

ROCKSTAR GAMES PRESENTS

# L.A. NOIRE<sup>™</sup>

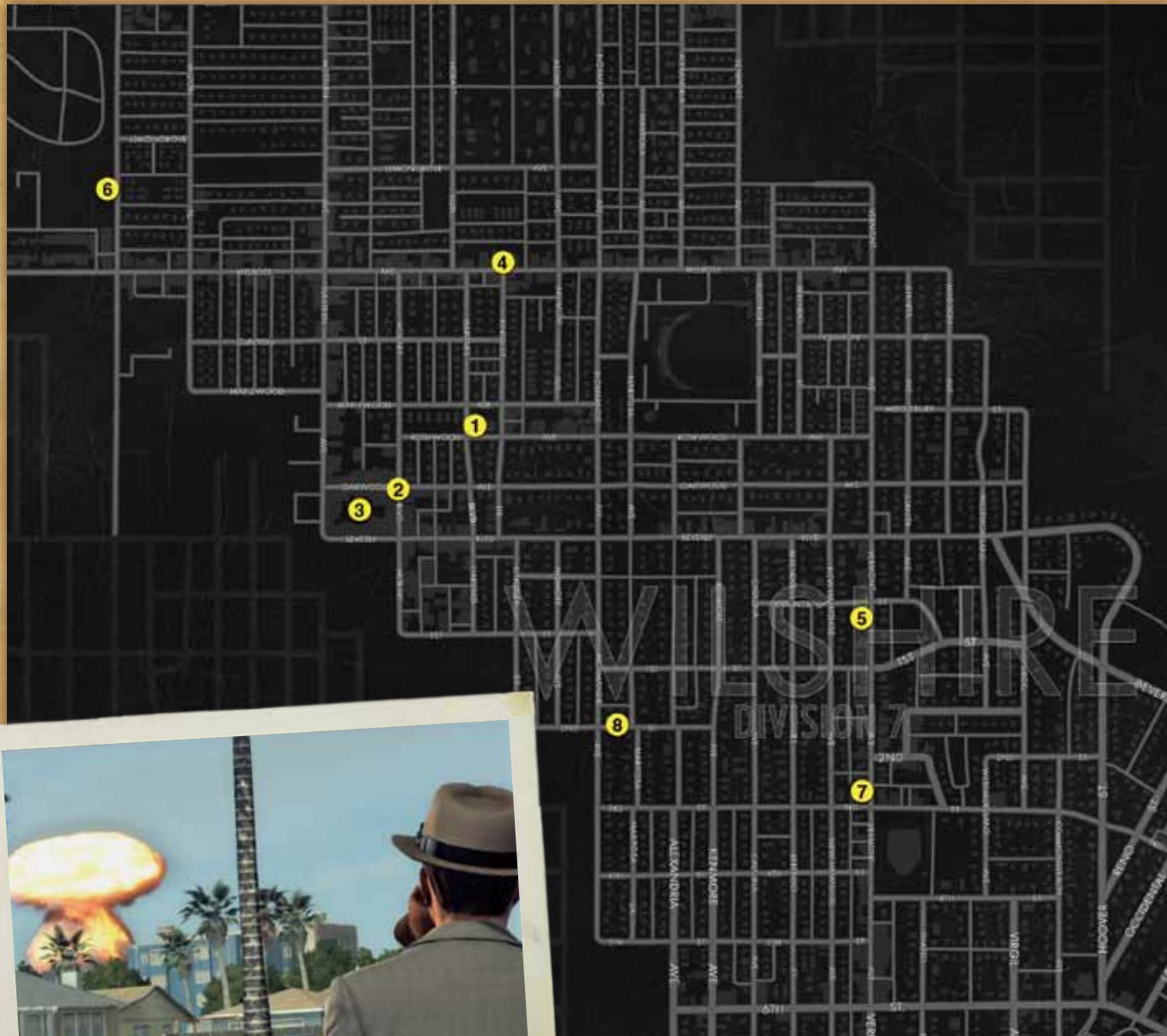
COVERS MICROSOFT XBOX 360<sup>®</sup> AND  
PLAYSTATION<sup>®</sup> 3 COMPUTER  
ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

