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Times, November 19, 1978

Amazon Expedition Ends In Death

Scientists and Support Crew Perish in Failed Archaeological Trek

Cajun, Louisiana, UPI:

Eleven members of an archaelogical expedition sponsored by the University of Tropicale in Cajun, Louisiana, have died in their attempt to reach the Lost City of Chak in the South American Amazon jungle. A twelfth member has survived with multiple critical injuries. The expedition was in its fourth month of a quest designed to take a full year to complete.

The US scientific team was headed by Dr. Nobel Savage, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Tropicale. His hand-picked team of five scientists and six support crew members was making its third attempt to reach the Lost City of Chak. The surviving team member, Dr. Basil Hykem, also with the University's Department of Anthropology, is in the care of the Caracas General Hospital. Word on his condition has not been received, and an interview has not been permitted.

Last words from the expeditionary force were received in a radio transmission last Tuesday from Dr. Hykem to the Archaeological Center at the University. The transmission, however, was garbled and incomplete. Apparently, Dr. Hykem had witnessed the tragedy that beset the expedition, and is believed to have been assaulted during the transmission.

A radio transmission earlier in the week, from Savage to his wife, Dr. Felicity Savage-Jones, spoke of progress and elation on the part of the team.

"He said there was light at the end of the tunnel," reported Dr. Savage-Jones, "meaning they had apparently reached the first signs of the Lost City, and were about to entrench for the long haul."

The Lost City of Chak has yet to be reached and photographed by a modern expeditionary force. Legend holds that the ancient emerald mines near the city hold a rare form of emerald needed for the development of top secret materials for national defense. The Lost City has been the object of numerous attempts to brave the intense Amazon climate.

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NSRT

National
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Washington, D.C.

Fr: R. B. Murphy, Director, NSRT
To: AMAZON Expedition Field Agent

MISSION PROTOCOL AND ADDRESS

Technical Note: When you see a flashing cursor, it is time to tell the computer what to do. If the cursor isn't flashing, press RETURN; there is more for you to read. And, if you don't see a cursor, just wait; something will happen momentarily.

I. General Communiques

When communicating with AMAZON, it is important to remember that AMAZON can use more words when informing you than you can use when instructing it. Consult the following word list to see what words AMAZON understands.

AMAZON responds to succinct, precise commands. A verb (**FEED, SEARCH, TAKE**) should always start the command; and a noun, whether a person, a place, or a thing (**PACO, OFFICE, BOOK**), should follow the verb.

FEED PACO
SEARCH OFFICE
TAKE BOOK

If you like, you may use **THE** before a noun: **TAKE THE BOOK**.

You should separate multiple nouns from each other using a comma or **AND**, such as:

TAKE THE BOOK AND THE LETTER.
TAKE THE BOOK, THE LETTER, AND THE BOX.
TAKE BOOK, LETTER, AND BOX
TAKE BOOK, LETTER, BOX

It is not necessary to end a command with a period.

You may include several separate actions in one command, but you must separate each action by a comma or the word **THEN**. If you repeat a noun in a string of actions, you may replace the noun with **IT**. For example:

TAKE THE BOOK THEN READ IT
TAKE THE BOOK, OPEN IT, THEN READ IT
SEARCH THE DESK, THE BOX, AND THE BIRDCAGE, THEN CLOSE THE DOOR.

II. Improper Commands

Commands that make no sense to AMAZON, that are impossible under the circumstances, that utilize objects not present at the time, or that use unknown words, will elicit one of several responses. Should you encounter such a response, try a different phrase.

III. Talking to Anyone You Meet

You cannot speak unless you are spoken to first. Converse with others by entering your remark as you would any other command: **HELLO**. (Unnecessary: **"HELLO"** or **SAY HELLO**.)

IV. Giving Directions and Exploring

Commands for moving in any particular direction may be given in several ways. Specify directions as full sentences (**GO NORTH**), as directions (**SOUTH**), or as abbreviations (**S, N, W, E**). **UP** and **DOWN** may be abbreviated **U** and **D**.

When you come to a place you'd like to explore, enter **LOOK** for a description of your surroundings. For further details about any particular item, enter **INSPECT** ⟨item⟩ or **EXAMINE** ⟨item⟩.

