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Greetings to the Readers of the Third Imperium

A special offer has been arranged for those of you who are now reading the latest issue of the Third Imperium.

It is my pleasure to inform you that STARBATTLES (Mainline) is available for the Imperial price of $7.00, tax & postage included. This offer is good only to members of the Imperium. Act now Ace, this offer will vaporize upon the completion of the 2nd month of the year 1988.

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I.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL

Hello, here we are with another exciting issue of T.I. We have quite a bit in this issue, including an article on the Floriani (a human minor race), Floriani starships designed by Ed Edwards, an article on the Imperial government, and a sheet of Drayne Coyne!

Credit where credit's due dept.: Many of our letters have asked about our articles that carry no author identification. They are all written by me, with (usually) a bit of help from Dave New. I felt that seeing my name on every page was unnecessary and would be downright irritating. So let it be known that I, Mike Jackson, write all unlabelled articles; this shall not be repeated.

Last issue, we made several errors, but only one was serious -- in the adventure, "The Gabriel Project," we omitted the description of area #62. It is the black globe generator, and is located in the centre of the complex.

I.N.S. Hammer is being edited to conform to MegaTraveller. It should be available by next issue at the latest. It is a 5"x8" booklet in the same vein as Supplement 5, Azhanti High Lightning, including several scenarios and an 11"x17" fold-out map.

An updated version of our Cyborgs series will be appearing as part of the Medical Digest column in Traveller's Digest. Watch for it.

Please feel free to write us with comments, feedback, or article submissions. We need to know what you think about T.I. and Traveller in general. We answer every letter and look forward eagerly to each new piece of mail.

-Mike Jackson, Editor

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Staff: Mike Jackson, David New. Contributors: Ed Edwards. Dedicated to Cameron Carroll.

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Third Imperian is published quarterly by Mike Jackson. Send submissions, letters, and ads to No. 512, 4676 Yew St., Vancouver, BC, V6L 2A6. Rates: $2.50 single copy, $9.00 1 year subscription (Canadian), $2.00 single copy, $7.50 1 year subscription (U.S.)
THE FLORIAN LEAGUE

The Florian League is a small interstellar confederation located on the Spinward edge of the Trojan Reach and the trailing edge of the Beyond Sector. Made up of some 41 worlds, it is dominated by the Floriani, a human minor race native to Floria (Yggdrasil, 0203). They make up some 40% of the League's population, the remaining 60% consisting of 20% Asian, 5% Vargr, and 35% various human races.

THE FLORIANI

The Floriani are one of the strangest human minor races, in that they are divided into two distinct groups: the Barnai, 1.5m tall, thin, weak, and the leaders of the society; and the Feskals, 2m tall, large, muscular, and stupid, making up the society's workforce. The average ratio of Barnai to Feskals is 1:3, with men and women being equally distributed.

All Floriani have pinkish-tan skin and red or blue eyes, but only the Barnai have hair, which is usually brown or black. The anatomy of the Floriani is slightly different from that of Solomani and Vilani, in that they have no little toes, no tailbone, and no appendix. They have very little body fat, and are only comfortable in temperatures of around 25°C. Only Feskals exhibit psionics.

Floriani have no concept of art. But although they almost never create anything new, they are amazingly good at data collection and organization, and can refine items to astonishing extents. They are often called the "human calculators."

The Barnai are more highly educated and generally more intelligent than the Feskals. In Floriani society, the Barnai do all the planning and perform all cerebral tasks, while Feskals do all the manual labour. Most Floriani families own two or three Feskals, usually of both sexes. (Not all Feskals are so owned, however: most are employed by the government, by the military, or by corporations.) What amaze most outsiders are the facts that the Feskals and Barnai are perfectly content with this relationship, and that in ethical matters, both subspecies are completely equal, mingling freely in society. A Barnai would willingly give his life for a Feskal, and vice versa.

Floriani are far less emotional than other humans, and only display anger in the most extreme situations.

GOVERNMENT

The Florian League is governed at various levels by randomly selected leaders. Staggered lotteries exist for each level of government -- municipal, provincial, world, and League -- and the winners must sit on government councils for a four-year term. Ten municipal districts form a province, and there are ten provinces to a world. After serving one term, all officials must retire from government and may never be entered in a Lottery again. This form of democracy prevents dictatorship and lust for power, and gives a safe, though constantly changing, government. "Councilship" (as it is called) is not open to Feskals.

The government is supported by a standard beaurocracy, which also administers the Floriani legal system. This legal system is similar to Imperial law, with a judge (from the beaurocracy) and a jury of five. However, there are no set crimes and punishments: unlike in the Imperium, where one attempts to discover whether a specific crime was committed, the Floriani system tries to determine if what was done constitutes a
crime. As an example, in the Imperi-

um, the court tries to ascertain if

subject 'A' committed a murder; while

in the Florian League, the court must
decline whether the murder which 'A'

committed was a crime, and should be

punished.