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# NICHOLSON ELECTROPLATING



This Arson case unlocks after you play "A Polite Invitation." At 9:45 in the morning, a thunderous explosion rocks Los Angeles. Amid panicked reactions and false reports of nuclear attack, police and firemen race to the site from all over the city. Detectives Phelps and Biggs must search the destroyed Nicholson Electroplating Plant and try to piece together a cause from the evidence scattered amongst the debris.

## Objectives

- \* Drive to Nicholson Electroplating plant.
- \* Investigate the crime scene.
- \* Interrogate Fred Nicholson.
- \* Use a Gamewell to get Superior Laundry address.
- \* Investigate Superior Laundry Services.
- \* Use a Gamewell.
- \* Investigate Okamoto's Apartment.
- \* Investigate Hughes Aircraft.
- \* Interrogate Vernon Mapes.
- \* Investigate the hangar.
- \* Return to Wilshire Station.
- \* Investigate Technical Services.
- \* Investigate House in Photograph.
- \* Pursue Vernon Mapes.
- \* Apprehend Vernon Mapes.

## CASE REPORT

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| TOTAL NUMBER OF KEY CLUES           | 16 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERVIEW QUESTIONS | 6  |

## Fail Conditions

- \* Phelps dies.
- \* Lose Mapes.

## Prerequisites:

- ✓ A Polite Invitation
- ✓ DLC downloaded

## LOCATION: CORNER OF ROSEWOOD AVE. & HARVARD BLVD. WILSHIRE

While you discuss a current case with Biggs at a gas station, an earth-shattering explosion erupts nearby and a mushroom cloud quickly forms in the southwestern sky. Biggs and Cole do not wait for the call; they jump in the car and start heading for the cloud. Along the way, the approximate location is aired over their radio: south of Santa Monica... downtown.

## DRIVE TO NICHOLSON ELECTROPLATING PLANT

From the Wilshire gas station ①, where you gain control of Cole behind the wheel of Biggs' cruiser, drive southwest to the corner of Oakwood and Hobart ②. You see police cars rushing to the scene through settled dust and debris as far as the eye can see. A cinematic kicks in, showing looters and mass destruction.



## LOCATION: NICHOLSON ELECTROPLATING INVESTIGATE EXPLOSION SITE

When control returns to you from the looting scene, Cole has his gun drawn, and looters are seen running in the distance. Place the reticle on the two fleeing suspects and gun them down.

As you explore deeper into ground zero of the Nicholson Electroplating explosion ③, a cinematic shows Biggs and Cole on the scene speaking with Ray Pinker. The mayor is in the background doing a piece for the news, appealing for the public to remain calm.





Mal is nearby, kneeling beside a few covered bodies on gurneys. Beyond him is the mayor wrapping up his first on-air piece. Follow the different paths amidst the destruction beyond the mayor. If you stay to the left wall of destruction, you



come across a narrower path where a police officer is bent over looking at something.

**INVESTIGATE THE LEFT PATH AT THE FORK**

Bend over and pick up the item that the police officer looked at. It's your first clue: **Laundry tag**. "Trace



Address for Superior Laundry" becomes a new objective, and "Superior Laundry(?)" becomes a new location in your notebook.

**INVESTIGATE THE OVERTURNED LOCKER**

Continue to the end of the narrow path to find another officer standing near a locker that lies open on the ground. Inspect the briefcase inside the locker. Cole opens the case and first points toward an object in the top-left corner. Pick it up. It flashes. It's a very small camera (especially for the time period). **Espionage** and **Spy camera** become new clues. Cole mentions getting the film developed to see if there's an espionage angle.



