Quick look at

Game user interfaces

Chouri Soulaymen
https://praisethemoon.org

What is UI?

The **user interface** [...] is the space where interaction between humans and machines occurs.

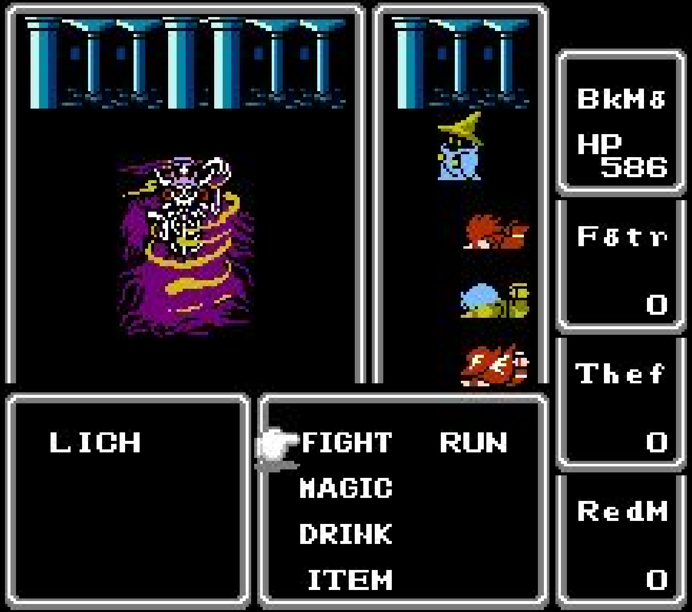
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User_interface

How important are the UI in video games?

1. First thing player will see
2. Mean of interaction
3. Mean to inform

Evolution of UI

Example: RPG games

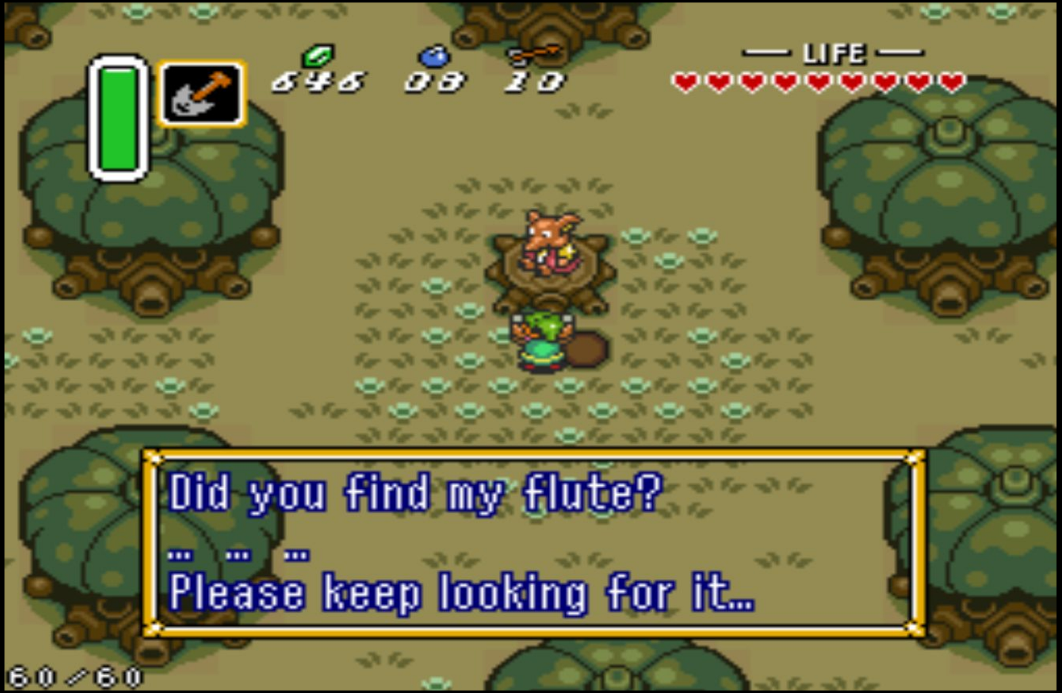

BkM8
HP
586
F8tr
0
Thef
0
RedM
0
LICH
FIGHT
RUN
MAGIC
DRINK
ITEM

1987

FINAL FANTASY
Enter a whole new realm of challenge and adventure.
Includes 84-page Explorer's Handbook, Game World and Dungeon Maps, plus full color Monster Chart.
Nintendo
ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM
Official Nintendo Seal of Quality
REV-A

