

BATTLETECH



FIELD REPORT: C.C.A.F.

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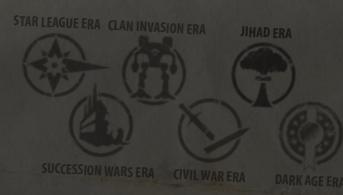
FIELD REPORT: C.C.A.F.

STRATEGIC ANALYSIS...

Over ten years ago, as the second Star League died, the Word of Blake unleashed its wrath against the combined realms of the Inner Sphere and the Clans. Using every weapon in their arsenal, from strategic misdirection and the exposure of state secrets, to biological, nuclear, and chemical attacks, the Word's war struck every power where it hurt most. Factories were razed, capitals fell, and loyalties were shattered.

But eventually, the leaders of the Inner Sphere's ancient warring factions recognized the true threat, and united behind a bold new freedom fighter to bring down the Word of Blake's bastion of power: Terra. Though the war still rages on, and the Blakists' Master yet lives, the followers of Devlin Stone know all too well that victory today may only pave the way for the wars of tomorrow.

Field Report: CCAF describes the state of the Capellan Confederation in the wake of the events described in *Jihad Hot Spots: Terra*, including the overall military and logistical condition of one of the Great Houses who stood against the Word of Blake menace. Broken, but undefeated, the armies of House Liao remain a force to be reckoned with, as a new age dawns...



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FIELD REPORT: CCAF



TO: Devlin Stone
FROM: David Lear
Date: 12 August 3079

The attached report has been compiled from many sources, including captured or collected Capellan documents or intercepted transmissions, as well as data cores provided by many defectors or former CCAF soldiers who have joined our Coalition's forces. While we have endeavored to confirm as much of it as possible, the accuracy of this report cannot be assumed—even ComStar never managed to be right all the time.

House Liao is our most likely enemy in any future confrontation, and we need to be aware of changes in Capellan doctrine and equipment since the end of the Jihad. The last comprehensive examination of any state's military was completed shortly before the Word of Blake's Jihad erupted into fire and no military emerged from that conflagration without having shifted focus, doctrine, and relative ability. The Liao will most likely oppose anyone's possession of "their" worlds—as they long opposed the Federated Suns during the Succession Wars—which means that we can expect a near-constant level of deniable, low-level raiding while the CCAF searches for ways to exploit any vulnerability. Vigilance will be required on the Capellan border, lest we find that Tikonov becomes the Confederation's new Chesterton.

Although most of the former Capellan worlds in the former Protectorate appear to be quiescent and content with our authority, it would be folly to not assume Sun-Tzu Liao is fomenting the same sorts of underground resistance cells as he did when the worlds were part of the FedCom's Sarna March. Every effort must be therefore expended to keep discontent cool—else we'll find ourselves embroiled in just the sort of police actions Sun-Tzu used to justify his "reclamation" of St. Ives.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Field Report: CCAF is a *BattleTech* supplement designed to provide players with information about the state of the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces (CCAF) in the aftermath of the liberation of Terra during the Jihad (and before the eventual formation of the Republic of the Sphere). This supplement builds on previous sourcebooks—specifically *Field Manual: Capellan Confederation* (FAS1717) and *Field Manual: Updates* (FPR10796)—which readers may find useful in tracking the recent evolution of the Confederation's armed forces prior to and through the Jihad.

This first section of this book—*Confederation Overview*—is divided into two broad sections, a *Strategic Update* and the *Goals of the State*. *Strategic Update* is a brief overview of the CCAF's current condition and perceived objectives, while *Goals of the State* presents the political and suspected military benchmarks the Capellans are likely to use in the future.

The next chapter, *Logistical Status*, covers the state of *Academies and Command Centers* throughout the Confederation, while *Infrastructural Integrity* will present an overview of the state of CCAF support units in the wake of the Jihad.

The next chapter, *Military Readiness*, will present a specific update on the status, officers, and notable events of the various brigades of the CCAF, with an eye toward their likely future employment. Included are ratings for the experience and estimated combat strengths of each regiment within the subject brigade.

Finally, *Irregular Forces* covers both the Capellan-allied forces of the Magistracy of Canopus in the Confederation as well as prominent state-employed mercenaries and other irregular forces.

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Special Thanks: This product is dedicated to all BattleTech fans, past, present, and future.

Developer's Note: For more information about the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces, or the state of warfare before and during the Jihad, check out *Field Manual: Capellan Confederation*, *Jihad Turning Points: Sian*, any of the *Jihad Hot Spots* books, or *Technical Readout: 3085*.

FIELD REPORT: CCAF





HALLORAN

We came out of transit into orbit around Halloran without any real opposition—a few fighters, some DropShips, but nothing strong enough to challenge the *Franco Martell* or anything small enough in enough strength to overwhelm our CAP fighters. The *kong-sang-shao* ordered us to drop stations and we went to the 'Mechs, but before we could get more than two pods out alarms starting blasting. I dropped my com onto the inter-ship frequency and heard a skycop screaming about heavy particle fire from the surface. Incoming missiles. The *kong-sang-shao* was cursing him for a fool, screaming at his plotters to ID the enemy WarShip, but there wasn't one. Someone screamed the *Franco*'s back was broken—a *Feng Huang*!—and then my pod launched. I couldn't wait for the ablatives to pop so I could sweep the sky, and then I saw the tracks.

Halloran had a functional space defense system. Gods above and below, I knew we were in for it then...

—After-action debrief of Sao-wei Luther Grange, Fifth McCarron's Armored Cavalry, 3077

ANDURIENS, WHERE?

[Sian Jump Control]: "Incoming vessel, identify yourself."

[Contact 147]: "JumpShip Lancaster, out Andurien."

[SJC]: "Lancaster, state your business."

[C147]: "Escort, Control."

[SJC]: "Those are Andurien military DropShips, then?"

[C147]: "That's a rog, Control."

[SJC]: "Come to strike while we're weak, eh? I'm scrambling fighters now—"

[C147]: "Negative, negative, Control! We're escorting Capellans home!"

[SJC]: "Nice story, Lancaster. We've had a lot of liars through here—"

[C148]: "Sian Control, this is Magestrix Naomi Centrella-Liao."

[SJC]: "New contact this net, say again."

[C148]: "The Andurien JumpShip is escorting my DropShip and is under the Magistracy's protection, Control. Stand down the fighters and stand by to receive a download for retransmission to the Forbidden City. Authorization is Chrysanthemum-Omega-one-seven."

[SJC]: "Authenticating... That's the chancel—Roger that, my lady. Lancaster and accompanying vessels are welcome to Sian space, and may I add, my lady: welcome home!"

—Recorded nadir jump point, Sian, 30 March 3076

CONFEDERATION OVERVIEW

The Capellan Confederation has come a long way from the shattered shell of a nation Hanse Davion left in 3030, and even succeeded beyond the goals of Sun-Tzu Liao's 3060 *Xin Sheng* program. Indeed, we may count the simple survival of the Confederation through the Jihad—attacked on all sides from the Blakists, the Federated Suns, and rogue former Free Worlds League proto-states—as proof that the Capellan nation has rebounded in spirit, if not area, from the Fourth Succession War.

STRATEGIC UPDATE

The Confederation's boycott of the Coalition against the Word of Blake is proof enough of their intentions: despite being as threatened by the Jihad as any other Inner Sphere realm, Chancellor Sun-Tzu Liao declined to place his troops amongst ours, instead focusing all of his energies on reclaiming Confederation worlds taken by the Word without our help. In the Confederation, this plays as reinforcement of the new Capellan confidence: the CCAF didn't need the rest of the Sphere's help to push the Word of Blake off its worlds.

What's most of interest to us are the tactics used during the Capellan counterattacks into the Protectorate; Sun-Tzu's counter-invasion of the Capellan March showed us he's not afraid to use naked force, but in facing the Protectorate Militia, the Capellan military pulled out all the stops. Many worlds were harshly bombarded from space, or nuked, or laced with targeted chemical or biological attacks to lessen the conventional casualties. Certainly they suffered enough at the space defense systems at Halloran and Zion.