The Floriani government also ad-

ministers the Florian Mail service. This service runs Jump-4 mailboats (based on X-boat designs) which carry

mail, packages, and information.

The League Military also falls un-
der the government's jurisdiction. Comprising some 80 ships, including

cruisers, troop carriers, and SDB's, and five divisions of troops, the

Military is chiefly employed as a

border patrol and defense network

against Aslan raids.

HISTORY: FOR THE REFEREE ONLY!

The Floriani are not actually a hu-

man minor race. Unbeknownst to any-
one, they are a race of androids de-
veloped by the Ancients as an alter-
native to 'real' humans. They were
designed to be the perfect servants

-- hence their lack of emotion and

creativity, and their complete happi-

ness and loyalty. All Floriani tech-
nology is copied from the Ancient
city on Floria; anything present in

culture which did not originate

there was imported by other League

members.

During the Final War, the Droyne

abandoned Floria and destroyed the

upper levels of their city. But the

Floriani survived to spend millenia

gradually rebuilding their world.

They spread out across the planet,

and relearned how to use and repair

all the Ancient artifacts that re-

mained. This gradual growth lasted

for over 300,000 years, until in

-225, they discovered an intact An-
cient warship hidden in the bowels of

the city. They studied it, duplicated

its Jump-drive, and began to colonize

the stars.

The Floriani were contacted by the

Aslan in -170, but the two races got

along rather poorly. Some Aslan set-
tled a few Floriani worlds, but on the

whole the relationship was very un-
easy. In 185, they were contacted by

the IISS, and a neutral relationship

began. In 430, the Floriani encoun-
tered human settlers from the Imperi-

um and welcomed them into the League.

In 506, they formed the Florian

Perhaps the most interesting aspect

of the Floriani is their technology. On

Floria itself, it varies from a

low of 9 in medical and environmental

technology to a high of 15 in space

and military technology. Occasionally

even higher technology can be found:

the Florian capital city is blanketed

by a TL 16 teleportation network, and

there are rumors of items of up to

TL 20.

What is even stranger is that

there are holes in Floriani techno-

logy -- though most Floriani own and

understand grav vehicles and even

fusion guns, very few even have the

concept of wheeled vehicles and

blades. Often, the Floriani do not

even understand the theory behind

their own technology -- they may know

how to repair and operate devices,

but have no idea how they work. Flor-

iani rarely use robots, and then only

for jobs Feskals cannot do, such as

working in high-radiation surround-

nings.

Finally, the native Floriani show

almost no interest in research. Al-

most all scientific work in the

League is done by other member races,

although their labs are relatively

common.

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man minor race. Unbeknownst to any-
one, they are a race of androids de-
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the IISS, and a neutral relationship

began. In 430, the Floriani encoun-
tered human settlers from the Imperi-

um and welcomed them into the League.

In 506, they formed the Florian
League, in order to unify their government and culture.

For 550 years, the League gradually grew, reaching its present size in 1054. At that time, one or two Aslan clans commenced raiding inside the League, and soon after the publication of the Imperial Second Survey, the League established a unified military and built bases on several worlds.

During the Rebellion, Aslan attacked the League _en masse_, while at the same time swarming across the Borderland to attack the Imperium. Most of the worlds of the Nora'a subsector were captured in 1117, but after that no more headway was made. It is rumoured that the Floriani used strange high-tech weapons, and that they even restored the Ancient battlecruiser.

**PLAYING THE FLORIANI**

The Floriani behave very similarly to other humans, except in the ways already described. Role-playing them should be relatively easy. Player characters should be Barnai, with 1 to 3 Feskal servants.

Character generation is as normal, with the following adjustments: Barnai have -1 Strength and Endurance, and +1 Intelligence. Roll 1d+6 for Education and Social Standing. Feskals have +1 Strength, +1 Endurance, and -2 Intelligence. Roll 1d for Education and Social Standing. Floriani Social Standing follows the table below.

The Florian League has all services except Scouts, Hunters, Barbarians, Nobles, Pirates, and Rogues. They have no lines larger than subsector (or League)-wide size. Native Floriani must roll 12+ to become scientists. Floriani service histories can be generated with the normal Traveller system. (All rolls of +1 Social Standing, Archaic weapons, Aircraft, Blade weapons, ATV, Hovercraft, Watercraft, and any included skills are ignored; roll again.) No planetary Navies exist in the Florian League; there is only the one Confederation Navy.

