is not worth mentioning."

**Advanced Training**

"After basic, the recruit is sent to branch college where they are given extensive training in their chosen field."

**Army AT**

Operate Heavy Machinery

**Drive:**
- Car
- Truck
- M/C

**Pilot:**
- Hovercraft
- Remote

**Heavy Weapons:**
- Basic Tech
- Heavy Weapons
- AV or AV Tech

**Leadership:**
- Expert Tactical
- Wilderness Survival

**Programming:**
- System Knowledge
- Handgun

**Electronics:**
- Interrogation
- Demolitions

**Melee:**
- Water Vehicles
- Hy Weapons
- Basic Tech
- AV or AV or Naval Tech

**Navy AT**

Operate Heavy Machinery

**Drive:**
- Car
- Truck
- M/C

**Pilot:**
- Hovercraft
- Remote
- Sidewing

**Weapon:**
- Grau
- Submarine

**Electronics:**
- Hy Weapons
- Basic Tech
- AV or AV or Naval Tech

**Leadership:**
- Expert (Naval Tactics)

**Air Force AT**

**Drive:**
- Car
- Truck
- M/C

**Pilot:**
- Hovercraft
- Remote
- Sidewing

**Weapon:**
- Grau
- Submarine

**Electronics:**
- Hy Weapons
- Basic Tech
- AV or AV or Naval Tech

**Leadership:**
- Expert (Naval Tactics)

**Private Palmer, 2nd O.O.R.**

- INT: 5
- REF: 6
- TECH: 5
- COOL: 5
- ATTR: 5
- LUCK: 4
- MA: 6
- BODY: 7

**EAM: 8/7**

**Humanity: 69**

**Skills:**
- Combat Sense 4
- Rifle 6
- Martial Arts 4
- First Aid 2
- Endurance 3
- Awareness/Notice 2
- Heavy Weapons 3
- Athletic 2
- Swimming 3
- Drive (Hover) 4
- Basic Tech 4
- Wilderness Survival 4
- Melee 4

**Cyberware:**
- Swimwear

**Equipment:**
- Field Kit: Fat vest and pants, standard-equipped nylon battle helmet, LPA1 battle rifle, 6 hand grenades, combat knife (Bayonet).
"I know a guy who's got a bunch of stuff from the war. He's a true warrior, you know."

"Right, keep your stuff to yourself. We don't need any trouble."
The special forces teams can have anything they want and often use enemy equipment on black ops—it can be quite a shock for an enemy commander to find that his troops have been killed by their own weapons.

**ROYAL ENFIELD ORDINANCE**

**Spitfire 12mm Battle Pistol**
- P: +1
- J: P, 4D6+1
- L: 12
- VR: 50m
- 5500e (7000e)
- The Royal Enfield Ordinance Spitfire battle pistol is a high-quality long-slide counter balanced military pistol designed to replace the aging Browning automatic. Using composite plastics and ceramics the Enfield factory has managed to produce a smart-chipped high accuracy 12mm pistol of unrivaled accuracy for its class. The SAS and SBS versions of this pistol have been further modified to allow double tapping of a target 12 shots per round.

**H&K**

**MPK-2020 12mm SMG**
- SMG: +2
- L: 4D6+1
- 60
- 30
- ST: 200m
- 7500e
- Laser Sight
- The Heckler & Koch Maschinenpistole-Kurz MPK 2020 is a descendant of the MP5 and the G3 assault rifle. About five years ago special forces units in Europe were looking for a replacement for their main short range assault weapons. After detailed discussion with such as CSG-9, the SAS, GIGN and Corporate strike teams like Dieter Kaufmann’s Taktischekommando Einheit O, H&K produced a caseless 12mm laser- and smartchip-equipped assault carbine.

**ROYAL ENFIELD ORDINANCE**

**25mm Cockerill Assault Cannon**
- HV: +1
- N: 10
- 5D10+10
- 25mm AP
- ST: 500m
- 7400e
- The first in a new range of anti-vehicle weapons designed to complement the LAW 80 and the Carl Gustav. The Cockerill cannon is a slightly scaled down version of the 20mm weapon used in the Scimitar armoured vehicle.

To offset the immense potential recoil, the Cockerill uses low-pressure, rocket-assisted rounds. The round is fired from the muzzle by a reduced charge. When it travels 2 meters from the muzzle, the rocket motor ignites, boosting it to just over 800m/s (2623fps). Rounds for this weapon include AP (armor-piercing), HEP (high- exploding, and APF (Anti-Personnel Flechette). The AP round is Pen 5; the HEP round is Pen 6. Against personnel, HEP does 1/2 real, 1/2 stunning damage, armor is no effect and losses 2 SP. The APF round is treated as a shotgun round with a maximum range of 100m. The pattern starts 2m in front of the muzzle and the sizes are 1m at close range, 2m at medium range, and 4m at long range. Damage is 1D6+3 hits to anyone in the pattern, each hit does 1D6+1AP.

Because of the firing system it is possible to fire the cannon from the hip—although it is not recommended as WA drops to -1. Only people with sufficient size (50D of 8+) can do so, others must use the bipod. It requires a minimum 50D of 6 to carry and use this weapon due to its size and weight (encumbrance value +2).
BERETTA 1010
10mm Machine Pistol
SMG = 2 J C 2D6+3 30
15 ST 100m 475E8
This model is a highly compact machine pistol designed for undercover security work and protection duties. Its basic firing the Beretta is somewhat inaccurate but with the addition of a laser sight or smart-sight becomes ideal for its chosen role.

Compact and thin, it produces no unsightly bulge in your real-wood designer suit when you're out in the town or escorting your employer when she's out shopping. For further compactness, a small magazine can be fitted (10 rounds) and the barrel should removed. This has the effect of lowering concealability to a large pocket. Rating P: how large a pocket, the Gh can decide.

FN BROWNING
10mm Machine Pistol (3 Spot)
F = J C 2D6+3 24
100m dam 50m 425E8
The 3 Spot machine pistol is designed for law enforcement duties in the more dangerous parts of Europe. Set for purely accurate fire suppression, the pistol will each pull of its trigger unleash a three round burst of 10mm caseless slugs. The magazine holds 24 rounds allowing eight shots. This pistol is in use in the UK, France, Belgium and Italy.

Small Arms Common in the United Kingdom:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Damage</th>
<th>Rate of Fire</th>
<th>Muzzle Velocity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sterneyer</td>
<td>P D J C 3D6</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td>400E8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beretta</td>
<td>P P J C 2D6+1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK MPK-9</td>
<td>J C 2D6+1</td>
<td>500m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK MPK-11</td>
<td>J C 2D6+1</td>
<td>500m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK MPK-20</td>
<td>L P 4D6+1</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK CAWS 11</td>
<td>N R 4D6</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85A1</td>
<td>N C 4D6</td>
<td>500m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK G-8 SAW</td>
<td>N P 5D6</td>
<td>900m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILAN-C</td>
<td>N P 5D6 AP 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIM-1</td>
<td>V R 20D10 AP</td>
<td></td>
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Older Weapons using Cased Ammunition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caliber</th>
<th>Damage</th>
<th>Rate of Fire</th>
<th>Muzzle Velocity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.44-01</td>
<td>N C 6D6+2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 VR</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>400E8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.223 STERLING</td>
<td>J C 2D6+1</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 VR</td>
<td>500m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.44 HIGH POWER</td>
<td>J C 2D6+1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 VR</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.222 SNIPER RIFLE</td>
<td>N R 6D6+2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 VR</td>
<td>1000m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.22 MAG MACHINE GUN</td>
<td>M N 6D6+2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 VR</td>
<td>1000m</td>
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</tbody>
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BIRMINGHAM ARMS COMPANY LTD

Reactive Body Armor
The BACL reactive armor system is a self-contained warning system that allows its wearer to be alerted if he/she is acquired by either a laser or Smartgun aiming system.

A series of multi-spectrum receptors are woven into the vest and connected into feynon/kevlar smart helmet. When a receptor detects an aiming signal, the system displays all relevant information (such as acquisition method) and direction onto a heads-up display unit in the helmet. This system allows booted individuals to possibly dodge incoming fire and acquire unseen targets. In game terms the vest removes the Ambush modifier if laser or Smartgun systems are used to target the wearer. A character with boosted reflexes can also make a dodge roll to avoid being hit. The roll must be higher than the hitroll.

This system is in use by British special forces units. The British version is a 205P Rack Vest with EV +1 and a 205P fully tracking nylon battle helmet. The helmet comes complete with a respirator (anti-Gas), smart goggles, UV imaging, anti-dazzle, infrared and closed circuit military communication system. For certain missions a direct-feed video system can be installed on the left side of the helmet. The complete system is extremely rare and costs 499E8.
**BCF Vehicles**

**BRITISH AEROSPACE/WESTLAND**

**Wyvern**

The Wyvern is a common sight in the skies over Britain. Its tilt-wing design has allowed it to become the premier form of transport in the crowded metropolises and is also a firm favorite with the military and private security forces.

The Wyvern has large cargo spaces, allowing it to be produced in many versions—everything from a simple cargo carrier to a corporate executive transport to the Military's heavily armed gunship variants. Apart from a flight crew of two, the Wyvern's cargo compartment can, depending on configuration, carry up to twenty passengers or five tons of cargo and equipment.

The Wyvern is as maneuverable as a helicopter but much faster and has earned its keep in such trouble areas as Scotland, Northern Ireland, and East Anglia.

**Type:** Cargo
**Top Speed:** 315 mph
**Acc/Dec:** 10/20 mph
**Crew/Passengers:** 2 + 20
**Range:** 1200 miles
**Sp:** 20 (Armor 1)
**Sdp:** 120 (Body 6)
**Maneuverability:** 0
**Mass:** 15 tons
**Cargo:** 20 spaces, 5 tons
**Cost:** 407,000 EB

**Special Equipment:**
- Pilot and co-pilot ejection seats, crash controls for crew and passengers, chaff and flare dispensers, fire extinguishers, long-range radio, auto-flight with navigation system, light amplification, terrain-following radar, two space turrets, and infra red.

**IMA**

**Titan Prime Mover**

The Titan is IMA's immune ground cleaner and farm preparation vehicle. Stretching well over twenty meters in length and over five meters in width, the Titan is the largest land vehicle in the U.K. Equipped with industrial planer lasers and tungsten grinders, the Titan can level small hills, woods, and scrub land without resorting to explosives or any damaging detrans.

The Titan is A1 computer-controlled and can work around the clock without supervision. The vehicle has its own offensive security system in the form of a radar-controlled minigun with 4000 rounds. In its history only one Titan has ever been lost—really lost. It just disappeared into thin air.

**Type:** Super-heavy Construction Vehicle
**Top Speed:** 30 mph
**Acc/Dec:** 5/10 mph
**Passengers:** 0 (in inspection cabin)
**Sp:** 30 (Armor 1)
**Sdp:** 500 (Body 25)
**Maneuverability:** 1

**Cost:** 1,750,000 EB (Estimated)

**Special Equipment:**
- Ground and air radar, 782mm minigun

**BAE**

**Police Pursuit Crusier**

When the situation warrants speed (and style) British police wheel out their pride and joy—the BAE Police Crusier. Using space-derived plastics...
and ceramics, the vehicle is the state of the art in police enforcement.

To promote overseas sales BAe have given the British government a substantial discount in return for advertising and on the job testing.

The vehicle is mainly deployed along the major Access Roads to discourage the Jackalite gangs and to respond to emergency situations. A number of the Police Cruisers have also been used for ceremonial duties within the London Metropolis.

**TYPE:** Car
**TOP SPEED:** 160 mph
**ACCD/DEC:** 25/50 mph
**CREW/PASSENGERS:** 2+2
**RANGE:** 300 miles
**SP:** 25 (Armor 1, composite)
**SDP:** 100 (Body 9)
**MANEUVERABILITY:** +2
**MASS:** 4 tons
**CARGO:** 2 seats, 500kg
**COST:** 450,000£

**Special Equipment:**
- Crash control systems, environment control, long-range radio, +1 gunnery computer, auto-pilot, cybernetics, image enhancement, light amplification, radar, navigation system, security shocker system, halogen headlights, and searchlights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDP: 25 (Body 1)</th>
<th>MANEUVERABILITY: 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MASS: 1 ton</td>
<td>CARGO: 1 space, 200kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST: 7500£</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**GKN SANKEY-LANDROVER**

**Police Control Cruiser**

The Sankey-Landrover first saw action way back in the early 70's in Northern Ireland and with the decline of law and order on the mainland its use has spread. With nearly fifty years of use the Control Cruiser is one of the most reliable vehicles in the world.

The vehicle is equipped with crowd control and criminal elimination devices. From capturing to perpetrator identification killing, but don't use this word in front of the press! The Sankey-Landrover can handle it. With its reliability the Landrover could well see another half century of service.

**TYPE:** Pickup
**TOP SPEED:** 70 mph
**ACCD/DEC:** 10/30 mph
**CREW/PASSENGERS:** 2+6
**RANGE:** 300 miles
**SP:** 24 (Armor 1)
**SDP:** 60 (Body 3)
**MANEUVERABILITY:** 0
**MASS:** 2.4 tons
**CARGO:** 0
**COST:** 65,750£

**Special Equipment:**
- Crash control system, fire extinguisher system, smoke launcher, tear gas, military radio, infra red active systems, light amplification, searchlight, shocker lazer grid, two space stabilized turrets for weapons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDP: 25 (Body 1)</th>
<th>MANEUVERABILITY: 0</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MASS: 1 ton</td>
<td>CARGO: 1 space, 200kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST: 7500£</td>
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**BAE**

**Electric Metro 2**

The British Aerospace Metro 2 is an extremely common sight on the roads of Britain. A four passenger electric car the Metro accounts for over thirty percent of the current market in the U.K. The car is basic in design and as such is usually the first car bought by any up and coming Corp brass for their parents.

**TYPE:** Car
**TOP SPEED:** 100 mph
**ACCD/DEC:** 35/40 mph
**CREW/PASSENGERS:** 1+3
**RANGE:** 300 miles
**SP:** 10 (Armor 0)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDP: 60 (Body 4)</th>
<th>MANEUVERABILITY: +2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MASS: 8 tons</td>
<td>CARGO: none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST: 1780,000£</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Kestrel**

**Border Patrol/Crowd Control Helicopter**

The Kestrel or Bird of Prey as it is known in the Border area is a single-seat advanced tactical battlefield helicopter. A single gyrostabilized pilot can control the ground and air space around him up to a forty mile radius. It has been given its nickname due to its habit of gliding on to a target once it has been acquired. Designed to patrol the UK borders, the Kestrel has found a home with the police in a crowd suppression role. The payload of the Kestrel is truly frightening as it can carry up to eight tons of external ordnance and come complete with a highly accurate turret mounted Gatling-type cannon.

**TYPE:** medium Helicopter
**TOP SPEED:** 150 mph
**ACCD/DEC:** 10/15 mph
**CREW: 1
**RANGE:** 400 miles
**SP:** 20 (Armor 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDP: 60 (Body 4)</th>
<th>MANEUVERABILITY: +2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MASS: 8 tons</td>
<td>CARGO: none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST: 1780,000£</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Equipment:**
- Down-firing section seat base height 3000, damage control systems, environment control system, chaff and flare dispensers, +5 gunnery computer system for the cannon, long-range military radio, auto-pilot with navigation system, military radar with satellite-following system and radar detection subsystems, thermal imaging, target acquisition, laser illumination, infra-red search and track, infra-red sensors, image enhancement, active gating anti-missile system, cybernetics, ECM & ECCM, Searchlight, multilooking, infra-red, and telescopic optics.

**Weapons:**
- Stabilized turret with 20mm Gatling cannon (1 extra magazine, two weapon pods with eight ton capacity four tons each) must be balanced or suffer a penalty to maneuverability rolls.
**VOOPER/WOLF**

Riverine Patrol Craft

Taking the basic idea of the FPR used in Vietnam, Vosper Wolf have produced a modern design suited for work in Britain's flood prone coastal areas. Using a mixture of fiberglass and ballistic nylon V/W have produced a light weight non-metallic armored hull. All the new stations are under armor and fully environmentally sealed. The boats are inherently buoyant and when punctured will still float afloat. Designed for shallow water work the boat does become very uncomfortable at sea. Owing to the dangers in the area these boats are patrol boats only. The boat's hulls are extremely heavily armed. The forward deck has a twin 120mm HMG and twin 40mm auto-grenade launchers. To prevent the boat from getting into trouble, the craft is fitted with tamped directional Claymore. Even with all this hardware a number of these boats have been lost on patrol.

**RANGE**: 400 miles
**SP**: 40 Armored
**SDP**: 100 (Body 51)
**MANEUVERABILITY**: +1
**MASS**: 5 tons
**CARGO**: 1 ton
**COST**: 600,000€

**Special Equipment**:
- Chaff, flare and smoke dischargers, military long-range radio, satellite uplink, scrambler, radar, radar detector, thermal imaging/thermograph, infrared sensors, auto-pilot with navigation system, magnetometer, ECM and ECOM, damage control system, environment control system, +2 gennie system for the HMG, light ATGMs, and auto-GLs.

**Weapons**:
- Stabilized turret with 2x 15mm HMGs; twin M69-C launcher. Stabilized turret with 1x 15mm HMG and twin 40mm auto-grenade launchers. Anti-personnel grenade anti-boarding system.

**Type**: Small Craft/Patrol Boat
**TOD Speed**: 25 knots (30 mph)
**AC/DEC**: 15/10 mph
**CREW/PASSENGERS**: 5+1

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**GOODYEAR**

**ETB Blimp**

The Goodyear English Tourist Board blimp are used for advertising, regional patrol and area denial. The outside of the gas balloon is covered by a flexible video display screen. While in flight the screen shows PR material and contact numbers for the nearest ETB office. The blimp is flown by five ETB troopers, a pilot, a commander, two gunners and an ECOM officer. The ETB blimps are a feared and hated sight over the countryside, loathed by all Nomads and non-corporate rural residents.

**TYPE**: Blimp
**TOP SPEED**: 70 mph
**ACC/DEC**: 0/30 mph
**CREW/PASSENGERS**: 5+1
**RANGE**: 1500 miles
**SP**: 20 (Armored 3)
**SDP**: 20 (Body 20)
**MANEUVERABILITY**: 1
**MASS**: 10 tons
**CARGO**: 2.5 tons
**COST**: 300,000€

**Special Equipment**:
- Long range radio, Scrambler, Anti-laser aerosol, Chaff, Flares, 2x 2 Targeting computer, Mini-galley, Damage control, Environment control, Radar, Auto-pilot with navigation system, ECM, Image Enhancer, Infrared sensors, Light amplification, Radar detector, Thermal imaging, Telescopic optics, 5x ejection seats.

**Weapons**:
- 2x 76mm miniguns in 2x stabilised turrets.
THE NOMADIC MOVEMENT

HISTORY

EVER SINCE TIME BEGAN THERE HAVE BEEN ITINERANTS, THOSE PEOPLE WHO FOR REASONS KNOWN ONLY TO THEMSELVES HAVE PREFERRED TO MOVE AROUND AS THEY WISH, LIVING IN A SIMPLE NOMADIC CULTURE. IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY, BRITAIN BEGAN TO EXPERIENCE AN UPRISE OF SUCH PEOPLE. BUT WHERE IN THE PAST THEY WOULD TRAVEL INDIVIDUALLY, OR AT LEAST IN SMALL GROUPS, THESE NEW NOMADS BEGAN TO BAND TOGETHER. THEY BECAME KNOWN AS NEW AGE TRAVELLERS. THE MAJORITY WERE PAGANS, WORSHIPPERS OF THE OLD GODS, OBSERVING THE SOLSTICES, AND HONORING NATURE ITSELF. MANY PEOPLE CONSIDERED IT TO BE A REBELLION AGAINST OVER-INDUSTRIALIZATION AND POLLUTION.

Ordinary citizens were concerned at the travellers’ lifestyle and became apprehensive whenever a group turned up. This led to confrontations with the police, a situation that became worse and worse, until by the last decade of the 20th century news broadcasts commonly carried reports of extremely violent conflicts with the authorities. As nomad groups arrived determined to worship en masse, only to be confronted with large numbers of police officers equally determined to drive them back.

A publicity of such events became more and more common and the number of travellers continued to grow as more people, especially the younger generation, began to realize that perhaps a simple life was preferable to existing in an ever more synthetic world. The police were given greater powers to intercept and break up convoys and disperse large gatherings. Such attempts nearly always ended in violence, and in retrospect it is quite surprising that none, on either side, was killed in these confrontations.

But then the situation worsened. The clashes between the travellers and the police became more and more commonplace and not restricted to the festivals that the travellers wished to observe. The government decided that it would have to take a firm stand once and for all, and make an example of these people. With the approach of the summer solstice, Travellers from all over the country began moving toward Stonehenge. The government saw this as an ideal opportunity to bring in new laws restricting the movement of the nomads, and to this end ordered the Army to guard the monument from incursion. Unfortunately, many of the soldiers assigned had freshly returned from the troubles in Ireland, where the situation was very tense. The violence that ensued was like nothing that had been seen before inside England. Live ammunition was used, and by the end twelve Nomads had been killed, dozens more wounded.

For the first time on British television, the general public saw live, these unarmed travellers being shot by the Army. The public was outraged. The media was ecstatic. Repercussions of the tragedy were front page headlines for weeks to come. It also had the effect of, probably for the first time, bringing sympathy behind the travellers. After much debate and political embarrassment, the government was forced to back down on its nomad restrictive legislation.

The aftermath was to have devastating repercussions. At least of which was that many of the travellers began to arm themselves with black market weapons. They were determined that should the government ever try anything like this again, they would have the means to defend themselves.

Shortly after, several of the most influential leaders of the various groups of travellers met to discuss their future.
and how to deal with events such as that which occurred at Stonehenge. The majority of the travellers were against violence but prepared to use it in their defense, and wanted a way to voice their opinions peacefully. The result was the formation of the Natural Faith Union. Its aim was to fight against persecution in a non-violent manner and to provide access to legal aid for travellers who fell foul of the law.

In a comparatively short time, the NFU had successfully unit ed the majority of the New Age religions.

The NFU's first major success was the purchase of tracts of land in the Cotswold Hills near the English/Skotish border. The government was still reeling from the political and economic backlash of the Stonehenge Massacre and was desperate to restore some credibility and confidence in itself. The only way it was able to do this was to concede something to the tourists. Therefore they agreed to the sale, but on one condition, that residents of the NFU land were not entitled to claim any social security from the state. This was agreed and it was not long before many tourists began arriving to settle the land.

As the various groups of travellers began to gather in the Cotswold Hills, they began to form themselves into clans, and the former confrontations, now pitched battles are fought between armed nomads and the MLA. Particularly, it is the transit police who bear the brunt of the nomads' anger. Casualties are heavy on both sides, but the cost in manpower becomes too much for the MLA to sustain the conflict. To try and diffuse the situation, the regional commanders are given sanction to negotiate with the nomad leaders in their region in an attempt to quell the continuing violence, which met with varying levels of success. The main stumbling block was a lack of trust between the opposing factions.

The situation then immediately deteriorates even more. The NFU declares Glastonbury in Somerset to be a sacred site. It demands that the MLA recognizes native access rights and lifts all travel restrictions on nomads who wish to make a pilgrimage there. The MLA refuses this demand, right, and outs the NFU.

The nomads react to this angrily and decide to take the war directly to the MLA. Its disorganized Agricultural Authority is badly hit by a newly formed eco-terrorist group, RAGE (Revolutionary Army of Grandmother Earth). With continuing violence in Ireland, Wales, and Scotland, and now in England itself, the MLA finds themselves pressed to maintain order. RAGE attacks continue in intensity, and reach epidemic proportions. Hardly a day goes by without news of another attack. Despite news censorship, it still somehow manages to reach the public, undermining the MLA even further. The MLA strikes back hard, targeting known nomad encampments, under the excuse that they are harboring RAGE personnel, despite this, the attacks continue unabated.

Eventually the MLA realizes that it will not be able to crush RAGE by force of arms alone. It contacts imprisoned leaders of the outlawed NFU and asks them to negotiate a peace settlement with RAGE. As an act of goodwill and in an attempt to win their acceptance, the MLA agrees to legitimize the NFU and give pardons to its imprisoned leaders. One of the people incarcerated was Sophia Brightcloud. Her parents were among those killed at Stonehenge, when she was fourteen. She soon became active in the original NFU, but emerged as a respected and powerful leader of the newly legalized NFU. In an incredible show of bravery which could well have cost her her life, Sophia declared publicly that she saw no reason why the NFU should intervene in the conflict while free access to nomadic sacred sites was still being denied.

Coincidently at this time, RAGE steps up its campaign against the MLA. Finally, in cooperation, the MLA concurred to the demands of the NFU. Amid much publicity, the MLA grants control of Glastonbury to the NFU, who officially rename it Avalon. In addition, the MLA grants special Transit Dispensation to selected sites claimed as sacred by the NFU. The NFU welcomes the announcement, and reiterates the viewpoint under which it was first formed, that there is always a peaceful solution to any problem and that violence should always be avoided wherever possible. Shortly after, in another remarkable coincidence, terrorist attacks by RAGE radicals decline, giving the MLA the breathing space it so much needed.

However, this was not the end of the MLA's continuing struggle with the nomads. Shortly after the amnesty was reached with RAGE, a splinter eco-terrorist group, "Morrigan's Fury," forms amongst the Cheviot tribes. It is comprised mainly of Scottish and Irish terrorists. The tunes have never stated any political aims and while RAGE concentrated their attacks on Agricultural Authority installations, Morrigan's Fury seem to have no compunction about eliminating people. Even the MLA have publicly denounced Morrigan's Fury, believing that it is influenced by outside sources such as the IRA and radical Scottish national groups, and the NFU have organized raids into Fury territory in an attempt to remove them but with little success.

Today, the nomads have yet another battle on their hands, this time to keep all they have won over the past twenty years. The newly formed Agri-Corp is beginning to enforce land regulation. It practices enforced relocation of residents and the nomads occupy some of the most fertile land in the country. The struggle to maintain their way of life is not over yet and does not look to end in the near future.

What is Paganism?

Paganism has flourished in the United Kingdom, drawing more and more adherents as the 20th century came to a close. Not all the followers were Pagans, although the Triple Moon Clan is made up entirely of those who believe. In simplistic terms, Paganism means a feeling of love and kinship to the Earth and to Nature. The creed is both simple and profound: "All is harm none, do as you will." Pagans believe in polytheism of the divine, worshipping both a god and a goddess. The God is regarded as the consort of the Goddess. He represents action and intellect, while the Goddess is viewed in a triple aspect of child, mother, and crone, governing dreams, introspection, fertility and death. The name of the Goddess varies from tribe to tribe. If you hear mentioned Danu, Isis, Ceridwen, Brigantia, Sophia, Phoebe or Hecate by name, then you refer to the same. The God too has several names, with Cernunos, Herne and Dagda being among the most common.

The Pagan calendar consists of five main fire-festivals when great celebrations commemorating different events are held. The first is Imbolc, Candlemas or the Quickening, held on February 1. This festival represents bringing light into darkness, celebrating the fact that the winter is turning. Then comes Beltane or the Cuingighbour, celebrated on May 1, a fertility festival, where you will find Pagans singing, dancing and other things. Then comes Lammas, Lugnasad or the Binding. Held on August 1, it celebrates the coming harvest. It is a time to give thanks for the bounty, and a time to harvest something fresh for your life. Then there is All Hallows Eve, Samhain or the Death Time. Celebrated on October 31.
it marks the coming of the winter. It is also a time to respect and honor the dead, and reputedly it signifies when the veil between our world and the spirit world is at its thinnest. It is best to avoid pagan areas while they are celebrating Samhain. Finally, there is Yule, held on December 21. Pagans do not celebrate Christmas, but instead turn back to this ancient festival where friends would gather, give gifts and light fires to tempt the sun back to the world.

In addition, you will also be able to see large pagan gatherings at the sacred sites at the equinoxes and solstices held throughout the year.

