

SHADOWRUN



SHOCK WAVES



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PROTEUS UNRAVELED

GENESIS – BIRTH OF AN ECONOMIC PARASITE

HISTORY (2005-2039)

Goldammer's Dream

At first was the idea that the world should be improved for mankind, so that Man could reach new horizons. Industrial bigwig and biotechnologist Frederick Goldammer founded the Prometheus Foundation in 2005 with his own considerable resources. In the following decades, the foundation supported numerous research projects and labs, whose long-term goal was the opening of new spaces of life, to improve Man through technology as well as promote alternate ways of life and social structures. On the public side, the Prometheus Foundation was mostly known for the financial aid it provided in the wake of the huge national catastrophes that were the Cattenom meltdown in 2008 and the floods of 2011.

The Foundation worked mostly with people from multiple disciplines and brought top-notch scientists together, whose work benefited greatly from this melting pot. Goldammer's vision was fed by idealism, and the belief that Man had the ability to grow responsible for himself and his environment, instead of giving them up both to economic profit. He was conscious though that Man was imperfect by nature. He wanted to make sure that the patents and results from Prometheus-supported research remained under the Foundation's control, so that it could prevent their misuse. Over the years, Goldammer had been careful to recruit and work with people he thought were trustful and shared his dreams. But he couldn't see the snake that had been eating at his table: his granddaughter Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen.



PROTEUS AG TIMELINE

2005: Frederick Goldammer founds the Prometheus-Stiftung (Prometheus Foundation).

2030: An international consortium starts plans for four arcologies in the North Sea.

09.17.2037: Frederick Goldammer dies and his granddaughter Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen takes over the Foundation's leadership. She starts to gather the Foundation's assets and money for herself and to control companies under the Foundation's aegis.

2039: The building of the North Sea arcologies begins. The consortium's financial situation becomes shaky in the following years after a series of manipulations.

03.27.2040: Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen and several private individuals (the "Founders") decide the creation of the Proteus AG, based on the Prometheus Foundation's assets and means. In the following years (2040-2049), the Foundation's money is diverted through the FBA thanks to Nachtmeister. The "Proteus virus" thus contaminates the corps Ruhrmetall, Yamatetsu, Cross Applied Technologies and later IFMU and Fuchi, and agents are placed in important positions.

Early 2048: Led and financed by the Bankenverein (FBA), the Founders buy the ruinous Project Arkoblock at a spot price through shell companies and fronts. The Prometheus Foundation goes bankrupt as it loses its last sources of funding and is dissolved.

01.03.2048: Building of the HQ on Helgoland starts through shell companies.

01.01.2049: Official creation of Proteus AG with its seat on Helgoland. A puppet Board of Directors is installed. The following years are mostly used to consolidate and strengthen the corp. The North Sea arcologies from Project Arkoblock are completed, and more arcologies are built in the North Sea and Japan.

07.06.2051: The Corporate Court and the German Federal Court recognize the extraterritoriality of Proteus (AA status). The corp then focuses on improving its security.

2055: Eastern Dragon Chong-Chao takes over Founder Zhao Xinang's financial empire, thus taking control of one of the directors of the Board. He uses this edge to make things worse in the ongoing conflict between AGC and Proteus, with the ultimate hope of taking control of both corps.

08.14.2055: Proteus troops take part in the resolution of the "anarchist issue" in Berlin (see Deutschland in den Schatten 2, p. 73)

Early 2056: Genera scandal. The firm, totally owned by AG Chemie, is tried for crime against humanity and violation of the international restrictions regarding genetic research ethics. It was conducting research on living human beings with its project Generatio Aequivoca. Proteus managed to hide the research results and to erase the evidence of its participation. The research is taken over by another corp, Genius, Inc. (see German magazine Wunderwelten 49)

05.05.2056: Chong-Chao crisis. Nachtmeister takes part in the AGC/Proteus confrontation on Helgoland and kills Chong-Chao. Afterwards, the conflict between the corps deescalates thanks to efforts on both sides (see German SB Walzer, Punks & Schwarzes ICE and the Deutschland in den Schatten novel trilogy)

01.15.2057: End of the recovery and securing process, completion of the Helgoland seat

March 2057: The French government grants Proteus the right to use the Devil Islands as a space launching pad. As a counterpart Proteus is compelled to send French satellites into space (see Shadows of Europe). Construction starts soon thereafter.

09.01.2057: First launch of a space rocket. Several follow suit at a good pace.

December 2058: Knowing none of the arkoblocks will fulfill the requirements of Dunkelzahn's Will, Proteus presents its arkoblocks to the Draco Foundation as the first autonomous underwater habitat. The media focus on the ocean as they believe that's the direction the corp is giving to its future activities while Proteus uses this to divert the attention from space where it's building its space station Treffpunkt: Raumhafen (see Target: Wastelands).

2059: Proteus troops occupy former Fuchi territory in Berlin. Shiawase sues it in the Corporate Court, but loses (see Deutschland in den Schatten 2).

Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen dies in a yacht accident. Three weeks later a member of the Board of Directors "dies". Infiltration of Kvaener-Maersk begins.

2060: Proteus cuts a deal with Trans-Orbital for supplies and transportation to Treffpunkt: Raumhafen. It is kept secret until the station opens (see Target: Wastelands).

Mid-2060: Death of Sandmann (see Wunderwelten 49 & 50). A team of runners inherits the "Sandmann Data" (dealing with Proteus AG and Project Generatio Aequivoca), which they use as a life insurance in the Frankfurt Shadowland node to keep Proteus at bay (see Frankfurt: Offline below).

May-November 2060: Major offensive against the Berlin neo-anarchists.

2061: Proteus throws itself in the Probe Race to Halley with its probe "Götterbote" (see Year of the Comet & Wake of the Comet).

March 2062: Official opening of Treffpunkt: Raumhafen at LaGrange point L1.

06.21.2062: Lofwyr kills Nachtmeister over Frankfurt.

The North-Sea Arcology Project

Meanwhile, real projects for the North Sea-Arcology kick-started in 2030. Led by a consortium of German, Dutch and Japanese corps, and supported by the German government and the Treuhand (Germany's semi-public economic recovery board), it was supposed to help regain the land lost to the floods by building gigantic autonomous habitats in the poisonous North Sea. At a time plagued by dramatic environmental catastrophes and political changes, they were supposed to provide shelter and security to their inhabitants, shielding them from a hostile environment.

Goldammer was deeply interested in the project and supported it through his numerous economic and political connections. He particularly became good friends with Frankfurter financier Gideon Schreiber (none other than the Great Dragon Nachtmeister, building his financial empire), who seemed to share many of his values.

From the very start, though, it was clear that Project Arkoblock wasn't born under a good star. Several financial restrictions and internal dissents led to the building of the first arcology to begin only in 2038. The project was about to fall into ruin in early 2048 when key members of the consortium started to think again about their billions in investments and the hypothetical returns they could draw from it.