Pick up the next object to the right. Having no clue what the object is, Cole pockets the small, yellow ornament. Reach for the top-right object. The blue business card offers a new P.O.I., "Tomako Okamoto."

Select the newspaper clipping in the briefcase's lower-left corner. This gives you the **Undeciphered message** clue. Cole recognizes the circled code on the page as a substitution cipher similar to what the Germans used during the war.

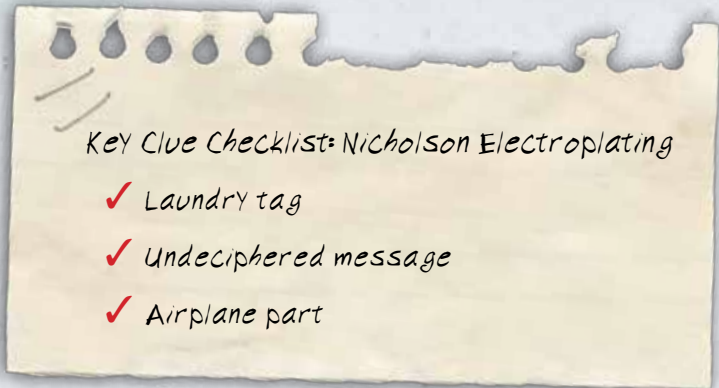
To the right of the paper clipping is a decoder device. There are two rotatable letter wheels on the unit. Rotate the inner (smaller) wheel so that the letter "K" is lined up with the letter "H" on the larger outer wheel. Now that the decoder is set, all you have to do is move the outer wheel to all the letters in the code: KSBOJLKQ XSB. At each stop, the decoded letter appears at the top of the screen. If you do this correctly, "N VERMONT AVE" is deciphered. It's a street address with the addition of the numbers "133" in the code.



Deciphering the code updates the Deciphered message clue and gives you a new objective: Investigate Deciphered Address. Double back down the narrow path to the clearing. Then head to the left to take the other narrow path at the fork.

**INVESTIGATE THE RIGHT PATH AT THE FORK**

Follow the right path at the fork at the end of the main clearing. As you explore deep into the path, a cinematic shows an arm sticking out from under the rubble. Follow the path to the left of this arm, to a patrolman. The patrolman stands near another clue. Investigate the rubble near the patrolman to find a bowl-shaped object. Rotate the outer ring to align the writing on its inner edge with the writing on the edge of the inner ring. When the letters are lined up, the words read: P&W WASP MAJOR R-4360. **Airplane part** becomes a new clue.



Key Clue Checklist: Nicholson Electroplating

- ✓ Laundry tag
- ✓ Undeciphered message
- ✓ Airplane part

**INTERVIEW: FRED NICHOLSON**



**TOPIC: NICHOLSON PLANT EXPLOSION**

Cole asks Fred what happened at the plant location. Nicholson says the chief chemist, Harold McLellen, was using the area to test a new process. Harold McLellen becomes a new P.O.I. When pressed for more details on the new "process," Nicholson says no more, as he claims it is top secret. Nicholson is a smart and seasoned businessman; it's hard to tell if he's lying.

**CORRECT ASSESSMENT: DOUBT**

Cole reminds Fred that a lot of people died here today and that the press would also love a place to point fingers. Nicholson says the new process is a way to chemically polish aluminum.

**TOPIC: WHEREABOUTS OF OKAMOTO**

Cole asks Nicholson for details on Tomako Okamoto. Nicholson says he's Dr. McLellan's personal assistant. "She came highly recommended."

**CORRECT ASSESSMENT: LIE**  
**EVIDENCE: SPY CAMERA**

Cole knows this is a lie, as the evidence points out that she was some sort of industrial spy. Select the "Spy camera" from evidence to prove your point. Fred acts surprised to hear this news. He assumes that the customers for this process could be suspect, such as Lockheed, Boeing, Hughes, North American...

**TOPIC: WHEREABOUTS OF MCLELLAN**

Cole asks Nicholson for details on McLellan. Nicholson gives him little to go on, which makes Cole skeptical.