V. Taking Inventory and Telling Time

It would be wise to check your belongings from time to time, especially when you feel you might have lost—or might soon lose—some of them. You also ought to inspect any new acquisition. Enter **INVENTORY** for a complete listing of your possessions, and, for a description of any chosen item, enter **INSPECT** ⟨item⟩.

While exploring the Lost City of Chak, you may learn how quickly the day is passing by entering **TIME**.

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Phase IV: Identifying Your Expertise

You will be asked to identify your level of expertise. Please use one of these three classifications:

Novice: A capable, trained field agent. (One of our Novices spent three months in the Yukon searching for signs of an allegedly extinct species of bear reported on the rampage. A small plane ferrying him into the region crash-landed and burned, leaving him with down garments, a magnifying glass, a Peregrine falcon, and a hunting knife. He survived, and the bear is now in captivity.)

Seasoned Explorer: An exceptionally qualified explorer. (A Seasoned Explorer parachuted into the southeasternmost portion of the Devil's Triangle, searching for a documented but unseen island at approximately 60°W, 25°N, near the Tropic of Cancer. After days in a rubber raft, he sighted the island, landed, and discovered a cache of moon rocks presumably lost by the Soviets.)

Expedition Leader: The pinnacle of expertise, with proven mental, diplomatic, and physical prowess. (Upon conquering Everest for the second time in 1973, our most infamous Expedition Leader descended into the country of Sikkim, made her way into the inner circles of the monarchy in Gangtok, and was retained to investigate alleged drug rings sponsored by foreign governments. She left in 1975 when the country was absorbed by India.)

Phase V: Emergency Procedures

A. Laser Defense Mechanism (LDM)

Our reports from the earlier Amazon expedition confirm that a warrior tribe, the Huni, feared throughout the region and known for unspeakable atrocities to their victims, zealously guards the Lost City of Chak and its surrounding terrain. Any intruders are attacked by night. The expedition team reported utilizing to the fullest their camp defense kits, in particular the laser defense mechanism (LDM). Thus I urgently advise that any foray you make into the Lost City be concluded by dusk, so you may execute complete peripheral defenses before nightfall.

Technical Note: The LDM is operated with the arrow keys and the space bar.

B. Terminating the Mission

Should you wish to abort the mission and forfeit international acclaim for service to humanity, turn the computer off. To return to the beginning at any point, turn off the computer and follow procedures for INITIALIZING THE EXPEDITION.

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EXPEDITION INSTRUCTIONS

While you are in the field, contact with NSRT experts will be intermittent at best. Contact with the native peoples and animals of the Amazon is to be expected and, we might add, feared. The following instructions should be utilized consistently. NSRT will have no liability in the event of psychological harm, bodily injury, or death.

INITIALIZING THE EXPEDITION: Technical Instructions

Phase I: Loading AMAZON on the Apple®

Load the program by inserting Side Three into the disk drive. Turn on the computer.

Phase II: Creating a Save Disk

WARNING: YOU MUST CREATE A SAVE DISK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE GAME!

Create a Save Disk for use in periodically storing data about your field position. In the event of a terminal accident, you may use the Save Disk to return to your previous position and resume the mission from there. (See instructions for "Saving," below.)

To create your Save Disk:

1. After you load Side Three of AMAZON and turn on the computer, enter **CREATE**.
2. The computer will read: PLEASE INSERT A BLANK DISK. ENTER DISK DRIVE NUMBER (1 OR 2):
3. **If you have one disk drive:** Remove the game disk and insert a blank disk. Enter **1**. The program will then format the blank disk you have inserted. When the disk drive light goes off, remove your Save Disk and reinsert Side Three. You are now ready to proceed with the mission.

   If you have two disk drives: Insert the blank disk into the second disk drive. Enter **2**. The program will then format the disk. Your Save Disk may be left in the disk drive throughout the game.

Beware: The program will erase any contents of a disk that is being formatted as a Save Disk.

Phase III: Starting and Conducting the Mission

The AMAZON mission is now ready to begin. Consult the instructions on Mission Protocol and Address (attached) for information on how to conduct mission communications. You may also choose from the two special commands described below, which may be used at any time during the mission.