Sophia Brightchild and the NFU

Sophia Brightchild is the current leader of the Natural Faith Union. Because the nomads rarely bother to register births or deaths with the government, her exact age is unknown.

Unfortunately, the troubles were only just beginning. Within a few months of Sophia and the other NFU leaders being imprisoned, the MLA had to deal with a newly formed ecoterrorist group, RAGE.

It is a testament to the strength of Sophia Brightchild that she survived her imprisonment on the Isle of Wight. Three of the original NFU leaders died, but Sophia remained calm, strong, and dedicated to the cause of the travellers. She and her surviving comrades were to spend just over ten years on the colony before a reprieve was granted. Even today, she never speaks of her imprisonment, except to say that it was a trial of the Goddess. When her release came, it was with the news that the MLA had agreed to allow the reformation of the NFU on the condition that it became active in attempting to stop the attacks of RAGE which had been going on now for over a decade.

With her release, Sophia became the head of the NFU, a position that noone questioned. It was almost as if she had been born to it. She immediately began renewing public awareness to the plight of the travellers in general. Then the MLA arranged a meeting with Sophia. It was during this meeting that Sophia made her now-famous speech refusing any aid to the MLA as long as they continued to persecute Pagans by refusing them access to the sacred sites.

Desperate now for an end to RAGE, the MLA reluctantly agrees to gift Glastonbury to the NFU and provide special Transit Dispersal for those who wish to make a pilgrimage there. Sophia accepts the MLA's offer, and in an historic speech, she officially renames Glastonbury as Avalon, and decrees those who resort to violence to achieve their aims.

Within a few weeks, the attacks of RAGE come to a virtual halt. Today, Sophia is regarded as the Mother Guardian of all travellers. She is the sole head of the NFU. Her word has become virtual law amongst the nomads. Sophia is based in Glastonbury, but because she needs to be mobile, she travels around the country in an armored half-truck accompanied by her honor guard of travellers known as the Guild of Stag Dancers, a band of primarily male warriors whose creed is to settle disputes by combat. These Dancers are not to be underestimated, as they are very well armed with late 20th century Soviet weaponry smuggled in from the Baltic states, and, occasionally, the odd piece of ex-MLA equipment found its way into their possession. However, there is a rumor among the echelons of the new government that there is a growing movement within the travellers for Sophia to fulfill the Triple Aspect. She has been the Child, and now she is the Mother. Many believe that it is time for her to become the Hag Destroyer. The NFU deny all knowledge of this movement, but it is making the government very uneasy, which could possibly lead to renewed conflict between the authorities and the Travellers once more.

“Long distance information...
Just tells me where the manholes steam...
A little girl waits on my station...
With a new machine...
...on Detonation Boulevard...”
—Sisters of Mercy, Detonation Boulevard
Ravens and Rats
Almost a contradiction in terms, these are city travelers, con,
triving in the urban sprawl of all the major cities. They
are a major problem for the Tourist Board who are trying
to clean up certain cities like London. The R&R provide street
entertainment on one hand, and organized petty crime
such as pick pocketing on the other. They often find them-
sew in conflict with established crime families as well as
the authorities. They are loosely organized, thus making it
hard for the authorities to track them down and eradicate
them. Because of their nature, they do not wear identities.

The Sacred Hoop
Tend to follow the philosophy of Native American
Shamanism. They travel in small groups, and are usually
peaceful. They are identified by their clothing, which is usu-
ally simple and colorful, and often includes feathers and
bone attached to their clothing somewhere.

Spiral Tribe
The antithesis of the Triple Moon Clan, the Spiral Tribe are
probably the second largest of the tribes, and just as wide
spread as the Triple Moons. The Spiral Tribe, however, manu-
facture and supply drugs, and then proceed to organize rave
parties at which their drugs are sold. They are extremely vo-
 lent, especially when defending their business. Noone know-
ingly crosses them without a very good reason. They are eas-
ily identified by a pattern of concentric rings, often sewn into
clothing, although it is often tattooed on their bodies as well.

Triple Moon Clan
These are the largest of the New Age travelers’ groups, and
are generally peaceful. The majority are followers of
Pagan and Wicca and believers in the Triple Goddess.
Sophia Brightchild and her parents were of this tribe. They
circle in around large groups, setting up markets and festi-
vals, where they sell their craft and provide old fashioned
services such as linkers and cobblers. There is hardly a part
of the country that does not host at least one tribe of the
Triple Moon Clan. They can be usually identified by rainbow
and psychedelic painted trucks and vans. Individually, they
tend to wear pentagrams, as either earrings, rings or pen-
dants.

The Wild Hunt
A large Biker gang, akin to Hell’s Angels. They are feared,
but not usually violent unless provoked. During time of the
MLA, they made a name for themselves by their constant
goading of the Transit Police. They are concentrated on the
roads of the south and the midlands, although they are no
where near as dangerous as the Jack of Arrows goes to the
north. This does not mean, however, that they are not dan-
gerous. They usually wear the furs of dogs, and carry depic-
tions of wolf heads on their bikes and clothing.

The New Highwaymen
A relatively new phenomenon in the rapidly fragmenting
north of England, and the prime targets of the new feed-
up Transit Police, the so called Jack of Arrows are high
speed high-jackers, most commonly found on the main
north bound arterial roads such as the A1, M1 and the M6.
Anyone travelling further north than Leeds in the east or
Blackburn in the west on either the M6 or the A9M do so
at their own risk. The city of Newcastle upon Tyne has now
become virtually isolated, with the Longboatmen controlling

A Gazetteer of Tribes
The Children of Danu
Taking their name from the Tuatha de Danann of ancient Irish
Mythology, they are found up around the Pennines and the
west north coast. As a tribe they tend to be peaceful, but this
is believed to be a cover. As it is rumoured that the tribe has in
fact been infiltrated by Irish terrorists as a base of operations
in the UK. While they are not violent in themselves, they have
made it clear that they wish to be left alone, and are therefore
very insular. Approach at your own risk. Identified by a black
shamrock or a golden sickle the latter often mistaken by the
ill-informed as some kind of communist symbol.

The Guild of Stag Dancers
The Guild are largely drawn from the triple Moon Clan, but this does not preclude them from coming
from other tribes. The Guild could loosely be described as a
police force. They take upon themselves to protect
nomads from the law and also to protect and prepare
sacred sites around the country prior to religious festivals.
Sophia Brightchild herself has a personal bodyguard drawn
from members of the Guild, as do other high-ranking mem-
bers of the NPF. On rare occasions, the Guild has even
been known to take action against travellers who have
been causing problems and giving nomads in general a bad
name. They never get involved in clan warfare, as they do not
see it as their concern, unless it begins to affect other
travelers who would be otherwise uninolved. They can
easily be identified by the stag. Of all the tribes, these are the most likely to carry cyberware, although it is usu-
ally low-key.

Mannannan’s Baim
From Stranraer to Anglesey, the west coast of Britain is
under the tutelage of this tribe of Man only accessible by air. They are largely responsible for
all the disruption of shipping from the west of Britain to
Ireland. Not much is known about them because of their lim-
ited area of operation. It is believed that they tend to wear
tattoos depicting cresting waves or horses. For safety, it is
recommended that contact is avoided.

The Pendragon
Taking their name from Britain’s greatest mythological hero,
they are based in Wales (which always refer to as
Cymru), whose flag depicts a red dragon. They are largely
Welsh nationalism. There is a tendency to clash with the
Round Table Knights, a poser gang based in Bristol (see
Eurosource). While they are violent, they are generally too
focused on the one cause to have any other interests, or to
pose much of a threat to outsiders (unless you are unlucky.
Identified by dragon tattoos on their forearms.
access by sea and the Jackknife gangs controlling the roads, leaving only the air routes reasonably secure (and even a few aircraft have been shot down approaching the city, although no one knows by whom). The Jackknives employ hit and run tactics, using a whole host of weaponry from machine guns and rocket launchers to riot guns fired at the wheels of vehicles. They vanish quickly after each attack, hiding out in the Lake District National Park, the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and the West York Moors National Park, making them almost impossible to find. Gang names such as Road Rats, Max Madness and Screaming Speed, are becoming part of popular culture—much to the chagrin of the new government in London.

The Cheviot Hills Clans

Since its inception some seventeen years ago, The Cheviot Hills has now become the primary domain of the born-again Celts in all their rumored blood-drinking and human-sacrificing glory. It has been stressed that nothing is truly known about this area. People who enter uninvited do not come out again, including, a much-publicized undercover U.K.T. investigative reporter. It is this total ignorance of what really goes on in the hills that generates the most fear. Even the most street-hardened solos of Newcastle refuse jobs that involve contact with these clans, no matter what money is being offered. Among the more popular development of modern folklore includes tales of druidic sacrifice, head-hunting thrones and cannibalism. The government is now so desperate to control the hills, that they are on the verge of asking the N.F.U. to intervene on their behalf. The only thing holding them back is the fear of what the N.F.U. will demand in return for their services this time. One belief is they will require complete control of the New Forest to provide a haven for travelers in the south.

THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

As in the United States, the media in the United Kingdom has always enjoyed what has colloquially been termed "freedom of the press," despite the lack of an equivalent to the First Amendment to actually guarantee this right under law.

During the end of the 20th century, both television and newspaper reporting came under heavy governmental criticism and review for certain journalistic "scourges," most of which concerned themselves with the professional lives of many public personalities, including members of the then-in-power government, and the old Royal Family. (The mother of Queen Victoria was one of those that suffered from these sensationalist being made public.)

Despite the failure of several earlier attempts, by the end of the century legislation had finally been introduced to curb such disclosures being made public in the future. This legislation was largely possible only due to the fact that all printed news was compiled under data- and word-processing systems. It was comparatively simple to have electronic copies of the daily papers sent to the offices of the National Press Overview Committee, where the "papers" were read, edited where necessary and then transmitted back to the editorial offices of the newspaper concerned, prior to physical printing. This is something that no one has even been able to adequately explain.

Why in this era of data-terms, do the British still like to read a traditional newspaper?

Television was little harder to control. Instead, the associate National Broadcasting Overview Committee became responsible for the scrutiny of all documentary, political and news broadcasts. The television companies were required by law to provide the committee with video tape of all programs falling under the brief of the committee for review and censoring. This virtually extended all live television to a buffer nature. Even institutions such as the BBC's Nin O'Clock News was now recorded around three in the afternoon, to allow the committee time to view and censor the tape and then to allow additional "harmless" news to be recorded to make up the length. Then, in 1995, barely a year after the MLA had come to power, the NPCD and the NBOC were amalgamated to form the Public Information Office, whose task it was not merely to censor the media but to actually provide approved news to the public.

With the abolition of the Monarchy, and the introduction of Martial Law, the PIO became one of the most important department of the new protectorate. Travel became more and more restricted until it was virtually impossible to leave one community and travel to another without numerous permits. Because of this, Britain became more and more akin to medieval times, where villages walled themselves off from travelers, bringing in the news from other communities, especially the cities. In the early 21st century, instead of travelers, the public relied totally upon the newspaper service for information. Thus, by controlling the media, the MLA was able to ensure that the public knew what the authorities wanted them to know.

However, it was not long before underground news bulletins were set up, mainly on data-terms and other electronic news networks, although a few illegal television stations also began transmitting. Many top journalists, frustrated at not being able to report accurately the news, raised their careers to notoriety as the first to break the news to the public. This eventually led to another department being formed within the PIO, whose sole function was to shut down all pirate news transmissions, and arrest those associated with them. Right from the outset, stiff penalties were introduced for those found guilty, beginning with a minimum five year sentence on the Isle of Wight Prison Colony.

While many of the smaller pirate stations were shut down, and extreme punishments were meted out to the owners of the stations, a few of the bigger studios were able to survive undiscovered. This was largely due to secret corporate financing. Many of the corporations that found that martial law severely affected their profits began to look elsewhere to the govern- ment in order to allow their business to thrive once more. Under a collective, which the MLA termed "The Cartel" the MLA were able to find out much more about this mysteri- ous organisation, they began first of all by secretly financing the more successful pirate stations and then by beginning movements to find a legitimate heir to the British throne in order to re-establish the monarchy. The corporation then supported the pirate stations to support this move and begin the call for the restoration of the Monarchy, as they too saw it as a way of overthrowing the government and the abolishment of Martial Law.

THE MEDIA TODAY

Ironically, the pirate stations became the victims of the very thing that they were set up to combat. Either they were unaware of, or chose to ignore, the fact that they were being manipulated by the pirate stations. The result was that as soon as the PIO simply telling the official news stations what they could or could not broadcast, but it was there nonetheless. Because they had become completely dependent upon the money they sometimes received from other corporations, it led to the "suggestions" made to them by the corporations to which they were bound to be included in their broadcasts. At the beginning, the pirates broadcast genuine, accurate news and apart from decreeing the censorship that brought them into being, they avoided overt political opinions from coloring their bulletins. However, after a few years they became more and more critical of the MLA and became strong proponents of the re-establishment of the Monarchy. This shift in broadcasting policy was undoubtedly due to the influence of the corporations.

With the recent collapse of Martial Law, the media has once again been freed from many of the constraints under which it has been forced to operate under the last quarter of a century. However, as yet there is still no proper freedom of the press and the various broadcasting and publishing establishments still have to be careful about what information they convey to the public.

The more powerful corporations who now control the Monarchy have yet not abolished the PIO. Initially they wanted the news to reflect their own vision for the country and so allowed them virtually a free hand in their transmissions. Of course, many of the broadcasters voiced their regret at the ending of censorship by praising the corporations and detailing extensively how the life under martial law was under the benevolent guidance of corpora- tions like the IMA. However, the corporations were not quite ready to allow complete freedom of speech, but at the same time they did not wish to alienate the press in the same manner that the MLA had done. The PIO no longer issues news bulletins but still censors it. This is done in the public's interest and not "in the interest of National Security." In addition, the corporations are openly very supportive of the media and feed them the scoops and exclusives that they want the public to know about.

THE NEWS IN PRINT

There are numerous local newspapers which cover the news for individual cities or the various regions of the United Kingdom. These papers, weekly, are printed and distributed locally, but are available nationwide via data networks, usually costing between £0.50 and £2 to access electronically a subscription, approximately £2 to the cost for a hard-copy. There are only three national newspapers in circulation. These too are available on data-
terms, but for those who wish hard-copies of the paper, the publishers provide a fax service where the entire paper will be faxed to the subscriber, who only needs to fold the pages in half to have a “proper” newspaper.

**The U.K. Bulletin**

The first of these is the U.K. Bulletin. It is published daily and costs £1.50 to view at a data-term or £4.75 to have it faxed. The Bulletin was the “official” newspaper of the MLA. It was published with full PIO approval, and always supported the MLA in everything it did. Despite its hard-line attitude, it was very popular simply because it was the cheapest of all the national papers. The Bulletin is still published although its popularity is waning. While not any longer openly supporting the now-censored MLA or what it stood for, it remains the least enthusiastic about the restoration of the Monarchy and the greater political influence of the corporations. However, the general public, tired of years of Martial Law, are not interested in reading about “how good it was before.” They would rather spend a little more of their hard-earned cash and buy a paper that contains the sort of news that they want to read.

It is said that the only reason why the Bulletin has not been closed down is that the current government want at least to give the appearance of supporting a democracy. Therefore, by allowing the continued publication of a paper that is ostensibly against them, democracy appears to be served. In addition, the government is a little frightened that if they tried to ban it outright, those that genuinely wish the return of the MLA would take it underground. The government has already seen its benefits; how effective a pirate news service can be, and so that would be the last thing that was wanted. They would rather keep it in the open where the Bulletin can be monitored.

**The Guardian**

The Guardian is published weekly and takes its name from a newspaper published during the late 20th century. In its current form it began life as the most popular of the pirate news services. During Martial Law it was only available via data-term at a cost of £3. It consistently criticized the MLA and its policy of censorship. The name was chosen as the publishers saw themselves as “the guardians of truth until the day comes when it can be spoken openly once more.” Five of its journalists were sentenced to the island of Wight Penitentiary, where one of them died under mysterious circumstances. Within a year of the Monarchy being restored, the four survivors were released by Royal decree among much publicity and promised that The Guardian would continue publishing, albeit openly.

The newspaper today has a very strong following and costs £7 from a data-term or £11 for a fax. The paper still takes its name seriously and while it generally approves and encourages many of the changes that have occurred recently, it is not above criticizing the corporations or the government when it feels that they have done something wrong. Because of the overall favorable support of the paper, however, the PIO usually turns a blind eye, although it has censored the paper a couple of times in the recent past. Instead of replacing the censored items with other news, the Guardian has left the relevant pages blank, ensuring that the public knew that it had been the subject of censorship.

Recently the Guardian bought itself a television news service, Guardian News, so it can bring the news to those who cannot read. It hopes that by putting pressure on the PIO from a second outlet, it can bring an end to all censorship once and for all.

**The Royal Times (formerly The Times)**

The Times is Britain’s oldest national newspaper and it continues to this day. It takes pride in the fact that it has printed the news for several hundred years, and through all sorts of crises, both foreign and domestic, including two world wars. It sees its history as being synonymous with integrity. During Martial Law, many of its top journalists moonlighted for the pirate news services, and were among the strongest supporters of the corporation’s plan to re-establish the Monarchy. While The Times followed PIO guidelines to the letter, the Underground Times did everything it could to print and undermine the MLA. On the day of the coronation of our long-awaited Queen, the paper changed its name to the Royal Times to mark its approval of events.

It remains the staunchest supporter of the Monarchy, the new government, and the corporation’s plans to build “a greater prosperity for a Greater Britain.” Its critics thereby the Bulletin maintain that the paper is being controlled by the PIO, although this has never been formally admitted. The Royal Times, however, insists that they are completely independent of any outside editorial control, printing the news as they believe it should be printed and voicing opinions that they think are the best for the country.

The Royal Times is published daily, and costs £5.50 from a data-term or £9 for a faxed copy. It is the most financially secure of the three national, and it demonstrates this by frequently donating large amounts of money to various corporation-sponsored charities. It is the most popular of all the papers, and this popularity was given another boost recently when the Queen officially approved its name. Before this, the addition of the word “royal” was seen as pretentious by its rivals; now The Royal Times comments on its pettiness at picking on a name, rather than on real issues.

**The News in Vision**

Television broadcasting did not have as many pirate services as the newspapers. This was because it was far easier for the PIO to trace TV transmissions than it was to try and track down the paper. However, there were two mobile TV stations that managed to survive throughout the control of the MLA and many of the journalists of the legal TV stations did their own share of moonlighting for the pirates.

Television today is highly specialized, with different channels concentrating on a particular type of programming, such as news, light entertainment, music and so on. Competition between rival channels with similar programming styles is quite fierce, with each station vying with the others for the best ratings.

**The B.B.C.**

The British Broadcasting Corporation is the oldest broadcasting establishment in the world. It has always prided itself on objective reporting, pride that took a back seat under the auspices of the PIO. It was decreed that because of its very name, the BBC should become the official voice of the MLA. This angered many of its journalists, who began working anonymously for the pirate stations, while pandering the official news for the BBC.

The Beeb is it affectionately known) has five channels. BBC1 is the main news station, providing news updates every hour on the hour, with major bulletins at 9am, 1pm, 6pm and 9pm. In between the news, pro-royal features are broadcast, utilizing the wealth of archive footage that the BBC has at its disposal going back almost one hundred years. BBC2 concentrates on light entertainment, originally approved by the MLA to keep the population content, and which has not really changed with their collapse. Too many of the shows proved genuinely too popular to be cancelled. BBC3 provides twenty four hour music, while BBC4 caters to those who enjoy sports. BBC5 is dedicated to documentaries of all types, whose content is also monitored by the PIO for anything that ought not to be transmitted.
A Typical TV Listing

Listed below is a complete daily television for two of Britain's television stations: BBC1 is a news station, and UK2 is a light entertainment station.

BBC1
05:55: National Anthems, played over a photo of Queen Victoria II.
06:00: News: Down, Deep Thinkers: Who's thinking about Queen Victoria II? Hosted by Sir James Gillray, andlightly dressed in black, your morning news is read by Junior Bible experts. Join us every weekday at this time.
09:00: News: ALMA: Our first major bulletin, with Fiona Homes and Thomas McCallum.
10:25: The Weather, including strong winds and a rising news bulletin.
11:30: City News: Stock changes and announcements. All the latest from the City with William Kennedy.
11:50: A Message from our Queen Victoria II celebrates the nation.
12:10: Compass Point: Regional News for your area. With Catherine King.
12:15: News: 6:30: One of six bulletins with Fiona Homes and Thomas McCallum.
13:45: Weather Update.
14:30: A Special Report: Today features the wedding of Queen Victoria II and Prince Andrew. Featuring the beautiful wedding of Prince Andrew and Fiona Homes. All the latest in the front row.
15:00: News: Frontlines with Fiona Homes and Thomas McCallum.
15:10: Thrawn Testimony: Think of a journey. Find it out now and read it forward. Preceded by your usual openers.
16:30: News and Weather: Discussion on today's weather. Tonight your great presenters are the Edwardian Governesses from the Church of England and Royal Family. Including the latest sensational reenactment of Queen Victoria II, a conversation with Charles Dickens.
16:45: National Anthems, played over a photo of Queen Victoria II.
16:50: Classic Chernobyl: A chance to see classic moments in the history of our Frontline, including the series reenactment of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. King Charles III, and our own beloved Queen Victoria II. Ends at 05.35

UK2
05:00: Wheeler Weekly: Join the Spencer, Markidonna Griffin, and Toffetan. A series of four thrilling issues (with the occasional bit of news) to keep your appetite for fiction alive.
06:00: Haymarket: The popular 19th century card game continues. With no-nonsense, quick-witted play on the front line.
06:30: Holiday "72: Planning your vacation? Today's program focuses on the delights of either from the ITA with Judith Chalmers.
12:15: Classic Chernobyl: A chance to see classic moments in the history of our Frontline, including the series reenactment of Queen Elizabeth II, King Charles III, and our own beloved Queen Victoria II. Ends at 05.35
15:00: Wheeler Weekly: Join the Spencer, Markidonna Griffin, and Toffetan. A series of four thrilling issues (with the occasional bit of news) to keep your appetite for fiction alive.
16:00: Holiday "72: Planning your vacation? Today's program focuses on the delights of either from the ITA with Judith Chalmers.

Independent Television

There are several regional independent television stations, all of which have a single channel. Most of which combine the various programming styles provided by the BBC and the three national independent stations. These three national stations, sometimes together and sometimes on their own, try to make the techniques more local. Others try to attempt to win ratings from the BBC. The success of the media, many of the pirate anchormen were keenly sought by the independents. These men and women had become household celebrities, and were often offered enormous salaries to turn legitimate. It was believed that they would woo viewers from rival stations. This has been reasonably effective although recently, opposing channels have resorted to smear campaigns, implying that these reporters are not as clean-cut as their public image has made them out to be.

UK Today

UKT is the largest of the independent national stations. It has three channels, and is currently bidding for a fourth. It has a strong personality with the new Guardian News, not least because it obtained the last channel that UKT were after. UKT also has a news and documentary station. It transmits three one-hour bulletins throughout the day at noon, 7pm, and 10pm. Unlike BBC1, its documentaries must be passed by the PMO, although it generally has more complex relationships with the corporations than the BBC. Because of this, it receives far more assistance from the corporations for favorable reporting. UKT combines light entertainment and music with UKTS (the sports channel, showing traditional British sports, as well as the ever popular EscapAID.

The Independent Broadcasting Network

The IBN was formed from the remnants of the old Independent Television (ITV) network of the late 20th century. It controls all of the regional stations, as well as running two national stations under its own banner. IBN is classified as general entertainment, broadcasting all categories of programs, including news and current affairs. IBN is the full time news station, providing twenty-four hour news. It is currently in a contract war with the BBC, as it is attempting to poach Cassandra King, one of the Beeb's most popular anchormen.

The Guardian News

The newest of the independent national stations, it has at the moment only one channel, although it is leading against UKT for a second. It began broadcasting only seven months ago, and it only broadcasts news, but its station is becoming more and more popular. Drawing as it does from its newspaper division, IBN provides a balanced look at the news in probably the same vein that is applied to a single channel. In addition, we have three ex-pirates anchoring its twenty-four hour broadcasts, the public seem to have really taken to it when they wish to watch the news.

WORKING IN THE MEDIA

For a determined reporter, the current climate is as close to journalistic heaven as they are ever likely to get. Whether it is a string of corporations forgoing the roost of their houses for land redevelopment, trying to reinstate a nomad pack for an in-depth report on their lifestyle, or travelling north to the border lands to investigate reports of mysterious disappearances, a reporter needs to be alert, capable and where possible have very good back-up.

A standard reporting team consists of the reporter and two technicians. The station will usually assign them either an armoured van or an AV unit containing all their equipment such as hand-held cameras, mini-cams for covert filming and a satellite link-up for direct transmission to the studio. At least one of the technicians will usually have a good firearms and unarmed combat skill in addition to his technical expertise.

However, back-up and support is not always available. If a reporter is going into a story undercover, they will only have their own wits to rely on, in addition to the relatively few amounts of personal equipment that they might be able to smuggle in with them. In such cases, a contact point is usually arranged in advance, where the reporter can get in touch with the studio to relay information or call for help, if a scheduled contact is missed twice in a row, the studio will begin planning an extraction, but because this means the investigation will be blown, they try to avoid this wherever possible. The scoop is everything and the risks are part of the job.

A very important aspect of the job is the use of equipment. A great deal of the work involved in working in the media occurred only a couple of years ago. For several years, the clubs who had made their homes in the Chester Hills had had rumors build around them. Stories of extreme acts of violence, including blood-sacrifice, have become almost legendary.

Much of the speculation arises from the fact that nobody who enters the area ever returns to tell of what really goes on within the dense woods. In an attempt to get to the bottom of what exactly is going on within the Hills, UKT decided on an ambitious undercover operation. One of their top reporters, Carol Lewis,
“Thank you all for your support during my ‘detainment.’ It’s nice to know that being a Royalist is in vogue again. Now, if you’ll excuse me, I have a story to file on prison conditions…”

— Cassandra King, aka Sandra Royale, upon her release from the Isle of Wight

began a daring operation. Initially she spent a year with the Triple Moon Clan, learning their ways and beliefs in order to give herself a good background. Then she headed north to the Cheviot Hills. One report was made, saying that she had contacted one of the tribes within. Carol Lewis has never been seen since.

U.K.T. organized an extraction. A party of soxos was dispatched to get Carol Lewis out of the area. Only one returned. Lamonsoh Libbe reported that his comrades had been killed. He refused to say anything more about what had happened, and went into the solo business and is rumored to live in Gascoyne (Australia). U.K.T. was unable to arrange another attempt. After news of the first failure reached the soxos, they began demanding more money than U.K.T. was prepared to invest in rescuing one missing reporter. As to what happened to Carol Lewis, many rumors now surround her. The majority say that she was killed, either straight out or as the result of some ancient and barbaric ritual. Another rumor, less common, but with greater weight, is that Lewis has been adopted by one of the tribes. Her time with the Triple Moon Clan altered her way of looking at things and she has settled in the hills, married to a Celtic warior, with three children to succeed their father. But, of course, all these are rumors. As to what really happened, it is unlikely that anyone will ever know…

Media Personalities

Annie Allen
Annie Allen is the main host of the BBC's New Dawn. New Day Breakfast program, along with James Irving. Chosen because of her intense, very lively personality, her traumas, her long blonde hair which tends to be a little unkempt, looking like though she has just got out of bed, despite her otherwise immaculate appearance. She lacks the air of seriousness required to present the other news programs, but cope well enough reading the headlines. Annie was originally in the Beeb's research department, and still has many friends there. She is well aware of how she appears to others, but does not want to be taken as a serious reporter. Her ambition is to rack some big story wide open, allowing her to recognize her talent as a thorough investigator. To this end, she still spends a lot of her free time in research, trying to piece together the possible leads to the story that will get her abilities recognized.

