Travels With Charlie—Solution

The goal of this puzzle is to determine all of the cities that each of the agents visits. The problem is that there is both too much information and too little. There's too little to easily Google the cities, and too much to try to track down each little fact. Instead, we have to pick and choose what parts of the puzzle we want to investigate. Since this puzzle is complicated, this solution is going to be very detailed! It should also be emphasized that there are many solution paths, and this is just one possibility.

The first step is to identify those cities that are easy. We start by creating a grid with spaces to fill in:

Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/1/2012	???	???	???	???
12/2/2012	? ??		???	? ???
12/3/2012				
12/4/2012			???	
12/5/2012		???		? ???
12/6/2012	? ??		???	
12/7/2012			???	? ???
12/8/2012		???		? ???
12/9/2012			???	
12/10/2012				
12/11/2012		???/???	355	
12/12/2012				
12/13/2012	355		355	
12/14/2012			355	
12/15/2012		???		333
12/16/2012				
12/17/2012		???	???	333
12/18/2012				
12/19/2012	???			
12/20/2012			???	
12/21/2012	???	???	???	???
12/22/2012				???
12/23/2012	???	???		
12/24/2012				
12/25/2012	???	???		???
12/26/2012			???	
12/27/2012				
12/28/2012	???			
12/29/2012				
12/30/2012		???		???

	???		???
???	???	???	???
		???	
???	???		???
		???	
???			
? ???		???	? ???
? ???		???	? ???
			? ???
? ???		???	
			? ???
???		???	
		???	
	??? ??? ??? ???	???? ???? ??? ??? ??? ??? ???	???? ???? ???? ??? ???? ??? ???? ???? ???? ???? ????

Now, let's read through and find any obvious cities or things that look easy to Google. Agent 13's Dec 23 landing talks about a church turned museum, and searching for that on Google turns up a few things. We notice the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, and that fits with the sugar that is not "delightful" --- a Turkish delight, which is basically made of sugar and starch. So let's put that in the grid.

On January 10, Agent 13 talks about eating snails. Is that Escargot? Could be France.

On December 1, Agent 38 talks about dressing as an athlete in Olympic wear. Might this be a future host site of the Olympics?

On December 8, Agent 38 talks about a left-handed hummingbird and something about sacrifices. Googling that phrase turns up two results. The first is a Dr. Who novel, while the second is about the god Huitzilopochtli (which is the nemesis in the Dr. Who novel). The god in question was the patron saint of the city Tenochtitlan, which became Mexico City. And he demanded sacrifices December 7 through December 26. So looks like Agent 38 was in Mexico City.

On December 21, Agent 38 hints at being in a place called Casablanca but not the real one. The Wikipedia disambiguation page gives only a few options: Casablanca, Chile; Havana, Cuba (with a neighborhood called Casablanca); Casablanca, Peru; and some small places in Arizona, California (Riverside County), Texas, and maybe Miami. There is also a military base in Kosovo.

Googling "spit execution site" turns up the Heart of Midlothian in Edinburgh. Seems a good candidate for Agent 38 on December 23.

Again looking at Agent 38 on December 25, Googling Folsom Prison reminds us of the Johnny Cash song "Folsom Prison Blues." The famous line there is "I shot a man in Reno, just to watch him die." Sounds like a good match.

Agent 38 on December 30: is this another future Olympics site?

Agent 38, Jan 6: Doink doink? Googling that gives Law & Order. Grey hair and a beige trenchcoat suggests Jerry Orbach, who is indeed famous for those musicals. So this must be New York. That tells us that Agent 13 was also in New York at this time.

Agent 38, Jan 8: Googling "table airplane submarine" turns up that Cantonese people are said to "eat anything that has four legs other than a table, anything that flies other than an airplane, and anything that swims other than a submarine." So we must be in China. Same for Agent 13, who flew with Agent 38.

Agent 86, Dec 2: The MI-6 agent seems like a James Bond reference, and the motorcycles on roofs is referencing Skyfall. That scene was in Istanbul, and numerous street carts were overturned.

Agent 86, Dec. 11: There's only one major city that turns up obviously on an active Volcano field, and that's Auckland.

Agent 86, Dec. 20: Googling "2200th anniversary 2000th anniversary" turns up that Tashkent, Uzbekistan had these weird anniversaries. That seems definitively unique.

Agent 86, Jan. 9: Googling "subway archaeological dig" turns up Athens. They also have displays of artifacts in their subway.

