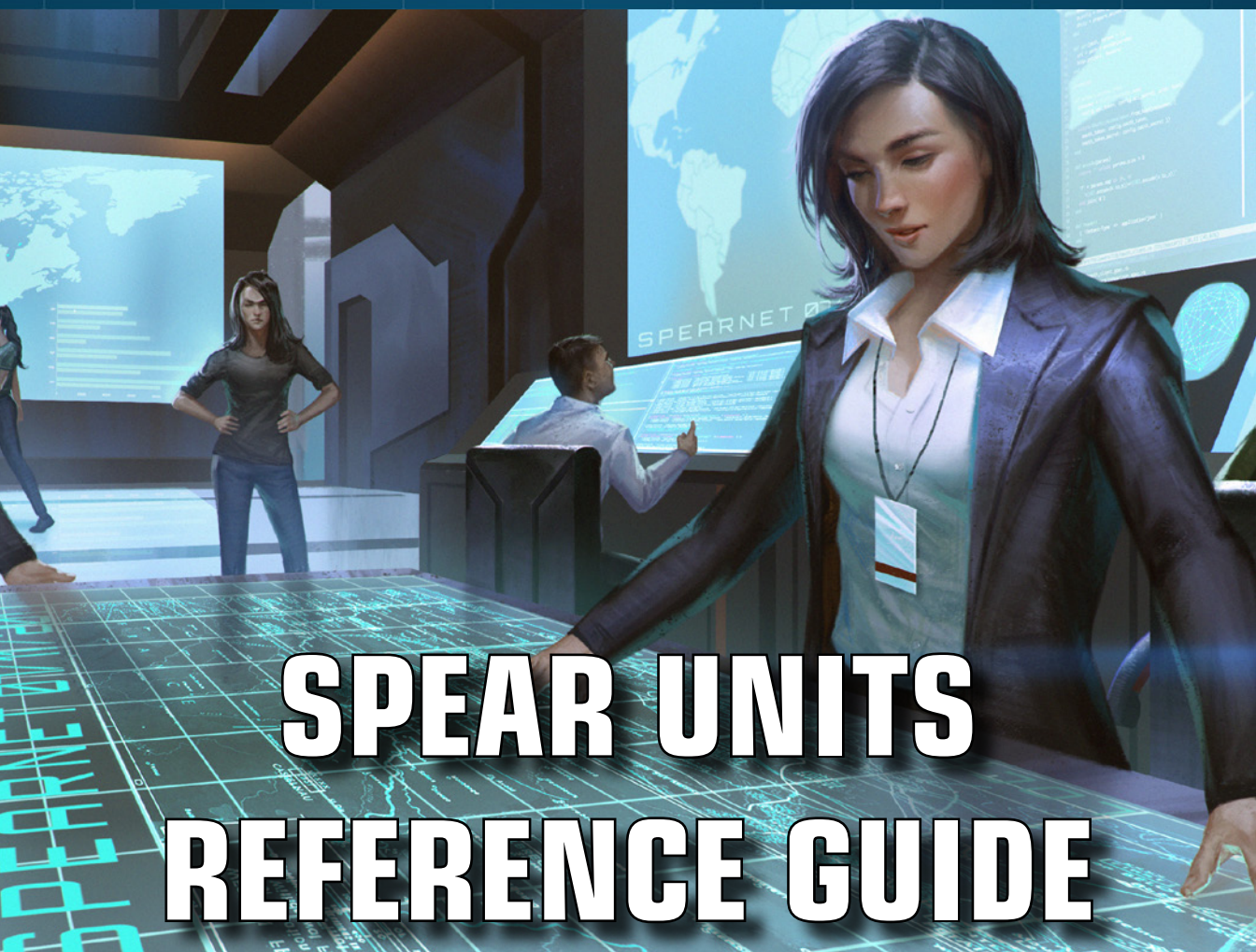


TITAN EFFECT

THE ROLE-PLAYING GAME



SPEAR UNITS REFERENCE GUIDE





SPEAR UNITS REFERENCE GUIDE

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SPEARNET

DIRECTOR DATABASE

USERNAME

Faiasutomu

PASSWORD

CANCEL

CONFIRM



SPEAR UNITS



This small reference manual aims to help the Game Master to use the SPEAR's Tactical units in his campaign.

Under the authority of the Tactical Division, the Tactical units are the backbone of the SPEAR. Every unit has two or three teams of operatives under its command (including the player characters). While each unit usually operates within its geographic area, the operatives may be required to conduct missions outside their territory. This facilitates the cooperation between units, but it can also create some rivalry and friction between them.

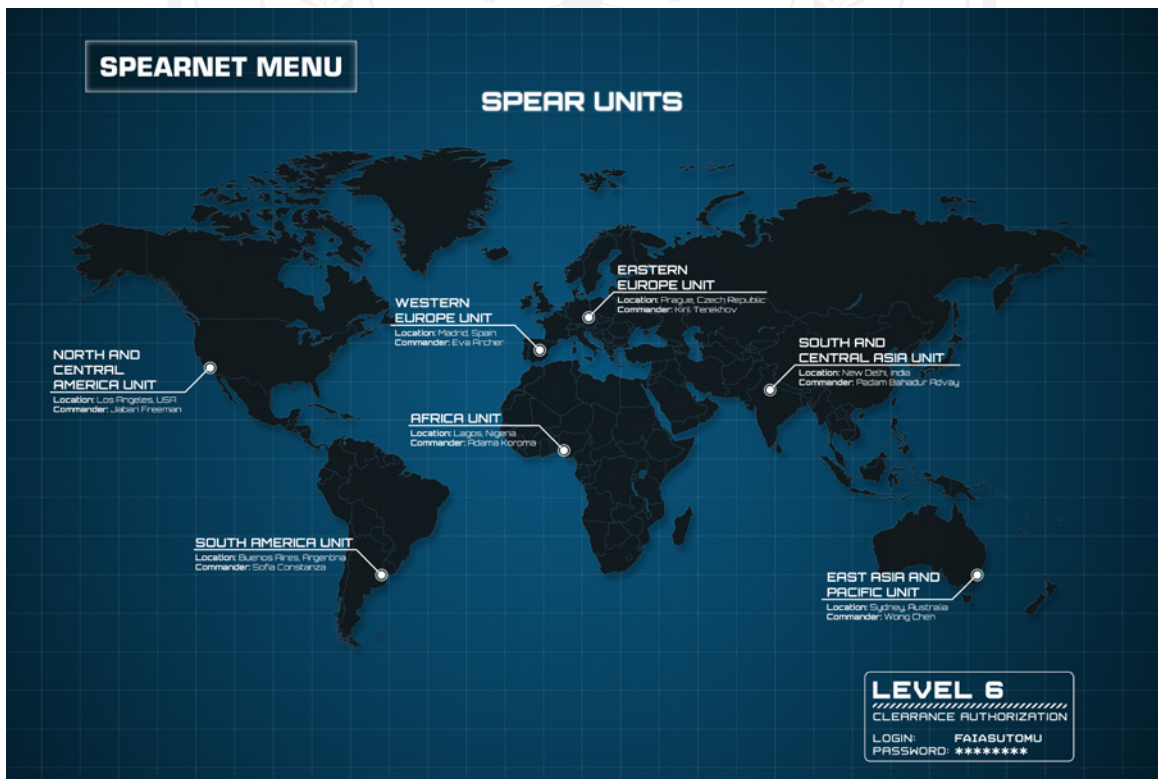
Each unit has its own personality and offers new adventure ideas according to your campaign style. You can even use them as a template to create your

own units as you see fit. The players can be part of any unit used in your campaign. Usually, one of the operatives will have to assume the role of team leader

Units can sometimes be mobile or forced to move to another location. Especially if the operatives are not careful enough and attract enemy factions' attention. This can create mission ideas when the players unit's hideout is attacked by enemies or being forced to leave their hideout and build a new one.