A. Save

For all but the most skilled of Expedition Leaders, the use of a Save Disk is advised. If at any point in the mission you feel your life is in danger, save your field position before proceeding. You will be able to return to that position—and rectify your mistakes—if you are unable to escape death. (See "RESTORE," following.) Without a Save Disk, your only choice would be to start the mission over. The program will save up to ten positions. You may identify each position as you choose.

To save your field position at any point:

1. Enter **SAVE**.
2. The computer will read: PLEASE INSERT YOUR SAVE DISK. ENTER DISK DRIVE NUMBER (1 OR 2):
3. Follow the instructions. Select the number of the next available position, or select a position you used earlier.
4. Name your saved position (up to ten characters).
5. If you have one disk drive, remove your Save Disk and return the game disk to the drive.

B. Restore

At any time you may return to a field position on your Save Disk. This is useful in two instances.

1. **In the event of a fatality**
   a. The computer will ask, DO YOU WISH TO CONTINUE?
   b. Enter **RESTORE**.
   c. The computer will read: PLEASE INSERT YOUR SAVE DISK. ENTER DISK DRIVE NUMBER (1 OR 2):
   d. Follow the instructions. Select a field position from the list, and, if you have one disk drive, insert the game disk as instructed. The game will resume from the position you chose.
2. **If you wish to resume an unfinished mission**
   a. Load AMAZON as usual by inserting Side Three into the disk drive.
   b. Enter **RESTORE**.
   c. The computer will read: PLEASE INSERT YOUR SAVE DISK. ENTER DISK DRIVE NUMBER (1 OR 2):
   d. Follow the instructions. Select a field position from the list, and, if you have one disk drive, insert the game disk as instructed. The program will bring you to the position you chose.

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NSRT FIELD PARTY REGULATIONS

NSRT FIELD EQUIPMENT PACKS

All Field Parties are equipped with everything they will need for field work. It is the responsibility of the Field Parties to thoroughly inventory and examine their equipment!

USE OF THE NSRT FIELD COMPUTER

All Field Parties are provided with a portable computer for use in communicating with NSRT Base.

After turning on the computer, an Input Code will be required to open transmission.

Each Field party will be informed of their Standard Input Code, and their Emergency Input Code. Standard Codes can be used at any time favorable for satellite transmission. Emergency Codes should be used only during emergencies.

Field Parties should make a note of their respective codes.

NSRT CODED FIELD MAP COORDINATES

All NSRT Field Maps are security coded for transmitting data coordinates to field operatives by satellite.

Rules for Coordinate Transmission via computer are as follows:

1. X Coordinate is always two letters (i.e., TB) and Y Coordinate is always a letter and a number (i.e., T5).
2. X Coordinate is always transmitted first.
3. Field operatives should always make a note of their location.
4. In situations where field operatives may be experiencing trouble determining their location, NSRT will transmit map coordinates at a rapid rate to assist the operatives. Remember: NSRT can locate your position anywhere on the surface of the earth within 2 meters.

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STRATEGIC NOTES

We don't expect you to be mystified or unnerved by the complex, highly dangerous situations you will encounter while on this mission. However, NSRT recognizes that even the most expert field agent may encounter obstacles while resistance is low, or in a tight spot might forget the resources available. The following strategic notes have been designed as prompts, reminders, or, if you will, a "bag of tricks" for those rare moments when you feel most human.

One general hint: If you form an association with Paco the Parrot, ask his help by entering **PACO**. In many situations, Paco can assist enormously.

