

Happy Birthday John Tomlinson!

Contributed by
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Blue Sky Ranger John Tomlinson, programmer of the Intellivision cartridges Mission X and Commando, celebrates his birthday today, June 4.

If there's any doubt John programmed Mission X, you can check out this Easter egg he hid in the cartridge: press 9 on the left hand controller and 6 on the right and press the reset button. "PROGRAMMED BY: JOHN TOMLINSON" appears on the title screen.

It's easier to find his name in Commando: press 0 while the title screen is displayed to see the game credits. (While Mattel Electronics, which released Mission X in 1983, forbid programmers putting their names in the cartridges, INTV Corp., which released Commando in 1987, had no problem with it.)

The commercial below for Mission X aired only in Great Britain; the box shown is the European version (white instead of blue).