Nintendo
THE LEGEND OF
ZELDA
A LINK TO THE PAST
SUPER NINTENDO

1991


646
08
10
LIFE
60/60

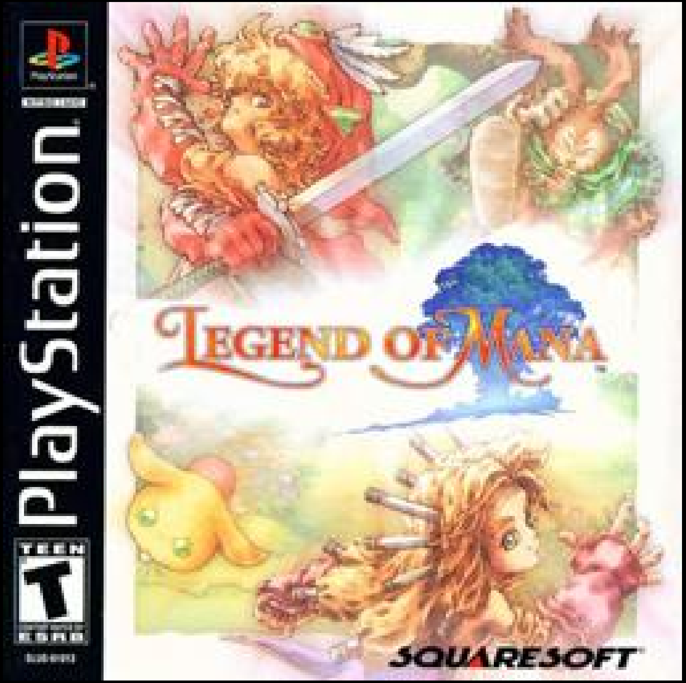
Did you find my flute?
... ...
Please keep looking for it...

