

As a clandestine agency, the MIM most commonly carries out HUMINT (human intelligence) operations in hostile space. In terms of putting agents into position to gently wheedle information out of unaware subjects, as opposed to intimidation (Maskirovka) or bribery (LIC), the MIM is second to none. The most famous aspect of the MIM's HUMINT network are the infamous Canopian Pleasure Circuses, long known Spherewide as a hub of Magistracy intelligence-gathering services. It is true that the Pleasure Circuses do produce valuable information from time to time, but a clandestine intelligence network functions best when the targets aren't aware that there is a clandestine intelligence network in place, and so every client with valuable information who attends a Pleasure Circus is likely to be on their guard from the outset. In truth, then, the open secret that the Circuses are the main source of the MIM HUMINT network is merely a cover; a smoke screen set up and supported by MIM so that the real agents can get useful HUMINT work accomplished.

At the operational level, the HUMINT division of MIM is divided along planetary lines. Each major city on a targeted foreign planet is assigned a single officer, holding the rank of Commander, from the Personnel Intelligence Management Program. For reasons of compartmentalization, there is only a single PIMP per major city; each is required to make and receive reports individually, with no contact from other officers on that planet. In this way, even if the local or factional law enforcement take down one PIMP, there is nothing to connect them to another other PIMP on the planet, and so upon cessation of communication with that PIMP, MIM can simply dispatch another complete team to that specific city.

Underneath each Personnel Intelligence Management Program officer, there are field operatives divided into two specific divisions. Members of each respective division are recruited in Canopian space, and are taught, trained, and even physically altered to allow them to target foreign military personnel from specific classes.

The rarer, but higher-profile division, which is tailored to spy upon foreign military officers, are known as the Targeted Human Operations Team. These personnel are selected from a wide variety of backgrounds, but their traits always include extremely good looks, an air of grace and class, practical intelligence, and a familiarity with several academic and rarified subjects. Academic and practical knowledge of subject matter as varied as ballet, space sciences, and gourmet cooking are commonplace. The men and women of the Targeted Human Operations Teams operate in groups of three (most often two women and one man) and will all select a single military officer to befriend, eventually seduce, and finally pump for information. The idea behind multiple team members being that it's functionally impossible for a single person to be fluent in enough subjects to guarantee the ability to establish a personal relationship with a target, but between three individuals of varying interests, knowledge, genders, and so forth, one of the three is almost certain to establish a personal relationship

with the targeted officer. Once the relationship is established, it is then only a matter of time before the THOT can extract information to relay back to their PIMP. Most major cities will have two Operations Teams, though major worlds such as regional or national capitals can have up to five.

The second division of field operatives tend to be more common and experts at less rarified subject matter. Members of the Tactical Human Intelligence Collection Cell operate individually, and are trained to prey upon strictly enlisted personnel. This division came about in the late 2900s, when MIM personnel, frustrated that they were much less successful at gaining HUMINT from foreign enlisted, realized that sending sensual, elegant, intelligent agent to talk to enlisted personnel was a losing proposition; in one notable instance, a ballerina/makeup model trying to acquire information from an introverted satellite imagery analyst reported that not only could the analyst not speak coherently to her, "he couldn't even look her in the eye." A change in tactics was clearly required.

All Collection Cell members begin their training exactly as the members of the Targeted Human Operations Teams. Midway through training, those selected for THICC duty are instructed to make physical changes (often getting tattoos on their ankles or the small of their back, gaining 10 to 20 pounds from their previously svelte weight, and getting piercings), and are deliberately and abruptly removed from their academic coursework and cross-trained in several general types of menial jobs. Waitressing, auto repair, paramedic training, and exotic dancing are all common subjects, making the members of the Collection Cells far more attractive and adept at attracting, befriending, and extracting information from members of the enlisted ranks.

The most successful THICC agents are able to outright marry their chosen targets, which has the dual effect of the foreign agency literally supporting those spying against them, and giving the agent access to the local equivalent of the Family Readiness Group, which is widely believed to be the freest, least secure, and most open military information environment in known human space. One or two pregnancies and a white wine belly are a price many THICC operatives are willing to pay for detailed information about foreign troop movements and operational readiness planning.

Any given Personnel Intelligence Management Program officer will have between two dozen and thirty operatives in their "stable" at once. Of the PIMP's stable, between six and fifteen of these will be members of the Targeted Human Operations Teams (regional and national capitals having more), while the remainder will be assigned to the Tactical Human Intelligence Collection Cells. The fact that this means major worlds will have less THICC operatives than THOTs is acceptable, as major worlds tend to have a lower ratio of enlisted personnel to officers.

It is important to note that these personnel are purely intelligence-gathering agents. Unlike members of other intelligence groups in the Inner Sphere, who have greater resources and a wider mission statement, THICC operatives and THOTs are not given any extensive combat, or even self-defense, training. All of their effort is spent developing their bodies and minds in a way best suited to allow them to attract their target and extract information. This leaves MIM HUMINT operatives very vulnerable to counter-intelligence operations; once the PIMP is compromised, the entire stable is likely to be arrested without much trouble.

Members of the Personnel Intelligence Management Program are given basic self-defense training, equal to that of a Canopian Infantry First Ranker, which lets them remain moderately self-sufficient in the field. Local muscle is also sometimes hired by enterprising PIMPs who appreciate the value of such toughness. On particularly important planets, however, PIMPs can be escorted by members of the Ebon Magistrate, who, as Canopian surgical technology advances, are increasingly equipped with various subdermal implants, and even weapons, making them significantly deadlier than they first appear. Counterintelligence officers who attempt to apprehend PIMPs on major worlds should therefore exercise caution when attempting an arrest.