At the airport:

At the jail:

At the Institute:

In the office:

Getting down the cliff:

At the gorge:

Deep in the jungle:

Outside troops' tent:

Later that same night:

Kemani:

Tunnel:

Weather turns cold:

Boat repairs:

At the river:

Alligator:

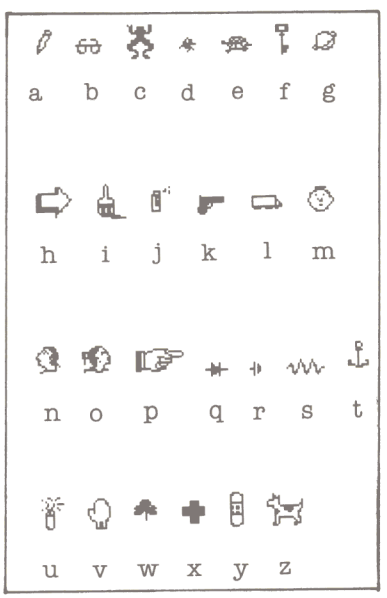
Crossing the river:

At bridge:

Fighting Hunis:

At the statue:

Escaping end of passage:



WORDLIST

NOTE: Frequently used commands are listed in **boldface.**

VERBS

Ask
Attack
Avoid
Begin
Bribe
Buy
Call
Climb
Close
Come
Count
Create
Cross
Drop
Eat
Enter
Examine
Exit
Feed
Find
Fire
Fix
Fly
Freeze
Get
Give
Go
Help
Hit
Hop
Hurt
Inflate
Insert
Inspect
Inventory
Jump
Kill
Kiss
Leave
Lift
Look
Need
Offer
Open
Pay
Press
Pry
Pull
Purchase
Push
Read
Remove
Repair
Rest
Restart
Restore
Run
Save
Search
Seek
Shoot
Show
Shut
Sit
Sleep
Smell
Sniff
Speak
Start
Stop
Take
Talk
Touch
Use
Wait
Want
Wear

NOUNS

Air
Airplane
Amazon
Anaconda
Antenna
Arch
Backpack
Beginner
Belt
Birdcage
Boat
Bones
Book
Booth
Box
Bribe
Cage
Camp
Carton
Cash
Cave
Center
Chopper
Cigarettes
Cigs
Codebook
Coin
Coins
Computer
Cop
Courtesy
Cupboard
Customs
Cuzco
Desk
Director
Drape
Drawer
Envelope
Explorer
Flight
Floor
Food
Fridge
Fruit
Goggles
Gold
Ground
Gun
Helicopter
Hole
Hotel
Houston
Institute
Jacket
Jet
Kemani
Lamp
Laser
Leader
Letter
Lever
London
Los Angeles
Man
Medicine
Merchant
Mgubu
Miami
Mines
Money
Nairobi
Note
Notebook
Novice
Officer
Pack
Paco
Paper
Parka
Parrot
Peru
Pit
Pits
Plane
Police
Printer
Raft
Rations
Refrigerator
Rifle
Rio
River
Rock
Rocks
Rope
Scrap
Shelves
Shovel
Skeleton
Slabs
Smell
Smile
Snake
Start
Statue
Stone
Stones
Tent
Tents
Throne
Ticket
Time
Tokyo
Tree
Trees
Trip
Tube
Vines
Wall
Walls
Water

