

A STATE OF DIS-UNION...

“America’s undergone flood, fire, and famine in the last thirty years. Along with Martial Law and one of the longest guerrilla wars we’ve ever fought. There’s gangs on the streets, pollution in the air, and the Corps looking down from above. But when the Outside gets too nasty, we still pull together and get the job done.”

“Why? ‘Cause it’s our country—and that’s just the way it is.”

HOME OF THE BRAVE is the penultimate sourcebook for the *Cyberpunk 2020* system. A detailed examination of the Politics, Society, Economics, and Military of America in the 21st Century. Within these 144 pages you’ll find:

- ★ **The Fall of America**—How things got cyberpunk. The Collapse, the Chaos that followed, and the Martial Law that ended it.
- ★ **New America**—Work, Education, Religion, Family, Entertainment. How does the average(!) Punk live?
- ★ **The Government**—We’ve got a President...but what does she do?? Who runs things; a look at the uneasy tridominate: National Gov’t, the Corps, and the Free States.
- ★ **The Armed Forces**—From international oppressor, to national savior, to just another job...Their organization, equipment, and bases. Plus, how your character can “be all that he can be.”
- ★ **State of the Union**—What’s still good (and what’s truly bad) about this land of ours. The states are grouped into eight Regions, with the hot spots and possible adventure hooks noted.

So jack into that cyberbike and get ready to explore America in the Dark Future. Because in 2020, Freedom really is just another word for **Nothing Left to Lose...**

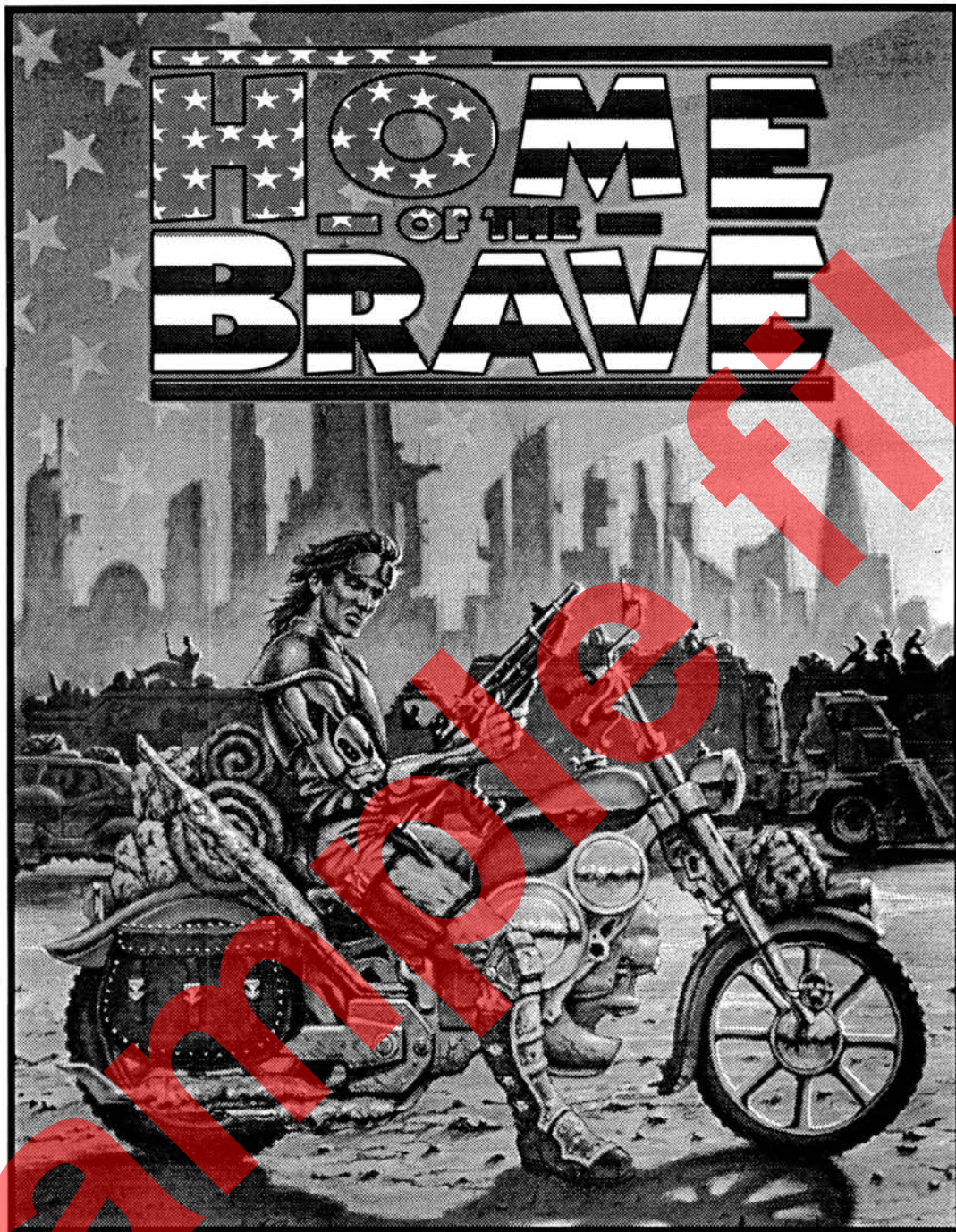
**R. TALSORIAN
GAMES, INC.**



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A SOURCEBOOK FOR

CYBERPUNK®

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to *Home of the Brave*, the sourcebook for America in 2020. In these pages you will discover the reasons for the death of America as we knew it, and its rebirth as the familiar landscape of *Cyberpunk*. There are seven chapters in *Brave*, and each covers a portion of America.

