Al Command Language:

Unit Identification and Security

name [unit name] - This sets the units name. Example:

name Warrior 1

author [player name] - This sets the authors name. Example:

name John Doe

password [security password] - This sets the units security password. If this line is entered in the units code the units AI will not allow editing or debugging without a proper security password entered in the battle setup screen.
 Example:

password allison

iff code [any code number or word(s)] - Identify friend or foe. Units with matching iff codes will show up as a friend on any scan.

Example:

iff code read team

Debugging

Debug on - saves any following commands that are seen by the unit to the debug watch buffer. This buffer can be viewed by selecting the **debug watch** button from the battle summary screen.

Example:

debug on

WARNING: you may wish to remove these statements from AI files that you distribute because this will allow other users to see portions of your code when they view the debug watch for that unit.

<u>Note:</u> an active debug watch will slow down the battle due to the extra processing overhead created.

Debug off - stops saving command information to the **debug** watch buffer.

Example:

debug off

Debug on and off are used with the **debug watch** screen. This screen is only available in the registered version.

Beep - Plays the windows default beep sound. Useful in debug mode to determine if a section of code is being read in the units AI.

Example:

```
if bump barrier then beep
```

Note:

Comments: Lines that begin with a semi-colon are considered comments and will be ignored by the AI interpreter.

Example:

```
; this is a comment line
```

Program Branching

goto [routine name] - This will jump from one section of the units AI code to another routine (label) in the program. Routine names can be anything followed by a colon ":". Example:

```
start:
move forward
goto start
```

Unit Damage Status and Repairs

```
if damage is > # then [additional command]
if damage is < # then [additional command]
if damage is = # then [additional command]
```

If damage is greater than, less than, or equal to the percent given then execute the command to the right of the word then. Note: do not include a percent sigh "%". Valid percent

Note: do not include a percent sigh "%". Valid percent entries are 0 through 99

Example:

```
if damage is > 95 then self destruct
```

```
if fuel is > # then [additional command]
if fuel is < # then [additional command]
if fuel is = # then [additional command]</pre>
```

If fuel is greater than, less than, or equal to the percent given then execute the command to the right of the word then. Note: do not include a percent sigh "%". Valid percent entries are 0 through 99 Example:

```
if fuel is < 100 then goto hide
```

attempt repairs - This will try to repair any damage that the unit has. You have a 1 in 10 chance of it working. This requires a lot of energy therefore you cannot have shields raised while attempting this.

WARNING: There is also a 5 Percent chance that you will damage the fuel system when you attempt repairs during operation this will cause your unit to burn fuel less efficiently.

Advanced commands:

#cur_life & **#max_life**: see system variables **#cur_fuel** & **#max_fuel**: See system variables. **#burn**: See system variables.

Randomizing Units AI

generate random - generates a random number between 1 and 4. Example:

generate random

if random is 1 then [additional command] if random is 2 then [additional command] if random is 3 then [additional command] if random is 4 then [additional command] If the random number generated by the generate random command is equal to the number specified then execute the command to the right of the word then Example:

if random is 4 then turn right

Advanced command:

#random: see system variables

Scanning for objects and other units

long range scan - This will scan the entire distance between the unit and the edge of the battlefield.

scan forward - This will scan the area of 5 spaces out directly in front of the unit.

Note: 5 spaces is the range of the primary weapon.

scan right - This will scan the area of 5 spaces out from the right of the unit.

scan left - This will scan the area of 5 spaces out from the left of the unit.

scan perimeter - This will scan all spaces directly around the unit.

scan position 1 - This scans one space directly north of the unit.

scan position 2 - This scans one space directly northeast of the unit.

scan position 3 -This scans one space directly east of the unit.

scan position 4 -This scans one space directly southeast of the unit.

scan position 5 -This scans one space directly south of the unit.

scan position 6 -This scans one space directly southwest of the unit.

scan position 7 -This scans one space directly west of the unit

scan position 8 -This scans one space directly northwest of the unit.

cross scan - This scans one space north, south, east and west of the unit.

corner scan - This scans one space northeast, southeast, northwest and southwest of the unit.

if scan found barrier then [additional command] if scan found enemy then [additional command] if scan found friend then [additional command] if scan found flag then [additional command] if scan found mine then [additional command] if scan found nothing then [additional command] if the scan returns the presence of a a barrier, enemy, friend or flag then execute the command to the right of the word then. Note: If a scan that searches in more than one direction such as the cross scan, perimeter and corner scan finds more than one object type (i.e.; barrier flag and enemy) the scan will return items in the following priority (the top takes priority over the bottom):

- Enemy / Friend
- Mine
- Flag
- Barrier

Example:

scan position 5
if scan found enemy fire weapon

Advanced commands:

#scan, **#enemy_h** and **#enemy_d**: see system variables.