Muster-out benefits in the League are slightly different, however: Traveller's Aid is replaced by a "Free Pass," giving free Low passage to anywhere in the League; subsidized Merchant benefits are replaced by the Florian Provincial Merchant Lab by the Florian Research Cruiser; and Seeker by the Florian Miner. (Note that a Floriani given a Research Cruiser would sell it or use it to oversee research, never to do any himself.) Feskals are always enlisted rank, while Barnai are automatically commissioned. Feskals do not receive mustering-out benefits, and can only enter the Army, Belter, Law Enforcer, Marines and sailor services, where they are property of the service. When they leave, generate terms on the servant table. (Do the same for those who do not enter a service.)

**FLORIANI SOCIAL STANDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Feskal</td>
<td>Low level, such as sanitation worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Feskal leader</td>
<td>High level, such as work boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Barnai</td>
<td>Low level, such as store owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>Barnai</td>
<td>Medium level, such as businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Barnai</td>
<td>High level, such as judge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Horbarnai</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Floriani with a Social Standing of 12 have served a 4-year term in government. Add one term of service for this, and roll twice on the following skill table. The character is also given Cr100 000 and a plot of land on Boronu.*

**Council Skills**

- Leader
- Administration
- Tactics
- Computer
- Legal
- Liaison

**Servant**

- Automatic
- Survival - 3+
- DM +2 if - Endurance 8+
- Skills - Roll 4+ each term for

*Continued on page 20.*
TRAVELLER'S HARDWARE

COMBAT SPRAY GUN

The Combat Spray Gun (CSG) is a rare TL 9 weapon. It consists of a large, rifle-like gun working along the lines of a flamethrower. Small canisters, containing various chemicals which are sprayed out of the gun in the form of gas or foam, are inserted below the barrel, up to four at a time. The order of insertion is the order of firing, and each canister is good for one shot. The CSG has a range of 5m (short), creating "clouds" varying in size depending upon the load.

The CSG has low recoil and has difficulty as a rifle. 3500g, Cr1500, Length:750mm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ammunition</th>
<th>Pen/Attax</th>
<th>Dam.</th>
<th>Dose Spc.</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>TL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tranquilizer</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>C10</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>C20</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prismatic</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel foam</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoke</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire exting.</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riot foam</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>200g</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: signature applies here to visibility of the spray. The CSG is extremely quiet.

All ammo loads are as in MegaTraveller, and last as chemical rounds (tranq and chemical) or as smoke screens (smoke). Paint does not form a cloud, but rather coats everything in its danger space, as do fire extinguisher (douses all flame within danger space) and riot foam (reduces friction in area to zero, TL, #4). Steel foam (TL, #2) forms 4 cubic metres of plassteel. Tranq requires that the target breathe in the gas, and Chemical (nerve gas) requires that the target have some exposed skin area, or they have no effect. Tranq does the listed damage every round the target is within the cloud until he loses consciousness; chemical does the listed damage every round he is within the cloud until he is dead.

FLAMETHROWER

The flamethrower fires a stream of combustible liquid or gas and ignites it, creating a cloud of flame. Damage and spreading rules are as for normal fire, listed in MegaTraveller. It has a range of 5m (short), and the danger space is a 5m x 1.5m stream extending from the nozzle of the weapon. Extinguishing the fire is a difficult task, with DM +2 if the character rolls on the ground, DM +4 if the flame is smothered (blanket, sand), DM +6 if immersed in water, smothered with a fire extinguisher, or exposed to vacuum.

The flamethrower-6 uses a 1000g backpack fuel tank, which costs Cr100 to refuel and is connected to the actual weapon by a flexible tube. The flamethrower-9 uses a 500g bottle attached to the bottom of the gun, which costs Cr50 to refuel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weapon</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Shots</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flamethrower-6</td>
<td>5000g</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>950mm</td>
<td>Cr450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flamethrower-9</td>
<td>4000g</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>900mm</td>
<td>Cr550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weapon</th>
<th>Pen/Attax</th>
<th>Damage</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Recoil</th>
<th>Difficulty as</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flamethrower-6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1*</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Rifle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flamethrower-9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1*</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Rifle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Multiply damage by number of rounds target has been burning; i.e., one the first round, two the second, three the third, and so forth.

Note: automatically damages anyone not wearing armour of 14+.
The Florian Provincial Merchant is a large ship with high jump capability, making it perfectly suitable for merchant operations in the Trojan Reach. Part of its cargo bay can be used for fuel, allowing it a reach of four parsecs; this is often necessary in the sparse areas of the Florian League and its surrounding territories.

Like most Floriani ships, the Provincial Merchant is built on the lines of practicality and space. All staterooms are airtight, and the cargo and drive sections are open, giving a less claustrophobic feel to the ship. Like all Floriani ships, the outside design is very dull; the Provincial Merchant is often known to non-Floriani as the "Flying Brick."