Clare Bennett
Clare Bennett co-owns all of U.K.T.'s news bulletins with Mark Talbot. Quietly, she only broke into broadcasting during the last days of the MLA, originally working with the BBC. U.K.T. liked her innocent approach, and offered her the chance to actually present their news, rather than just being one of numerous reporters for the Beeb. This opportunity arose after another popular U.K.T. reporter, Carol Lewis, disappeared while investigating the Clans in the Cheviot Hills. She has proven very popular, but U.K.T. are still losing the ratings war against the BBC is rumored that as soon as they can find a replacement for her U.K.T. are going to give Clare her own program, Bennett about Britain, confirming their faith in her abilities.

James Irving
James Irving partners Annie Allen in hosting New Dawn. New Day, the BBC's early morning breakfast show. Being a very stolid, sober man, he's the perfect foil to Annie's more bubbly persona. Originally a pirate during the days of the MLA, he first began working for the Beeb's network, before being offered a large salary to co-host the morning show. He reads the more serious news headlines and handles technical crises with aplomb, while Annie tends to collapse into hysterical laughter. Because of his time as a pirate, James has a highly developed sense of morality regarding cover-ups and censorship. He despises both, and will always assist anyone who can prove that such a cover-up is taking place.

Cassandra King
Without a doubt the most popular of all the pirates who have turned legitimate, Cassandra King has a very large following of fans who tune in simply to see her. Incredibly attractive, without any biosculpting (despite some malicious rumors to the contrary), she is also quick and intelligent. Under the alias of Sandra Royale, she led the pirates in the call to restore the Monarchy. Arrested in 1999 and sent to the Isle of Wight Penitentiary Colony, she spent nearly two years there before receiving a royal pardon. While incarcerated, Cassandra found that Sandra Royale had become a virtual living legend. She is honest, inquisitive and tenacious. Her program supervisors usually allow her to go her own way as long as it is not going to cross the ROJ. In addition, she presents the BBC's evening news and their regional news programs, she also investigates her own stories. Whenever she is absent for any length of time, her viewers know that when she returns, she will have a scoop well worth waiting for. A moment, she is caught in a contract war with U.K.T. They want Cassandra to present their news programs, but she has refused their offer so far. No one knows whether it is out of ballyhoo to the Beeb, or whether she is waiting for a more lucrative offer. However, Cassandra has never been heard to complain about her salary from the Beeb.

Mark Talbot
The only ex-pirate working for U.K.T. Mark Talbot is the channel's biggest celebrity. With Clare Bennett, he presents all the news bulletins for U.K.T. Mark is generally level-headed, but not above taking a few risks for the sake of a good story. He used to work with "Sandra Royale" during the days of the MLA, and this is one of the reasons why U.K.T. is trying to poach Cassandra King from the Beeb. They believe that if they can reunite these two, it will make their legislation legitimate, they will have the perfect formula to win viewers from the Beeb. Mark himself has publicly expressed a desire to work with his friend Cassandra again. And while Cassandra has so far expressed no interest in moving, she has been reported as saying that if she did decide to switch, it would be good to work with Mark Talbot once more.

The Guide is divided into two main sections, general information about travel, geography, food and drink, music and the arts, and local information in which we take you on a tour around the regions of England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland and their metropolises. GOOD LUCK!

TRAVEL

Getting around the U.K. is hard—deliberately so. The M.A. did not maintain many of the minor roads and rail links so that the population could be more easily controlled. The motorway system, along with numerous 'A' roads, are designated as Major/Military Access Road Systems (MARS) or Corridors. These were kept in good condition by the military along with the main line rail network for the fast deployment of troops. All other roads and branch lines were allowed to fall into disrepair. Both the Corridors and the MARS rail lines are controlled by British United Tourism and Travel PLC and are run for profit—a toll is charged on all major roads.

Aero-vehicles are also required to fly on set routes which normally follow either the Corridors or the main lines. This is ostensibly to avoid mid-air collisions with any military or commercial aircraft. Others say they don't want people seeing what's happening in the nomad areas. All vehicles are required to file flight plans—any deviation from the flight path will be considered an offense—in certain areas (Scotland, Borders, North Wales and East Anglia) this will be met with by ultimate force. Those who stray off the Corridors aren't treated nearly as harshly—if you're dumb enough to stray off the main road in your nice shiny Jaguar-XC50/5 then you're too stupid to bother about!

Obviously all this wealth booming up and down the motorway at high speeds keeps those Nomads nice and interested. They regularly ambush drivers in the more remote areas, so be careful. British United Tourism and Travel keep fast response units at the various service stations up and down the country to counter any trouble. Those BUTT-heads, as they are known by Nomads, are fairly well-equipped and can call on the Police Corridors Tactical Response Unit if they feel a little dicey. In the Border areas, North Wales and East Anglia, this role is undertaken by the Combined Forces.

The problem is that while the British Government claims to have total control over these roads, this is not the case. Most MARS' control centre is shared with those near any district administrative centre or sensitive site (such as Holy Loch submarine base or Dounreay atomic power rank). However a lot of the roads elsewhere are not so secure. A Major Access road is maintained to as near perfect condition as is possible so that if a roll convoy needs to be set, the state of the road can be relied upon in theory at any rate. Those looking for jobs can easily find one as a guard to one of the road crews repairing the carriageway in the more dangerous areas. Techies can also find a job maintaining the equipment needed to repair the road.

Each road is given a safety rating—a value ranging from one to five with one being totally safe. These ratings are given to the traveller when he pays his toll to join the MARS. This is printed on the back of the receipt and gives the status if the MARS in 250 mile radius of your present location. If you travel outside that radius, then you can easily obtain one at any of the MARS service stations for a nominal fee.

The main roads to avoid are those in North Wales, Scotland/Borders and East Anglia. These roads are only safe around such areas as Holy Loch (near Glasgow), Dounreay (atomic energy park near Thurso), Peterborough and Holyhead. If you need to travel these roads, its best to travel as part of a convoy (either private or military). If you can't, then I suggest you just follow it and hope for the best. For a few dollars, I suggest you visit the Leather Jackets or the relevant Military or Corporate pass or the Full Tourist ticket.

This position is mirrored in London especially in the bombing of the Thames Flood Barrier has resulted in half of East London being underwater thereby closing down most of the Underground system. Most roads inside used to be the M25 are actually designated as MARS, but of course, that is just too many people to control. Generally those to the East of London are unsafe—especially after dark.

As for the Underground—a few of the lines remain in operation, specifically the Waterloo & City, Piccadilly, Victoria, Jubilee, and Bakerloo lines i.e., those that go nowhere near the East End and didn't require much work to repair and isolate from the other lines. BUTT is implementing a reclamation policy and regularly sends survey teams into the old Underground system—a lot don't return. The British Rail network (now operated by British United Tourism and Travel in London was less affected and along with a relatively new tram system is now used to get around the city.

The military and some of the major Corps also use the old Post Office private system to move their more sensitive goods around—along with their troops.
Vehicle access to the city has been restricted since the early 1990s and private cars are now banned from Central London. As a result, cycling and public transport are the preferred modes of travel. The city has developed a comprehensive public transport system, including a network of buses, trams, and subways. The city center has also undergone significant development in recent years, with the construction of new buildings and the renovation of old ones. These changes have helped to reduce the city's carbon footprint and make it more sustainable.

**Geography, Flora and Fauna**

The majority of Britain's geology has been shaped by the Ice Age, and the landscape is characterized by a mixture of plateaux, mountains, and lowlands. The country is divided into two main regions: the southern England, which is characterized by a mix of rolling hills, flat landscapes, and coastal areas, and the northern England, which is characterized by rugged mountains and a more varied topography. The climate in Britain is generally mild and temperate, with mild winters and cool summers. Rainfall is also relatively high, with an average of around 600mm per year. The flora and fauna of Britain are diverse, with a mix of native and introduced species. Some of the most common types of wildlife include birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. The most common types of birds include robins, sparrows, and wrens, while the most common types of mammals include rabbits, foxes, and deer. The country is also home to a variety of reptiles and amphibians, including toads, newts, and lizards. The country's most famous mammal is the red panda, which is a small, arboreal animal that is native to the UK. It is found in the forests of the UK and is known for its distinctive markings and behavior. The UK is also home to a variety of other animals, including otters, beavers, and seals. These animals play an important role in the UK's ecosystem and are protected by law.
The above are just a few of the more interesting species to be found in and around the British Isles, there are others. For instance it has always been the vague for high flying corporate execs to keep exotic pets, many of which are later released when they become too much to handle. Add to this the zoo and wildlife park collections which, due to recent events have been left to fend for themselves, and you should expect to see just about anything on your travels.

**FOOD AND DRINK**

"...Let us eat and drink for tomorrow we shall die." (Ecclesiastes 2:24)

A bit strong maybe, but in this day and age who knows what is waiting around the next corner and it is far better to meet your maker on a full stomach, at least that is what Great Aunt Frieda used to say. We must have been a booted-child. Sorry, couldn't resist it. Ed! Some would say that eating is in itself a religious experience but then they're the same ones who have no concept of what it is like to be truly hungry. However, I think one of the more recent contributions to the culinary coin, the gourmet extravaganza with its fine surroundings and unpronounceable menus or fast food with its low cost, sociable hours and inedegenity. We shall attempt to cover both as well as examining some of few examples of British fare that have found their own special place in the tasteless tantalizing world of international cuisine.

**Fastfood**

The term "fast-food" is by definition exactly what it says, cheap quasi-nourishing meals at the speed of a tortoise. When the fast or convenience food chains first invaded the U.K. in the fifties, the British got a little confused. For some reason fastfood was translated to mean "let's take all day, who the hell wants to eat anyway" service. This meant long queues of famished Corp execs, screaming kids, old age pensioners passing out and ten quintillion foreign students all clamoring for a burger, fries and a thick shake. Oh and don't forget the free, that's right FREE, gift — usually a proxy model car or bloody dinosaur.

First there was the pizza, then the Chinese take-away, Southern fried chicken, every other kind of take-away, and then finally the highest evolution of the art, the burger bar. All have their various merits, and most will at least not cause food poisoning, but none can compare to the original, the blueprint from which all others sprang, the quintessentially British, fish 'n' chip shop. In 1865 the Brits adopted the humble "pommes fries" from the French, decided to combine it with fried, fresh fish and unwittingly invented convenience food. So the next time that you're starving hungry, waiting for your quarter pounder with cheese, extra relish, salad and toenail clipping of dubious Scottish heritage, don't blame the Americans, blame the Brits.

**Nutri-Till's**

You may be pleased to hear that things have moved on quite a bit since, and the British now lead the world in the realm of fast-food technology. They still can't make a Pot Noodle that tastes any good! Ed! The latest rage are the Nutri-Till networks. Finally fast-food is fast—really fast. A swipe of a card, a few button presses and your stomach's desire is delivered to you in seconds, piping hot and tasting like the real thing... well, almost. The process itself is a closely guarded secret and none of the manufacturers that we approached were prepared to comment on it. Whatever the mystical mechanism behind it all there is no denying the system's appeal. If you are in a hurry and just need something to tide you over then this is simply the best alternative available. Meal prices vary from 5 to 5SEB and the tills can be found in most major city centers.

**Eating Out**

**Sit Down and Pay Up.**

Some would think that the advent of the Nutri-Till would spell the end for the more traditional burger bar. Nothing could be further from the truth. The number and diversity of such places has actually increased as indeed has the quality of their food and service. By changing their policy from "food for the masses" to "food for the discerning client who was too late to get a reservation or has a special request," the fast-food chains have managed to find a very lucrative newmarket.

The masses, hard working people like you and I, use the tills while the rest gorge themselves in the neo-oriental atmosphere of plastic seating, powdered sugar and disinfec-tant. You see, the truth is that hardly anything has changed. All they have done is changed the marketing, using thirty year-old adverts to evoke a nostalgic desire for food from a bygones era. At first, the bigger chains toyed with newer technolo-gies, ordering terminals on every table, waitress service (Ido! I do say new!) Ed! and ergonomically designed seating that automatically adjusted for the optimum eating conditions. This was a blunder, a complete waste of time and money. What people really wanted were all things that were so detested in the first place. "We want the real thing," they demanded and they got it, squeaky boxes and all. Prices at such places are about three times that which you now pay at a Till, but at least you can see how they look the stuff.

**Sit Down and Pay Up (Through the Nose)**

The U.K. is home to a myriad of different restaurants, from high class establishments like the world famous James's to the sleazy pub and bas. Since you're reading this, it is probable that you are more likely to be frequenting the latter but, just in case, we shall first have a chat about the more polished end of the market.

Over the last decade or so the restaurant business has become a far more, personal, mind blowing and integrated experience. Here at least technology has found a home and much of that developed and then discarded by the fast-food industry has been adopted. Each table has a small console which permits the customer to configure their eating environment in just about any manner they wish. Usually, these things have a mind of their own, ido! Lighting, temperature, music and even smell can be dialled up at the touch of a button; however, if you want candles and romance you better try another century.

Working staff in these places are still traditionally-women and these unfortunatly creatures are generally encouraged to use any mens needed to enice customers. With some of the company sponsored scopie jobs available it is to wonder the places are always full. GTI built in serving attachment and order recording equipment have made it visit to the local bistro a much more efficient, sorry, pleasant expe-rience. The humble waitresses are also often required to double as house security and most are cornered to carry weaponry of some description. A perfect, well-trained smile can conceal a lot about a person, so if they make a mistake and you feel like having a good whine, then there's a word for the wise. Such errors are easily remedied these days, so unless you want your train to end up on the menu, it might be wise to remember that the customer is NOT always right.

The range of restaurants for the discerning palate is quite literally enormous and encompasses styles from every corner of the globe. No matter which city you are in there will always be something to suit your requirements as long as you are prepared to pay through the nose for the privilege. Everything is relative and prices range from around 5SEB per person to closer to 1000SEB. I have a theory that the cost of xmeal can equalised, exponentially, to the amount of unrecognizable courses on the menu and quality of the napkins.

**Basket-Cases—The Pub Grub**

An alternative to the restaurant is the pub. Basket meals and the like are as popular as ever and most establishments offer some form of catering. If it is traditional British fare that you want then the humble pub is by far the best bet. Having said that, eating in the wrong establishment can be just about as dangerous as arguing with a bunch of Jack-knives.listing temperatures, an unstable water table and poor qual-ity control combine to make the lower standard kitchens a perfect breeding ground for bacteria. These fast acting toxins can be very unpleasant and fatal if not treated properly. Add to this the number of unscrupulous people who are quite prepared to sell you off meat or produce and it is obvi-ous that you should use discretion when choosing where to eat. As a rule it is best to stick to the pubs that cater specific ally to the tourist trade. Such places are easy to spot by the number of union jack hats. "I escaped the Tower" tee-shirts and bulging shopping bags. Again, prices vary but range from 20-60SEB per person.
Food Analyzers and Supplements

With the above consideration in mind it is no wonder that the technonomics have come up with a solution. Food analyzers come in the form of a probe connected to either a subdermal display or wrist watch. Simply dip the probe into any food before consumption and wait for the verdict which ranges from “Unbelievable. It’s a miracle!” to “Yuck! Shoot the chef, he’s trying to kill you.” Though by no means infallible, these cheap and cheerful devices are an essential addition to the traveler’s survival kit, and at only around 200E they have got to be a sound investment.

With the standard of water in the U.K. at the moment it might also be wise to buy or hire a water purifier. There are many types on the market but the best by far are 301 from Crystal Purification Ltd. At 300E to buy it is slightly more expensive than you would normally expect to pay but is by far the most effective. If you cannot afford to buy, hire one instead; charges start from 10E per day plus a small deposit.

If you find yourself in a situation were fresh, hot, food is unavailable then Chowpaws are the thing for you. Once capsule, three times a day, gives you all you need to keep going until you can find something more substantial, but be warned: extended use can lead to intestinal damage in some cases. Okay as far as they go and by no means perfect, but at 1Eb a day’s suppy, who’s complaining?

British Food

As mentioned in the introduction, there are very few foods that the British can claim as their own and even some of those are dubious. So, in order not to limit ourselves too much, we shall now go over the more popular delicacies to be found in the U.K.

Basket Food: The original power lunch consisting of chips, chips, chips and still more chips with a sausage, chicken lout or a whole one, you understand or scrambled thrown into the bargain. Bargain is it at an average of 35Eb, the basket meal probably represents the best overall value.

Burgers: As you should know by now you can get these bloody things everywhere, and in the country you can find non-biodegradable polystyrene boxes containing a mushy mess that once claimed to be a four-legged creature living in a field. Cover it with a tomato, a piece of lettuce, cornetto and wrap it in a bag with some relish, and voila, a culinary masterpiece. Almost like if you had that same thing and personally I don’t much prefer my meat to at least look like it came from something on this planet. Still, it could be worse, you could be forced after a piece of well-baked dough that’s been basted around in sweaty hands and stuck to the ceiling a few times, then fry this. The advantage is that you can choose any number of interloping toppings to your own personal taste and on the whole they are reasonably priced at around 20E.

Pizzas: This and pasta, I assume, are what the Brits consider to be the staple diet of all Italians. Well marbe, like most tauda, a revolution. The Brits have always had a thing for cheeses, well cheddar anyway, which has become something of a national obsession. If the Brits could only get a piece of well-baked dough that’s been basted around in sweaty hands and stuck to the ceiling a few times, then fry this. The advantage is that you can choose any number of interloping toppings to your own personal taste and on the whole they are reasonably priced at around 20E.

Sausages: Whether it be in the guise of “Bangers and Mash” or “Tallow in the Hole” the humble British sausage is one of the finest in the world. The spicy, fragrant Cumberland, real-laced Oxford (Not mere bloody piece names?) or the mutton-filled Aberdeens, are all wonder- ful and represent the upside. On the downside there are the cheaper alternatives which rank with the kebab as a pri- mary cause of food poisoning. I think it was Orwell who said “When the bangers are off, something is rotten in the state of England.” How right you were, George, but that does not stop this from being one of the most popular foods in the U.K. Ranging from 3 to 30E per pound, they are easily affordable.

The Sunday Roast: The focal point of the British week is the traditional sunday roast. The whole family congregates at the ancestral home—more or than likely the two-up two-down down dell that passes for it—and eagerly awaits the product of mother’s toasts. Take a hun of animal, roast toast with potatoes, and serve with mountains of vegetables and the appropri- ate sauce. Some in massive portions with vast quantities of alcohol then fall asleep in front of the soccer match to sleep it off. Price variable.

Cheese: The Brits have always had a thing for cheeses, well cheddar anyway, which has become something of a national obsession. If you don’t mind a stab of alcohol then you got to be a sound investment.

Drink

Now this is a completely different subject. A word of warning for those of you who like your alcohol, this section of the book will likely kill you. If there is a rival to the German’s claim as the best brew in the world, then it is Britain. As for spirits there is no contest, British is best.

Ales: There are far too many to go into here but don’t let ignorance put you off, when it comes to slapping a few hops about the Brits are among the best. There are some absolute gems to be sampled, especially in the semi-peaceful villages of the countryside but be warned, some are more effective than the aforementioned curry. If you know what I mean. Prices vary depending upon the region but anything less than 5EB a pint should be considered a good deal.

Unlike most, the British breweries, well at least the small ones, allow the yeast to ferment on the top and leave the beer to maturate in oak casks. This gives the distinctive smooth, nutty taste that the knowledgeable drooling with pleasure is unfortunate that this traditional art is now in somewhat of a decline. The big brewers prefer a more stable, lists product and shoot it out with some sugar and carbon dioxide. One by one, the independents are find- ing it harder and harder to compete with the giants, leaving the great British real ale in the brink of collapse. Enter the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) which has been lobbying on behalf of the small brewer for some time. From its quiet roots as the closest male equivalent to the feminin movement, CAMRA is acying a more agressive stance in a last des- perate effort to save the industry from extinction. I hope they win!

Lager: Know this particular little apple concoction is a definite must for the hardened cruiser. If you’re smart enough, you will never go and see how they make some of the stuff. The Ye Old Comish and Somerset scrups are based on recipes that make allowances for the odd rat drowning in the vat. But they look like dragon’s blood inside, but if you want to get your paws on the real deal you have to get your paws on the real deal. It’s a bit of a problem trying to get your hands on something to call your own, but if you want to find yourself staking out a corner in the 3am and not knowing anything—apart from the fact that you must have a damn good time then this is the cyandelipped top- pie for you: 1 to 7EB per pint.

Milk: A product that has always been a staple of the Brits, but for some reason it is only now starting to make a comeback. The milk is so good, you can even drink it straight from the cow. It’s a bit of a hassle, but it’s worth it. office of the above tiddle your fancy, there is always the bizarrely named Lymestread, the British version of such creamy imports as Camembert and dolce Late. If I were you, I’d stick to the cheddar, the queen eats nothing else. In public, anyway. 6E.

Fish ‘n’ Chips: If there is anything that the British can claim as their very own then this it, still the most popular convenience food in the nation. There are many outfits for England’s nation- al dish but there is only one way to eat it properly. Cover your newspaper-wrapped package with rock salt, vinegar and HP sauce, snip open a lampost on a lampost corner and Grimley and enjoy the full olfactory and taste experience. It is cheap, typically 6E; filling, nutritious and doesn’t require any washing up.

Haggis: Take a sheep’s stomach, stuff it with its heart, lungs chopped with oatmeal, suet, onion, etc. and boil. Despite what you might think, this Scottish dish is quite delicious, though I must admit it is bit of an acquired taste. At around 6E per portion, it is good value for money and as good an excuse as I can think of knocking back a bottle of malt.

Kebabs: Not of British origin, but has never found a home among the masses of the Brits. The idea goes like this: you can ignore the lumps of God only knows what with splitties up their arse long enough to order, you consume one about 10E after qualifying 10 quick steps and before you want to defate any legs for anything else for that matter. 6E in order to induce salivators, 40E, projectile vomiting sessions and general hilarity. An absolute must for anyone who wants to partis- cipate in that great British tradition, the Friday Night Sports Fight.

Newcastle Cuisine: An anticipated question about food from France based on the erroneous, biologically-insoluble theory that people eat with their eyes. Beautifully presented it may be, but its small portions and expensive cost make it a no-no in my book. However, if you’ve got a wedge in your pocket I feel I must admit after a look like a tree with Dutch Elm disease and you aren’t hungry anyway, then this will do fine.

The Best of the Rest

Of the rest, perhaps the old, reliable Viaducto curries are most worthy of note. Like the Turkish obelisk, the Indian curry has found its sanctuary in the British psyche and to the British people. There is nothing quite like rolling out of the pub and staggering headlong for the nearest Taboko and choking down a plate of toot-numbing, super-heated (and poorly disguised turbo-choke). The Anglo-Saxon intestinal tract was not designed for such riches and on any weekend morning the dawn chorus is regularly shattered by the sound of a million cheek-burning bowel movements as the hang-over masses are quickly reminded of the previous night’s indiscretions. Because of its popularity the “British-Indian curry” is probably the best that you will taste outside of India itself, and at between 30 and 60E per person, is an absolute must for anyone who has a desire to experience the real thing.
after anywhere on the U.K. mainland. If you want my advice, stick to the imported variety, unless it's that matlab Mexican rubbish. Ed.] They may cost a bit or so more, but at least your tame buds won't follow your brain cells into the pit of oblivion.

Tea/Coffee: Most people airoff those in the late 80's due to the coffee health scare, but with what could kill you these days, I say "God!" drink it anyway. One thing though, unless you're using bottled water, get a purifier. Even boiling can't kill some of the weird and wonderful microbes that are to be found in the tap supply.

Whiskey or Whisky: First things first, if you ever have the occasion to spell the word in front of a Scot or an Irishman, make sure you use the right spelling; whisky for Scotland. Secondly, never order an Irish whiskey in Scotland or vice versa. Third, don't show ignorance by asking for a mixer or ice, especially if you are drinking malt. Failure to observe the three simple rules could have grave and possibly terminal repercussions, unless of course, you are a woman.

As for the stuff itself, what can one say, but, nectar. There are literally hundreds of different brands to choose from and each has its own particular character. There are the blends, delicately balanced combinations of the finest quality, and there are the malts, pure, silky-smooth, pleasure-giving perfection. Prices vary considerably between the two, from around 4& for a shot of blend, to 10& for a shot of a good malt. At 12& per shot, the 15 year old Glenlivet is probably my personal favorite. [Bloodyscision Ed.]

For those of you used to corn liquors, the ago proof (40%v) label may put you off and give you the misimpression that you can wean it back like water. Having sampled both, I have to say that, to come to the conclusion that the British distillers use a different scale then the rest of the planet. If you do treat this stuff like the local water, it will have exactly the same effect – namely, it will probably kill you. On the upside, if you do actually survive, at least you'll have a brain left in the morning. Highly recommended.

The Rest: Apart from those listed above, British, as a nation of hopheads, is home to just about every form of alcohol known to man and a few that defy classification. So no matter what your favorite tipple is, you can rest assured that you'll be able to find it here. If, by some weird quirk in the space-time-continuum, you can't, then tell the local publicans and they will move Heaven and Earth to get it. Just imagine that, a brew that none of the puritans have heard of. That means I can stick a goony piece of lime in it, call it something like Crippicrock and charge them a bloody fortune.

Pubs and Clubs
Nostalgia is big business in the U.K. of the 21st Century and just about every club you enter is themed upon some period which is conceivably referred to as the 'good old days'. This is not surprising, as if there's anything the Brits like better than looking backwards, it is dressing up. At the moment the 80's are big: bleached blond hairdressers with white stilettos, handbags and bottled tan accompanied by shades-wearing "Miami Vice" look-alikes, all hoping to bump into David Icke. Some sad gal who thought he was the Son of God. Ed. So if you want to play a bit of improptu time-travelling then you will have plenty of scope for experimentation here. If, on the other hand you want to find out what is going on today then you just had better try a pub.

The live music, youth and fashion scenes are all pretty much concentrated in the pubs and private member's halls. This is where the 20's pulse is strongest and the best place to find out what is happening in the now. Be warned, the patrons of such places do not warm easily to strangers. [You've not seen American Werewolf in London? Ed. so you see a guy standing at the back with a grenade launcher and a pissed-off pitbull, I'd scarper if I were you... With that said, don't be put off, if you stay cool and keep a low profile you won't be bothered, and remember, it is not the bikes outside, but the bikers inside that you have to worry about and they're to quote Douglas Adams' "mostly harmless."

Music and the Arts
The U.K. has been in the forefront of popular music for nigh on seventy years now. The country that gave the world the Beatles, the Stones, Elton John and Queen carries on dominating the airwaves of the world in a way that seems way out of context with its population.

Unlike the U.S., a specific type of music is not associated with a certain location (i.e. Nashville for country, Chicago for blues etc.) although certain cities seem especially adept at producing popular bands (there are Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield and Birmingham with no one type dominating their output. The resurgence of the Nomadic way of life along with a return to a more feudal system in the countryside has sparked off a revival of the more ancient forms of music. This harking for a bygone age of music has also led to a resurgence for many pirate radio stations playing music from the sixties and seventies with bands like Pink Floyd and Yes still enjoying huge success. In the cities the music has a harder edge to it which accurately mirrors life in the cities. Heavy rock, garage and indie still flourishes. Some groups have combined many of the various styles to great effect.

Ever since the brief flowering of punk rock in the late 1970's, British music has always had a strong political element and today is no exception—indeed, it is due to such bands as Society and The Long Riders that the recent changes gathered pace. Society who have since disappeared were the first to tour the country as part of the underground movement, playing free gigs where they could, or setting up their own illegal radio station where they couldn't. Their songs attacked British society in general and were very popular among those that refuse to belong. After the restoration they continued in the same vein claiming that only the titles had changed (not the actual government), adding to their list of targets the Corporations; who they saw as the new MLA. This annoyed those Corps who until then had tolerated Society as a means to an end, and in some cases actually aided their avoidance of the MLA. Now the group not only had the military after them but also Corporate hit squads, along with various scous, as a bounty was placed on their heads. Their concerts became few and far between and Society haven't been heard of for over eighteen months. As with any case like this, various rumors are flying around, most deal with the ways that the group was disposed of. Others say that the group is still going and is planning a comeback gig.