#enemy_x & #enemy_y

To help your unit locate other units in battle, you may use the variables **#enemy x** and **#enemy y**. These variables will give you the X and Y locations of the closest AI unit (friend or enemy). See the System variables section for more information on how to use these variables. The Tracker.ai program is an example of how to utilize these variables.

Example:

```
if x coordinate is = \#enemy x then turn
right
```

Movement and location

move forward - Moves unit one space forward in its current direction. This command will have no effect if a barrier blocks its path.

Example:

move forward

move backward - Moves unit one space backwards from its current direction. This command will have no effect if a barrier blocks its path.

Example:

move backward

turn right - Turns unit to face right from its current direction. Example:

turn right

turn left - Turns unit to face left from its current direction. Example

turn left

if facing north then [additional command] if facing south then [additional command] if facing east then [additional command] if facing west then [additional command]

If the unit is facing north, south, east or west then execute the command to the right of the word then.

Example:

if facing east then turn left

if x coordinate is < # then [additional command] if x coordinate is > # then [additional command] if x coordinate is = # then [additional command] if y coordinate is < # then [additional command] if y coordinate is > # then [additional command] if y coordinate is = # then [additional command] If the units X or Y coordinate equals the number specified then execute the command to the right of the word then. Coordinates (top left corner = x:1, y:1, bottom left corner x:43, y:30)

Example:

```
if x coordinate = 18 then turn right
```

if bump barrier then [additional command] - Use this to check and see if movement is blocked by a barrier. If a barrier is blocking the units path then it will execute the command to the right of the word then. Example:

```
if bump barrier then turn right
```

Advanced Command:

#cur_head closest enemy heading

1=North 2=East 3=South 4=West

Weapons Control

fire weapon - Fires the units primary weapon. This is a projectile that does maximum damage to an unshielded enemy unit at close range. Shields and range effect the amount of damage given. Shielded units are completely protected from medium and long range shots.

Note: the range of the weapon is 5 spaces. Example:

fire weapon

launch missile - Launches missile. The missile will travel in the direction fired until a object is hit. Missiles do 90% damage to units that are hit with their shields down. They do 70% damage to any unit nearby the detonation with their shields down. Units with shields up will receive 30% less damage overall.

WARNING: do not fire the missile with your shields up. The missile will misfire doing 90% damage to the launching unit.

Note: Missiles require 300 fuel and 10 ammo to fire. Example:

discharge energy - This will discharge a blast of energy from your unit causing it one point of damage. Any enemy unit caught in this blast will take 3 points of damage. A energy discharge will destroy any flags and mines in the blast area. This is a good way to sweep for mines and deny any other players flags if your damage is zero. Example:

```
if scan found enemy then
          discharge energy
end if
```

self destruct - This is a last resort. A unit that self destructs will not leave a flag. Any unit caught in the blast wave of a self destructing unit will receive blast wave damage equal to the amount of damage points remaining on the destructing unit and the maximum damage setting. Example: if maximum damage is set to 10 and the destructing unit has 3 damage points then the blast wave will do 7 points of damage to any unit directly next to the self destructing unit. Example:

```
if damage is > 95 then self destruct
```

lay mines on - While this is on the unit will lay a mine every time it moves forward or backward one space. A mine requires 2 ammo to produce.

Example:

lay mines off - This stops the laying of mines when the unit moves one space forward or backward. A mine requires 2 ammo to produce.

```
if ammo is > # then [additional command]
if ammo is < # then [additional command]
if ammo is = # then [additional command]</pre>
```

If the units ammo is greater than, less than or equal to the number given then execute the command to the right of the word then.

Note the maximum amount of ammo a unit can carry is 99. Example:

```
if ammo is > 10 then lay mines on
or
if ammo is < 10 then lay mines off</pre>
```

if no ammo then [additional command]

If the unit has no ammo remaining then execute the command to the right of the word then.

Example:

if no ammo then goto hideout

if missile ready then [additional command]

If the missile has enough fuel and ammo to launch then do the command to the right of the word then.