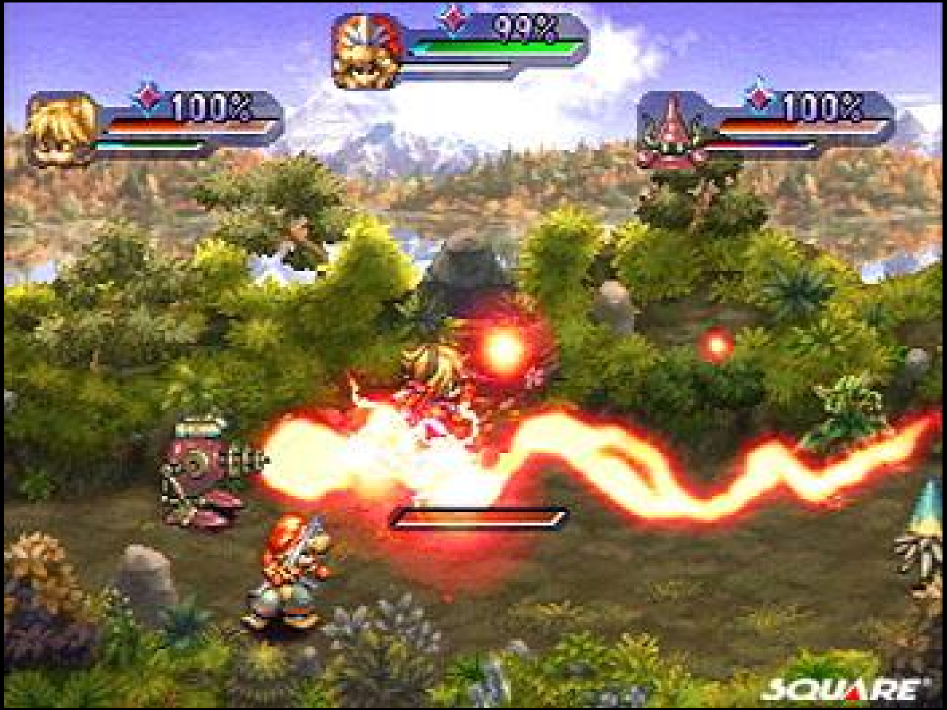
1995

Blue Imp
Crono
HP
MP
29: 8
Blue Imp

CHRONO TRIGGER
SQUARESOFT
SUPER NINTENDO
ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

1999


PlayStation
LEGEND OF MANA
TEEN
T
ESRB
SQUARESOFT

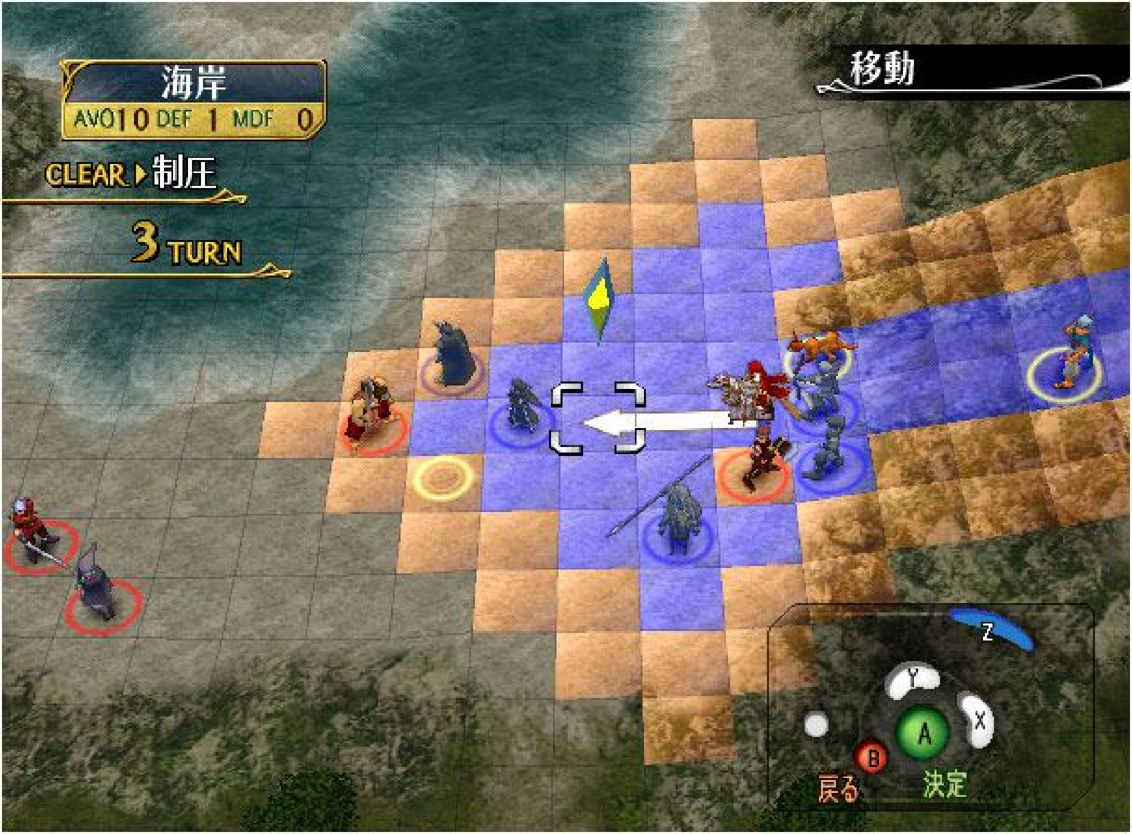

99%
100%
100%
SQUARE

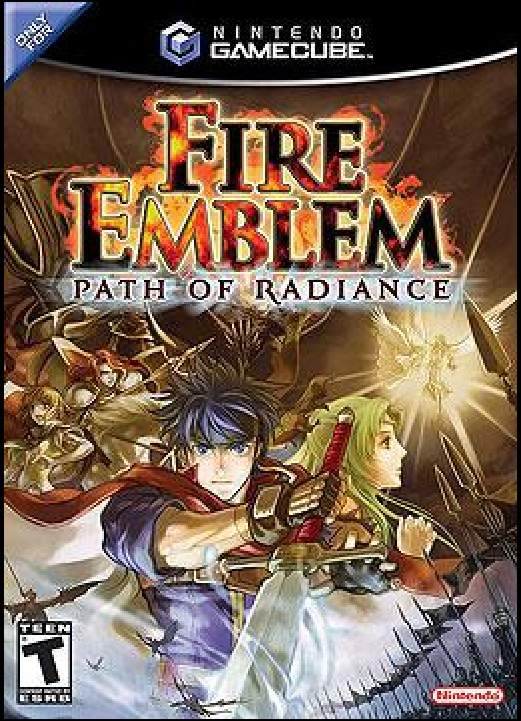
PlayStation 2
FINAL FANTASY X
TEEN
T
ESRB
SQUARESOFT

2001

Active mode