DIRECTIONS

Away
Below
Down, D
East, E
In
Inside
North, N
Out
South, S
Up, U
West, W

MISCELLANEOUS

Friendly
Hello, Hi
It
No
Nothing
Okay
Off
On
Quiet
Restart
Still
Then
Trip
Yes

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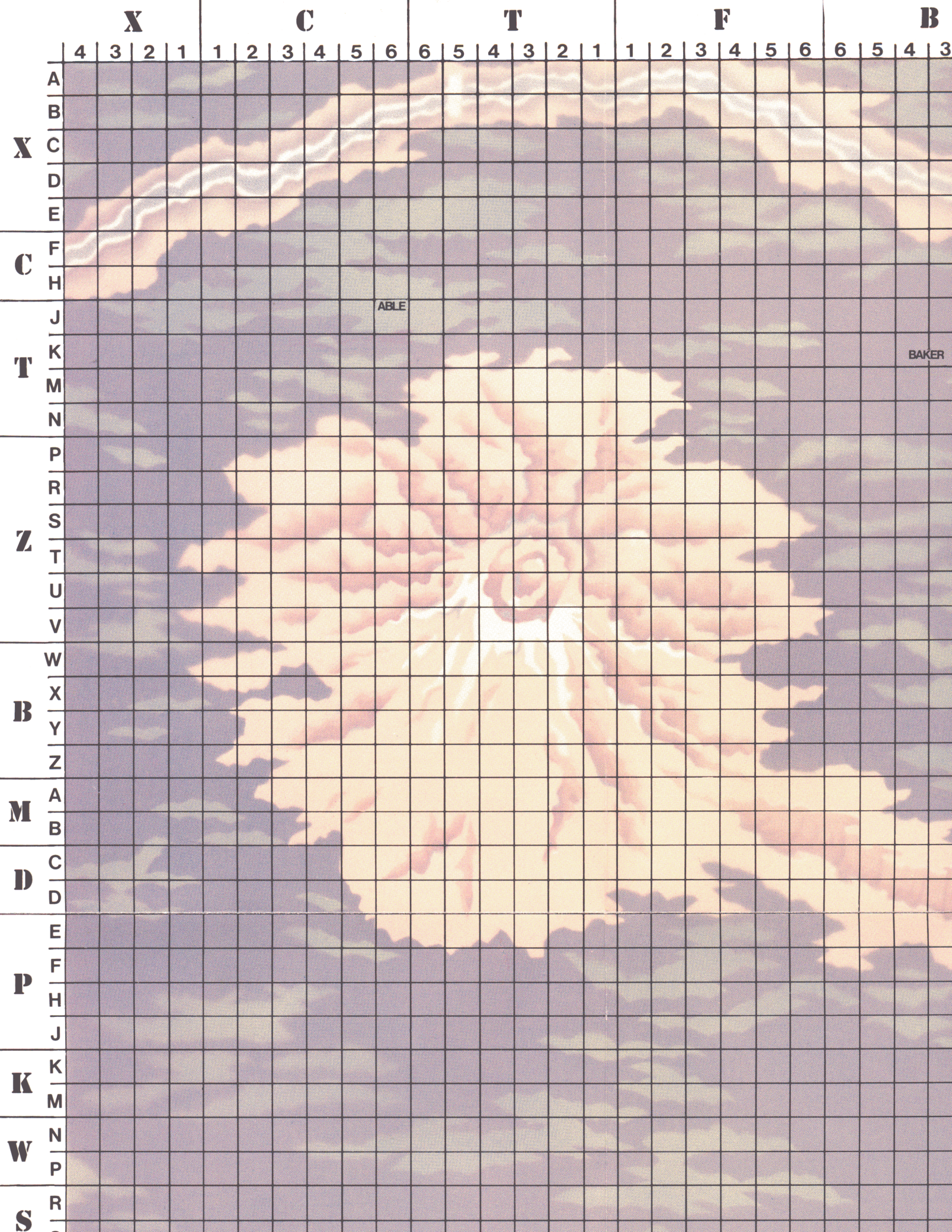
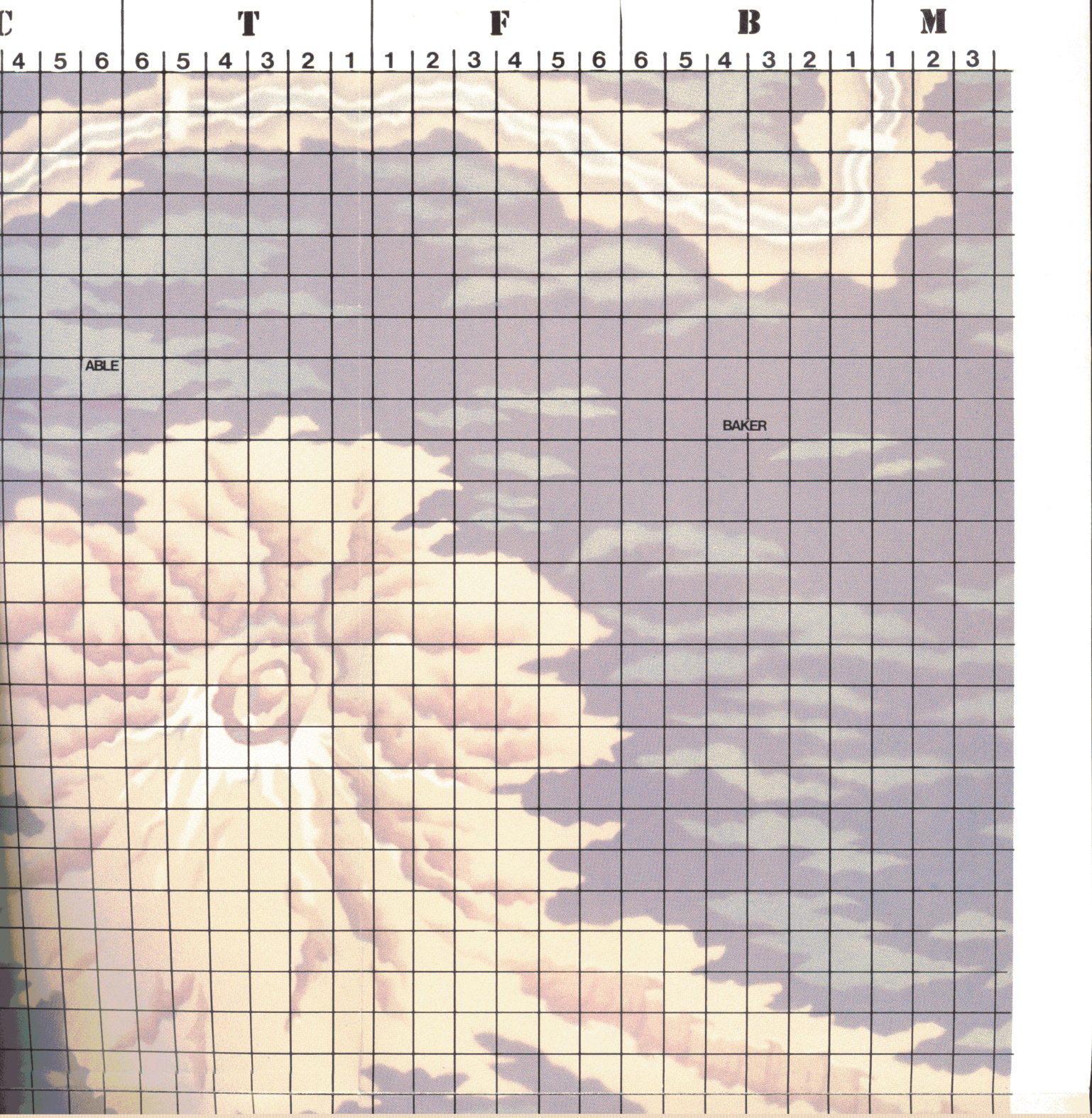
Recent breaches in security require that NSRT encode all map coordinates. Use the following table to transfer coordinates from map to computer and vice versa. Destroy if captured.

