

Glossary for Cool Assassins Series

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256-bit data pack is the normal data size for *Monkey See* operating systems. The standard data size swells to 512 bits for *Ultimate Companion* operating systems. Digital processors make use of shortcuts to achieve maximum speed. They work best when they can evaluate same-sized chunks of data. For many operations they need only check certain bits to determine the Boolean or programmed values of the data pack. Streaming data follows different protocols where every bit counts and the data flows from a sequential list of data packs. The stream is then segmented to whatever size the output calls for.

3-kilom run tests endurance and stamina. To qualify for rundog, acolytes must run three kiloms in seven minutes flat.

Absen (Abb) Ho: rundog, deceased. Born 2017. Adult height: 167 centimeters; weight: 53 kilograms; hazel eyes; jet-black hair. Begins bodyguard service in 2036. Co-founds Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2045. Dies in 2061.

abso (short-form slang) absolutely.

ack (short-form slang) acolyte.

ACLU (acronym) American Civil Liberties Union.

Adfisker Inc. is prominent ad agency, a subsidiary of SonyKong Ltd.

Aerodrone is a robotic aircraft used for reconnaissance and warfare. Sometimes called Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV). The “aero” part of the word distinguishes this type of drone from robotic sentries, battle tanks or naval “kamikaze” drones.

Afterburn is an aerospace subsidiary of Wexol Inc.

Ahab (Cook) Ho: rundog. Born 2016. Adult height: 169 centimeters; weight: 74 kilograms; dark-brown eyes, gray hair. Begins bodyguard

service in 2036. Co-founds Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2045.

Afterburn is an aerospace subsidiary of Wexol Inc.

AI (acronym) Artificial Intelligence. Not to be mistaken for true sentience.

äiti (Finnish) momma, mom.

Akihito: rooster for Mishima security, squad leader.

Akita is a Japanese breed of guard dog. Akitas have been crossbred with English Mastiffs, Great Danes and German Shepherds.

à la mode (French) fashionable, chic.

ALS (acronym) Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease.

Aida: Tsawwassen swimwear vendor. Born 2035.

airship is a synonym for dirigible, lighter-than-aircraft.

Amero\$ signify Amero dollar(s), the currency of NOAM. 100 Amero\$ equal 67.8 Euros, 56.5 Hong\$ or 103.7 crows. *Transaction values taken from final quotes on the SOW exchange on the 1st of May 2076.*

Amusement Wheels signify exotic destinations in low-earth orbits. The wheels offer exotic entertainments in an environment of 10% gravity. They cater to ultrawealthy folks who indulge themselves by cutting deals outside the constraints of earthside jurisdictions.

Anthea: yellow belt, dataroom sorter. Born 1947. Adult height: 165 centimeters; weight: 55 kilograms; hazel eyes; brown hair (dyed pink). Joins Dog Breakfast co-op in 2068.

antilock applies brakes on & off in rapid fashion. The friction between tires and road surfaces causes vehicles to stop. Since the antilock mechanism staggers the braking action, it increases the space and time it takes to stop. On slippery surfaces, antilock brakes help vehicles stay under directional control, which may prove more important than stopping within the least space.

app(s) are add-on software applications that perform dedicated tasks.

AR (acronym) Augmented Reality. AR glasses display websites and

infomercials. Users can't get lost since they're linked to GPS which furnishes smart maps and situational awareness.

arrêt (French) halt.

Ashraf: Tsawwassen snack bar vendor. Born 2039. Immigrated from Tehran in 2063.

Asobi-boya Ltd. (fun-boy) is a bigtime maker of VR & AR glasses, digital games and media accelerators for holojamborees.

ATV (acronym) All-Terrain Vehicle, often equipped with four-wheel drive.

august age marks the changeover from fulltime co-op service to semiretirement. Metics may declare themselves “august aged” anywhere between the ages of 55 and 75. When the august interlude is declared, a metic's co-op shares become nonvoting, the equivalent of solar bonds. A portion of the retirement stash must be converted to spendable cash in annual installments.

autoassembly refers to a factory in which the production line is fully automated. Shop workers function as quality-control engineers.

autonav (techno slang) computerized traffic control.

autotran (slang) automatic transmission where gear ratios are selected by a combination of the load drag and the revolution speed of the drive shaft. Like many automated conveniences, autotrans seldom switch gears at optimal times.

avitaminosis signifies organic disorders resulting from vitamin deficiency.

baidarka looks like a one- or two-person kayak. Baidarkas are made of natural, indigenous materials, such as tanned animal hides and hollowed bolls of yellow or redcedar. The upper covering is usually fitted separately.

baka *BAH-kuh* (Japanese) fool, idiot.

bakana boya *BAH-kuh-nuh BO-yah* (Japanese) bad boy.

balance is the 11th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it

points 180° from the vanguard (south).

banderillas (Spanish) barb darts used during bull-fighting contests.

Barkunthol® is a potent feel-good drug that builds false confidence and lowers inhibitions. Users should avoid operating dangerous machinery for 6-8 hours after ingestion.

bauxite is the natural ore body from which aluminum is refined.

beamersat (coined word) beamer satellite. They're large platforms in geosynchronous orbit that transform solar photons into microwave beams. The beams are sent to earthside receptor stations, which convert microwaves to electricity that feeds the global grid.

beaver (slang) female pubic bush.

belt colors in the school of qat are graded as follows: Novices must first earn whitebelts, then yellowbelts, orangebelts, redbelts, brownbelts and finally blackbelts for *sensei* aka rundogs.

b'en (vocal slang) been.

berhenti (Malay) halt.

Beuack AG (Rolf Heck) Switzerland HQ. Subsidiaries include Frisker Mutual Funds, a financial management corporation; Enterprise Bank, a financial services corporation, globally based but headquartered in Antigua; Bedrock Insurance, an insurance conglomerate; Whiteout, a digital game developer.

bifes de alcatra (Portuguese) rump steaks.

Big Island is the current name of former *Vancouver Island*. Two aboriginal tribes disputed the name change. As a compromise they settled for a generic name that offended neither.

biochar (anthropological term) is the result of cooking waste products in a kiln for use as fertilizer. Biochar is a preindustrial recycling technique that removes putrid odors and malignant microorganisms. This sustainable method for making waste useful has been well documented among Pre-Columbian societies in the Amazon

watershed.

blackbear is a police constable in spacer communities.

blockchain verifiers are cryptosecure nodes that mirror and then authorize every financial transaction in the network. Hackers cannot raid or pillage any account unless they compromise all the nodes, which are often found great distances apart.

blog (short-form slang) web log. Blogs are tools for disseminating info over the HyperNet.

blockchain is a growing list of records, called blocks which are linked and secured using cryptography.

BLT (Acronym) Bacon-Lettuce-Tomato sandwich.

Bluefin is a deep-sea trimaran. Normally GREENS keepers use it for oceanic research. At times they lend it to Dog Breakfast co-op.

BO (acronym) body odor.

Bonriki Spaceport is located in the Tarawa archipelago, in the Pacific Ocean. [1° 25' N, latitude, 173° E, longitude]

boya *BOE-yah* (Japanese) boy.

BrainMax® is the name a supplement for mental enhancement.

brassière (French) brassiere, bust supporter.

breathing is the 6th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 330° from the vanguard (north by northeast).

CAD (acronym) Computer Aided Design.

campesino *caem-PEH-sih-nou* (Latino) peasant.

carajo (Latino) shit.

Carrot Man is Nyssa's sardonic nickname for Shepp who encourages her to eat carrots way too often. She has no appetite for carrots or their sexual innuendo.

CCD (acronym) Charge-Coupled Device. CCDs function as electronic

imaging devices originally developed for astronomical telescopes. CCDs make excellent surveillance recorders which capture digital images at multiple light intensities.

cent(s) (short-form slang) centimeter or centimeters.

3 cents	=	1.18 inches
10 cents	=	3.94 inches
20 cents	=	7.87 inches
50 cents	=	9.69 inches
150 cents	=	4 feet, 11 inches
160 cents	=	5 feet, 3 inches
170 cents	=	5 feet, 7 inches
180 cents	=	5 feet, 11 inches
190 cents	=	6 feet, 3 inches
200 cents	=	6 feet, 7 inches

centimeter is a measurement of length. 30 centimeters equal about one foot. 100 centimeters equal one meter.

5 centimeters	=	1.97 inches
10 centimeters	=	3.94 inches
20 centimeters	=	7.87 inches
50 centimeters	=	19.69 inches
152.4 centimeters	=	5 feet
182.9 centimeters	=	6 feet
213.4 centimeters	=	7 feet

CEO (biz acronym) Chief Executive Officer and often part owner of the company; in other words, the head honcho and Chairperson of the Board.

chef de jour (French) chef of the day.

chica (Latino) girl.

chigger (common name) for Trombiculidae, whose tiny larvae crawl on their hosts where they inject digestive enzymes that dissolve skin cells. Burrowing into skin, they chew on soft inner tissues which causes prickliness and blisters. Severe itching is accompanied by

reddish pimplelike bumps.

chikatetsu *CHICK-AH-tet-su* (Japanese) urban tram.

chikusho *CHE-KU-sho* (Japanese) hell, deep shit.

child co-ops are sponsored by parent co-ops. The parent contributes startup funds and shares some of the proceeds if the child co-op wins a product charter. In effect, the parent becomes a nonvoting share holder.

choke *CHOCK-eh* (Latino) crash as in accident.

chyaut (quasi-phonetic Russian) devil.

CIO (biz acronym) Chief Information Officer.

CMOS (acronym) Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor. CMOS is the base material for electronic processors.

CNG (acronym) Compressed Natural Gas. Internal combustion motors are often converted to run on natural gas. Maximum power requires tight valves, one-to-ten fuel-air mix and a slight advance in the spark timing. The conversion kit includes metal cylinders that contain CNG onboard.

comm (slang) communication device.

commons, the (SOAR maxim) meaning the environment. For urban dwellers the commons include the services and infrastructure necessary for decent lifestyles. Metics feel obligated to be good stewards of the commons, to conserve the biosphere and sustain the noösphere. The bounty of the commons is shared by everyone.

compo (short-form slang) compensation.

conglomerates (earthside) include the seven largest transnational corporations listed by rank: Zesticon Plc., SonyKong Ltd., Wexol Inc., Yuhan Ltd., Beuack AG, Goranda ADR and Shrinkwrap Inc.

coordinating is the 9th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 240° from the vanguard (east by southeast).

co-op is the basic economic unit of SOAR. Operative members own at least 50% of their co-op shares.

co-op share represents the cost-of-living expenses for two days. Cost-of-living covers all amenities necessary for a metic's wellbeing. The amenities include air, water, foodstuffs, shelter, info access and typical recreational pursuits. Cost-of-living is prorated according to normal expenses incurred vis-à-vis one's residential location.