ユウナ HP 245 MP 25
リュック HP 244 MP 41
パイン HP 287 MP 41

2005


海岸
AVO 10 DEF 1 MDF 0
CLEAR ▸ 制圧
3 TURN
移動
Z
Y
X
A
B
戻る
決定

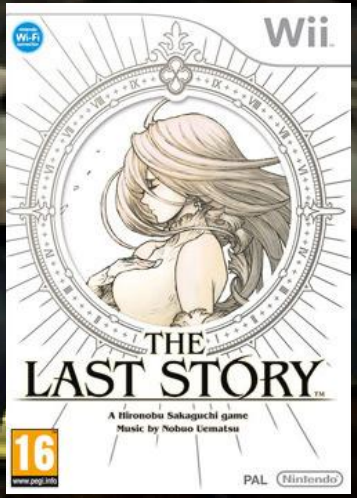

ONLY FOR
NINTENDO GAMECUBE
FIRE EMBLEM
PATH OF RADIANCE
TEEN
T
Nintendo

Allies
MORALE
Enemies
Action
Attack
Attack
Blue Streak
THE LAST REMNANT
16+
www.pegi.info
SQUARE ENIX.
Active Union
2
HP
2787
AP
49
David's Division
Deadlock
Target Union
HP
A
Noble Abelisk