Agent 86, Jan. 12: We might remember from reading about Mexico city that "Tenochtitlan" means "Among the prickly pears [growing among] rocks". So Mexico City again.

Agent 86, Jan. 15: Crossing the Atlantic plus the cold indicates Europe or Asia.

Agent 99, Dec. 5: Bom Dia is good morning in Portuguese, and cafezinho is Brazilian coffee. So we're in Brazil.

Agent 99, Dec. 7: The towers that look like big spikes and spheres are the Kuwait Towers (Google can find this).

Agent 99, Dec. 15: There are very few cities of literature. They are Edinburgh, Melbourne, Iowa City, Dublin, Reykjavik, and Norwich. The "pint" clue seems to indicate Edinburgh, Dublin, or Norwich, but we'll have to explore further.

Agent 99, Dec. 22: There's only one big event involving radishes on Dec. 23. It's the Night of the Radishes in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Agent 99, Dec. 25: Googling "mermaid protection sister copenhagen" turns up a legend that Warsaw is protected by the Copenhagen mermaid's sister.

Let's review where we are after getting all the low-hanging fruit. We've ID'd 11 of 25 cities: Athens, Auckland, Edinburgh, Istanbul, Kuwait City, Mexico City, New York, Oaxaca, Reno, Tashkent, and Warsaw. We have some of the agents' paths but there's a lot more to figure out.

Here's the grid as of now:

12/1/2012 ??? Olympics? ??? ??? 12/2/2012 ??? Istanbul ??? 12/4/2012 ??? Brazil 12/5/2012 ??? Prescription 12/6/2012 ??? Kuwait City 12/8/2012 Mexico City ??? 12/9/2012 ??? Auckland 12/10/2012 ???? Auckland 12/12/2012 ??? ??? 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/20/2012 Prescription Oaxaca 12/24/2012 Prescription Prescription 12/25/2012 Prescription Prescription 12/29/2012 Prescription Prescription 12/28/2012 Prescription Prescription 12/29/2012 Prescription Prescription 12/29/2013 Prescription Prescription	Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/3/2012 12/4/2012 12/5/2012 2??? 12/6/2012 2??? 2??? 2/7/2012 2/8/2012 2/9/2012 2/10/2012 2/11/2013 2/11/2012 2/11			Olympics?		
12/4/2012 ??? Brazil 12/5/2012 ??? ??? 12/7/2012 ??? ??? 12/8/2012 Mexico City ??? 12/9/2012 ??? ??? 12/10/2012 ??? Auckland 12/11/2012 ???? Auckland 12/11/2012 ??? ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/16/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/23/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Yellow Yellow 12/24/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw Yellow		333		Istanbul	333
12/5/2012 ??? Previous					
12/6/2012 ??? ??? Kuwait City 12/7/2012 ??? Kuwait City 12/8/2012 ??? ??? 12/9/2012 ??? ??? 12/10/2012 ?????? Auckland 12/11/2012 ??? ??? 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/20/2012 Tashkent ??? 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Warsaw 12/24/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? Reno P??? 12/29/2012 ??? ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 1/2013 ??? ??? 1/2013 ??? ??? 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/2/2013 ????				???	
12/7/2012 Rexico City ??? Kuwait City 12/8/2012 Period City ??? 12/9/2012 ??? ??? 12/10/2012 ???/??? Auckland 12/12/2012 ??? ??? 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/20/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Yer 12/24/2012 Peno Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? ??? 12/29/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 Olympics? ??? 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/5/2013 ??? ???			???		Brazil
12/8/2012 Mexico City ??? 12/9/2012 ??? 12/10/2012 ??? 12/11/2012 ???/??? Auckland 12/12/2012 ??? 12/13/2012 ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/16/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/29/2012 ??? ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/5/2013 ??? ???		333			
12/9/2012 ??? 12/10/2012 ???/??? Auckland 12/12/2012 ??? ??? 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/16/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/20/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Edinburgh Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw Percentage of the property of the propert				???	
12/10/2012 12/11/2012			Mexico City		555
12/11/2012 ???/??? Auckland 12/12/2012 ??? ??? 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/17/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Warsaw 12/24/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/29/2012 ??? ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/5/2013 ??? ???				???	
12/12/2012 12/13/2012 ??? ??? 12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/16/2012 12/17/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 12/19/2012 ??? 12/20/2012 Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Oaxaca 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 ??? 12/29/2012 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2013 1/2/2013 ??? ??? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					
12/13/2012 ??? 12/14/2012 ??? 12/15/2012 ??? 12/16/2012 ??? 12/17/2012 ??? 12/18/2012 New York ??? 12/19/2012 Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Oaxaca 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh 12/24/2012 ??? Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? Warsaw 12/27/2012 ??? ??? 12/29/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/5/2013 ??? ???			???/???	Auckland	
12/14/2012 ??? ??? 12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/17/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/20/2012 ??? ??? ??? ??? 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh Warsaw 12/24/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/28/2012 ??? 12/29/2012 ??? 12/30/2012 ???? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ???? ??? ???? ??? ????					
12/15/2012 ??? ??? 12/16/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/19/2012 ??? Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Oaxaca 12/24/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh <td< td=""><td></td><td>333</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>		333			
12/16/2012 12/17/2012				???	
12/17/2012 ??? New York ??? 12/18/2012 Tashkent ??? 12/20/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/21/2012 Oaxaca Oaxaca 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh Edinburgh 12/24/2012 Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/27/2012 ??? 12/29/2012 12/29/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/4/2013 1/5/2013 ???			???		333
12/18/2012					
12/19/2012 ??? 12/20/2012 Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012 Oaxaca 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh 12/24/2012 Warsaw 12/25/2012 ??? 12/26/2012 ??? 12/27/2012 ??? 12/28/2012 ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ??? ??? 1/4/2013 1/4/2013 ???			???	New York	333
12/20/2012 Tashkent 12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? ??? 12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh Warsaw Edinburgh Warsaw P?? P?? Edinburgh					
12/21/2012 ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? 12/22/2012		???			
12/22/2012 Stanbul Edinburgh 12/24/2012 Present					
12/23/2012 Istanbul Edinburgh 12/24/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? 12/27/2012 ??? 12/28/2012 ??? 12/29/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 ???? ??? 1/4/2013 1/5/2013 ???		???	???	???	
12/24/2012 12/25/2012 ??? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ??? 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 ??? 12/29/2012 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					Oaxaca
12/25/2012 ???? Reno Warsaw 12/26/2012 ???? 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 ???? 12/29/2012 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 ???? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013		Istanbul	Edinburgh		
12/26/2012					
12/27/2012 12/28/2012 ???? 12/29/2012 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 ??? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013		333	Reno		Warsaw
12/28/2012 ???? 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012				???	
12/29/2012 12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					
12/30/2012 Olympics? ??? 12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013		???			
12/31/2012 1/1/2013 1/2/2013 ???? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					
1/1/2013 1/2/2013 ???? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013			Olympics?		555
1/2/2013 ???? ??? 1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					
1/3/2013 1/4/2013 1/5/2013					
1/4/2013 1/5/2013			???		555
1/5/2013					
1/6/2013 New York New York ??? ???					
	1/6/2013	New York	New York	???	???