When living in the equatorial spaceports, metics' shares worth 1.5 Solar\$ (1,350 crows). When living in TCP, metics' shares are worth one-Solar\$ (900 crows). When living in the soup cans or on lunar surface, metics' shares are worth five Solar\$ (4,500 crows). When living in the Martian outposts, metics' shares are worth seven Solar\$ (6,300 crows), which represents the cost-of-living expenses for two days. Cost-of-living covers all amenities necessary for a metic's wellbeing. The amenities include air, water, foodstuffs, shelter, info access and typical recreational pursuits. Cost-of-living is prorated according to normal expenses incurred vis-à-vis one's residential location.

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Co-op shares are nonspendable until metics declare august age and transfer shares into spendable funds. However, metics may borrow against their equity store insofar as their co-ops allow it.

crèches are educational institutions devoted to the care and upbringing of children aged two through 18.

crows are the monetary unit of TCP. One Crow equals 0.0011 Solar\$, 0.964 Amero\$, 0.654 Euros, 0.545 Hong\$. *Transaction values taken from final quotes on the SOW exchange on the 1st of May 2076.*

cuesta abajo (Latino) downhill.

cum grano salis (classical Latin) with a grain of salt.

cuz or '**cuz** (short-form slang) because.

CXN (acronym) China Xinhua News.

Cybernaut® is a computing device that uses a photonic processor chip. It runs thousands of times faster and cooler than electronic chips.

Cyclorama is a major urban development that includes 32 hectares of residential and commercial sites.

DAG (acronym) Directed Acyclic Graph. DAGs have an accountable number of vertices and edges where each edge is directed from one vertex to another and there are no loopbacks to any previously used vertex. Likewise every DAG has topological ordering where all directions must go sequentially from earlier edges to later edges.

For instance, spreadsheets can be modeled as DAGs, with a vertex for each cell and an edge whenever the formula in one cell uses the value from another. A topological ordering of this DAG can be used to update all cell values when the spreadsheet is changed.

DAGs may represent collections of events and their influence on each other. They may be used as compact holders of sequence data, such as directed-acyclic-word-graphs of a collection of strings, or binary-decision diagrams of sequences of binary choices.

dart(s) are used by rundogs to disable foes. On contact the dart acts as a hypodermic needle. Pressure on the "ball" forces the potion through the needle. The superalloy needle is capable of piercing lightweight body armor.



dataroom is the kennel's intelligence-gathering center. The dataroom crew parses data streams from reliable news orgs and academic journals, plus keyword searches about Transnat activities. The info bits are evaluated, categorized and vetted for data sleuths who

compile the info for current needs.

DB (acronym) Dog Breakfast is a covert SOAR co-op that works in conjunction with POE to ensure fair play. Its members include (from youngest to oldest):

Nyssa (Fu/Sis) Persson, brownbelt soon to be rundog;
Meghan (Meg) Getzler, orange belt, dataroom stalwart;
Subira (Subie) Herren, orange belt, dataroom super;
Fingar (Fing) white belt, lead hacker;
Shepp, rundog, expert swordsman;
Jenna (Jen/Pix) Marov, rundog, acrobat, climber;
Griswold (Griz) rundog, strength specialist;
JoAnna (Jo) rundog, ex-taxi driver;
Makoto (Mack) rundog, master of martial arts;
Nailah (Nigh) former rundog, Timekeeper;
Absen (Abb) Ho, rundog, Cook's partner, deceased;
Ahab (Cook) Ho, rundog, founder, top dog.

decon (short form) decontamination.

def (short-form slang) definite, definitely.

defrag (InfoTech slang) defragment of storage mediums. In realtime, data is written to the first available spaces. One file may be scattered across several locations. During idle moments the OS will defragment its data, combining each file to a continuous space and rearranging the files so that often used files are placed first in the queue.

de haut en bas (French) high-nosed, overbearing.

derruido (Latino) dilapidated.

dev (biz speak) development.

Diet is Japan's chief-legislative body of elected parliamentarians that meet in Tokyo.

Digiflex® is a class of powerful computing devices that run on Cybernaut hardware.

directeur (French) manager, supervisor.

dirigible(s) travel along scheduled routes from A to B. They normally glide at altitudes between 200 to 300 meters, but occasionally they'll soar higher to avoid obstacles. Their flightpaths may vary, due to wind and weather, but airships don't stray very far outside the publicized corridors.

DLT (acronym) Distributed Ledger Technology. DLT ensures maximum speed and integrity for digital interactions. It is the default machine-to-machine and user-to-vendor protocol of the HyperNet. DLT denies hackers and phoney superusers since its data streams are protected with cryptosecure-topological algorithms.

Doc Quark: DB's chief medical officer. Born 2025. Adult height: 170 centimeters; weight 82 kilograms; brown eyes, dark-brown hair. Joins Dog Breakfast 2049.

Dog Breakfast is a covert SOAR co-op that works in conjunction with POE to ensure fair play. Its members include (from youngest to oldest):

Nyssa (Fu/Sis) Persson, novice in training;

Meghan (Meg) Getzler, orange belt, dataroom stalwart;

Subira (Subie) Herren, orange belt, dataroom super;

Fingar (Fing) white belt, lead hacker;

Shepp, rundog, expert swordsman;

Jenna (Jen/Pix) Marov, rundog, acrobat, climber;

Griswold (Griz) rundog, strength specialist;

JoAnna (Jo) rundog, ex-taxi driver;

Makoto (Mack) rundog, master of martial arts;

Nailah (Nigh) former rundog, Timekeeper;

Absen (Abb) Ho, rundog, Cook's partner, deceased;

Ahab (Cook) Ho, rundog, founder, top dog.

dojo *DOH-jo* (Japanese) martial-arts den.

doobed is the past tense of the verb "to doob" which is derived from the noun doobie. Doobed signifies the mental state induced by a marijuana joint or another recreational substance.

DOT (acronym) Department Of Transportation.

DoubleYou (phonetic equivalent of 'W') short form for W. A. Rathbone.

DT (IT Acronym) DeskTop workstation.

DTC (acronym) Digital Toll Collector. DTC is an electronic blackbox installed on licensed motor vehicles. DTC calculates (via GPS) the distances traveled on tollways and then charges the owner's account.

Duoplastic® is the trademark of biodegradable, yet moisture-retentive packaging material.

DWI (traffic patrol acronym) Driving While Impaired.

Eco Evangelists are members of orgs that want to save the environment. Eco Evangelists are consumed with religious fervor. They will often pervert scientific evidence to fit their agendas.

Eff-Off is the name of SOAR co-op that specializes in programming digital devices.

e-hails are formalized electronic greeting cards bought online and user customizable. They come in 3-D or hologram with vocal or text-readable rhymes.

ellipsoid chamber is the inside of an ellipsoid where acolytes practice dodging laser beams that simulate enemy shooters. To qualify for rundog, acolytes must dodge at least 50 of 100 kill shots. Acolytes have nicknamed it the "torture" chamber.

EM (acronym) ElectroMagnetic wave/particle/field.

EMP (acronym) ElectroMagnetic Pulse.

email means electronic mail.

entêté (French) pig-headed.

Enzwag® is mild tranquilizer that aids digestion.

equatorial spaceports are artificial floating islands for stods that service the Frisbee Constellation. *See also* Lamu Spaceport, Galápagos Spaceport, Sao Tome Spaceport and Singapore Spaceport.

ESC (acronym) Enhanced Stability Control. ESC is often needed for vehicles traveling on public roads.

e-script describes an abbreviated form of English which has become the *lingua mundi* for electronic communications. E-script changes from year to year and decade to decade. It is very much a work in progress.

E-script is also informal shorthand for tweeters, chat groups and electronic correspondence. Examples of e-scripts:

FAQ = Frequently Asked Questions

GIGO = Garbage In, Garbage Out

ICED = I Can't Even Deal (with this)

LOL = Laughing Out Loud

INT = Intelligence

OMG = Oh My God.

B/C = Because

PITA = Pain In The Ass

TMI = Too Much Info

esposa (Latino) wife.

ETA (acronym) Estimated Time of Arrival.

EU (Euroland) is the acronym for European Union, a trading block that includes nations from Norway in the north to Crete in the south, from Ireland in the west to Turkey in the east. Politically the EU has evolved into a multilayered confederation of sovereign nations.

EULA (acronym) End User Licensing Agreement. EULAs set limits on software user rights and vendor liabilities.

Euro is the standard currency of the EU. 100 Euros equal 147.4 Amero\$, 83.3 Hong\$ or 152.9 crows. *Transaction values taken from final quotes on the SOW exchange on the 1st of May 2076.*

Euroland is somewhat of a barbed synonym for the European Union which strives to reach an integrated constituency, despite the fractious nature of its polyethnic members.

EVA (acronym) Extra-Vehicular Activity, a spacewalk.

everround is an electrical transformer and longterm capacitor.

Superconducting loops and symbiotic flywheels act in tandem to receive, hold and dispense current as needed.

Extrema® is a luxury sports car manufactured by SK Bonded Mobility, a subsidiary of Zesticon Plc.

Fablinx® is the trademark of a major apparel maker, based in Jakarta, whose CEO is Trevor Wynestoop's daughter Halle.

Facelook (social-media platform) is one of the oldest and most popular platforms. The commercial hard sell is subdued in favor of human interactions. Groups of like-minded individuals are very popular.

FAST (acronym) Financially Automated Services and Transactions.

fathom is a length measurement that equals 1.829 meters or six feet.

fibe is the short form for fiberoptic channel.

fieldname is a one-syllable tag rundogs use for dangerous raids.

Fingar, Habib (Fing): white belt, resident hacker, IT magician. Born in 2049. Adult height: 168 centimeters; weight: 81 kilograms; blue eyes; dark-brown hair. Develops new safety protocols for HyperNet in 2069. Joins Dog Breakfast co-op 2070.

fleabot is the common name for a malign worm that embeds itself in digital environments from time to time.

