



**GOVERNMENT  
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**GCHQ – LICENSED TO THRILL!**

GCHQ has launched a new CD ROM-based recruitment package that offers a unique insight into the way the intelligence agency helps to counter threats to the UK posed by terrorists, drug cartels, and others.

Building on the success of a series of cryptographic challenges, which have attracted interest from around the globe and yielded many top class recruits, GCHQ has devised a fast-moving CD ROM-based game that mirrors some of the real-life scenarios faced by GCHQ staff. Working against the clock, players will be asked to make connections between several fictitious events - involving suspected terrorists, arms dealers, and drug cartels – and take decisions to avert a major global incident developing. Along the way, players will gain an insight into the roles played by GCHQ intelligence analysts, mathematicians, linguists, technologists and others.

According to a GCHQ spokesman: “The sensitive nature of our work means that we can only talk about our actual successes in very general terms, but this new game gives a good indication of the various skills that come into play, enabling us to make a vital contribution to the security of the UK. It’s common knowledge that we are always on the lookout for gifted mathematicians, linguists and technologists but this game shows how those with generalist skills can also play a significant part in preventing seriously bad news.”

The CD ROM featuring the game also contains everything a job seeker would want to know about GCHQ, including details of jobs on offer, flexible working schemes, salaries, and local amenities. The CD ROM case has been designed to resemble a top-selling DVD movie and is rated 18 plus to reflect GCHQ’s target audience for recruits!

Copies of the CD ROM will be handed out at university recruitment fairs this Autumn and will also be available on request from GCHQ’s website ([www.gchq.gov.uk](http://www.gchq.gov.uk)) Those who successfully complete the game, will be presented with a website address where they can enter a competition to win a Laptop computer.

Aficiandos of the traditional GCHQ challenge should not feel left out. A more conventional cryptographic problem is scheduled to appear on GCHQ’s website in December. In the meantime, they can test their wits on the new style game.

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