The Long Riders, taking their name from the legendary James Gang, also toured all over the U.K., but seemed more adept at moving about—usually they could play in Penzance the next in Sheffield. At the time this ability was not questioned due the lack of communication, but many have since started to question this. One theory is that the Long Riders were not so much a group as a movement that consisted of many different lineups all over the country—this could explain why the MLA never caught them despite having a much higher profile than Society.

Others have suggested corporate backing for the group, again citing its astonishing ability to move quickly. These rumour mongers have gone on to claim that the Long Riders use subliminal messages on their albums suggesting that we should bow down and live the good Corporate life. They go on to suggest that this is taken a stage further at their huge live gigs and claim that people are slowly brainwashed with a combination of gases, lights and subliminal messages on both backing and video tapes. The Long Riders have refused to comment on this and all other rumors that follow them around.

Sampling is still rife and the various media Corps continue to try to crack down; although they have succeeded in
eradicating it from the main radio stations, their attempt to stop it on the myriad Pirate stations is not meeting with a great deal of success.

Another method of selling your music is via the Net, as many computers have CD quality sound on them. For a nominal fee you can have a song sent to you via the Net. You can then run the song from your hard disk or just download it to a DAT tape or an optical disk and play it in your own car. This has brought about a very specialized form of 'runner—the Sampler. They break into the media corps' various data banks looking for stuff they can use in a song—it could come from the latest hit album on a garage sound-alike or the latest number one from Talking Sticks. These runners mainly work on their own but one or two are now employed by some of the larger groups to steal demo disks from their rivals. One such case involved a 'runner for Steel City' acquiring a demo disk for Blue Strike's latest single. He then downloaded it to his own disk and changed all relevant dates. The group then established the song and called it their lawyers. This piece of quick thinking enabled Steel City to successfully sue Blue Strike for infringement of copyright, claiming they wrote the song first!

Another element of British pop culture is the street pool. This subculture was made popular in the late 1970s and early 1980s by such people as John Cooper Clarke and Atilla the Stockbroker and that tradition carried on through the MLA's dictatorship. Even harder to trace than a group, single performers would just turn up anywhere—a high street, a shopping mall or at a concert and start performing. The greatest of these—the legendary Christie—ever had her gig to perform his famous poem about the Isle of Wight Prison, Wight Wino, at Speaker's Corner in the center of London. This feat placed him at the top of the MLA's most wanted list of political subversives along with Society and has endeared him to a great many people (including those who don't necessarily agree with his political views but just admire his steely nerve. Little has been heard of Christie since the Restoration. As with Society and the Long Riders, many rumour are flying around the most interesting of which is a huge free gig at Finsbury Park along with Society sometime in the Summer. If this happens be there all costs—it would be a day to remember (just be ready to leave very quickly should the authorities get nasty).

The charts themselves, as they are run by the Corps, they deny it of course, tend to be conservative with all sorts of styles featured at various times.

The rest of the arts are facing an uncertain future. The many orchestras up and down the country such as the London Philharmonic and the Hall are facing a cut in funding along with many of the provincial theatres. All the arts flourished under the MLA in keeping with most totalitarian governments—it gives them an air of respectability you see. The trouble is that while the Corps would like to garner their own air of superiority no one wants to foot the bill. Many campaigns have started trying to keep the various institutions going, some are turning nasty—witness the recent assassination of the Minister for Arts at the renaming ceremony for the Arts Directorate.

Many other artists are just leaving Britain for other countries in the EEC in an artistic brain drain, and many countries such as France are loving every minute of it claiming that the British are a race lacking in artistic talent. If that's the case how come a large part of the Paris art movement is actually British?

**TOP TEN ALBUMS (as compiled by British Media Research Bureau)**

1) **SEX WITH YOUR EX—THE SHETTOS ****

The oldies revival continues with this latest compilation of the mega-group's early career. Smart and sassy rock with a killer image (check out the singer—who needs bbo-sculpting? Absolutely Tart-tastic mates!)

2) **THE LONG ROAD BACK—THE LONG RIDERS ***

The latest offering from the controversial darlings of the punk movement. Have they hit that hard edge? Yes, is it bad? No. They have matured into thoughtful lyricists, however it is not their best.

3) **SAUCY JACK/SONGS IN D MINOR—VARIOUS ARTISTS *

The tribute to Tull's A St Hubble who both died in a bizarre gardening accident at Tull's retirement home in Scotland continues to sell well. Why?

4) **TALKING STICKS—TALKING STICKS ****

Imaginatively titled third album from the Manchester-based folk rock band. Nice solid, dependable stuff and not a song about the potato famine.

5) **HEADLESS—HEADLESS**

First studio disk from the new masters of industrial trash. O.K. but do these guys sound like the Ministry to you?

6) **I'VE FOUND CARRIE—CLIFF RICHARD *

Yep, another recording from the Peter Pan of Pop. The granny market are lapping it up, and doesn't he look marvellous at nearly ninety without a trace of Biscuitcutting? Yeah right.

7) **LIBERTY'S FLIGHT—LOVE, DEATH AND PHILOSOPHY ****

Out on the Conqueror label yet another compilation this time from the mid-nineties prog rockers. Excellent songs—head and shoulders above the rest.

8) **I PLAY THE SONGS—RICHARD PLAYDOWMANN *

Yet another entry for the granny market this time from the master of the piano, nice sweater and cheesy grin. Come back Sacha Distel, all is forgiven.

9) **NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! #134—VARIOUS ARTISTS ***

Another compilation of the latest chart hits. Great for parties and for the car stereo.

10) **EVERYTHING, INCLUDING THE KITCHEN SINK—VARIOUS ARTISTS ****

Yet another compilation is Christmas coming or what? This time of the hottest rave sounds. Its all here—'House, Garage, Kitchen and Bedroom (my favorite). Excellent for those mini-raves where you can't be asked to do your own mixing.

**Slang**

Although it would be useful for this book to explain many slang words used in the British Isles, it would, in fact, need another work of comparable size to do the subject justice. Slang is very localized and can vary enormously from town to town, and from the city center to the countryside that may be three miles away.

Some British slang words have been around for centuries while others can come and go in the space of a few short years as the fashions change (witness the fad for "Waynespeak in the early nineties). As such, it is advisable for visitors to the UK to stick to the Queen's English and try not to use any slang words until you know exactly what they mean in that area—for example, the word "tag" can mean someone of homosexual proclivity, a cigarette, or someone who is employed to do a menial task—depending on who you speak to. You have been warned. Remember to engage your brain before putting your mouth into gear!
SPORT

Soccer
Still the number one game in the United Kingdom, and no cyberware is allowed. Crowd violence still exists outside games, but trouble inside games has been all but eradicated due to the installation of automatic guns. Any disturbance in a section is met by ultimate force. A cyber-enhanced version close to combat soccer also exists, but the pull of the old clubs such as Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester Ltd. has not diminished.

Most of the old football league teams folded over the years due lack of finances—It was bad enough updating the grounds during the 90's but the money system as wanted by the Sporting Directorate of the MLA just proved too costly. Some of the teams still survive, but as feeder teams to those big teams in the Championship League. This league contains the famous old clubs of English soccer along with certain Scottish clubs (Glasgow Rangers, Celtic, Aberdeen, Dundee United and Hearts). Obviously a league of this nature has a good deal of grudge matches (Rangers-Celtic, Leeds-Manchester Ltd. etc) and on those days security is extremely tough.

American Football
The country has two NFL franchises—the London Ravens and the Glasgow Lions. The NFL has been shrewd enough to continue to schedule games on Sundays so that clashes with the soccer league in both senses of the world can be avoided. A semi-pro league also exists with the leading team being the Bournemouth Buccaneers. This semi-pro league still plays the old eleven-man-a-side version of the game.

Horse Racing
Still very popular up and down the country, but with a few changes. The main changes involve drugs and the use of the whip. First, drugs—the Jockey Club's ability to keep on top of the doping of horses was always one step behind that of the crooks' ability to drug that horse. In the end they simply gave up and opened up the sport of kings to all types of drugs that enhance performance. Obviously crooks still use drugs that will restrict a horse's showing and this cocktail of various drugs severely curtails a horse's career.

For a while in the mid-90's the Jockey Club curtailed the use of the whip on horses but again this was hard to enforce—how could you define what was excessive use of the whip? There were only two courses of action left to them either ban the whip completely or allow a free use of the whip. The jockeys would never give up use of the whip, so the latter course was chosen. Nowadays, however, the whip is used not only on the horse but also on opposing jockeys if they get too close. In the more Celtic areas where buggy racing has a hold, this has resulted in races looking like the classic Ben Hur chariot contest where fatalities are common.

Horse racing still encompasses both the Flat and National Hunt (race over fences) seasons with each being very popular with their proponents. Many National Hunt courses now have automated fences that allow the steward to vary the height of the fence depending on the race requirements (some races allow the heights to be changed during the course of the race).

Security at many courses is similar to that at league soccer grounds so don't cause any trouble, even if you have just lost 200 quid.

Golf
Golf is still played by a very great number of people—especially the Scots rafter all, they invented it and the game has changed very little except that those playing with cyberlimbs or chips are supposed to register them first. Once this is done the level of cyberware is assessed and a penalty is added to the person's score (just imagine a John Daly type with a stronger cyberarm and a neural processor that helps maintain the best possible swing). Players were regularly driving the green on holes of 500 yards or more and therefore scores were becoming ridiculously low—something had to be done. Therefore the Royal and Ancient Golf Club came up with a new, revised handicap system to allow people to play each other. No matter what their cyberware. Some golf clubs have built monster courses of ten thousand yards or more for the cyberware rather than add or subtract shots. These courses are and far between, but as the usage of cyberware increases then perhaps the number of courses catering for that type of player will increase in number.

Cricket
Cricket has split into two forms 'very much like rugby Union and League'. One is very much the classic English game still played the world over in such places as India, Pakistan and Australia. The other is professional Cyberleague where fast bowlers use their cyberarms to catch out the batsmen, who with their smart-linked bats and targeting scopes are trying to smash the ball for six runs—not a game for the purist although the rules are very much the same.

Caveball
A highly lethal variant of ice hockey and gaelic football that is establishing itself as the most popular arena sport in the U.K. It's got everything, violence, blood, fast, explosive action and frequent, messy deaths. It is the sport of the ghetto and is threatening to steal supporters from the soccer clubs.

Each team can have six players on the field and can only substitute personnel following an injury or death. There are three runners or 'footmen' two motorcyclists or 'knights' and a goalkeeper or 'caveman'. Like most such games the object is to score goals and to prevent your opponents from doing the same. The one who scores most wins. Apart from that the rules are far too complicated to go into here but it is enough to say that the referee passes judgment from the safety of an armored observation booth that is suspended above the arena. For more information contact the British Caveball League office in London.

Introduction
The whole country is in the throes of change and nowhere is that more obvious than in the sprawling urban nightmares that cover large areas of this land. So why is the United Kingdom one of the most urbanized countries in the world? It all started in the 80's when the British government of the time decided to set up City Action Teams (CAT's) to co-ordinate government urban development programs and to regenerate the decaying infrastructure of the inner cities. These bureaucratic teams were designed to make sure that the millions that the government poured into the cities was spent for the good of the people. But as you can probably guess, many of the eight CAT's members were more interested in what this new scheme could do for them.
Because the 80's were a bad time for the property market, the big players were falling over each other trying to get themselves awarded the fat, government contracts that the CDTs were employed to give out. Corruption meant the company that could give the biggest back-handers got the contract. The allocated money was mostly spent on developing new urban areas and enhancing the already existing areas of suburbia, whereas only a small amount was spent on regenerating the run-down, inner-city districts. The knock-on effect of this was that more and more decay set in, and slums became widespread. At the same time the money that was being poured into new developments meant that the city boundaries were eating further and further into the so-called 'green belt'.

As time passed, the media now and again turned up stories of the urban chestnut 'flying foxes' being inside Manchester once again came to public attention. While crime figures steadily rose, including a horrific rise in firearm-related crime, the government looked on, worried about their public image. Nothing quite gets a politician's juices flowing like a downward trend in the opinion polls. So, after one media scandal too many, the wheels of power moved again, only to make a very profound mistake. They set up the eleven Urban Development Corporations, the purpose of which was to reverse the ever-increasing levels of large-scale urban decline. The first two to be established were London Docklands Reclamation Project, and Merseyside UDC. By the early nineties the Docklands Development Corporation had invested over half a billion pounds in government grants and secured private investments in excess of £85 billion.

The UDC's, while in the process of reclaiming massive areas of land, created thousands of jobs. This was made very easy with the aid that the government gave the UDC's: huge tax concessions, simplified planning requests and a reduction in the amount of paperwork they had to complete in order to initiate any new development. The upshot of this was that UDC profits soared. Within five years of their creation, the Corporations had amassed large reserves of capital and began to look outside their immediate spheres of business and influence for other projects and services in which they could expand, it was only a matter of time before the eleven UDC's clashed with each other. Initially this took the form of far too many business practices and escalated in late 2009 into a very large war between the Docklands and Merseyside UDCs. At the end of the following year a number of mysterious explosions destroyed several Merseyside UDC installations, and in 2011 The Docklands Reclamation Project merged with the four remaining independent UDCs to form the Equinox Corp...

It was to the advantage of the Maritime Law Authorities to keep the inhabitants of the city in large groups. The control of the people virtually became the main urban growth that had spread like cancer across the face of Britain. The abject poverty and crime was partially controlled by the MLA but not totally eradicated, as it gave the masses something to keep them occupied while the military consolidated its hold over the whole of the country.

But that time has passed. Now a democratic(?) government is back in power and they have to look after their image again. However, the state of the cities—both inner and outer—is unbe- lievable because of the twenty years of neglect, poverty, disease, famine, rioting and open warfare the streets of Britain are a dangerous place to be...even during the hours of daylight.

So here is a brief guide to the Metropolitan of the UK. Player's contacts have been omitted simply because they are too numerous to mention.

For more on the Law Codes, see pages 19-20.

Southern Welsh Conurbation (pop 670k 139.2 sq miles)

Law Code 5-1-4

Compared to the other major conurbations this place is clean, beautiful and friendly. There are some parts of this place that are quite pleasant. You will find large, high quality housing projects and community services strategically placed near small conservation areas. Even the slums are home to a better class of roadie.

You will find life a little quieter as there is a large police presence in the SWC. The police force in the SWC is held by Allied Resources Security. ARS's presence is due to the fact that they have their Corporate head office in the SWC (plus they own around three quarters of the area). They are also the conurbation's biggest employer and like to look after their low- paid, and thus valuable, work force.

Other points of interest in the SWC include the Severn Estuary Tidal Barrier this multi-billion pound installation was constructed in record time in 2017 and it is a popular tourist attraction, and the recently built Queen Victoria II Bridge, which replaces the old Severn Bridge that was destroyed by Welsh nationalists in 1999. The new bridge is guarded by British Combined Forces PLC. There have been a few flare-ups with the nationalists over the last two years, but the poorly armed radicals were soon quashed by either British Combined Forces or Allied Resources Security.

As far as trouble goes there isn't very much of it around the area. If you're looking for a rumble, then you are looking in the wrong city. The only known gang operating in this area is the St. Cynog Guild. From what I know of them they seem to be a quasi-religious clan that don the apparel of knights of yesteryear. They have a fierce animosity with the Round Table Knights from the Bristol Metro. Fights infrequently take place in parts of the conurbation, and Guildsmen go 'questing' for the IRTK and Penderynns (see pg. 52) in the hills and valleys surrounding the SWC.

If you have any illicit goods during your stay, you can try to attend one of the rare black market auctions in the abandoned castle at Penkrose. These infrequent events only happen when a passing pirate or smuggling ship has excess cargo and wishes to make some extra cash. Once the serious business of buying and selling is completed, an almost party atmosphere usually sets in. Keep an eye on the ARS and let's see what you can offer. Here's a brief guide to the Metropolitan of the UK. Player's contacts have been omitted simply because they are too numerous to mention.

London Metro (pop 9566k 1276.1 sq miles)

Although it is the capital of the UK, London is only the second largest conurbation in the UK, but having said that, it is the most diverse; from the almost Euro-style West End and the ultramodern security of the Cities of London & Westminster (the corporate and government capitals respectively) to the flooded East End which looks as if it's gone through a time warp back to the Middle Ages. If, as a discerning cyberpunk, you are looking for action, then this is the place for you. Most visitors to Britain intending to go to London or the South arrive at the new Heathrow Airport Port.

There follows a description of each of the major zones of the capital, including areas of interest and potential meeting places should you need to cultivate any contacts.

Central London (the City of Westminster and the City of London)

Law Code 5-1-2

The City of London is a commercial centre known as simply the City is the Corporate hub of Europe and arguably the world. Any Corp that thinks its an international entity has some sort of representation here. It has changed very little in appearance over the last two hundred years due to many of the buildings being protected as they are in Historic Sites. Of course, many Corporations have wanted new, ergonomically-designed buildings that gave them the optimum amount of space and so the Docklands were renovated for this very reason. Unfortunately, the bomb- ing of the Thames Barrier put most of that area under water. So a lot of the Corporations want to move back to the City, bringing about a clash of interests. New buildings can now be built as long as they fit in with the surrounding architecture. If you pay the government enough, maybe they don't.

If you haven't got Corp ID, then forget it. You just won't get into the City, let alone get around. The Corps and the military have this whole zone under complete control. No ground vehicles or aircraft are allowed in this area without Corp ID. Anyone caught driving in the City without ID clearance must therefore, by definition, be doing so illegally, and no amount of protestation of innocence/government will prevent summary execution. If, however, you do have Corp ID, you can expect to find yourself in surroundings not dissimilar to those of 21st Century Paris. To most punks this place will make them think that they have died and gone to heaven. The streets here are clean, there are no drunk en bodies lying in the gutter, and no graffiti sprayed on the walls. Strictly speaking the latter is not true, but the offending artist is very quicky either in a maximum security holding pen to await a stay at Her Majesty's pleasure on the Isle Of Wight, or, if he resists, very dead! The place even smells nice! Glowing towers raise majestically from the executive-filled streets. This is the true seat of power in the country. All the major international financial institutions and Headquarters in London. But the biggest buildings in this zone belong to: the Hillard Corp, British Combined Forces PL, Imperial Metropolitan Agriculture, the European Bank the Glantening Bank, Barclay-Deutsche, and the Equinox Corp. These buildings look more like huge palaces than Corporate headquarters.

Getting around is pleasant due to the new showcase Tram system used to replace the mostly defunct underground and rail system. For further information, see the section on Travel.

The City of Westminster contains the various government offices including the Houses of Parliament and diverse Ministerial buildings where, it is said, the Civil Service actually runs the country and not the government (who just like to think that they do). Apart from the British government, many other countries also have representation in the City of Westminster through their various embassies and legations. As the Troubles worsened, many countries closed down their regional consulate offices around the UK, and therefore London is the only place where help for visitors can be obtained.

As can be imagined, security in this part of the City is extremely tight and any kind of trouble is dealt with most severely.
An area of Westminster where security isn’t as tight is the West End. This is where the nightlife—the place is teeming with pubs, clubs and theaters. If you’ve got the money, then they’ve got the fun, as everything here is very price-y. The West End is an amalgamation of Euro-Chic and Night City pizzazz—offering everything from the young Corporate playboy to possibly want in a night out.

As a result of the Arts drain to Europe most of the Theatres now deal with mainstream, audience-pleasing shows as demonstrated by the Garrick Theatre’s record breaking “Tribute to Lloyd Webber” season highlighted by the World Premiere of his last work, Dogs. Other successful shows include Israeli-Guy Named Moomin all show a 1960’s soul group, The Merchant of Venice (an updated Shakespearean parody), and The Mousetrap (it’s Agatha Christie who has run this for over seventy years.

Theatres in the West End include the Apollo, Dominion, the Comedy, London Palladium, and the Shaftesbury. There are a few others, but many fell on hard times during the tenure of the MLA and have since re-opened as night clubs or shopping malls.

Major night clubs include the Hippodrome (which attracts the lower Corporate classes), Anna’s (only minor Royalty and above, Corporate elite and their guests, etc. need apply), and Fantasy—a venue where the suits and ties can act out their rock’n’roll fantasies with the aid of the latest virtual reality and braniance equipment, or simply get trashed on exclusive imported drinks and designer drugs. These clubs are not for the Edgemen among you! In complete contrast we have...

**The East End**

**Law Code 0-5-1**

Now if Central London is a cyberpunk’s idea of hell, this place is heaven. Most of this part of London has been flooded since the bombing of the Thames Flood Barrier to which no less than seven separate terrorist groups claimed responsibility, and thus is officially abandoned with no residents. But we can show you several thousand people who’ll tell you that the East End is there and always will be. The unwanted drags of our society thrive in this environment. Unfortunately, it is a very dangerous place to be, if the river pirates don’t get you then the numerous diseases probably will. So as a precautionary note take as many editions as you can before you start wading through the large cesspool that is the East End.

The major form of employment in this area is smuggling and counterfeiting. River smugglers and pirates can be occasioned spotted in their longboats. But whatever you do don’t be tempted to try and interfere with them as they are doing, because they consider themselves to be one large family—pick a fight with one of them and you’ll pick a fight with all of them. Do not take this warning lightly—i have known many people to just disappear after pushing their luck once too often. Indeed, just once.

The upshot of all this smuggling is that the imported goods cause the East End to be one of the best places in the country to buy whatever you want. The only drawback to this is that you will have to go down into the Underground to buy it! Most of the Underground lines that run through the East End were flooded, the parts that haven’t been are becoming the black market.

These desperate people aren’t worried about what they sell or to whom they sell it. The only thing that they worry about is someone going down there and trying to stop them from making money. They have taken plenty of precautions to prevent this. It is believed that even the military and police have given up sending troops down there, as they all seem to get lost and never come back to the surface.

Exporting imports from abroad include cyberware, weapons, drugs, slaves and some say, even spies or Corporate execs—so no matter what it is you are looking for, you’ll find someone in the Underworld who will have what you want or will get it for you at the right price. A word of warning: the traders don’t always want money, sometimes a favor or promise can get results—but be careful to what you agree. The most open place to go is the huge subsurface market that never closes. Situated in the tunnels and on the platforms of the old Whitechapel Underground station, this is the best place to get anything you want.

The other point of interest in the East End is the Docklands Free Fire Zone. This area was once the pride of the Equinox Corporation, but after the destruction of the Thames Barrier, this once-prosperous area fell to the razing hordes. Now all that’s left are the burnt-out shells of the vast tower blocks where commerce once thrived. Organized crime has made this place its headquarters. The Firm watches what is going on in the capital and wages its wars against the “Outsiders” from its many hideouts here. Don’t be caught anywhere near this place when the London boys have a scrap with the Nabobs (an international possegang, such scrapes are highly popular and televised events).

**South London**

**Law Code 5-2-3**

South of the Thames is what can only be described as an area on the brink of war. There is still enforced ghettoization in certain areas, like Brixton, in which large numbers of immigrants and London’s poorer residents are forced to live. Non-native organized crime is rife here. And sometimes when two factions meet the body count can rise to well over a hundred. This is a very dangerous part of town for unprepared visitors to go to, so if you insist on sampling the dubious pleasures of the ghettos, then do so only if you’re travelling in a big way.

Nightlife in this area caters for the less wealthy mobile of London’s residents. Among the more notable clubs you can find are Damage, a post-punk/death metal venue where the most vile piece of equipment is a pair of heavy-duty earplugs. The Last Resort But One which tends to be frequented by devotees of doom-laden electroprog, and Fantasia. Note: the spelling: this is as opposed to Fantasia in the West End, and is a rip-off of said smart venue, offering the same VR and braniance delights but with far more primitive facilities in an uncontrolled environment—your jack in at your own risk.

**What’s Left of London**

**Law Code 5-14**

The vast majority of London consists of tightly-packed residential areas. These areas vary in their overall attractive-ness. Of course this depends on the finances of their inhabitants. The northern parts tend to be better off, apart from the extreme northeast which suffers from its close proximi-ty to East Anglia and so the area is better policed. Most of West London is taken up for housing by the British Combined Forces personnel and their families as part of the HCMZ Home Counties Military Zone, see BCF section pg.29, for more details. As such security here is very tight so don’t cause any trouble—even if you think you can get away with it.

The major venues for sport and music in London tend to be located centrally and include the Wembury Complex, consisting of the stadium, as ever, for sporting internationals and domestic finals, and major rock tours, the area is smaller rock venues and adaptable for indoor sporting events—the first National Cyberball Championship took place here in 2017, the Conference Center (corporate conferences, major political events and the like) and the London Wembury Holopark, where you can go and live out your fantasies of being a warrior or a wizard in a carefully-controlled “live-action Role Playing Game” using the latest in robotics and hologram technology.
Bristol Metro (pop 518k 169.2 sq miles)

**Law Code 5-2-314**

This was once a very beautiful part of the country, but now most of the area is flooded due to the effects of global warming. Although the area is known for its farming there is quite a large Corporate concentration. The Corp zone is the second biggest in the country (London is Number one). Nearly all the major Finance and Banking Corps have a center here. This is because of the Major Access road between here and London allowing safe transit of goods to and from these two metropolises. As most of the area through which the M4 runs is part of the Home Counties Military Zone, the motorway has been well maintained at the insistence of British Combined Forces. Inc.

The main sources of revenue are farming and the port facilities. There is also a considerable amount of money made due to smuggling.

Many of the Nomad packs, especially the Rats and the Ravens, like to hang out in Bristol when things get too hot in London. If you see any street entertainers performing while you are here then the chances are that they belong to either of these packs, but their particular form of entertainment and the effects it has on the surrounding community are not always welcome by the authorities.

Many of the Hong Kong refugees that have been rehoused from London are now taking making large profits from the cultivation of rice in the wet lowlands outside the metro area. They have organized themselves into rough township settlements built on pyramids above the water level—this is mainly to protect themselves against the not-uncommon racially motivated attacks by armed neo-Nazis. Their fan-assisted boats are very much a common sight throughout the area.

Cheshire Plains Conurbation (pop 7968k 1593.8 sq miles)

**Law Code 5-2-5**

The Cheshire Plains Conurbation is not only the biggest of its kind in the United Kingdom, but also the biggest in Europe. Unlike London, its IUCD-sponsored program of urban expansion was not curtailed by disasters and other outside influences, and it continues to grow at a slow but consistent rate. In the twenty years it has extended inland from Liverpool and on towards the west side of the Pennines as far as the towns of Chesterfield and Sheffield instead of the old mountain passes that used to run over the Pennines, they have been deliberately blocked by snow every winter, a tunnel now runs under them, connecting Manchester and Sheffield, it takes in three major cities, Liverpool on the coast, Manchester and Leeds further inland, all three remain bitter rivals, and this rivalry can spill over into crowd violence when their respective soccer teams clash. The Pennines themselves are slowly but surely succumbing to the slow advance of new housing estates for mid-level Corporate executives.

The Liverpool Metroplex has become a major port, with the main user being BCF, which supports the Belfast garrison through the port. Any troops destined to serve in Northern Ireland have to take a one month urban combat course on the Liverpool Army Training Ground. This in the past has often taken the form of troops looking for land causing trouble for the residents of the metropolis. The actual death toll from the training exercises over the last decade remains highly classified.

Recent events have made the port crucial to the BCF. The planned Liverpool-Hull-Oxford-Dublin transit tunnel that would have run under the bed of the Irish Sea has never finished because the MLA ran out of money and there were seventeen unsuccessful bomb attempts on the tunnel before someone finally did the job right and blew it up.

Like the Birmingham Conurbation to the South, the Cheshire Plains has a problem with air pollution from its various heavy industries. This looks set to be a continuing problem until the new air quality regulations can be enforced, always assuming the government keeps its promises and actually enforces them. Doing so might cripple British industry, which would send her economy into further decline and the new Monarchy's position might not look so rosy! This area has seen a recent influx of refugees from the Tyne-Tees Conurbation, and industry has seen this as a new source of even cheaper labor.