Because of its capabilities, the Florian Provincial Merchant is popular throughout the Trojan Reach, and is a major export of the League. Exported versions usually have walls installed around the drives on A- and B-decks and the cargo bay on C-deck.

Provincial Merchant PA-W431332-840000-40003-8, 387 MCr. 1000 tons.

- Batteries bearing 1 1 1 TL15.
- Batteries 1 1 1 Crew=17.

Agility: 1. Troops: 3

**STATISTICS**

Tonnage: 1000 tons, 14 000m³
Crew: 17 crew, 3 troops.
Dimensions: 45m L x 28.5m W x 12m H.
Acceleration: I-G constant.
Jump: 3. Sufficient fuel for another jump-1 with reduced cargo.
Power plant: 3. 30 EP. Agility-1. Sufficient fuel for 8 weeks.
Engineering: Two Vadada Mark IV Ultima fusion power plants driving one Bos-cav Thruster manoeuvre drive and a Flatline 308 jump drive.
Electronics: Casnov electronics module.

**Range:** Unlimited manoeuvre.

- One jump-3 (plus one extra jump-1 with reduced cargo).
- Fuel scoops and purification plant. 8 weeks' standard supply consumption.

**Armament:**
- 1 triple laser turret, 1 triple missile turret, 1 triple sandcaster turret. Can be remotely controlled from Bridge.

**Capacity:**
- 250 tons cargo (165 when extra fuel carried). 20 passengers. 40 low berths.

**Vehicles:**
- One 50-ton cutter with one module.

**DECK PLAN LOCATIONS**

1. Bridge. Stations for pilot, two navigators, communications and computer officers, and remote control stations for the ship's three turrets.
2. Computer.
4. Fuel Tanks.
5. Fresher.
7. Airlock.
8. Low Berths.
10. Cargo. Passenger baggage and any other cutter-transferable goods are stored here.
11. Sick bay.
12.-22. Passenger Staterooms.
23. Passenger Lounge.
25. Maneuvre Drive Upper Level. Floor open to B-deck.
26. Food Storage.
27. Galley.
29. Fuel Scoops.
30. Purification Plant.
31. Passenger Dining Area.
32. Passenger Lounge.

Continued on page 17
The Yggdrasil subsector was originally settled by the Floriani starting in -150. During the Sindalian Empire, the worlds of YGGDRASIL and FORANDIN were settled, and the Empire named most of the subsector's planets, once surveyed, for Norse mythology. As the Florian League grew, it renamed the majority of these worlds.

The Yggdrasil subsector is the hub of the Florian League, containing the capital, prison world, and government retirement world.

FLORIA (0203) is the capital of the Florian League and homeworld of the Floriani. It is a pleasant, Terra-like world, and a major tourist centre. Its main city is built on the ruins of an Ancient site.

DARUF (0106) is the Florian League's prison world. All serious offenders and their families are left here to fend for themselves. A thousand or so have managed to survive and establish some sort of civilization.

INSEC (0307) is the main Naval base and ship construction centre for the League.

KABAL (0309) is a military training centre, with less than 100 permanent residents.

BORONU (0604) is a retirement world. All Florian politicians are granted a plot of land here after their term in office, which reverts to the state after their death.

YGGDRASIL (0805) was originally colonized by the Sindalian Empire. It is now an Imperial client state, used by the Imperium as a trading post with the Florian League.

Floria 0203 A467942-F Subsector capital. G
Vorn 0208 B611640-9 F Ice-capped. Non-industrial. G
Thrush 0210 A236246-C Non-industrial. Low population. G
Insec 0307 A121542-F Non-industrial. G
Fissolon 0308 E69A742-9 Water world. G
Kabal 0309 B387147-B F Non-industrial. Low population. G
Cimmen 0310 E7C0140-9 Non-industrial. Low population. G
Tibolt 0405 C575744-9 Agricultural. G
Lucind 0406 B860642-9 Desert world. Non-industrial. G
Picard 0407 D679646-9 Non-industrial. G
Tefsi 0408 BA94449-B F Non-industrial. G
Garnl 0506 E984940-9 G
Ilnest 0606 B686347-9 F Non-industrial. Low population. G
Zimit 0703 C147546-9 Non-industrial. G
Odin 0801 B20149B-8 Non-industrial. Ice-capped. G
Thor 0803 D669577-5 Non-industrial. G
Yggdrasil 0805 B3507CD-8 Poor. Client state. Desert. G
Sif 0810 A765867-7 Rich. G

The Yggdrasil subsector contains 22 worlds with a total population of 14.211 billion. The highest population is 9, at Garnl and Floria; the highest tech level is F, at Floria and Insec.
Early in the Rebellion, Aslian forces took advantage of the chaos in the Imperium. They launched a huge invasion, taking over many non-aligned or Imperial worlds in the Trojan Reach. The Florian League, largest independent state in the sector, also suffered by the invasion, and is now in a defensive war against the Aslian clans. How they are holding back the superior forces of the Aslians remains a mystery, though rumours abound of strange high-tech weapons and even an Ancient battlecruiser.