The CCAF's posture of active hostility toward the AFFS units they encountered on worlds like Nanking (where both nations' militaries were present) we can take as indicators of their likely actions against our forces, when we announce the annexations. When faced with both Blakist and Davion forces, the Capellans often let the two grind each other down before attacking the victor—and, of course, your reception on Sian tells you more about Sun-Tzu Liao than this report can. He let our Coalition batter down the gates of the rimward Protectorate, and then sent his troops in like jackals to claim what we had taken. We'll face a hard battle on many of those worlds, without the influxes of troops we got from the other states.

Observation tells us Sun-Tzu's military will only strike when it is advantageous to them to do so. We saw several ill-advised assaults in 3076 and 3077, but those were primarily against the Blakists and the CCAF had momentum to maintain, whether or not the conditions were favorable. We'll need to watch the Capellan border closely to make sure we don't give Liao a chance to build any of that momentum.

GOALS OF THE STATE

The stated goal of the Capellan military hasn't changed materially in forty years: to reclaim the worlds lost to the Confederation during the Fourth Succession War. To be fair, if one considers the Chesterton worlds and many of the smaller duchies lost during the Succession Wars, the Confederation's strategy hasn't changed in hundreds of years. The difference now, of course, is that the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces have the muscle and the experience to actually attain those goals—much as they did during the 3060s after the fragmenting of the Sarna March.

Despite the continuing actions against Blakist strongholds in the former Protectorate, the CCAF is currently concentrating on consolidation. The press of the Jihad scattered much of the logistical capacity in the Confederation, trying to support troops across the Confederation and deep into the Magistracy of Canopus. Current activities on former Protectorate worlds are limited to police actions and hunting down pockets of resistance, especially now that the action on Halloran has been decided. Any intentions gleaned from the current deployments and intercepted orders seem to point to the Strategios ordering

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



its troops to hold-in-place and refit, although we cannot say if that's just to come back up to strength or to prepare for another leapfrog into the region around Terra.

Given the Word of Blake's early penetration of the Confederation's HPGs, and the year of terror that filled the Confederation as the citizenry reacted to the Jihad by slaughtering HPG operators, one of the Confederation's priorities has to be reestablishing the hyperpulse generator network. Without the ComStar assistance we've spread around the former Protectorate, and extended to the states that offered support for the Coalition, the Confederation has a hard road ahead of it. We have unconfirmed reports that captured Blakist HPG operators are being used as skilled labor and forced to train Capellan HPG operators. Considering we're doing the same thing, I don't doubt the veracity of this supposition.

If any way can be explored to accomplish it, we should look into encouraging Sun-Tzu to spend as much of his attention as possible on the Magistracy and Andurien areas. Although his marriage to the Magestrix means his alliance with the Magistracy is secure, both the Confederation and Canopus have long histories of distrust with Andurien, and Sun-Tzu Liao has never been a man who trusts his allies. If we can keep at least some of the CCAF's attention focused on the rimward Periphery, it would pay significant dividends over the next few years. This task will be complicated by Sun-Tzu's historical attention to the worlds of the former Blakist Protectorate, but even one regiment moved rimward would make our plans easier.

The lack of frontline Capellan soldiers in our forces has limited our ability to accurately gauge the likely response by Confederation regiments to our plans. Although many of the former Protectorate worlds in the Capellan Zone have declared for us, we cannot take their reactions as indicative the whole Confederation—many of those worlds have seen several rulers in the last decades, from Capellan to FedCom and back. We must recall always the example of Denbar: when the Confederation is weak, Sun-Tzu will turn to subterfuge to meet his goals; should a Denbar-like situation develop on one of the former Confederation worlds, close attention must be paid to watch for the tiger lurking in the reeds.



ON DEALING WITH COALITION FORCES

When dealing with the various claimants to the title "Coalition Forces," it is important for all Capellan officers to recall the following facts:

1. Many of the worlds these forces are fighting over are rightful Capellan possessions, stolen from us by cowardice and deplorable betrayals; our *janshi* will shortly free our citizens from oppression or, failing that, remind the Word of Blake why the Capellan spirit has been so strong since Capella Prime.
2. Despite the appearance of cohabitation, each of the corrupt nations represented among these various forces retains their own distinct agendas and goals, and those goals are almost always counter to the goals of the State. The Chancellor has refused to distract us from the task at hand by involving the CCAF in this "Coalition."
3. When operating in the same theater as a "Coalition" force, all Capellan officers are reminded of their duty to protect Capellan interests and citizens. Operations against the Word of Blake or other Capellan oppressors take precedence, but we cannot allow these outlanders to claim what is rightfully ours.
4. The man known as Devlin Stone is recognized by no established government, and his so-called Kittery Prefecture sits astride worlds rightfully Capellan. Capellan officers are not directed to obey orders or entertain requests from the forces this man commands.
5. Despite his upstart claims, Devlin Stone shares a common enemy with the Capellan Confederation in the Word of Blake, and every opportunity should be afforded him to do the Confederation's work in destroying them and their occupation of the Confederation. Care should be taken, however, to see that he does not claim any additional Capellan territory.

—*Intercepted regimental orders, Fifth Confederation Reserve Cavalry, 3077*

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



ELASTIC DEFENSE REDUX?

As the Jihad continued year after year, the small Capellan merchant marine became stretched to its breaking point. JumpShips were lost ferrying troops toward the front, not only from enemy action but also from lack of maintenance. As transport assets became scarce, the Strategios resurrected an old defense concept from the Succession Wars and enacted it in a limited fashion. Several regiments were held at alert, combined with scant JumpShips and DropShips, and tasked with responding to further attacks. While the idea was sound, the destruction of the Liao HPG network meant that news of an attack proceeded too slowly for those forces to react, and the elastic defense concept was again quickly abandoned.

—From *An Attitude Toward War: Mistakes, Blunders, and Old-Fashioned Thinking During the Jihad*

THE CHILDREN

Father—

Things are much changed here, now that Terra has fallen. The proctors informed us this morning that our graduation will not be this July, as expected, but in 3080. As you can imagine, there was much grumbling among the cadet corps as we were all anxious to get into the field and do our duty for the Confederation. I was just as guilty as the rest of my peers until I spoke with a head steward, Citizen Ruskov. He had served with the Capellan Hussars in the Fourth Succession War, and told me stories of young officers rushed to the field. He could remember the faces of at least seven *sao-weis*—subcommanders, as he called them—that were killed.

He'd never learned their names; they had come and died so quickly.

"Take your year, young master," Ruskov told me, "and learn what you need to survive. All young officers should be anxious for combat, but temper that anxiousness with knowledge." He limped away, then. His leg was bothering him—it was raining that day.

His words struck me. Your stories always showed me the heroism of the Capellan soldier, but Citizen Ruskov made me think; I am not afraid to die for the Confederation. I would like to be remembered by the men around me, though.

—Personal correspondence from Cadet Li Soo Quan, Capella War College, 3079.

LOGISTICAL STATUS

The Capellan Confederation's small size has always been a mixed boon to the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces in times of war, and the Jihad was no exception.

ACADEMIES AND COMMAND CENTERS

Every commonality capital in the Confederation felt the caress of the Word of Blake before the Jihad's end. Sian itself, throne world of the entire Confederation, was attacked several times by the Word of Blake. Blakist divisions battered St. Ives, with casualties in the millions. Liao was a battleground for almost the entire Jihad, struck both by Federated Suns and Word of Blake forces. Even Victoria suffered a lightning attack that heavily damaged the Shengli Arms factories there. Each of these attacks was eventually thrown back, but the combined effect was to remind the Capellan people that they were not out of reach, even on heavily garrisoned capital worlds.