Note: SPEAR units will be more detailed in a future sourcebook.

Here's the list of the units available.



SPEARNET

DIRECTOR DATABASE



AFRICA UNIT



**EAST ASIA &
PACIFIC UNIT**



EASTERN EUROPE UNIT



**NORTH AND CENTRAL
AMERICA UNIT**



SOUTH AMERICA UNIT



**SOUTH AND CENTRAL
ASIA UNIT**



WESTERN EUROPE UNIT

AFRICA UNIT

OVERVIEW

This unit runs most of its operations on the African continent, except for North Africa. The unit's operatives are specialized in combat, search-and-rescue operations and the use of guerilla tactics. The unit's main enemies are ARES/The Olympians and TYPHON, and more recently the Directorate, which has started recently to increase its activities on the continent.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

The Africa unit's headquarters are located under the Cromstone Foundation offices in Lagos, Nigeria. Officially the Cromstone operates in West Africa as a humanitarian relief organization; mostly to provide assistance and medical care to people in war zones or in case of natural disaster.

COMMANDER

The unit is led by Adama Koroma, a biokinetic who can control plants. In her late 30s, this woman is a former child soldier who fought during the Sierra Leone Civil War. Rumors says she was rescued and trained by Ronin himself.

Commander Koroma has struggled for years to overcome the trauma of her childhood and, despite her extensive field training, she makes a point of always exploring every non-violent option before starting a fight. She is also adamant about evacuating or at least protecting nearby civilians whenever an operation is taking place.

This attitude has earned her the respect of her hierarchy but also of several neutral factions and organizations on the continent.

So, Commander Koroma is often seen as the diplomat of the SPEAR. Some other factions have tried to abuse this side of her personality (by taking hostages during their operations, for example). They have learnt the hard way that if she has concerns about civilians and innocents, she is also a skilled commander with a sharp mind and the experience to deal with hostage crisis if needed.

MEMBERS

The Africa Unit is one of the rare units to shelter a few natural therianthrope operatives. Most of the living natural shapeshifters live in Africa where they have survived in numbers high enough to form small secret societies. Thanks to the diplomacy of Commander Koroma, the Africa Unit has earned their respect despite strong philosophical differences.

With the Olympians and TYPHON using remote areas of the continent for their operations and as a testing ground, the Africa Unit has been clever (and lucky) enough to form temporary alliances with some of these elusive and fiercely independent therianthrope cults.

As a result, the SPEAR has ears and eyes (and sometimes hands) even in the most remote corners, which compensates for their lack of intelligence capabilities. However, this also means that the SPEAR must compromise with the sometimes diverging interests of their allies, and also accommodate them with favors.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Bold and fearless on the battlefield but brooding otherwise, Samory Traoré is the field leader of the heavy hitting team. This giant of a man is also a rarity. Originally from Mali, he is the only surviving crocodile therianthrope known to this date.

During combat, Traoré often charges first, leading his people to the battlefield, and subduing any opposition as fast as possible. He has been in conflict with the cool-headed commander Koroma because of this, several times.

Traoré joined the SPEAR some years ago after his family was killed by an unknown faction (although the Order is suspected). He seldom speaks about them but has claimed that his direct family did not include any therianthropes like him.

Koroma suspects that Traoré is living his uniqueness and his loneliness with some form of survivor guilt, his boldness being the manifestation of a subconscious death wish.

So far, the field leader has always brought his team back from their missions, so the commander keeps her theories and her doubts to herself.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

Officially, the Africa Unit operates with the cover of a humanitarian organization. However, the political instability of several countries in the area allows the organization to justify the need for armed escorts.

The unit owns and operates several armored trucks, one carrier airplane, and a few military helicopters converted into civilian aircraft.

OPERATIONS

They also tend to operate outside of larger cities for several reasons, mostly to avoid endangering bystanders and to keep local authorities from noticing the organization.

As they prefer to operate in the wild, the teams specialize in dealing with mobile targets and often use highwaymen tactics like ambush or hijacking. When they must attack a fixed location target (like a building) they favor hit-and-run tactics, dealing maximum damage (or reaching their target) as fast as possible and retreating immediately after.

Thus, most often, the teams are deployed to disrupt operations like material transport (illegal hazardous material mostly or sometimes raw materials) but also to deal with human trafficking (whether it involves “mundane”, psychics or bio-augmented soldiers).

The other speciality of the Africa Unit is search-and-rescue, as they often have to deal with the consequences of the secret war on civilian populations or deal with abductions of personalities by their opponents.

EAST ASIA & PACIFIC UNIT

OVERVIEW

The East Asia and Pacific Unit covers Australia, East Asia and most of the Pacific Ocean. Its operatives are specialized in high-risks missions and infiltration, and have the reputation to be very loyal to each other. This is especially true as the unit is surrounded by enemies and has only a limited number of operatives compared to other units.

GM notes: It is recommended that Operatives belonging to this unit start at Seasoned rank and have Loyal Hindrance.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

Located in the suburbs of Sydney, Australia, this unit uses a Fianna International's training camp as a cover for its operations.

The main enemy in the area is of course the Olympians, which have a strong presence in Australia, Japan and South Korea. The unit also deals a lot with the Yakuza and the Triads, more especially the Triad of the White Lotus Society that includes psychics in its ranks.

COMMANDER

Wong Shen, the commander of this unit, is a rarity. He is one of the few natural therianthrope tigers alive. Outside his career in the SPEAR, his past is a complete mystery and nobody, besides Director Tanaka herself, really knows his story. Wong Shen tends to be suspicious towards new recruits, but once they manage to earn his respect and trust, he will even risk his own life for the men and women under his command.

The Old Tiger (as he's nicknamed) also holds some grudge toward the Triads and the Olympians. Some of his most insightful subordinates have thus come to suspect Wong Shen to be on the blacklist of these organizations, which would also explain his constant paranoia.

MEMBERS

Despite being the unit with the largest area to cover, the East Asia and Pacific Unit is one of the smallest in numbers, partly because Wong Shen is very selective when it comes to recruiting new agents, aiming only for the best and the most trustworthy operatives.

