

An Encounter of the Worst Kind

Kal Solar quickly switched over to full manual control as he approached the moon's surface. If Alpha II's Central Computer was genuinely hostile he did not want to alert it by allowing his flight computer to start transmitting approach data.

As he swung down to skim the surface of the satellite he switched on top and rear monitors and set the ether-net receiver to scan all frequencies. As he expected all he picked up was the quiet crackle of static generated by the ever-changing energies present in space. The monitors however showed a scene of devastating beauty. The distant twin suns, GX278 and GX279, were setting behind the overwhelming mass of the nearby planet. As the suns' rays glanced off the ice it threw off a scintillating rainbow of colours arcing high above its surface.

But Kal was in no mood to appreciate its beauty. His mind was preoccupied with the task ahead of him; a task that could well cost him his life. Ahead of him now he could see the rim of one of the landing pads. Fortunately it was open, which would mean a safe landing but he had no idea whether he would be able to get inside.

His fears soon proved to be unfounded. Someone had obviously had the good sense to disconnect as many systems as possible from the central computer. As he suited up, Kal briefly pondered on the possibility that someone had survived, but dismissed the thought immediately. The chances of his finding any survivors were minimal.

Kal could not know for certain what the atmosphere in the station would be like now, but he suspected that it would be largely unbreathable. With a hiss

the outer airlock door opened and he stepped out onto the surface of the landing bay. With three bounds he had reached a nearby terminal. Without hesitation he punched the access code on the keypad. There was a short delay and then the terminal's monitor flickered to life.

Kal had not expected things to be this easy. Before him was a detailed plan of the whole complex, and the sensors were still working, allowing him to clearly see the location of the eggs.

Once he had gathered all the information he needed, Kal logged off and moved away from the terminal towards the lift that would take him down into the heart of the complex. He hoped that the lift mechanisms had also been disconnected from the malfunctioning computer. Once more he was fortunate; a heavy nudge on the control panel was all it took for the lift door to slide open releasing a blast of stale air as it did so.

Once inside, Kal engaged his helmet's Head Up Display and selected Navigation aids. It would not do to get lost in this sprawling construction. His displays indicated that the air here was breathable so he removed the helmet. The nauseous stench that hit him almost caused him to vomit immediately, but he choked back the bile. The smell was unmistakably that of decomposing flesh; an ominous indication of what he was likely to find within the complex.

As he touched the lift panel to descend, Kal also noticed a faint acidic taste in the air. It was a strange taste that he couldn't recall ever experiencing before. Perhaps it was just the staleness of the air that caused

it, but he had an uneasy feeling that it might be sourced from elsewhere. As the lift doors slid open he replaced his helmet and stepped out into the dull glow of the station's emergency lights.

The corridor stretched away from him into the distance, silent and empty. A few metres away a lead radiation shield had dropped across an access, and the radiation warning symbol was glowing brightly on the indicator panel. So, it looked as if he was going to have to cope with radiation leakage as well as hostile lifeforms.

Kal had not gone far down the corridor when he caught a glimpse of a ventilation hatch out of the corner of his eye. Of course, that would be an ideal way to move through the complex. The ventilation shafts ran everywhere, and many bypassed potentially tricky access hatches. Crouching he removed the grate and squeezed inside the narrow tunnel. He was at a termination point here, so there was only one way he could go.

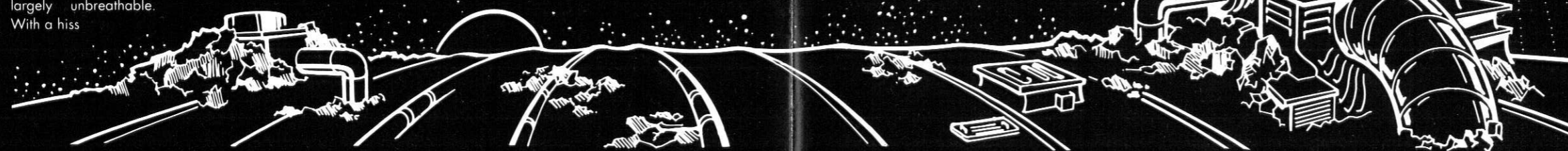
After he had travelled some distance another tunnel branched off to the left. Looking down it he saw that it ended, after a short distance, at another grate. Beyond that he could see a room hazed over with a bluish mist. Intrigued, Kal decided to investigate.