The effect of the massive drain on manpower that was the Jihad is just starting to be made good in the Confederation, as the lapse of active warfare has meant that the Confederation's service academies have begun to resume a more normal curriculum. The classes of '73, '74, '75, and '76 at all the Martial Sciences academies in Capellan space were abridged, focused on nothing so much as turning out adequately-trained junior officers for the line regiments. With the Blakists defeated on Terra and the Federated Suns too battered and self-absorbed to launch any serious attacks, the CCAF has directed its academies to return to the normal curriculum. This is interesting to our analysts for two reasons: first, because it shows a disconcerting attention to the future—none of these students will be graduated for several years, which means the CCAF expects to not need them for that long, and second, because it doesn't show any downward pace of enrollment. Academies elsewhere have already instituted more rigorous admission standards, but Capellan academies are accepting nearly every applicant.

The St. Ives Academy of Martial Sciences was particularly hard-hit during the Word of Blake attack on St. Ives, with significant damage to its campus and the complete annihilation of its training battalion. The SIAMS has recently completed repairs to its buildings, but replacing the cadet corps lost in combat is taking more time. Fewer than a third of the reconstituted training battalion slots are filled, although there are rumors that other academies are transferring students to St. Ives to fill its depleted ranks.

Both the Sian Center for Martial Disciplines and the Liao Conservatory of Military Arts were also damaged in Blakist raids, although the LCMA is having more trouble getting back up to speed; its student body was weaned during the hostilities with the Federated Suns and hadn't quite recovered when the Blakists struck Liao. The Capella War College was unharmed but has more than quadrupled its' class size—we predict it will be hard for the College to scale back its admittance rates, which will keep the quality of its graduates low. We expect the Victoria Academy of Arms and Technology, which has also suffered from greatly increased enrollment, to have the same problems.

INFRASTRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

The Word of Blake's targets, across the Inner Sphere, primarily included high tech production facilities and infrastructure. They were zealous in their campaign to reduce the Inner Sphere to barbarism so they could bring us the light, and although we fought back they were devilishly efficient at destroying what they couldn't capture. The Confederation's production facilities were not spared, with the largest loss being the Aris Yards over Necromo. Many other production and maintenance stations, both ground-bound and orbital, were also damaged, and the scale of rebuilding after the Jihad has shown that the remaining capacity is inadequate.

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



Nearly every slip capable of holding a JumpShip is full as of this writing, as the few naval yards in the Confederation attempt madly to catch up on the needed maintenance and repair work of the desperate years of fighting. Rashpur-Owens over Capella is the primary facility but its slips are scheduled through 3084 with just the critical work. In other realms smaller, independent firms would be moving in, but the fear of instant nationalization under Capellan law has meant that such firms remain in the less socialized but just as busy Federated Suns.

BattleMech production is suffering much the similar fate. Although repairs to the Shengli Arms manufactories on Victoria are underway, the sheer scale of rebuilding the near-shattered military has meant that no new formations are building built. The Confederation has always been a large buyer of conventional military equipment, of course, and those tanks and atmospheric fighters are already pouring into Home Guard armories, but more and more such vehicles are being routed into the frontline formations as well. Whether this is a doctrinal shift, as we've seen in the Federated Suns, or just simple necessity remains to be seen.

The collapse of the Trinity Alliance just after the Jihad's start has meant that aid to the Taurian Concordat ended years ago, but the treaty obligations to the Celestial Wisdom's consort, the Magestrix of Canopus, have not lessened. Shipments of materiel continue to be sent into the Magistracy, although the Strategios has dictated that more of it be carried on Canopian hulls, since the CCAF Navy is already pressed by domestic issues.

The focus in the Confederation on rebuilding, rather than expansion, gives us a brief window in which to act. The CCAF will be unable to oppose our efforts in the rimward spaces for a short time, but we cannot forget that rebuilding is always (eventually) completed. The Capellans *will* come for whatever Sun-Tzu declares to be theirs, and we must be ready to defend what is ours.



NO PORT TO CALL HOME

The Capellan WarShip fleet has been gutted by the Jihad, just like every other nation's, but the particular danger to the Confederation Navy is that no sizable repair yards or construction slips remain to replenish it. The only WarShip facilities in the Confederation were the new Aris Memorial Yards over Necromo, and the Word of Blake destroyed those in 3072. The Rashpur-Owens yards over Capella are currently in the midst of a crash construction program to try and build repair docks for the Confederation's remaining WarShips, but the creation of new dreadnoughts will have to wait for the construction of new facilities.

Of the three *Impavido*-class destroyers in service at the start of the Jihad, only *Xizang* survived. Three of the five *Feng Huang*-class cruisers, designed to protect Capellan task forces against any attacker, died defending Confederation naval flotillas: only *Ilisa Hyung* and *Aleisha Kris* are still space worthy.

CREW REST

Do you know what hyperspace transit does to a ship? I mean, really does, at an atomic level? You're taking a piece of this universe, tearing a hole in it, and then tossing the JumpShip and everything thing else inside it's field radius through that hole, and hoping it comes out all right on the other side. Which it usually does, of course—JumpShips last for centuries. That doesn't mean they don't still need maintenance.

Every certain number of jumps you're supposed to put into a yard, get your seals checked, get the core examined. You know, to see if any of that other universe is trickling through into yours when you jump. We were half-again past our jump limit when we made the jump to Pleione, both us and *Mary Albert*.

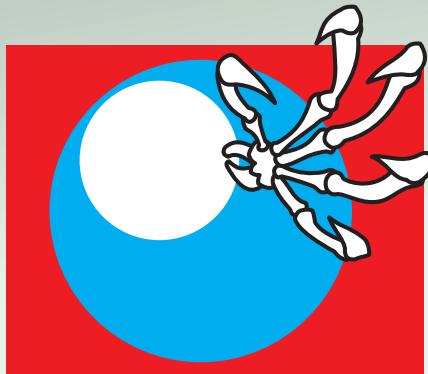
We made it. *Mary Albert* didn't. I don't know if she came apart during the transition or if she's trapped on the other side. I hope for the former—at least that would be quick.

—Overheard conversation, Pleione orbital station

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



FIELD REPORT: CCAF



CAPELLAN HUSSARS

Long the elite of the Capellan armed forces, the Capellan Hussars served with distinction and honor throughout the Jihad. The four regiments of the Hussars were at the forefront of nearly every operation of any scale the CCAF launched, from the retaliatory attacks against the Capellan March to the defense of Sian and the retaking of the Magistracy and much of the Capellan Blake Protectorate.

As the leading regiments of the Capellan military, the Hussar regiments are high on the list of replenishment, and as such boast some of the highest levels of upgrades and replacement equipment. While the lesser-prestige regiments have been forced to make do with salvaged equipment and so-called RetroTech primitive equipment, the Capellan Hussars are earmarked for the first runs out of every surviving Capellan BattleMech factory.

CONDITION

All four Capellan Hussars regiments were engaged in heavy fighting, and that fighting took its toll; the Red Lancers remain on Canopus at barely eighty-five percent of their authorized strength after supporting the Canopians' wresting their Magistracy back from the Word of Blake. Although the Strategios has indicated a desire to return the CCAF's flagship regiment to Sian, conditions in the Magistracy make it critical that these elite troops remain to support the Magistrix.

The Prefectorate Guard was battered during Operation Sovereign Justice, eventually retreating to Capellan space at barely forty percent materiel and fifty percent personnel strength. They have stayed close to Victoria and benefited from the sparse output of Shengli Arms, rebuilding almost to full strength by recruiting cadets rushed through the Victoria Institute of Arms and Technology.

The Holdfast Guard did just that—held fast—against repeated Blakists raids, using the brief lulls to draw in more and more of the surrounding militia, Home Guard, and mercenary troops for strength. When the Blakists finally lifted, barely thirty percent the regiment was battle-ready, and sixty percent of that was half-trained recruits and Home Guardsmen. The Holdfast has rebuilt by stealing veterans from other units and offering slots to graduates of the Capella War College.