**SPEAK TO FRED NICHOLSON**

Return out of the crime scene toward your vehicle. On your way out near the street, you meet Fred Nicholson and he becomes your latest P.O.I.



**CORRECT ASSESSMENT: DOUBT**

Cole asks Nicholson about the risk of hiring this chemist who dabbled in unexplored techniques. But it is apparent that the businessman was just trying to corner the market with the new technology, putting at risk hundreds of lives. Before the conversation is over, Cole asks Nicholson to dig up the personnel files on Dr. McLellan and Miss Okamoto.

**USE A GAMEWELL**

Enter your vehicle and drive to the nearest Gamewell to get the address for Superior Laundry.

**LOCATION: SUPERIOR LAUNDRY SERVICES**

**INVESTIGATE SUPERIOR LAUNDRY SERVICES**

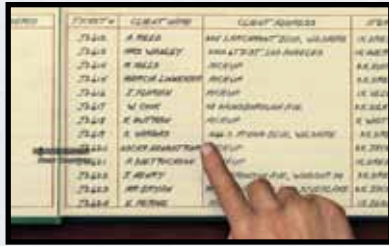
Select "Superior Laundry Services" on your Location list, and drive to this location 4 on Melrose Ave. and Kingsley Drive. When you arrive, proceed inside and straight back to the man at the service counter in the back of the laundry. In a cinematic, Cole tells the owner that he has one of his laundry tags. He asks the man if he can tell whom it belongs to. The busy man hands over the customer book and suggests you find it yourself.





### SEARCH CUSTOMER LEDGER

Open the book that the shop owner lays before you. Biggs reminds Cole of the number from the tag: J2620. Locate this number, following down the first column with your finger. Stop on the fifth line from the bottom. Tap the name or any entry on that line to obtain Oscar Hangstrom as a new P.O.I.



### USE THE PHONE IN THE LAUNDRY

Use the phone in the Laundry or the Gamewell across the street to obtain the address for an Oscar Hangstrom. R&I comes up short, as there is no residential listing for that name.

## LOCATION: DECIPHERED ADDRESS (133 N VERMONT AVE.)

Select "Deciphered Address" as your next destination 5. When you arrive at the address, you face an exterior staircase in a narrow alley between a liquor store and a bookstore.

Check the mailboxes on the right wall at the alley stairway's entrance. Okamoto's Apartment is the first unit.



Climb the stairs. The first apartment on the right at the top of the stairs appears to be the one you're looking for... the door is wide open.

## INVESTIGATE OKAMOTO'S APARTMENT

### SEARCH THE LIVING ROOM

Find the **Tie pin** clue on the tile floor near the fireplace. Turn the pin's face toward you to zoom in on the writing:

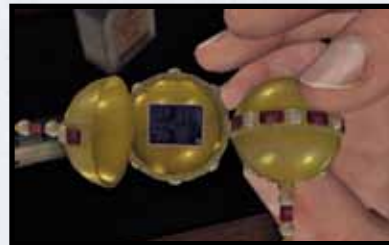
"Retired Los Angeles Police."

Biggs says the department gives you one when you retire.



### SEARCH THE SECOND ROOM

Enter the next bedroom and find the **Microfilm** clue; it's on the dresser near the sink, on the room's left side. Yes, oddly, there is a sink in this room. At least there's a sink; there's no bathroom in this apartment.



Cole takes the item he found at the explosion site out of his pocket and attaches it to the item. It's a match.

### SEARCH THE KITCHEN

Investigate the refrigerator, and a dead body spills out onto the floor. Straddle the body and check out the head. You discover a pointblank shot to the head and one to the heart. John Doe becomes a new P.O.I. Lift and investigate the body's left wrist. **Wristwatch** becomes a new clue. Cole recognizes the watch to be a favored brand by pilots. Investigate the right hand to find the **Ring** clue.

