Gunbee F-99

Mr.Byte/TEG

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Gunbee F-99

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Chapter 1

Gunbee F-99

1.1 Gunbee F-99

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• G • U • N • B • E • E • F • 9 • 9 •
        «« The Kidnapping Of Lady Akiko »»
             Demo version - 01 April 1998
 Programmed by Lobsang Alvites Szaler / Twin Eagles
          To be published soon by APC&TCP:
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email: andreas@highvolt.gun.de / Tel. 0049-8642-899953
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1.2 How To Install AmiBee

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REQUIREMENTS

- A real Amiga computer equipped with AGA chipset.
- 1 Mb of Chip-Ram free.
- 1 Mb of Fast-Ram free.

A 2-firebutton joystick is reccomended.

HARD DISK INSTALLATION

Automatic Installation

[not available yet]

Manual Installation

Make a new subdirectory called "Gunbee_F99" in your favourite hard disk partition and copy all files there. No assignement required.

Gunbee F-99 needs following files, already available in your Workbench:

- LIBS/mathtrans.library (original version)
- LIBS/diskfont.library
- FONT/topaz (drawer)
- FONT/topaz.font

STARTING THE GAME

Just double-click in its icon from Workbench, or type its name from Shell.

If the game doesn't run may be due fragmented or out of memory. Reset your computer and try again. If fails, try running without booting the Workbench (using the Early Startup Sequence).

1.3 Introduction

THE STORY...

For many years, Valstyx was a peaceful planet in the Universe. Five magic crystals owned by Lady Akiko, princess of Valstyx, guaranteed the power and stability to the whole planet.

But one day things changed. Strange beasts and bizarre machines suddenly invaded the planet: it was being taken over by Lord Khenmir's dark forces.

In a surpresive attack, the royal soldiers were unable to defend Akiko's Palace. The chaos involved the kingdom, and finally, Lord Khenmir stolen the Magic Crystals and kidnapped Akiko...

Now it's imperative to save her and take back the crystals before Lord Khenmir use their magic power for his unknown purposes...

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Designed with the very best of Valstyx technology, you, as Kiara McGuire, will pilot the GUNBEE F-99, a mobile suit developed by Royal Engineers whit the hope that may be able to counterattack Lord Khenmir's dark forces.

You have to make your way through 5 levels fighting against savage beasts and bizarre machines, and be ready to defeat Lord Khenmir's big guardians.

Meanwhile, beautiful Akiko desperately cries for help...

The whole galaxy can hear her...

And just before you're going to take-off in your F-99, you remember some words heard in low voice while briefing with one of the engineers, which make you suspect about the real mission:

"WE BELIEVE IN YOU, KIARA. YOU CAN SAVE THE PRINCESS FOR THE COMFORT OF OUR PLANET AND THE WHOLE GALAXY...................... (so we can sleep without hearing her crying all nights!)"

1.4 Playing Gunbee F-99

01.- THE CONTROLS

You control Gunbee F-99 with the joystick in port 1.

Move toward any direction to fly.

Press Fire 1 quickly to shoot.

Press Fire 1 longer to launch a FireBeam.

Press Fire 2 to throw a bomb.

Alternatively, you can use the keyboard:

Cursors keys to fly.

Left AMIGA quickly to shoot.

Left AMIGA longer to launch a FireBeam.

Left ALT to throw a bomb.

Press F1 to pause the game, again to resume. Press ESC to stop current game and return to menu.

02.- GUNBEE F-99 WEAPONS

THE STANDARD WEAPONS

There are three standard weapons. You begin with the lowest SingleFire. Standard weapons are upgradeables by collecting Power-Up Bells.

THE FIREBEAM

A powerful flame which is effective to quckly open your way. Hold Fire button longer to accumulate enough energy, then release it. The higher you accumulate, more powerful the beam will be.

THE BOMB

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This is the only weapon capable of destroying enemy bases located in the ground. Press Fire 2 to throw a bomb. Bombs fly fowards as they fall so you need a little practice to lock enemy bases.

MACHINEGUN (Special Weapon)

A powerful weapon currently only available for Gunbee F-99P Planetary Type. There are 98 rounds available. Extra ammo clips are available under some Smiling Clouds.

MEZZALUNA (Special Weapon)

Slowest weapon but wider than others. Mezzaluna needs less target precision and is very useful for side attack enemies.

03.- THE BELLS

Bells are one of the most important items in the game. These are hidden in some Smiling Clouds. Shoot the clouds to release a bell. First will appear as gold bells, but if you continue shooting will change color randomly. To collect bells simply fly over these and you will be rewarded with one of the following results:

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Gold Bell - Points : raise the bonus +500 for each gold bell.

Blue Bell - Speed Up : progressively speed ups Gunbee movement.

Green Bell - Power Up : progressively improves Gunbee firepower,
then automatically will active next standard weapon.

White Bell - Shield : activate Gunbee Shield for 20 seconds.

Red Bell - Beam Up : supply an extra FireBeam.

Black Bell - Damage : these must be avoided as Gunbee will lose its arms.
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Black Bell - Damage : these must be avoided as Gunbee will lose its arms. (and ability to throw bombs). Next time you hit it you'll lose a life.

04.- THE FLYING AMBULANCE

When Gunbee F-99 lose its arms (by hitting a black bell), a Flying Ambulance will appear giving you a chance to be healed. Simply fly over it to dock. While your're being healed you can't move, and when released you'll have for few seconds a shield.