Flores is an Indonesian island where archeologists have found 50,000-year-old midget-sized protohuman skeletons.

Framework is a computer program that evaluates products for usefulness to the community, for resources consumed, assembly methods and the cost of recycling or disposal. The co-op with the highest score earns a five-year charter to market its good or service. Evaluation parameters are tweaked to accommodate the latest and most accurate scientific evidence.

free banking is an economic system where private enterprise takes

greater control of the money supply, thereby reducing the influence of government regulators.

freespace (SOAR slang) is vacuum space beyond planetary atmospheres where humans are weightless due to freefall.

Freespin is a SOAR co-op that makes precise components from innovative materials.

freezer plate is a common strategy for commercial operators since coolers don't always come with secondhand transmissions. The temperature-exchange plate sits behind the radiator fan and acts the same way as bona fide cooler of transmission fluid.

freír mi piojos (Latino) fry my lice.

frisbee (SOAR acronym) Freefloating Rotational Ingress Satellite for Bulk Export Exchange. 50 satellites move sequentially on identical and eccentric flightpaths. Frisbees are temporary warehouses for people or goods moving between low-earth orbit (LEO) and high-earth orbit (HEO).

Frisbees are long-lived and heavily shielded, unlike present-day satellites which seldom last beyond ten or twenty years. They've reduced travel costs between earth surface and the soup cans.

Superconducting magnetic hoops that equalize speeds between rendezvous spacecraft and frisbees have been proposed in Donald Kingsbury's *The Moon Goddess and the Son*, ©1986. This method may be original with the author. Similar ideas (deployed mass drivers) have been touted in NASA think tanks.

fuxgate (slang) spontaneous erotic fusion. 20th-century scientists linked fuxgates to luminous phases of the moon. However, this hypothesis has been largely debunked and psychologists now believe that fuxgates are caused by a lack of gravity.

FYI (acronym) For Your Information.

G-22 includes the wealthiest nations on earth, who have a vested interest in keeping themselves on top. They are China, USA, Russia, Japan,

India, Germany, UK, Brazil, France, Korea, Indonesia, Australia, United Canada, México, Argentina, Sweden, Egypt, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Venezuela and Turkey.

gaijin *GUYZ-ehn* (Japanese) foreigner.

Galápagos Spaceport is located southeast of the Galápagos archipelago.
[1° 32' S Latitude; 88° 51' W Longitude]

Geekland is a software retailer specializing in business solutions.

geopolymer is a postmodern term for Egyptian cement, a process where crushed basalt, sand or limestone is cured in solution. Geopolymer forms a slurry that dries and hardens into homogenous stone. The technique may have been used in ancient times to fashion the stone blocks of the pyramids and other fine ornaments.

GHG (acronym) Green-House Gas. GHGs reflect heat from escaping earth. They cause global temperatures to rise. Carbon dioxide is the number-one culprit along with methane. Other contributors are water vapor, nitrous oxide, ozone and industrial CFCs (fluorine-chlorine-methane compounds).

gimmie (verbal slang) give me.

Gizware Inc. is a global retailer of digital hardware and electronic accessories.

gimmie (verbal slang) give me.

gladius is a two-edged one-handed sword that's designed for agility and quick thrusts. It became standard equipment for Roman legionaries during the Punic wars.

glaresphere is a tiny sphere that releases stored electricity in brilliant flashes that cause temporary blindness.

GMT (acronym) Greenwich Mean Time. GMT is a standard global clock where local times are referenced to a single meridian of longitude. The use of GMT is less confusing when events occur on both sides of the International Date Line which runs in the Pacific Ocean from

North to South Pole.

gomi-yoki *go-me-YO-kee* (Japanese) garbage can.

gonna (verbal slang) going to. A bare infinitive verb.

Goranda ADR (Martin Gagnon) Brazil HQ. Subsidiaries include Ervilhas, a base-metals conglomerate; Lagosta, an integrated petroleum producer; Bigfoot, a maker and seller of earth-moving equipment; Pebbilocity, a maker/manager of fission reactors; Águia, a 2nd-tier aircraft maker.

Gorky Gödalefski: passenger on airship, paw of SOAR. Born 1997.

Goro: rooster for Mishima security, squad leader.

Gossamer Threads is a SOAR co-op that manufactures fabrics for gasbags, tethers, human apparel, windsails and solarsails.

gotta (verbal slang) got to. A bare infinitive verb.

GPS (acronym) Global Positioning Satellites. A constellation of satellites that pinpoint locations on earth's surface.

gram is a unit of mass or heft or weight as measured on earth-surface.

100 grams = 3.57 ounces

200 grams = 7.14 ounces

500 grams = 17.86 ounces

graphene is a sheet of carbon atoms on a plane of interconnected hexagons. If many sheets of graphene are found lying one atop the other in helter-skelter fashion, the ore body is called graphite.

gravity is the 8th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 270° from the vanguard (east).

GREENS (acronym) Graphic Reports on Ecological, Environmental and Natural Sciences. GREENS is a public co-op sponsored by SOAR off-worlders. Dedicated to planetary science, the co-op gathers and disseminates useful knowledge to maximize the noösphere.

Griswold (Griz): rundog. Born 2035. Adult height: 185 centimeters; weight: 121 kilograms; blue eyes; dirty-blond hair. Parents are killed

during urban riot in 2059, after which he joins insurgents. Arrested as terrorist in 2060. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2061.

GSS (acronym) Global Space Station. GSS orbits at an altitude of 600 kilometers. It has been built and refurbished from the salvage of the International Space Station.

GUI (IT acronym) Graphical User Interface.

GWOT (acronym) Global War On Terrorism, circa 2001-2054 after which GWOT went into its “mop up” phase.

GVT is the 8th-psign, 270° from the vanguard (east).

hafta (verbal slang) have to. A bare infinitive verb.

hai *HIGH* (Japanese) yes (sir implied).

Haida Gwaii is an archipelago off the westcoast of British Columbia (Tsawwassen Coastal Preserve), formerly called Queen Charlotte Islands.

haikara *high-kah-dlra* (Japanese) fashionable, classy.

hahmbahga is a phonetic rendition of the Japanese word for hamburger.

Han Yu manages a Malaysian subsidiary of Zesticon. He's the designated host of the summit in Petronas tower 2.

Hargrave is the name of Englishman who first built a box kite. Hargraves are synonymous with multistacked box kites.

haute couture (French) high-fashion seamstress.

HCS (Financial acronym) HOAM credits. HCs have emerged in the latter half of the 21st-century as the legitimate global currency. Euroland has recently asked member states to evaluate their GDPs in HCs because the results lend global, noninflationary perspectives.

hearing is the 4th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 30° from the vanguard (north by northwest).

He (science acronym) is the short form for the element helium.

head canoe is the finest canoe of a band or village community. It holds

about 30 voyageurs plus cargo. The head canoe stands for (by size and workmanship) the prestige of the band.

hectare is a unit of area measurement. One hectare equals 2.47 acres and approximates the size of a city block. A typical spacer nexus encompasses about 15 hectares.

hej *HAY* (Swedish) hi, hello.

Héloïse Peuchot: passenger on airship, tourist from soupkans. Born 2002.

Hésheng® is the vendor of medicinal products that mimic traditional Chinese lore.

hilomorf is the nickname given to a family of genetically tailored, mood-enhancement drugs. Hilomorfs are not cheap but effective. They aren't normally addictive unless used to excess over lengthy periods.

highres (short form) high resolution.

HKS (acronym) Hong Kong Syndicate. The HKS represents a Southeast Asian trading block that consists of Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Singapore and several satellite jurisdictions.

HOAM® (acronym) Hyper-Optional Appendant Marketplace. HOAM facilitates sharing and barter among linked computers. Computer owners get virtual credits by allowing 3rd-parties to use idle processors.

holoflix are multisense media presented in holographic format. Holoflix may be experienced in holo dens or in private by using holojamborees.

holojamboree is a device that projects VR environments for viewers of holoflix. Upscale holojamborees enhance the experience with tactile cues and odors.

holoproj (short-form slang) holo projector. It projects holographic images in Ultracolorakinesis and synchronized audio.

holoshield is a holographic wrapper that conceals someone or something

from view. It requires high-speed software to make a plausible image that updates in realtime.

holovid (holoflix) is a cinematic presentation in holographic format. It renders a 3D visual experience with authentic audio, which includes VR touch and smell for high-end devices.

holowafer is a thin, six-sided read/write disk, holding digital data in multiple formats.

Hong\$ signify Hong Kong dollar(s), the currency of HKS. 100 Hong\$ equal 120.0 Euros, 177.0 Amero\$ or 196.7 crows. *Transaction values taken from final quotes on the SOW exchange on the 1st of May 2076.*

hors d'oeuvres (French) savory appetizers.

HR (biz acronym) Human Resources assigns suitable bodies for tasks.

hypermall is a spectacular collection of retailers and entertainments. Shoppers who don AR glasses are fed prices and specs for in-store products.

HyperNet is the 21st-century acceleration of the Internet. It connects via fiberoptic channels and satlinks which facilitate commercial enterprises, wired & wireless communications, audiovisual webcasts and holoflix downloads.

ID (acronym) identity. 21st-century smartcards include transcripts of sequenced DNA and biometric imprints that render foolproof personal ID insofar as the public issuer maintains incorruptible records.

IED (Military acronym) Improvised Explosive Device.

IMF (acronym) International Monetary Fund.

Imperial Circus is the world's most celebrated traveling circus.

indie (short form) independent. Indie signifies small-timers or unknowns in the corporate façade of the 21st-century.

infowand is a magnetic stylus for reading or writing of data between digital devices.

inshore breeze is a meteorological fact. The sun's rays are absorbed more freely on land than on sea, so the air temperature warms over the land. Hot air rises, creating a partial vacuum. Dense-cold air over the water rushes in to occupy the vacuum. After dark the wind is reversed since the air over land cools faster than air over water.

IO (acronym) In-Out. IO refers to bays and interfaces through which data is passed between humans and digital devices.

IRQ (acronym) Interrupt Request. IRQs regulate subsystems within the digital system.

IRS (acronym) Internal Revenue Service, the agency that collects taxes owing from USA citizens and corporations. IRS also investigates fraudulent claimers.

IT (acronym) Information Technology, InfoTech.