Hubris

When Frederick Goldammer died on September 17th, 2037 at age 94, his dreams died with him. Yasmin, the designated heir to the Prometheus Foundation's leadership, hardly shared in the altruistic and philanthropic ideals of her grandfather that he believed should have guided the foundation's scientific research. She wanted the Foundation's considerable assets for herself and saw herself at the top of a large corp, aspiring to use his ideas to increase her wealth and power. Under the pretext of finally fulfilling her grandfather's dreams she met Gideon Schreiber not long after he died and asked him to turn the Foundation into a corp. Nachtmeister clearly knew that



she only wanted to have a megacorp under her control, but her desires came at just the right time. Moreover, it presented him with the possibility of keeping the threatened Project Arkoblock under his thumb. Together the two of them developed a plan to launder the Foundation's money. From 2038 onward, Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen started to secure small parts of the Foundation's assets for herself. To these ends she used *Van Ronzelen Umwelttechnik-GmbH* (Van Ronzelen Envirotech, VRU or VRE), a firm founded in Hamburg by Nachtmeister.

THE PROTEUS IDEA (2039)

A problem remained: as Project Arkoblock proved, running large-scale projects through a consortium tended to be impossible and inefficient, because of the differing interests of the members. On the other hand, there was still a large and diverse number of fields and specialties (computers, biotech, genetech, envirotech, building, etc.) that were still necessary to perform such projects. Only a large corp could be able to continue operating them for long. Competing with one from scratch in a specific field was impossible for another corp, but for the Prometheus Foundation it was possible since the members had no interest in financial matters. The future Founders joined not for financial reasons, but to take care of the future of Man and his world. Schreiber and Goldammer-Sorensen had a secret discussion in 2039 with potential allies who only had ties through the Prometheus Foundation: They were either funding the Foundation or interested in some of its research projects.

A secret discussion was held on March 27th, 2040 in Hamburg amongst the various candidates regarding the dangers of the Sixth World and how to fight them (Nachtmeister revealed his true nature then); the audience, composed of people of great ambition and foresight who occupied influent positions in various domains, agreed with a single voice that a collective effort should be made to overcome their petty individual interests to effectively oppose those threats. Governments lacked the means and power to handle them, and while megacorps had these means they were forbidden by their economic and financial strictures.

Proteus was born from this conclusion; a parasitic corp feeding on a host (another corp), but leaving it what was necessary to survive. The basic idea was relatively simple. A new corp (the "parasite") took over the management and direction of projects that could then be run secretly by other corps with an interest in the research to the knowledge of a happy few. Some of the research was returned to its original corp while the rest was kept by the parasite.

A NET IS SPREAD (2040-2055)

The following years saw the stage being set for the bigger plan. VRE became a key partner alongside the Foundation in Project Arkoblock, and had a very generous attitude every time there were delays in payments. The

THE FATHERS

The Founders and their respective motivations

Took part in the Conference of Founders:

Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen: She combined her grandfather's wealth and the Foundation's assets with dreams of power that could only take shape in the form of a megacorp. She continued Frederick Goldammer's dreams, but to her own ends. She died accidentally (truly) in 2059.

Theodor Minzner: This former Bundeswehr (German military) colonel became a major investor in IFMU (German motor and machines corp) and Ruhrmetall thanks to large military pensions and a bunch of contacts. He was fascinated by the biblical figure of Noah, and determined to become his successor. He saw Proteus as God's tool for his punishment as well as a new version of the Ark.

Dr. Mochikune Mibu: A genetics and cybernetics specialist; with the help of Proteus he became the head of Yamatetsu's Asian Regional Division (see Target: Wastelands) and leader of underwater activities there. Mibu is the archetype of the overconfident and proud scientist who wants go as far as possible without caring about limits.

René Bouchain: A decker, then Seraphim, for Cross Applied Technologies in Québec who was not interested in the ideological aspects of the conspiracy but rather in the technical ones as well as in information and personal wealth he can draw from it.

Dr. Rita Dubrowsky: A former manager for the Frankfurter Bankenverein (FBV, aka Frankfurt Bank Association, FBA) in the corporate takeovers department, since 2053 she has suffered from a rare and exhausting disease and is forced to live aboard Zürich-Orbital where she still hopes that the research that Proteus takes part in will one day enable her to return to Earth. As with Bouchain, she was more interested in the financial aspects of the conspiracy than in its ideology.

Zhao Xingang: He was a Bangkok financier, and was possibly the only true philanthropist of the bunch. He died in 2055 when the Eastern Dragon Chong-Chao took over his financial empire (see below).

Nachtmeister: Among many other reasons, Nachtmeister saw in the conspiracy the occasion of opening a second nebulous front in his conflict against Lofwyr as well as a way of loosening the hold of the others on Project Arkoblock and increasing his own influence.

Joined later:

Ph. D. Johan van Groenighen: He's a major figure in the Department of Magic Research for the German AA, AG Chemie, and is a specialist on the influence of magic on biochemical processes. He was one of the leaders of Project Generatio Aequivoca (see below). He undertook the creation of the AGC lodge (see The Lodge below) after the Chong-Chao crisis. He believes the dangers brought by the Awakening can only be fought through the mastering of magic; as a Founder he was in a position to increase his potential under Nachtmeister's guidance as well as to rise in the AGC hierarchy thanks to several breakthroughs in the alchemical field.

Dr. Midori Watanabe: She's a top-notch computer expert and data analyst for Shaiwase's MIFD, a specialist in pattern recognition, and possesses the rare gift of being able to draw conclusions and give foresights from seemingly meaningless bits of information. She's deeply interested in the boundaries between Man and Matrix, since she dreams of an unlimited access to the worldwide net. Since Shaiwase is rather conservative in this regard she saw in Proteus the potential to fulfill her wish. On the other hand, Dr. Watanabe has the morals and social graces of an arrogant swan.

consortium thus accumulated debts so high it threatened to ruin the project. The corp used its interest in the project to become a full-fledged member of the consortium, changing its GmbH (LLC) status into an AG (Inc.) with the



Prometheus Foundation owning the majority of shares. However, the money made in this way went to Proteus rather than funding the project thanks to a series of shell companies and laundering circuits established by Rita Dubrowsky at the FBA (see above).

In the meantime, the other “Fathers” strengthened their positions in their respective corps and started to build their own bases within the corporations: Minzner at Ruhrmetall and IFMU in 2043; Mibu at Yamatetsu; and Bouchain at CATCo. Watanabe from Fuchi joined in 2047, offering her skills to the conjurers.

In early 2048, the whole thing had become so huge that the corp could make itself known to the public. Project Arkblock had gone through so many manipulations that the consortium didn't seem to see any good to keep financing it. VRE AG stated that increasing the capital was an urgent necessity. The Prometheus Foundation had to make a hard choice to either lose some of its influence in the project, or to contract a loan – something that contradicted the Foundation's bylaws. By *sheer luck* the Foundation got the agreement of the Frankfurt Bank Association for such a loan: as a counterpart, the patents owned by the Foundation (through VRE and Proteus) were used as collateral. The money was used to fund Proteus for Project Arkblock or to buy out the parts of other consortium members at bottom prices. To top it all off was the official announcement that Van Ronzelen Envirotech

was going bankrupt, which in turn led to the dissolution of the Prometheus Foundation after it was deprived of its funding. The patents left at the FBA played their role according to the plan, and the Franfurter Bankenverein got into Proteus AG.