### USE THE TELEPHONE

Follow the telephone blip to the phone in the apartment, and use it to call dispatch. Ray Pinker relays a message from Lindbergh Field that conveys the identified plane part. It's a prop spinner from either a Corsair or B50. Furthermore, the Spruce Goose—Howard Hughes's record-breaking largest plane—runs eight Wasp R 4360s that use this part. "Investigate Hughes Aircraft" becomes a new objective when you hang up the phone. Also, your Airplane part clue is updated to "Prop spinner."

### Key Clue Checklist: Okamoto's Apartment

- ✓ Tie pin
- ✓ Microfilm
- ✓ Wristwatch
- ✓ Ring

## LOCATION: HUGHES AIRCRAFT

Select Hughes Aircraft as your next location, and drive to the flag 6 on the mini-map. When you drive up to the highly secured facility, MPs greet you at the gate, asking you to state your business. You explain that you are investigating the explosion, and there may be a link to Hughes Aircraft. This seems not to help. The Military Police tell you that they cannot allow you to pass without clearance from HQ.



Vernon Mapes, a friend of Biggs' who happens to be head of security, drives up alongside you and gets the clearance you require to proceed past the gate. Vernon Mapes becomes your latest P.O.I. Follow Mapes' car to the large warehouse. Along the way, Biggs says he knows him because the douchebag used to work for Ad Vice.

*Unlock the Tucker Torpedo*  
If you exit your vehicle and step into Mapes' vehicle, you can quickly unlock the Tucker Torpedo in the Vehicle Showroom.

Follow Mapes into the small shack office, which connects to the large hangar where the Spruce Goose is stored. In the cinematic, you learn that Howard hates what people have named the large plane: "It's the H-4 Hercules to you."

## INTERVIEW: VERNON MAPES

### TOPIC: NICHOLSON PLANT EXPLOSION

Phelps asks Vernon if he knows anything about the explosion at the plant. He responds that he knows no more than anyone else, but he folds his arms, swallows, and looks out the corners of his eyes.



### CORRECT ASSESSMENT: DOUBT

Cole doubts Vernon's claim. Mapes continues, "I'm not directly involved in manufacturing."

### TOPIC: KNOWLEDGE OF OKAMOTO

Cole asks Mapes if he knows Tomako Okamoto. Mapes claims to have never heard of her. He follows his answer with the same doubtful looks.

### CORRECT ASSESSMENT: DOUBT

Cole asks if Mapes still wears his LAPD retirement pins. He admits to having a couple and that he sometimes wears the tiepins.

### TOPIC: KNOWLEDGE OF HAROLD MCLELLAN

Cole asks him if he knows the chief chemist at Nicholson Electroplating, Harold McLellan. Vernon admits to hearing the name and knowing that he's the guy that pitched some fancy process to the Hughes company.

### CORRECT ASSESSMENT: LIE

### EVIDENCE: PROP SPINNER

Cole knows Mapes is lying and uses the Prop spinner from evidence to prove it. Cole says they know that Hughes was sending parts to Nicholson for testing. The question is if they were going through Nicholson or cutting a deal with McLellan. Mapes admits that they sent Nicholson aluminum parts to test because they were interested in McLellan's theories. He says if McLellan was cutting out Nicholson, that's not their problem.



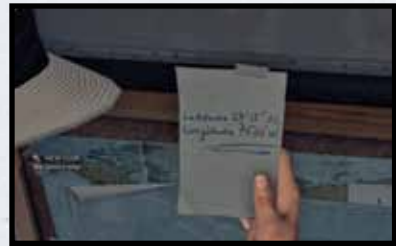
## INVESTIGATE HUGHES AIRPLANE HANGAR

Head to the front of the Spruce Goose and inspect the stack of barrels near the stairs that lead into the plane's nose. This earns you the **Linseed oil** clue.



### PLANE INTERIOR

Climb the stairs to enter the plane's nose. Climb the ladder in the back-right corner. On the second level, find a small note with handwritten coordinates—it's on a corkboard on the right wall, beside the ladder.