2009

ZAEL
LV 15
LIVES
HP
SKILLS
470
CALISTA
LV 14
15
DAGRAN
LV 15
YURICK
LV 14
FIRE!
MIRANIA
LV 14
MURUK
SPEED ×2
15

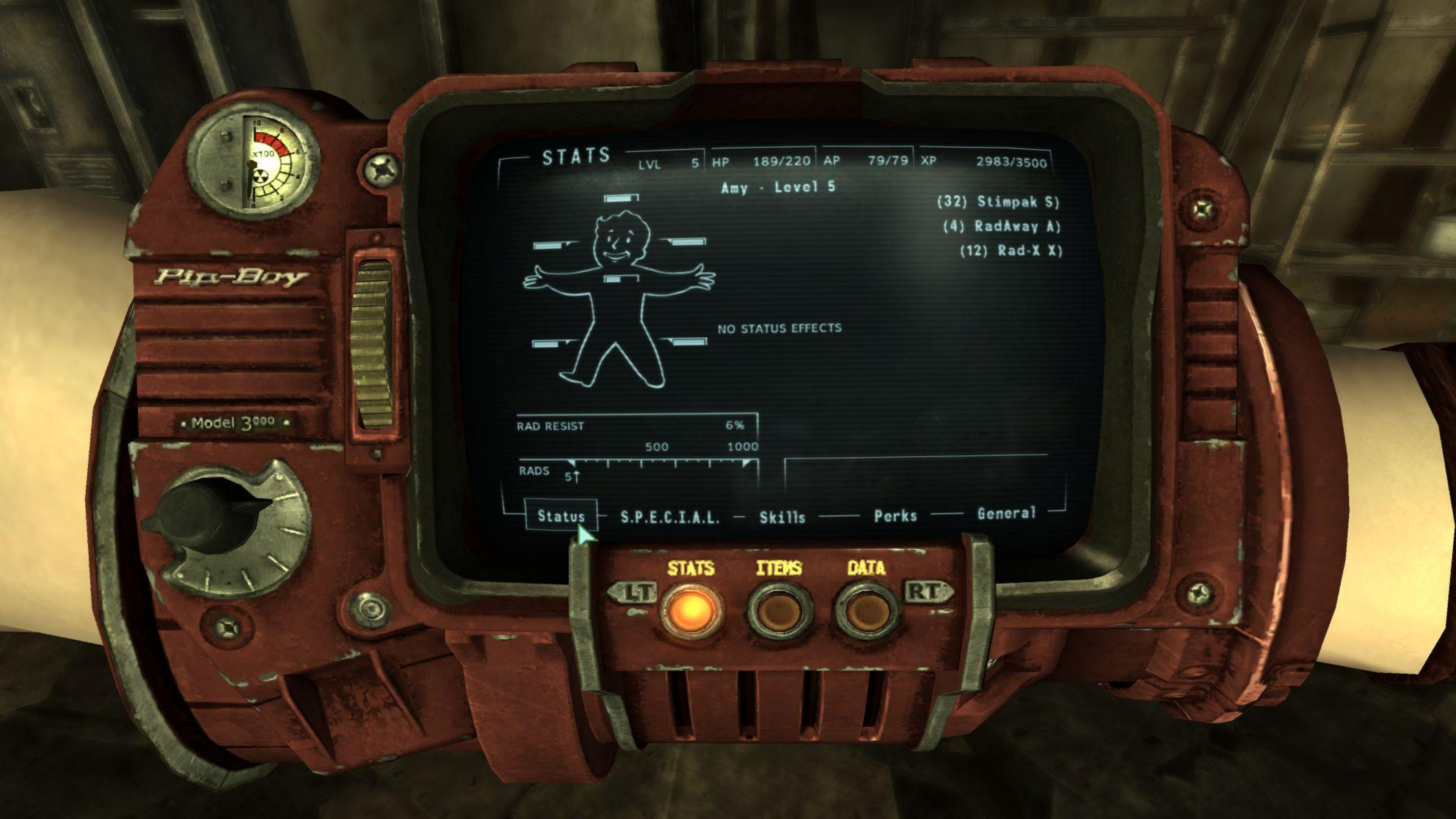
2011


Wii
THE LAST STORY
A Hironobu Sakaguchi game
Music by Nobuo Uematsu
16
PAL
Nintendo

FINAL FANTASY XV
WARP
ATTACK
LINK FORM
NOCTIS 5873
GLADIOLUS 6492
PROMPTO 3167
DENGEKIONLINE

Can UI make a game unique experience?

Fallout



STATS

LVL 5

HP 189/220

AP 79/79

XP 2983/3500

Amy · Level 5

(32) Stimpak S)

(4) RadAway A)

(12) Rad-X X)

NO STATUS EFFECTS

RAD RESIST 6%

RADS 5↑

Pip-Boy
Model 3000
x100
500
1000
Status
S.P.E.C.I.A.L.
Skills
Perks
General
LT
STATS
ITEMS
DATA
RT