Proteus AG was officially created on January 1st 2049 out of nowhere, and with its HQ on the German island of Helgoland in the North Sea. The following period was used to both consolidate and strengthen the corp, as well as to request and obtain extraterritorial status from the Corporate Court. Once this was achieved, the corp turned towards building itself a credible image for the public world to establish its name. A first step was taken when Proteus took part in the coalition of corporate troops that reclaimed Berlin from the anarchists in August 2055

THE CHONG-CHAO CRISIS (2056-2057)

The years '56 and '57 saw the first events leading to what is described here in *Shockwaves*. The Eastern Dragon Chong-Chao had taken over the financial empire of Founder Zhao Xiang (without the latter's knowledge): a stranger found himself propelled unexpectedly into the heart of the Proteus network, undetected. The wyrm himself didn't really know where he was putting his claws, but elements hinted at an on-going conflict between Proteus and German chemical behemoth AG Chemie (and FBA's grand rival in Frankfurt), and he saw the opportunity to take





control of both firms. When the final confrontation finally took place at Proteus HQ on Helgoland, Nachtmeister joined the conflict on Proteus's side and killed the Eastern Dragon, while the FBA took over his hoard (i.e., AGC shares and Xiang's empire). While Nachtmeister had been careful not to reveal any of his ties to Proteus with his attack, Lofwyr became aware of the relations kept by his old rival.

The damage to the Helgoland facilities had been repaired by January 2057, but the damages caused by Chong-Chao to the secret networks between AGC and Proteus took much longer to secure again. Proteus used the chance it was offered and installed a lodge within AG Chemie itself.

The Genera Scandal

Following those events was the revelation of a secret Proteus/AGC joint-venture project (*Generatio Aequivoca*): The Genera scandal. Though Genera was a subsidiary of AGC, it was interested with *Generatio Aequivoca* in genetic experiments and modifications using human beings. Chong-Chao had leaked this information to further weaken AGC and to reveal that Proteus was also behind the experiments while the conflict between the two AA worsened. Van Groenighen, who was leading the project at that time, decided to sacrifice Genera to prevent more damage to the cooperation of Proteus and AGC. Not long afterwards he became one of the Founders. The research was continued in a small underwater habitat off the South African shore officially owned by Genius, Inc.

NEW HORIZONS (2057-2062)

After these dangerous times, Proteus was left stronger (especially with the resources of AGC and the infiltration of even its highest boards) and eager for new horizons.

Space Project

The project's birth date was 2057, when Proteus passed deals with the French for the use of the Devil Islands on the French Guyana shores. With the promise of later bringing French satellites into orbit, the building of a spaceport started that same year, much to Saeder-Krupp awe, since the German AAA owned none other than the European Space Agency facilities a few miles from there in Kourou. The first launch occurred in September, and as other corps looked suspiciously at it, the building of a second pad on Isla Puna off Ecuador started about one year later. At the same time the assembling of the space station Treffpunkt: Raumhafen started; more than in anything else, much hope was put in its completion.

With a view to turning the station away from the other corps' attention, Proteus revealed its Rømø underwater arcology in the light of the recently published Will. As the facilities naturally didn't respect the Will's specifications for the prize, Proteus was invalidated, but the media turned its eyes on its oceanic activities rather than on its space operations. After cutting a deal with Trans-Orbital for

supply issues in 2060, Treffpunkt: Raumhafen was ready for use in 2062. Already in '61, Proteus had surprised the world when it took part in the Probe Race, though unsuccessfully, with its Götterbote probe.

Collateral Damage

In 2060, Proteus had to handle a leak similar to that of 2057, regarding once again AGC and once again Genera. After a team of shadowrunners caught a courier in Berlin in possession of the relevant hot data, first the AGC Lodge, then the whole corp called it an open season on the runners. Proteus made the mistake of believing the runners were hiding with the data in East Berlin, the sector of the sprawl still under anarchist control, and launched a major assault there. To no avail.

With the help of a man called Sandmann, the runners managed to snatch the data, which included not just Proteus's involvement in Genera and Genius Inc., but also its active role within other corporations; this data was dubbed "The Sandmann Data." With the knowledge of the South African underwater facility and the activities inside in their possession, the runners contacted Proteus and managed to negotiate a "cease-fire" of sorts. The data was a life insurance policy for the runners, and was kept hidden in Germany's Frankfurt Shadowland node where it would be safe from the Proteus deckers.

Adaptation

Proteus had to adapt itself to the complex changes of the Sixth World. With the Corp War, it had to make sure that Fuchi's demise wouldn't impede Proteus' "feeding process:" the head of the Fuchi Lodge, Founder Midori Watanabe, passed on to Shiawase, thereby "contaminating" the Japanacorp. Watanabe managed through her contacts to secure some of Fuchi's former property, especially in Berlin, in the turmoil and chaos of changes and hostile takeovers. Proteus built a mini-arcology on this property in 2059 to offer a public face to the world. After the complaint by Shiawase before the Corporate Court for this "odious theft," it was then easy to dismiss any rumors of cooperation between Shiawase and Proteus.

Proteus also used the conflict between Cross and Ares to get its hands on the Cross research facility in the SOX.

After the death of Yasmin Goldammer-Sorensen in a yacht accident, the surviving Founders decided it was time to start the infiltration of another "host." The target in the crosshairs was the Scandinavian shipbuilding company Kvaener-Maersk, a possible major partner in the domain of naval construction. As with AGC, it started with a joint project: the building of a mobile arkoblock.

Spark and Powder...

Everything looked fine until Lofwyr killed Nachtmeister above Frankfurt on June 21st 2062, and with him one of the major figures of the Proteus conspiracy. And this is when the Shockwaves campaign starts.



ADAPTION – HOW PROTEUS OPERATES

ECONOMY & CONSPIRACY

Proteus is a AA extraterritorial megacorp with operations worldwide; built on the Prometheus Foundation's assets, its Founders' private means, and as well as bits of Zhao Xiang's financial empire. It's big enough to step on the toes of its bigger competitors in some fields. Its fast growth and incredible breakthroughs were possible only thanks to its infiltration of three AAA megacorps (Fuchi/Shiawase, Yamatetsu and Cross) as well as the German corps IFMU, AG Chemie and Ruhrmetall.

Its modus operandi is the following:

Intelligence is brought from the "host" to Proteus in the form of research data, patents and specific information. Proteus then coordinates the research and conducts it in its facilities. Breakthroughs and important patents are then handed back to their original corp so that the infiltrators there don't get discovered. Proteus benefits from this intelligence and can protect itself efficiently against the other corps.

Two examples: let's say Proteus has issued a brand new drone; only the most talented experts will find when they look at its subsystems that the driving unit is similar to that released last month by IFMU, and that the weapon systems are a perfect match to those currently field-tested by Ruhrmetall.

Similarly, Yamatetsu could win the autonomous underwater habitat race only thanks to the research provided by Proteus. Since the corp has only a token existence economically speaking (with few or no products on the market and no real marketing policy), it must find others sources for its financing. They're found in funds diverted from the host corps, laundered in a circuit established by Rita Dubrowsky at the FBA (see above) and its numerous banks.