Another reason is the frequent involvement of the other units like the South Asian and Eastern European Units or director Eiko Tanaka personally keeping an eye on her native Japan. Moreover, the Chinese government, along with several other factions, are active and unwilling to let foreign agents operate on their playground.

As the unit operatives are few in number, carefully selected and in hostile territory, they tend to be close to each other up to the point of forming an actual family. Each of the operatives would risk their life for each other without hesitation. In a few cases, the unit members have been suspected to use their resources to help one of their members without the approbation of the Tactical Division.

Eiko Tanaka trusts the Old Tiger with her life, but she often wonders to whom the unit's operatives are loyal: the SPEAR or Wong Shen...

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Hercules "Dreamtimer" Slater is one of the earliest operatives in the unit and a core supporter of Wong Shen. The Old Tiger accepted the Australian operative in the unit several years ago despite his lack of offensive psychic abilities.

When they first met, the Old Tiger detected in the young man an iron will and a strong sense of commitment, as well as a substantial psychic potential. He personally trained and groomed the young man.

Slater has the ability of astral projection but also a limited form of telepathy which he can activate when his astral self is “in contact” with a sleeping target. His specialized telepathy then allows him to project (and insert himself into) dreams. The induced dreams can be used to probe his target’s mind, or plant post-hypnotic suggestions and even false memories.

Fascinated by Australian aboriginal culture, Slater is convinced that his abilities could open him the doors of a (very hypothetical) “dream dimension”. So far, his research did not reveal anything that could support his concept, but rumors say the Research division has already started some experimentation about it.

Most of his teammates kindly make fun of him about his wacky theories. However, they actually have a profound respect for Slater as probably the best recon and intel expert of the unit.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

The East Asia and Pacific has at its disposition a couple of helicopters, a C-130 Hercules aircraft and a Gulfstream jet modified for quick airborne infiltrations. They also benefit from the best equipment the SPEAR can provide to operate in sea and underwater.

The SPEAR understood long ago that the vastness of the Pacific Ocean was a problem due to the long distances involved to reach a given target but that it could also be used at their advantage. Namely for discretion.

In the late 1990’s, the SPEAR acquired a decommissioned research vessel. They repaired it, expanded it and improved it for use as a modular

military operation center. In 2005, the “Lyonesse” was used for the first time as a coordination center of a very risky operation. Since then, Lyonesse has been a key element in the SPEAR’s marine operations. Despite its age, the Lyonesse is equipped with state-of-the-art communication equipment, radar and has also a helipad with a modified military helicopter.

Rumors within the SPEAR speak about a ghost town in the Australian desert, used as a secret detention facility by the organization. Its underground would serve as a high security prison for enemies of the SPEAR deemed too dangerous to be left alone and too useful or too risky to be disposed of. But so far, no agent has ever claimed to serve there.

OPERATIONS

The East Asia and Pacific Unit numbers are so limited that they actually can’t afford any loss and their enemies are often more numerous and have a stronger local presence. The unit currently has only two tactical response teams (including the PC).

As a result, the unit learned the value of discretion and caution. Adept at stealth operations, they are also the SPEAR experts of asymmetrical warfare and subterfuge, masters of misdirection and deception.

For almost every operation, the unit, working closely with the Intelligence Division’s bureau in Tokyo, designs covers and false clues to redirect any attempt to track them toward another faction.

They also tend to play other factions off against each other to divert their attention or weaken them during one of their own operations.

Thus, lots of operations of the East Asia and Pacific Unit tend to be hit-and-run or intelligence gathering missions. On rare occasions, they are also deployed to serve as misdirections for other SPEAR operations. This is usually a very risky task, and Wong Shen only accepts this when the SPEAR is in dire need.

EASTERN EUROPE UNIT

OVERVIEW

The Eastern Europe Unit is the heavy hitter of the SPEAR and is specialized in combat and sabotage operations. As its name implies, the unit is mainly active in Eastern Europe and former Soviet territories (including Russia). The unit also operates in Northern Europe as well.

GM notes: this unit is perfect for a military-style campaign and if you want to give a post-Cold War atmosphere to your game. It's recommended (if not required) for the Operatives to start at Seasoned rank. Characters could also start as fresh recruits who need to prove themselves.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

The Eastern Europe Unit hides currently behind Kestrel Exports warehouse in Prague, Czech Republic.

This unit is often on the move, from one base to another, using warehouses or industrial sites, mostly in the Balkans area. It favors sites with an easy access to communications and major roads and railways. The move schedule is not constant and depends on various factors like political context, current operations and sometimes risks of security breaches.

COMMANDER

The current commander of this unit is a telekinetic named Kiril Terekhov. Terekhov, as the rumors go, was part of the Red Ghost unit before it was dismantled at the end of the Cold War. He is not suspected of being a mole or a spy, but he seems to hate the Directorate with a burning hatred. And thus, some believe he is using his unit to wage a personal vendetta against the Russian organization.

Kiril Terekhov was indeed a member of Red Ghost. He also had a son, a telekinetic, too, but far weaker. Kiril's son joined the Directorate a few years ago, after years of conflict with his father. What happened exactly after that is unknown but at some point his son called for help. Kiril mounted a rescue operation but found nothing but the lifeless body of his son, apparently drained of his life energy.

Kiril knows that the Directorate is hiding and protecting something very sinister, most likely a powerful deviant, but doesn't know the big picture. He has sworn to solve this mystery and to avenge his son no matter what.

MEMBERS

Commander Terekhov is a stern and serious man. He is strict on discipline and demanding of his subordinates. So the members of the unit are among the best trained operatives in the SPEAR. They also have the reputation of being tough as nails and are widely seen as the heavy hitters of the SPEAR.

However, Terekhov's operatives are not to be mistaken for bullies. They are well aware of the need for discretion and they have too much respect for their commander to act carelessly and endanger the unit's secrecy.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Ioanna "Sonata" Smyrnios manifested weak telekinetic powers in her teenage years. She joined the SPEAR a few years ago, after being targeted by the Directorate.

Ioanna is able to perform amazing feats of telekinetic control. She is able to remotely tie and untie complex knots, type commands on a computer, pilot a vehicle, or even play a complete sonata on a piano. She can even simulate a telekinetic "sense of touch".

Terekhov has a somewhat reluctant father-daughter relationship with Ioanna. He doesn't want to protect her more than any other agent but he cannot help it. She is the only operative in the unit able to see under his hard shell.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

Terekhov relies more on roads and railways than aircrafts and seacrafts. He thinks that ground transportation is less noticeable and values discretion and reliability over adaptability. His superiors don't always approve this choice but so far, the commander has known many successes so they tend to trust his judgement.

The unit is using a fleet of trucks with specifically designed trailers as mobile command centers. Where most of the other units monitor an operation from a fixed command center and use long range transportation to get their agents on the field, the Eastern Europe Unit prefers to use modular containers and move the command center along with the agents on the theater. As such tactics increase the risk of losing everything (agents and command) if discovered, the unit has become incredibly skilled at hiding their presence. They are also able to disguise a vehicle in a matter of minutes to disappear immediately after an operation. At some point, the unit has been known to monitor an operation from a container ship or a moving train.

