

# Game Informer

MAGAZINE

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Final Fantasy VII

Pg. 32

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If you are a proud owner of an **Atari Jaguar**, **Nintendo Virtual Boy**, or a **Panasonic/GoldStar 3DO**, then you may want to brace yourself and grab a tissue. Lo and behold, your prize gaming machine has been quite dead for the last four to five months. True, your machine will still work and play the games that you've purchased, but when we say it's dead, we mean you will more than likely never see any new software for the machine ever again.

Yes, a well groomed salesman wearing a fancy tie probably told you that this is the machine to have, and nothing will ever surpass its breakthrough technology. At the time he was right. For about six months, the Jaguar banged out some massive hits. The 3DO survived for about a year and a half with some of the coolest games on the planet, and the Virtual Boy and its first five games turned out to be an amusing diversion from console gaming.

The main reason that these great systems fell to their knees was the release of the high-end systems, primarily the **Sega Saturn** and **Sony PlayStation**. With these well designed systems available and tons of software backing, the attention to the first generation of 16-bit power and beyond was dispelled from any kind of spotlight. Slowly but surely, all three of these systems began to lose their once loyal crowds. All three can still be found in stores across America, but you won't see a hot new release in their game selection rack, or even a game with a price of over fifty dollars.

Both the **Sega Genesis** and **Super Nintendo** are still alive and kicking, and game retailers are, at times, selling more software for these machines than the 32's or 64's. Why, you might ask? Well, it all has to do with the amount of software and surefire hits available for the unit. This could have been the fate for any one of these machines, but none of them had that one big hit like **DKC** for the SNES or the EA sports titles for the Genesis. Thus, we either have to part with our machine, or do some hard-core bargain-bin shopping for the rest of our lives.

For Jaguar owners, you don't need to cry, there are some classic games available for this machine that you might have missed out on. Obviously, if you bought your machine new, you already have the unique shooter



**Cybermorph** in your library. But if you don't, be sure to hunt for this awesome title. Other favorites here at the GI office are **Tempest 2000**, which features fast and furious gameplay with an awesome soundtrack, and **Iron Soldier**, a first-person mech simulator with complex missions and amazing control. You may not be able to find this accessory anywhere, but if you do locate a Jaguar Catbox, which connects two Jags together for link play, pick it up right away and grab two copies of the best Jag game of all-time - **Doom**. We also found **Alien Vs. Predator**, **Power Drive Rally**, and **Val d'Isere Skiing** and **SnowBoarding** to be worthy purchases for the



## A SALUTE TO THE DEAD

basic Jag unit. If you have a Jag CD we recommend staying away from **Highlander** and every other game for it except **Battlemorph**.

This may disappoint Virtual Boy owners, but we can only recommend five titles that would actually be entertaining. First and foremost, we recommend **Wario Land**, an action/platform game which is comparable to any 8 or 16-bit Mario adventure, and **Mario Clash**, which is a reincarnation of the original **Mario Brothers**, but in 3D with several new options. Lastly, we think you'll find hours of entertainment in **Nester's Funky Bowling**, **Red Alarm**, and **TeleroBoxer**. Other than this, the other four or five releases are not worth the purchase.

For those of you holding onto a 3DO, there are tons of games that we think you'll enjoy. Electronic Arts, who built up a massive sports empire for the Genesis, also developed some of the best 3DO software. Be sure to check out **Road Rash**, an intense cycle game with more carnage than some of the bloodiest fighters, **Shockwave 1 & 2**, which are two great space simulator games chock full of FMV and insane alien vs. human battles, and **Immercenary**, a revolutionary first-person title that places you in the center of a digital death world. Other instant 3DO classics are **Blade Force**, **Alone in the Dark**, **Hell**, **Star Control 2**, and **Gex**. The 3DO has a huge library of games available for it, and you should find many more that you'll enjoy. But we do warn you to stay away from the multi-media junk like **The Animals!**, **Dennis Miller That's News to Me**, and **Shelly Duvall's It's a Bird's Life**.

In closing, we have to say that there is hope for the Jaguar and 3DO. **Telegames** announced that they are releasing four new games for the Jag that should be out now. In addition, the M2 (which was to attach to the 3DO) might just breathe some life into 3DO software. But until then, we'll sit idle with our hand on its life support system, waiting to pull the plug.