Both Manchester and Liverpool are part of the Greater Manchester Metropolis, in Liverpool it literally surrounds the docks, and there are gang fights daily between the various factions vying for control. The more traditional British criminal gangs are loosely allied with the Mafia against the highly ruthless Triad and Yakuza clans, that leaves the Jamaicans and Colombians to kill each other. A lot of these gangs have their home ground on the other side of the Mersey in flooded towns like Esmere Port and Birkenhead, making these towns extremely dangerous places to visit.

The Moss Side area of Manchester has been all but walled off, it is a constant battle to keep this area cut off from the rest of the conurbation, and so far none of the previous attempts has had any real success—as fast as the barricades go up, they are quickly removed by one of the two feuding gangs that rule the Alexandra Park Military Zone. They can be identified by the color of the bandanas that they wear. The “Goochies” wear red and “Daddies,” blue. Both run racketeers based on drugs, extortion, prostitution and violence amongst the women of dens and tunnels that infest the area. Pitched battles between the two are not uncommon, with pistols, SMGs, machetes, knives, chains, shotguns and fire bombs being the weapons of choice. For the BCF this is usually a “no-go” area, but occasional sweeps are made.

One major problem plaguing the battle against the various gangs is that the conurbation falls under the jurisdiction of four districts. This makes efficient pursuit of criminals almost impossible. Because of this gangs tend to run for the nearest border every time they create any trouble.

In the southwest of the conurbation, the town of Chester has been turned into the area’s Corp zone. Most of the surrounding district is, naturally, flooded, and plugging of the still standing Roman walls has turned the town into a natural island. For most corporations it is the site of their northern offices, and it is heavily protected. Construction has already begun on a dome over the town, providing it with the perfect environment all year round. Latest projections show that this will be completed in about three years time. For further information on Chester see the section on North Wales.
As a place to visit, this area is one of extreme contrast. Both Liverpool and Manchester have thriving music scenes and a lot of life. Like anywhere in the United Kingdom, locals will fleece you for all you are worth if you’re not careful.

**TYNE-TEES CONURBATION (pop 720k 138.7 sq miles)**

**Law Code: 0-5-1**

Getting into the Tees Conurbation alive makes a very interesting journey. The entertainment for the trip is usually provided by the jackanapes gang that stalk and bring down prey on the two land routes IM6 & A11 into this city. This would not be so bad for the local populace if their could get goods in via sea—but the waters surrounding them are filled with pirates and smugglers. These Lorgboatmen (as they are known) play merry hell with anything stupid or unloading enough to try and get through without their stays-so.

This leaves a certain area that the only means with which to supply this conurbation.

The area is on the brink of collapse due to starvation, and low morale. Although a small area may be a more dangerous place to be, it’s certainly easier to scratch a living. Nobody likes to live in a besieged city. The few goods that can get in are very heavily rationed by the military. Because of this land the state of disrepair the military are still in control of this conurbation and there is no likelihood of this state of emergency being lifted in the near future.

Once the proud industrial area is now reduced to a state where they are far too worried about day to day survival and where the next meal is coming from even to be bothered by other events around them. While goods are easily available through the thriving black market. They are enormously priced for those who can currently afford such prices will become very difficult when the last of the Corporations abandon their facilities as they are in the process of doing, and they lose their jobs and incomes. There are increasing, although as yet unsubstantiated, rumours that tell of residents turning to cannibalism, so desperate are they to supplement their already meagre diet.

Any business going here had a really good reason! You may be a real tough guy back home, but you are still going to go down under a mob of people who see you as either a way out of the city or at someone who has something they can sell for food...or even (God forbid) as a potential Sunday roast—and they can always sell your cyberware afterwards.

**LANARK-LOTHIAN CONURBATION (pop 656k 208.1 sq miles)**

**Law Code: 0 (AS PER INDIVIDUAL CITIES)**

The largest single conurbation in Scotland, this metropolis spreads all the way from Glasgow on the Clyde, east to the capital in Edinburgh. The unstable political situation in the loch is more noticeable here and urban conflicts between the loch and nationalist factions are common. The only things that are keeping the violence under some semblance of control is the presence of the National Assembly and the "Black Watch," both of which are in Edinburgh. They represent the first tangible signs of progress that the people have seen on the subject of an independent Scotland. However, a significant portion of the community see them as nothing more than smoke screens designed to forestall the country’s exit from the union and is this belief that makes such a volatile place to live.

**Glasgow**

**Law Code: 3-4-2**

Established in AD 543, the city of Glasgow cast off its medieval past during the industrial revolution and grew to consume the small towns that satellite around it. This trend has continued ever since the point where it is almost impossible to recognize the old district boundaries. Paisley, Renfrew, Bearsden, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs, Clydebank, you name it, they have all been gobbled down by the ravenous eastern expansion of the sprawl.

The traditional industries such as steel, ship building and textiles have now given way to information technology and electronics. Cheap land prices and incentives made Glasgow the flagship of the U.K.'s voyage out of recession in the early 90s and established the region as one of the premier investments in Europe. With foreign capital there came jobs and opportunities and for the first time since the 19th century the youth of the city’s ghettos had something to look forward to. It is unfortunate that events in other parts of the world should have burst the bubble but that is life.

Some cities would have given up and let the economic currents wash them where they would but not the people of Glasgow. Now, with the emergence of the E.C. as the dominant market in the world, the ever-industrious population are finding their way back to the head of the pack.

It is allawahness and light; gang violence and random mayhem are still very much the norm. Only a fool would walk down Gorbals Street or through Alexandra Park during the day, let alone at night. The poorer areas, like any large city around the globe, are a dangerous place to get lost. Gowen and Partick for instance, are especially nasty; there present to the Clyde Tunnel making them a flash point for many a bloody drug war. Currently, a combination of BCF and Corpo security forces are in the process of clearing the area of undesirable. The Corps want it for its real estate value and are prepared to pay through the nose to get it.

As far as the SRA and SLF factions of Scottish Republican Army/Scottish Loyalist, Faction, see pgs. 117-119 go, it is fairly simple. The Nationalists hold control in most areas north of the Clyde, while the Loyalists hold the areas to the south. This only adds to the dangers that surround the Clyde Tunnel and when combined with the trigger happy, embattled residents can only lead to one conclusion—keep away.

If you decide to avoid this advice and are looking to earn some drinking vouchers, then Central Station is the place for you. If you need anything you’ll either find it here or in Glasgow Green. Just go to either and wait, someone will come ask you what you want before long. One thing you should bear in mind is that you should never break eye contact when making a deal. This is a sign of mistrust amongst the short-tempered members of the local underworld and is likely to get you killed. One more thing—a handshake is enough and once given is exclusively binding. Break a deal, and your chances of avoiding a water grave in Loch Lomond are extremely remote.

**Edinburgh**

**Law Code: 2-1**

If you stand on top of "Arthur’s Seat," the extinct volcano that stands guard over the city, take a deep breath and close your eyes, you can almost taste the blood of a city on the move. Scotland’s capital has seen Kings, Queens and invaders come and go, empires rise and fall, but through it all, it has remained the heart of the nation’s pride. Now, more than 400 years in the clutches of an exploitative southern landlord, Scotland is once again on the brink of independence.

The newly-elected National Assembly sits in Holyrood House and is already beginning to find its feet as a political entity. The 1 o’clock gun is still fired from the Hall Moon Battery and the colors of the "Black Watch" have been restored to their rightful place on the walls of St. Giles. If Mary Queen of Scots were alive today, what would she think of her countrymen? Would she be pleased or dismayed that it has taken so long to win back Scotland for the Scots? Whatever her thoughts, she can rest safe in the knowledge that the people of Edinburgh will not give up if it has taken them so long to gain back the freedom of their country.

Unlike Glasgow, this end of the Metroplex is an exclusively nationalist region and is the Lowland’s center for all SRA operations. While the politicians talk, the SRA terrorists maintain the conflict against the English, having sworn not to relent until Scotland is finally released from the union. There is little room for the loyalist view in Edinburgh beyond that held by the BCF officers commanding the "Black Watch," who spend all of their time trying to suppress the SRA’s rising level of aggression.

The common folk watch nervously as the two factions battle it out and are thus far content to wait, rather than choose a side. They can see a future there for the taking, but will not pick up arms unless that same future is threatened, because too many have lost their sons and daughters already.

Currently the visitor does not have too much to worry about, provided of course that they are sensible. The SRA are anxious that they gain the sympathy of the English people, and therefore only rarely attack an innocent, so-called, "soft target." By ensuring that you stick to the better-patrolled areas around the city center you can avoid much of the unpleasantness that you find in Glasgow and the districts in between. Just don’t break the law and you’ll be fine.

Excerpts from a chat on a local Edinburgh subgrid BBS, March 9th, 2022:

"Rache Bartmoss? Yeah, he's good, but what does he know about the Net nowadays? He's too busy acting famous and shooting' off his big mouth! Why, even if he is alive I could take him with one lobe tied behind my...my...

Glick! Khr!! Arrrrrrrrrrh!!!...

**Communication Terminated At Source**

***RACHE.VIRUS.XXile***
BELFAST (pop 310k 62 sq miles)

LAW CODE: 0-5-1

Although not part of the British mainland, this is The Most Dangerous Place in British to visit. The only traffic going between Belfast and mainland Britain is military in nature and without government permission it is impossible to get there. Unless of course you travel from the southern republic of Ireland where you will be able to find any number of smugglers who will be willing to take you across the DMAZ—for a large fee of course.

Belfast, like the rest of Ulster, is strictly divided into Republic (predominantly Catholic and Loyalist—mainly Protestant) Quarters. During the day these are heavily patrolled by the units of the largest BCF garrison in the United Kingdom who have total jurisdiction and operate a government-sanctioned shoot-to-kill policy. The Ulster Defense Regiment recruits purely from Northern Ireland as mainline troops have been pulled out. However, how strictly this policy is adhered to is anybody's guess. Despite efforts to recruit from the various communities the make-up of the regiment is predominantly Loyalist and as such, members are prime targets for IRA and INLA assassination attempts.

Nobody in Ulster is safe (or considered innocent)—many people who have had no interest in politics have been killed in front of their families just because they happen to be living in the wrong area of town.

During the hours of darkness patrols are greatly reduced for their own safety. Just about every night in Belfast is a Friday Night Fire Fight! The garrison remains holed up in one of several heavily fortified bases that have a one hundred meter free fire zone surrounding each. The only forces operating after sunset are the twenty Kestrels that patrol the night skies. No civilian or military vehicle is allowed to enter the airspace over Belfast without first obtaining clearance. The Kestrels issue a challenge once to unknown air traffic before summarily shooting it down.

Belfast is probably the one city that is more dangerous than Night City. Even the Arasaka Corporation will not operate in Belfast. When the MLA awarded the contract for policing Belfast to Arasaka in 2009 it was only a matter of weeks before they realized that they had bitten off more than they could chew. When the head of Arasaka's local branch and his family were kidnapped, it was the SAS that got them out. The Arasaka facilities were destroyed by firebombs shortly afterwards. With the right contacts it is easy to find work, weapons and ammunition. Smartguns on the other hand means you can lose ten times normal prices. The work will usually be extremely hazardous and probably pay poorly. None of the groups involved in the struggle like to have outsiders involved. Of course if you do go, then travel at night—which is still highly dangerous, but at least it means you won't get arrested. During the day BCF patrols will arrest or shoot anybody claiming to be tourists simply because they're not allowed, and in any case they would find it hard to believe anyone would actually want to come to Belfast as a tourist; therefore, they must have something to hide.

Nightlife of any kind is very hard to find as clubs get bombarded and pubs, being generally sectarian in nature, are often the site of assassinations. The nearest thing to real nightlife can be found at the various BCF bases but this is strictly for the enjoyment of BCF members and their families.
The United Kingdom

KEY TO MAPS IN THIS CHAPTER

- Corinubia Border
- Political Border
- Major Roadway
- Flood Areas

Devon and Cornwall

The first country of the kingdom to be dealt with by our galley of beer-swilling reporters and thinkers is, all but one of them. Actually, the title of this district is a bit of a misnomer as the area also includes large parts of Somerset as well. This area has a long and ancient history along with a tradition of independence.

Devon and Cornwall has probably the best climate for those who like the sun in the whole of the U.K., and for well over a century had been the place for the British to visit on their vacation. Obviously, this has taken a bit of a downturn since the imposition of the various border controls and has led to a very high level of unemployment. The independent movement is an ongoing gathering pace and many slogans supporting Kernow (Cornwall) - depending on who wrote it can be seen. This movement gathers in strength the further west you go while in the east there is virtually no support for it at all.

Large parts of Devon and Cornwall are privately owned by Queen Victoria as part of the Restoration. These areas are known as the Duchy of Cornwall and many Royalists hold a great affection for them as a lasting symbol of King Charles III and his valiant stand against the MLA. Land owned by the Duchy is strictly off limits to everybody and no pass will gain you entry unless signed by Lords Hill or McKenzie or Sir Hubert Nonnington - the Queen's Personal Secretary.

The major towns are Truro, Plymouth, Torbay, and Penzance. These towns will be discussed later.

Dotted all around the coast of Devon and Cornwall are numerous isolated small fishing villages giving areas of western Cornwall a feel similar to Wales or Western Scotland. This feel is mainly due to its striking scenery and its long history. Cornwall was one of the last outposts of the old Celts and therefore shares a common heritage with Scotland, Wales and Brittany. Most of these villages are very insular and do not take kindly to strangers apart from those with Welsh, Scottish or French accents. Surprisingly enough, you can quite often hear those types of accents in the western portion of the district. The government suspects these people to be smugglers and/or messengers between various nationalist factions, including the French—the Bretons have more in common with the Cornish than with the rest of France.

Others are suspected of piracy, of which there is a great deal in these areas. Most just prey on tourists that have strayed too far from the safer areas around Penzance and the Scilly Isles. Some, however, have moved on to bigger fish and occasionally hijack the odd oil or OXO steel tanker as they approach Milford Haven in Southern Wales. What they do with these huge ships is anybody's guess along with why the go-

Rumor: Some people, especially HC and INA, are beginning to wonder why the Queen needs such privacy—after all, she has no official residence there.

Cyberpunk 2.0.2.0

Datascreen 86
enforcement forces can't find them. Interference at high levels is suspected but has yet to be proved. It is surprising that most of this fuel is used by the various nationalist movements but the method used to accomplish this is not yet to be discovered.

The main industries in Devon and Cornwall are fishing, tourism, tin mining and smuggling. In the last twenty years both tourism and fishing have taken a bit of a downturn due to both monetary restraints and the restriction of movement in the case of tourism. Fishing is no longer the major industry it used to be due to overfishing and pollution. Many families were forced to stop fishing as they couldn't afford to buy the bigger, well-armed boats needed to work the Arctic and Icelantic fishing grounds. Those who decided to stay in fishing clubbed together and invested in large factory ships that they bought from the Baltic states. They now fish the South Atlantic, but due to the competition for the few remaining viable fishing grounds, have to be protected by the Navy.

Tin mining had disappeared by the mid-90's but new technology had allowed some of the old mines to re-open. The first to begin production using robotic miners was the Wheal Jane mine near Turo. Once this proved to be a success, other mines followed suit and Cornwall now finds itself the world's third largest producer of tin.

The administrator of this district is Trevilian Crepole, a native Cornishman who, it is claimed, understands the needs of the Cornish people.

**Places to Visit**

**Truro**

Truro is the administrative center for the region. It, like most of the cities in this region, is small, only qualifying for city status because of its splendid cathedral. It has been the capital of Cornwall for a long time and was selected to be the administrative center after the Restoration because, it was claimed, the area had a long tradition of loyal service to the crown. Many political insiders say the real reason was to have a massive influence in the center of the independence movement's power base, thereby restricting that organization's operations by ever increasing their size. Truro is the administrative center most of the military presence is at Plymouth. Law Code: 5-3-4

**Plymouth**

Plymouth has, along with Portsmouth, been the base of British naval power for centuries. While successive governments wound down the military presence in Plymouth as Portsmouth became headquarters for the Navy, most of the docks and barracks still remained in place and therefore made an ideal place to base the Devon and Cornwall regiment of SFC—the King's Own Devon & Cornwall, especially as it is relatively central and has good access. The old Devonport dockyards now house the South Atlantic Fisheries Protection Task Force. Law Code: 2-4.

**Penzance**

Penzance is a medium-sized town that hasn't changed much in centuries and, as such, is quite a tourist attraction. It is easy to see how life was lived all those centuries ago when Cornwall made its living out of fishing and tin mining. Penzance is also the only place where the regular ferry departs for the Scilly Isles to privately-owned corporate playground. The area around Penzance leads towards Lands End and up as far north as St. Ives is designated an Tourist Improvement Zone. Law Code: 5-2-4.

**Other Places to Visit**

**Badminton Moor**

Badminton Moor is situated to the west of Plymouth and along with Dartmoor and Exmoor is a rugged wasteland with scenery of great natural beauty. It has a long history of smuggling—indeed the world-famous Jamaica Inn is situated right in the middle of it. The moor is also steeped in Arthurian mythology and many local legends state that Arthur's last battle was in the area at Slaughter Bridge and that Excalibur was thrown into the lake that is now known as Dozmary Pool. Law Code: 1-3-2.

Thus the moor is frequented by the Round Table Knights--from several European countries, a common sight along with Tintagel. Tintagel is according to local legend the site of Camelot. Whatever it was, it is certainly an impressive site—a castle clinging to the cliffs of the northern Cornish coast. The Knights visit Tintagel occasionally, but as the site is a designated NUO meeting place, they tend to only visit if they know that it will be empty. The aforementioned sites are on occasion visited by the Pendragons who are looking for the Knights. If you see both of these groups in the same area then our advice is to leave as quickly as you can.

**Player contact:** Mazer Wavron, initiate of the Sacred Hoop and Natarian of Arthurian legend. She is the only survivor of the Dozmary massacre (see Rumors) and is believed to be hiding some (continued next page)
Rough Guide to the U.K.

EXMOOR

Exmoor is very similar to both moors previously discussed and as such should be treated with caution. It gives such good protection to the small towns and villages along the north coast that many pay no attention to the government at all. Law Code: 1-3-2

The whole of the Devon and Cornwall area is a bit lacking in exciting nightlife for those who like that sort of thing. The best Club is Penhaligon’s, just outside Penzance. It’s situated in an old disused tin mine and has five dance floors catering for most types of music. Most dances are served full of those in fashion in the ‘States and prices are reasonable—for a tourist area, that is. For a cheaper night out try Drake’s in Plymouth or The Mayflower Club in Torbay.

Some Notable Locals

People who may be a help to any travellers in the area include Richard Drake, Frances Duchesseyn and Michael Warleggan. All of them are friendly and will do good deeds for tourists. Richard Drake claims to be descended from the great Francis Drake and certainly has his more famous namesake’s ability with boats. He’s reputed to be in his early fifties with a good face and a brawny, muscular body. He tends to operate out of the area around Exmoor. He helped with the restoration of the old, disused tin mines and has a reputation for being a reliable man. He even claims to have smuggled gold into the country during Operation Cromwell (see section on Victoria). While these claims cannot be substantiated he is damn good at what he does. If you need something brought into the country and you want to avoid all that tiresome queuing at customs then he’s your man. It follows that if you want to leave the area quickly, then he can arrange that too.

Richard Drake, River INT 8, COOL 8
Relevant skills: Streetwise 4, Water Vehicles 7, Forgery 6, Expert (Local Coastline) 6

Frances Duchesseyn operates out of Penzance and is rumoured to do a lot of work for the various Corporate recluses in the Scilly Isles. Duchesseyn deals mainly in drugs and industrial espionage. If you’re here to do an expedition, then she’s the contact to make—she knows the coast like the back of her hand and knows a lot of the Calis personally. Being of French descent, she is reputed to be under surveillance by government officials as a suspected courier between the Welsh, Breton and Cornish nationalists. She’s deceptively young-looking with an intense personality. She tends to dress in the latest Euro-chic clothes.

Michael Warleggan, River INT 9, COOL 9
Relevant skills: Streetwise 7, Corporate Policy 6, Language (Breton) 5, Expert (Local Coastline) 5

Michael Warleggan is probably the best man to contact as he knows all the main players in the area and probably the best way to contact them—obviously you don’t just wander around the Exmoor villages asking if Richard Drake can be found. Nor do you want to live! He lives in the Bodmin area, but makes frequent trips to Plymouth and Penzance. He is rumoured to live up to his reputation as the best smuggler in these parts by running his operation from a low-key, completely untraceable, vessel with a razor-sharp intellect and a fair degree of ruthlessness. His ruthlessness is mainly directed towards those who cross him or his friends. As long as you don’t cheat on him, you should be alright.

Traveller Beware!

Many roads in Devon and Cornwall are passable; however, caution is advised in the areas of Bodmin, Dartmoor and Exmoor as many of these roads are small, single tracks—ideal for ambushes. Once off the beaten track many of the roads have fallen into disrepair so it is advisable that you check before attempting to use any. Also check that the roads are wide enough to take your vehicle as many roads in this district are bordered by high stone walls with very few passing places. The safest areas to visit are the Penzance, Turo and Plymouth areas.

Sussex

This district actually covers the old counties of Sussex and Kent with parts of Surrey. Large parts of this district used to be referred to as the Garden of England and the ETB likes to keep it that way by owning large parts of it. This district is the man way into the U.K., for those driving from the continent as it encompasses the ports of Folkestone and Dover and the Channel Tunnel. Other major Towns are Canterbury, Guildford, and Brighton.

Most of the county is a peaceful reminder of how England used to be—only the Dungeness and Romney Marsh are home any sort of criminal element, thus making this an ideal district for the wealthy Corp exec to live in. That is how the ETB would like it to be and for the most part, they are right. It is a very pleasant area with any picture postcard villages full of thatched cottages OK, so the ETB built them last year but who cares but a word of warning—stay away from the northeast of the district. This area is in close proximity to the Docklands Combat Zone, and more importantly, East Anglia, and that means that roads are frequent in this area so be careful.

The Administrator for this area is Selwyn St. John, pronounced Sirnijon Netchurch. The roads are in very good condition and are probably the best in country. Even away from the Access roads, travel is easy and driving is a pleasure. The rail links are also good—especially the line to the Channel Tunnel (although not as good as on the French side). Aerodynamic travel is also good, but don’t stray too far away from your registered plan near Canterbury or in the north east.

Places to Visit

Canterbury

Canterbury is the administrative center both for this district and also for the Church of England. Much of its old medieval architecture survives in and around the town. This town is jointly owned and run by the ETB and the Church of England. Due to this fact, the town has a very high security rating and has a
Folkstone
Folkstone is one of two major ports in the District and deals with all large goods that are to large for too dangerous to travel using the Channel Tunnel. Ships depart here daily to France and on a four daily rotation to Denmark, Germany, Belgium and Holland. Folkstone has taken over virtually all of the volume of traffic that used to be undertaken by Felixstowe and Harwich, as both of those ports are considered to be dangerous to approach by road. As befits a port of this size security is strict and guards tend to be trigger happy. Law Code: 4-1-2.

Player contact: Alan Porter-Smith, Solo, who is always looking for suitable recruits to help him protect the many illegal shipments that he deals with.

Alan Porter-Smith, Solo (REF 7, COOL 6).
Relevant skills: Combat Sense 4, Handgun 4, Streetwise 4, Athletics 3

RUMOR: The Customs and Excise Regiment are planning a raid on several known smugglers' hideouts.

Dover
Dover handles most of the smaller goods traffic to the same destinations as Folkestone and caters for those who prefer a leisurely cruise to the continent. Such ships, especially those on the Eastburg and Heramburg routes, tend to carry only their own security to fend off pirates from East Anglia and the Baltic states. Also near Dover is the Channel Tunnel. At the present this still consists of just a rail link as the road link keeps falling behind schedule due to unfortunate accidents or mishaps (of course the ferry operators don't mind...). The Channel Tunnel is such a ripe target for terrorist attack that security is incredibly tight, and since the bombing of the Liverpool-Dublin tunnel, this has been increased yet again. By the time you have gone through three body scanners and countless immigration checks you would hardly be quick as to go by ferry. Law Code: 2-1-2

Most places within this district have prices that cater for the rich—i.e., too bloody expensive for the likes of you and me. It's best to stick to fish & chip shops for food and the local pub for a night. Stay away from all the tourist traps. There are numerous night clubs where the rich and famous strut their stuff into the wee small hours; the best of which are located in Brighton but they are very expensive.

RUMOR: The ETB is concerned by intelligence about a Gay Rights militant gang that is planning attacks in the city.

Brighton
Brighton, like Torbay, is another seaside resort and is largely owned by the ETB due to its architecture. For those of you interested in the cultural side of things, both the Royal Pavilion and the sea-front terrace are particularly good examples of Royal eccentricity and regency design respectively. For those who aren't—don't come here, although things may become a little more interesting as the more militant factors of the Gay Rights movement have threatened action against the ETB. The reason for this was that Brighton had a huge gay population that was tolerated by the MLA-4, which was considered better to have them there where they could keep an eye on them. When the ETB came in and bought up large areas it was considered detrimental to the public good, i.e., profits to have a large gay community right next door to your major tourist attractions, what with AIDS and AIDS II is just wouldn't do. The gay's were moved out of Brighton to various "settlement" camps—many were never heard from again. The present government is "embarrassed" about this homophobic policy but has yet to condemn the ETB's action, preferring to hold an enquiry first. Law Code: 4-2-4

Player contact: Hamlet Harding, local historian/biographer and the living Who's Who of the area.

RUMOR: The Church is offering a bounty for the discreet assassination of one Arthur Bishop.

Guildford
Guildford is the Garrison town for the Sussex District, and as such, houses the Queen's Sussex Rifles. As far as law is concerned it falls under the auspices of the Home Counties Military Zone, and so you better have a good reason for being here. The Queen's Sussex Rifles are a bigger regiment than is strictly necessary for the district due to the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury and all the things that can happen with London and East Anglia. Law Code: 2-1-1

Player contact: None, they wouldn't even let me in Bastards.

RUMOR: The Garrison commander, Ian McLeene, is interested in boys—if you know what I mean. He would be likely to pay a fortune to prevent a scandal, unless of course, he just has you killed.

Some Notable Locals
Napoleon Mainwaring (pronounced manwaring) is a Corporate banker who lives in Canterbury. He has a lot of contacts in the city and is always looking expand his wealth and power especially overseas. He could help you if you offer him an "I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine" scenario. He looks like your archetypal Corporate executive with his real wood suit and his fine silk shirts.

Napoleon Mainwaring, Corp (INT 8, COOL 7). Relevant skills: Resources 6, Business Sense 7, Stock Market 6, Accounting 6

Kerry Packer is a top media personality who lives in Brighton. Her speciality is investigative journalism with a special interest in sport. Because of this, more than one doping gang wants her dead because of her reports on horse racing. Her fearlessness in the face of overwhelming odds has won her both the Cook and the Kate Adie awards. She is charming, very good looking and has the bulldog spirit when she gets her teeth into a story.

Kerry Packer, Media (INT 8, EMP 7), Credibility 7, Photo/ FILM 3, Interview 5, Persuasion 3

One of the best fixers in the district is one Luigi Ferracci, whose place of residence is Dover, overlooking the Channel Tunnel. He can get you just about anything from the continent—it takes a little time and money. He is under suspicion for smuggling, but like all those who are the best in their profession, the police and Customs & Excise have never amassed enough proof to nail him. A small man with greasy hair and long sideburns he looks as though he should be living in the 1950's.

Luigi Ferracci, River (INT 6, COOL 7). Streetwise 3, Intrigue 3, Pick Lock 3, Persuasion 3

Restrictions
Pretty lax, unless you stray close to East Anglia or the inner areas of Canterbury, or the Docks. If you are of a nomadic persuasion, stay well away from all of them if you don't want any trouble.