### Navigation note

becomes a new clue. Latitude: 24 degrees, 15 minutes north. Longitude: 76 degrees and zero minutes west.

### SOLVE THE NAVIGATION PUZZLE

Use the navigation machine on the cabin's right side. Tilt the Left Control Stick left or right to enter the latitude, using the numbers found in the clue: 76 degrees west. Tilt the Left Control Stick up and down to enter the longitude numbers from the clue: 24 degrees, 15 minutes north. As you do this, you see the numbers in the meters at the top of the machine change. Match the appropriate numbers from the clue to solve the puzzle.

"Bahamas" is the answer and your latest clue. The Spruce Goose's maiden flight is planned for the Bahamas. Slide back down the ladder and exit the plane.



## SECOND-LEVEL OFFICE

Take the stairs near your entry point in the hangar (west wall) to a small, second-level office. You can find a photograph on a desk at the room's right side, near another door. Pick it up and inspect it closely to earn the **Photograph** clue. Biggs identifies Marie "The Body" McDonald as one of the people in the photo. Exit the office through the door near the desk where you found the photo.



### HANGAR: NORTH END

Exiting the second-level office through the second door places you on a balcony. A stairway leads to the plane engines on the hangar's north side. Inspect the area around the engines to locate a worker. Cole asks the worker if he can inspect the prop spinner. Cole unscrews the cover and finds linseed oil all



over the metal. The worker says it's to preserve them from oxidization. After this discovery, you receive a new objective: Return to Wilshire Station.

## LOCATION: WILSHIRE STATION

Exit the hangar and return to your vehicle. The Wilshire Police Station ⑦ is already selected as your next destination. When you enter the station, Cole wades through the dirty looks from officers that know about his dirty laundry. The watch commander tells you Pinker wants you in Tech Services.

## INVESTIGATE TECH SERVICES

### PHOTO INSPECTIONS

Head downstairs and talk to Pinker in the Tech Services lab. Pinker points you to the photos on a nearby desk. Inspect the photo on top of the stack. Cole moves the photo under the magnifying glass. Use the Right Control Stick to zoom, and use the Left Control Stick to move the magnifying glass. The first photo is of Cole—a practical joke.



Select the second photo and zoom in on John Doe's wristwatch and ring on his hands held up around his chest and neck. Cole requests that the photo be sent to Lockheed so an ID can be made. The John Doe P.O.I. is updated to "Lockheed Employee."

In the third photo, Mapes appears with Howard Hughes. The fourth photo proves that Tomako had the goods on McLellan. The fifth photo is the same



one you found in the hangar at Hughes Air. You cannot make out the street name until you put the sixth photo under the glass; it's the photo showing a woman walking with Hughes into an apartment. Zoom in to the number on the door to unlock a new objective and get a location update

on the House in Photograph. "Investigate House in Photograph" becomes your new objective.

### EXAMINE MICROFILM

Use the magnifying glass on the same table, across from the photo magnifier. Zoom into the formula to unlock the **Aluminum polishing patent** clue.

## CHEMICAL TEST

After you back away from the pictures, Pinker asks you to help him with an experiment. He asks you to use the eyedropper in front of you. Use the Left Control Stick to select a chemical bottle. Then press the Inspect button to confirm your choice to use the eyedropper to move a drop from the bottle to the Petri dish. Once you place one drop from each bottle into the dish, a small explosion knocks Cole on his butt.



Mal and Pinker believe that was the stuff used to create the explosion earlier. Pinker says it has to be cooled continuously and adds that linseed oil could have been used to trigger the explosion. A hundred-gallon vat was used in the Nicholson explosion.

## LOCATION: HOUSE IN PHOTOGRAPH

### INVESTIGATE HOUSE IN PHOTO

Exit the police station and enter Biggs' cruiser. The house in the photograph ⑧ is your next destination.