1/7/2013			???	
1/8/2013	China	China		???
1/9/2013			Athens	
1/10/2013	France?			
1/11/2013	???		???	???
1/12/2013	???		Mexico City	???
1/13/2013				
1/14/2013				???
1/15/2013	???		Europe/Asia	
1/16/2013				???
1/17/2013	???		???	
1/18/2013			???	

Let's start putting distinct facts together. On Dec. 30, Agent 99 comments that she's not on a continent (the way they teach that in school), and that it's one of only two such locations the agents are visiting. Her next location is the other place, but doesn't have any flights leaving for four days. Auckland, one of our confirmed locations, is not on one of the traditional seven continents taught in school and has a big airport with flights that leave daily. Hence, Agent 99 must have been in Auckland.

On Dec. 5, Agent 99 was in Brazil. She says that her previous stop was "basically the opposite side of the world". Brazil is in time zone UTC-3, so we probably want something (being generous) between UTC+6 and UTC+12

On Dec. 9, Agent 99 was in the same city as Agent 38, so she was in Mexico City. Meanwhile, Agent 13 was in the same country. But we know the other city in Mexico: Oaxaca, and from Agent 99's Dec. 9 tweet, we know this must be his city. (Incidentally, the other pair of cities that share a country are Reno and New York; the other 21 cities in this puzzle must all be in distinct countries.)

On Jan. 11, Agent 86 communicates a great deal with the other agents, so this could provide useful information. He mentions a customs officer named Stas. The name is common in Uzbekistan. We already know that Agent 86 was in Tashkent, Uzbekistan in December, and his two encounters with Stas indicate that he was in Stas's city in December. Moreover, Tashkent was on the Silk Road, and Agent 86 is looking for a "fabric-covered road" while in the same city is Stas. So Stas's city seems to clearly be Tashkent. Tashkent is in time zone UTC+5, so this tells us that Agent 99 and Agent 13 are in time zone UTC+1 on January 11, and that Agent 13 was also in time zone UTC+1 in his previous stop (because he didn't need to adjust his watch when landing), which matches our conjecture that he was in France.

