

Campaign: Rhylanor Express, Traveller #16

Date January 13, 2013

Episode Sixteen: Stepping over a pile of smoking clown corpses to meet your doom

Campaign Dates: Day 101, to Day 127, Year 1113

Player Characters

Verdun Thuul, ex-merchant, 4th officer, 3 terms (Bob LaForge)

Dorkon the Hunter, ex-hunter, 3 terms (Bob LaForge)

Skip Jockley, the secret space detective, ex-navy, 1 term (Bob LaForge)

Screaming Jack Murdoch, ex-flyer, pilot, 5 terms (Jason Leibert)

Old Doc Spurlock, retired doctor, 7-terms (Jason Leibert)

Reginald Stuffington, retired diplomat, 2nd secretary, 6 terms (Jason Leibert)

Chum Lee, barbarian chief, 1 term (Marlon Kirton)

Rat Lee, ex-rogue, 1 term (Marlon Kirton)

Gun Lee, retired army colonel, 5 terms (Marlon Kirton)

Roland McGintley, retired merchant, 1st officer, 7-terms (Andrew Smith)

Yes Paul, ex-pirate henchman, 1-term, (Andrew Smith)

Jax "The Remedy" Tyvoid, ex-marine lieutenant, 3-terms (Andrew Smith)

GM: Dave Nelson

LOG

101-108 The fleet (Death Ranger, Festivus, Clovis) leave Skull for Icetina.

109—Fleet Refuels

110-117—The fleet jumps from Icetina to La'Belle

118—Fleet Refuels

119-126 Fleet jumps from La Belle to Tureded

127—The Fleet begins combat operations against Dr. Hamburger's fortress laboratory on Tureded.

PART ONE: MOLE MACHINE ASSAULT!

The Clovis lands the mole machine 20 km from the base, and Argon, Knuckles, The Remedy, Chun Lee and Gun Lee drive it underground deep into the base. They drive it right into the Power Plant of the base and Knuckles, Remedy, Gun and Chun leap out and begin a gun battle with 6 guards and 3 engineers. They manage to kill one engineer and 2 guards before Argon attempts to drive the mole machine directly into the power plant core, badly losing control, rolling the machine over, crushing one guard and Chun Lee to death under the vehicle. He does manage to damage the plant so severely that an evacuation alarm sounds. The last two engineers and guards flee down the corridor. The remaining five travelers follow. They fly down the elevator shaft to discover Dr. Dierdre Hamburger activating "The Invincible Transformation", causing a horde of 50 cultists to emerge from their tanks as mutated clown-

abominations. The party decides to flee to the surface and gather a larger strike team.

PART TWO: A PILE OF DEAD CLOWNS

As the *Death Ranger* destroys the currently unpowered anti-starship defense systems on the surface, a team of 17 heavily armed leaders and crewmen rush down into the depths of the base. In the assembly chamber they are confronted by 50 mutant atomic clowns, 20 ninja assassins, and 10 laser-armed troops. A brutal shoot-down occurs, wherein the clowns and ninjas are just massacred by wave after wave of gun and laser fire. The enemy troops manage to seriously wound Argon, and moderately wound 2-3 other crewmen, before they are also defeated.

PART THREE: A SLIPPERY MESS

The strike team follows the main corridor until they corner Dr. Hamburger and her 3 war androids. Dorkon the Hunter uses "Stay Put", an incredibly slippery oil projector, to cause 2 of the androids and Dr. Hamburger to fall around on the ground. Elbert Moon uses a rocket launcher to destroy the third android, but the back blast gives Ox Gomez a light wound. Skip Jockey then uses a sticky gun to further immobilize Dr. Hamburger. The attackers then spend entirely too long trying to finish off the androids. Gunfire eventually disables one of them. Once they manage to slide Dr. Hamburger down the hallway, Rat Lee uses a demolition charge to destroy the other.

Doc Spurlock begins to question Dr. Hamburger, demanding to know where Dr. Zhintu Fung is located. She replies "Why not ask him yourself, he'll be here any minute."

PART FOUR: MISERY AND DEATH IN SPACE

At that very moment, Dr. Zhintu Fung in his 800-ton mercenary cruiser, together with the bounty-hunter Johnny Revolting with 2 close escorts arrive around the planet. The fleet is re-assembled, the strike teams recalled, and the battle joined. The first exchange is inconclusive, but then the *Death Ranger* rakes Johnny Revolting's escort with laser fire, disabling it and crippling it. Dr. Fung rakes the *Festivus* with his laser battery, causing a wide spectrum of damage, which results in it jumping away immediately.

While the *Clovis* concentrates on intercepting missiles headed for the *Death Ranger*, the *Ranger* itself blasts the second close escort with a wave of laser fire, hitting its power core and causing it to explode. Feeling elated at destroying one escort and crippling the other, the *Death Ranger* decides to turn and face the mercenary cruiser.

Johnny Revolting and his crew abandon ship in their gig, and safely land on the surface of the planet. Dr. Fung then fires his laser battery at the *Death Ranger*, scoring an explosive hit on the crew quarters. The majority of the crew are either killed, mortally wounded or knocked unconscious. Finn Jacobs, the pilot, still alive activates the jump drive, but as they were still just within 100 diameters of the planet, he miss jumps and sends the *Death Ranger* into deep space and to a cold, lonely death. The *Clovis* also attempts to flee and also miss jumps, but they luckily arrive at the Equus system safely.

So, the *Death Ranger* company is no more. Many of the leaders: Reginald Stuffington, Jack Murdoch, Doc Spurlock, McGintley, the Remedy, and Yes Paul were killed or mortally wounded in the critical crew explosion. While Chun Lee was crushed under the mole machine, his cousins Gun Lee and Rat Lee took the *Clovis* off to new, less glamorous adventures. Dorkon the Hunter took the *Festivus* off to the frontier to take up the life of a hunter once more. At least they all had the satisfaction of knowing that while Dr. Zhintu Fung still is at large, his current schemes were all foiled, and that Johnny Revolting may have survived, but he lost 2 ships and never did collect the bounty.