When the unit uses air transportation, Terekhov prefers his agents to hide within regular flights (passenger flights or cargo planes) or use short range aircrafts like helicopters on the field.

The unit is also fond of using warehouses and industrial sites to cover their operation bases. Such sites are, most of the time, easy to secure. It is perfectly plausible for authorities and bystanders that these sites need to be secured so high security levels are not abnormal. Finally, regular people and vehicles always come and go on the sites; which can mask the activities of SPEAR agents among more

mundane ones.

For this, the unit owns by proxy companies, several warehouses in Eastern Europe and can move their command center whenever needed from one warehouse to the other. The accommodations are Spartan and the other units tend to consider that working with the Eastern Europe Unit as some kind of punishment.

OPERATIONS

As told above, Terekhov is a serious and driven man. He is not shy about ordering armed operations and "seek and destroy" missions. So the unit's operations tend to involve a lot of combat situations.

Terekhov is aware that the unit is facing dangerous and powerful enemies and he's willing to give carte blanche to his teams when necessary. He supports his operatives in front of the Executive Committee whenever strife happens as long as the mission is a success and no innocents are hurt.

As a result, every member of the unit goes into mission heavily armed. The operatives are trusted to use any means necessary to fulfill their mission, at their discretion, as long as it doesn't allow their opposition to track them back to the SPEAR or risk blowing their cover.

Most of the time, these operations involve disrupting the Directorate's operations or assaulting their strongholds. As the organization is often using isolated areas, it fortunately limits the risks of breaching the rules of discretion or endangering civilians.

No need to mention that the Eastern Europe Unit doesn't have a great relationship with the Intelligence Division, which is tired of cleaning up the unit's messes. More recently, Terekhov and his men have started to have some encounters with TYPHON. A situation that's preoccupying the Executive Committee members who are afraid of a potential escalation.

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA UNIT

OVERVIEW

The North and Central America (or NCA) Unit is one of the key elements in the fight against the Olympians and their allies. Its members are expert in clandestine operations, espionage and counter-terrorism. They can operate from anywhere, from the jungle of Costa Rica to downtown Manhattan.

This is where he met a strange man calling himself “Mr Germain” who tutored him in using his powers, apparently possessing similar abilities himself.

It quickly appeared that some people were after Germain and the two soon parted, not without the older man instructing his young pupil to leave the country and explore the world.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

Located in Los Angeles, USA, this unit's headquarters are installed in one of Fiana International's Bunker Hill offices.

As expected, the unit's HQ is highly secured with various scanners (including DNA and brainwave scans)—secretly checking any visitor before they actually access the offices. In addition, the unit has access to Fianna's equipment warehouse located in the San Fernando Valley. Officially, this is where Fianna stores most of its security equipment and vehicles, but secretly, the place contains high-tech laboratories and material, linked to the SPEAR research division, including a training center.

Freeman used the following years to hone his abilities and become, among many other things, a fighter and an explorer, never staying too long in the same place, rejuvenating his body and switching identities regularly.

He met his mentor for the last time in the 1960's in Europe and this time, Germain asked him to perform a long term mission for him: provide support to a secret organization named the SPEAR. This also meant infiltrating them and collecting data about who they were and who were their enemies: the Olympians. Jabari managed to be recruited by the SPEAR which was impressed by his abilities. He started to slowly rise through the ranks until he eventually became the head of the North and Central America Unit.

So far, Jabari has rallied the cause of the SPEAR and is loyal to the organization, but he keeps wondering why Germain wanted him to spy on the organization or even if he's still alive. If his mentor was to surface again, Jabari is unsure about which side he would choose.

COMMANDER

This unit is led by an African-American man named Jabari Freeman, a powerful biokinetic and fighter. From what his subordinates know, Jabari has travelled for years all around the world before ending up working for the SPEAR.

In reality, Jabari is much older than he looks. His parents took the surname Freeman just after being emancipated ... at the end of the American Civil War... The teenager who'd become Jabari Freeman manifested his first biokinetic abilities near 1880.

MEMBERS

Commander Freeman is a born leader, appreciated and respected by his teammates and his superiors alike. He tends to be close to his operatives and respect their skills. As a result, the operatives in the NCA Unit are given more autonomy and initiative than in other units. Whenever an operation is

planned, the commander involves the operatives early in the process, listening to their suggestions and ideas and design collective strategies.

Their operations are therefore often better planned and prepared, and nothing is left to chance. But, as a downside, they usually take a bit longer to plan and design and this unit is a bit less reactive than the others. It also means that a given operative, by interacting often with her teammates this way, may gain experience and skills much better, often enough to ultimately be able to mount an operation all by herself.

Another side effect is that the Executive Committee (wrongly) wonders if Freeman really controls the unit. Actually, his leadership is so strong that any successor to Freeman would probably have a hard time taking the role after him. All this makes the NCA Unit one of the most efficient and versatile units in the SPEAR.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Holden “Doc” Banks is probably one of most famous telepaths in the SPEAR. Despite being officially assigned to the NCA Unit, Holden is often requested to visit and assist the psychics of other units due to his specific talents.

When his abilities first manifested, Holden was still a medical student, working to become a doctor. After the initial shock, his keen scientific mind took over and he started to study his own abilities and how his brain was processing them.

First assigned to the Research Division, Holden also completed his curriculum, specializing in neurosciences and becoming a full-fledged neurosurgeon. He really made some breakthroughs, however, by combining his ESP and telepathic abilities with his intimate knowledge of neurosciences.

More specifically, the professor designed a telepathic training process to unlock the potential of newly manifested psychics, allowing them to quickly develop and mature their powers. This allows SPEAR units to recruit and train new operatives much quicker than before.

Why Holden left the Research Division to become a field operative is still a subject of speculation as he doesn't want to speak about it. What is sure however, is that he's a powerful operative on top of being a very intelligent scientist and skilled teacher, not in small part due to his ability to sense and interfere with paranormal (including therianthrope) abilities.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

Due to the Olympians' strong activity in North and Central America, the Executive Committee closely watches this region of the world.

Thus, the NCA Unit benefits from the special attention of the Committee and is one of the wealthiest and best fitted units in the SPEAR. Of course this situation has caused some friction and jealousy coming from other units.

Commander Freeman also went to great lengths to develop good relations with the Research Division and have access through them to various equipments of cutting-edge technology. For the most part, the Research Division is willing to provide prototype equipment that need field-testing (usually done during training exercises) and the unit agrees to do the testing, provided they can keep the equipment afterwards if the test is conclusive.

Commander Freeman's skill in data gathering and precise reporting has made this agreement very beneficial to everyone. To store all equipment and do their own development work, the Research Division opened laboratories in the San Fernando Valley.