Traveller Beware!
All road and sea traffic is in danger around this part of England. Be especially vigilant around East Anglia (see following section where civil unrest, piracy and trigger-happy BCF units making your keeping down of graphic importance).
East Anglia

Our simple advice is stay away from this area as it is rapidly becoming another Northern Ireland, only this time, with the added excitement of the Mekong Delta thrown in. Although to be fair, this latter problem is not just located in East Anglia but also Middle Anglia and parts of Mercia, and Lindsey. Derive as well. As the problem is centered in this area, we will deal with The Wash Riverine Zone in this section. The original problem was that the administrator, Major Harris, cracked down hard on subversives meaning everybody who wasn't right-wing in politics and religion. These people obviously didn't take to this at all and rebelled. What the people of East Anglia want isn't known—it could be that if Harris was to go they would return to the fold, or they may want a total return to democracy. Many think that, collectively, they haven't got a clue what they want.

The major towns in this district are Colchester, Ipswich, Felixstowe, Harwich and Norwich. Cambridge just falls within the jurisdiction of Mercia.

The East Anglians are a rag-bag of various beliefs both religious and political united under two common purposes—self-defense and a hatred for the government. This would make things easy for the BCF if everybody felt this way, but a great many East Anglians support the Monarchy, and so in places a virtual civil war exists making life very difficult for those members of the forces who have to police this District—at least in Vietnam the enemy looked different. Can you trust everybody in your unit?...

What makes this place so dangerous is the effect of global warming and years of civil unrest—this area has long been a maze of marsh land and small rivers. When the country was at peace with itself, thousands of pumps kept the water level from rising. However, the rise in the sea level together with the slow caesium of pumping meant that the marshes returned and the rivers grew larger. More and more land fell before the advancing tides and many communities became cut off from the rest of Britain.

The multitude of rivers along with the ridges of the Chiltern Hills have provided many of the villages with a natural defence from government forces. A lot of arms were supplied to the villages by both the Scottish separatists and the IRA in the hope that if they kept the Army busy in its own backyard, the English might pull out. While the villages were grateful for the initial supplies they have shown a marked reluctance to deal with either movement for independence or their own oil and sent further representatives away with instructions not to return. As this has cut off their original main source of weapons, they have since been dealing with the nomads who provide weapons to the various tribes up north.

It has been noted that many people have expressed no interest in toppling the Government just yet, and many think they just want to clear out The Wash land surrounding area of all vestiges of rule from London.

At the moment most villages seem to be keeping to themselves, but it's suspected that this is a prelude to some sort of offensive to drive the BCF out of the area. This latest snippet of intelligence has concerned many people in Westminster as it may mean that a more cohesive force is being formed. Due to this latest information many infiltration teams from British and foreign are being sent into the region with orders to find out what they can.

Although there are a few major access roads in East Anglia most of them aren't as safe as the government likes to say they are. In fact, once you get past Ipswich and Cambridge, you're on your own. The most dangerous roads are those to Cromer and Norwich as this area is virtually an independent state. During high tides large sections of the roads are underwater and this along with the frequent bombing of bridges makes most of the Access roads impassable unless you are driving an off-road vehicle. Most of the other roads are impassable at all times of the year and are kept this way to hinder BCF patrols. A few roads are passable, but only the locals know which roads are safe.

If you are flying an Aerodyne vehicle be sure to check your filled flight plan or you're liable to be visited by the RAF or, more likely, shot down by a missile from Norwich or Colchester.

Places to Visit

Colchester

Colchester is the administrative center for the district as well as the base for the East Anglian Grenadiers. Although most district capitals have a high security rating, Colchester, more than most, is not a place to be caught with an unauthorized weapon. It is a town virtually under siege, but luckily for Colchester its attackers are two totally separate forces—those from East London and those from East Anglia. Colchester does manage to exert a calming influence over a fifteen mile radius and the roads between Chelmsford and Colchester are relatively safe most of the time. Law Code: 1-2-1.

Harwich and Felixstowe

Harwich and Felixstowe are two port towns that have fallen on hard times due to the political situation in East Anglia—ne-
Ipswich

Ipswich is another town under siege and only the close proximity of Colchester has prevented its fall. Again, this is not a town to be caught with any unauthorized weapons at all—if you are found out with any you can kiss goodbye to both your weapons and your life. This is not a fun place to visit although some money can be made here as a guard on the weekly goods convoys to Norwich and Cambridge. Law Code: 3-1-3.

Middle Anglia

Middle Anglia, to paraphrase a soccer cliché, is a district of two halves—to the east you have a continuation of the East Anglian troubles with a marshland criss-crossed by countless small rivers stretching inland as far as Lincoln. To the west, you have the outer reaches of the Birmingham and Cheshire Metropoles. The topography of the area is such that from the Sheffield area of the Cheshire Metropolis the sea is virtually flat with no real hills to speak of.

Places to Visit

Boston

Boston has recently fallen under the control of the East Anglians and has subsequently experienced some of its former glory as a port due to the rise of the sea levels although a lot of what flows through the port is illegal—apart from King’s Lynn it is the major port for arms smuggling in the area. The town is dominated by the octagonal tower of St. Bartholomew’s church—known as the Stump and this is often used as a look-out for the inhabitants of the town and is also used as a beacon for shipping when the latest supplies are being brought in.

The Major Access road that runs through hasn’t been used for a while as any traffic whether it was a convoy or not fell under heavy attack. For around three months none but the footpath or those having business in Boston or the surrounding area, have travelled along it. This has embarrassed the Government, who are annoyed at this because the port of Grimsby is now under severe threat—one of the two roads supplying the town has been cut and the other is under immense pressure. As such, a lot of the supplies for Grimsby are ferried across from Kingston upon Hull. They are always looking for extra bodies to help—solicits can be used as extra guards and guards can always be used to find out the latest plans from the BCF in Peterborough and Doncaster. Law Code: 3-2-3.

Norwich

Norwich is the last outpost of government rule in deepest East Anglia and almost looks like a medieval city state with its numerous guard towers atop a newly-built wall that surrounds a good third of the city, with construction of the rest of the wall continuing as fast as the contractors can manage it for the East Anglians will allow it. The town is kept alive by the weekly supply convoys from Ipswich and Cambridge. The city has a detachment of East Anglian Grenadiers based here whose job is to pacify the surrounding area—an impossible task at present. There are no reasons for a tourist to be here as it’s very dangerous and any less claiming to be just visiting to look at the lovely churches etc. will be viewed with suspicion. Law Code: 2-1-2.
Grimsby
Grimsby has a long history of being one of Britain's major fishing ports and this tradition has continued. Most of the Arctic fishing fleet is based here and as such Grimsby is one of the nation's true lifelines and a pivotal point for those forces in the area. As mentioned earlier, one of the supply routes—the MARS from Peterborough—has been cut with the fall of Boston, and the other is expected to become too hazardous within the next two months. The town depends on Kingston upon Hull for its supplies apart from fish obviously. This is a good place to look for a job—the town needs people to defend it and you can always find a job on a trawler—either gutting fish, or again, defending it against the pirates that frequent the area. Law Code: 4-1-3.

Lester McCririck, Fixer (INT 8, EMP 7)
Streetwear 8, Gambling 7, Accounting 6, Persuasion 6

Restrictions
By no means as strict as East Anglia, a Full Tourist Ticket is enough to get you past most checkpoints, just keep away from military installations and you should be safe. (Well, relatively speaking.)

Traveller Beware!
The roads to the west of the district are reasonably passable, especially the A1, however, the roads to the east of this road are as dangerous as any in East Anglia. As we mentioned earlier, the Access road from Peterborough to Grimsby has been cut in two with the fall of Boston. This doesn't mean you can't call it—just be careful.

Mercia
Mercia is located in the English heartland, comprising parts of the former counties of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire, and including such cities as both Oxford and Cambridge within its boundaries. Being adjacent to the London Region, the area is well served by all the major arterial routes heading north and west from the capital. The majority of the region is relatively flat, underpopulated and non-urbanized. The north-west of the region is under the control of the English Tourist Board. Containing such historical locations as Warwick and Stratford-Upon-Avon, the ETB is anxious to develop this region fully so people can once more witness the beauty of English Heritage. The rest of the region is dominated by the IMA. Its vast expanse of fertile land make it prime arable farming country and provides much of the food for the rest of the UK. Because of this, Mercia bore the brunt of the RAGE terrorist attacks a few years ago, and even now

A Notable Local
Lester McCririck is perhaps the leading bookie in the area and will take your money on any bet that you care to mention. Anything goes—from the player at the 3-1 at Doncaster to how much of the latest convoy to Norwich will actually make it through.

He is rumored to be involved in doping (to avoid paying out huge sums of money should the favorite come home in front). He flatly denies this, but has yet to answer why he has a Netrunner on his staff. Although the sysop at Doncaster race course hasn't reported any break-ins to the Fence Control Systems, some people are now beginning to wonder about that random fence change at last month's 50,000 guineas when the hot favorite, Whiskas, seemed to be home and dry. McCririck is an overweight man of about forty five who is very anxious when he talks—he waves his hands about like he's making a bet with someone over your shoulders using tic-tac-toe.

Lester McCririck, Fixer (INT 8, EMP 7)
Streetwear 8, Gambling 7, Accounting 6, Persuasion 6

Mercia
Mercia is a region located in the English heartland, comprising parts of the former counties of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. The region is relatively flat, underpopulated and non-urbanized. The north-west of the region is under the control of the English Tourist Board. Containing several historical locations such as Warwick and Stratford-Upon-Avon, the ETB is anxious to develop this region fully so people can once more witness the beauty of English Heritage. The rest of the region is dominated by the IMA. Its vast expanse of fertile land makes it prime arable farming country and provides much of the food for the rest of the UK. Because of this, Mercia bore the brunt of the RAGE terrorist attacks a few years ago, and even now
under the guidance and benevolent funding of the IMA, is only just returning to a position where it is able to produce its full quota of foodstuffs.

Places to Visit

Heading out from London, the average tourist will find Mersea a most beautiful region to travel through. Initially the traveller will pass through land that has been reserved for "military use" (exact definition classified), before entering the spectacular farmland. If one chooses the time of their journey correctly, you will be able to see genetically engineered wheat growing ten feet high, swaying majestically in the summer breeze.

Just south of Swindon, fully-automated farm and processing techniques can be seen to great effect at the massive IMA processing plant located there. Certain areas of the plant have been opened to the public where you can see the newly harvested wheat entering one end and fresh loaves of IMA bread exiting at the other. While there, you may enjoy a wide variety of IMA produced foods very reasonably priced. One tip is to visit the Bakers' Oven restaurant, where the Corporate slogan "Giving You This Day Your Daily Bread" is proudly emblazoned. A gift shop selling souvenirs ranging from stylish sweatshirts (with the IMA logo on the front and the slogan on the back) to miniature loaves of bread fresh from the ovens complete this view to your monument of Corporate agriculture. Law Code: 2-4-2.

GOLD MONEY TO ANYONE CRAZY ENOUGH TO CAUSE A FEW, YOU KNOW, DISTURBANCES UP THERE!

Moving further eastwards there lies a most unique attraction for the boisterous tourist. The village of Uffington known locally as Epona due to the large white horse carved into the nearby hillsides is an almost permanent encampment for the Triple Moon Clan. Although peaceable, they can be a little unnerving to the unseasoned traveller, but if you feel you want something a little out of the ordinary, this is a must. Enjoy genuine hand-crafted vegetarian fare at very reasonable prices and see traditional crafts such as dress and jewelry-making. At night you will be entranced by a joyful mix of pipes and drums and delightful dancing as the Clan put on a show of traditional music unrivaled by even the most popular modern bands. Note: Certain times of the year are regarded as religious festivals by the clan. We strongly recommend that you contact your nearest branch of either the ETB or the NFIU before planning your trip to Uffington.

Law Code: 5-1-3.

Player Contact: Nettie, a new arrival studying at Babbage-Gibson College. Boasts that he can get into any system, as long as the price is right. After all, struggling students need some source of income. Giant cheques are so meager these days.

Puck, Nettie
Interface 4, System Knowledge 6, Programming 4, Education/Gen. Know. 4

RUMOR: "HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST STOCK-MARKET REPORT? THE HAMMOND BIOGENETICS FOUNDATION HAVE JUST PURCHASED A SMALL ISLAND OFF THE COAST OF CENTRAL AMERICA. IT SEEMS THEY ARE SPENDING NO EXPENSE, BUT I DON'T THINK THERE WAS ANY MONEY IN REAL ESTATE."

Warwick, Stratford-Upon-Avon

Warwick, Stratford-Upon-Avon, and the surrounding ETB reservation are found to the north amidst more IMA farmland. The ETB have gone to great lengths to ensure that the character of these towns remains unchanged, and that visitors can see them today exactly as they were hundreds of years ago. However, access to this region is restricted to those with valid ETB permits or other recognized holiday coupons. Tourists to this area can rest assured that the surrounding electrified fence and the armed and armored trucks cruising lazily overhead in the blue skies will ensure that nothing untoward will detract from their full enjoyment of this slice of Britain's past. For the tourist from abroad, Stratford-Upon-Avon is probably the best known town in the area.

The birthplace of the world's greatest playwright, William Shakespeare, the town is a testament to his genius. Many buildings associated with the Bard can be visited, including his birthplace, the home of his son-in-law, and the homes of his wife and mother. All are furnished with genuine reproduction period furniture, and complemented by holograms of Shakespeare guiding you through the properties.

The ETB sponsored Royal Shakespeare Company newly reformed after the Restoration perform nightly some of Shakespeare's greatest works. No visit to the town is complete without seeing at least one play. For eating, one must visit the Dirty Duck, the country's oldest public house, who serve a whole variety of cuisine in conjunction with traditional English ale, and the new Queen's Table, a highly exclusive restaurant, who proudly maintain that they serve "food fit for a Queen."

For your overnight stay in this picturesque town, try Ebnune, a mock Dansk castle, with each room themed to a specific Shakespearean play. Young lovers can enjoy the pleasures of the Romeo and Juliet suite, while the more mature may find more to their liking a night in the Macbeth chambers. Once you have seen all the delights that Stratford can offer, just a few miles up the road lies Warwick, where you will find a perfectly restored medieval castle,

RICHARD STANLEY, Corp INT 6, EMP 2
Resources: 4, WadsworthStyle 4, Social 5, Persuasion 3

RUMOR: "HAVE YOU HEARD THE LATEST? THE ETB HAVE BEEN BREATHTAKING THE NECKS OF IMA AGAIN. IT SEEMS THAT THEY CANNOT BEAR THE THOUGHT OF ANYTHING TO DO WITH TOURISM THAT THEY DO NOT CONTROL. MIND YOU, I HEARD THAT IMA RECKON STRATFORD WOULD MAKE GOOD FARMING LAND, AND THEY ARE PAYING..."
complete with torching halls, dungeons, and knights in armor. Restored to its former glory by the caring presence of the EBT, the splendor of Warwick Castle will fill your senses with a never-to-be-forgotten experience.

The castle itself can provide a complete holiday without ever stepping outside its fortified walls. Why not enjoy a mediaeval banquet in 'The Rock,' surrounded by decks of torture, gruesomely realistic automata (the kids will love the beheading scene), complete with gushing blood, and accompanied by full surround-sound screams. Stay overnight in the haunted bed chambers holographic ghosts will ensure that you do not sleep a wink, or for a laugh, why not have your partner incorporated in the dungeons for a small fee, so you can enjoy the luxon serving wenches without hearing her complaints? Law Code: 5-1-4.

Player Contact: Imogen Howard, a struggling RSC battling for the break into the vid-market. Currently dating the EBT Stratford administrator, and willing to do deals in return for the right connections.

**RUMOR:**

"I'VE HEARD THAT UNCLE KEN IS GOING TO DO A INNOVATIVE PERFORMANCE OF RICHARD III IN A WHEELCHAIR!"

"REALITY? IS EMMA GOING TO BE IN IT?"

"YES, AS THE WHEELCHAIR!"

**Restrictions**

When traveling through the military areas bordering the London Region, tourists should avoid using cameras, radios or anything that could be misinterpreted as an enemy signal. The terminals of the IMA are closed, with very few exceptions. Take care to avoid areas designated for land clearing, as these contain automated machinery. IMA cannot hold responsible for any loss of life or limb that may occur. You are advised to keep your vehicle moving at all times, except at designated IMA Beauty Spots. Stationary vehicles are likely to be targeted by aerial security drones.

Liffington is free from all restrictions, although we stress that general visitors check with their local EBT or NFU office for the dates of any local religious festivals.

Entry to all EBT reservations are strictly controlled and EBT troopers will enthusiastically enforce any breach of EBT regulations.

You are strongly advised to check on the validity of your EBT permit or other embossed holiday card prior to your visit to the area.

**Traveller Beware!**

Though largely free of crime due to the joint guardianship of the British Combined Forces, the IMA and the overly vigilant EBT, some of the urbanized areas of Luton and Swindon are best avoided. There is little nomad trouble, although we recommend that contact be avoided with the exceptions of Liffington. You may not tell the difference between a Spiral Tribe member and a Triple Moon Clan member until it is too late. Note: On your travels in Meridia, should you spot nomads whose vehicle or clothing are adorned with concentric rings, please report their whereabouts to your local EBT office representative, where a reward may be given.

**WESSEX**

Wessex is located on Britain's south coast, comprising parts of the former counties of Devon, Dorset and Somerset, along with all of Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire. Located within the region are places of importance such as the Bristol Metropolis, which is largely under the control of IMA and the location of their head office, and Avon (formerly Glastonbury), owned by the Natural Faith Union. The town of Newbury also forms the main regional headquarters for the British Combined Forces. It is a prosperous region, with important trading ports to the south, as well as the Pooles-Bournemouth Metropolis which is currently undergoing a project of revitalization by the EBT, the only metropolis to have such a source of revenue being pumped into it. In addition the metropolis is home to the Customs & Excise regiment and the Special Boat Service OB93. Salisbury plain is used for military maneuvers. Further westwards the land is being farmed by IMA. While not as important for farming as some other regions, it still produces a fair amount of produce. The M3 motorway from Southampton to London is one of the safest, cleanest and smartest roads in the country. It is virtually crime-free and those that do attempt some form of hijacking along its route are invariably caught.

**Places to Visit**

Southampton is the first stop for most tourists visiting Wessex. The most likely route leaves London and heads south on the M3, a short journey which should not take longer than two hours. Southampton is a highly commercialized and energetic city. It is the southern center for commercial shipping and, in the dockyard area there is a secure holding penitentiary for those awaiting transit to the Isle of Wight Penal Colony. The city boasts a hi-tech university which is renowned for its medical training.

There is not much else in the city for tourists, apart from a very comprehensive shopping complex, and overnight lodgings are available if you wish to spend your journey. If you are going abroad, from Southampton you may catch the fast passenger train to Portsmouth, where you have access via cross-channel ferries to your French port. Lié Harve, Calais, St Malo and Cherbourg. Law Code: 5-1-4.

Player Contact: Paul Mitchell, Penal Transit Guard. Responsible for ensuring there is no trouble among convicts awaiting their trip to the Isle of Wight. While he is loyal, he might be able to provide information on who is awaiting transport, or even arrange a permit to enter the security areas.

Heading westwards from Southampton, the tourist is only some thirty minutes from the New Forest. The south and east regions of the Forest are owned by timbercorps, a purported subsidiary of IMA, and are inaccessible to members of the public. The North and Western regions contain much natural beauty for the traveler to explore. The EBT advise, however, that development licenses have not been granted as there is competition for control between the EBT and the NFI. Because of the restoration of natural wildlife, the traveler is advised to be cautious at all times. Wolves are quite common in this region. Because there is no development as yet, there are few areas to provide comfort for the tourist apart from the most basic amenities. However, the Forest does provide a rare opportunity to see a region of virtually unpoliced woodland. Law Code: 4-3-3.

**RUMOR:** "IF YOU THINK WOLVES ARE BAD ENOUGH, I'VE HEARD THERE ARE OTHER THINGS THAT GOT OUT OF ZOOAS WELL... BEARS, TIGERS, Y'KNOW. THIS PLACE ISN'T SAFE. NOT UNTIL IT'S BEEN PROPERLY DEVELOPED."

You enter the Pooles-Bournemouth Metropolis just a few miles further west. This is Britain's newest and most exciting metropolis. The area was saved from the most extensive ravages and relocation programs of the MLA due to its private security force of ex-Royal Marines who returned to their base almost immediately after the fall of King Charles III. The area is almost always been entirely razed, and was visited by the new Queen in one of her first acts as Regent. There is much for the traveler, particularly in the Pooles Harbor district of the area. Prolific deployment of fighter gates across the harbor entrance has prevented it from suffering from the pollution that affects the rest of the south coast. The Harbor is now a paradise for water sports, from jet-surfing to wreck-diving (of which there are numerous wrecks for the diver to explore). There are numerous restaurants offering a wide choice of food, bars for the tourist to enjoy, and hotels both large and small at prices to suit all budgets.

Although the most Euro of Britain's cities in appearance, like the rest of the LIA, the area's citizens see themselves separate from Europe. Locally there is a distinct and distinctiveness of the French which goes back several hundred years. The Customs & Excise Regiment are based on Green Island within the Pooles Harbor boundary. Incorporated within the C & E are elements of..."
ROUGH GUIDE TO THE U.K.

Player Contact: Jane Manton, C & E employee.
While having a low security clearance, she can provide information on petrol prices and times—if the right incentive is offered. After all, she is risking a lot.

Rumor:
"I've heard that the smuggling's been stepped up recently. Apparently they've found a place to land that Customs don't know about."

"Yeah, maybe. But they'll find it. They always do. And then there'll be a few more going to weight."

From Poole-Bournemouth, you can travel northwards through historic Dorset, much of which is under ETB development. A must on your journey is the newly re-opened Hardy's Museum at Topsham, in the country's King Charles III exhibition. Further north from Yeovil is the already renowned territory, allowing a visit to the NFU office at Yeovil which will turn you with any information you may require.

The historic and ancient town of Glastonbury is next as you head north from the metropolis. Gifted to the NFU by the MLA for assistance in stopping terrorist attacks by the Revolutionary Army of Grandmother Earth (RAGE) some ten years ago, the town has become a haven for travelers of all denominations and the spiritual center of the rapidly growing pagan faith.

The town has changed little since the late 20th century, although rising water levels have meant that much of it is surrounded by marshlands. The NFU changed the name of the town to Avalon, which is how you will find it referred to locally, although the authorities insist on calling it Glastonbury. The head office of the NFU is located here, and they can provide all sorts of interesting and useful information regarding the various tribes that inhabit the U.K., including which ones will offer you a friendly welcome, and which ones that you are advised to avoid at all costs. The town itself is small, but the surrounding farmlands provide campsites for the numerous travelers who are making a pilgrimage to the town. There is not much to offer for the average tourist, with most of the shops and services being geared for the nomad. However, the town is always worth a visit, and you will be guaranteed a warm welcome by all the residents.

It may be a little unnerving for the traveler to be surrounded by so many nomads, especially considering the bad press they normally receive, and this feeling may be heightened by the apparent lack of any police. However, Avalon is virtually crime-free due to the vigilance of the Guild of Stag Dancers, who take it upon themselves to ensure that Avalon remains safe for all who wish to experience its wonders. One of the more distinctive landmarks is Glastonbury Tor, an ancient hill with many legends surrounding it. It is always packed with travelers indulging in various spiritual matters that you may find rather daunting. Unless you are really determined to enjoy that admirably magnificent view of the surrounding countryside from the top, you are advised not to climb the Tor. Law Code: 4-14 (morally)

Player Contact: Jonathan Sunbeam, nomad of the Triple Moon Clan. In reality an MLA spy sent to try and get information that can be used to break up Avalon. However, both he and the PCs are unaware that his cover has been blown. The Stag Dancers are just waiting for the "appropriate moment" before dealing with Sunbeam and his new friends.

Rumor:
"This Samhain there's going to be a special celebration, called the Rising of the Hag. The word is that Avalon is going to be closed off. No outsiders will be allowed in. But the corps won't like to get a lock. They would pay almost anything. Be extra vigilant."

To the north lies the sprawling, crime-ridden Bristol Conurbation which incorporates the city of Bath. This is a large, generally run-down area apart from the MLA corporate sector. The area is dotted separately in the Metropolitan Section but, as a rule, the traveler should avoid Bristol, unless on business. Westwards, the land is initially under MLA control, until the Salisbury Training Plain, where the BCF takes over authority. Since the BCF use all kinds of ordinance in this district including fuel-air bombs, we cannot recommend any travel through this region. However, the BCF do arrange trips to see the ancient monument of Stonehenge when training permits. See your local NFU office for details and prices.

Restrictions:
When traveling along the M3, you are advised that the minimum speed requirement has been raised to 80 miles per hour. You are not permitted to stop except at service stations.
While in Southampton, some of the Docklands are completely sealed off for Penal Colony transportation. You are advised to read and follow every warning sign you may encounter. Unauthorized entry to this area carries mandatory placement on the island. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!
ETB permits are required to visit all Dorset Village Developments. All IMA and military restrictions apply and are previously stated.
While in Glastonbury, remember to follow any instructions given to you by a member of the Guild of Stag Dancers. While they may appear to be like any other nomad (although they do carry identification, if in doubt, ask to see it, their actions are fully supported by law.)

Traveler Beware!
Generally Wessex is crime-free, apart from the Bristol Conurbation, which has an unhealthy gang population. Although safe from crime, the rule of law in Wessex is extremely tight. Any sightings of criminal activity should be reported to the nearest authority—IMA, BCF, or NFU. Traveler cooperation is appreciated.

Lincolnshire

The depressed and poverty-ridden district of Lincolnshire is easily England's most underdeveloped region. It encompassed the old counties of Northumbland, Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cleveland, and parts of North Yorkshire and has been largely cut off from the rest of the country, initially due to tight MLA travel restrictions and the Scottish uprising of 1933 which brought so much violence and destruction to the region, and currently due to the fact that new Corporate-driven England cannot see any investment opportunities to tempt them. As a result, Lincolnshire continues to decay and has been left to the mercy of three non-Corporate entities. The hard-pressed Lincoln council is likely to fall to one or the other eventually.

The power groups are as follows: The Longboatmen, an extremely large and well organized band of pirates and smugglers who largely control the North East coast including the areas of Darlington, South Shields and Sunderland, currently regions of the Newcastle Metropolis. The Jackknife gangs that tour the interior and vital A1 which links the A1/M from London and connects to the A1/M/ to Newcastle. The activities of these two prevalent gangs have caused all essential produce to be shipped to Newcastle by air and thus pushing the price up. Finally, the dual threat of the Cheek Hill Cams, along with the Scottish Nationals which they undoubtedly shelter. The weary people of Newcastle are awaiting the day that the Scottish tried of empty words from London will begin their campaign of terror once more.

Places to Visit
Quite simply there are none; this is a quite holemple place with seemingly no redeeming features. No self respecting tourist would want to visit Lincoln, even the ever-optimistic ETB have ruled out any investment. However, if you are one of those travelers who...
Transportation on the A1(M) to Newcastle is a little safer, however, there is little or no security presence so any speed limits or restriction are only minimally in force. Newcastle itself is a smog-choked, disease-ridden sprawl of tattish proportions and the city center has one of the highest crime rates in the world. If you must stay in this metropolis, we firmly advise you kees to the periphery regions such as Weldon or Hylton, though not at all pleasant they are certainly safer than the city proper. "Sam's Place" is a bar turned hostel aimed primarily at visiting American sailors; it is owned and run by one Sam Dantine, an ex-linebacker for the London Rovers (and later, enforcer for MAA). Bed and board can be gained in relatively safety here, but Dantine violently enforces the "no armaments in the bar" rule. They are fire in the bedrooms, and the banding and communal bathrooms often degenerate into free-fire zones! Law Cod: 0-5-1 also see Tyne-Tees commuter in the Metropolises section.

If you seek employment, the most legitimate work can be gained from the city council offices where correct permits can be given. Due to stringent work permits, a large proportion of the work is illegal. Gangs of armoured juggernauts that frequently ply the road; the drivers of these large sixteen-wheeler monster trucks often require gunners or spotters. Passage can be gained by attending the Driver's Protection Union station in Hylton. Even though transportation is a juggernaut does not guarantee safety by any means; it does raise your chances of survival—though if you took your own transport would stand, taking all factors into consideration, at zero.