The lodges within the various infiltrated corps are built on a cell structure. Projects and members are only mentioned with nicknames chosen in the Judeo-Christian mythology. Meetings are held in the various Proteus arcologies around the world, and in Matrix meetings where only nicknames are used, and which are heavily encrypted and protected.

The Lodge below provides extended information on what the structure of a cell is and how it works: the number

of members depends on the size of the infiltrated corp. Communication within a cell is run through a middle-man, part of a higher cell and who gets her orders directly from Proteus (and the Founders). While the highest-ranking agents are aware of the existence of at most another infiltrated corp, agents of a lower grade (independently from their hierarchy in the corp itself) don't even know they're part of a Proteus-conspiracy.

All meetings inside and outside the Proteus structure are always held in a great secrecy, and communication is always managed in the respect of the chain. The Founders agree among themselves during the Board of Directors' meetings that are always held in a different arcology.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From the very start, the Founders were aware that they could never entrust anyone with their secret, nor let anything leak publicly in the press.

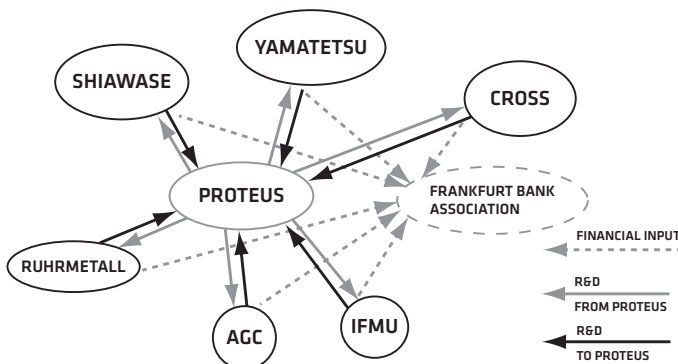
A solution to this dilemma was found through the creation of a (literal) puppet Board of Directors. Stemming from actual Proteus research, they're a masterwork of cybernetics, genetics and programming of artificial personalities. Proteus developed personafix-modules based on the Board members' knowledge, personal tastes and behavior, with the management and protection of secrecy of the corp as a supreme stricture. Then a module, mnemonic enhancer, skillsofts and knowsoft link were implanted to provide them with extra skills and abilities. If a puppet faces a decision it isn't authorized to take, it refers to his Founder.

Moreover, each member has a cyberlink in his cerebellum that enables the Founder to "access" him. This consists of an ASIST signal similar to the one linking a drone to its rigger, and very hard to track down. It is nevertheless impossible for the Founder to "ride" his Director, even though he can still control some of his motor functions. The link is mostly useful to control the parameters or know the puppet's last decisions. Founders also use the link to send messages to one another.

Since every member of the Board is an inalienable shareholder of Proteus, every Founder controls his or her bit of the corp.

The Founders naturally fear that a member of the Board of Directors may fall in the hands of their enemies. To prevent this from happening, every Director is fitted with an automatic safety system that ensures her termination after a period of time during which an attempt to extract her back may be tried (the puppets cost a few million euros each). If an extraction within the delays isn't possible, a cortex bomb destroys the Director's brains and all the exotic cyberware installed there, to prevent the revelation of its nature.

The personafix module usually emits a daily security copy to the Deep Blue network. This is useful to quickly issue a replacement when a Director is discarded.



SHOCKWAVES



THE DOWNFALL OF A GOD

The runners will experience a gigantic confrontation among powers-that-be of the Sixth World. And one of this world's most powerful figures will be unveiled.

FAKE PROPHETS – PRIME ACTORS AND THEIR MOTIVATIONS

Lofwyr/ Saeder-Krupp: The enmity between Lofwyr and Nachtmeister dates back to a previous Age. While most Greats usually steer away from *Goldmaster*, Nachtmeister always sought out trouble with S-K's boss. Lofwyr considered the simple fact that Nachtmeister lived in the AGS (*his turf*) as a provocation. He respected him as a rival though, but anyway this wasn't the reason why he caused the Dragon Dogfight on June 21st 2062 over Frankfurt.

As usual, Lofwyr's motives were numerous and far-reaching. It is enough here to know that he was assured to win such a fight, what would enable him to set a certain number of milestones to secure the future (*his future*). More information is available in *Dragons of the Sixth World*.

Proteus wasn't really considered a threat by Saeder-Krupp, but when Nachtmeister sided with Proteus on Helgoland in '56, the golden Wyrms' attention was raised.

While the Great Dragon was fully aware of the open war Nachtmeister waged against him on the financial level with his FBA, he was only now aware of a second front opened against him. In the following years Lofwyr grew wary of Proteus and tried to figure out what happened there, but he took great care to reveal nothing of his worries to Nachtmeister.

In their hunt, Lofwyr's hounds discovered Kevin Goldammer, whose existence had been forgotten since the '29 Crash. Old, bitter and resentful, he joyfully cut a deal with the Great Dragon to hit Proteus with a decisive blow and take its control. The background seemed just about right, with the founding of the New European Economic Community (see *Shadows of Europe*) and the dra-







conic Rite of Succession (see *Survival of the Fittest*), in which Lofwyr wanted to avoid the presence of Nachtmeister. He saw there the opportunity to get rid of a powerful enemy, and set the stage for the fight on June 21st and the rocket launch (see *Deutschland in den Schatten 2*). While the rockets were aimed at him this provided him with the “right” not only to defeat Nachtmeister, but to kill him outright.

He knew the FBA was playing a key role in the Proteus system, now the weakest link in the chain, and he was now starting subtle machinery he would be able to manipulate.

Goldammer: Frederick Goldammer’s grandson fell prey to his sister’s plotting when he tried to discover what the truth was behind the alleged bankruptcy of the Prometheus Foundation. After an attempt on his life and the erasing of his identity by the FBA, he was forced to live poorly... until S-K’s agents found him. The old fire awakened in him, as he too was victim of his sister’s hubris that had corrupted her. Old, weary and bitter, he saw everything Proteus could offer to him: power, influence and youth. His exceptional intelligence did not hamper his judgment; he knew he was playing a dangerous game with the Wurm. But compared to the outlook of ending his life in a hospice somewhere in the AGS, the choice was easy. Besides, he thought that his vision of the future Proteus AG wouldn’t be very different from that of the dragon.

Proteus AG: With Nachtmeister’s death, the conspiracy lost control of its entire secret financial structure. This was its Achilles’ heel since no one else at the FBA could know the extent of the operations much less replace him. The whole funding network had to be secured again, and the FBA had to be taken over. To that end, shadowrunners should send the stocks plummeting down to prepare the grounds for a takeover bid, and Proteus would care about Nachtmeister’s succession.

The Frankfurter Bankenverein (Frankfurt Bank Association, FBA): President Monika Stüeler-Waffenschmidt had to wait for a while before she could claim ownership and control of the group. She thought at first that the attack came from Essen (S-K’s HQ), but discovered soon that the real culprit was none other than the infamous Proteus AG. The concentrated attacks finally unveil it and the other companies involved.