The Dynasty Guards battled first the Federated Suns and then the Word of Blake on Liao throughout the Jihad, and stood firm against both invasions. In a way, the battles across that pastoral world healed many of the wounds opened when the Confederation reclaimed Liao from the Federated Commonwealth in 3057. The loss of the Liao family homeworld during "the War of Davion Aggression" had left doubts in some minds about its reintegration, but the solid resistance the Guards offered the Word of Blake erased all doubts.

MORALE

The morale of the Capellan Hussars brigade remains strong. They suffered none of the grievous losses inflicted on other brigades—brigades who lost entire regiments—and managed to defend their assigned posts with some degree of success. Early victories over the hated Federated Suns in 3068 did much to reaffirm their already-rising morale, and with the end of the Jihad, the Hussars have again assumed—even to themselves—the confidence of the elite of the CCAF.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Red Lancers

Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
85% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: *Canopus*

Prefectorate Guard

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
80% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: *Victoria*

Dynasty Guard

Regiment/Veteran/Fanatical
65% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: *Liao*

Holdfast Guard

Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
95% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: *Capella*

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



WARRIOR HOUSE ORDERS

Of the eight Warrior Houses under arms at the start of the Jihad only half remain, and only one—House Tsang Xiao—has been created to replace them. The insularity that gives each Warrior House its strength is also the most vulnerable flaw in its structure: without a solid cadre to rebuild, a Warrior House is essentially dead if its warriors die, as proven by the fates of Houses LuSann, Ma-Tsu Kai, and Fujita. (Kamata, nearly destroyed on Second Try in 3069, has only partially recovered by virtue of a small training reserve held back on Betelgeuse, and is still combat-ineffective at this time.)

Warrior House Imarra, long the most prestigious of the Orders, proved its combat ability over and over again during the Jihad, shunning the detractors who believed they could only fight political battles. Present when the Word of Blake attacked Sian, the Imarras helped fight off the invaders before spending the next few years rebuilding their losses and protecting the Celestial capital from further attack. Once the CCAF returned to the offensive by striking into the Blakist Protectorate, House Imarra was at the forefront of those assaults, including the recent action on Liberty that brought them into contact with our own forces.

House Hiritsu spent much of the first year of the Jihad in its stronghold on Carthage in the Taurian Concordat, until recalled by the Chancellor when the Trinity Alliance with the Concordat collapsed. The House protected the Capellan interior during the latter stages of the conflict with the Federated Suns, until the Chancellor ordered them to investigate the status of the then-silent Magistracy. That operation cost them the life of one of their most prominent officers, *Lien-zhang* Aris Sung, but laid the groundwork for an eventual counterassault into the Magistracy. The Warrior House played a strong (if underreported) role in the Canopian-Capellan task force that eventually freed Canopus itself, before returning to the Confederation to take part in the assaults into the Blakist Protectorate. They were critical in the Capellan successes at New Aragon and Pleione.

House Dai Da Chi, as befits the Warrior House with the most martial of philosophies, was at the forefront of nearly every Capellan advance since 3068. Leading an entire task force during the Capellan counterattack after Duke Hasek's Operation Sovereign Justice, Dai Da Chi fought on Almach and New Syrtis. They faced Blakist-backed mercenaries at Foochow and were instrumental in crushing Word of Blake resistance on Poznan. That they accomplished all that and remain at sixty percent of their authorized strength is a clear testament to their fighting skill.

House Ijori was badly mauled during the first wave of Capellan counterattacks in 3068, when they faced the elite First Federated Suns Armored Cavalry on Overton. They spent the next several years in the Confederation's interior, securing supply lines and dealing with banditry while rebuilding their strength. It was House Ijori who avenged House Ma-Tsu Kai's destruction at the hands of the Blakist Thirteenth Division on Ningpo in 3077, although they again took major casualties in the doing and were unable to support the action later on Poznan.

Warrior House Tsang Xiao, formed during the Jihad by a Capellan nobleman who wished to help the Confederation's defense, received its baptism of fire on Poznan in 3077. In concert with Warrior House Dai Da Chi, the Tsang Xiaos used every weapon at their disposal against the defending Word of Blake forces and showed no compunctions about using chemical or biological weapons when necessary. In this, they espouse the modern philosophy of the remaining Warrior Houses: honor in all things, loyalty to the Chancellor and the Confederation, and victory above all.

MORALE

The Warrior Houses have always been the elite of the Capellan military and as such their morale has rarely, if ever, flagged. The Jihad was a conflict unlike any before it, though, and the pounding the Blessed Orders have taken has led many to rethink their positions on a number of issues. Dissension has reached an all-time high amongst the House warriors—although it should be noted that “all-time high” for a Warrior House is still far beneath the minimums recorded for standard line regiments—as the Warrior Houses attempt to find their place in the post-Jihad military.

Certainly, the vicious combat they've been a part of has colored the average House warrior's views on things: even the savagery of the Fourth Succession War, which crippled almost all of the Warrior Houses, did not result in the outright annihilation of several of them. Many House Warriors are reevaluating the tenets they hold dear—in particular, the Lorix Order, as too many new threats, and new technologies like battle armor and advanced vehicles, are claiming much of the prestige once reserved for the MechWarrior alone.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

House Imarra

2 Mixed Battalions/Veteran/Reliable
60% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Liberty

House Dai Da Chi

Mixed Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
60% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Poznan

House Kamata

Mixed Battalion/Green/Reliable
25% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Betelgeuse

House Hiritsu

2 Mixed Battalions/Veteran/Fanatical
55% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Pleione

House Ijori

2 Mixed Battalions/Regular/Reliable
35% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Ningpo

House Tsang Xiao

2 Mixed Battalions/Regular/Reliable
70% strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: New Aragon



DEATH COMMANDOS

The Death Commandos are the elite of the Confederation military, a combination of shock troops, special operations teams, infiltrators, and assassins. Its warriors are drawn from the Confederation military, with the bulk of its troops coming from the Warrior Houses. They are supremely loyal to the Chancellor and the Confederation, and are the equal of any other soldiers in human space.

CONDITION

As the most trained and deadly soldiers in the Confederation, the Death Commandos receive only the most dangerous and important duties. Although they had grown to a full regiment in strength before the outbreak of the Jihad we estimate that barely two companies remain active—although that is just that, an estimate. We have been unable to locate the Death Commandos, perhaps because they are distributed in packets across the Confederation. We have been able to identify several of their past actions, however.

It was the Death Commandos who rescued Kai Allard-Liao from New Syrtis after George Hasek "freed" him from Capellan captivity. It was the Death Commandos who helped defend Sian from the Blakists' attack, and they who protected the false Thomas Marik from assassins during his brief visit to Sian in 3073. Death Commandos delivered Kali Liao to Sian to face her brother, and when Sun-Tzu sent his new consort, the Magestrix, back to Canopus to free her embattled nation, he sent her with his strongest warriors: the Red Lancers, lead regiment of the Capellan Hussars, and a company of Death Commandos.

With the consolidation of Capellan military forces in the wake of Terra's capture, we have been unable to locate more than one or two Death Commandos with any accuracy. We suspect the largest contingent remains with the Canopian Magestrix, but many must also be spread throughout the Capellan operations in the former Protectorate.

MORALE

One rarely doubts the morale amongst elite special forces; they're usually either fanatically loyal or treasonously disloyal. The extreme pressure such men and women operate under rarely leaves them time for hesitant positions. Despite what must be an incredible percentage of casualties, we suspect the Death Commandos' morale remains high, as does their loyalty to the Chancellor. Their operations, while costly, have been almost uniformly successful. Casualties amongst special operations teams are always higher than regular line forces, so we doubt the losses have affected the remaining Commandos' loyalty. If anything, they're probably more committed to the Chancellor than ever, given their successes of late and the overall revitalization of the Confederation's military position.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Death Commandos

Battalion/Elite/Fanatical
Unknown strength | 100% Upgraded
Current Base: Unknown

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



CONFEDERATION RESERVE CAVALRY



The Confederation Reserve Cavalry are the designated reserve regiments for the Sian Commonality, but they have also become the reliable backstop regiments for every commonality. Even before the Jihad, the regiments of the CRC were deployed regularly outside the Sian Commonality, and once hostilities commenced they were redeployed wherever they were needed. Several of the CRC regiments played important roles in the Capellan counterattack against the Capellan March, and it was Reserve Cavalrymen who often held the lines against repeated Blakist raiding into the Capellan interior.