ITER (acronym) International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor and the allied nations that aim to build it.

IV (acronym) IntraVenous.

Jade Runner: aboriginal fisher, amateur astronomer. 173 centimeters; 81 kilograms; brown eyes; black hair. Born 2060.

Jan Harkonen: Microbiologist. Born 1998. Adult height: 174 centimeters; weight: 83 kilograms; blue eyes, scant white hair. Awarded Nobel Prize in 2050. Immigrated to soupcan Tesla-3 in 2057.

Jenna (Jen, Pix) Marov: rundog. Born 2037 in Yakutsk, Russia. Adult height: 150 centimeters; weight: 44 kilograms; brown eyes, black hair. Climbs the Eiffel Tower in 2052. Joins Imperial Circus in 2052. Earns top billing as aerial acrobat 2053. Quits Imperial Circus in 2059. Climbs the Andes until falsely arrested for theft in 2061. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2061.

jinni are Muslim-style ghosts, angels, demons.

JIT (acronym) Just-In-Time.

JoAnna (Jo/Kemosabe): rundog. Born 2035. Adult height: 178 centimeters; weight: 71 kilograms; yellow eyes; red-flaming hair. She drives taxi in Miami 2054-6. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2057.

Job is a character in the Hebrew Tanakh. He's the victim of countless misfortunes sent by God to test his loyalty. The Book of Job is a marvelous quest to understand why God can sometimes saddle his most pious devotees with the worst fates imaginable.

jumbo jets seldom cruise lower 8,000-meters, except around airports during takeoffs and landings.

Kavita: red belt, Fingar's life partner and understudy. Born in 2048. Adult height: 170 centimeters; weight: 62 kilograms; hazel eyes, light-brown hair. Joins Dog Breakfast co-op 2066.

kawan *kuhwun* (Malay) friend.

keester (slang) buttocks.

kekko desu *KEE-koh dee-su* (Japanese) no thanks.

kemosabe is the made-up name that Tonto used to address the Lone Ranger.

kennel is the home and training facility of Dog Breakfast co-op. The kennel resides in the underbelly of Tsawwassen.

kerf (machinist term) ditch, groove.

kex (SOAR acronym) Knowledge & Entertainment eXchange. Kex is the online provider for metics in SOAR communities.

kibun *KEE-bun* (Japanese) feeling, mood.

kilo (short-form slang) one-thousand. Kilos are often taken to mean kilograms.

kilogram is a measure of mass. 100 kilograms equal 221 pounds. A quart of milk on earth weighs about one kilogram.

kilom (short form) kilometer. Eight kilometers equal five miles approximately.

King Grod (urban slang) a pushy apelike man, a real shithead.

kinkan *KEN-KAH-n* (Japanese) kumquat.

Kiribati is an archipelago confederation in Pacific Ocean. (See Tarawa atoll)

kissaten *keys-SAH-TEN* (Japanese) teahouse, coffee shop.

KLCC (acronym) Kuala Lumpur City Center. KLCC signifies the Petronas Towers complex, especially the hypermall at the towers' feet.

KLP (acronym) Kuala Lumpur Police.

köttbullar (Swedish) meatballs.

KP (acronym) Kitchen Police. KP signifies the crew responsible for food preparation, cooking, baking, serving and clean up.

kph (acronym) kilometer(s) per hour.

Kuàicǎn Guō (Chinese name) Yellow Pot.

kujira *KU-Jldr-ah MAH-dlru* (Japanese) Surname for the freighter at Mishima dock. *Kujira* means whale, and Hakudo Maru is the mythical spirit who taught humans how to make ships. "Maru" is normally added onto Japanese ship names.

kumiai no tsuyoi otoko *koo-ME-EYE no TSU-YO-eye OH-toe-ko* (Japanese) guild of strong men.

Kung is the name of a small village on the western shore of Virago Sound, Graham Island, Haida Gwaii.

Kursk was a Russian submarine K-141. On 12 August 2000, the crew tried to test-fire a torpedo which exploded in its launch tube. *Kursk* sank in relatively shallow water. However, bumbling and arrogance by Russian Navy brass ensured that none of the hands onboard survived.

Kwajalein Atoll is located 9° North of Equator in the Marshall Island chain. It has an old USA rocket launch facility on Meck Island.

Kyogiboya Ltd. is a bigtime maker of VR & AR glasses, digital games and

media accelerators for holojamborees.

Lamu Spaceport is located off the coast of Kenya, on the western coast of Africa. [2° 30' S, latitude; 41° E, longitude]

l'amusement dans un toilettes (French) fun in the washroom.

L5 (astronomical acronym) signifies an equilibrium node in cislunar space where a spacecraft or satellite remains in a fixed orbit with respect to earth and moon. Astronomers and orbital mechanics often use "L5" in reference to both the L4 and L5 regions, which were first calculated by Joseph-Louis Lagrange in the 18th-century. L4 lies roughly 60° forward the moon on its orbital path, and L5 lies roughly 60° after the moon on its orbital path.

LAN means Local-Area Network. It refers to a group of computers (usually in a single building or site complex) linked with fibers or coaxial cables.

Lanwich is fast becoming the postmodern *lingua mundi*. It is the universal solvent of computer literacy. Lanwich consists of e-scripts, emoticons or any lingo generated on digital keyboards, displayed visually or vocalized. Emoticons stand for single phonemes or whole phrases of informal communication. Lanwich has developed several distinct dialects, which means it falls short of becoming a true universal language. *See also* e-script.

LAX (aviation call sign) Los Angeles International Airport.

LeBab® is a software app issued by Allscribe and Shrinkwrap. LeBab renders voice and text translations for 29 major languages.

LED (acronym) Light-Emitting Diode. LEDs are rugged and compact. They consume less electricity while emitting light for 15 years or more.

Lickadust is a SOAR co-op that makes robotic vacuum cleaners and fine-woven straw brooms.

liter measures liquid. It equals 1.057 US quarts.

Long Hand is the chief carver of Kung, husband to Nighthawk, supposed father of Raven. Born 2041.

lox (acronym) liquid oxygen.

LRT (acronym) Light Rapid Transit.

LSO (navy acronym) Landing Signal Officer.

LT (IT acronym) LapTop computer or prompter.

Lustifer® hormonizes one's biologic clock. It's a potent cure for jetlag.

Macapa Spaceport is located off the northern coast of Brazil, near the mouth of the Amazon River. [0° 10' N, latitude; 52° W, longitude]

mackinaw (aboriginal) outback jacket. Although not a Haida word per se, mackinaw has become common in the North American vernacular. It would be known and used by Haida Gwaiians in the late 21st-century. Mackinaw has also been used to describe a woolen coat. In the 19th-century, officials in the USA used "mackinaw" to signify the woolen blankets that were unwittingly infested with smallpox and given to aboriginals living on reservations.

Makoto (Mack): rundog. Born 2029. Adult height: 174 centimeters; weight: 79 kilograms; gray eyes; salt & pepper hair. Becomes a champion of samurai arts in 2049. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2053.

Malcolm is a whitebelt mole in Dog Breakfast co-op. Unfortunately for him the rundogs know he is a mole. Born 2047. Adult height: 184 centimeters; weight: 91 kilograms; brown eyes; black hair. Infiltrates DB in December 2075.

Male Spaceport is located near the South Male Atoll, south of the subcontinent of India. [4° 0' N, latitude; 73° E, longitude]

Mallard® is a platinum-based fuel cell in which hydrogen and oxygen combine to produce electrical power. It runs 99.9% pollution free, not counting the catalytic process that unbinds hydrogen from methanol and releases carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

mama (quasi-phonetic Russian) mother.

mamma (Swedish) mother.

mano a mano (Latino) one on one.

Manokwari Spaceport is located off the northern coast of the island of New Guinea (Indonesian portion) [1° 50' S, latitude; 133° E longitude]

Mannaka no Tokyo (Japanese) city-center train station.

Martin Gagnon CEO of Goranda ADR. Born 2007. Adult height: 180 cents; weight: 89 kilograms; brown eyes; gray hair. Appointed CEO of Goranda in 2059. Joins transnat cartel in 2068.

maternity leave is a SOAR custom. Embryos in low gravity develop weaker bones and organs. Prospective mothers are encouraged to undergo pregnancy on earth. They get a three-year paid leave of absence from their jobs in the soups. After a successful birth they bond for two years before they hand their child to the crèches.

MAX-phase represents a group of ternary compounds that exhibit ceramic toughness and sheer tolerance superior to conventional alloys. The most common example is titanium silicon carbonate (Ti₃SiC₂).

MB (acronym) Muskeg Buzzard® which is a superb blend of bourbon.

McJoys® is a franchised fast-food chain. It has been accused of serving more sclup than normal food, although it has never been convicted in court.

megadiversity countries include México, Brazil, Columbia, Zaire, Madagascar and Indonesia. They hold a major portion of the world's biodiversity and are most at risk. (*Source: World Wildlife Fund.*)

Meghan (Meg) Getzler: orange belt, dataroom sorter. Born 2045 Adult height: 178 centimeters; weight: 76 kilograms; gray eyes; brown hair. Becomes a widow 2066. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2067.

melancòlico (Latino) sad, blue.

merc is the short form of mercenary.

meter is the standard measurement for length or distance. One meter is equal to 100 centimeters, 3.2808 feet or 1.0936 yards.

metic signifies a person who has SOAR citizenship. Metics are entitled to a vote on social policy as soon as they've joined a co-op. Inmates of debtors' college may express their opinions but their votes have no effect. August-age metics who have retired outside SOAR communities are likewise ineligible to vote.

mettre à nu (French) expose the body.

microamp is much smaller, more efficient and more complex than a photodiode. It outputs electronic signatures based on the polarizing angles of input photons.

mignon (French) cute.

millimeter is one/tenth of a centimeter or 0.03937 inches.

MIP (acronym) Molecular Imprinted Polymer.

MIA (military acronym) Missing In Action.

Mishima Industries Ltd. is a metallurgic company based in Osaka, Japan.

The security crew includes:

Yamazaki Kazuo, security chief;

Hiroshi, Kazuo's boss;

Vlad, rooster, East Euroland immigrant;

Akihito, rooster, squad leader;

Goro, rooster, squad leader.

Mistress is the nickname of Naïlah, former rundog and now the Timekeeper.

mm is the short form for millimeter. A millimeter equals one-tenth of a centimeter. *See also* cent, centimeter.