05.- THE FLYING BASKETS

Sometimes you'll see a colorful winged Flying Basket crossing the sky. The Flying Baskets are released only when you shoot down an entire enemy wave and at the same time there are Smiling Clouds appearing.

The Flying Basket is the most important object in the game. Here comes another use of the bells: instead shooting bells continuosly to collect them, try to learn to 'knock them' around the screen with well timed shots, and you will be able to land them into these baskets!

Knocking bells into the Flying Baskets not only will give you points, if you manage to put it 10 bells of any color you'll be rewarded with an Extra Life!

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Bells are not the only objects you may put into these Flying Baskets.

06.- THE MAGIC CRYSTALS

Each world hides a magic crystal which was stolen by Lord Khenmir. You must try to recover all 5 crystals to give Lady Akiko the power to defeat Lord Khenmir and ensure again the peace in her Kingdom. An alert sound will inform that you reached the zone where a crystal is hidden, and then you have few seconds to quickly shoot every Smiling Cloud on the screen to find it. Like bells, you have to knock the crystals around the screen with well timed shots and make these land into a Flying Basket.

Read carefully the "Flying Baskets" explanation to understand in which cases these are released. You will have to learn the ability and plan carefully some strategy to succeed.

07.- GUNBEE F-99P PLANETARY TYPE (UPGRADE KIT)

While you fly in the third world, an alert sound will also inmediatelly inform you that has been just released the GB01/P Kit. This kit looks like a dark brown box with a white exclamation on it, and is hidden under one of the Smiling Clouds just flying.

Royal engineers developed the GB01/P Kit to upgrade your Gunbee F-99 into a F-99P Planetary Type. This variation is equipped with special stabilizers which reduce turbulency when flying in strange atmospheres, like the one you will find in the fourth level, home of Gustavo the SpaceWorm.

When you find the GB01/P Kit, you must quickly shoot the box to make it explode, then a 'pack' which looks like a donut will be released and you simply fly over it to get.

Gunbee F-99P Planetary Type comes with two hand-held MachineGun X2.

08.- MACHINE GUN AMMO CLIPS

When you fly in F-99P mode the weapon with most priority is the Machine Gun. Unfortunately, royal engineers were not able to provide extra ammo carriage, so you'll soon find yourself out of rounds and shooting again one of the standard weapons. To solve this problem, engineers will be supplying you with extra ammo when required, and guess where? Hidden under some Smiling Clouds.

To reload your Machine Gun, just fly over the Ammo Clip.

09.- GROUND ATTACK / SPECIAL BONUS

Special attention is needed with the enemy bases located in the ground. Although these seem a bit innocents, sometimes can be very dangerous. It is easy to be trapped, and frustrating when your only way to escape is being closed by one of their slow shoots. Even more if you're just flying over them and suddenly they shoots you.

The only way to destroy ground enemies is throwing a ${\tt Bomb}.$

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10.- SPECIAL BONUS

Each time you destroy an enemy base, a Special Bonus located in the same place will appear. These may look likes fruits or item to collect, which may give you extra points, extra lifes, big explosions, etc. Just fly over the special bonus to collect it.

11.- THE PLAYER WINDOW STATUS

LHS=Left Hand Side / RHS=Right Hand Side / M=Middle

"Heart" (LHS) shows the number of your remaining lives.

"Flying Basket" (LHS) shows how many bells you scored into the baskets.

"FireBeams" (M) shows the number of FireBeams availables.

"MG Rounds" (M) shows the number of MachineGun rounds available.

"Crystals" (RHS) shows which magic crystal you recovered.

The "FireBeam Bar" (LHS) shows how many FireBeam power you're collecting by holding the fire button. Low power shoots small firebeams, higher power shoots powerful firebeams.

The score is shown just below the FireBeam Bar.

1.5 Tips & Tricks

TIPS & TRICKS

- When a world begins, while Gunbee F-99 is flying fastly and no enemies are at sight, collect as soon as possible useful Bells. Greens and Blues will improve drastically your performance.
- You'll need a bit of strategy, to learn to use appropriatelly FireBeams, and when is really need to shoot enemies and flying items continuosly or with well timed and precise shoots.
- Always keep an eye on each enemy and their shoots. Remember their speed and directions and try to 'predict' how their movement will interfere with your flying course. Special attention is needed with slow enemy shoots as they can be hidden under the clouds.
- Each enemy type has a peculiar flying style and characteristic, more noticeable in last levels. May be you can try to guess how they will appear, how they will move, or change flying course, etc.

And lastly, the more important tip:

- Don't make it for the love of money! Make it for Lady Akiko :-)

1.6 Development

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Some words from the author...

GUNBEE F-99 is the first videogame on any platform created in Perú.

Other local productions, back in early '90 on the Commodore 64 scene, were also created by Twin Eagles Group (TEG) (now renamed to "Twin Eagles").

I formed TEG with the hope to make videogames as a retribution for our favourite computer. Unfortunately for us, in those days it was very hard to get in contact with outside people, and finally we stopped activities. In early 1997 I got an internet account and I felt again the interest to code something, and so Gunbee F-99 born.

I have plans to release more games for Amiga. Gunbee F-99 is the first episode, and if all goes well, a second episode will follow to continue the story...