Example:

if missile ready then launch missile

Note: this doesn't check the status of the shield be sure to lower shield before firing a missile.

Advanced Commands:

#cur_ammo & #set_ammo: See system variables.

Protection

raise shield - Raises shield to protect unit from medium and long range enemy fire and minimizes short range weapon blasts. The shield only protects against projectiles the shield is defenseless against energy discharges , overloads and self destruct blast waves. The shield requires most of the units power therefore, you cannot fire weapon or attempt repairs with the shield raised.

Example:

lower shield fire weapon raise shield

lower shield - Lowers shield to allow weapon firing and to attempt repairs.

if shield is up then [additional command] if shield is down then [additional command] If the units shield is raises or lowered then execute the command to the right of the word then. Example:

if shield is down then fire weapon

Advanced Command:

#shield: See system variables.

Advanced Commands

Nesting:

if ... then

...

end if

You may nest if statements by using the following syntax:

```
if scan found flag then
    if damage is = 0 then
        turn right
        turn right
    end if
end if
```

the command compiler sees these commands in this manner:

line 1:

if scan found flag then if damage is = 0
then turn right

line 2:

if scan found flag then if damage is = 0 then turn right

Warning: you must be careful not to check for two conditions at the same time for example:

the command compiler sees these commands in this manner:

line 1:

if scan found flag then scan forward

line 2:

if scan found flag then if scan found barrier then turn right

Notice that line 2 cannot work because scan cannot be both a flag and a barrier.

Keep in mind how the compiler sees nested commands so you do not fall into this trap.

User Variables:

You have 10 variables that you can use in your AI code:

```
v0, v1, v2, v3, v4, v5, v6, v7,v8 and v9
```

variables have their names and their values:

if you want to reference its value you must place a tilde in front of it's name example:

if the variable v2 had a value of 67 and you wanted to use its value in a command you would address v2 in the following manner:

```
assign v7 ~v2
```

This command passes the value of 67 to the variable v7.

These variables can be manipulated using the following commands:

System Variables

System variables can be referenced but cannot be changed. They always begin with the "#" symbol.

The system variables are:

#cur_fuel Current fuel value
#max_fuel Battle Start fuel setting
#cur_ammo Current ammo value
Battle start ammo setting

#cur_score Current score

#random Last random number generated

#scan Last scanned item

0 = nothing 1 = barrier 2 = enemy 3 = mine 4 = friend 5 = flag

#shield shield status 1 = on, 0 = off.

#burn current fuel burn rate

Note: The burn rate will increase every time

the unit sustains damage.

#x_pos current unit X coordinate
#y_pos current unit Y coordinate
current damage value
max_life maximum damage setting

#cur_head current heading

1=North 2=East 3=South 4=West

#enemy_x closest enemy x position closest enemy y position closest enemy heading

1=North 2=East

```
3=South
4=West
tenemy_d closest enemy damage value
```

Advanced Commands:

```
assign v# ~v#
assign v# [any value]
assign v# #(system_variable)
```

The assign command assigns a variable a specific value

examples:

```
assign v6 ~v1
or
assign v2 300
or
assign v0 #cur_fuel
```

math v# = (value) (+, -, *, /) (value) ...

The math statement is used to do math calculations to a variable.

```
"+" = add
"-" = subtract
"*" = multiply
"/" = devide
```

Example:

```
math v4 = \sim v4 + \sim v3

or

math v4 = \sim v4 + \#cur\_ammo

or

math v6 = \sim v6 / \sim v3 + 7
```

Detailed example:

if the value of v6 is 10 and the value of #cur_ammo is 100 and the command read:

```
math v0 = \#curr ammo / \sim v6 + 4
```

this would make v0 would be 14.

This is what the compiler would see:

```
v0 = (100 / 10) + 4
v0 = 14.
```

High level if statements:

if value (variable) (>, <, =, <>, >=, <=) (value or variable) then [additional command]

If the condition of the statement is true then do the command to the right of the word then.

Examples:

Notes

- If you take a flag with full power (no damage) your system will overload and you will take 50% damage.
- If you are damaged and you take a flag all damage will be repaired and 10 ammo will be added.
- Each unit gets 1 ammo for every 50 game clicks. (If a game has 1000 clicks you get 10 ammo to start.)
- If a unit hits a mine it will do 50% of the maximum damage setting to the unit.
- Fuel and power are separate. Fuel is only needed for mobility. Running out of fuel only means that your AI unit will not be able to move forward, backward or turn.