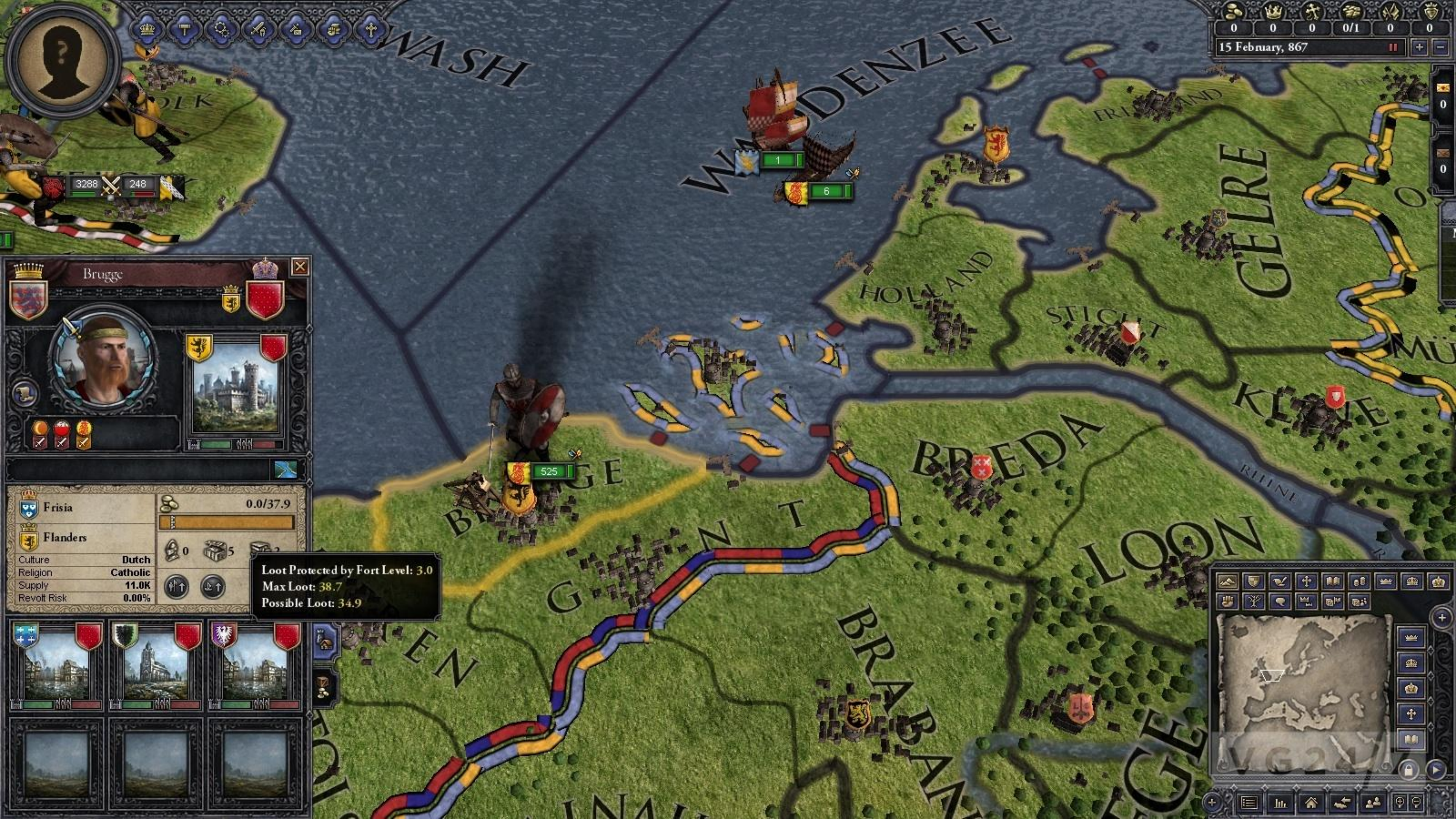
F.E.A.R.2
PROJECT ORIGIN™

TM & © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc

25/75
5
25

PARADOX
INTERACTIVE

CRUSADER KINGS II


WASH
WADDENZEE
FRIESLAND
GELRE
HOLLAND
STICHT
KLEVE
BREDA
RHINE
LOON
GENT
BRABANT
3288
248
1
6
525