CONDITION

Despite facing heavy action against superior opponents, only one of the Confederation Reserve Cavalry regiments was destroyed in the Jihad: the Second Confederation Reserve Cavalry faced the mercenary Khorsakov's Kossacks on Necromo in 3068 and fought to the last man trying to protect the Confederation's key shipyard world. The destruction of the Kossacks later was little consolation to the rest of the Reserve Cavalry, but they took solace in the knowledge that the Second had gone to its fate doing its duty.

The Third Confederation Reserve Cavalry gave sterling service during Operation Sovereign Justice, holding its ground when attacked and then counterattacking. The regiment gave the famed mercenary Illician Lancers a bloody nose on Homestead and Manapire. After returning from Federated Suns space, the Third went into a rotating series of garrison stations, protecting the Capellan border from retaliatory raids from the Capellan March and hindering Blakist expansion.

The combined-arms philosophies of the Fifth Confederation Reserve Cavalry stood them in good stead during their participation in the Capellan counterattack, helping them defeat both the Illician Lancers on Imalda and the *Jie Fang* Legion on New Westin. Combat against the Legion took a particularly high toll on the Fifth, who returned to garrison stations focused on rebuilding and strengthening their combined 'Mech-armor lances.

The warriors of Hustaing continued their tradition of excellent, if unorthodox, service. The Sixth Confederation Reserve Cavalry faced the elite First Federated Suns Armored Cavalry on Halloran V during Sovereign Justice and held their own until forced off world by the Word of Blake's bombardment of both sides' positions. After that they, like the rest of the Reserve Cavalry, returned to garrison posts.

The green Seventh Cavalry finally saw action in the Capellan March assault and the counterattack and gave an excellent accounting of itself. They fought a regiment of the Lexington Combat Group, which has a reputation for excellent service, to a near-standstill before being recalled to the Confederation to assume garrison posts in order to free up other, fresher line units to advance to the front.

MORALE

The Confederation Reserve Cavalry brigade is a current study in contradictions. For much of the early 3070s, all four remaining regiments were riding high on the basis of their performance in the Capellan counterattack into the Federated Suns; for reserve regiments, whose main role is unimpressive garrison duty, to succeed brilliantly at offensive missions breathed even brighter life into the Reserve Cavalry's *janshi*.

However, their treatment since their recall to Confederation space has been more in line with the Reserve Cavalry's traditional role. Each of the regiments is spread in battalion-scale packets across a swath of worlds, holding down critical defensive assignments so the frontline regiments of the CCAF can strike into the collapsing Blakist Protectorate. While they're performing a necessary and vital service, maintaining a strong link in the Confederation defensive plan, the soldiers are agitating for reassignment.

Janshi who have been soldiers on the prowl, soldiers attacking rather than sitting safely behind revetments, do not often enjoy the trade. This is especially true of the younger warriors of the Reserve Cavalry.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Third Confederation Reserve Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
70% strength | 85% Upgraded
Current Base: Tsingtao/Ares/Capricorn III

Fifth Confederation Reserve Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
75% strength | 80% Upgraded
Current Base: Foot Fall/Mandate/
Remshield

Seventh Confederation Reserve Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
70% strength | 75% Upgraded
Current Base: Old Kentucky/Tsinghai/
Campertown

Sixth Confederation Reserve Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
50% strength | 85% Upgraded
Current Base: Elnath/Yunnah/Second Try

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



CAPELLAN DEFENSE FORCE

When *Jiang-jun* Dan Gun was (finally) permitted to form the Third Capellan Defense Force in the late 3060s, he heralded it as the start of a new era in the CDF. The Strategos was finally giving the Capella Commonality reserve regiments the attention they deserved, despite their apparent isolation in the Capella Commonality. The *janshi* of the CDF celebrated their good fortune and prepared for the time ahead.

Unfortunately, that time was the Jihad.

CONDITION

Any cursory survey of the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces shows a staggering amount of combat action by nearly every regiment on the rolls. The equipment and readiness numbers for every brigade of the CCAF shows damaged units, struggling to replenish the losses taken resisting the Word of Blake's war on reality. The reports for the Capellan Defense Forces show losses of more than thirty percent of the brigade's total strength, because there is no longer a Third Capellan Defense Force—it was annihilated on Gei-Fu in one of the first assaults of Operation Sovereign Justice, under the combined assault of six Federated Suns regimental combat teams.

The First and Second regiments, however, are at one hundred percent—or better—of their authorized strength.

Capella suffered raids during the Jihad but the First Capellan Defense Force was always in the wrong place at the wrong time to engage them. The Holdfast Guard was the primary defensive unit on planet through most of those attacks and, while they suffered often-terrible casualties, they managed to repulse the raiders without calling the First CDF out of reserve. By the time of the regiment's redeployment to Sian, to replace the Red Lancers and Warrior House Imarra, the last threats to the capital had been reduced.

The Second CDF waited dutifully on Ingersoll as Sovereign Justice pulverized the garrisons on worlds around them and was repeatedly denied permission to strike back against the invaders. When the counterattack task forces were formed, the healthy Second—who had recently absorbed enough of the Ingersoll Home Guard to bring it over-strength—was relegated to covering the garrison posts abandoned by the attacking regiments. Once the retaliatory strikes were called off, the CDF remained in garrison as the frontline regiments redeployed to meet other threats.

MORALE

The morale of the Capellan Defense Force can be best described as "rage-filled." In all the action of the Jihad, and having suffered the death of their sister regiment, the CDF chafes at being denied a chance to fight back. *Jiang-jun* Gun is just as outspoken as his *janshi*. The Maskirovka is keeping a close eye on both regiments, but reports captured on Liberty seem to indicate that it is only the honor of serving on the Capellan throne world that keeps the First CDF's loyalty rating at Reliable.

The Second is much more likely to take unauthorized action, but that likelihood is reduced by its garrison posting, which spreads it out in battalion-sized groups across three worlds. The CCAF Navy has requisitioned all of the Second CDF's DropShips and JumpShips to ferry frontline troops into the Liao Commonality, which has stymied the Second's ability to break loose, should the regiment choose to attempt any unauthorized adventurism.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

First Capellan Defense Force

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
100% strength | 90% Upgraded
Current Base: Sian

Second Capellan Defense Force

Regiment/Green/Questionable
110% strength | 80% Upgraded
Current Base: Homestead/Holloway/Xieng
Khouang

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



LIAO CHÁNG-CHÉNG

The Liao Commonality reserve regiments took just as great a beating during the Jihad as the commonality did, although several of them were damaged early while serving outside of their commonality. Only one of the regiments has recovered more than fifty percent authorized strength, but each is slowly rebuilding as they reclaim more and more of their home lands from the Blakists.

CONDITION

Phyr's Hussars were badly damaged trying to hold St. Andre from 3069 until nearly the end of the Jihad.

The Hussars held this world despite only a trickle of supplies and near-constant raiding by Blakist units and Word-sponsored mercenary units and a penultimate raid using nuclear weapons. The nuclear attack cost the Hussars nearly a full battalion of 'Mechs and support units when the command was caught in movement during a Blakist raid. As a result, the tale of the Hussars' stand on St. Andre has already grown to legendary proportions throughout the Confederation.

Renshield's Dragoons—temporarily supplementing the reserve regiments in the Sian Commonality—suffered greatly at the hands of Federated Suns troops during Operation Sovereign Justice. Forced to retreat from Hustaing and then trailed to Hexare, the Dragoons lost nearly three-quarters of their strength before the Hasek-sponsored forces withdrew.