When she realized she was facing several enemies and not just one secretive corp (but three AAA megas), MSW sought allies. Saeder-Krupp was obviously out, and Chong-Chao’s involvement in the past led her to believe another Asian corp was involved (a false assumption), eliminating Mitsuhamma, Renraku, Wuxing and even Novatech (because of its former ties to Fuchi). The only corps that remained were Aztechoology and Ares. It was easy: Ares was the best choice in the case of an open conflict, and Proteus was its direct competitor in several fields (for instance construction and space).





CHRONOLOGY OF THE CAMPAIGN

June 21st 2062: Lofwyr kills Nachtmeister over Frankfurt.

July 2062: Proteus decides to take over the FBA and starts shadow activity to weaken it. Meanwhile, the internal conflict for the succession of Nachtmeister starts in the FBA.

December 2062: Monika Stüeler-Waffenschmidt establishes herself as the new owner of the FBA.

Mid-February 2063: The runners try to kidnap MSW. This fails, and the FBA learns that the takeover attempt came from Proteus.

Late February 2063: The runners are sent to Scandinavia where they must sabotage the Proteus/ Kvaener-Maersk joint venture.

Mid-March 2063: Immediately after their return from Scandinavia, the runners are sent to Berlin to extract a FBA mole.

Mid-April 2063: The runners look for and find the Frankfurt Shadowland node and help its crew resist a direct assault from AGC.

May 1st: May 14th 2063: The runners meet Janus on the Fiji Islands.

May 15th 2063: Back from the Fijis, the runners are sent to Europort to extract a member of the Board of Directors of Proteus. As things turn ugly, they're helped by Ares troops.

Late May 2063: Ares Macrotechnology publicly sides with the FBA, and ships in some troops. Warships cruise in the North Sea and the Sea of Japan.

Early June 2063: The runners are sent to meet Kevin Goldammer and learn more on the background and secrets of Proteus AG.

June 3rd 2063: Incident in the Sea of Japan: an Ares warship sinks a Proteus sub.

2nd and 3rd weeks of June 2063: The Proteus/Ares conflict escalates. Another incident occurs in which an Ares warship is badly damaged and another Proteus sub is sunk. Both sides express their regrets and call a truce. Both sides try to argue it was victim of an aggression.

June 27th 2063: Proteus sinks an Ares frigate in blatant violation of the cease-fire. In reprisals Ares sinks another Proteus sub.

July 4th 2063: Proteus attacks Ares facilities near Thule; they're severely damaged.

2nd week of July 2063: Ares retaliates with the orbital bombing of the Røme arcology. The runners are sent amidst the resulting chaos to find evidence of the conspiracy, but they can't find enough of it.

3rd and 4th weeks of July 2063: Proteus attacks Ares in front of the Corporate Court for its unjustified attacks and shadow operations. To find the necessary information, the runners must infiltrate the Treffpunkt: Raumhafen space station.

Early August 2063: Decision of the Corporate Court regarding the fate of Proteus.

Moreover, simply dropping the name "Cross" besides that of "Proteus" in Damien Knight's vicinity would assure his interest and support.

Ares Macrotechnology: Ares quickly understood the opportunities offered to it: a cooperation with the FBA would help the mostly North America-focused corp to take an important step into the European market. The other reason was the preservation of the FBA's weight to counterbalance Saeder-Krupp. The corp also had the opportunity to directly attack a serious competitor (Proteus), and indirectly all the corps involved in it, thus strengthening its positions.

METAMORPHOSE – UNFOLDING THE CAMPAIGN

Hostile Takeover

With the death of Nachmeister, the FBA is left in a precarious position. The runners are involved through *Sheet Lightning* in a series of runs against the FBA: their goal is to send its stocks to the ground. Obviously the runners aren't the only team hired for such actions.

While the FBA is aware of plans for a takeover bid, it cannot pinpoint its enemies and retaliate efficiently. Monika Stüeler-Waffenschmidt cannot announce her ownership and control of the holding before late 2062. The time has come therefore for Proteus to subvert her, and an extraction is attempted, but it fails (a well-kept secret of the President is revealed there). After this failure, MSW learns who was behind the attacks.

Attack is the Best Defense

To emerge from the crisis it went through, the FBA undertakes its own series of runs with the runners. An operation is set up to harm the cooperation between Proteus and the Nordic corp Kvaener-Maersk as much as possible. At about the same time a spy is inserted into AG Chemie where the FBA suspects an involvement with Proteus, while the runners discover a conjuration within KM itself, and the fact that it is being infiltrated by Proteus. These revelations trigger a cold war between the two partners, turning the attention of Proteus away.

The spy then finds evidence regarding the involvement of Proteus agents in AGC, what which combined with the runners' intelligence creates a real bomb. The conjurers know they've been exposed, and open season is declared on the FBA spy. The runners must extract the guy from Berlin where he is hiding.

The Big Puzzle

Once this is achieved, the situation seems to be worse than expected. Proteus may have infiltrated AGC deep into its highest boardrooms. The FBA learns of the Sandmann Data (see above), that Proteus wants at any cost. The runners must track down the physical location of Germany's Shadowland node in Frankfurt with an old acquaintance from Berlin on their heels. After an epic standoff, the runners retrieve the data and learn of the source within Proteus who transmitted the information to Sandmann. This source, Janus, must be tracked down following the subtle trail left by Sandmann before he died. The runners then fly to the Fiji Islands to meet him. Janus is willing to help if the runners agree to do him a small favor that will bring them into the green hell of the island's jungle.

Meanwhile, the FBA has been busy looking for allies to counter Proteus and its hidden masters, and has found one: Ares Macrotechnology.



The Search for the Founders

MSW has analyzed the Sandmann Data and decided to extract a member of Proteus' Board of Directors. The opportunity comes just about right with the inauguration of the last Proteus facility in Europort (United Netherlands). When the run turns into a wild chase scene, the target's health turns so badly that the runners must bring him to a clinic where he undergoes a surgical operation, during which the medics discover some really weird cyberware while the runners must keep the assault of Proteus troops at bay.

Back to Frankfurt with some hot intel, the runners are sent to meet Kevin Goldammer, from whom they learn more about the Prometheus Foundation affair (see *Genesis* above).