The San Fernando vault also includes several ground vehicles (with hidden reinforcements) including civilian-looking security and spying vans, (disguised) military grade helicopters and a cargo plane. At the commander's request, the research team is making a point of always disguising specific gear as something mundane in order to operate as discreetly as possible.

OPERATIONS

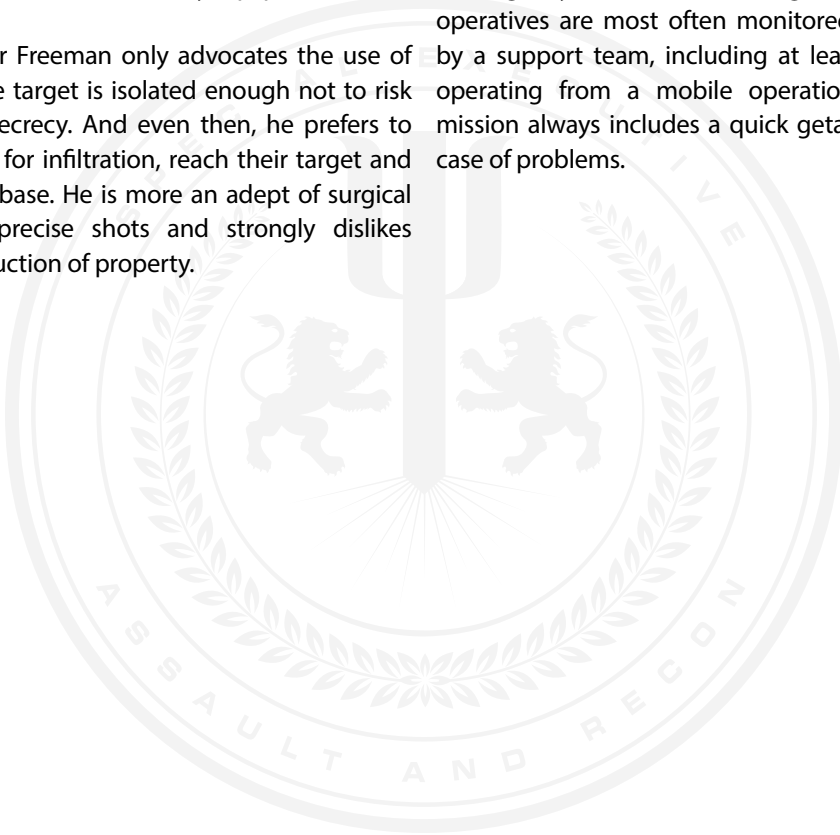
For the most part, the operations of this unit are executed in urban environments. Due to the vital necessity of keeping a low profile and avoiding detection by the Olympians' agents and the authorities, the unit carefully avoids open fights and operates mostly as a covert ops unit.

This is a paradox as the unit, first, is one of the largest in the SPEAR; second because it is also the one with the best available heavy equipment.

Commander Freeman only advocates the use of violence if the target is isolated enough not to risk a breach of secrecy. And even then, he prefers to carefully plan for infiltration, reach their target and return to the base. He is more an adept of surgical moves and precise shots and strongly dislikes wanton destruction of property.

So, operations typically involve infiltration and sabotage (or theft, or kidnapping, or sometimes target elimination). Whenever possible, the commander favors extensive preliminary scouting and observation before risking the safety of a field team.

The unit often uses drones or other high-tech equipment to scout an area thanks to the agreement with the Research Division. After that, the unit usually plans an infiltration mission with several contingency alternatives. During the mission, the operatives are most often monitored and assisted by a support team, including at least one hacker, operating from a mobile operation center. The mission always includes a quick getaway option in case of problems.





SOUTH AMERICA UNIT

OVERVIEW

The South America Unit members are experts in guerilla warfare and reconnaissance. They are used to operate in urban areas as well as in the mountains and jungles. Their adaptation capacity and their survival skills are their best tools against ARES, the Olympians, TYPHON and other criminal organizations.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

The South America Unit's headquarters are in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in the district of San Nicolas (Buenos Aires' business district). The unit uses the Cromstone Foundation as a cover and headquarters.

Commander Constanza also has a high level security warehouse and operation center hidden in the district of Retiro a few miles from the main facility.

There are other facilities in several places on the continent due to the commitment of Commander Constanza and her predecessors to always have backup hideouts in case of problems.

COMMANDER

Sofia Constanza is both an ESPer and a telepath. She is also the daughter of Franco Constanza, one of 5 members of the Executive Committee. The SPEAR has been in her life since childhood and she has proven herself as one of the most dedicated operatives and now commanders.

However, her parentage is both a blessing and a curse. Having her father in the Executive Committee is obviously an asset in terms of influence within the

SPEAR, access to intelligence and equipment and so on.

But Sofia herself resents the legacy of her father. When she took office, several years ago, she had to work twice as hard just to show to her new subordinates that she was not just "Franco's daughter" but a SPEAR operative in her own right. She has since proven her value to the unit and earned their respect. Yet, she doesn't want to rely on her father too much and lose that hard earned credit.

Second, Franco himself is somewhat a controversial figure within the organization due to his "end justifies any means" outlook and his past links with several unscrupulous governments or clandestine groups.

Finally, Franco himself is the son of late Gonzalo Constanza, the founder (and historic first leader) of the South American Unit in the late 1970's. Many in the SPEAR disapprove that the leadership of this unit looks more and more like a family business. Sofia herself knows that some elements within the organization have spoken against the "Constanza dynasty situation" as they call it but so far, her excellent track record protects her.

MEMBERS

During the early days of the SPEAR and during the late 20th century, the South America Unit had a bad reputation in the SPEAR. Namely, the unit had the worst death rate of the organization, despite a more than acceptable success rate.

Gonzalo Constanza himself was killed in action during an ill-fated mission (which is partially the reason why his son become such a hardliner later in his life).

Before she took office, the young Sofia Constanza analyzed the reasons of so many losses and came to

the conclusion that, too often, a key team member was killed or incapacitated, jeopardizing the whole operation.

She worked the idea and once in charge, started a global training program, the “Renaissance Man” initiative, in order to expand her operatives’ skills. Namely, she had them learn from each other, work on their versatility and diversify their skills as much as possible. It also had the additional effect of increasing the team spirit, their coordination and mutual trust.

As a result, the operatives in the unit are the most versatile and multi-skilled in the SPEAR. Each of them can fit almost any role in an operation team and replace an incapacitated team member if needed. on top of this, most of them are also able to become a one-person team for specific missions.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Since the day his abilities were revealed to TYPHON, Vinicius Mauro has been on their Most Wanted list and so far, he is one of the reasons why the bio-terrorist organization has taken action and clashed more often than usual with the South America unit.

Before that, Vinicius used to be an average biokinetic psychic and a skilled botanist. After joining the SPEAR, the young brazilian was tasked to infiltrate a research team working on cordyceps, the famous parasitic “zombie” fungus of Amazonia (which alters the behavior of host insects) for a possible industrial use in pest control.

It turned out that an unnamed sponsor had offered them a hefty sum for a specific work to genetically alter and weaponize these fungi, so their upgraded version could infect mammals, including humans...