Inside, you can inspect the fire accelerant spilled on the floor. This place looks like it's set up to be torched. Head to the bedroom area and find the items on the chair. Inspect Oscar Hamgstrom's airline ticket to Grand Bahama and the passport. When you inspect both of these items, a Molotov cocktail careens through a window and into the house. The place goes up in flames.





## INVESTIGATE HOUSE IN PHOTO

Biggs yells at Cole to shoot the gas line by the stove to create an escape. Pivot to the left and shoot the red gas tank to the right of the kitchen stove. The blast creates a large hole in the wall, creating a new doorway into the bedroom. Run through the kitchen and into the bedroom. Then exit the house through the open window in the back-right corner.



## PURSUE VERNON MAPES

Outside, Mapes runs from the scene of the crime. He tried to kill you! When the cinematic ends, you're at the wheel of Biggs' cruiser and Mapes is in his sports car with roughly a

one-block lead on you.



you enough for Mapes to escape. When this happens, keep the military vehicle on your right so Biggs can get a shot at its tires. Otherwise, just perform a P.I.T. maneuver on the vehicle to wipe it out (hit the rear quarter panel with sufficient force to send the vehicle into a spin).

## LOCATION: HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY

Mapes crashes the gates at Hughes Aircraft and zips his car around the corner to make a break for the hangar interior. Meanwhile, Cole and Biggs take cover behind their vehicle to prepare for a gun battle with the military. Sounds like the kind of people you don't want to oppose in a shooting match.

## APPREHEND VERNON MAPES

Your objective is to apprehend Vernon Mapes, but to do this you have to get through the military first. As soon as you can, break from the cover position and grab a more powerful weapon from Biggs' trunk. Take cover behind his vehicle again, and begin picking off the gunmen beyond the gates.



## EXTERIOR HANGAR BATTLE

At the beginning of the battle, four military gunmen appear in the parking lot. They take cover behind the military cars and a box truck. Remain behind Biggs' vehicle for cover, and pop up to shoot the gunmen as they show themselves.



After you take down the first soldier, look for a support vehicle to arrive on the street behind you. Watch the mini-map for the red vehicle blip. Remain covered behind Biggs' vehicle and pivot to face this vehicle as it drives up. Start shooting into the vehicle to take out the driver before he exits the vehicle to shoot. Return your focus to the battle beyond the gates.



Once you step into the gated area, another support vehicle approaches, but this one appears from inside the compound. This is a good reason to avoid storming the premises before you take out the first support vehicle. You don't want anyone creeping up behind you while you fight the masses on the grounds. Use the same vehicles the military guards use for cover as you advance and circumvent the line of fire. A third support vehicle pulls up from



around the building toward Mapes' last known location. The two vehicles in the compound bring two guards apiece. Work your way around the vehicles, sneaking

up on the gunmen to get a better shot. When all the guards are down, enter the building through the same entrance you used earlier.

## INTERIOR HANGAR BATTLE

Enter the hangar, pass through the small reception room, and kick in the hangar door. The hangar is well guarded, so prepare to go in with guns blazing. Your first two targets are near the nose of the Spruce Goose. A gunman is posted in an open doorway in the fuselage, and another runs for cover from the aircraft's nose to crates on the hangar's left side. Try to take out the runner as you move for cover. Then take out the gunman on the plane. Another gunman then exits the nose of the craft. Shoot him and then approach the nose.



As you reach the Spruce Goose's nose, you can spot a guard at the top of the scaffold near the right wing. Shoot the fuel drums to the right of this gunman to blow him off his perch.



As you move beyond the ramp that leads into the fuselage, four guards on the ground enter your view—they are visible on the mini-map. Mapes takes a position on top of an office in the hangar's rear. Use the crates and engines for cover as you move closer to your targets. Go for positions that reveal the fewest number of guards at once to avoid exposing yourself to multiple guns. Once you gun down all the guards and Mapes, the mission ends in success and you are congratulated for a job well done.