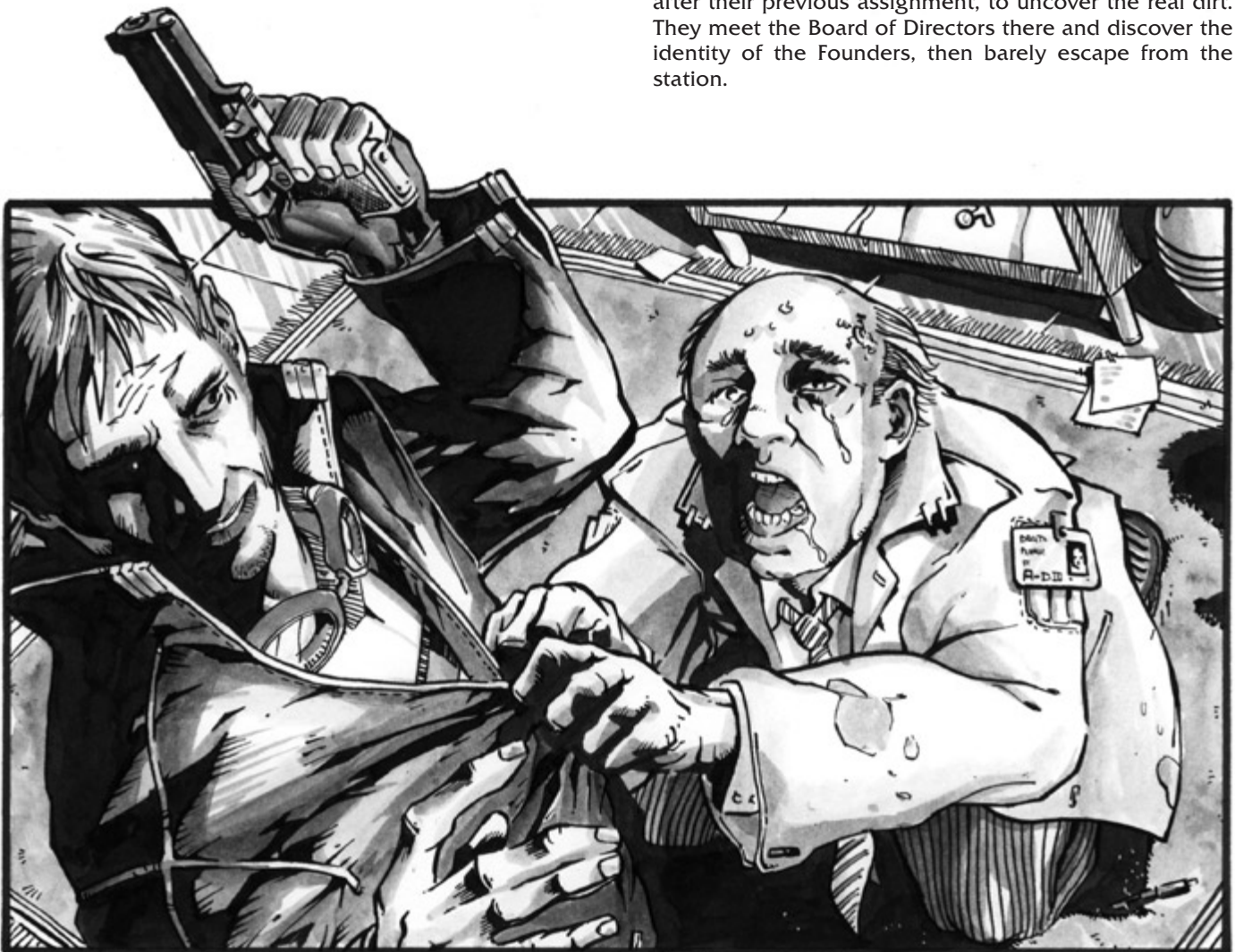
Finale Grande

Proteus is unable to prevent Ares from intervening, and a spiral of violence and reprisals is triggered. But Ares

and the FBA need evidence to incriminate Proteus: they will find it in one of Proteus' ultra-secured aquacologies. As its next move in its escalating conflict against the AA, Ares triggers Thor orbital shots on the newly finished hermetically sealed Proteus Rømø arcology, piercing the corp's armor, and giving the runners the opportunity to enter the place in the resulting chaos and confusion. Looking for intelligence, they finally find it deep within the habitat. It reveals that scary experiments are conducted aboard the Treffpunkt: Raumhafen space station, regarding manipulations on living human beings.

Proteus on the other hand uses the attack to lodge a complaint against Ares before the Corporate Court on Zürich-Orbital. If the highest corporate judicial body accepts it, Proteus can possibly emerge from the crisis with the upper hand.

Ares is walking a thin line, because the data retrieved in Rømø is not enough to stand in a trial. Since a direct operation by Ares on the Treffpunkt: Raumhafen station isn't possible, the runners are sent there immediately after their previous assignment, to uncover the real dirt. They meet the Board of Directors there and discover the identity of the Founders, then barely escape from the station.



AFTERSHOCKS



Things look like they're settled and Ares is about to perform an Omega Order, in other words to impose capital punishment on Proteus, thereby destroying the corp. But the situation changes one last time, taking another direction. Through subtle plays Lofwyr manages to keep Proteus alive but to give it a new face.

Proteus will first go through a time of changes during which the middle management and employees will try to find a new virginity, arguing that they didn't know anything of the conspiracy. In the meantime, high-ranking execs and scientists will try to make some hard euros (and nuyen) in selling their knowledge and skills to the competition.

The Prometheus Foundation is back on Helgoland in mid-August 2063. Its primary role is that of an oversight council acting as a board of directors, thus controlling the whole corp. The Foundation's main body is the Foundation Council's, presided by Kevin Goldammer.

The remaining members were selected in the ranks of the formerly infiltrated corps: Cross Applied Technologies, Shiawase, Yamatetsu, AG Chemie, Ruhrmetall, IFMU and Maersk Incorporated Assets, plus an extra seat for the Corporate Court.

One of the Foundation's priorities is the nomination of a new Board of Directors, presided by Kevin Goldammer. The Board deals with the talks that determine the damages to be paid to the corps, as well as settling the issue of the « stolen » patents, so that they can be commercially exploited as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the Board starts to restructure and clean up the group, a task that will demand years of efforts. The corp is broken down into four subdivisions: North Sea (including Europe & the Baltic Sea), Pacific & Indian Ocean, Atlantic and Space, under the aegis of which the various subsidiaries and shell companies will be managed along with the relevant arkoblocks.



PROMETHEUS FOUNDATION COUNCIL

President: Kevin Goldammer (no corporate affiliation)

Cross Applied Technologies: Jean-Léon Muselier

Shiawase: Sohei Koizumi

Yamatestu: Katjana Pudowkina

Maersk Incorporated Assets— Paavo Vankä

AG Chemie: Miriam Talkacz

IFMU: Thomas Enderle

Ruhrmetall: Theodor Minzner

Corporate Court: Sir Henry Commton-Nelson

Kevin Goldammer creates at the same time the "Ethics Commission" in charge of identifying and bringing to a stop all projects not compatible with scientific ethics. It is in fact a formidable tool for internal cleanup (and espionage), ensuring for Goldammer the full knowledge of every progress accomplished by the corp.

The resurrection of the Prometheus Foundation brings back its original status. This means the original dedication of the Foundation to preparing (meta) humanity to the hard times to come is still present, under the watchful eye of the involved corps and the Corporate Court. One can be doubtful though that these goals will be compatible with the path of economic viability Proteus now walks on.

Talks regarding the settlement of damages and compensation from the conspirators to the corps last until mid-2064, while the Board plays the corps against each other. Since nobody has an interest in seeing Proteus going bankrupt though, the threat seems enough to keep the group afloat.

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY & RESOURCES

Proteus AG will be mostly present in years to come in fields it has come to know and master. Incessantly combining, exploiting and cross-testing research from several corps, its technical level has literally risen above the technological curve in some domains (somewhat über-SOTA). To keep the benefits of this synergy, at lesser levels, the new Proteus AG is structured in specific departments under the management of the above-mentioned regional divisions, which sill cooperate on a large scale. Proteus is a corp specialized in a few specific sectors, in which she benefits from a good lead on its competitors. It keeps its AA-status in spite of its weakness on the financial level.