Sometime in the year 1118, the players are loitering at the Vadada (Nora's 0503, A410944-F) starport. The world was just recently captured by the Aslians, and the characters are in the process of being deported. A tall Aslian male in Envoy garb approaches, and says he represents Ftahko, head of a minor clan currently controlling the world, and that he has a proposition for them.

Meeting with Ftahko, the group is informed of a strange battlefield occurrence in the war with the Floriani. Just before contact with the enemy, a strange humming can be heard, and suddenly fully three quarters of the troops either collapse, a few unconscious but most dead, or go completely insane. Floriani troops then walk in and mop up what remains.

No-one knows what this so-called Mindburst weapon is, or how it works, but the Aslians desperately need to find out. Ftahko would like the party to cross the border and infiltrate the League, uncover any information about the weapon, and, if possible, return with plans and a working model. In exchange, he will grant the players their choice of a plot of land on Vadada (actually a small town 2000km from the starport) or Cr50 000. He cannot send Aslian, but Imperial humans just might pass as League citizens.

BEYOND THE FRINGE

The characters accompany an Aslian Troop Transport to Thrush (Yggdrasil, 0210). A squadron of Florian SDB's is waiting, and a battle ensues, but the carrier manages to drop the group to the planet in jump capsules before leaving.

The players are equipped with free passes, Florian ID, and language translators speaking Floriani, as well as any other equipment they might need to pass as League citizens. They must make their own way through the League, find the answer to the Mindburst mystery, and return to Vadada.

Questioning about the Mindburst will receive only blank stares, though the occasional citizen has heard of a secret research project similar to their description. One night, a drunken squad of Feskals in marine uniforms can be overheard talking about the new neural rifles, which are stopping the Aslian in their tracks. If the players talk to the troopers, they will find out that there is only one such gun per squad, and that they are kept firmly under lock and key. One trooper knows that they are built at a special lab in Capital City on Floria.

Getting transport to Floria is difficult, and can be resolved by the following task. (Convoys come only once per month and carry only the most important items, as it is hard to book offworld passage.)
To book passage to Floria: difficult, persuasion, bribery, 5 min (unskilled OK).
Referee: A superficial mishap result means the players must wait and try again when the next convoy is ready. A minor mishap means they must wait for the next one and try again, but the task will then be formidable. A major mishap has the same effect as a minor, but they will be tailed by Floriani law enforcers for the next month. A destroyed result means the players have been arrested for espionage, and may go to jail.

If worst comes to worst, the players can stow away on or steal a starship, but this will make their job far more difficult, as police will be looking for them.

NETWORK

Capital City on Floria houses the governmental and military headquarters of the League, and boasts a population of three million. In most respects, it is like any other TL 15 city, but there are two exceptions: first, deep underground is an Ancient site, its twisting corridors now stripped clean of all high technology, and secondly, almost all transport in the city is by teleport booth.

Telebooths, as they are called, are situated in every major building (offices, shopping centres, etc.) and once every few blocks in the suburbs. They work on the Transmission of Energy principle (see Adventure 13, Secret of the Ancients), with the problem of energy loss solved by connecting all the booths with a fiber-optic grid.

Activation is by entering a booth, dialing the destination number (listed in the enclosed computer directory), and inserting a Cr1 coin. The traveller is then converted into energy, which is pumped through cables to his destination, where he rematerializes. The entire process takes less than a second.

The use of telebooths could increase crime, as a criminal could teleport in from anywhere, commit the crime, and teleport away again to anywhere. Such an escape would be unstoppable and untraceable. For this reason, all buildings with telebooths are equipped with alarms: when the alarm is activated, anyone who tries to teleport in will have his coin succinctly returned with no effect, and anyone who tries to teleport out will be teleported directly to police headquarters.

In Capital city, teleboooths are used for all transport except delivery of large-scale items, which is done by G-carrier.

THE COMBAT LABORATORIES

Various research will reveal the existence of the Combat Laboratories, a small building on the outskirts of the city, and its adjoining factory. Reputedly, these buildings are the ultimate source of the Mindburst weapons. The characters may take any tack they choose in trying to appropriate the plans and a working weapon.