MO (acronym) Modus Operandi or mode of operation.

moças (Portuguese) gals.

Monkey See® is a popular OS. More than 90% of digital devices use Monkey See until 2077.

MOPS (IT acronym) signifies Method Overload Personality Smear, an aberrant behavioral phenomenon that may occur with Ultimate Companion if it runs beyond its expiry date.

moving is the 7th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 300° from the vanguard (east by northeast).

MRI (acronym) Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

mucho *Moot'jo* (Latino) very.

Munchkin is an international condiments vendor.

nafuda *NAF UD AH* (Japanese) dog tag.

Nailah Bhullar (Nigh): former rundog. Born 2019. Adult height: 178 centimeters; weight: 66 kilograms; emerald-green eyes; brown hair. Runs off with boyfriend against parents' wishes in 2037. Abandoned by boyfriend and is later arrested. Meets Absen Ho in 2041. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2046.

naïf (French) patsy, dupe.

natch (short-form slang) naturally.

NAV (acronym) Net Asset Value. NAV is the “commonly agreed upon” book value of a corporation's properties and inventory, minus its outstanding debt obligations. If a corporation's books are accurate and transparent, NAV becomes the intrinsic value of its net worth.

NCO (military acronym) Non-Commissioned Officer. NCOs lead from the front. In any army NCOs have the most battlefield experience, for they've risen from the lowest ranks. To maintain their status, they must show courage and physical fitness. Julius Cæsar huddled directly with his NCOs and bypassed aristocrats who held titular commands.

NCC (acronym) Nexus Node Cruncher. NCC is a memory-intensive node server that coordinates up to 75 high-end workstations. Each NCC

may be configured in parallel with other node servers.

Nd-YAG (acronym) neodymium-doped yttrium-aluminum garnet which is a crystal used as a lasing medium for solid-state lasers.

NEA (acronym) Near-Earth Asteroid. NEA refers to asteroids that cross the orbit of earth. By 2050, more than 1,000 NEAs have been catalogued and surveyed for volatiles such as hydrogen, carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, potassium, calcium, phosphorus; and nonvolatiles such as silicon, iron, aluminum, titanium...

nej *nay* (Swedish) no.

nej tack *nay tack* (Swedish) no thanks.

nerdofil is an outlawed recreational drug. It brings on ecstasy by triggering a rapid release of dopamine. After a month of usage, nerdofil increases oral saliva, causes heart palpitations, destroys brain cells and damages the liver.

netscreen (InfoTech) represents a class of safeguards that stop the malevolent corruption of network apps.

NGO (acronym) NonGovernmental Organization.

Nguyet Nãi is the marquee name of a glamorous actress who played lead roles in 69 mega-popular holoflix from 2049 to 2077.

Nighthawk: chief gardener of Kung, mother of Raven. Born 2046.

ni hablar *NEE AH-blar* (Latino) no way, forget it.

nitrocooler is a portable containment vessel for quick-freezing and saving of ejaculated semen. Nitrocoolers are sized and shaped like a large apple. They feature snakelike coils of liquid nitrogen interlaced under the insulation skin. If the nitrocooler is kept sealed and unused, the nitrogen coolant stays effective for one-lunar cycle.

NNC (InfoTech acronym) Network Nexus Computer or LAN server.

NT (IT Acronym) Nexus Terminal, a server that shepherds workstations and regulates network streams.

NOAM (acronym) North AMerican trading alliance. NOAM represents the free-trade zone and common currency of North & Central America and the Caribbean, including Columbia, but excluding Cuba, Nicaragua and Panama.

NoEmbryo® is a popular birth-control device widely used by females. NoEmbryo is a small ring that is laced with hormonal agents. Some women claim the rings stimulate vaginal muscles and so amplify sexual pleasure.

nomiya *NO-ME-yah* (Japanese) tavern(s), neighborhood pub(s).

nous traversons (French) we go across.

Nova is an aerospace supplier based in Kazakhstan, a subsidiary of Zesticon Plc.

Novatron Ltd. is a division of SonyKong Ltd. Novatron produces flatview and holographic dreamscapes.

NSA (acronym) National Security Agency.

NT (IT Acronym) Nexus Terminal, a server that shepherds workstations and regulates network streams.

nyet (quasi-phonetic Russian) no.

Nyssa (Fu/Sis) Persson: newcomer to Dog Breakfast Co-op. Born 2050. Adult height: 170 centimeters; weight: 59 kilograms; blue eyes; brown hair. Attends an actors' academy, in 2069. Escort (sexual therapist) in Tokyo 2070-72. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2073.

octal is the smallest coin in TCP, an eighth of a crow.

OECD (acronym) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

OEM (IT acronym) Original Equipment Manufacturer. An OEM license covers the instance where one corporation's component is embedded in another corporation's device. The component is only licensed for the specific device in which it's embedded. In practice, folks who labor in the secondary (graymarket) market make no bones about

taking doors or fenders from one vehicle and placing them on another.

okina ashi *OH-KE-nuh AH-SHE-h* (Japanese) big foot.

okina yatsu-san *OH-KE-nuh YAH-tsu-sahn* (Japanese) Mr. Big Guy.

Okuno Ayumi (Japanese last names written first) CEO of SonyKong Ltd.

Born 2012. Adult height: 171 cents; weight: 56 kilograms; brown eyes; black hair. CEO of Novatron in 2044. CEO of SonyKong after reverse takeover in 2052. Joins transnat cartel in 2056.

ombudsfolk signify the watchdogs of bureaucratic co-ops in SOAR communities.

omoshiroi tomodachi *OH-MO-she-dlroy TOE-mo-DAH-che* (Japanese) interesting friend(s).

One share, one vote (international biz reform) Following the presidency of Donald Trump, the USA undertook major reforms of its stock markets. They outlawed double-tier common shares. Owners of multiple-voting shares would need to buy additional shares or forfeit their bonus votes. The reforms went into effect in 2023. By 2030 all other major markets followed suit.

oolakon (also spelled oolichan, eulachon) is a smelt that thrives along the westcoast of NOAM. Oolakon oil is used as a cooking base and lubricant. Seasoned oil (oolakon grease) acquires a very strong aroma. It is said the odor of oolakon grease will stop a charging bear.

ops (biz acronym) operations. By sheer coincidence ops is pronounced like Ops, the ancient Roman god of abundance.

OPV (acronym) Organic PhotoVoltaic cells configured as thin-film polymers.

OS (acronym) Operating System. OS represents the interface that translates human queries into digital machinations and returns understandable answers.

ottets (quasi-phonetic Russian) father.

oughta (verbal slang) ought to. A bare infinitive verb.

Pacifica Spaceport is located on an artificial island southwest of Kiritimati. [0° 45' S, latitude; 157° 30' W, longitude]

pakol (Persian) floppy woolen cap.

pal (SOAR acronym) Person Acknowledged Locally. Pals have earned special recognition from their co-op peers.

palmslate is a flat multipurpose computer (tablet) that measures 16 by 20 centimeters.

pancit are ropelike seaweed noodles rich in calcium and magnesium.

panga (Swahili) machete, cutlass.

paraglass is a transparent ceramal (ceramic alloy). Embedded in paraglass are microrefractors to cut distortions when looking through curved surfaces.

paw (SOAR acronym) Person Acknowledged Widely. Paws signify metics who have made unique contributions benefitting many co-ops. The status of paw is awarded for achievements in fields of science, technology, education or social services.

p-code is preassembly code that is converted to runtime upon execution. In the 21st-century, p-code has become the default executable protocol. Software vendors encrypt their wares in proprietary p-code, which can be run on diverse hardware-software combinations. To some extent, end users may customize p-code executables to suit their needs.

PCPU (acronym) Photon-Central Processing Unit. PCPU forms the dynamic inner brains of digital processors, circa 2077.

PEMF (acronym) Pulsed ElectroMagnetic Field.

Penrose tiles were discovered by Roger Penrose in the 20th-century. The tiles consisted of pentagonal slices, and they exhibited unique properties in a planar environment, where pentagons didn't normally fit edge-to-edge. Although Penrose tiles were just a mathematical

curiosity, they contributed to the discovery of quasicrystals i.e. Buckminster fullerenes.

pet (SOAR acronym) PsignoEmotional Therapist. Pets are professionals who render personal and psychoanalytical healing. Some pets apply mental techniques; others apply sensual therapy.

Peter refers to Peter the Great (1672-1725), dynamic Tsar, builder of St. Petersburg and founding father of modern Russia.

phat (short-form slang) Pretty Hips And Thighs. More generally, phat means attractive, shapely, endearing.

pi signifies 3.141592653589793238462643383279...

plaisir (French) pleasure.

PNA (acronym) Peptide Nucleic Acid. PNAs exhibit some attributes of RNA and DNA.

POE (SOAR acronym) Public Observers Elect. POE is an oversight co-op whose members are ombudsfolk. They're the only metics authorized to access the audiovisual records of public eyes. Public observers must follow strict protocols that respect metics' privacy while they scrutinize suspicious activities and disclose only those details needed for the courts of justice.

POE relies on Dog Breakfast co-op for operational forays. DB gathers onsite evidence firsthand, but it must follow the same constraints as POE itself. Operators carry cams that record their deeds.

pogrc (SOAR acronym) PsignoOrganic Guidance-Response Counselor. A pogrc is a registered physician who tailors supplemental mixes to individual tastes, lifestyles and body chemistries. Their amends are recorded with the SOAR health authority, which manages the feedback database for specific age groups, lifestyle needs and genotypes.

Pol Ling is a janitor at Petronas Tower 1. He owes favors to Ahab & Absen Ho who have worked as security troubleshooters based out of

Singapore.

politburo is Russia's chief legislative assembly.

POTUS (USA acronym) President Of The United States.

POV (Acronym) Point Of View.

PR flapper (biz slang) is a public relations spokesperson. The author owes a grave debt to Johnathan Swift who first coined "flapper" in *Gulliver's Travels*.

prob (short-form slang) problem.

prompter is a mobile computing device (laptop) with all the bells & whistles.

Prozayick® is a metabolic regulator. It uplifts moods, revamps self-esteem and goads users to reduce body fat with strident exercise or involuntary barfing.

psignologists study the straight facts under the frilled cloak of astrology. They connect patterns of human behavior with astronomical cycles, day cycles, year cycles, etc.

