There are literally hundreds of systems connected to some of these larger networks, like Tymnet and Telenet. Navigation around these networks is very simple, and usually well explained in their on-line documentation. Furthermore, some systems will actually tell you what is connected and how to get to it. In the case of Tymnet, after dialing in, at the log in prompt, type "information" for the on-line documentation.

Accessing systems through networks is as simple as providing an address for it to connect to. The best way to learn about the addresses and how to do things on a network is to read "A Novice's Guide to Hacking (1989 Edition)" which was in Issue 22, File 4 of 12, Volume Two (December 23, 1988). Some points are reiterated here.

Once on a network, you provide the NUA (network user address) of the system you wish to connect to. NUAs are strings of 15 digits, broken up in to 3 fields, the NETWORK ADDRESS, the AREA PREFIX, and the DNIC. Each field has 5 digits, and are left padded with 0's where necessary.

The DNIC determines which network to take the address from. Tymnet, for example, is 03106. 03110 is Telenet.

The AREA PREFIX and NETWORK ADDRESS determine the connection point. By providing the address of the system that you wish to connect to, you will be accessing it through the net... as if you were calling it directly. Obviously, then, this provides one more level of security for access. By connecting to an outdial, you can increase again the level of security you enjoy, by using the outdial in that area to connect to the remote system.

Addendum -- Accessing Tymnet Over Local Packet Networks

This is just another way to get that extra step and/or bypass other routes. This table is copied from Tymnet's on-line information. As said earlier, it's a great resource, this on-line information!

		BELL ATLANTIC			
NODE	CITY	STATE	SPEED	ACCESS NUMBER	NETWORK
03526	DOVER	DELAWARE	300/2400	302/734-9465	@PDN
03526	GEORGETOWN	DELAWARE	300/2400	302/856-7055	@PDN
03526	NEWARK	DELAWARE	300/2400	302/366-0800	@PDN
03526	WILMINGTON	DELAWARE	300/1200	302/428-0030	@PDN
03526	WILMINGTON	DELAWARE	2400	302/655-1144	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON	DIST. OF COL.	300/1200	202/479-7214	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON(MIDTOWN)	DIST. OF COL.	2400	202/785-1688	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON(DOWNTOWN)	DIST. OF COL.	300/1200	202/393-6003	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON(MIDTOWN)	DIST. OF COL.	300/1200	202/293-4641	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON	DIST. OF COL.	300/1200	202/546-5549	@PDN
06254	WASHINGTON	DIST. OF COL.	300/1200	202/328-0619	@PDN
06254	BETHESDA	MARYLAND	300/1200	301/986-9942	@PDN
06254	COLESVILLE	MARYLAND	300/2400	301/989-9324	@PDN
06254	HYATTSVILLE	MARYLAND	300/1200	301/779-9935	@PDN
06254	LAUREL	MARYLAND	300/2400	301/490-9971	@PDN
06254	ROCKVILLE	MARYLAND	300/1200	301/340-9903	@PDN
06254	SILVER SPRING	MARYLAND	300/1200	301/495-9911	@PDN
07771	BERNARDSVILLE	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/766-7138	@PDN
07771	CLINTON	NEW JERSEY	300-1200	201/730-8693	@PDN
07771	DOVER	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/361-9211	@PDN
07771	EATONTOWN/RED BANK	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/758-8000	@PDN
07771	ELIZABETH	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/289-5100	@PDN
07771	ENGLEWOOD	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/871-3000	@PDN
07771	FREEHOLD	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/780-8890	@PDN
07771	HACKENSACK	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/343-9200	@PDN
07771	JERSEY CITY	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/659-3800	@PDN
07771	LIVINGSTON	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/533-0561	@PDN
07771	LONG BRANCH/RED BANK	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/758-8000	@PDN
07771	MADISON	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/593-0004	@PDN
07771	METUCHEN	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/906-9500	@PDN
07771	MIDDLETOWN	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/957-9000	@PDN
07771	MORRISTOWN	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/455-0437	@PDN
07771	NEWARK	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/623-0083	@PDN
07771	NEW BRUNSWICK	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/247-2700	@PDN
07771	NEW FOUNDLAND	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/697-9380	@PDN
07771	PASSAIC	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/473-6200	@PDN
07771	PATERSON	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/345-7700	@PDN
07771	PHILLIPSBURG	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/454-9270	@PDN
07771	POMPTON LAKES	NEW JERSEY	300/2400	201/835-8400	@PDN