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THIEF: THE DARK PROJECT

Patch Notes, 1/23/99

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This file describes the contents of the Thief patch, and also some tips from our customer support department. Overall, this patch contains some minor bug fixes, tweaks, and a couple of new features.

Thanks for playing Thief!

I. NEW FEATURES

- EAX Support

Thief now supports Creative Labs' "Environmental Audio Extensions" (EAX). Using reverb, EAX allows the Thief sound engine to play sounds that give the player a greater sense of space. For example, large rooms will echo more than narrow carpeted hallways.

If your sound card supports EAX and you have enabled sound hardware acceleration, Thief will automatically use EAX. EAX can be disabled from the sound options panel.

- Joystick Support

Thief now allows you to use your joystick to play Thief. By default, joystick is not enabled. To enable joystick support in Thief, open the file "dark.cfg" in your Thief directory using a text editing program, such as Notepad, and add a line with the text "joystick_enable".

You can also put "joystick_sensitivity x" in there, where x is decimal value (1.0 is normal, greater than 1.0 is more sensitive, less than 1.0 is less sensitive).

You can bind the joystick z axis by binding a joystick command to joy_axisz, or the r axis with joy_axisr.

Joystick-bindable commands are:

+joyforward
+joysidestep
+joyturn

So to bind forward/backward to the throttle and sidestepping to rudder-pedals, do, in your dark.bnd file:

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bind joy_axisz +joyforward
bind joy_axisr +joysidestep
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- Cheats

Mission Skipping: If you're tired of a particular mission, pressing "Control-Alt-Shift-End" will cause the mission to end and allow you to move on to the next mission.

Money cheat: You can give yourself loot by adding the line "cash_bonus" to your "dark.cfg." If set to an integer, its value is added to your loot total for loadout purposes.

Starting Mission: You can start the game at a mission other than Lord Bafford's Manor by putting the line "starting_mission X" in your "dark.cfg," where X is the mission number to start at. When you select "New Game," you will start at that mission.

II. BUG FIXES

In some rare cases, throwing lots of flash bombs could result in Thief crashing. This has been fixed

Several minor bugs in missions have been fixed.

III. SUPPORT NOTES

- Himem.sys, emm386.sys, and some crashes

If your computer locks up or crashes when you try to play Thief...

or

When you play Thief, you often get crashes when checking the map or when you end a mission (win or lose)...

or

You can play Thief without a problem, but whenever you quit playing, you get a Windows "bluescreen of death" crash...

This could be a memory issue. Open up your system's config.sys file and see if there are any lines referring to hymem.sys and/or emm386. If there are, just add "rem" to the beginning of the lines (with a space between it and the rest of the line) and see if that solves the problem.

- Concerning Reinstallation

If you reinstall Thief, you will also need to reapply the patch. Also, when you uninstall Thief save games are not deleted, but you need to move them to a temporary directory or they will be overwritten when you reinstall Thief.

- Mission Hints

The following notes may be "spoilers"...

There are also at least two parts of the game that are rather unforgiving of mistakes. Specifically, Down in the Bonehoard and The Lost City. It is possible to make a mistake early in the mission to keep you from finishing the level at all:

Down in the Bonehoard (hard and expert only): Conserve your fire arrows. There are other ways to deal with zombies.

The Lost City: Remember that you need to get back out with the Talismans. Just because a jump is possible in one direction, doesn't mean you can make it back that way. Think before you leap.

IV. RESOURCES

There are several good resources on the web for Thief.

- "Through the Looking Glass" (TTLG): www.ttlg.com

A very good web site for fans of Looking Glass games. The site includes news, discussion boards, downloads, and links to other good Thief related web pages.

- Eidos support page: www.eidos.com,
www.eidosinteractive.com/techsupp/thief/thief-index.html

www.eidosinteractive.com/thief/fasttrack_lo.html

General support plus excerpts from the official Thief strategy guide.

- Game Guides

Several gaming web sites have posted strategy guides and walk-throughs. Check out:

www.gamespot.com/features/thief_gg/
www.gamepower.com