To the East of the A1 is what was once one of England's most beautiful national parks, the North Yorks Moons. During the time of the MLA, however, it was used as a weapon development testing area and much of the beauty has been blasted or melted away. It is rumored that the Hilltop corporation purchased plots of this park from the MLA shortly before the Restoration, and it is also rumored that much of these trees were used for chemical dumping on a simply vast scale. One thing is sure for the North Yorks Moons are now hovels for Jackknife gangs who use the Blasted wilderness as a base for their operation on the A1. The largest gang in the region is Scramming Speed and you'd be disappointed to learn that all of the Jackknife gangs, these are the worst, attacking travelers often just for fun. If you do decide to brave the road north by yourself, it is likely to be these road pirates that tear off your body parts. Law Code: 0-5-1

**Player Contact:** Harry, owner and chief of The Rat Hedgehog. Harry is a great source of knowledge regarding nearly anything and everywhere in Hylton. If the players can survive his 1x try-up they may gain his trust. However, this is not so easy as it sounds... the A1 try-up is cooked in pure engine oil, yum.

**Rumor:** "Listen mate, there aren't any rumors up here. You sneaky Yank sod, it's all up front and in your face... get my meaning? cops can do what they like—and do—so they don't need to be secretive."

**Rumor:** "It's all over the streets..."

**Rumor:** "What's?"

**Rumor:** "The Mayor's head, or it will be if Gunnar Chromeblood is telling the truth!!"

North of Newcastle is barren, underdeveloped wasteland. During the rule of the MLA, most of this region was occupied by military bases and concentration camps, and even today the BCF have a pretty large presence. Entry to this area is strictly controlled by the means of BCF Keftrodes, the security is controlled as follows—they spot you with radar, sonar, low-light or UV. Then they shoot you to little pieces. Though it is getting tiresome to keep saying this, we once again strongly advise against further travel northwards.

After the BCF region is the Cheviot Hills. Don't they always say it can't get any worse—well, they're right, because it just did. No one has anything to do with this clark, widowed and nearly inaccessible area, only that it inherently hostile; even the BCF do not bother with patrols through the Cheviots as it becomes a waste of manpower and resources. In short, the Hills are controlled by a group of clans, and these clans are populated by what can only be described as an extremist, fundamentalist, pagan! The land was purchased by the NFL years ago, and it is widely thought that they have lost a grip on the area. The clans, whose names and rules are totally unknown to the outside world, are best left well alone. It is at least known that they do not have much in the way of weaponry and no cyberware. They know the land though, and they know it very well indeed. Law Code: 0-5-1.

**Player Contact:** Commac the Wanderer, a lone scarred and tattooed individual happens to cross the players path; he has nothing to sell or talk about, he just travels. Maybe it annoys the players, maybe they decide to frag him; they can, it's easy enough. But be warned—Commac is a shaman of the Blue Raven’s Wing Clan and they will know of his passing...

Commac, Nomad INT 9, EMP 11, Family 9, Wilderness Survival 6, Human Perception 5, Awareness 4.

**Rumor:** "Psions, huh? They call it magic, the way of the earth; but believe me, they've got it. Well, some of them have, particularly the young ones. But I don't care what biotechnica is saying, I'm not going there!!"

**Restrictions**
None, excepting the BCF-controlled land directly north of Newcastle which is considered a free-fire zone, no entry at any times.

**Travellers Beware!**
Yes, they better had!
LINDSEY & DEIRA

Immediately south of Lindsey, on the east coast of Britain, Lindsey and Deira are as far north as the same tourist will normally progress. The region offers an unusual mix of industry and tourism, with large constructions like the new steel mill controlling much of the area, and the E&L controlling York and the surrounding land. The coast is of vital importance, and boasts a strong Customs & Excise presence, as Bridlington and Kingston-upon-Hull are about as far north as one can get by sea before running into the Longboatmen. The land itself is ugly and scarred, with towering chimneys and imposing glass-covered buildings that house the many corporations, both big and small, that have interests here. Because of the high level of manufacturing industry, the region is very prosperous, transporting its wares to the rest of the U.K. and beyond. It is also one of the most polluted areas in the country, with high levels of smog and acid rain, so travelers are advised to listen to local weather and smog broadcasts and follow any recommendations given. It is this level of pollution that has given E&L its biggest headache in preparing the York Reservation for tourists. Not wanting anything to spoil the enjoyment of your visit is their policy, E&L have invested heavily in weather control stations. These are nothing elaborate, they just try to slightly alter the course of any smog banks or rain clouds, so they drift back over the industrial area where they originated.

Places to Visit

There are not many places in Lindsey and Deira that you would really want to visit. If you are driving in your own transport, as opposed to an E&L tour vehicle, you would see the open fields of Mercia gradually give way to more and more buildings, packed closer and closer together. Power stations, providing energy for miles around are found along the river banks, raising the ambient temperature several degrees above normal. Large manufacturing plants producing all kinds of goods can be found, but sadly none are known to offer tours similar to the IMA complexes in Mercia. Travelers are thus advised to head eastwards towards the York Tourist Reservation.

The York Tourist Reservation is one of the English Tourist Board's most recent projects and there is still a lot of work being done here; if you do not have an E&L permit or voucher, some can be purchased at the hotel or at the tourist offices where E&L has set up an orientation center. Also at Selby is the marvelous and innovative "Parking and Guide" system: just leave your vehicle or hover-bus or board one of the Tours Board's latest VTOL sky-buses which take you above the cloud cover for a twenty minute flight to the transit station in historic York itself. During the flight, your E&L hosts will provide you with an introductory lecture on a city that has witnessed every great stage in England's history. It is strongly advised that you utilize the "Park and Guide" scheme as no transport other than E&L hoverbuses and trains are allowed in the city center, and though you may elect to leave your vehicle at either of the two carparks outside of York they do not offer the same security as the Selby compound. Additionally, you may like to travel direct from London on the new high-speed rail link which will get you to the city in less than two hours. Law Codes: 5-15 includes York city.

Player Contact: Emma Richardson is an E&L hostess and a bit of a heartbreaker. Based in Selby, Emma can arrange safe transport for no charge other than a night's accommodation next page.

ENTERTAINMENT: Though the players are armed, it is likely to be in the sky-bus: cramped though fully-pressurized hold.

RUMOR: "SOME OF THE PLANS AND PROJECTS E&L WERE PROPOSING FOR YORK HAVE BEEN DROPPED. I WONDER HOW BAD THEIR FINANCIAL EMBARRASSMENT IS AT THE MOMENT MAYBE YORK HAS THE ANSWER."

Like Stratford, Warwick and Cornwall, York will dazzle you with its historic splendor. You will get great view of the city from the comfort of your sky-bus as you land at the Jonvik Transport Center where the long-distance rail service also arrives. York was one of the few cities in England to have several different names; originally the Romans called it Eboracum, then the Vikings who took it as their own in the eleventh century re-named it York. Jonvik (pronounced Yorvik) the present name is meant to be a medieval attempt to amalgamate these names. The city is packed with history and has gained a great heritage from its different rulers, for example, the Viking word for road was tayg, hence every street in York is called Gate: Bargegate, Micklegate etc. It is this wonderful mix of culture that makes York so fascinating.

While in the city enjoying its delights, we recommend you stay at the King's Court Hotel. One of the finest and superbly furnished hotels in all of England, the King's Court has fifty bedrooms all of which are suites of the finest quality, and its restaurant "The White Rose" is thought of by many to be one of the finest in the world. Those who cannot afford the King's Court £1000-a-night rate, may wish to consider Caesar's Rest, a lovely theme hotel which captures the decadence of a Roman villa in all its glory. You will be served grapes and wine by beautiful slave girls (E&L personnel) as you lay on silk pillows beside the Hotto's own spa bath; the Caesar's Rest provides all this opulence for only £250 a night. However, should this still be beyond your means we recommend you try one of York's family guesthouses, and if you wish a theme holiday, why not try the "Longhouse", a Viking-style residence full of smoke and shields. The owner Mrs. Vera the Red has pulled out all the stops to create the right atmosphere, especially at mealtimes, where stereophonic displays are performed nightly by Mrs. Red's husband Stanley and daughter Helga.

There is lots to see in York, but a few things simply must not be missed. Like the Archaeological Resource Center, a marvelous hands-on look at the dying craft of archaeologists. Have a dig in the "Earth of Legends" who knows what you will find, but the center promises no digger will leave empty-handed. If you don't like getting your hands dirty, why not try the Ultra-Sound search computer and wonder at the ghost images on the monitor. Or a short walk away is the Jonvik Viking Center for a ride through time to the Jonvik of old, complete with sights, sounds and smells, but with, those Viking warriors look very realistic—and they're coming straight for you! Do you have the speed to escape the horde in the thrilling "Pioneer Run"? The Viking Center, our latest all-family fun attraction, the kids will love it and if the wife gets caught, maybe she will be too! Like London, York has plenty of fascinating museums for you to lose yourself in. While in the city you can't miss the infamous Ghost Walk. If your nerves are up to it, why not join one of the fully-guided late-night walks through the dark alleys of old York. CBT would like to point out that realistic holograms and other effects are used on this tour, and they cannot accept any responsibility for loss of life on the tour. Those with heart conditions or artificial pacemakers are advised not to take the walk.
Player Contact: Jim Duggan is a riverboat pilot and also a gun runner; he uses his speed craft to bring weapons down the river Orme from Scarborough to the Longboatsmen. Now he is looking for some protection for a shipment going south to London. He will pay well and is insisting that the authorities know nothing about it.


Note: This is from When Gravity Fails, he could also be a Nomad or Tech, replace special ability.

**Isle of Man & The Channel Islands**

Although these islands are a long way apart they are dealt with under the same heading as they are interspersed by the same—ridiculously Corporate playgrounds and tax havens for the ultra-rich who like to indulge in offshore banking.

The Channel Islands consist of many islands, the most popular of which are Jersey and Guernsey. Although they are part of the British Isles, they are run exclusively by the corporations and have been since the late 90's, as the MLA quite wisely left them alone—after all those interested in the island secrete their ill-gotten gains. Sax is privately handled by the Hilliard Corporation and Hilliard himself lives here almost exclusively.

Yachting is one of the major pastimes in this area—because it's probably the safest place to indulge in this sport. As Corporate cutters constantly patrol the area between the islands and France. The Channel Islands are perhaps the one place in Britain where Euro-style reigns supreme, and the islands themselves have a French flavour to them. Security here is ultra-tight and no casual visitors are allowed—only those on the deluxe Tourist Ticket may visit. Those who work here must carry a valid work permit signed by a company employee resident on the island in question. Firearms cannot be carried unless you are in possession of a specific permit signed by the administrator, Charles Hungerford. The only weapons allowed are Corporate showcase vibro-blades—Kendals has a very popular outlet on the Jersey. The Japanese range isn't as popular here as in America, and the 'in' thing at the moment is a 4.94. Paper Law Code: S-5-1

The Isle of Man is very much the same, although not quite as high on Eurostyle. This is the offshore banking area for those high-fliers from the north of England and Scotland. It is quite as exclusive as Jersey and Guernsey in social status, that is, and the occasional raid of pirates down from the mainland is a common occurrence on the cocktail party, but these things happen. The pirates also stop the Yacht enthusiasts from staying too far from the coast and most of them try to sail towards the south of the island away from Scottish waters.

One a year, the sound of the Corporate elite play a shatter- ingly TT bike races—the world's only organized road-bom- bination combat. The course is the same as it always has been, but the rules have been relaxed somewhat—you can use any means necessary to get past your opponent. Chain, lead piping and baseball bats are all allowed but firearms are banned—but if you can get away with it, you can and some Corporate executives love to watch the race and much money changes hands at betting shops. Of course, all this money involves means that subtleties of both men and machines are also an art. A car can be had here for solos as body—land bike guards, and far techs as mechanics for one of the many teams competing. This is the one time of the year when anybody can visit the island. At all other times the restrictions are the same as those in the Channel Islands. The administrator is Hayley Parker—the only woman administrator in the country. Law Code: S-5-1.

As can be imagined, the roads are in excellent condition and are treated as far as the law goes as Major Access roads.

**A Notable Local**

One the best TT racers of the last five years is Barry Sheehan. Barry has a special certificate to get him through most airport security devices, as he has so much metal in his body that just cyberwear due to his numerous crashes. This doesn't bother him in the slightest. In fact, he says it helps his radio reception! Barry can be hired as a driver for those wishing to have someone good to drive them around and he's good in a fight—remember he has to punch and kick people while riding a bike at one hundred and fifty miles an hour. Standing on terra firma while fighting is an absolute doofus.

Barry Sheehan, Cycle Fighter REF 10, Combat Sense (tweeled vehicles) 7, Motorcycle 9, Melee 6, Brawling 9.

**Northumbria**

The district, like Middle Anglia, is almost two separate districts in character. To the south you have the bustling and street violence of the Cheshire Conurbation (possibly the most violent Metropolitan in Europe) and the flooded Fylde Plain; to the north you have peaceful inhabitants with a little xenopho- bic and virtually unspoiled countryside dominated by the Cumbrian Mountains and the Dales. Most of the major towns in this district will be detailed as part of the Cheshire Conurbation. Other towns include Barrow-in-Furness and Kendal. Northumbria has a large population of refugees from the Scottish uprising and the subsequent troubles. Another large chunk of the population has moved away from the metropolis to live in the peace and quiet of Northumbria. The north of the district is fiercely independent—not so much in wanting to be independent from Westminster, but more a case of doing things their own way, and if you leave us alone everything will be OK. The administrator, Sir Anthony Blair, like those in Wales, believes in leaving the locals alone.

Try to avoid going too deep into the Pennines, however, as many notorious Jakonite gangs use the depth of the area as a hideout, especially around Wensleydale where they have the best access to both the A1 and M6 Major Access roads. Although having said that, those with an eye for a bargain might want to check out the market in Skipton which is held every Tuesday and sells off some of the Jakonite gangs' ill-gotten gains. Occasionally the police and the Corps will mount a raid, es- pecially if there has been an exceptionally audacious looting out of the access roads within the last month. Our advice is that if there has been a well-publicized raid on either the M6 or A1 then avoid this area. However, the market has been known to move on, so in this case, check out Ilkley. If you are going to visit Ilkley, we suggest you do so from the Leeds area of the conur- bation, NOT from Blackburn.

Many of the villages and towns in and around the Cumbrian Mountains have long remained a Celtic domain, and in the last twenty or so years this influence has become stronger with the continued rise of the NFU. Most of the villages have returned to a form of feudalism as well as the outside world doesn't bother them, they don't bother it.

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Restrictions

Entry to York is strictly controlled. Anyone caught in the city with- out a Resident's pass or a Travel Permit is subject to immediate deportation. In extreme cases, the subject may be transported to London for intensive questioning. Some areas of York are also undergoing Heritage Preservation and are strictly offlimits to all. "Trespassers will be warned off; persistent trespassers will be shot."

Due to the large amounts of industrialization in Lindsey and Deira, some areas have been designated as Commercial Zones and the strictest clearance is required. This is particularly true of areas which support overseas corporate activity. These corpora- tions seem to be more protective in the U.K. than anywhere else.

Travellers Beware!

Crime is quite widespread in the industrial areas of Lindsey and Deira, and the traveler is advised to keep aware of local news reports. York is fairly free of crime, but due to the U.B.C. develop- ment in the city it is worth noting that the Tourist Board troops are more zealous in their duties here than elsewhere in the country. There is no popular movement in Lindsey and Deira. Most think the land has been long since poisoned beyond salva- tion; however, there is a pack of the "Wild Hunt" who are known to torment M02, which runs from the east to the metropoles in the west of the region.
Wales

Next leg on our whistle-stop tour of the U.K. is Wales, land of the leek, rugby and the coal miner’s daughter.

North Wales

Much of North Wales is like the Cumbrian Mountains in that it is fiercely independent but hasn’t shown any real attempt to break from the rule of Westminster. The administrator for the area, Shaddwell Jones, has been sensible enough to leave things as they are, knowing full well that if he were to crack down this could become another Northern Ireland or East Anglia. This area is mountainous and has always kept the Welsh national identity alive—in fact, over three-quarters of the inhabitants speak Welsh as the main language.

There is a difference between the east and west of the district, as Westminster in its wisdom placed parts of Cheshire and Staffordshire in with North Wales in hopes that this would dilute any nationalist fervor when elections are finally held. The major towns in this district are Caernarfon, Dolgelau, Crewe and Chester.

North Wales has a large population of wolves, and these have been allowed to roam free by many of the local tribes because of the spiritual significance to their religion. Rumors also abound of lions and the like roaming the countryside. It is surmised that these more exotic animals must have escaped from Chester Zoo during the Troubles.

The North Wales access roads are actually pretty safe. Yes, there is the occasional kidnapping or robbery, but no more than in most parts of the country. The best rule of thumb is travel during daylight and the odds are you'll be alright. Once off the access roads changes. People don't use cars much here and many roads have fallen into disrepair, even many of those that haven't are single-lane roads, so make sure the road is wide enough to take your vehicle.

Dolgelau

Dolgelau is the administrative center for the region and, like Kendal, is one of the more relaxed towns—don’t let this go to your head and get cocky though, as there won’t want anybody upsetting the status quo. The town itself is picturesque and bordering with buildings built from the local slate.

Caernarfon

Caernarfon is the headquarters of the local SFC regiment—the Prince of Wales’ Own. The town is dominated by the huge castle which was built to house the Prince of Wales. The castle is the end of many pilgrims by people who remember the stand against the military coup which brought the MLA to power. A small lunaticaly shrine to the King has been formed by hundreds of pilgrims placing flowers against one of the walls of the castle. The castle now serves as the actual headquarters of the regiment. Caernarfon for Caernarfon has long been the ceremonial capital of Wales and even though the administrator resides in Dolgelau, he was sworn into office at the castle. Law Code: 4-1-2.

Crewe

Crewe is one of the major rail nuclei in the country as it contains the major construction and repair depot. As it is so important to what’s left of the rail network (and the Liverpool end of the Cheshire Conurbation is very close a similar detachment of the Prince of Wales’ Own is on station). A quiet town, its peaceful nature is occasionally shattered by raids perpetuated by gangs from the conurbation. Law Code: 3-3-3.

Chester

Chester now looks like an ancient Phoenician city state in that during high water it becomes an island. Most of the Wirral is underwater apart from Wallasey. Further inland, the Wirral becomes a marsh, but a high spring tide places the whole area underwater as far inland as Malpas. The town is surrounded by an old Roman wall and because of this, very little work need be done to turn...
back the flood tides. This wall and the surrounding marsh gives Chester an obvious line of defense, and as such, it has become one of the major areas for Corporate executives to live while working in the commercial area. As might be expected, security is fairly tight, so be careful, as always. Chester also contains for those interested — The Abbey of St Peter, an old abbey that has become a kind of medieval shopping mall. No, this is not something built by the EBT; they are collectively known as The Rows. A series of beautifully constructed walkways where access is by stairway from the road below. Many of the shops in The Rows are branches of the most exclusive names in Eurostyle.

From the city walls you can see the partially submerged towns that made up the Wirral peninsula. These towns include Ellesmere Port, Birkenhead, and Wallasey. As mentioned before, Wallasey is just above water in places and as such, is inhabited by gangs and the homeless. Gans also live in the submerged town on the upper floors of many houses. Needless to say, these areas are extremely dangerous and we recommend that you do not visit them unless it is absolutely necessary. Law Code: 5-4-1.

Holyhead

Holyhead is the only port from which you can sail to Ireland. It is a high security area obviously. The port itself is actually on another island—Holy Island. There are plenty of pubs and one club—Lawless. Law Code: 3-2-3

Another place to visit is Harlech Castle which, funnelly enough, is near the town of Harlech. This castle has a long Royalist history—it was the last place held by the Royalists during the Civil War and as such it was one of the first places visited by Queen Victoria the Second after her Restoration.

Another place of interest is the peak known as Cader Idris, the Chair of Arthur, a mountain with many myths and legends associated with it—one of which has it that anyone who sleeps on the right Cader Idris wakens up either mad, mad or a poet. The Pendranns often camp out on the peak—I leave it to you to work out which of the three has afflicted them.

The best place for negotiation is Chester with one or two fine clubs, but as they cater to the Corpo executives, they tend to be a bit pricey. A cheaper night out can be had in Crewe in the best club being Beesings which is located near the railway yard.

There is just one club in Caeby called appropriately enough Charlie’s. It caters mainly for the soldiers from the Prince of Wales’s Own. So this can get a bit lively. Food is simple but very good, and the pubs are excellent.

South Wales

South Wales, virtually the whole of the South Wales district is dominated by the South Wales Metropolitana that comprises Cardiff and Swansea. This area is detailed elsewhere. The rest of the district is, like North Wales, mountainous and independent in spirit. The district also includes parts of the Midlands of England, again in the hope that any nationalist fervor is blunted. Major towns in this area are Monmouth, Hereford, and Milford Haven.

Wolves run free here as well, although they are hunted a lot more than in the north, as the south is not quite as committed to the Pagan ways. One area where they aren’t hunted is the Cambrian Mountains near Aberystwyth (pronounced aber-est-wit). This area is ideal for wolves—large mountainous terrain covered with forests. Many gangs from the metropolis like to go on fox hunts (as they are known) and this can cause friction with the locals who object to ‘dressed up kids with high-velocity weapons hunting wolves in their back garden.

The roads in South Wales are pretty much like those in North Wales, just be extra vigilant on those near the conurbation.

Monmouth

Monmouth is the administrative center for the region and because of this the security here is fairly tight—in fact, tighter than it needs to be. There is not much in the way of trouble here as the administrator, Sir Hywell Bennett, has his counterpart in North Wales left the people alone, so they leave him alone. The administrative offices are in the old Shire Hall and statues of Henry V and C.S. Rolls. The Rolls of Rolls-Royce stand outside, as both of these people are, perhaps, Monmouth’s most famous sons. This is definitely a town which likes its history—there is even a Nelson museum just because he visited the town in 1802. If you like a bit of excitement, this is not the place. Law Code: 5-2-1.

Hereford

Hereford is not the place for excitement, either, as this is the base of operations for a BCF unit that may or may not be the SAS. Parts of Hereford are also owned by the EBT as the city boasts many fine artifices, the most famous of which is the Mappa Mundii—a map of the world drawn circa 1200. This is a major artefact of national importance to Britain and caused a stir when it was put on show in a mysterious private boy thought to be Hilliard bought the map and then loaned it back to the cathedral where it has been kept to this day. Another fine piece of history in the cathedral is the chained library which is the largest of its kind in the world. It’s called the chained library because each book is attached by a chain to rods on the 7th century oak bookcases. As can be expected, both of these places have very tight security, as many unscrupulous collectors would love owning both the Mappa Mundii and many of the books in the library which are priceless in their own right.

As the prefect town for the SAS, there is little or no crime in this area and many of the local people are friends with or related to someone who is a member of the special forces unit. The SAS looks after its own with a secret society known as the Feather Men. What the make up of this society is, no one knows, but if anybody tries anything like robbery, pushing drugs, violence etc. with any member of the public in Hereford, the Feather Men will deal with it and it must be assumed that the police are in with the Feather Men as it makes their life much easier.

One problem with living in Hereford is the whole of the surrounding area is treated as one huge training ground for the SAS. A favorite route involves the recruits having to live on the run, without rest, without being caught, and they sometimes steal fresh food from people’s houses. If this happens, the BCF will refund the cost, so if you’re staying in the area and think you see or hear someone in your room, be careful—maybe it’s a Special Forces recruit on an exercise! Law Code: 4-1-1.

A Notable Local

Cullinagh, Nomad Int 10, EMP 30
Family: 9, Expert (Pagan Religion) 9, Area Knowledge Wales 9, Persuasion 6

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Cullinagh

Cullinagh is the name taken by one of the leading lights of the NFI in the area and is very much respected by both the administration and the local populace. He claims to be nothing more than a Merlin using one form of that name and wants no part in negotiating between the two parties. He argues has the best contacts in both North and South Wales is a talking man of about thirty with long red hair and green eyes—every inch the Celt. He spends a lot of time at his castle in Cader Idris.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Next are the quick, peaceful spars of Northern Ireland. You are either slightly too late or desperate for cash if you’re considering a trip across the sea, but, if you must, here are a few things that you ought to know.

Visitors are not allowed into Northern Ireland also known as Ulster for their own safety. The whole of the province is just one big fire-free zone and is perhaps the deadliest place to live in the world at this moment. Very much like those other sectarian camps in Beirut and Bosnia, this seems to be a problem out of control.

Things seemed to be picking up for the province when Britain bowed to pressure and pulled most of the troops out of Ulster. The problem was that the Catholics nationalist were then made to remember why they were sent there in the first place—to protect them. The Protestants loyalists, alarmed at the expiration in the nationalist birth rate launched a fierce campaign of bombing and assassinations against the Catholic population. Naturally, the nationalists responded with a terrorist campaign of their own, both in the province and on the mainland. The government responded by allowing the Ulster Defence Regiment to shoot to kill if attacked they already did this anyway, but it’s nice to know you have government permission to blow someone’s brains out.

A Notable Local

Desmond Lewellyn, Bird Int 8, COOL 9, Streetdeal 6, Persuasion 6, Tactics 5, Forgery 7

Desmond Lewellyn, Reel Int 8, TECH 9

Jury Rig 9, Electronics 9, Basic Tech 7, Cybertech 7

Heinzel Wolf, Tech Int 8, TECH 9

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Stormont, then Martial Law will be introduced. The administrator responsible for Ulster is Brigadier Leithbridge-Stuart.

The area holds a lot of employment opportunities for Saorjust—remember you're likely to be expendable—so watch out. One legal form of employment is with one of the private security firms policing the business district—they're always looking for foreigners to employ as they're not as likely to be caught up in the bigness that reigns supreme in Ulster.

Techies and fencers can also work in other employment in Ulster, although many of the major factions. They’re always looking for people to mend their equipment or find them a new automatic assault shotgun (plus ammo, of course).

There are numerous bars and pubs in Northern Ireland, just be careful you don't walk into one on the wrong side of the street. The food is fairly simple and homegrown—not many people want to export to Ulster.

There are no major access roads in Northern Ireland as it became too costly to maintain them both monetarily and numerically, but also left open the threat of continuous bombings and sniping from both sides. If you are driving, be ultra-careful, as many dangers lurk in the hills. A radio-controlled bomb might go off, you might trigger a trip wire, or a sniper might take a pot shot at you from a mile away with a high-powered rifle. Law Code: 0-5-5

SCOTTISH THE BRAVE

To the uneducated outsider, Scotland is probably the most stereotyped country in the United Kingdom. They base any observations they may make on stories of drunken, fist-fighting, red-haired Glaswegians with a propensity for cranial violence and corrupt legends of the 'Loch Ness Monster'. Such people have never experienced Scotland first hand and never are likely to because they look at the world through blinkered eyes. (You can't tell'em how to see, can you?)

The fact is that, like the other Celtic nations, the Scots are a proud people with a rich, diverse culture and that is their true national identity.

Since the time of John Knox, they have been involved in democracy and education for all. At the start of the 20th century only 1 in 1000 English children were studying at secondary school, while at the same time the Scottish could boast 1 in 100. This trend has continued and resulted in the constant stream of innovators that have led the world ever forward. The Napier's (marine engineering), Naismith (steam hammer), Alexander Graham Bell (telephone), John Logi Bard (television, probably) and Alfred Gower Craig (the as-yet-undiscovered secret gearbox) are some of the best known, but there have been thousands more.

In politics there was Rabbit, Home and Macmillan from the gentrified along with Gaileach, Macon, Hardie and Ramsay MacDonald from the working classes. In the arts there have been many contributors, but only the poet Robert Burns born in Kirk of Alloway, Ayr, January 25, 1759; died 1796; has found his reputation spread to encompass the globe. His memory has shifted into legend and is celebrated every year on Burns Night.