0 0 0 0/1 0 0

15 February, 867

Brugge

Frisia

Flanders

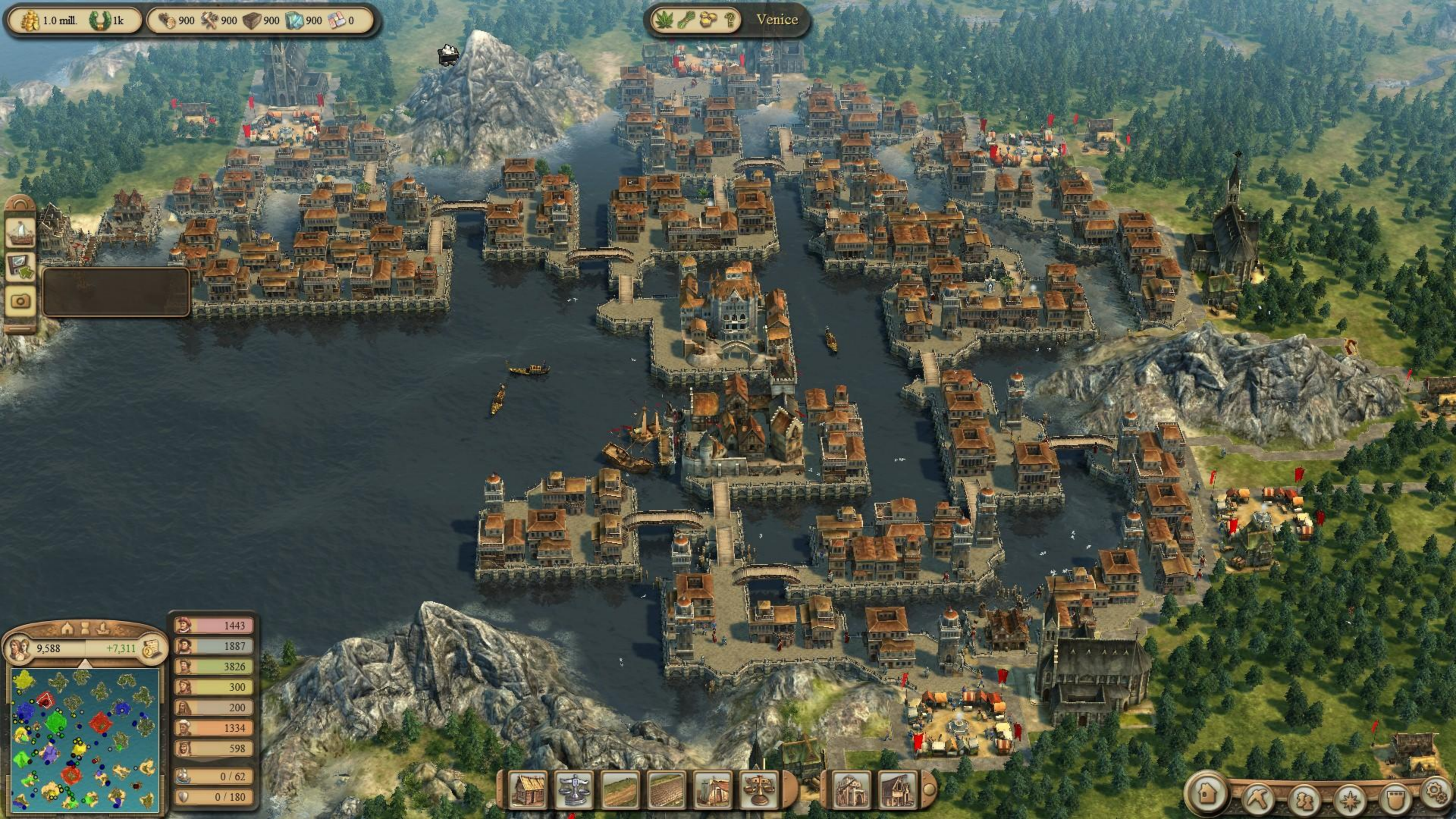
0.0/37.9

Culture	Dutch
Religion	Catholic
Supply	11.0K
Revolt Risk	0.00%

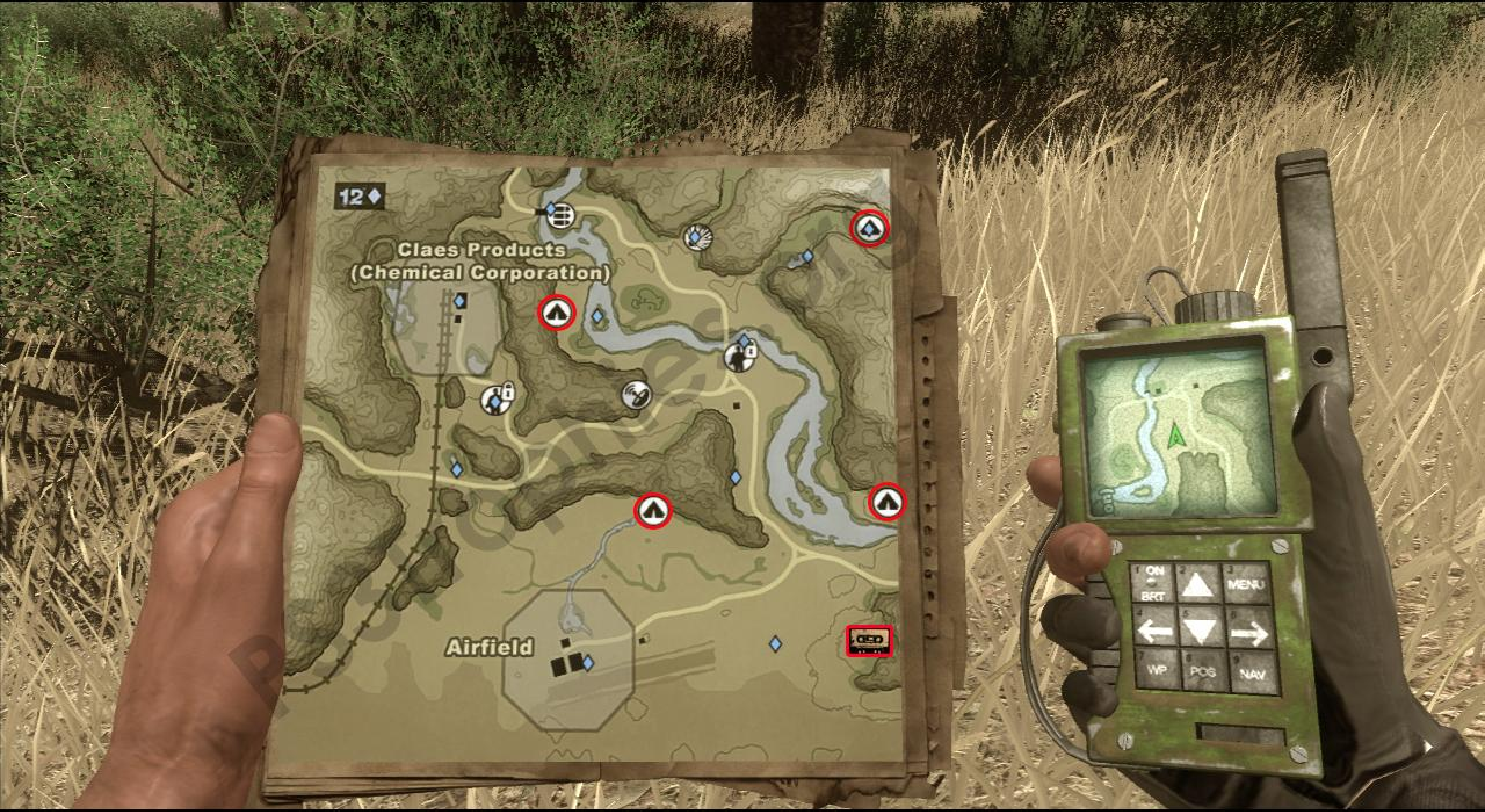
Loot Protected by Fort Level: 3.0
Max Loot: 38.7
Possible Loot: 34.9