Vong's Grenadiers held the line on Tsingtao against the Illician Lancers in 3068, nearly dying in the doing, but held the world for the Confederation. Since the withdrawal of the Lancers, the Grenadiers have crouched on Tsingtao, blunting the odd small raid, until they were finally reassigned to Palladaine, away from the front line.

Syn's Hussars suffered the worst casualties of any Cháng-Chéng regiment on the Commonality capital Liao from 3073 to 3075. Barely a quarter of the Hussars were still operational when the Blakists were finally driven off, and we've had great success getting informants in with the survivors despite their slow rebuilding. Their posting on Shiba was intended to give them time to recover, but the regiment has barely ventured out of its cantonment in six months.

MORALE

The Cháng-Chéng is shell-shocked. Each of the regiments was harshly beaten by the Jihad, and rebuilding has been slow. Getting materiel to these forces has taken time, as the logistical lines into the Liao Commonality have yet to be reestablished. Also, the survivors in the regiments are harshly opposed to new faces, having watched recruit after new recruit die in the cauldrons of battle against the Blakists and the Federated Suns. The CCAF is flooding their duty stations with medical staff, but the transition will be a slow one.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Phyr's Hussars

Regiment/Veteran/Reliable
60% strength | 90% Upgraded
Current Base: Pella II

Renshield's Dragoons

Regiment/Veteran/Fanatical
40% strength | 60% Upgraded
Current Base: Altorra

Syn's Hussars

Regiment/Regular/Questionable
30% strength | 40% Upgraded
Current Base: Shiba

Vong's Grenadiers

Regiment/Regular/Questionable
40% strength | 55% Upgraded
Current Base: Palladaine

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



VICTORIA COMMONALITY RANGERS

The newest reserve force in the Confederation, the Victoria Commonality Rangers comported themselves well during their first real combat since the creation of the Victoria Commonality. Although the region was subjected to the same level of raiding as the rest of the Confederation, the Victoria Rangers managed to beat these small attacks off and quickly rebuild, taking advantage of the backlog in procurement channels left from the end of relations with the Taurian Concordat.

CONDITION

The Victoria Commonality Rangers remain the bulwark of the rimward Capellan defenses, mostly due to the lack of action in the nearer Periphery and the largesse left behind from the Taurian estrangement (that the Rangers quickly snapped up). *Jiang-jun* Andreyvich authorized his forces to stockpile almost from the first instant hostilities broke out in 3068, and this backlog enabled the Kingston's Rangers regiment to recover its losses from action on Ridgebrook and New Syrtis very quickly.

Sung's Rangers held the Periphery border during the entire Jihad, spread in battalion-size packets across several worlds in a constantly shifting pattern of protection. They performed this task with little or no complaint, protecting Capellan citizens from bandit raids and a few isolated Taurian retaliatory strikes. In fact, the regiment performed so well that the *jiang-jun* is considering a proposal to allow each battalion of Sung's Rangers to expand to a full regimental battle group, once the procurement system gets its feet back under it.

MORALE

Morale in the Victoria Commonality Rangers is higher than one might expect, given their lack of prestigious combat action. The Rangers are, for the most part, content with their role as guardians of the Confederation's rimward commonality, and those hotheads who do require more excitement got their fill during the assaults on Ridgebrook and New Syrtis. The *janshi* of Sung's Rangers, though, take quiet pride in their duties on the edge of the Confederation, and are content to guard its borders.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Kingston's Rangers

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
75% strength | 90% Upgraded
Current Base: Yuris/Zanzibar/Rollis

Sung's Rangers

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
90% strength | 95% Upgraded
Current Base: New Roland/Renown/Ward

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



MCCARRON'S ARMORED CAVALRY

McCarron's Armored Cavalry had been one of the longest serving, largest, and most experienced mercenary units serving the Confederation when Chancellor Sun-Tzu Liao inducted them into the regular CCAF just prior to the outbreak of hostilities over the St. Ives reclamation. For much of the 3060s, the Strategios and Lord Marcus Baxter, commander of the Armored Cavalry, were at loggerheads trying to determine whether the independent-minded Cavalrymen should be allowed to retain their irregular operations, or whether they should be inculcated into more traditional Confederation military doctrines.

The Jihad, as with so much else, put the debate to rest: the MAC's irregular tactics, when used against enemies expecting standard Capellan doctrinal reactions, helped the Armored Cav earn victory after victory.

CONDITION

Even before their adoption, the Armored Cavalry regiments had become the Confederation's troubleshooter forces, and this trend continued after they entered the CCAF. Although their baseworld, awarded to their colonel as a warren, is in the Victoria Commonality, the regiments range throughout (and often outside) the region.

The First MAC has an unenviable reputation for taking a beating. The Nightriders have often been sent into the Confederation's hottest cauldrons and emerged battered but still breathing. The long march of Operation Sovereign Justice, the intervening years of the Jihad, all culminated in the Capellan attack on Zion in 3077. The Nightriders, still not rebuilt to the level of experience of other Armored Cavalry regiments, were gutted when the partially functional SDS batteries destroyed two battalions of MechWarriors in orbit. Withdrawing to Aldebaran, they await replenishment and replacement warriors, although even the rest of the Armored Cavalry is beginning to shun them, afraid of bad luck. Efforts on our part to woo them may pay dividends.

Despite the loss of longtime commander Angel Bodez on New Aragon in 3077, the men and women of Rhamses' Regiment remain the elite of the Armored Cavalry. Accepting command soon after the Regiment's victory on Zurich, *Sang-shao* Rhamses McCarron is still finding his footing as the regiment's commander. The son of famed Armored Cavalry commander Archibald McCarron, Rhamses has been groomed for high command but has found the reality of commanding a regiment in the aftermath of the Jihad a completely different matter from training.

The Third MAC's luck ran out on New Syrtis, when their assault on the AFFS's rear turned into a rout. The Wild Ones, as they're called, had often been able to overcome strong defenses with a spirited assault, but the defenders of Saso had other ideas. Withdrawn to Menke after the recall to the Confederation, the Third was assigned to cadre duties for the Armored Cavalry's training program and provided replacement warriors to the other regiments for the rest of the Jihad.

The three-way battle for Hsien that began in 3078 between the Word of Blake, our own forces, and the Confederation military has stagnated to a face-off between our forces and the Fourth MAC. Were the Cavalry under the command of any less-canny officer than Lord Richard Carson, fighting may have already broken out, but we have confirmed reports of his managing the situation as a training tool for Archibald McCarron's other child, Faith McCarron. In fact, the death of *Zhong-shao* Erin Gray allowed Carson to promote Faith McCarron to the post, giving her first-hand experience with the battlefield diplomacy going on between the Cavaliers and our Coalition forces.

The Fifth Armored Cavalry burned the last embers of dissension out of their ranks during the Jihad, parceled out in raids against targets of opportunity in the Capellan March and Blakist Protectorate. Recalled to help protect Sian when the Red Lancers and Warrior House Imarra were sent elsewhere, Kyp's Kommando was sent to help secure Halloran V in 3077 before returning to garrison on the throne world.

MORALE

The Armored Cavalry is currently enjoying the reputation of valiant *janshi* in the Confederation's service. Their lack of visible defeats has meant that the Capellan media has made darlings of them, especially the Fifth regiment on Sian. The questionable loyalty of the Kommando a decade ago is an ironic example of what positive media portrayal can do—when the people love you, it's hard not to love them back.