Ancestor of Sir Walter Scott, whose tales of the old highlands and its characters live on to this day. There are a million names that I could list right here: warriors, pirates, thieves, kings, queens, you name it, Scotland has got them. It is they who form the backbone of contemporary Scotland where myth, history and legend are combined to shed light on the future.

The Scottish Uprising 2013-2018, R.I.P.

In the five years between 2013 and 2018 the Scottish nationalist movement was at its most active and a state of underground war existed between England and Scotland. The M5A sent thousands of troops north in a massive effort to suppress the Scots and in order to protect their massive investments in oil and industry.

The result was that instead of pacifying them, the Highlands and Lowlands united in an effort to turn back their unwelcome overlords. Hostilities escalated from simple terrorism to full-blown military engagements, as the old clans rose once again to the call of the "Tiefling Cross." Looking back, it is amazing that the conflict lasted for so long; for a while the Scots were even winning—standing alone against the might of the English armies, they were actually winning. However, the Scots in the American Civil War of the 1860s, it was only a matter of time before superior resolve gave way to the massive resources of the English opposition.

With the embers of their revolutionary pyre fading, the Scottish command played their last desperate card. They met the English two miles north of a town called Bunkton just south of the border, and there, on the full force of the English in a winner-takes-all battle to the finish. It started at 6am on February 21 and finished 23 hours later with over two-thirds of Scotland's 32,000 men-at-arms lying dead in the fields.

M5A took the resulting period of wounding to consolidate its position, and in the witch hunt that followed, all but one of the movement's leaders were captured, tried and executed for high treason. The only survivor, one Colonel Malcolm Douglas-Campbell, fled to Belfast and hid from the thousand years of mutual loathing and suspicion among his Irish brethren. Without leadership, the Scottish cause faltered, and by March the great uprising was over. Aberdeenshire, Upper Doon and Helyot became military reserves, while the rest of the country was put under travel restrictions and a curfew.

What remained of Scottish Republican Army was forced to hide in the highlands and reverted to using terrorist hit and
The Border Valleys

These are the areas just north of the Scottish/English border (say, the area where the border is not marked with an official border marker). The towns along this border (e.g., Jedburgh, Coldstream, and Kelso) are significant to the history of Scotland, particularly in terms of their role in conflicts and alliances with England. The area is rich in historical sites, such as castles and battlefields, which attract tourists and historians.

Places to Visit

Coldstream

Coldstream, home of the Coldstream Guards, is a picturesque town on the banks of the River Tweed. It is known for its beautiful architecture and its role in various historical events. The Coldstream Guards, founded in 1660, are the oldest regiment in the British Army and have played a significant role in British military history.

Jedburgh

Jedburgh is a small town located on the banks of the River Jed. It is known for its medieval architecture, including the Jedburgh Abbey, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The town is also famous for its annual Jedburgh Fair, which has been held since the 13th century.

THE LOWLANDS

This region spreads in a diagonal line north from Dumbarton in the west to Stonehaven in the east and, despite its rather flat name, is more hilly than most parts of England. Rolling, grassy hills, lush, green dales and picturesque small towns are scattered around some of the most spectacular countryside in the UK. It is home to over two-thirds of the country’s population, the majority of its industry, and nearly all of its farming lands. It is the land that inspired Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns and is rich in variety and interest.

The history of the Lowlands is a turbulent one, especially in recent times when its rivers valley have been the bane of the Anglo-Scotts Wars. However, don’t be put off by the burnt-out armor and other relics of war, if you look hard enough there is still a wondrous world to explore here.

RUMOUR: "Have you heard that old rogue, Cheval, is back in the hills. You know they say he has the power of foresight and can harness all the old magic. Scary isn’t it?"

Player contact: Tim Kelly, once an outlaw: he knows the hills like the back of his hand. It’s said he knows how to find everyone who lives in them.

Jedburgh

Jedburgh, once an important town in Scotland, is now known for its medieval buildings, such as the Jedburgh Abbey. The town is also home to several annual festivals, including the Jedburgh Fair, which is one of the oldest in Scotland.

RUMOUR: "I am going to the Borders on business. When you get back to the Lowlands, pick up the services of a local guide. There are many hidden treasures in the Borders that only the locals know about."

Player contact: Angus Hoy, local sheriff who would be very happy to guide you around the area.

Melrose

Melrose, another town with semi-Stuart connections. A silver case containing Robert the Bruce’s heart is buried in the abbey here. The abbey itself has been the victim of several suspicious fires in the intervening centuries, but is still well worth a visit. Lying in the shadow of the Eildon Hills the town offers an attractive variety of shopping and accommodation and although the nightlife is a bit quiet it is a welcome sight after the long drive north.

Law Code: 3-2-2

Run tactics as their only means of protest. Meanwhile, Douglas-Campbell, who saw the whole agreement as not worth the paper it was written on, in his mind, the English could not be trusted and although the agreement was fine in principle, it was highly unlikely that Scotland would be allowed to leave the Union without a fight. Therefore, he took the new freedoms and used them to rebuild the SRA to the point where, they are once again carrying out attacks on military, agricultural and commercial targets.

This has resulted in the formation of the equally unpleasant and radical Scottish Loyalist Faction, who spend their time fighting the SRA. This suits the English, for as long as the Scots keep fighting among themselves, they will be less trouble to the crown.

Anyway, enough of history, what about "Bonnie Scotland" today? Well, it is simple real. Because of the lack of decent roads it is unnecessary to cover Scotland with a county by county method, as it highly unlikely that you will be able to reach most of them. Therefore, we have split the country into three sections, the Lowlands, Highlands and the Isles, in which we shall cover some of more interesting places to visit.

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Restrictions

There are no real restrictions in this area and you can travel anywhere on a Full Tourist Ticket. If you are wise though, you will check with the locals before planning your route, there is no ETB presence around here, so you’ll just have to make it up as you go.

Traveller Beware!

As a visitor to the borders you should be welcomed just about everywhere that you go. However, if you’re English, you should be advised to keep a very low profile, as a southern accent can be a highly dangerous thing in these parts. In addition, attending a festival such as that mentioned above would bring about a very messy and untimely end to your stay.

Generally the roads are safe, at least during the day, and care is taken you should have no problems, being as you are this far south. If, on the other hand, you are thinking of a nice day’s wreck fishing, don’t. Pencraig is a major source of income around these coasts and these guys don’t like to leave witnesses.

Dumfries & Galloway

An area of both turbulent and romantic history, it has everything from battles in the name of the last Monarchy, to the soulful poet Robert Burns. As with most places in the Lowlands it is very proud of its connection with the said Mr Burns, mind you. Most small villages don’t have many other things they like to admit to around here. The area is well known for its illegal connections with theft, pillage and smuggling. The land stretches from the Southern uplands to the wide, flat Solway Plain. During the 14th century the area became known as the “Debatable Lands” due to the constant cross-border raids, feuds and raids.

Places to Visit

Dumfries

Dumfries, a once Royal Burgh on the banks of the River Nith with its fair share of history and a formidable reputation for law enforcement. For instance, there is the impressive sight of five bridges spanning the river. The oldest (1269) and most important of which has six arches famed as a site for the drowning of witches, i.e.: trial by very soggy ordeal. Nice chap, that Whitfield General MacBastard Matthew Hopkins he wasn’t, but in those days peasants couldn’t be choosers and had to take the first xenophbic, tunnel-visioned, cat-racing, stake-burning, cattle-burglarising maniac that came along. Still, at least they don’t go in for that sort of thing anymore!

In the center of the town is a measure of distances to various places across the border such as Haddington, the destination of cattledrovers in 18th century. What else is there? Well good old Robbie lived here and just about everywhere else, as you’ll soon discover and of course, there’s a suitably named abbey thrown in for good measure. Law Code: 2-3-2

Rumour: “Hey, you there, wee Robert. You won again, yer canny bugger. They heard the poor bastard all the way out to the old Crone’s house. How did you know that they’d use the rack again?”

Gretna

Now this is a romantic spot with thousands of stories of eloped lovers and their concept-less couplings—well, you know what I mean. The prospective bride and groom would run away to the toll booth on the green where they would be married without parental consent over the smithereens anvil. The legislation and ideals that prompted this hormonal migration have long since passed, but the anvil still remains. The town is now accepted as a safe haven for all, and consequently is home to a myriad of society’s most, or least, wanted, depending on your point of view. Whether they be on the run from death row or as is more often the case, hiding from a jealous husband, they all flock to Gretna where the safety is assured, providing they have the price. Law Code: 5-4-3

Loch Ken

The life of this place is steeped in disasters, and if I was you I wouldn’t hang around. Let’s see... Lord Maxwell was killed during a family feud (1593), followed by 700 hundred of his men. After they’d been killed all their ears were cut off with a cleaver, and these days they don’t wait until you’re dead, so be warned. This practice became known as the Lockerbie Nick or just the “Nick” as it is now known. In more recent times, there was the Pan Am air disaster on December 21, 1988 in which a 747 was destroyed by a terrorist bomb over the town. Add to that the baplague in 2002, and the tanker explosion four years ago and all it comes to a fairly dangerous visit to place, if you’re the superstitious sort. However, mock cats and ladders aside, this is probably one of the more peaceful towns in the region—but then, maybe everyone else knows something that we don’t. Anyway, the nearby castle is said to be the childhood home of Robert the Bruce but nobody is really sure. Law Code: 5-3-5

Rumour... “Cue Rod Serling...”

Places to Visit

Castle Douglas

Established in the 16th century, the town was built on the shores of Loch Carlingwark close to the river Dee. It is the site of a crumbling (presumably delightful) excavation and was home to the Black Douglases and their 14th century stronghold, Threave Castle. It was here that the Black Douglases would pillage the surrounding countryside and here that they hung their enemies from the “Gallow’s Knobs”. It is also reputed that the cannon at Edinburgh MonoVegi was forged here and then used by James II to overcome Threave and hisDouglas defenders in 1455.

Nowadays, there is little of note apart from the loch and the castle as most of the area is devoted to livestock and arable farming. Law Code: 5-2-5

Rumour: “I hear that some say there is still treasure to be found underground. Keep but that’s just an auld wives’ tale.”

Dundrennan Abbey

The small village of Dundrennan is partly built with stone from the old abbey where the Mary Queen of Scots spent her last night on Scottish soil, May 16, 1568. More recently, the town has...
Glen Tross Forest

The Glen Tross Forest, 35,000 acres of forest parkland with hills, lochs and waterfalls, leading up to the desolate heights of Merrick which at 2770 ft is the highest peak in southern Scotland. These hills were where Robert the Bruce began his struggle for independence, but are now home to wolves and ravens alike. Law Code: 4-1-3

Player contact: Ian McCafferty, park ranger and guide to the forest. If you intend entering the Glen Tross reserve check with McCafferty beforehand. The forest is quiet but the dangers are very real.

Ian McCafferty, Cop (COOL 7, INT 8, REF 7), Authority 3, Wilderness Survival 6, RIFLE 5, Shadow/Track 6

Kimber: Some corporations are planning an unauthorized hunt in the forest.

Restrictions

Apart from the BCF patrol, the only real constraints on the traveller around here is their nerve. The communities and countryside in-between can be as placid or dangerous as you allow. Safe travel is at all a matter of common sense and remembering whose land you are on.

Traveller Beware!

Apart from the above you should be especially careful while in the countryside. Nomad tribes around here are not, by nature, aggressive, but if you inadvertently break the Earth-servings teachings that are their creed, then look out. Travel with respect for your surroundings.

Wigtownshire

Thankfully this region has managed to avoid most of the ravages of modern society and offers a glimpse of life from a more peaceful era. Unfortunately, this also means that there is a corresponding lack of amenities for the foot-sore hiker in need of a place to freshen up. Once part of the ancient district of Galloway, the pastoral plains of the Machars peninsula offer some of the best farming land in the U.K. Washed by the gentle touch of the Gulf Stream, the climate is pleasant, with snows or fogs a rarity.

Player contact: Lorraine McCulloch (no relation), barmaid at Murray Arms. She is well-known locally and can be better than a Corp ID for getting into places around here.

Rumour: "...No son, it's not worth it. Not while the fish are still white-up in the river!"

Wigtown

If you can get through the overwhelming urge to start recounting Lorne-related anecdotes, pick yourself up off the floor and look around, there are some interesting little things to be found about here. The town has a few museums, or the like, where you can find some of the best examples of the fine art of the town. The town has a few museums, or the like, where you can find some of the best examples of the fine art of the town.

Player contact: Daniel-Rufus MacClintock, curator of the museum, who has lived here for all his life. He specializes in the history of smuggling in the area. One thing, don't call him Dan-Ruf as he is sensitive about his scalp.

Places to Visit

Stranraer

Stranraer Stran-rain is the largest town in the area, built about the head of Loch Ryan and 35 miles east of Lame in Northern Island. Unlike nearby harbors, like that in Port William, Stranraer can claim to be a commercial port and although there is no longer a ferry to Lame, it's used by the Arctic fishing fleets as a refuelling stop. Also unlike William, Logans, and Patrick, the town is not used by the many privateers and smugglers that frequent the area. Law Code: 3-2-3

Player contact: Old first, ex-harbor master turned town drunk; if you catch him in a sober moment he can point you in the direction you need to go.

Rumour: Despite the port's claim that it is smuggler-free, there is a flourishing drug culture to be found here. The town fathers will pay handsomely for any information that would help them get rid of the problem.

Gatehouse of Fleet

Gatehouse of Fleet, a former cotton town on the Water of Fleet where Burns wrote yet another bloody poem, "Scots, wha hae wi..." during his stay at the Murray Arms. Not wishing to be outdone, Sir Walter Scott based his poem "Young Lochinvar" on nearby Rasko Castle, the 16th century home of the Gordons of Lochinvar. If you head north to a creag you can come across the 16th century tower of the McCullochs with its infamous "murder hole" over the entrance passage. A nasty business this, the occupiers would open a trapdoor and pour boiling pitch on any unexpected guests. I can't help thinking that we could learn a lot from the family McCulloch, such practices would be the perfect defence against visitors from religious factions in 8th fitting suits. Law Code: 5-1-3

Player contact: Tiberius, master of the pirate vessel Sea Anger and head man in Dundreary. If you are going to drop in for a dram, then you had better win this man's favor.

Tiberius, Sea Nomad INT 8, Family 2, Water Craft 8, Expert Navigation 8, Melee 4

Rumour: "No...No please. I tell you, I does not know!"

"I'll ask you one more time and you had best answer, what happens to the crew, where are their hearts?"

"No...I tell you again I don't......"
Rough Guide to the U.K.

Rumour: In my three days here I didn’t see one child or specifically one teenager. Of course, they could have been off somewhere seeking the pleasures of adolescence, but that would be little hedonistic lah-ah, not to say, a remarkable coincidence.

Restrictions

None to speak of.

Traveller Beware!

Apart from the usual words of caution I can add nothing, except to avoid Dunseck Castle during the hours of darkness.

The Rest of the Lowlands

From this point on road travel becomes much more difficult, and so in order not to waste time, I shall concentrate only on the more accessible areas and large towns.

Ayr

Ayr is an attractive resort on the Firth of Clyde just east of the island of Ayr. With excellent beaches and amenities and unlike most of our previous stops, this place is geared specifically for the tourist. This is Burns country, the great man was born at Alloway, two miles south and the whole area is positively riddled with museums and memorials to his work. If it is the Scotland of his writings that you are after, then this is where you will find it. For those who, like me, are sick of running into him, there are the obligatory ruined abbeys, castles and tales of great battles with the English. Oh, and the discovery of penicillin, Sir Alexander Fleming was born in Galloway about 14 miles to the north west. Law Code: 3-1-4

Player Contact: Coral, Jamaican-born of Scots parents who runs the Caribbean Cafe on the beach. Very observant.

Rumour: A dummy corporation, acting for the EIB, is trying to buy the Tam o’ Shanter Museum.

Inveraray

Ancestral home of the Dukes of Argyll whose castle has been used by the Clan Campbell since the 16th century. Malcolm Douglas-Campbell makes his home here now and the entire area is staunch nationalist. The presence of so many SRA members makes this a highly dangerous place. Law Code 0-5-1

Player Contact: None, I wasn’t stopping.

Rumour: The loyalists are plotting to bomb Inveraray Castle.

Lanark-Lothian Metroplex

See Metroplexes section for information.

Stirling

A royal burgh famous for its castle; home to the Scottish Monarchy in the 10th and 16th centuries. The area is currently under SLF control but could fall to the SRA some day now. Keep away. Law Code: 0-6-1

Player Contact: Anthony “Thed Wild Dog” Johnson, SLF Commander-in-Charge of the castle.

Anthony Johnson, Solo/Soldier (Int: 8, Cool: 9, Ref: 7), Combat Sense 5, Leadership 7, Tactics 6, Rite 5

Rumour: The SLF have mined the castle and dug escape tunnels that lead towards Bannockburn.

Bannockburn

Bannockburn, 3 miles south of Stirling, is the site of Robert the Bruce’s famous victory over Edward II in 1314, which is now a designated national treasure. Due to the effects of tourism, the site can only be visited with a signed order from the Bannockburn Trust or the National Heritage Foundation. Because of the fighting in the north, the area is under guard by the BCF who have been hired to protect it. Law Code: 1-1-1

Player Contact: Major Woolford-Owen, officer commanding, Bannockburn detachment, Northern Command, Edinburgh. You would be wise indeed to register your presence as a non-combatant if passing near this area.

Woolford-Owen, Solo/Soldier (Int: 8, Cool: 8, Ref: 7), Combat Sense 4, Leadership 8, Intimidate 6, Rite 6

Rumour: The Bannockburn detachment have agreed to protect the SLF retreat from Stirling.

Restrictions

The closer you get to the Lanark-Lothian Metropole, the more the level of organized control. A Full Tourist Ticket will suffice, but you should expect your vehicle and possessions to be searched.

Traveller Beware!

In-fighting between the SRA and SLF makes your choice of route especially important. If the metropolis is your destination, then drive straight through and don’t stop for anything—unless it’s a BCF petrol, of course.

The Highlands

The contrast between this area and the Lowlands could not be more dramatic, as the hills and fertile farming land of the south give way to a harsher moors and mountains of the north of Scotland. In spite of the exposed nature of the terrain, it is nevertheless awe-inspiring to stand atop a rocky crag and gaze out over the valleys and lochs that punctuate deep into the very heart of the country. It is the home of the Clan Loch Ness, ta-ban, the bag-pipes, and to me your Editor at least, it is home.

Northern Argyll

From the peaks of Glencoe to the west, encompassing more than a thousand miles of rugged coastline, to the windswept seascapes of the Inner Hebrides. This is the realm of awe, literally, as Loch Awe is one of the largest inland waterways and noted for its fine salmon stocks. Add to this backdrop the region’s clan-drawn history, and you are in for a rare treat.

Glenoe

Glencoe, a glen running from Rannoch Moor to Loch Leven and infamous for the massacre of 1692. Also called the “Glen of Weeping,” for it was here that a detachment of soldiers, under Campbell command, brutally murdered forty MacDonalds—but not before excepting their hospitality for 12 days. Today, the glen is a peaceful place and a popular haunt for young couples. A bit disrespectful, if you ask me, but then I suppose the horror demon must be fed somewhere. Law Code: 4-2-3

Player Contact: Marron, a young woman with dubious reputation who can arrange transport across the loch if you miss the ferry at Ballachulish.

Mull

Mull is a beautiful moorland island eight miles out from Oban that is spotted with both forest and peak. Duart Castle, the 13th century home to the Kings of the Isles, dominates the landscape and is now home to the clan MacLean. The main port, Tobermory too runy, refuse collector jokes, please holds one of the last great ishore fishing fleets and the surrounding bay is famous as a premier diving spot. In the south of the island, the magnificent cliffs act as foundations to Loy Castle on the shores of Loch Tarbert, and the surrounding countryside holds many of the locations for David Balfour’s exploits in R.L. Stevenson’s Kidnapped. Law Code: 5-1-4

Player Contact: Jemima Maclean, youngest member of the clan and most likely to provide you with information about the island.

Rumour: The wreck of the long lost Spanish galleon Florida sunk off the coast in 1588 is believed to be around here.

Restrictions

Very few.

Traveller Beware!

Seabourn journeys should be discouraged due to the activities of pirates and the treacherous nature of the waters.

Perthshire

As immortalized is Scott’s novel The Fair Maid of Perth (1828), the region is probably the most varied in the Highlands. There are mountains, moors, glens, valleys, hills, lochs, rivers and streams as plenty, a sort of High-Lowlands if you like. At its heart is the ancient city of Perth, once called St. John’s town, which stands on the banks of Scotland’s longest river, the Tay. To the south is the...
world-famous Gleneagles golf course which spreads across the moors like a lush green carpet from Strathtay to Strathblane. In the surrounding hills there are countless examples of its past: Pictish forts, camps, Roman remains and Scone, the site where the Scottish kings were crowned on the "Stone of Destiny".

**Perth**
Perth, the “Fair City” and once capital of Scotland has a turbulent history of battle and siege. Made a royal burgh in 1210, and then fortified by Edward I of England in 1296 following one of the several occasions when it fell into English hands, St John’s Kirk is one of the few buildings that remain from the city’s medieval past and was the site of John Knox’s sermon on church disunity. For how much longer, I wonder, as the city is currently under intermittent siege by SLF forces intent on its destruction. Law Code: 1-5-2

**Player contact:** Duncan Clarke, fixer, come-guide and your best bet for information about the darker side of the city.

**Duncan Clarke, Fixer:** INT 7, COOL 8, Streetwise 6, Area Knowledge (Dundee) 8, Persuasion 5, Hide/Evade 4

**RUMOR:** GEOLOGISTS HAVE BEEN TAKING READINGS AT DUNDIE LAW, AN EXTINCT VOLCANO, WHICH AT 5/7 FT IS THE HIGHEST POINT IN THE CITY.

**Dundee**
Dundee is an eastern port built on the shores of the Firth of Tay and is famous for its whaling fleets of the 18th century. Like Perth, it has been the site of many battles for independence with the English and has been a royal burgh since 1190. Its university, established in 1881, is now generally recognized as one of the finest colleges in Europe. When you consider its location, it is surprising that one, it is devotedly loyalist and tory, but it has been left virtually un molested by the SRA. Unlike ports on the western coast, Dundee is not used as a base for piracy or smuggling, which is strange when you consider the rich pickings of the North Sea. Law Code: 4-2-1

**Player contact:** Gordon Gobshite, toll guard on the bridge. He can give you information on traffic movements in the region.

**RUMOR:** EUROPEAN ECO-TERRORISTS ARE PLANNING AN ATTACK ON THE TAY RAIL BRIDGE BECAUSE IT IS REGULARLY USED TO TRANSPORT HAZARDOUS WASTE NORTH.

**Aberdeen**
Aberdeen is the third largest city in Scotland and built almost exclusively from granite. In olden times it was renowned for its North Sea fishing fleets and as being the base for Robert the Bruce’s campaigns against the Comyns. Lord Byron went to school at the grammar school and a statue of the 5th Duke of Gordon stands in Golden Square. Nowadays, however, it is the center for the UK’s oil exploration and it is this reason that has brought it to its current volatile state. During the 20th uprising, Westminster feared that the North Sea reserves were in jeopardy and sent a full battalion to seize the city. The area from Port Erroll, inland to Balmoral, Dace, and back to Aberdeen is under BCF control and visitors are strictly discouraged. The SRA are concentrating their resources in the region in an effort to isolate the Grampian command and bring them under siege. However, unless the nationalists can gain control of Dace airport and enforce a naval blockade along sixty miles of coast, it is unlikely that they will succeed. Law Code: 1-4-1

**Player contact:** Elizabeth Cowie, local fishmonger and SRA informer. If you actually get into Aberdeen, she will ensure that you are given every assistance. Unless she believes you to be a loyalist, in which case she will ensure that you are shot.

**Elizabeth Cowie, Fixer:** INT 7, COOL 8, Streetwise 6, Area Knowledge (Aberdeen) 4, Human Perception 5, SMG 3

**RUMOR:** "BETTER TO GO BACK, THE GALAS STONE IS MISSING AND WE CAN’T RISK THE HAZEL DROP TONIGHT!"

**Inverness**
Built on the banks of the river Niss on the Caledonian canal and one-time home of Scots heritage, the city is now the headquarters for BCF operations in Scotland. Nearby is Fort William, which stands at the foot of Ben Nevis, the site of the Culloden. And of course, is Loch Ness. Law Code: 1-4-1

**Player contact:** Laura Macalister, mountain guide in Fort William who can feed you past the Inverness defenses, if she is of a mind to.

**Laura Macalister, Solo (REF 8, INT 6, Combat Sense 4, Expert Local Knowledge 5, Rifle 3, Athletics 3)

**RUMOR:** SEVERAL ANGLERS HAVE GONE MISSING IN THE MORAY FIRTH.

**Lillooet, Holy Loch & Dounreay**
Like Aberdeen, they are important strategic locations for the English government. Lillooet protects the outer islands and is used as a base for defence of the Eastern oil fields. Holy Loch and Dounreay are important naval bases and represent a massive capital investment that Westminster is reluctant to give up. All of these locations are heavily guarded and believed to be used as staging areas for operations north of the Arctic Circle. Law Code: 1-4-1

**Player contacts:** Kyle Duncan-Carron, poacher and SRA scout. He can get you close, but after that you are on your own.

**Kyle Duncan-Carron, Solo/Possecher (INT 7, REF 8) Combat Sense 3, Wilderness Survival 5, Rifle 5, Stealth 6

**RUMOR:** HIGHLAND CATTLE HAVE BEEN GOING MISSING FOR THE LAST FOUR MONTHS. IN EACH CASE THE STORY IS THE SAME. BURNING LIGHTS, FOLLOWED BY INTENSE HEAT AND IT’S BYE BYE ANGUS. NO ONE HAS YET BEEN CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS AND THEY ARE HIRING PEOPLE TO ACT AS LOOKOUTS.
Traveller Beware!
The remote nature of the Highlands makes them ideal for bandits and the further north you go, the worse it gets. Do NOT stop in the countryside.

THE ISLANDS
The Outer Hebrides, Shetlands and Orkneys are our last stop on the 2022 tour of Scotland.

The Outer Hebrides
The Outer Hebrides or the "Long Island" stretch 300 miles from Rona Head to the Butt of Lewis in the North. The largest and unofficial capital of Lewis is Stornoway which is the closest you will get to civilization in these Gaelic Isles. Unlike the Shetlands and Orkneys, the Long Island has yet to be overrun by the oil industry and still maintains its crofter roots. The quiet, friendly people do not pass judgment on visitors and welcome all regardless of their heritage. Law Code: 5-2-5

The Shetlands
The Shetlands are a group of 100 islands, of which only 11 are still inhabited. Originally settled by Norwegians, they passed into

Scottish hands as part of the dowry for James III's wedding to Christian I's daughter. The capital, Lerwick, is the northernmost settlement in the British Isles and famous for the "Up-Helly-Aa" fire festival which reflects the area's Norse history. In recent years, industrial-scale fishing fleets and oil exploration has over-taken the traditional population, of which only about 2,000 remain. Law Code: 3-3-3

The Orkneys
The Orkneys, like the Shetlands, are a group of islands, 30 in all, with the biggest being Mainland. Again, like Shetland, the traditional life of the Orkneys has given way to the thousands of oil workers installed to exploit the eastern fields. Law Code: 3-3-3

Player contact: None, I left my cold weather gear at home.

RUMOR: Norwegian eco-terrorists are known to be planning attacks on the Stromness Refinery.

Restrictions
Apart from those imposed by their location there are none. So long as you avoid the oil installations, you will have no trouble.

Traveller Beware!
Again, unless you stay too close to the oil towns, you have little to worry about, except for the occasional finicky seal.

Well, that is it from me, apart from one final word: can someone give me a lift back to Paisley? I need a 12 year-old man, Burns-rehabilitation treatment.

"Are we moving towards a United Kingdom again? Who gives a dam? We've always disliked each other. The only thing that unites us is our hatred of the French."

—Anonymous civil servant