Agriculture has played a crucial role in the pageant of human civilization. Year after year, farmers sow and harvest crops at similar times in the seasonal calendar. To be able to do so requires an intimate knowledge of the length of the year. Egyptian skywatchers needed an accurate year length to predict the Nile's seasonal floods. They reckoned the time between vernal equinoxes at about 365.25 days. Julius Caesar sought their advice when he reformed the Roman calendar.

As well, Egyptian skywatchers discovered the precession of the equinoxes, owing to their custom of aligning temples and pyramids to face the pole star. Within a few centuries they saw their structures had veered away from the star sightings. During the Greco-Roman era the vernal equinox coincided with the constellation Aries. Thus, astrologers of the time associated twelve sectors of the year with the popular lore of twelve star groups. However, these constellations

have shifted about 26° from where they were 2,000 years ago. Nowadays there is no valid connection between the star groups and the seasonal sectors.

Those who deny that humans are not affected by celestial phenomena would have us believe the average temperature in Alaska is the same in the summer as it is in the winter. Residents who live near the Arctic circle know better.

By observing sunspot activity, scientists often warn commercial airlines of higher risks for electronic failures during high-altitude flights. Likewise by observing annual-rainfall patterns and snow-pack accumulations that feed local watersheds, scientists can advise farmers to expect summer floods or droughts with a fair degree of assurance.

Anyone who lives along the seacoast has seen the regular rise and fall of ocean levels. The moon's gravitational pull is primarily responsible for this behavior. When the moon aligns with the sun or directly opposite the sun, the tides rise and fall to a greater degree. A force that causes megatons of water to rise must also affect rock formations underfoot. Therefore, it is no surprise that a significant number of earthquakes have occurred around new and full moons.

Carl Payne Tobey has found correlations between major earthquakes and the sun's angular relationship to the moon's nodes. Major quakes that have caused human deaths and ruined dwellings occur more often when the sun is conjoined or perpendicular to the moon's nodes. Earthquakes that strike away from human communities are not included in his statistical analysis, even if the tremors have registered high on the Richter scale.

When the moon transits one of its nodes, it is aligned closely with the earth's equator. When the moon transits halfway between nodes, it is aligned as much as 28 degrees above or below earth's equator. Consider how a carpenter pulls a bent nail from a wooden board. Instead of yanking with brute force, he wiggles the nail from side to side, after which it comes out easily. Oblique tugs from the moon wiggle the continental plates until they slip free and trigger an

earthquake.

I have conducted a more extensive study of less famous earthquakes over the last 150 years and confirmed Tobey's findings.

Geologists seldom distinguish between earthquakes that cause great losses of life and quakes that occur in unpopulated regions. If they downplay the Richter scale and focus on quakes that damage human habitats, they might well profit from collaborations with psignologists.

Psignologists can focus the likelihood of earthquakes to 120 days per year. Earthquakes that cause many fatalities and extensive damage often fall within these 120 days. But vague predictions aren't enough. Geologists must collaborate and add their expertise during these critical periods. Otherwise, folks will regard the public alerts with the same skepticism as the boy who cried wolf. They'll ignore the warnings and then find themselves unprepared when a quake finally strikes.

To see how celestial cycles foreshadow cultural changes and realpolitiks: <www.psignologic.net/history.html>

psigns are pronounced like signs. They encompass and framework any natural group. Below the psigns are listed by number-name, direction and elemental identity. Readers may choose to combine three lists together, though each serves a different purpose.

- 1) taste, 120°, 3D - electron;
- 2) urgency, 90°, WEST, 3D - up ;
- 3) smell, 60°, 3D - tau neutrino;
- 4) hearing, 30°, 3D - charm;
- 5) seeing, 0°, NORTH, 3D - muon;
- 6) breathing, 330°, 3D - bottom;
- 7) moving, 300°, 3D - electron neutrino;
- 8) gravity, 270°, EAST, 3D - down;
- 9) coordinating, 240°, 3D - tau;
- 10) warmth, 210°, 3D - strange;
- 11) balance, 180°, SOUTH, 3D - muon neutrino;
- 12) touch, 150°, 3D - top.

Psignwheel (mandala) signifies 12 psigns arranged in circular fashion.

Metics of Dog Breakfast co-op visualize the psignwheel as an aid to help them focus. From the top and moving counterclockwise, the psigns displayed are: seeing, hearing, smell, urgency, taste, touch, balance, warmth, coordinating, gravity, moving, breathing.

Pteropus is the scientific name for fruit bat or flying fox, the largest species of bat.

Public Eye is the standard surveillance recorder in SOAR habitats. Public eyes record 12-million pixels-per-frame in 24-qubit color at 75 frames per-second, with the visual stream synchronized to digital audio.

qat (SOAR acronym) Quantum Assassination Theory. Qat training gives acolytes physical excellence and sharpened senses. The sessions involve intensive practice and psignologic meditation.

QCC (acronym) Quantum-Compu Cradle. Since the 20th-century, researchers have tried to construct an ultrafast quantum processor. The tallest hurdle has always been decoherence. Complex algorithms accumulate too many errors, which nullifies the quantum advantage. QCC however runs in a separate processing loop. Smart programmers evoke QCC to perform simplex calculations.

QMA (acronym) Qualified Medical Advocate. QMAs are qualified to handle traumas in humans or animals. They deal with burns, lacerations and fractured bones. They handle emergency surgeries and harmonize the 12 meridians. QMAs yield to the guidance and supervision of a pogrc. *See also* pogrc.

qubit is the basic unit of info for quantum-computing devices. A qubit refers to a dual state of info storage. A qubit retains both zero & one at the same time. The term qubit has become so popular that folks mistakenly refer to storage data in terms of qubits, but in fact persistent data consists of simple bits.

quebie (slang) cubicle jockey, white-collar networker.

rad (urban slang) radical misfit.

Ralph Heck is the CEO of Beuack AG. Born 2004. Adult height: 183 cents; weight: 126 kilograms; blue eyes; gray-balding hair. Vice-president of World Bank in 2041. Appointed CEO of Beuack in 2051. Joins transnat cartel in 2064.

RAM (Infotech acronym) Random-Access Memory. RAM is quick access memory that's available for processing. Data can be read or written in almost the same amount of time irrespective of its physical location.

Raven (Rave) Rocksong: aboriginal forager, ambitious dreamer. 168 centimeters; 65 kilograms, gray eyes, jet-black hair. Born 2061.

RDC (SOAR acronym) Recreational Drug Catholicon. Every SOAR community supplies an RDC that operates under strict guidelines. Authorized merchants must ensure that all purchases are recorded on SNET. *See also* SOAR, SNET.

real money is money in circulation that pays the rent, buys groceries or restaurant tabs. Economists call “real money” M1 to distinguish it from M2 or M3 or M4 which are like Wall Street poker chips. They are worthless IOUs that are only recognized by borrowers, lenders, investment bankers and stockbrokers.

For instance, go to a commodities' market and buy the delivery of 1,000 pork bellies at such & such time. Let's suppose you hold the contract until the closing date. Will you receive 1,000 pork bellies? Not a chance. The betting game is over, and all you get are house chips which only go toward the next game.

When the word “money” is used in this essay, it always refers to real money. The other kinds of money are make-believe monopoly money that serve the ultrarich at the expense of everyone else. A fair market does NOT need monopoly money to function efficiently. In fact monopoly money encourages middlemen who seldom contribute to products that are bought and sold in the “real” economy. Hence, the hidden costs of advertisers and lenders act as drags on the

economy which in turn raises the retail prices of goods and services.

Regent Electro® is a luxury electric-powered sedan which is made by Timor Automotive, a subsidiary of Zesticon.

REM (acronym) Rapid Eye Movement. REM is a lighter phase of sleep that revamps images and emotional experiences in the form of dreams.

reprofactuary is a protozygote bank. Women of childbearing age are entitled to make selective sperm deposits from their partners. Their reprofactuary accounts are held in strict confidence before, during and after “in vitro” pregnancies.

RF (acronym) radio frequency.

RFID (acronym) Radio Frequency Identification.

right ascension is the angle of sidereal time along the earth's equator. It can be measured in hours or increments of 360°. The zero point (hour) is marked when the equatorial plane parallels the zodiac at the Spring Equinox. The sidereal count resets to zero each time the earth spins full around. Some minor corrections may be added or subtracted to achieve the accuracy of atomic clocks.

R&OB (acronym) Rawgeld&Ostrich Basilica Ltd. R&OB is a corporation that makes and sells survivalist gear.

ROM (InfoTech acronym) Read-Only Memory. ROM chips hold machine algorithms which are necessary for computer functionality. Some ROM chips do have writable portions that enable users to configure devices for special tasks.

ROS (InfoTech Acronym) Robotic Operating System is a software platform designed to assimilate sensory data, evaluate what it means and fulfill the designated functions. ROS computers require extra USB ports to accommodate smart preceptors, sensory feedbacks and appendage actuators.

rooster (nickname) home guard or enforcer. Armed roosters are trained to safeguard compounds from intruders.

rocket boat (Russian quasi-phonetic) fuck god.

ruex (French) streets.

rundog means the same thing as blackbelt in the school of qat. Rundog signifies the 6th-level or penultimate achievement.

sage (French) well-behaved.

SAM (acronym) Surface-to-Air Missile.

samisen *sha-mih-sen* (Japanese) guitar-like instrument.

Sao Tome Spaceport is located near the island of Sao Tome, off the eastern coast of Africa. [0° 20' N, latitude; 6° 30' E, longitude]

savoir-faire (French) social expertise, having know-how or savvy.

sayonara *SAH-YO-NAH-dlruh* (Japanese) farewell.

SC (SOAR acronym) SOAR Co-op.

Scampora® is a two-passenger get-about made by Timur Engine & Wheel.

Schrödinger's cat (quantum physics) famous thought experiment made by Schrödinger in 1935. A cat is placed in a box with a Geiger counter pointed at a radioactive substance. If the Geiger counter detects a threshold of decay, it releases poison gas that kills the cat. Since the decay rate is random, researchers cannot know whether the cat is alive unless they look inside. Thus a quantum paradox, for the cat in the box is neither dead nor alive.

slcup is a protein supplement that is brewed from desalinated glasswort and saltbush, plus ethanol derivatives, methanogenic bacteria, artificial flavors and fortifying additives. Sculp yields more protein than hybrid soybeans.

scoop is a website suffix that stands for generic SOAR co-op.

seeing is the 5th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points in the vanguard position (north).

segundo (Latino) second, 1/60th of a minute.