Let's follow a hunch. We only have one city in time zone UTC+1 identified so far, Warsaw. But 99 and 13 are currently in a place that has some sort of monarchy --- could GD stand for Grand Duchess? Luxembourg is the only remaining Grand Duchy. A Google search shows that General Patton, a WWII general, is buried there, as Agent 13 says. Moreover, Grand Duchess Maria Teresa was born in Havana, Cuba---which we were thinking about as another destination.

It seems a safe conclusion that they are currently in Luxembourg. Moreover, at some point, both Agent 99 and Agent 13 visited Havana.

Havana came up earlier in our deliberations. Agent 38 hinted at being in a place named Casablanca, and Havana has a neighborhood named Casablanca. In fact, Agent 38, Agent 13, and Agent 99 were all in this place at the same time, and Agent 99 mentioned that flights to there were restricted to "special authority" flights --- sure enough, any flights from the US to Havana are "special authority charters", and you can't search for flights to Havana on Kayak. Havana has a giant statue of Jesus (as Agent 13 discusses). This is enough to declare that the agents were in Havana on December 21.

Let's take stock again. We've ID'd Athens, Auckland, Edinburgh, Havana, Istanbul, Kuwait City, Luxembourg, Mexico City, New York, Oaxaca, Reno, Tashkent, and Warsaw, plus another city in Brazil, so we know 14 of 25 cities. Our grid now looks like:

Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/1/2012	???	Olympics?	???	???
				Time zone between UTC+6
12/2/2012	???		Istanbul	and UTC+12
12/3/2012				
12/4/2012			???	
12/5/2012		???		Brazil
12/6/2012	Oaxaca		???	
12/7/2012			???	Kuwait City
12/8/2012		Mexico City		Mexico City
12/9/2012			???	
12/10/2012				
12/11/2012		???/???	Auckland	
12/12/2012				
12/13/2012	???		???	
12/14/2012			???	
12/15/2012		???		???
12/16/2012				
12/17/2012		???	???	???
12/18/2012				
12/19/2012	???			
12/20/2012			Tashkent	
12/21/2012	Havana	Havana	???	Havana
12/22/2012				Oaxaca
12/23/2012	Istanbul	Edinburgh		
12/24/2012				
12/25/2012	???	Reno		Warsaw
12/26/2012			???	

12/27/2012				
12/28/2012	???			
12/29/2012				
12/30/2012		Olympics?		Auckland
12/31/2012				
1/1/2013				
1/2/2013		???		???
1/3/2013				
1/4/2013				
1/5/2013				
1/6/2013	New York	New York	Tashkent	???
1/7/2013			???	
1/8/2013	China	China		???
1/9/2013			Athens	
1/10/2013	France?, UTC+1			
1/11/2013	Luxembourg		Tashkent	Luxembourg
1/12/2013	???		Mexico City	???
1/13/2013				
1/14/2013				???
1/15/2013	???		Europe/Asia	
1/16/2013				???
1/17/2013	???		333	
1/18/2013			???	

Let's do another read-through and see if we can figure anything else out. On January 10, Agent 13 flew from a city we believe to be in France to Luxembourg. In fact, we see that the flight took just 50 minutes. Direct flights to Luxembourg are not all that common, and indeed Paris is the only place where Escargot is common with a direct flight. Looking at the timetable, we see that there is a flight scheduled to land at 1:50pm, departing Paris at 1:00pm. So this was indeed Paris.

Agent 13 mentions a dog in a graveyard on January 18. That's worth a Google, and it turns up Greyfriars Bobby in Edinburgh. Astute readers might also notice that "you know who", aka Voldemort, was buried in Edinburgh.

Agent 13 talks about hairy feet in his December 11 tweet. Auckland is in New Zealand, where The Hobbit filming ended recently. He was probably diguised as a hobbit. Then he gets on a plane and starts tweeting from several hours earlier; he probably crossed the international date line, and got to a place with casinos. We already have Reno identified as a possibility, so we look at casinos there --- and find the Peppermill, named after a kitchen implement. Let's mark this as Reno; we can change it later if, when we have all 25 cities, there's another one with a similarly-named casino (unlikely).