VG247

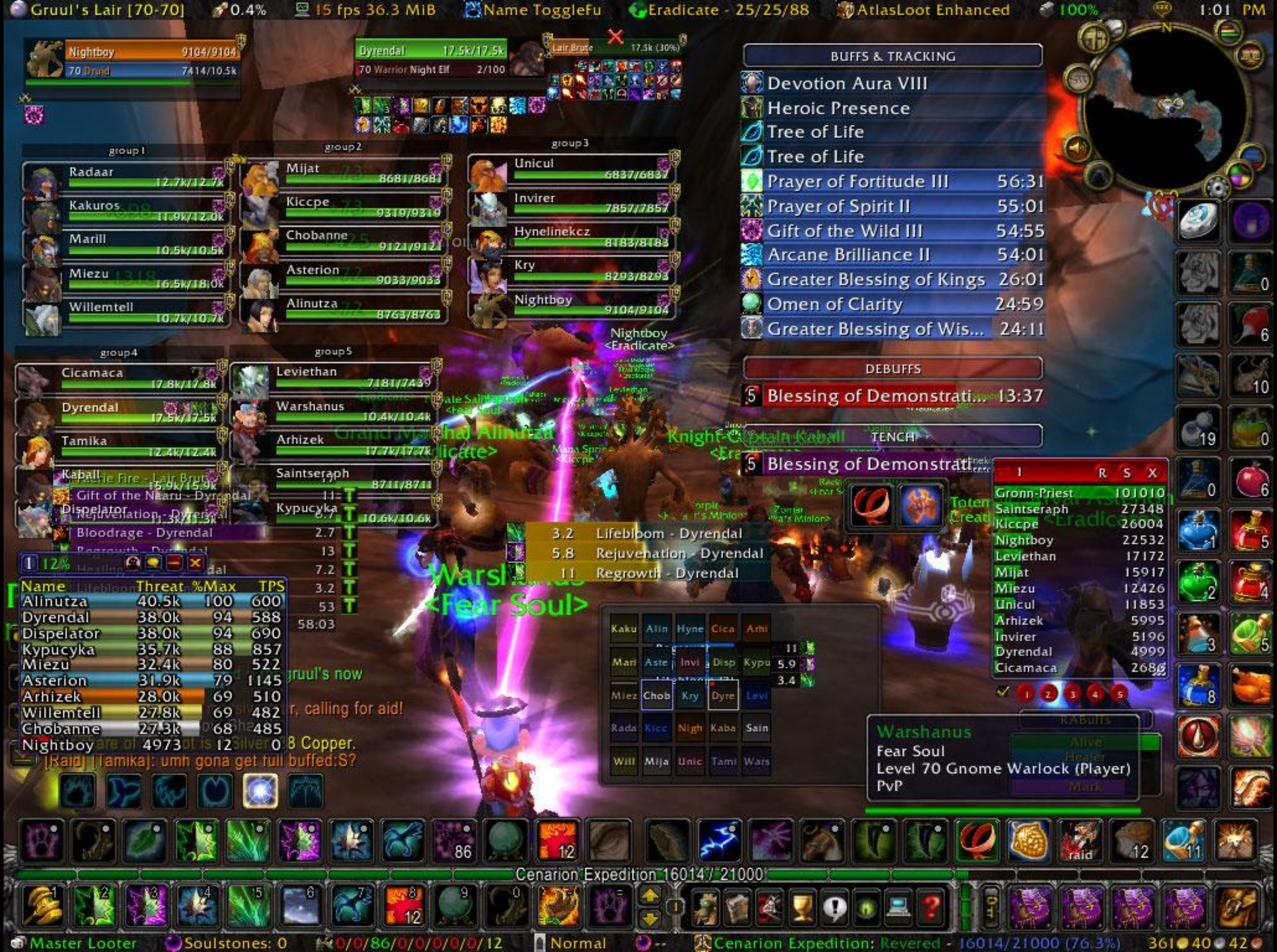
ANNO
1404


1.0 mill.
1k
900
900
900
900
0
Venice
9,588
+7,311
1443
1887
3826
300
200
1334
598
0 / 62
0 / 180

FARCRY 2


12
Claes Products
(Chemical Corporation)
Airfield
ON
BRT
MENU
WP
POS
NAV

Games with bad UI



Gruul's Lair [70-70] 0.4% 15 fps 36.3 MiB Name ToggleFu Eradicate - 25/25/88 AtlasLoot Enhanced 100% 1:01 PM

Nightboy 9104/9104
70 Druid 7414/10.5k

Dyrendal 17.5k/17.5k
70 Warrior Night Elf 2/100

Lair Brute 17.5k (30%)

group1

Name	Health
Radaar	12.7k/12.7k
Kakuros	11.9k/12.0k
Marill	10.5k/10.5k
Miezu	16.5k/18.0k
Willemtell	10.7k/10.7k

group2

Name	Health
Mijat	8681/8681
Kiccpe	9319/9319
Chobanne	9121/9121
Asterion	9033/9033
Alinutza	8763/8763

group3

Name	Health
Unicul	6837/6837
Invirer	7857/7857
Hynelinekcz	8183/8183
Kry	8293/8293
Nightboy	9104/9104

group4

Name	Health
Cicamaca	17.8k/17.8k
Dyrendal	17.5k/17.5k
Tamika	12.4k/12.4k
Kaball	15.9k/15.9k
Dispelator	11.3k/11.3k

group5

Name	Health
Leviethan	7181/7439
Warshanus	10.4k/10.4k
Arhizek	17.7k/17.7k
Saintseraph	8711/8711
Kypucyka	10.6k/10.6k

BUFFS & TRACKING

Buff	Time
Devotion Aura VIII	
Heroic Presence	
Tree of Life	
Tree of Life	
Prayer of Fortitude III	56:31
Prayer of Spirit II	55:01
Gift of the Wild III	54:55
Arcane Brilliance II	54:01
Greater Blessing of Kings	26:01
Omen of Clarity	24:59
Greater Blessing of Wis...	24:11

DEBUFFS

5 Blessing of Demonstrati... 13:37

TENCH

5 Blessing of Demonstrati

Faerie Fire - Lair Brute
Gift of the Naaru - Dyrendal
Rejuvenation - Dyrendal
Bloodrage - Dyrendal 2.7
Regrowth - Dyrendal 13
7.2
3.2
53
58:03

Time	Spell
3.2	Lifebloom - Dyrendal
5.8	Rejuvenation - Dyrendal
11	Regrowth - Dyrendal

1 12%

Name	Threat	%Max	TPS
Alinutza	40.5k	100	600
Dyrendal	38.0k	94	588
Dispelator	38.0k	94	690
Kypucyka	35.7k	88	857
Miezu	32.4k	80	522
Asterion	31.9k	79	1145
Arhizek	28.0k	69	510
Willemtell	27.8k	69	482
Chobanne	27.3k	68	485
Nightboy	4973	12	0

[Raid] [Tamika]: umh gona get full buffed:S?

1 R S X

Name	Damage
Gronn-Priest	101010
Saintseraph	27348
Kiccpe	26004
Nightboy	22532
Leviethan	17172
Mijat	15917
Miezu	12426
Unicul	11853
Arhizek	5995
Invirer	5196
Dyrendal	4999
Cicamaca	2686

Nightboy
<Eradicate>

Warshanus
<Fear Soul>

Warshanus
Fear Soul
Level 70 Gnome Warlock (Player)
PvP

Cenarion Expedition 16014 / 21000

Master Looter Soulstones: 0 0/0/86/0/0/0/0/0/12 Normal Cenarion Expedition: Revered - 16014/21000 (76.3%) 361 40 42

What makes a good UI?

Informs **only** what’s needed

Displayed **only** when needed

Is a **part** of the game

Visible

Intuitive

Thank you

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