Key to Laboratories Map
1. Foyer. Besides one-way fire exits, this room and the deliveries platform contain the only doors to the building; eerily, this is also the only room with any windows. A teleport booth sits in one corner, opposite a reception desk, where the characters' ID will be checked. A guard stands in the corner opposite the teleport booth.
2. Office.
3. Janitorial Storage. Brooms,
vacuums, and other such low-tech cleaning equipment fill this locked room.

4. Security. 18 guards are on hand at all times: 6 on call in this room, electronically monitoring the complex; 6 on patrol in the complex; and 6 stationed one each by the doors to the Mindburst Lab, the Extreme Heat Lab, and the Black Globe Lab, one in the Foyer, and two by the Deliveries area.

5. Records. Backup holocrystals with information on incoming and outgoing parts are contained here, including one concerning the development of the neural gun, its mode of functioning, its plans, and the exact number produced up until that day.

6. Conference Room.

7. Main Computer Room. If a character tries to access Mindburst records, use the following task.

To transfer Mindburst information to a holocrystal: Difficult, Computer, Intelligence, 5 min. Referee: A Destroyed result causes the computer to shut down, the telebooth to switch off, and an alarm to sound. A major mishap merely results in the computer’s shutting down.

8-11. Washrooms. There are two sets, one on either side of the complex.

12. Lab Animals. Cages containing many small creatures line the sides of the room and sit on tables in the centre. Almost all of them are biologically similar to Aslan, with most native to Kusyu.

13-20. Labs. Some two to five scientists, mainly of non-Floriani stock, are usually in each lab.

13. Gauss Rifle Lab. Plans and models for various Gauss rifle modifications (greater range, higher magazine capacity, lighter weight) are contained here.

14. Laser Lab. Research in this lab focusses on upgrading power packs; those currently being worked on contain fewer shots but are significantly lighter.

15. Black Globe Lab. A guard is stationed outside the door to this lab, in which scientists are attempting to construct a device to break through a black globe. Judging from the number of perfectly split pieces of equipment
on the floor, they do not appear to have had much success yet.

16. Neural Shield Lab. Here, scientists are attempting to construct a defense for the neural gun, which, while it decimates the Aslan troops, occasionally incapacitates Floriani too. Their efforts appear still to be in the planning stages.

17. Missile Lab. This lab's focus is on an ECM missile, which, upon puncturing a ship's hull, would short out all electrical systems on the craft. Again, plans are still at a very tentative level.

18. Tractor Beam Lab. In this lab, research is endeavouring to build a starship tractor beam. Plans for a prototype are in their final stages.

19. Extreme Heat Lab. This lab also has a guard outside its door. Inside, fusion and plasma gun technology is being explored: extended range, higher accuracy (a thinner jet of plasma), increased power, and smaller weapons are four avenues under investigation.

20. Mindburst Lab. Several partially assembled neural guns lie around this room, their insides in varying states of disorder. Scientists are trying to adjust the weapons to make them more specific to Aslan, and to give them an even higher success rate than they already have.

21-23. Lab Storage. Several weapons, both functional and experimental, and many parts line the walls.

24. Mindburst Storage. Five finished -- that is, untampered-with -- neural guns sit on the shelves of this room.

25. Deliveries. Two guards are stationed by the door into the building. Outside, two G-carriers are parked, with no occupants.

26-37. Offices. None of these holds anything of import to the Mindburst project.

MINDBURST

The Mindburst weapon is actually a neural rifle (statistics in MegaTraveller or 7.1. #’s 3 and 7), recently developed by the League. In humans, it usually causes unconsciousness, although it can occasionally trigger disorientation, mind assault, or even death. However, the Asian brain chemistry creates a different effect: On a roll of 2d: 2-4 = no effect; 5-10 = insanity; and 11-12 = death. This is the weapon which has devastated the Asian invasion. There is no known defense.

ESCAPE

How the adventure is resolved is up to the players and referee. The escape from the complex, and later across the border can be acted out in as much or as little detail as is desired. When the characters finally return to Vadada, Ftohko will pay them the agreed-upon price and try to convince them to join his clan’s forces. They may do so, they may decide instead to help some other clan, or they may simply go on their own way.
Aspects of the Imperial system of government have appeared in a multitude of articles, but no one description has ever given a straight overview. But such a view is very important, especially during the tumult of the Rebellion.

As has often been said, the Imperium owns the space between the stars, not the stars themselves; the only land the Imperium actually owns is the world of Capital and the main starport on each member world.

Starports are run by the SPA (StarPort Authority), an Imperial bureau. They all have no law level to facilitate transition between worlds; their tech level is usually the same as that of their world, but has a minimum of TL 9. If the world's tech level is lower than 9, it is illegal to sell items from the starport to the natives.

The main governmental system is feudal. Each world can rule itself in whatever way it wishes. The planet's ruler (often given the title of Marquis for more important worlds) then pledges fealty to the local count, who oversees several nearby worlds. The count and his government collect taxes, deal with inter-world problems, and generally administer Imperial multi-world policy.