On December 17, Agent 99 gets lunch with Agents 86 and 13. It's a city with a giant piano and a lot of gold bullion underground. Googling for giant pianos turns up the giant piano at FAO Schwartz in New York City. Upon some investigation, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at 33 Liberty Street has an underground vault with about 23% of the world's official gold reserves, estimated at \$21 billion. That lets us write in New York for Agent 13 on 12/13; Agent 86 on 12/17; and Agent 99 on 12/17.

On December 20, Agent 13 talks about the "eight sights". This seems to refer to the eight sites of Guangzhou --- there's no agreement what they are! Guangzhou is in China, and we notice that he does the New York-China itinerary twice, and he has the same flight times. That provides the confirmation we need; the China city is Guangzhou.

We notice that Agent 99 and Agent 13 are in the same city in Brazil. Moreover, Agent 13 is near a giant statue of Jesus --- which is in Rio de Janeiro. So the Brazil cities are all Rio de Janeiro. This also allows us to determine the time zone for Agent 86 on December 6, which must be UTC+10, and from that we can tell Agent 38's time zone, which is UTC+2. We can also tell that Agent 86's prior timezone was either UTC+9 or UTC+11. A direct 10- or 12-hour flight means he must have changed hemispheres (or he was in Antarctica, which seems unlikely); since it's now summer, he must have previously been in the northern hemisphere. In the summer hemisphere, the only continent is Australia, and the largest city in Australia is Sydney. So Agent 86 was in Sydney.

We've ID'd Athens, Auckland, Edinburgh, Guangzhou, Havana, Istanbul, Kuwait City, Luxembourg, Mexico City, New York, Oaxaca, Paris, Reno, Rio de Janeiro, Sydney, Tashkent, and Warsaw, so we know 17 of 25 cities.

The map is now:

Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/1/2012	???	Olympics?	???	???
				Time zone
				between UTC+6
12/2/2012	Rio de Janeiro		Istanbul	and UTC+12
12/3/2012				
			UTC+9 or	
			UTC+11,	
			northern	
12/4/2012			hemisphere	
12/5/2012		UTC+2		Rio de Janeiro
12/6/2012	Oaxaca		Sydney	
12/7/2012			???	Kuwait City
12/8/2012		Mexico City		Mexico City
12/9/2012			???	
12/10/2012				
		Auckland/across		
12/11/2012		IDL	Auckland	

12/12	2/2012				
12/13	3/2012	New York		???	
12/14	4/2012			???	
12/15	5/2012		Reno		355
12/16	5/2012				
12/17	7/2012		???	New York	New York
12/18	3/2012				
12/19	9/2012	Guangzhou			
12/20	0/2012			Tashkent	
12/21	1/2012	Havana	Havana	???	Havana
12/22	2/2012				Oaxaca
12/23	3/2012	Istanbul	Edinburgh		
12/24	4/2012				
12/25	5/2012	???	Reno		Warsaw
12/26	5/2012			???	
12/27	7/2012				
12/28	3/2012	???			
12/29	9/2012				
12/30	0/2012		Olympics?		Auckland
12/31	1/2012				
1/1	1/2013				
1/2	2/2013		???		???
1/3	3/2013				
1/4	4/2013				
1/5	5/2013				
1/6	5/2013	New York	New York	Tashkent	???
1/7	7/2013			???	
1/8	3/2013	Guangzhou	Guangzhou		???
-	9/2013			Athens	
1/10	0/2013	Paris			
1/11	1/2013	Luxembourg		Tashkent	Luxembourg
1/12	2/2013	???		Mexico City	???
	3/2013				
-	4/2013				???
-	5/2013	???		Europe/Asia	
	5/2013				???
	7/2013	Edinburgh		???	
1/18	3/2013			???	

We need to get ourselves some new cities. We note that on December 4, Agent 86 entered a city in the northern hemisphere in time zone either UTC+9 or UTC+11. There aren't very many such

cities, especially with a population as large as 10.5M. In fact, the only possible city we find is Seoul, which has 10.5M people. The dancing seems to refer clearly to Gangnam Style.

We see that Agent 13 on Dec. 25 was in the same city as Agent 38 on Dec. 17 (because 13 picked up the CONTROL passphrases that 38 lost). A taqiyah is a traditional cap worn by Muslim men, and Agent 38 mentions a number of Somalis. Somalis are often found in Somalia, Ethiopia, Yemen, Kenya, Djibouti, and also some other parts of the world. Some searching identifies that Tarek bin Laden has a stalled construction project called the "Bridge of the Horns" from Djibouti to Yemen. Some more searching finds that Lac Assal, the lowest point on the African continent, is in Djibouti and 155m below sea level, which is about 500 feet. So it seems that both agents were in Djibouti City.