SFE (acronym) the Space-Faring Enterprise. SFE was founded in 2023; it includes ASI (Italy), BNSC (United Kingdom), CNES (France), CNSA (China), CSA (Canada), CSIRO (Australia), DLR (Germany), ESA (European Space Agency), ISRO (India), JAXA (Japan), KARI (Korea), NASA (USA), NSAU (Ukraine), ROSCOSMOS (Russia). Between 2037 and 2046, SFE completed ten “manned” expeditions to Mars and/or Phobos. Its semipermanent Mars Base was abandoned after 2046.

Shepp: rundog, Nyssa's guide & partner. Born 2042. Adult height: 190 centimeters; weight: 101 kilograms; dark-brown eyes; black hair. Works for trucking outfit (smuggling contraband) in 2061. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2063.

shimatta *SHE-MAH-tuh* (Japanese) damn, damn it.

shinshitsu *SHIN-SHE-TZU* (Japanese) bedroom(s).

Shrinkwrap Inc. (Torero Grabb) USA HQ. Subsidiaries include Geekway, a software retailer specializing in business solutions; Ditzzy World, a theme park manager; Coordinated Transportation Services; Rabid Robotics for Fun and Enterprise.

simba (Swahili) lion.

Singapore Spaceport is located near Singapore Island at the southern tip of the Malaysian peninsula. [2° 15' N, latitude; 103° 30' E, longitude]

skycar is a heavier-than-air “personal” aircraft that is capable of vertical liftoff and landing. One or two passengers set preflight destinations then sit back and let the urban-traffic router do the actual flying.

Skycars travel at altitudes of 300 to 400 meters and navigate via the GPS comptroller network. Occupants may request specific destinations, but they don't control the actual flightpaths. Two-person skycars have relatively short ranges, no more than 250 kiloms. They are used mostly to bypass urban ground traffic. Metropolitan regions limit the number of licensed skycars to maintain proper airway safety. Licensed skycars must pay user fees for air-traffic control. Thus most skycars are owned by high-income individuals or allotted as corporate perks.

Four- & five-person skycars are used for emergency purposes and are given priority routing privileges.

SkySafe® is the trade name for a security device, linking a property object via satellite to police agencies. The property is tracked by GPS. Its lock may be configured to open at specific locations only.

S&MAA (acronym) Silkworm & Morlock Actors Academy. It is a scam for female debutants.

smartcard is an all-purpose biometric ID and debit card. Smartcards have programmable RAM functions to safeguard against theft. Stored memory has exclusive data hooks that will handshake only upon physical contact with compatible IO devices. Each data hook has a uniquely coded interface so that only those agents specifically authorized to access data may do so.

smell is the 3rd-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 60° from the vanguard (west by northwest).

SNET (SOAR acronym) Solar NET. SNET is subset of the HyperNet. It's an info nexus for spacer communities. It links folks to popular kex websites and offers wideband connections between earthside and orbital habitats.

Snowjob Plc. is a legendary spin-doctor for marketers.

SOAM (acronym) SOUTh AMERICAN trading alliance. SOAM represents the free-trade zone and common currency of South America including Cuba, Nicaragua and Panama, but excluding Columbia.

SOAR (acronym) Solar Omnifarious and Aspiring Republic. Spacer colonists belong to this economic confederation of member co-ops.

SOB (acronym) Son Of a Bitch.

So-Cal (slang) Southern California around Los Angeles and San Diego.

Solar\$ signify solar dollar(s). SOAR mints a limited number of coins which are highly prized, since their value appreciates against earthside currencies. The coin is five cents in diameter, composed of

superhard alloy and has a green gemstone at its center. One Solar\$ equals 900 crows or 867.67 Amero\$ or 588.46 Euros or 490.17 Hong\$. *Transaction values taken from final quotes on the SOW exchange on the 1st of May 2076.*

SonyKong Ltd. (Okuno Ayumi) Japan HQ. Subsidiaries include Novatron Studios, a world-renowned dream factory and holoflix maker; Nippon Kuruma, a global automaker with subsidiaries in many countries; Krumbly Kermit Klystron, the maker of sclup-based condiments; Konda Aviation, a manufacturer of skycars and helium dirigibles; and Adfrisker, a promotional beast.

soupcan is the nickname for a cylindrical habitat in cislunar space. In plural reference, soupcans are often shortened to soups. These orbiting habitats have six-kilometer diameters and rotate to simulate earthlike gravity. Soupcans were 1st-envisioned by the Russian futurist Tsiolkovski, and later in the 20th-century by Gerard K. O'Neil.

soups (short-form slang) soupcans which are cylindrical habitats in cislunar orbit (L5).

soupers (slang) Folks who live in the soupcans, which are huge cylindrical habitats orbiting in cislunar L4 and L5.

SOW (SOAR acronym) Solar Orbiting Warrant exchange.

SQUID (acronym) Superconducting QUantum Interference Device
SQUIDs measure very weak currents and subtle EM fields.

spacer (synonym) metic of SOAR. *See also* metic, SOAR.

spring surge (Haida facsimile) false lily-of-the-valley (*maianthemum dilatatum*).

spendchip is a thin wafer carrying disposable electrocash. Folks may buy spendchips for modest denominations at FAST outlets after which they may safeguard their chips with simple passwords. Spendchips are used as payment for goods and services until the electrocash therein has drained to zero.

stallion (slang) woman with a taut, statuesque body.

starboard (editor's note) Teenagers of Kung wouldn't consciously apply the nautical terms *starboard* or *port*. Yet they would know in their minds which side of the canoe is which. Left and right can be confusing to characters and readers. For instance, if Jade is looking sternward, he will see the "starboard" side to the left. For the story it's crucial to know where characters and objects are placed in spacetime. That's why starboard (right turn) and portside (left turn) are used.

STI (acronym) Sexually Transmitted Infection.

stickem is a full-function electronic stylus, used for transporting untraceable electrocash from point 'A' to point 'B.'

stickleback is an ungainly fish with three dorsal spines. Sticklebacks are caught for dog food. Only if starving will humans dine on sticklebacks.

stod (SOAR acronym) Surface-To-Orbit Doodlebug. Stods fly between earth surface and Frisbee orbiting warehouses. Stods are fueled by catalytic hydrogen triggered by pulsed laser beams. They get a lift from fixed-wing aircraft before launch.

sub(s) (biz slang) subsidiary, subsidiaries.

Subira (Subie) Herren: orange belt, dataroom supervisor. Born 2044. Adult height: 173 centimeters; weight: 69 kilograms; brown Eyes; black hair. Immigrates to TCP in 2066. Joins Dog Breakfast Co-op in 2067.

sunflower is a lightsail craft that transfers between the Frisbee Constellation and one of the soup cans. During midflight the "sails" unfurl like flower petals which reflect sunlight, shorten flight times and guide the craft to its destination.

supercable (tech) is an underground high-capacity electrical conduit that's cooled by liquid hydrogen. Both electricity and hydrogen are delivered to the end-user terminus. Hydrogen is then converted to less volatile fuels.

supercav is an abbreviation for supercavitation. Supercavitation is the vapor bubble forming around an axisymmetric submarine that achieves underwater speeds of 111 meters-per-second or 400 kph.

superfly (slang) elegance, polish.

surveillance capitalism is the accumulation of online human behavior. The database is then parsed and distilled to viable algorithms, which are then used to predict human responses to advertising pitches or government dictates.

SUV (acronym) Sports Utility Vehicle.

SUV-8 (acronym) Surreptitious Uracil Vector, type 8. Unlike other anticancer vectors, SUV-8 thwarts wholesale RNA replication, which in turn disables cellular repair mechanisms. It was originally designed as a latent prion-adapted retrovirus, a symbiotic vehicle for delivering TDS (Time Delay Specific) anticancer therapeutics. Unfortunately in 2062, the retrovirus mysteriously escaped a viroform lab in Paraguay and flourished in the wild. SUV-8 now poses a worldwide threat to sexually active humans. After an incubation period of four to nine years, its prion component activates and causes cell dysfunction, which induces weight loss, energy drain and eventual death. SUV-8 has proven difficult to detect throughout its incubation period, during which carriers may infect others through exchanges of body fluids. Medical science has yet to find an effective remedy.

sysops (short form) System operators are administrators of multiuser digital platforms. Sysops guard against malicious hackers and ensure the functionality of digital services.

tabi *TAH-bee* (Japanese) split-toed (socks).

Tarawa atoll is the location of a former equatorial spaceport in Pacific Ocean; leased (circa 2030-2039) by the Singapore Space-Ventures Consortium. Tarawa is part of the Kiribati Island chain (formerly Gilbert Islands).

taste is the 1st-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 120° from the vanguard (west by southwest).

TCP (SOAR acronym) Tsawwassen Coastal Preserve. TCP encompasses the Pacific coastal ecologic zone: the far western foothills and rainforests of Canada, including the outlying islands and territorial waters.

Tempat Letak (Malay) Parking Lot.

Termites-'R'-us manufactures organic and inorganic microdevices, using nanoscale components. It is a public subsidiary of Wexol Inc.

the commons *see also* commons, the.

Thorax® is a spacer-made electric engine for untethered vehicles. The engine runs at low temperatures on methanol fuel cells.

Thunderbird® is the winos' choice of vintage beverages. Thunderbird sells dirt-cheap and sports a brusque bouquet reminiscent of turpentine.

tíngzhǐ (Chinese) stop.

tokamak is a device that uses a magnetic field to confine plasma in the shape of a torus.

Tomas Redfoot: cartage owner/driver. Born 2037. Adult height: 180 centimeters; weight: 89 kilograms; brown eyes, black hair. Starts "Gourmet Foods" delivery services in 2070.

tomodachi *TOE-mo-DAH-che* (Japanese) friend.

Took a-Look is Kung's head fisher and father of Jade. Born 2043.

torcido hijo de puta (Latino, slang) crooked son of a bitch.

Torero (Tor) Grabb is the CEO of Shrinkwrap Inc. Born 2014. Adult height: 184 cents; weight: 83 kilograms; brown eyes; salt & pepper hair. Appointed CEO of Shrinkwrap in 2056. Joins transnat cartel in 2072.

touch is the 12th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it

points 150° from the vanguard (south by southwest).

tout à fait (French) totally.