CHAPTER 1: The Fall of America. This section covers the various reasons for the collapse of the federal government, and the chaos that followed.

CHAPTER 2: The New America. What came out of the destruction of the US, and how it effects everyday life.

CHAPTER 3: The New American Government. How government was re-built, and how it operates now.

CHAPTER 4: A Recent History of the Military. A background on the single entity that managed to save the U.S. from total destruction.

CHAPTER 5: U.S. Military Forces of 2020. A breakdown of how the forces operate, and who is in charge where.

CHAPTER 6: Military Soldiers. How to create Military PC's and NPC's, as well as standard equipment and sample NPC's.

CHAPTER 7: The State of the Union. A region by region breakdown of the America of 2020.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The FYI boxes scattered throughout the text are used strictly for game information and stats. Included in these are the statistics for important NPC's, Certain skill packages for PC's from particular areas, and skill tasks for things like black market connections or bribery. In the political section, FYI boxes are used for identification of political persons, as well as the way certain politics might effect the average 'Punk on the street.

In general, if it's in an FYI box, it'll affect your campaign.

ADVENTURE HOOKS



Throughout *Home of the Brave* you will find "Adventure Hooks" that deal with a person or place in the text.

These are thrown in as an extra, and can be used or discarded as you see fit. ★

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■ ANYSTREET, USA ■

“Welcome to the *Home of the Brave*, Cyberpunk America. The United States has seen some tough times in the last thirty years, from flood, fire, and famine to martial law, along with one of the longest, bloodiest wars on record. Take a look around, here on the mythical Anystreet, USA. At the girl, the teen over there with the silver legs and the metallic teeth. Yeah, her. She’s a mother of two and earns a cool 20,000eb a year. Doing what? Well, let’s not talk about it. And that man, with the mirror shades, wearing the Tanaka Exec? He’s one of the highest paid corps in the city, and he’s never stepped inside a classroom in his life. He’s in the same line of work as the girl.

“And those ‘zero’s’ over there, huddled around the trash can, burning the scream-

sheets? The old man is Professor James Deckker, one of the team that was working on cold fusion. The girl is Amanda Harding, the only living heir to the Harding fortune. That fortune dried up with the stock market. The last gentleman is Richard Ellis, Ph.D. No need for him anymore; he was replaced last year by an AI in his company.

“Walk with me for a minute.

“See that building over there, the tan one? It used to be the Social Security building. Now the only help it offers the poor is a place to get out of the rain, if you want to risk robbery or rape.

“Look out, are you blind!? You almost walked onto that logo. What is it? It’s the turf

marker for the *Devils Brigade*. The red stuff? Blood. The Devils don’t like people stepping on it. Another foot and that kid would have put a bullet in your head. Yeah, the twelve year-old over there. Of course he’s packing; everyone is these days. Usually around here, you’re packing or you’re dead.

“True, it’s not like that everywhere these days; the Corp Zones are very well policed, and only the truly stupid try something there. But you pay for that protection. I’ve heard of girls whisked off the streets after catching the eye of some high-ranking corp. Lord only knows what happens then. Hell, who can know what goes on above the tenth story? It’s a mystery to us. If you ask me, they really run things.

“Now that’s a damn shame...Huh? You act as if you’ve never seen a dead body before. Probably got into an argument with her pimp. Pretty common; the cops are taking care of it.

“Hey, check it out, up there. A Mil-AV9. Some sight, huh? Enough missiles to level the city, and probably a tac-nuke to boot. See it flying over the Arasaka Building? Rumors on the street say that the Japanese really pissed off Uncle Sam by passing some harsh “quality” laws on American parts. The high-ups like to flex their muscle occasionally. Nothing like a good strategic bombing to show folks that black ops isn’t the only way to kill, huh?

“Well, here we are. See that? Yeah, the flag...

“Kinda neat isn’t it?

“What do you mean *so what*? Let me tell you a little story...

“Last week a gang of Hitler posers snuck into town, gassed some Jews and put a swastika flag up there. Burnt the old one. Real nasty stuff. Too nasty. The Devils and the Razors called a truce, and that guy I pointed out went to work; even the folks around the trash can helped with the spotting. In three days there were none of them left. And the girl with the silver teeth, she drove up to the capital and laid out a cool 500eb for the new flag, some polymer fiber. They say it’ll resist a mono-katana cut.

“That’s what America is all about.

“And I’m damn proud to be an American.”

“It’s not like that everywhere these days; the Corp Zones are well policed. But you pay for that protection. Who can know what goes on above the tenth story? If you ask me, the Corps really run things.”