Let's take a guess and see if things work out. On Jan 15, Agent 86 says that he's in one of four former Soviet satellite states by membership in Comecon. We've identified three of them: Cuba, Uzbekistan, and Poland. Meanwhile, on December 2, Agent 99 is in a very cold place a four hours' flight from Tashkent. If we guess that these locations are the same, we are looking for a very cold place about four hours' flight from Tashkent in a former Soviet republic where the city moved 28 times in its first 150 years of existence. That would either land us in China, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Romania, or Ukraine. Most of those are not cold enough, but Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, matches perfectly: the city moved 28 times in the first 150 years of its founding, it recently took down its last statue to Lenin (referred to by them as a murderer), and the temperature on Dec. 4 matches exactly Agent 99's tweet. So this was Ulaanbaatar.

The exchange of tweets between Agent 86 and Agent 99 now tells us that 99's final location is two hours forward of Agent 86, so it must be in time zone UTC+10.

Let's look at that location of Agent 99's. It's in time zone UTC+10. So it could be in Australia, which would make it Sydney. It could be in Russia, but we already have four members of Comecon. There are some US territories, but we already have two cities in the US. So that leaves Papua New Guinea and the Federated States of Micronesia along with Sydney. 99 indicates that she's been here before, and we do see some other landings at 12:38am, and an indication that it's an airport with very few flights (in particular, it has no flights leaving over a 4-day period). Putting facts together from the various visits there: it's not on a continent, the currency is very heavy for some reason, and there was an Aaron Sorkin reference (probably West Wing) to the US Embassy being there. Also, it's an island, which rules out Sydney. Searching through the Federated States of Micronesia turns up the island of Yap, which has a currency made of giant stones, was references in West Wing, and has a United flight arriving from Guam at 12:38am --- it's only other flight is to Koror. So these places must all be Yap.

From this we can extract some useful time information. Agent 99 flew 25.5 hours before arriving at Yap for the second time, but the apparent duration was 18 hours longer; so her previous location was 18 hours earlier than Yap, in UTC-8. We have a city there, Reno, and sure enough there's a Guy Madison movie called "Five Against the House" which is about robbing a casino in Reno. (Appropriate.) So we label that as Reno.

Moreover, if we look at the first time Agent 99 went to Yap, we see that she left on a 23-hour set of flights to her next destination, but it only appears that she traveled about 14 hours, so her

next destination must be 9 hours earlier in time UTC+1. Moreover, it's supposed to be the farthest north that we'll go. Well, the furthest north that we've gone so far is Edinburgh at about 55 degrees N. Looking in UTC+1 at that high latitude, we only have two possibilities: Oslo and Stockholm. Oslo outlawed auctioning off children(!) in 1900, while Stockholm has no mention of such a law. Hence, this must be Oslo.

Let's look at Agent 99 on January 8. She's in the southern hemisphere, and she says that it's one of only two stops on this continent. That rules out Australia (only one stop, which is Sydney); Africa (only one stop, Djibouti City); Europe (too many stops); Asia (too many stops); North America (too many stops); and Antartica (she'd need a coat). Thus, this is the second stop in South America. It's in the tropics, and in the southern hemisphere. We can eliminate Brazil because we've already been in Rio. That leaves us with Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and maybe parts of Chile, Argentina, or Paraguay. Looking through reasonable cities, we quickly find Lima, which has the right location, was known as Limaq, meaning talker, and the temperature matches. Hence, this must be Lima.

Let's look at Agent 13 on Jan 15-17 and Agent 86 on Jan 17 (it is the same location based on their tweets). Wherever they are, it is one hour behind Ulaanbaatar, which puts it in UTC+7. Our options there are Russia, Mongolia (but we've already covered it), Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, and Australia (but we've already covered it). We can try to find this out by Googling terms together with these countries, and this quickly turns up Chiang Mai in Thailand.