With some effort the grate became loose and dropped with a clang to the floor below, and was swiftly followed by Kal himself. The mist was thick enough to prevent him from seeing for more than a metre or so ahead of him, and it swirled violently each time he moved. He began to feel very very uneasy about this place. Undeterred he stepped forward, but stopped again almost immediately. He was sure he

had heard a small creaking noise to one side of him. Yes! There it was again: a very low, but definite creaking coming from floor level.

He turned towards the sound but the mist was hiding whatever was making the noise. Reluctantly he took another step forward and his foot caught in something causing him to fall violently to the floor. The fall knocked the wind out of him and left him dazed. As his blurred vision cleared he saw the pulsating mass before him. Its semi-translucent surface glistened, reflecting the luminous mist, and within he could see a dark shape slowly shifting in a thick jelly. There was another creak and in horror Kal watched transfixed as the hard petal like flaps at the top of the egg peeled open a little more revealing the shiny black tip of an inhuman skull.

In shock Kal slid away from the growing abomination, instinctively moving to free his trapped foot. Without taking his eyes from the horror before him he felt blindly for the object he had tripped over. Grappling in the mist his hand closed on another which instantly came away with a sharp crack from the rotting corpse it had been a part of...



LOADING INSTRUCTIONS

First: always switch off your machine for at least 30 seconds before loading the game. Failure to do this may result in virus contamination of the INFESTATION master disk. See the virus warning below and the warranty notice on page 13 for further information.

■ ATARI ST VERSION

Insert the INFESTATION disk into Drive A. Then switch on the monitor/television followed by your computer.

The game is played with a joystick plugged into the second joystick port.

■ AMIGA VERSION

Switch on the computer. If the display prompts for a Kickstart disk, insert one into the internal drive. When the display prompts for a Workbench disk, insert the INFESTATION disk into the internal drive.

The game is played with a joystick plugged into the second joystick port.

LOADING TIPS

If the title screen has not appeared within 45 seconds then there may be a problem with your computer system. Check that the computer is connected up properly and that the above sequence of instructions has been followed correctly. If you are sure that the computer is functioning (i.e. other software is working correctly) and are still unable to load INFESTATION then you may have a faulty disk, in which case you can obtain a free replacement from Psygnosis. All Psygnosis products are fully guaranteed — see page 13 for details.

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To avoid virus infection, always ensure that your machine is switched off for at least 30 seconds before trying to load this game... Please see the inside back cover for more information regarding viruses and your warranty.

LIFTS

You can move between levels using the lifts. These can be identified by the double sliding door embellished with a diamond shape. Pressing F1 will open or close the nearest lift door. Once inside the lift, and with the doors fully closed, press CURSOR UP to take the lift up a level and CURSOR DOWN to take it down.

SHUTTLES

You will also come across shuttles. These provide fast transport in straight lines between two locations on one level. The shuttle doors can be made to open and close by pressing F1.

VENTILATION TUNNELS

As well as exploring rooms and corridors you can also move around the complex by using the ventilation tunnels. The accesses to these are covered by grates. Pressing F1 will remove the nearest grate. You will have to crouch in order to move through the tunnels. Press F10 to Crouch, and once again to Stand.

RADIATION AREAS

Some areas have become irradiated. In some cases these have been automatically sealed off with lead doors, and indicated by a radiation warning symbol. Prolonged exposure to radiation will prove fatal. When your visor is sealed your life expectancy is longer.

NETWORK TERMINALS

Scattered throughout the complex are special Network Terminals which can be accessed to show the layout of the complex, and the location of eggs and hostile systems. To access a terminal, move in front of it and press F2 to log on — provided you have the relevant entry key. Once you have logged on use joystick to scroll around the map. Press F2 to log off.