Vinicius quickly found out his sponsor was none other than TYPHON. He immediately contacted the SPEAR for help, but not without being spotted and captured. Before his teammates arrive to rescue him, he was used as a test subject for the newest strain of fungus. Fortunately for him, thanks to his biokinetic ability, Vinicius was able to slow down the infection just in time for the SPEAR to intervene, destroy all the data and samples and free the unlucky operative.

However, the fungus was in Vinicius’ body and, by an yet unexplained osmosis with his psychic abilities, formed a symbiotic relation with its host. Willing to get rid of the threat inside him, Vinicius worked to find a cure, integrating other plant DNA in his body, only to alter even further his own physiology. The young operative was able to render the fungus harmless but at the cost of his own humanity...

So far, Vinicius is unique for two reasons. First, he is the only human-plant chimera known to this date. Second, he is the first psychically-created chimera. And this makes him a prime target for TYPHON and other factions.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

For a long time, the unit was operating in a part of the world plagued with authoritarian regimes, criminal cartels and high criminality rates.

Gonzalo Constanza himself barely escaped the Ezeza massacre in 1973 when his powers manifested, just in time to save his own life.

This forced the new unit to adopt a policy of extreme caution. In order for the organization to survive, Constanza contacted other clandestine organizations and developed links with them. Namely he negotiated the right for the SPEAR (who posed as another revolutionary group) to use their installations in return for sharing equipment.

Over the years, with several of these groups becoming increasingly violent, his son Franco decided to distance himself but it turned out that access to the facilities was just too useful to be completely discarded.

When he ascended to the Executive Committee, Franco secretly confessed the situation to his peers and his daughter. He gave Sofia the task to correct the problem.

Currently the unit is still using some of the facilities, but Commander Constanza is discreetly trying to retrieve the SPEAR equipment from their former allies without creating new enemies. To do so, the unit frequently “confiscates” weapons and equipment from dangerous and criminal groups during their missions (like revolutionary groups, drug cartels and so on), both to get some “free” gear and to reduce the threat of these groups. Transportation means like planes and copters are especially prized, as the South American geography makes travel problematic in some area.

OPERATIONS

Several major agglomerations exist in South America (Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro among others) along with massive, wild areas of incredible diversity (pampas, jungles, mountains). All of these areas are equally drawing the interest of the Olympians or the other enemies of the SPEAR.

The unit was initially trained to operate mostly in remote areas. Sofia Constanza, and her father before her, initiated an intensive program with the other units in order to have units trained also in urban warfare.

As a consequence, the operations of the unit are wildly diverse. Most of the time, they operate to thwart TYPHON in wild areas (their most recurrent opponent), or disrupt operations from the Olympians or the Order (whose influence here is relatively important) in the cities.

Several minor antagonists also pose a threat including remnants from the old revolutionary organizations of the last century (or even drug cartels) who still hold secrets from the SPEAR and now collaborate with their enemies. Rumors even speak of a remnant of the Nazis secret society known as the Ahnenerbe.

Quite often, the unit is tasked to locate lost equipment or intel, retrieve it from their current possessors and bring it back to the SPEAR's vaults.

A point of conflict exists with the other units regarding targeted assassination. Commander Constanza, despite her personal reluctance, does not hesitate to order the elimination of drug czars or crime lords, partly because some of them know too much about the SPEAR, but also because she considers that one of the goals of the SPEAR is to make the world a better place, no matter what.

She has spoken to Jabari Freeman about organizing a common operation against the Mexican cartels but her colleague believes this would draw too much attention to the SPEAR. Freeman perfectly understands (and approves) her need to strike criminals but has some moral reservations about freely murdering people. He fears that the unit has just taken a slippery slope and he doesn't want to be a part of this.



SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA UNIT

OVERVIEW

The South and Central Asia Unit is one versatile unit. Skilled in clandestine operations and rescue missions, the operatives of this unit are able to adapt to almost any situation. Also, with less gear than most of the other units, they tend to rely more on their skills and special abilities to face the challenges posed by well organized opponents.

He discovered his ability to manipulate the physiology of living beings around this time and was soon contacted by the SPEAR. Wanting to make a difference, he accepted the SPEAR's offer and left the army to join the secret organization.

After several years of operations around the world, he was eventually promoted to the rank of unit commander and assigned to the South and Central Asia Unit.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

This unit uses one of the Cromstone Foundation's installations in New Delhi, India, as its headquarters. The office is located near Connaught Place in the commercial and financial district of New Delhi. However, Most of the operations are conducted and directed from the secret operation center, a complex of industrial buildings located in the suburb of Okhla, in South Delhi.

Since then, commander Advay earned a reputation of a brave and very skilled field commander. He is also known for caring a lot for his teammates and subordinates, to the point of risking his own personal safety to rescue captured members of his unit. As expected, he is quite popular among his fellow operatives in the unit and also the rest of the SPEAR. However, "The Gurkha", as his subordinates call him, has a few secrets of his own.

The commander Advay himself is only occasionally at the headquarters. He prefers to stay in the operation center or spend time in the area working on his personal projects (see below). Several other caches of equipment exist in the Indian subcontinent and elsewhere, mainly to avoid the trouble of moving the equipment and take the risk of breaking secrecy.

After relocating to India, he came to work (as implied by his cover in the Cromstone foundation) on humanitarian projects. He then truly realized the dire poverty in which some people could live. He then decided, unbeknownst to his superiors, to discreetly use his abilities to help people. Namely, the Gurkha uses his biokinetic powers to heal people from injuries, diseases and various ailments.

COMMANDER

Padam Bahadur Advay is the current unit's commander. He is a veteran of the The Royal Gurkha Rifles in the British Army. Born in Bima, Nepal, the young man joined the Gurkhas after emigrating to the United Kingdom and served honorably for several years in NATO and UN operations. He even earned several distinctions and medals.

The Gurkha is extremely discreet about using his healing abilities and he refrains from using his powers too often. Were his superiors in the SPEAR to hear about this, however, they could likely consider this to be a blatant breach of security and react accordingly by demoting him.

MEMBERS

Commander Advay has a positive yet complicated relationship with his troops. From his years in the army, he has a strong military mindset and expects

some level of discipline from his operatives. He is also expecting personal autonomy, more so than in most of the other units.

It is a matter of fact that the South Asian Unit operates in countries and environments where logistics and infrastructures can sometimes be a real issue. As a result, he often lectures his subordinates about the necessity of ingenuity and resourcefulness. The philosophy has some success as the SCA Unit is probably one of the units that could survive the longest in the unlikely case the SPEAR as a whole could be compromised.

So, each operative in the unit is not only a skilled operative (Commander Advay is also demanding on this) but can run the operation center perfectly by herself and ensure the best upkeep and maintenance of the equipment even without resources and so on.

The Gurkha considers that, once he has assessed the capability of an operative, the least he could do is trust him and leave him room for initiative, letting him grow in maturity and creativity.