Space & Aquatechnology

Proteus owns two launch pads on Devil's Island and off Ecuador. They will be used to commercially launch satellites into space — a very profitable activity.

With the help of Kvaener-Maersk and IFMU, Proteus is working on a new type of shuttle based on the Sänger principle, obviating the need for rockets to launch it. If such a breakthrough were to be accomplished, it would definitely be a revolution for the future of space flight, lowering the costs significantly.

PROTEUS AG

HQ: Helgoland, AGS

CEO: Kevin Goldammer

Status: Incorporated

Shareholder: Prometheus Foundation (100%)

Regional Divisions:

Proteus North Sea (includes Europe & Baltic Sea)

HQ: Helgoland arkoblock

Regional Direction: Evelyne Kutzner

Proteus Atlantic

HQ: Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal arkoblock

Regional Direction: Laurent Thienel

Proteus Pacific & Indian Ocean

HQ: Osaka arkoblock

Regional Direction: Xiaobing Zhang

Proteus Space

HQ: Devil's Island arcology, French Guyana

Regional Direction: Danielle Soulière

Important subsidiaries:

Aquatech

Oceanwide Transport Technologies

New World Enterprises

ProLife Biotechnologies

Freud Mentalservice AG

Genius Inc.

The control of the Treffpunkt: Raumhafen space station is also an important ace up Proteus' sleeve. Research in the fields of microbiology, botany and hydroponics are conducted up there. The ultimate design is the creation of an artificial biosphere, as well as the life conditions and recycling processes necessary to eventually create the first fully autonomous space habitat. Another goal is to launch a manned mission to Mars, as well as the establishment of a Mars station within 10 to 15 years. The building of another big space habitat is also in the works.

Proteus is also ambitious in the field of aquatechnology, since the corp already has numerous labs and semi-autonomous underwater facilities. Obviously the cooperation between the underwater and space departments is tight.

Heavy industries & Automobile

Proteus can also find a niche in the field of heavy industries. On the mining and petrochemical scene, it can play in the big leagues with its subsidiary Aquatech. In the domain of construction, it can use its unmatched expertise in arcology building in extreme conditions. Since 2060, Proteus has its own patents regarding special methods of construction.



The third sector is that of ships and subs of all sorts, like the Proteus K-72 (maintenance and repair drone on use on automatic cargos), the KS-21 (underwater surveillance), the Nordstern (a crawler), the Diver (mini-sub powered by electricity) and the Porpoise (all references can be found in the German version of *Rigger 3*).

Proteus already announced new products under the Aquatech brand as 2064 releases.

Moreover, Proteus has made itself a name in the t-bird industry (see German RPG magazine *Mephisto #20*), and though only a limited number of the *Möwe*, *Seeschwalbe*, *Albatross* and *Zeisig* models actually exist; the corp has already announced their upcoming mass-production with the help of IFMU.

Miltech

Proteus' specialty in this domain remains military ship-building and military-grade security systems. Nuclear subs and military sonar devices as well as a series of torpedoes are also on the list.

Computer

Proteus had active contacts within Shiawase, Yamatetsu and Müller-Schlüter Infotech (through its AGC connections). The most anticipated products deal mainly with encryption/decryption software, psychotropic IC, cutting-edge knowbots and artificial personalities creation software for use by the media industry.

Food

This may sound weird, but Proteus has good grounds in the field of food products. The corp has some experience in the production of synthetic food as well as transgenic plants and animals, and in the exploitation of sea resources. To what extent this ability will translate into mass-market products is a question that remains to be answered. Proteus will probably have to focus on very specific products.

Envirotech

Proteus put the firm *New World Enterprises* at the heart of its restructuring project. Specialized in environmental technologies, and forced to make some cred with them, it can use the accumulated knowledge in the fields of arcology construction and contact with hostile environments to turn this expertise into sellable products and services.

The administration and development of the arkoblocks fall into this category. In the spirit of expanding the corp, the announcement that new arkoblocks will be built opens opportunities in the domains of security and life quality, providing people with *interest* and *cred* with new lifelong apartments.

Biotech & Genetech

Proteus has long been a pioneer through its famous WesTech brand. While many of the results came from research from Shiawase, Yamatetsu and AG Chemie labs,

Proteus AG did its own homemade research on human beings without remorse. Instead of banning this unethical research, Proteus will pursue it on animal and critters rather than metahumans, forecasting big advances in the fields of gene therapy and direct protein synthesis. The heart of the problem remains that a lot of time and money will still be necessary before marketable products can be drawn from this research.

The same goes for bioware, with the *Better Body* line that offers products for the daily life.

Regarding biotech products, Proteus is also deep into unconventional research, in particular the combination of biological-chemical elements with engineering sciences. The ultimate goal is to change the face of production processes, for instance through bio-crystallization or other techniques. Nanotech naturally plays a central role in this regard.

Cybertechnology

The CySystems line, famous for its headware implants (see *Man & Machine*), oddly owes a lot to Proteus. The advanced knowledge of Proteus in matter of cerebro-neural cybernetic devices will allow it to continue producing implants. The partnership of Yamatetsu will be a big ace, and the corp's expertise will enable it to take care of a part of this sector. Proteus products released in the future in the field of cyberware will probably be Yamatetsu's province.

Services

Now that Proteus doesn't need to do tons of work to conceal its existence, the corp can use its experience in terms of corporate security to advise and equip other corps, from looking for security loopholes to providing full ranges of integrated security systems.

Regarding the medical and biotech sector, Proteus is able to provide medical services and open high-end clinics.

PROTEUS AG GLOBAL IMPLANTATION

So far, Proteus only use dits arkoblocks as another layer of secrecy in the sake of what on must call deep paranoia. Before the upheaval, each arkoblock had a nickname (a Biblical place) and a specific research focus.

After the restructuring, the arcs answer to their respective Divisions. They're the corp's biggest subsidiaries of sorts, rating as A-rated corps.

With a footprint of 500 by 500 meters and a height of over 1,700 meters, the blocks are *huge*. With 100 stories of inhabitable space (50 square meters per person), each arkoblock can in theory shelter *half-a-million* people. Only four of these behemoths actually exist (Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven, Emden and Gronigen), the other arcs being considerably smaller. A precise estimate should number the total staff of these around 10,000 to 20,000 people (the necessary staff), without their families. After the reorganization, it is decided that the blocks should be made more attractive for the families too. After years of sociological studies into the "bunker" life, logic led the decision-makers to push the



envelope on social life infrastructure (trideo theatres, shopping malls, artificial gardens). All these improvements will take time though, and it will be long before the cold and lifeless atmosphere of the blocks changes.

An appropriate estimation of the population of the bigger arkoblocks should number about 30,000 people, while the smaller ones see a quarter to a third of that.

Here follows the low-down on Proteus' various regional divisions as of September 2063:

PROTEUS NORTH SEA

Helgoland HQ, AGS (Jerusalem)

Corporate HQ and seat of the North Sea Division.
North-Sea Army HQ.
Physical location and hardware of the Deep Blue Network and the Proteus-Net.