Transnat is the short-form for transnational corporation. By mid-21st-century, multinationals have merged into conglomerates. Seven transnats have one billion employees on affiliated payrolls. Below are major CEOs and corporations in the order of largest cash flow.

W. A. Rathbone, CEO of Zesticon Plc.;

Okuno Ayumi, CEO of SonyKong Ltd.;

Trevor Wynestoop, CEO of Wexol Inc.;

Ralph Heck, CEO of Beuack AG;

Choong Zhijian, CEO of Yuhan Ltd.

Martin Gagnon, CEO of Goranda ADR;

Torero Grabb, CEO of Shrinkwrap Inc..

tree (Kenyan brogue) three.

Trevor (Trev) Wynestoop is the CEO of Wexol Inc. Born 2002. Adult height: 190 centimeters; weight: 97 kilograms; blue eyes; white hair dyed brown. Starting quarterback for Ohio State Buckeyes, 2020-1. Joins Afterburn in 2026 and becomes HR Director. Moves to Wexol main office in 2035 and earns VP rank. Appointed CEO of Wexol in 2042. Wexol joins transnat cartel in 2057.

Tsawwassen is a futuristic metropolis (urban plexus) suspended over the Fraser River delta in former British Columbia, Canada. The name may also refer to the quasi-province or Tsawwassen Coastal Preserve (TCP).

twanger(s) are DNA wrappers that deliver proteomic stimulants that boost a person's immune system.

Turing Test judges whether machines can show intelligent behavior indistinguishable from humans.

Twibber (social-media platform) is a marketer's paradise. Small-timers need to align their cause to large corporations before they can earn decent results.

UAV (military acronym) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

uber is a slang prefix from the German *ueber* meaning super.

UC (acronym) Ultimate Companion®. *See also* Ultimate Companion.

UI (acronym) user interface.

UltimaPop® is a popular soft drink that carries a wallop. It holds huge amounts of refined sugar and caffeine, plus carbonated water and a trace of smoked lime.

Ultimate Companion® is Shrinkwrap's foremost operating system. It comes with a customizable quasi-intelligent user interface. Ultimate Companion has proven itself impervious to online hackers and remote virus intrusions. Some cybernetic sages believe it has passed the Turing test; others write it off as a clever hoax.

ultracap (short form) ultracapacitor. Ultracaps are lightweight holders of electric charge which can be trickled off on demand.

ultralight pilots must post flight routes before taking off. In the air they can stray from plotted routes for safety reasons, so long as they fly at altitudes between 200 and 300 meters. Ultralights have been dubbed the loose cannons of the airways, and pilots are liable for midair collisions and crash landings. Smugglers use ultralights to deliver contraband.

UNHCR (acronym) United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees.

urgency is the 2nd-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 90° from the vanguard (west).

UTC (acronym) Universal Time Coordinated. Same as Greenwich Mean Time plus compensation for the minuscule slowing of earth's rotation.

UWB (acronym) Ultra WideBand.

Vancouver is the name of the metropolitan region that prevailed before the Tsawwassen megadome was built.

varmeme is a fractalized computer virus. Varmemes reside in the slack

spaces of data segments. They hold encrypted linkages to other code fragments. Varmemes operate passively but have the potential to become coordinated viruses.

vatapás (Portuguese) spicy thick creams.

vector is a two-dimensional quantity that consists of magnitude and direction. You need both to shoot an arrow on target.

vendorbin is a blackbox used by merchants to record and verify electronic credit payments for goods or services.

vid (short-form slang) video.

vidcom is a full-function smart phone giving audiovisual pod casting.

vidphone is an audiovisual communicator for the person on the go.

Vidphones may be use anywhere on or off earth. Vidphones link directly to comm satellites orbiting earth or other planets and thus augment the range and capacity of ground-based networks.

Vigor® inspires triumphant sexual relations. Stud Vigor triggers long-lasting erections in males, whereas Lady Vigor induces five modes of female orgasm.

vioforms are organisms with genetic modifications. The key prefix VIO means Variable Isogenic Organism.

VIP (acronym) Very Important Person.

Vlad: rooster for Mishima security, East Euroland immigrant to Japan.

VR (acronym) Virtual Reality. Goggles and other accessories (including chair mounts) combine to render a plausible simulation of fantasy environments that appear real to the user.

WAN (IT acronym) Wide-Area Network. Usually a cloistered system for co-workers of the org's dataspace.

wanna (verbal slang) want to. A bare infinitive verb.

W. A. Rathbone: CEO of Zesticon Ltd. Born 1999. Height: 180 cents; weight: 91 kilograms; hazel eyes; white hair dyed gray. Appointed

CEO of Zesticon in 2039. Forms transnat cartel in 2056.

warmth is the 10th-psign in the clockwise count. For circular directions it points 210° from the vanguard (south by southeast).

warui *WAH-DLru-eeh* (Japanese) wrong, bad news.

Watchme (social-media platform) is perfect for Indie marketers, freelance authors, inventors and/or service providers.

WB&C (acronym) Wexol Beam&Crane. WB&C is a major urban developer and a subsidiary of Wexol Inc.

WBM (acronym) Wexol Business Machines. WBM is the foremost maker of digital hardware, a subsidiary of Wexol Inc.

Wexol Inc. (Trevor Wynestoop) USA HQ. Subsidiaries include WBM which assembles digital devices, game stations, diagnostic sensor-arrays, wireless com-units, holo-jamborees; Termites-'R'-us develops organic and inorganic microdevices; WB&C (Wexol Beam & Crane) builds office towers and manages commercial real estate; Afterburn, an aerospace subsidiary; Fablinx, a maker and retailer of fashionable clothes; Gizware, a retailer of computer hardware; Gord Motors, a fledging carmaker.

whip (acronym) Whopping Homologous Investment Pool. Whips are transnational hyperconglomerates that generate profits anywhere, anyhow. A cartel of seven whips has gained effective control over the global economy. By rank, seven transnational whips are Zesticon Plc., SonyKong Ltd., Wexol Inc., Beuack AG, Yuhan Ltd., Goranda ADR and Shrinkwrap Inc.

WHV (acronym) Web Holoision Viewer. WHV signifies the output mode received by user devices like holojamborees or 3-D flatviews. It often refers to the audiovisual experience as well as the webcaster's broadband potential, which may combine holographic, audio and nasal cues.

wifi (tech term: *Why-Figh*) or Wi-Fi is a wireless technology that connects mobile devices to wide-area networks.

WIPO (acronym) World Intellectual Property Organization.

WTO (acronym) World Trade Organization. WTO regulates the rules of trade among nations and regions.

wufaq (SOAR acronym) Warm-Up For Applied Qat where qat signifies quantum assassination theory. Wufaq is pronounced *WOO-fahk* and sounds like the cross between a courting bullfrog and a distempered bloodhound. Wufaq may also mean “yes” or “acknowledged reception” to a compadre's directive. Rundogs use this expression as subterfuge during forced radio comm.

Xing Gou is 59 years-old, a notorious smuggler of goods among the nations of Southeast Asia. He owes favors to Dog Breakfast from years ago. As troubleshooters for Consortium security, Ahab (Cook) and Absen Ho struck a mutually beneficial pact with Xing Gou that ignored most of his illegal activities.

yah *YUH* (Malay) yes.

Yamanashi (Maglev) *YAM-ah-NAH-she* (Japanese) 2nd-generation bullet train. The intercity train is levitated by permanent magnets and can cruise at 161 meters per-second (361 mph or 581 kph).

Yamazaki Kazuo is the security chief of Mishima's harbor compound. (Note: Japanese put last name first). Born 2032. Adult height: 170 centimeters; weight: 80 kilograms; brown eyes; black hair. Won kickboxer championship in 2055.

yap (SOAR acronym) Young Adult Person. Yaps are metics who have graduated from the crèches and have joined a co-op.

Yakutsk is the capital city of the Sakha Republic in eastern Russia. It has a population of 500,000, circa 2074.

yip (SOAR acronym) Young Informed Person. Adolescents in SOAR communities are educated in dormitory-style crèches until they reach age 18. They are called yips until graduation.

yottabyte stands for ten to (the 24th-power) bytes. It is equivalent to one billion petabytes or 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes. 729

yottabytes demark the storage space in the default spacer info dump. The allotted block is cached and indexed in realtime for those eligible to browse the GREENS Knowledge Library.

yú (Chinese) fish.

Yuhan Ltd. (Zhijian Choong) China HQ. Subsidiaries include: Hāiyùn Huòwù, the world's largest merchant-marine conglomerate; Harmonic Bunion, a franchise of exclusive health resorts; Groschen, a prominent biotech multinational; Synthgrow, a pharmaceutical conglomerate; Fiberops, a transoceanic cable provider for data transfer; Yuhan Ecolog, an environmental foundation.

ZEST (acronym) Zanzibar Environmental Standards Tribunal. ZEST represents the bureaucratic quagmire resulting from the Zanzibar Environmental Accord or ZEA, which has been in effect since 2042. ZEST has brought the entire global community onside. Unlike the Kyoto Protocol, the Cancún Pact or the Odessa Détente, ZEST's noncompliance penalties are enforceable across borders. However, distrust among nations has turned ZEST into a judicial circus whose rulings are often ineffective.

Zesticon Plc (W. A. Rathbone) UK > Mongolia HQ. Subsidiaries include Zed-Funds Plc., a financial management corporation, specializing in mutual hedge funds; Timur Automotive, the world's foremost carmaker, boasting assembly plants in Russia, China and 17 other nations; Red Falcon, a security provider and coordinator for Rathbone's blackmarket enterprises; Ripphov Instruments, a durable toolmaker; Nova, an aerospace conglomerate.

Choong Zhijian: CEO of Yuhan Ltd. Born 1984. Adult height: 168 cents; weight: 77 kilograms; gray eyes; white hair (sparse). Appointed CEO of Yuhan in 2033. Joins transnat cartel in 2059.

Zhuàngjī (Impact) is the trademark for a SUV made by Sino Hayai, a subsidiary of Sony Kong Ltd.

Zokuzoku is the Japanese nickname for a Chinese-made rapidfire weapon. Adapted from and improved on the QBZ-95. Zokuzoku uses

5.8x42mm ammunition.