

Labyrinth Papers #2: Newspaper Clipping

THE YOMIYURI SHIMBUN

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2004

A4

Video Pulled from Market

AJP Wire Contributed

The wildly popular anime OVA *Oni Dôji* was taken from store shelves in a surprise move yesterday. The cult hit was removed due to pressure from local community groups who claimed it was too disturbing. The anime video revolves around the clever plot of a tentacled horror, killing and devouring watchers of a cursed video after they watch it the 108th time. Oni Dôji, a young fiend, is the "hero" of the piece who battles the menace when it appears. Complaints revolve around the graphic depiction of the deaths by the animated

monster. Psychologists expressed concern about the soundtrack as well; early reports indicate that the chanting in the video may unhinge some viewers. It is unknown if Mappo Media, the video producers located in Saitama Prefecture, plan to pull their manga comic series as well. Mappo Media officials were unavailable for comment.

Mappo Media publicity materials also advertise a product aimed at pre-teens called *Kappa-Mon*, centered around a card game based on cute monsters. *Kappa-Mon* is derived from mythical amphibious creatures of vampiric tendencies. Slated for release early next year, a full media blitz of anime and manga is promised for *Kappa-Mon*.

Labyrinth Papers #3: Newspaper Clipping

ASAHI BUSINESS REPORT

25/12/2002

NAME CHANGE, MERGER ATTEMPT

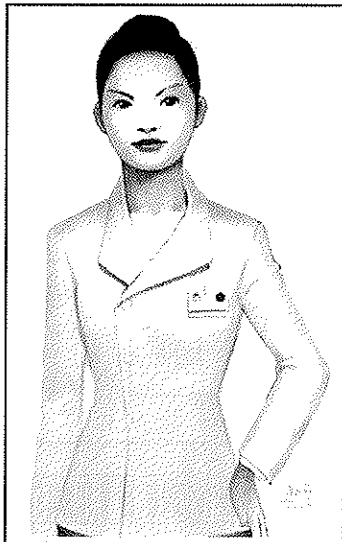
In an interesting move, Kyoto based Noritomo Pharmaceuticals was bid upon by multinational conglomerate Yotsubishi Heavy Industries. Not a hostile attempt, Noritomo nonetheless quickly acquired two smaller firms in an attempt to diversify. New Media, a computer and video game publisher, was attained at the same time as BC Press, a privately owned manga company. The new entity, Mappo Media, will function as the media arm of Noritomo. The goal is higher public profile and profitability.

the best of her ability. The key is to put the players at ease and win their trust with her character. She will be their lifeline, either in the corporation or with the Japanese public, or both.

All investigators are offered complementary business suits, debit cards, and green striped Yotsubishi ID badges which clip on the breast pocket. (See Labyrinth Papers #1, page 271). Ms. Uragi possesses a metallic gold stripe on her ID badge.

If the group wishes to do some background research into Mappo Media and its products she will be more than happy to direct the investigators to the YEJ Media Archive.

If they wish to rest and freshen up, she will direct them to Yotsubishi Corporate Dormitories, a drab concrete bunker near Yotsubishi Tower. There is a corporate store and commissary nearby.



MIDORI URAGI

Other, delicate matters will get them sent to Yotsubishi Security, which will outfit the group for field work.

Ms. Midori Uragi, Yotsubishi Corporate Liaison/Dugpa

STR 10 CON 9 SIZ 10 INT 15 POW 14
DEX 14 APP 12 EDU 14 SAN 38 HP 10

Damage Bonus: None.

Weapons: Fist/Punch 65%, 1D3+db

Tanto Dagger 45%, 1D4+db

Skills: Corporate Culture 78%, Psychology 45%, Other Language (English) 79%, Cthulhu Mythos 15%.

Spells: Call Emerald Lama, Summon Emerald Lama

Player Information

The players have several choices. They can choose to:

1. Relax, recover from jet lag, and befriend their new hosts.
2. Do research on Mappo Media in the YEJ Media Archives and try to discover who pulls the strings.
3. Do some personal investigation into Yotsubishi itself.
4. Proceed directly to Mappo Media's headquarters in nearby Saitama Prefecture (an hour by train).

Yotsubishi

Something seems a bit off about YEJ. An Idea roll by an investigator will reveal that far too few employees mill about in the hallways. Inquiries on this matter to Ms. Uragi will be deftly brushed off. An Intelligence roll can reveal Ms. Uragi is definitely hiding something, but she proves far too skilled to determine just what. It may just be a trait of Japanese corporate culture.

Investigators will perhaps find out more about Yotsubishi by going to the commissary and corporate store and eavesdropping. Employees seem polite enough but quickly become guarded if it is revealed that the investigators are not "part of the family." It will take about an hour of casual conversation using Persuade and Corporate Culture on other employees to determine all the ID badge authorization levels.

Forging or altering the badges is all but impossible as they are coated with holographic film bearing a transparent grid of the Yotsubishi logo. Permanent ID badges also bear the name of the