Berlin Administrative Center, AGS (Megiddo)

Offices, deals mainly with administration work as well as staff management, PR and marketing.

Emden arkoblock, AGS (Nazareth)

Big arkoblock with integrated shipbuilding facilities.
Research and production focus on ships, subs and underwater drones.

Wilhelmshaven arkoblock, AGS (Jericho)

Located between the former Bremershaven and Wilhelmshaven shores, this arkoblock boasts numerous labs and many clinics. Research and production focus on genetics, pharmaceuticals and medicine.

Cuxhaven arkoblock, AGS (Zefat)

Big arkoblock with important production facilities, with research focused on innovative production methods (biocrystallization for instance).

Production focused on components for arcologies and underwater habitats.

Groningen arkoblock, AGS (Kapernaum)

Big arkoblock with production facilities.
Focus: miltech.
Production: mostly flightships and military hardware.

Europaort facility, UNL (Askalon)

Logistic center for the North Sea arkoblocks; marketing of Proteus products.

SOX arcology, AGS (Massada)

Research compound focusing on radioactivity and the studies of biogenesis, fauna and flora development under radioactive conditions.



Rømø arcology, Scand Union (Bethlehem) - in repair

Partially mobile arkoblock partiellement mobile capable of full immersion.

Focus on computer sciences, psychology, and creation of artificial personalities, media.

Gdansk arcology (in project)

Joint venture with Pole shipbuilding conglomerate Pomorze Zespol Stoczniowy.

Old North Sea platforms

Used for various deeds (transit, troops, etc.)

PROTEUS PACIFIC & INDIAN OCEAN

Osaka arcology, JIS (Tyr)

HQ of the Pacific Division.

Research: Envirotech.

Production: components for space and ocean techs, envirotech.

Okinawa arcology, JIS (Sidon)

Small arkoblock with a clinic.

Research and production in the fields of cyber and biotechnology.

South Pacific arcology, near the Fidjis (Gethsemane)

Coordination of the mining operations in the Pacific.

Research on the geosphere and adaptation of the fauna and flora in a toxic environment.

Mini-arcology near Vancouver, Salish-Shidhe Council (Sinai)

First North American research station.

Magical research and teslama gathering.

PROTEUS ATLANTIC

Pretoria Witwatersrand-Vaal arkoblock, Oranje-Vrystaat (in progress)

Small arkoblock, seat of the Atlantic Division.

Tristan da Cunha arkoblock (Magdala)

Facility with several artificial growing greenhouses.

Production and research on food products.

PROTEUS SPACE

Devil's Island arcology & launch pad, French Guyana (Elath)

Main port to the Treffpunkt: Raumhafen space station, HQ of the Space Division.

Research and production of components for space technologies.

Isla Puna arcology, Ecuador (Elloth)

Second launch pad; huge mainframes.

Research on space technologies, plus exo-sciences, astrology, astrogeology et terraforming.

Treffpunkt: Raumhafen Space Station, LaGrange Point 1, Earth Orbit (Eden)

Part of the station is leased to AG Chemie, Transys Neuronet and ECC for research operations.

Proteus focuses there on microbiology, development biology, (human) genetics, artificial gravitation and biospheres in extreme conditions.

Once the mystery is no more, the question remains of how to further use the plot and the corp.

PROTEUS AS A CORP

First, Proteus is now a corp like any other corp out here, competing with the likes of it, and whose need in terms of shadow activity and deniable assets will rise. The *Epilogue* provides Aztechnology and Ares as two candidates of choices for these actions, but any corp playing on Proteus' grounds is a potential target.

The idea of adaptation of flora, fauna and man himself to extreme conditions such as deep sea, heat, cold, void or at least very low pressure opens a series of opportunities for the creative GM to use in hostile settings.

House cleaning

The Ethics Commission implemented by the new Board opens the road to numerous conflicts and internal bickering between researchers and execs as projects have to be dropped or change scale/goals.

Many scientists are interested in switching sides and joining companies famous for leaving a free hand to their employees (such as Aztech, Universal Omnitech or Yakashima). They can boast of their experience and achievements in their CVs, and their knowledge and skills makes them valuable assets on the extractions market. It is also possible that Proteus hires runners to protect a scientist from such an attempt.

Industrial espionage under extreme conditions

Besides its arkoblocks, Proteus owns a several facilities in isolated regions of the globe (deep sea, North and South poles...). The current policy of transparency and the participation of the corps may have unveiled the locations of these places (maybe the intel was bought or obtained through "unconventional" means). The runners can be hired to steal research data or prototypes from these far-away enclaves.

Internal differences

The cooperation of several corps all willing to take over Proteus' leadership for varied and often antagonistic reasons leads undoubtedly to numerous divergences within the corp. The runners can act for or against Proteus: on one hand in helping a corp against the other, and on the



other hand in shifting the delicate balance of powers and resources in one way or the other.

Damages

The damages that must be paid to the Court and to the involved corps lead to many run opportunities. Someone in the know in matters regarding the financial deals and the judicial problems could benefit from a big ace up his or her sleeve in future negotiations.

THE CONSPIRACY'S LEFTOVERS

As the *Epilogue* asserts, most of the conspiracy has been dismantled, but a few of the top fish have slipped through the net.

Ph. D. Johan van Groenighen, heading the AG Chemie Lodge, and Founder by the name Bartholomew was indicted by the Corporate Court and AGC, and is currently wanted. Like Monika Stüeler-Waffenschmidt, he owes much to Nachtmeister in his learning and practice of magic.

Perhaps more dangerous, **Theodor Minzner** (code-name Jacob) is still active at Ruhrmetall. Minzner realized at some point in the campaign that Proteus would never survive a direct confrontation against Ares and the FBA, and he erased every bit of data linking him to the conspiracy. Erasing the relevant data thanks to his Founder status' privileges, he finally found solace in one of Proteus' secret underwater habitats, codenamed "Ararat". He could thus keep his position as Ruhrmetall's rep at the Foundation's Council, secretly forwarding his own agenda.

Finally, the Founder from the MIFD, **Dr. Midori Watanabe**, is under arrest and a *de facto* prisoner. Her talents and intuitive gifts are so essential to Shiawase that nobody wanted to spoil them through the use of drugs or chips in an interrogation. As noted in the *Epilogue*, van Groenighen takes care to do what's necessary to prevent her from betraying the last two conspirators (above all Minzner).

PROTEUS IN THE DAYLIGHT: WHAT REALLY LEAKED

The corps and the Court took all the necessary measures to make sure nothing important about the events or background of the recent shakeup of the Proteus case was revealed. The world only knows that complications occurred within Proteus, and that they were clarified only after the Board of Director's sudden collective death.

The rest is only media speculation, and possible follow-ups or further leaks were carefully blacked out or dismissed.

Proteus issues a new corporate policy manifesto, presenting a new face with a new president, Kevin Goldammer, whose moral integrity is beyond any suspicion. The corp will work hard on its PR side in the coming years, creating itself an image of humanistic company that cares about the welfare of mankind.