The counts then take oaths of fealty to their subsector dukes, and the most powerful of each sixteen subsector dukes becomes sector duke. He and his government collect taxes from the marquis, deal with problems between subsectors, and command the Imperial military forces of their sector. In the latter, their control is rather weak, in that they make only general military policy decision.

The dukes in turn pledge their allegiance to the Archdukes of the seven Domains. Until 1114, the Domain of Deneb had no Archduke, but in reward for his courageous actions during the Fifth Frontier War, Emperor Stephon bestowed the title upon Duke Norris of Regina. The Archdukes collect taxes from the dukes and deal with wide-scale problems (Imperial policy, wars, etc.). An Archduke can create new nobles, although his powers are severely limited in this regard.

Finally, the Archdukes pledge fealty to the Emperor, the supreme head of the Imperial government. He and his cabinet institute Imperium-wide policy; he invests new nobles, and is the top commander of the military. However, the sheer size of the Imperium limits their power, and most decisions are left to the lower levels of government. The Emperor's true purpose is to serve as a figure that all citizens can respect and revere, a glue sticking the whole Imperium together. He provides the ceremony and pomp, the charisma necessary to tie together an interstellar government.

Many other legislative and governmental bodies, and many government-run services, also exist. The best-
known body is the Moot, which is a democratic house consisting of all the nobles of the Imperium. As most nobles cannot come to Capital to vote, it is run by 400 to 600 non-land-owning nobles carrying proxy votes for the thousands of others. The Moot has little power, and seldom uses it: its two main powers are to prevent an unsuitable individual from becoming Emperor, and, in worst-case scenarios, to dissolve the Imperium.

The Imperial Ministry of Justice runs Imperial courts, the judiciaries for high justice crimes (treason, violation of the rules of war, genocide, etc.), and has a courthouse on each subsector capital. Other, lesser crimes are dealt with at the planetary level, depending on the law level of the world. The Ministry also has a Special Branch, the JSB, a covert security agency in the rimward end of the Imperium. It falls under the jurisdiction of the Imperium-wide judiciary, the body on Capital that makes the laws and runs the Ministry of Justice.

The Imperial Services are set out similarly to the Imperial government, with a single controlling body on Capital but the real Service individually controlled at the sector level. The Imperial Naval Force Command (INFC). The Navy's lowest divisions are squadrons, used for patrol and piracy suppression. These are grouped into fleets under the sector government, or reserve fleets under subsector command, their number varying considerably based on the volatility of the sector. The Imperial Fleet command, on Capital, controls general policy and Fleet deployment by sector.

The Imperial Marine Force Command (IMFC) is a parallel service to the Navy. It is autonomous as far as policy and deployment go, but at the sector level it comes underneath the Navy.

The Scouts (IISS) also have both sector and Imperial command, and are put under Naval command during wars. The Emperor is the supreme commander of the Scouts, as with every service, although he only ever uses his power in a limited fashion (by establishing a Survey or new program, for instance).

The Imperial Army Force Command (IAFC) functions in the same fashion as do the Marines, but it is not the only such force. Armies, as with nautical and aerospace forces, and colonial navies, are part of world defense forces. Generally, all fall under their worlds' complete authority, but during wartime, the Imperial Navy takes control.

Normally, this system is a very stable one, but only while the Emperor is strong. Being the only uniting factor in the Imperium, the post of Emperor can never be vacant or filled by a poor leader, or the government is seriously weakened. All it takes then is a good shove to send the Imperium into total chaos.

Continued from page 8

33. Power Plant Mid-Level.
34. Maneuuvre Drive Lower Level.
35.-42. Passenger Staterooms.
43. Deluxe Passenger Stateroom – Anteroom.
44. Deluxe Passenger Stateroom.
45. Triple Laser Turret.
46. Triple Missile Turret.
47. Triple Sandcaster Turret.
48. Cargo Bay. Open to D-deck.
49.-60. Crew Staterooms.
61. Exec's Stateroom.
62. Captain's Office.
63. Captain's Stateroom.
64. Alcove. Use varies depending on Captain's tastes. On some ships it contains a library, a mini-gym, or an entertainment console.
65. Power Plant Lower Level.
66. Jump Drive.
67. Cargo Bay.
68. Forward Cargo Doors. Extend up to C-level.
69. Side Cargo Doors.
70. Officers' Lounge.
71. Crew Mess.
72. Crew Lounge.
73.-77. Crew Staterooms.
78. Gym. Used only by Feskals on most ships.
79. Starboard Cargo Bay. Can be used as fuel tankage.
80. Port Cargo Bay. Can be used as fuel tankage.
The Florian Strike Cruiser is the backbone of the League Fleet. It carries 200 tons of small craft inside and can support two 2000-ton ships on its back. Like many Florian ships, it is standard configuration. Designed by Ed Edwards.