The only kernels of dissent to be found are centered around Archibald McCarron's children. The elevation of Rhamses McCarron to regimental command has led many to believe he is favored to replace the aging Lord Marcus Baxter, but another camp sees Faith McCarron dealing with our forces on Hsien and gaining needed skills in diplomacy. Lord Baxter, of course, remains aloof of the arguments, but many Cavalrymen are watching to see which way he comes down.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

First McCarron's Armored Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
25% strength | 75% Upgraded
Current Base: Aldebaran

Third McCarron's Armored Cavalry

Regiment/Regular/Questionable
50% strength | 70% Upgraded
Current Base: Menke

Fifth McCarron's Armored Cavalry

Regiment/Veteran/Reliable
40% strength | 80% Upgraded
Current Base: Sian

Second McCarron's Armored Cavalry

Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
75% strength | 95% Upgraded
Current Base: Nanking/Arboris

Fourth McCarron's Armored Cavalry

Regiment/Veteran/Fanatical
85% strength | 95% Upgraded
Current Base: Hsien

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



CITIZEN'S HONORED

The second batch of former mercenary regiments inducted into the regular CCAF during *Xin Sheng*, the Citizen's Honored brigade has served the Confederation well throughout the Jihad. It was the destruction of the Fifteenth Dracon on Overton during the opening stages of Duke Hasek's invasion of the Confederation that proved to the CCAF as a whole just how dedicated these former mercenaries were to their new homeland, and that lesson has not been forgotten by the surviving regiments of the Brigade.

CONDITION

The Fourth Tau Ceti Rangers had a sterling reputation before entering formal Capellan service and nothing changed when they took the Capellan flag. They were in the first waves of the Capellan counterattack into the Federated Suns, all but crushing the Federated Freemen on Glasgow. As the CCAF withdrew into the Confederation to face the Word of Blake, the Fourth Tau Ceti was given the task of keeping the Capellan March from attacking again, using a series of sharp objective raids to keep them off-balance. After taking much of 3076 to refit, they joined the assault on Hsien to support the Fourth McCarron's Armored Cavalry.

Both Lockhardt's Ironsides and Laurel's Legion took part in the massive assault on Halloran V in 3077, and both were heavily damaged. The Ironsides lost two battalions to a series of running assaults by a dangerous Blakist Level III that wouldn't give them time to disengage, while the Legion was pushed out of two defensive positions before reforming behind McCarron's Armored Cavalry and driving the Blakists off.

The Ironsides remain on Halloran V, trying desperately to rebuild off of the salvage littering the many battlefields of that crucial world, but being at the end of stretched Capellan supply lines hampers their efforts. Laurel's Legion has returned to garrison stations near the St. Ives Commonwealth and is rebuilding faster, drawing on the strong manufacturing in the Sian Commonwealth.

The Sarna Martial Academy Cadre is not properly a member of the Citizen's Honored but the Strategos has lumped them into the brigade for administrative purposes to help make up for the loss of the Fifteenth Dracon. The loyalty issues faced by the Sarns throughout the 3060s have faded to quiet, nostalgic muttering, and the CCAF is too battered to not keep a viable training battalion in operation to feed its depleted units. Although the Cadre is based on Sarna, company-sized detachments are sent into the Liao Commonwealth for peacekeeping and patrol duties to give the cadets needed experience.

MORALE

Despite their losses the Citizen's Honored remain in notionally high spirits. Their battles against the Word of Blake and Federated Suns proved their loyalty to the state, both to the citizens of the Confederation and to themselves, and the loss of the Dracon has sobered them to the cost of their duty.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Fourth Tau Ceti Rangers

Regiment/Veteran/Fanatical
60% strength | 75% Upgraded
Current Base: Hsien

Lockhardt's Ironsides

Regiment/Regular/Reliable
30% strength | 40% Upgraded
Current Base: Halloran V

Sarna Martial Academy Cadre

Battalion/Green/Questionable
90% strength | 60% Upgraded
Current Base: Sarna

Laurel's Legion

Battalion/Veteran/Reliable
50% strength | 60% Upgraded
Current Base: Bithinia/Eom/Jasmine

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



CAPELLAN BRIGADE

The Capellan Brigade, like the Citizen's Honored, were former mercenary commands inducted into the regular CCAF in 3061. Unlike the Honored, however, the warriors of these regiments were not granted Capellan citizenship, a distinction that was first dismissed and then rankled. After their destruction on Sendalor against the AFFS, Chancellor Liao decreed the men and women of St. Cyr's Armored Hussars citizens of the Confederation posthumously. Most of the Brigade's warriors shrugged and went back to their duties, but when the Shin Legion's destruction in 3071 resulted in the same award, many members began to question whether it took death for them to earn Capellan citizenship.

CONDITION

The two battalions of Ambermarle's Highlanders were driven off of Aldebaran in 3070 after having held the world against Federated Suns-sponsored mercenaries. Retreating into the Capella Commonality, they were assigned escort duty for Capellan supply convoys into the Liao

Commonality, a task they served until 3074. After a stint of garrison duty, they struck at Blakist-held Zion in 3077. Although they managed to reach the ground, the Highlanders took incredible losses before retreating from the line of battle. Withdrawn to Styk to recover, the Highlanders are rumored to be facing dissolution.

The Harloc Raiders fought with the tenacity and cunning one expects from the former mercenary command. In concert with other CCAF regiments, the Raiders fought on New Aragon and Zurich before spearheading the reclamation of Pleione in 3077. The regiment remains the strongest formation in the Capellan Brigade despite its losses.

Marshigama's Legionnaires began the Jihad as one of the weakest of the Capellan Brigade's forces and never quite made up for the lack. Relegated to unimpressive garrison and escort posts throughout the war, the Legionnaires were finally assigned to the attack on Zurich, where they triumphed in concert with their sister regiment, the Harloc Raiders. It was the Legionnaires who finally secured the world when the Raiders moved on to Pleione, although they lost an entire company in the effort.

MORALE

The loss of the Shin Legion and the Armored Hussars were bitter pills for the Capellan Brigade to swallow so close together, but Chancellor Liao's decision to grant the current members of the Brigade Capellan citizenship in 3076 reinvigorated much of their lost charm. Although all the regiments were involved in heavy action, only the Highlanders suffered such egregious losses as to threaten their cohesiveness. Maskirovka agents on Styk are watching the Highlanders closely, likely to see if their post-traumatic stress will turn into disloyalty.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Ambermarle's Highlanders

2 Battalions/Regular/Questionable
25% strength | 60% Upgraded
Current Base: Styk

Harloc Raiders

Regiment/Veteran/Reliable
70% strength | 90% Upgraded
Current Base: Algot

Marshigama's Legionnaires

Battalion/Regular/Questionable
70% strength | 85% Upgraded
Current Base: Zurich

FIELD REPORT: CCAF



ST. IVES ARMORED CAVALRY

The St. Ives Armored Cavalry has been the principal combat arm of the St. Ives Commonality—and the short-lived St. Ives Compact—since its inception in the twenty-fourth century. Although it grew considerably in size during the Compact years, the post-reclamation years were lean times, and *Jiang-jun* Adele Tsang chose to concentrate on strengthening her existing regiments rather than forming new ones.

CONDITION

The First St. Ives Lancers are the elite of the St. Ives Armored Cavalry, the equal of nearly any other elite regiment in the Inner Sphere. Often led by Duke Kai Allard-Liao himself, the First lacks for little in the way of recruits or equipment, and since its return to the Confederation armed forces has proven a resourceful and loyal regiment. This was particularly demonstrated by their opposing George Hasek's invasion of the Confederation in the late 3060s and participating in the counterattacks that followed. Deployed away from St. Ives after the end of those actions, the First missed the Word of Blake attack on their homeworld, but retaliated later by striking at Genoa and Zion. The Zion action cost the First more than a battalion of strength when several of its DropShips were caught in the SDS crossfire and destroyed.

The Second St. Ives fought against Hasek's invasion alongside the First St. Ives Lancers and proved itself every bit the First's equal, hammering the Third Ceti Hussars and the Vanguard Legion on New Syrtis. The Second was present on St. Ives when the Word of Blake assault struck, and was heavily damaged repulsing the attack—barely twenty percent of the regiment was still active when the Blakists finally lifted.

The St. Ives Academy of Martial Sciences Training Group was annihilated opposing the Word of Blake, but the Academy's first class has reconstituted the training battalion just this past year. It will be several years before cadets and material are available to fully replace the losses, but the Academy is dedicated to fielding its training force once again.