Here lies the paradox in his leadership: the commander has a strong military background and the mindset to boot but he also has an empathetic personality, caring for his teammates and subordinates. This has led some of his subordinates and other SPEAR members to begin questioning his leadership methods, considering him too idealistic and sensitive for the job.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Mai Neng Vang is probably, much to her chagrin, one of the most feared operatives of the SPEAR. Originally from Laos and of Hmong descent, Mai was saved by The Gurkha after she and her twin sister Dia were targeted by the Olympians for their telepathic abilities. Unfortunately, Dia was killed and turned into... A shade.

What happened exactly right after is a mystery, but Mai soon discovered she was able to summon her sister's shade at will and control it telepathically. So far, nobody has been able to explain how Mai is able to resist the draining ability of the psychic ghost or

how she can communicate with it.

Since then, Mai has been in custody of the SPEAR. The Gurkha, caring for her, has helped her to cope with her grief and handle the strange symbiosis with her "inner monster".

Kind and loving hearted before the death of her sister, she is now distant and seldom shows any emotion at all. Only the commander is able to put her at ease and have her open up.

On top of this, her psychic teammates feel wary and uneasy whenever she's nearby. For ESPers and telepaths, the irrational feeling is more intense, more like a primal angst and fear.

Despite all these difficulties, Mai has found a new home within the SPEAR and is slowly recovering from her trauma. She has even started to train to become an operative, but Director Tanaka is more than hesitant to let her go out into the field.

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

Compared to other units, the South Asian Unit requests generally less equipment and support from the Tactical Division, by the will of commander Advay. The Gurkha is actually reluctant to be too dependent on other units or divisions and is pushing for his unit to be self-sufficient as much as possible.

Under his cover as the head of security for a humanitarian organization, Gurkha has formed ties with several local authorities and some companies. Some of them lease mundane equipment to the Cromstone Foundation for their humanitarian operations giving the unit indirect access to more resources than normally available (albeit the unit seldom uses this equipment in mission as it could possibly be tracked back to the Foundation).

The Gurkha is well aware of the logistics problems in a continent with a lot of remote areas, countless infrastructure issues and weather conditions. He

knows that moving equipment and staff across the continent too often, can lead to delays, efficiency problems and security breaches.

He then decided to set up his own infrastructure to deal with the problem. The unit has arranged several gear caches in various countries so that they have access to ready-to-use equipment close to their operations quickly. These caches are usually hidden in small facilities owned by one of the SPEAR proxy companies, and also double as secondary command centers for specific operations. Some of these caches are in Mumbai (India), Bangkok (Thailand), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and in the area of Kabul (Afghanistan)

OPERATIONS

The Olympians and the Directorate are very active in this part of the world. They heavily invested (in terms of resources and staff) in this part of the world during the second half of the twentieth century to take advantage of the emerging countries and their resources. So the unit interferes a lot with their operations, mostly trafficking illegal technologies or hazardous material.

But the other main enemies in this part of the world are the Triads, particularly the White Lotus Society. Based in Hong Kong, the White Lotus has extended its activities across South Asia. While seemingly inferior in power to the other players in the Secret War, this organisation has been surprisingly resilient.

The strongest point of the White Lotus is its ability to form alliances with more powerful players, take advantage of their unsuspecting allies and leave them when they are no longer needed.

As a result, the situation in this part of the world is highly unstable and local outbreaks of violence between players of the Secret War are not uncommon. Sometimes with civilian casualties.

The SPEAR is increasingly concerned by the situation. The unit has started to move and stabilize the situation by directing operations against the White Lotus, with the help of the East Asia and Pacific Unit. This situation has put The Gurkha and his unit on the top of the White Lotus Society's blacklist



WESTERN EUROPE UNIT

OVERVIEW

This unit is mainly versed in espionage and intelligence gathering as well as counter-intelligence. However, although not a combat-oriented unit, its operatives are no less able to defend themselves. Contrary to what its name implies, the Western Europe Unit also operates in Southern Europe and North Africa due to its location.

GM notes: Operatives from this unit can swap Shooting for Persuasion during character creation as their core skills. This unit is also the one that hires the most non-psychoic operatives.

NON-PSYCHICS

If some of your players want to play a normal human with no psychic abilities, give their operative an additional Free Edge (that means a normal human starts with 2 free Edges), and 5 more Equipment Points per rank to compensate for the lack of super powers.

BASE OF OPERATIONS

The headquarters of this unit are located inside two towers in the “Cuatro Torres” Business area in Madrid, Spain.

The first office is located in the Torre de Cristal (crystal tower), using the offices of Quantum Technologies Ltd. The second is located in the neighbouring Torre PwC in the offices of Fianna International.

COMMANDER

The current head of the West Europe Unit (and newest commander in the SPEAR) is Eva Archer, a former MI6 intelligence officer. Despite not having any psychic abilities, Eva was recruited by the SPEAR's Intelligence Division due to her excellent track record and skills. A few years ago, Eva was charged to infiltrate ARES to gain crucial information about Project TITAN and the Olympians. She managed to get close to Richard Desmond and stole some of ARES most precious secrets. This led the SPEAR to destroy one of ARES secret laboratories in Kinshasa—with the help of a rogue neo-therianthrope named Letho.

Convinced that she was an invaluable asset, Director Tanaka herself eventually promoted Eva as the Western Europe Unit's new commander. Her first action was to reorganize the unit as an espionage and counter-intelligence team, as she felt it was the Tactical Division's weakest point. Since then, the unit has achieved several successes in a short amount of time thanks to her skills and strong leadership.

Her ruthlessness (and some say “paranoia”) is however notorious within the organization. Because of this, several unit commanders already resent her inquisitive (and manipulative) ways to protect the SPEAR. She has yet to learn to compose with her older and more experienced counterparts. She has tense relations with Wong Chen and Freeman as she suspects they are both hiding something, while she despises Terekhov for his lack of subtlety. In turn, all three are convinced she was placed to spy on them on behalf of the Intelligence Division.

She is not well liked by her subordinates, but most of them respect her for her ingenuity and her commitment. She thinks quick and she is known to find clever and unexpected ways to complete a task. However, she has little regard for ethics and believes the means justify the ends.

MEMBERS

Commander Archer doesn't possess the psychic abilities of most of her subordinates and she knows it. She strongly respects her operatives for their abilities and in turn, they can trust and rely on her keen mind and quick thinking, despite her personality.

As a former MI6 officer, Eva is also aware that armed operations are not always the answer, and even when they are, they require preparation, intelligence gathering and discretion. Given the nature of their cover as corporate executives, Eva tends to use social and corporate events to gather information or even operate undercover and with subtlety whenever possible, without relying on brute force.

The unit's operatives work more often in tailored suits and tuxedo than in combat gear. A successful approach, as quite often, their targets only realize they have been hit long after the team actually left. Eva's motto is "we were never here".

The operatives are not less trained than in the other teams, they are just trained differently. Most of them also possess investigation, social or corporate skills. They know how to track funds as well as enemy operatives or lockpick a state of the art electronic lock.