To recap, our list of cities is: Athens, Auckland, Chiang Mai, Djibouti City, Edinburgh, Guangzhou, Havana, Istanbul, Kuwait City, Lima, Luxembourg, Mexico City, New York, Oaxaca, Oslo, Paris, Reno, Rio de Janeiro, Seoul, Sydney, Tashkent, Ulaanbaatar, Warsaw, and Yap. We're only missing one city! Our chart looks as follows:

Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/1/2012	???	Olympics?	???	???
12/2/2012	Rio de Janeiro		Istanbul	Ulaanbaatar
12/3/2012				
12/4/2012			Seoul	
12/5/2012		UTC+2		Rio de Janeiro
12/6/2012	Oaxaca		Sydney	
12/7/2012			355	Kuwait City
12/8/2012		Mexico City		Mexico City
12/9/2012			355	
12/10/2012				
		Auckland/across		
12/11/2012		IDL	Auckland	
12/12/2012				
12/13/2012	New York		???	
12/14/2012			???	
12/15/2012		Reno		355
12/16/2012				

12/17/2012		Djibouti	New York	New York
12/18/2012				
12/19/2012	Guangzhou			
12/20/2012			Tashkent	
12/21/2012	Havana	Havana	???	Havana
12/22/2012				Oaxaca
12/23/2012	Istanbul	Edinburgh		
12/24/2012				
12/25/2012	Djibouti	Reno		Warsaw
12/26/2012			Yap	
12/27/2012				
12/28/2012	???			
12/29/2012				
12/30/2012		Olympics?		Auckland
12/31/2012				
1/1/2013				
1/2/2013		???		Yap
1/3/2013				
1/4/2013				
1/5/2013				
1/6/2013	New York	New York	Tashkent	Oslo
1/7/2013			???	
1/8/2013	Guangzhou	Guangzhou		Lima
1/9/2013			Athens	
1/10/2013	Paris			
1/11/2013	Luxembourg		Tashkent	Luxembourg
1/12/2013	???		Mexico City	???
1/13/2013				
1/14/2013				Reno
1/15/2013	Chiang Mai		Ulaanbaatar	
1/16/2013				Yap
1/17/2013	Edinburgh		Chiang Mai	
1/18/2013			???	

Let's see who's joining the Euro, based on Agent 86's tweet on December 21. The possible countries are Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Sweden. Agent 86 can't be in Poland, because he tells Agent 99 he's not visiting Warsaw at all and Warsaw is the only place to visit in Poland. That means that this must be the 25th city which we haven't discovered yet --- and so it must be one of the members of the Comecon.

These were: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Soviet Union, Albania, East Germany, Mongolia, Cuba, and Vietnam. Comparing the two possible lists of countries, we might be in Sofia (Bulgaria); Prague (Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic); Budapest (Hungary);

and Bucharest (Romania). Looking up these nations, we find the famous Museum of the Romanian Peasant in Bucharest. This must be Bucharest.

We have all the cities! They are Athens, Auckland, Bucharest, Chiang Mai, Djibouti City, Edinburgh, Guangzhou, Havana, Istanbul, Kuwait City, Lima, Luxembourg, Mexico City, New York, Oaxaca, Oslo, Paris, Reno, Rio de Janeiro, Seoul, Sydney, Tashkent, Ulaanbaatar, Warsaw, and Yap.

We are, at least, ready to wrap this up. We recall that Agent 13 was in Warsaw before December 28; there's only one option, his first destination. Looking at Agent 13 on December 28, he talks about being rolled up in a giant rug --- sounds like Istanbul. Then he talks about a song about the place's name, a reference to "Istanbul, not Constantinople." So that destination was Istanbul. On January 12, he talks about hiding as a statue that was stolen 200 years ago. Looking at the cities, this refers to the Elgin Marbles from Athens. That finishes up Agent 13. Reading down first letters of his cities, we get WRONG HIDING PLACE, so we must keep looking.

Let's try Agent 38. We ID'd this previously as a potential future Olympics city. That could be Rio, but he couldn't get to UTC+2 losing only two hours even with a direct flight. Those are all of the confirmed Olympic cities, but Istanbul has a bid in for the 2020 Olympics. This is Istanbul. Then he goes to a city in UTC+2. Istanbul fits, but he's just coming from there. It could be Athens or Bucharest; looking at both cities, we find that Lykavittos Hill is supposed to have once been inhabited by wolves. So Agent 38's second city is Athens. On December 15, Agent 38 talks about wishing his disguise had underwear; this refers to kilts, in Scotland, so this is Edinburgh. (This also gives us the city for 86 and 99.) December 30 is another future olympics city; this time, it is Rio, which has a beach with a huge New Years' fireworks display. His January 3 tweet refers to the Ottoman-Venetian war, so this is Istanbul. That finishes Agent 38's itinerary; reading down gives I AM A RED HERRING. Oh well, not this one.