MORALE

The incredible casualties dealt on St. Ives by the Word of Blake have solidified the Armored Cavalry's resolve into crystal clarity. They are totally committed to the Confederation, angry about the slaughter of more than two million civilians on St. Ives and for the death of Candace Liao on Sian. The First Lancers, still on Liao trying to recover from their losses over Zion, have even accepted their posting, trusting the Second Lancers to hold their commonality capital.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

First St. Ives Lancers

Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
35% strength | 95% Upgraded
Current Base: Liao

Second St. Ives Lancers

Regiment/Elite/Fanatical
50% strength | 85% Upgraded
Current Base: St. Ives

SIAMS Training Group

Battalion/Green/Questionable
25% strength | 15% Upgraded
Current Base: St. Ives





ST. IVES SENTINELS

The reserve regiments of the St. Ives Commonality, the Sentinels were Capellan regiments who were forced into mercenary service when the commonality seceded to become the St. Ives Compact. Although not wishing to leave the Confederation, the two regiments accepted mercenary contracts that allowed them to guard the people they had protected so long, and the CCAF immediately welcomed them back into the fold when the St. Ives reclamation was complete.

CONDITION

Roman's Mounted Fusiliers destroyed the remnants of the rebel Second Janissaries on Warlock in 3070, erasing the stain on the commonality's honor that began when the Second supported Hasek's invasion of St. Ives. After that they held the defensive bulwark of the commonality while the Lancer regiments deployed to serve the Confederation elsewhere. They were too slow to respond to the Blakist attack on St. Ives but they did stop many minor raids into the St. Ives Commonality before finally joining the attack on Pleione in 3078.

Devon's Armored Infantry rotated between garrison stations during the Jihad, often securing the precious factories on Warlock or reinforcing reaction forces on Denbar and Nashuar. The regiment chafed at being denied a place in the Confederation's Operation THUNDERSTRIKE against the Federated Suns, before finally being called forward to support the action on Zurich in 3077. They remain there, detaching small companies to patrol the nearby space for Blakist remnants—and, we suspect, to keep an eye on our own troop movements.

After the betrayal of the Second Janissaries, the Janissary Brigade was dissolved and the First Janissaries moved to the St. Ives Sentinels. The First Janissaries fought with all loyalty during the Hasek invasion, but the Maskirovka still questions their loyalty in light of the treachery of the Second. Although they were forced off Spica with heavy losses to the Word of Blake, the Strategios has denied them supplies to rebuild, a factor that has only increased their resentment.

MORALE

The morale of the St. Ives Sentinels is a study in contradictions. The two historical regiments are both riding high on their exploits, happy to be out of the St. Ives Commonality and protecting Capellan interests while they prove their own loyalty to the Confederation. The Maskirovka, meanwhile, appears to disagree, as it has marked all three regiments with Questionable ratings.

The only unit in the brigade that deserves that rating is the First Janissaries, who chafe under the Maskirovka's obvious suspicions. To their lights, their actions during the invasion and resistance to the Word of Blake should prove their devotion, but the Mask seems to disagree. If nothing changes soon, it's entirely likely the remnants of the First Janissaries could follow the Second's example.

REGIMENTAL STATUS

Roman's Mounted Fusiliers

Regiment/Veteran/Questionable
50% strength | 75% Upgraded
Current Base: Pleione

Devon's Armored Infantry

Regiment/Regular/Questionable
70% strength | 80% Upgraded
Current Base: Zurich

First Janissaries

Regiment/Veteran/Questionable
35% strength | 40% Upgraded
Current Base: Maladar/Tallin



IRREGULAR FORCES

STATE OF NON-STATE FORCES

The Confederation since the *Xin Sheng* years of the early 3060s has not been a popular place for state-chartered mercenary commands. Although the Confederation once employed dozens of regiments of mercenary troops, the adoption of many into the Capellan Armed Forces has meant that total mercenary employment has fallen off. While many noblemen in the Confederation still employ smaller “irregular” commands under independent contracts, the Strategos grants few regimental-sized contracts.

The Confederation’s military alliance with the Taurian Concordat collapsed soon after the Jihad erupted, which cost the CCAF the service of several Taurian Defense Force regiments. Although the *sang-jiang-jun* missed the boots on the ground, the return of Warrior House Hiritsu and other CCAF units from Concordat space more than made up for the lack.

The other partner in the Trinity Alliance, the Magistracy of Canopus, has forged ever-closer ties to the Capellan state through the Magestrix’s marriage to Chancellor Sun-Tzu Liao. The adoption of the first child of their union, Ilsa Centrella-Liao, has legitimized the alliance in the eyes of both nations’ citizenry in a way that simple economic and military cooperation could not.

With the end of hostilities against the Blakists, we should pay careful attention to Sun-Tzu Liao’s next move, to see if he attempts to resurrect the Trinity Alliance and regain Taurian support for his Inner Sphere schemes, or perhaps to suborn many of the militias we’ve transplanted into the rimward worlds of the former Blakist Protectorate. If history has shown us anything it’s that the Chancellor rarely moves only one piece at a time.

MAGISTRACY

The collusion between the Magistracy of Canopus military and the Capellan Confederation Armed Forces has never been stronger than it is right now. Several Canopian regiments were active in the Confederation when the Jihad flared to life, and most of them stayed in Confederation space until Naomi Centrella took her task force into the Magistracy to determine its fate. The Third Canopian Fusiliers, for instance, were present at the defense of Sian against the Word of Blake and held the lines alongside the Death Commandos and Red Lancers.

In addition, the Chancellor has shown incredible largesse to the Magistracy by assigning his most elite units to accompany his consort back to her homeland. Both the Red Lancers and a portion of the Death Commandos—the traditional bodyguards of the Chancellor and the Capellan throne world—were sent into the Magistracy to help deal with the Word of Blake menace, and placed under the Magestrix’s command.

In a testament to the trust between the Magestrix and the Chancellor, Naomi Centrella left the Red Lancers as her Praetorian

Guard on Canopus when she returned to the Inner Sphere in 3075, and the Chancellor upheld her decision despite the lack of troops. Although conditions in the Magistracy seem to preclude the return of Canopian units to the Confederation, it should be noted that small packets of Canopian soldiery remained in the Confederation, unable to gather with the rest of their regiments, and may face our own troops along the rimward border.

MERCENARIES

Since 3075 nearly every mercenary contract in the Confederation has been a short-term, single mission contract. Several battalion-sized units were utilized by the St. Ives Commonality to reinforce its defenses while the St. Ives Sentinels regiments were moved into the Liao Commonality, for instance. In nearly every case, however, mercenary contracts have been for lower-profile, garrison or security duty rather than the long-term retainers the CCAF was formerly famous for.

Of particular note was the adoption of the remnants of the Hell’s Black Aces aerospace regiment in 3076. Although the fighter virtuosos were nearly destroyed over Liao fighting against the Word of Blake, several squadrons’ worth of pilots recovered enough to enter regular CCAF service. Almost all were immediately assigned to the training staff of the Liao Conservatory, where they’re passing their hard-earned skills on to the next class of Capellan pilots.

One of the few large mercenary units to remain in Capellan employ is the Green Machine, who are still crouched on Ares under the ostensible protection of a garrison contract. In reality, the failure of the Green Machine’s training programs have left them a decrepit, desertion-prone garrison outfit whose only value is their sheer numbers of BattleMechs. Regular CCAF battalions on Ares have been granted first-response duties in the event of an attack, with the Green Machine’s orders written to do little more than provide backup ‘Mechs for the Capellan MechWarriors. The Machine’s contract is up for renewal in 3080, and not even Colonel Green—when he’s sober—expects the contract to be renewed.

IRREGULAR FORCE STATUS

The Green Machine

Regiment/Veteran/Questionable
75% strength | 20% Upgraded
Current Base: Ares

Kraken Unleashed

Regiment/Veteran/Questionable
90% strength | 40% Upgraded
Current Base: Principia

Lethal Injection

Battalion/Veteran/Questionable
110% strength | 80% Upgraded
Current Base: Victoria