NOTABLE OPERATIVE

Despite the rather passive nature of his abilities, the young Ulf "Master Control" Lindqvist is probably the most precious asset of the unit. Able to manipulate electricity, his powers allow him mostly to perceive and interact with the electromagnetic spectrum. He can communicate through radio waves (among other things). He can perceive waves, emit and decipher them with his mind. He learned to process the received information with his brain alone up to the point he can actually access the internet through Wifi networks directly with his mind or tamper with electronic devices by redirecting electric currents.

Thanks to his "technopathic" (as some call them) abilities, Ulf has become the main advantage of the Western Europe unit whenever it comes to infiltration and intelligence gathering, as he can directly manipulate locks and security systems, pick

information from local wi-fi networks or the internet and scramble communications. He is however, not yet able to decipher information directly from hard drives and non-emitting devices or to store large amounts of information in his own brain, and he is still learning electronic engineering.

Out of mission, the continuous noise of radio waves in large cities forces him to take Ethemrol (a drug that suppress psychic abilities) to relax or to retreat in his family's country house in Northern Sweden where he can rest (and "listen" to the cosmic rays of polar auroras).

RESOURCES & LOGISTICS

Considering the nature of most of the unit's missions, the operatives have little use for assault gear and heavy weapons. They are more likely to use concealable weapons or small arms in general for their personal security or to eliminate a target. The unit has completed assault missions in the past, but it is now more the exception than the rule.

The operatives however make great use of hidden weapons and gadgets, reinforced suits and other "spy tech". Quite often, they request specific high-tech items from the Research Division or the staff of Quantum Ltd. The unit is also an avid consumer of specific softwares and hardwares like tailored computer viruses and other hacking gear to extract data.

Finally, despite her ruthlessness, Archer is not a supporter of killing opponents as she thinks it attracts too much attention. She usually favors non-lethal options unless she has a specific interest to see someone eliminated.

For logistics, as expected, the team relies on standardized armored cars and private jets as Eva prefers her operatives to stay as discreet as possible. She doesn't like to use specific vehicles and prefers to camouflage everything as mundane cars, trucks or aircraft.

OPERATIONS

The Western Europe Unit is in a unique position and deals with almost every other faction, including the Order of the Holy Mystery, who all have interests in this area.

As mentioned above, most of the missions involve investigation, infiltration, intelligence gathering and even heists. Often, the unit's role is to gather information and to steal data, while Eva prefers to let the other units do the "dirty" work. In some cases, the operatives can also infiltrate their targets for weeks or even months. This brings the operatives to infrequently interact with the other teams of the unit.

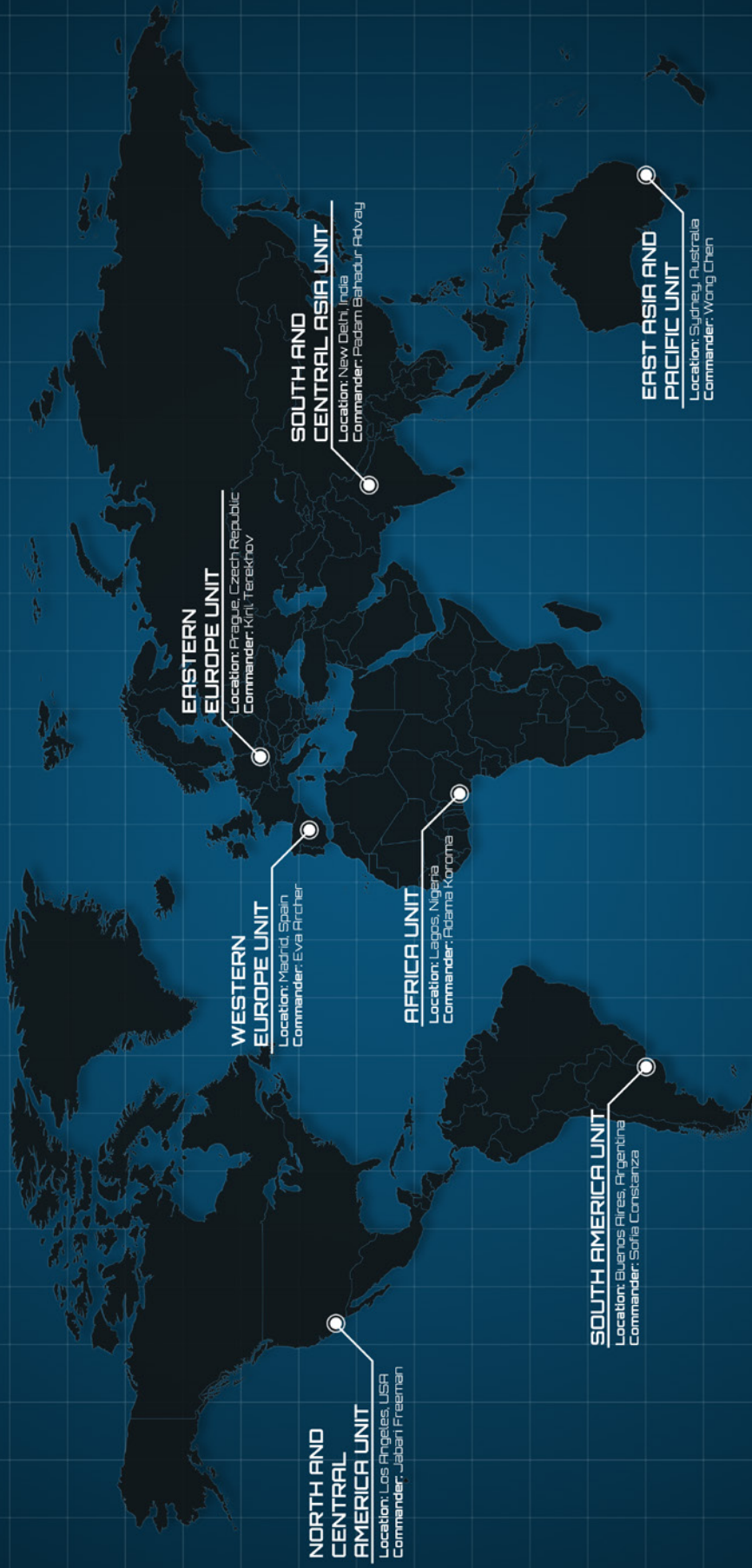
Each team of operatives is more or less independent and the teams rarely communicate with each other, unlike in other units. Besides, Eva likes to work on a "need to know" basis and prefers to control the information that flows within the unit. She does care about the team spirit but she discourages any fraternization.

The unit is involved in internal investigations, as part of a joint operation with the Intelligence Division, to root out double agents and moles from other organisations. This of course has the effect of making the other units paranoid whenever they interact with the Western Europe unit.



SPEARNET MENU

SPEAR UNITS



LEVEL 6

CLEARANCE AUTHORIZATION

LOGIN: FAIASUTOMU

PASSWORD: *****