BLAST DOORS

These are special air-tight doors which can be permanently sealed. Pressing F1 will lock the nearest Blast Door. Be sure that you want to do this however. Once secured a Blast Door can not be reopened.

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ATMOSPHERIC ANALYSIS : Key N6: Displays radiation level and atmosphere status.

AVIONICS : Key N7: Displays all your vital flight dynamics for MMU

SIGHTS : This is the default display when in tactical mode. When the grid is displayed within the sights you are in tactical mode. Sights are used for aiming your pulse rifle. They can be reselected by pressing the key for the HUD currently displayed.

THE SUIT

The suit maintains your body temperature and supplies you with food and water in an intravenous form. The suit also houses your oxygen and battery in a backpack.

WEAPONRY

You carry a high power pulse rifle. This is attached to your back-pack and draws its power from the battery. Use sparingly.

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Scattered throughout the complex are various items of equipment left by the scientists which you can make use of:

COMPASS — When found this can be attached inside your helmet and aids navigation.

INFRA-RED SCANNER — This will highlight items that are not normally visible to the naked eye, such as laser alarm systems. When this is attached the entire display is shown in red.

VARIOUS KEYS — there are a number of keys which provide access to various lifts, shuttles, and rooms. You will have to experiment to discover which fits what.

EXTRA OXYGEN — This is in the form of crystals which your suit can process into oxygen. They are very scarce.

There are many other pieces of equipment waiting to be discovered in the game.

HOSTILE FORCES

You will have to contend with a number of hostile forces within the complex. These include:

ALIEN EGGS — These go through several stages of growth, increasing rapidly in size. They are normally harmless but will release a deadly nerve gas just before they hatch.

INFESTATION

QUICK KEY GUIDE

The following controls are for the ST and the Amiga.

GENERAL CONTROLS

- F1 Open/close door of any kind (if locked a key will be needed). The door immediately in front of you has priority; if there is no door in front then the door behind gets second priority.
- F2 Use item, eg, log on to computer, throw switch, etc.
- F3 Lift/lower helmet's visor. Default is helmet lowered.
- F4 Infra-red on/off. Default is off (if fitted).
- F5 Reconnaissance/tactical. Default is tactical.
- F6 Recentre view.
- F7 Drop gas cartridge.
- F8 Suit and helmet power on/off. Default is on.
- F9 Fast turn on/off. Default is off.
- F10 Crouch/stand. Default is stand.

HEAD-UP DISPLAY COMMANDS

- All HUDs default to off.
- N1 Navigation HUD on/off.
- N2 Status HUD on/off.
- N3 Inventory HUD on/off.
- N4 Life support HUD on/off.
- N5 Scratch pad on/off.
- N6 Atmosphere analysis on/off.
- N7 Avionics on/off.

WHILE ON THE MAP TERMINAL

The joystick's North, South, East and West control your movement over the layout. If the fire button is held in the North and South then control zooms in or out respectively.

MANNED MANOEUVRING UNIT (MMU)

N.B. Can only be used on the surface of the moon
CURSOR UP Take off.
CURSOR DOWN Land.
All other movements by joystick. Use firebutton for extra thrust

WHILE IN THE LIFT

- CURSOR UP Raise lift.
- CURSOR DOWN Lower lift.

MOVEMENT CONTROLS

The joystick's North, South, East and West control your forward, backward, turn left and right respectively. If the fire button is held in tactical mode, then the shoulder-mounted laser will be fired. Otherwise they control raise, lower, tilt left and tilt right.

OTHER KEYS

- HELP Pause/resume game
- ESC Quit game (only while paused).
- TAB Sound on/off

WARRANTY LIMITATIONS

The disk(s) included with this product are guaranteed to be in correct working order and free from all manifestations of the 'VIRUS'. It is the purchasers responsibility to prevent infection of this product with a 'VIRUS' which will always cause the product to cease working. Psygnosis Ltd will replace free of charge any disks which have manufacturing or duplication defects. These disks should be returned directly to Psygnosis for immediate replacement.

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This booklet conceived and produced by **Partners In Publishing.**