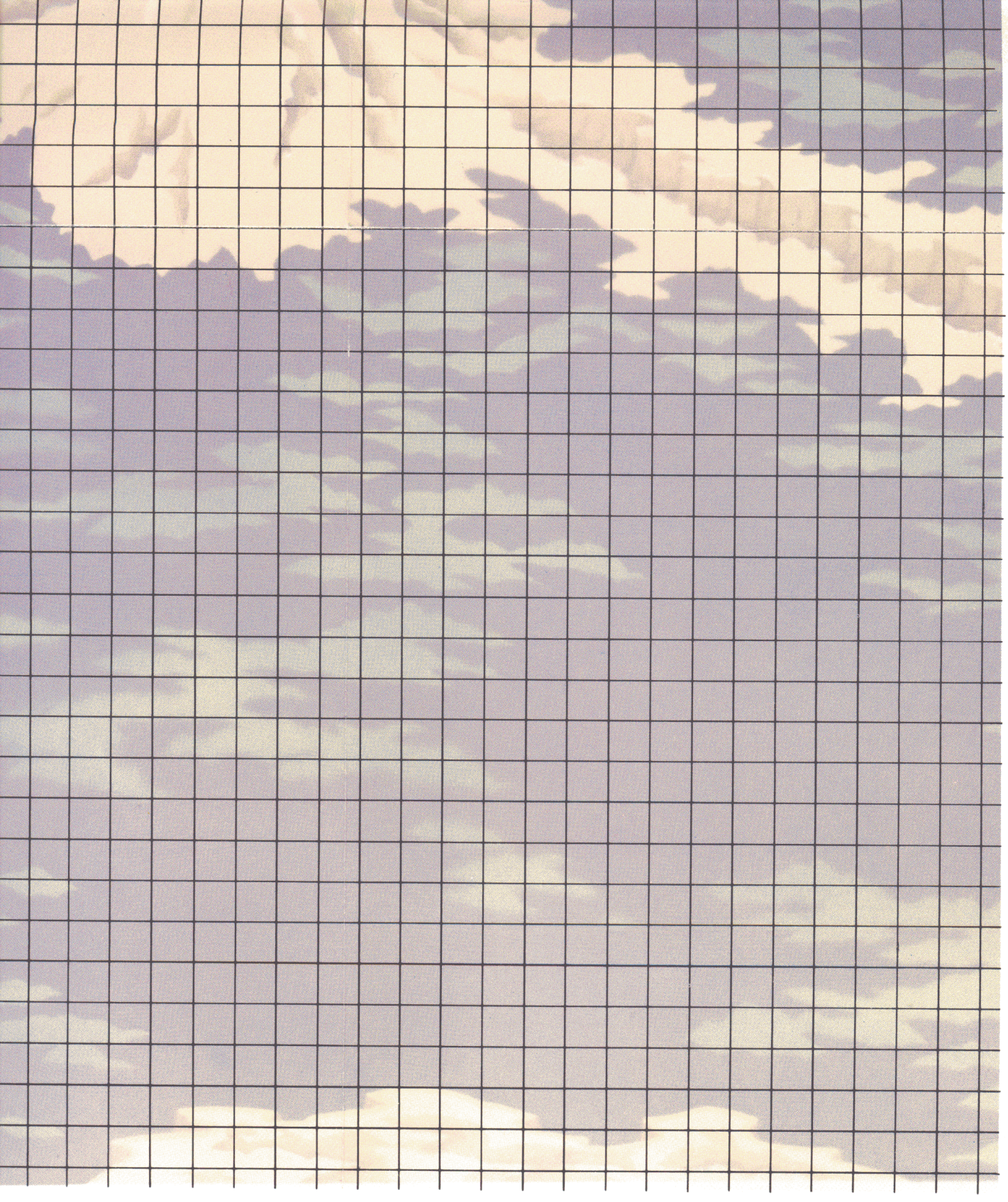
MAP	COMPUTER
XA	TK
XB	TM
XC	TN
XD	TN
XE	ZP
CF	ZR
CH	ZS
TJ	ZS
TK	ZT
TM	ZU
TN	ZV
ZP	BW
ZR	BX
ZS	BY
ZT	BY
ZU	BZ
ZV	MA
BW	MB
BX	DC
BY	DC
BZ	DD
MA	PE
MB	PF
DC	PH