The Florian Courier, also known as "long legs," carries enough fuel for two jump-4's, and is used for long or fast courier missions where refueling may be difficult. It is of standard configuration and is often carried by Florian Strike Cruisers. This ship design is in great demand during the Rebellion. Designed by Ed Edwards.

The Florian SDB is one of several ships that can be carried by the Florian Strike Cruiser. Like many Florian ships, it has bays rather than turrets, and is of standard configuration. It carries a 50-ton cutter and has a back-up bridge and model/4+fib computer, as well as a frozen watch. Designed by Ed Edwards.

The Florian Troop Carrier is another standard configuration ship often carried by Strike Cruisers. It carries a battalion of troops in low berths and uses its cargo bay to transport their equipment.
Battleship FLN-P135AR3-B77/000-0019P-0. MCr3720. 54,000 tons.
- Batteries: 8
- Batteries A: 11
- Crew: 600
- Passengers: 20
- Low: 600
- Cargo: 120
- Fuel: 22480
- EP: 5400
- Agility: 3
- Troops: 120

The League contains only four ships of this model, the largest Florian warship design. A standard configuration vessel, it has the following backup systems:
- Jump-2
- Two model/3-fib computers
- A meson screen (model 7)
- Two nuclear dampers (model 7)
- An emergency bridge
- Also carries two 95-ton shuttles. Designed by Ed Edwards.

Miner FAJ-332351-000000-10000-0. MCr196.4. 300 tons.
- Batteries: 2
- TL: 10
- Crew: 6
- Passengers: 0
- Low: 99
- Cargo: 99
- Fuel: 99
- EP: 4
- Agility: 1
- Troops: 0

One of the most common Florian ships, the Miner was originally intended as a prospector, but is now often encountered acting as a Far Trader or Scout.

The crew consists of a pilot, an engineer, and a medic, plus three belters. The ship carries a 10-ton grav mining vehicle (High Passage No. 4. Treat as a G-carrier with a pulse laser, a crane, mining gear, four passengers, and 7 tons cargo).

Research Cruiser FL-5431362-000000-00000-0. MCr384.6. 500 tons.
- Passengers: 10
- Low: 0
- Cargo: 20
- Fuel: 165
- EP: 15
- Agility: 1
- TL: 12
- Crew: 6

The Florian Research Cruiser is a popular design for research both inside and outside the League. It has 60 tons of lab space and carries a cutter outfitted with a model/2 computer. It has two modules: a standard fuel skim module and a lab module with an air/raft, two staterooms, a model/3 computer, 5 tons of cargo, and a 10-ton lab (MCR20.6).

Mail Boat FNV-1341411-000000-00000-0. MCr42.5. 100 tons.
- Passengers: 1
- Low: 0
- Cargo: 10
- Fuel: 44
- Agility: 1
- TL: 13
- Crew: 1

Florian Mail Boats travel to all the League worlds carrying electronic mail, parcels, and the occasional VIP. They are similar to Imperial X-boats, except that they have manoeuvre drives and cargo space.

Mail Boats are run by the League government, and are built and piloted by the Florian Navy. They cannot land, so are cared for by Naval ships.
Continued from page 6

the following: Grav vehicle, Steward, Streetwise, Brawling, +1 to any characteristic except Soc, and one skill of the player's choice.

TRAVELLER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: ONE Imperial palace. Cheap. PO Box 6-7423, Capital.

LOST: ONE PHONE box. Contact B. Who.

HAZ ENOUGH OF Traveller! Desperately seeking elves. PO Box T-9786, World of Two Moons.

FOR SALE: USED nuclear power plant. Leaks only slightly. PO Box D-2179, Wurf.

WANTED: THIRD Imperium articles (so we don't have to waste space like this).

FOR SALE: ONE ZHODIAN fleet. Defeated only once. Contact D. Morris.

FOR SALE: MARS V. Miller's basketball shoes. For use in building Jump drive.

WANTED: ONE CAN Asian repellent. PO Box 11217, Florida.

WANTED: COMPANIONSHIP for lonely M'kree. Parties of less than 20 need not apply. PO Box T73-98, Kirur.

WANTED: GOOD HOME for crested jabberwock 'Wooguns.' Running out of in-laws. PO Box 9-6416, Vega.

SEEKING EVIL MAN with severe glandular disorder. Contact F. Attitudes.

FOR SALE: GENUINE Ancient artifacts, 3 per credit. PO Box E-6339, Vidan.

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LOST: ONE 37 Angeris. Contact H. Miller immediately.

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