

station is derived from the original arcade game (Sega, 1986), which boasted four-player simultaneous action.

### R-Type

Publisher: Sega. Developer: Sega. Side-Scrolling Shooter, 1 player. 1988.

A phenomenal port of Nintendo's 1987 arcade game, which helped popularize the side-scrolling shooter, *R-Type* for the Master System even has a secret extra level not found in the coin-op classic (bringing the total to nine). Players meticulously guide the R-9 fighter spacecraft through the caves, cities, battleships, and buildings of the evil Bydo Empire, dodging obstacles (including walls) while firing away at exotic looking alien creatures, robots, and vessels. Holding the fire button down charges the ship's lasers, and there are six different power-ups to grab: speed; twin homing missiles; reflecting laser force; anti-air laser force (ring-style laser shots); anti-land laser force (shoots up and down, crawls along surfaces); and bit (two spheres that shoot pulse beams). Droid units can also be attached to the ship. The arcade original is faster, and certain details are missing (such as the laser beam meter), but this port squeezes as much out of the SMS as anyone should expect. Also released for the Game Boy and TurboGrafx-16. Followed by numerous sequels, including *R-Type II* (arcade), *Super R-Type* (SNES), and *R-Type Final* (PS2).

### Rambo First Blood Part II

Publisher: Sega. Developer: Sega. Vertical Scrolling Shooter, 1 or 2 players (simultaneous). 1986.

Patterned after such games as *Front Line*, *Ikari Warriors*, and *Commando*, *Rambo First Blood Part II* has players, as Rambo, walking through six overhead-view levels

(Jungle, Forest, Swamp, Desert, Mountain, and Seacoast), blowing up concentration camps, rescuing comrades, and shooting infantrymen, artillery men, knife soldiers, snipers, flame throwers, rocket launchers, and other enemies. Rambo is armed with an M-60 and a limited supply of arrow-bombs. The action moves slowly, but the enemies and their firepower crowd the screen, making for an extremely difficult game. A second player can join in to make things a bit easier (not to mention more enjoyable). Based on the 1985 feature film, which starred Sylvester Stallone in the titular role.

### Rambo III

Publisher: Sega. Developer: Sega. Light Gun Shooter, 1 player. 1988.



Although there was no video game based on the original *First Blood*, *Rambo First Blood Part II* and *Rambo III* did make it to the Master System.