The Midnight Protocol

A standalone extract. Solve the clock evidence; the full game adds moving maps, a timed scan and a concealed command. Solution on page 2.

Calibration record: at the same physical instant, LIGHTHOUSE reads 00:00, HARBOUR reads 00:07 and OBSERVATORY reads 23:56. All three run at the same speed and none is reset tonight. Use LIGHTHOUSE time as the reference. A timestamp of 23:56 is four minutes before midnight, not the following day.

Three reports were filed out of order. R: HARBOUR 00:27, the engine has just completed another pulse. S: OBSERVATORY 00:06, a first pulse has just completed. T: LIGHTHOUSE 00:00, the engine is still in its ZERO state. Write their true times and put the report letters in chronological order.

Solution

TSR. T=00:00. S=00:10 because OBSERVATORY is four minutes slow. R=00:20 because HARBOUR is seven minutes fast.

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