Now to Agent 86. His first stop is in Spanish, and gay marriage is legal in Mexico City, but not outside the city limits. So this was Mexico City. On December 13, he is just south of the Tropic of Cancer, limiting us to Chaing Mai, Guangzhou, perhaps Mexico City, Oaxaca, Havana, or Djibouti City. Regardless, we need eight subway lines there. Chiang Mai has no subway; Mexico City has eleven lines; Havana has no subway; Djibouti City has no subway; Oaxaca has no subway. Ghuangzhou has eight lines, so that is the city.

On January 8, Agent 86 talks about cigars; this is presumably Havana. Also on January 18, monopoly is banned in Cuba, so this is also Havana.

To finish Agent 86, we stop over first at Agent 99. She must visit Tashkent before Jan. 11. Therefore, it must be her first stop. With that, all of her slots are full well past December 25. But we know from Agent 13's Dec. 25 tweet that three agents visited Djibouti City, so 86 must visit Djibouti City. His visit to Edinburgh on Dec. 14 says that it was his second time there, so he must have visited it again in one of his two remaining blank spots. His first blank spot speaks English, so that must be Edinburgh; his second blank spot must therefore be Djibouti City. Reading down the first letters, we get MISSED AGENT BY THAT MUCH, so the answer isn't here, either.

Agent 99 has one more blank spot, on January 12. She makes a remark that she doesn't have to change currency from her previous stop, Luxembourg, which is on the Euro. The other stops on the Euro are Paris and Athens; it is Athens where one might wonder if they will remain on the Euro. Hence, this stop is Athens.

Reading down first letters, we get TURKMENHOWAYOLLARY, which is the answer. (It is the airline of Turkmenistan.)

The final state looks like this:

Arrival Date	Agent 13	Agent 38	Agent 86	Agent 99
12/1/2012	Warsaw	Istanbul	Mexico City	Tashkent
12/2/2012	Rio de Janeiro		Istanbul	Ulaanbaatar
12/3/2012				
12/4/2012			Seoul	
12/5/2012		Athens		Rio de Janeiro
12/6/2012	Oaxaca		Sydney	
12/7/2012			Edinburgh	Kuwait City
12/8/2012		Mexico City		Mexico City
12/9/2012			Djibouti City	
12/10/2012				
12/11/2012		Auckland/Reno	Auckland	
12/12/2012				
12/13/2012	New York		Guangzhou	
12/14/2012			Edinburgh	
12/15/2012		Edinburgh		Edinburgh
12/16/2012				
12/17/2012		Diibati	New York	Marris Marali
12/17/2012		Djibouti	new York	New York
12/17/2012		Djibouti	New York	New York
· ·	Guangzhou	Djibouti	New York	New York
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012	Guangzhou	Djibouti	Tashkent	New York
12/18/2012 12/19/2012	Guangzhou Havana	Havana		Havana
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012	Havana	Havana	Tashkent	
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012	-		Tashkent	Havana
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012	Havana Istanbul	Havana	Tashkent	Havana
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012	Havana	Havana	Tashkent	Havana
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012	Havana Istanbul	Havana Edinburgh	Tashkent	Havana Oaxaca
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012	Havana Istanbul Djibouti	Havana Edinburgh	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012 12/28/2012	Havana Istanbul	Havana Edinburgh	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 12/29/2012	Havana Istanbul Djibouti	Havana Edinburgh	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca Warsaw
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 12/29/2012 12/30/2012	Havana Istanbul Djibouti	Havana Edinburgh	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 12/29/2012 12/30/2012 12/31/2012	Havana Istanbul Djibouti	Havana Edinburgh Reno	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca Warsaw
12/18/2012 12/19/2012 12/20/2012 12/21/2012 12/22/2012 12/23/2012 12/24/2012 12/25/2012 12/26/2012 12/27/2012 12/28/2012 12/29/2012 12/30/2012	Havana Istanbul Djibouti	Havana Edinburgh Reno	Tashkent Bucharest	Havana Oaxaca Warsaw

1/3/2013				
1/4/2013				
1/5/2013				
1/6/2013	New York	New York	Tashkent	Oslo
1/7/2013			Havana	
1/8/2013	Guangzhou	Guangzhou		Lima
1/9/2013			Athens	
1/10/2013	Paris			
1/11/2013	Luxembourg		Tashkent	Luxembourg
1/12/2013	Athens		Mexico City	Athens
1/13/2013				
1/14/2013				Reno
1/15/2013	Chiang Mai		Ulaanbaatar	
1/16/2013				Yap
1/17/2013	Edinburgh		Chiang Mai	
1/18/2013			Havana	