MAP	COMPUTER
DD	PJ
PE	KK
PF	KM
PH	KM
PJ	WN
KK	WP
KM	SR
WN	SS
WP	AT
SR	AU
SS	EV
AT	EW
AU	VX
EV	VY
EW	VZ
VX	VA
VY	VB
VZ	VC
VA	RD
VB	RD
VC	RE
RD	RE
RE	RF
RF	RF

MAP	COMPUTER
X4	X4
X3	X3
X2	X2
X1	X1
C1	C1
C2	C2
C3	C2
C4	C3
C5	C4
C6	C5
T6	C6
T5	C6
T4	T6
T3	T5
T2	T4
T1	T4
F1	T3
F2	T2
F3	T2
F4	T1
F5	F1
F6	F2
B6	F3
B5	F3
B4	F4
B3	F5
B2	F6
B1	B6
M1	B5
M2	B4
M3	B3


X
C
T
F
B
4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 6 5 4 3
X
A
B
C
D
E
C
F
H
T
J
K
M
N
Z
P
R
S
T
U
V
B
W
X
Y
Z
M
A
B
D
C
D
P
E
F
H
J
K
K
M
W
N
P
S
R
ABLE
BAKER


C
T
F
B
M
4 5 6 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3
ABLE
BAKER



D MAP

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