THE OOPSIE MEMOS

by

Pamela Jaye Smith

CENTRAL DIVISION HIGH COMMAND OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: Year 09 - Month 59 - Day 2342 Standard Sidereal Corrected Calendar

COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA HAS BEEN CONFIRMED DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE.

THIS POSITION OVERSEES ALL R&D IN THE ENTIRE SECTOR, WITH FOURTEEN STATIONS AND TWENTY-THREE SUBSTATIONS.

COMMANDANT KUMARA HOLDS THREE "DISTINGUISHED ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARDS", WAS AWARDED A "FIELD VALOR" RIBBON FOR HER VOLUNTARY MILITARY ACTION DURING THE COCHASCI AFFAIR, AND HAS COMPILED AN IMPRESSIVE BODY OF WORK IN THE VARIED DISCIPLINES OF R&D. A GRADUATE OF THE KURULTAI MILITARY AND CIVIL ACADEMY, SHE ALSO SERVED IN A TEACHING CAPACITY ON MADRESSEH AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN INITIATING THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL STUDIES AT FORDRAIN 3 ACADEMY.

COMMANDANT KUMARA HAS OUTLINED HER TWOFOLD STRATEGY FOR R&D:

- 1) "AN ASSESSMENT OF ITS OWN HISTORY AND EFFECTIVENESS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS, AND
- 2) AN OUTREACH PROGRAM TO MAKE OUR SECTOR THE LEADER IN ALL CIVIL AND MILITARY FACETS IN AS MANY AREAS AND DIMENSIONS AS ARE COVERABLE AND DISCOVERABLE".

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA TO HER NEW POST.

YOUR COMPLETE COOPERATION IS EXPECTED.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09-65-2340

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Greetings, old comrade. Hoping this finds you well and happy. Yes, it's been awhile since you've heard from me personally and I've no excuse at all save the usual impedimenta of public office, none I'm sure as exciting as your experiences since last we met.

As you know, since taking office here on Denebola six months ago, a good portion of my time has been spent cleaning up old messes. I knew this when I came in, but my staff and I have been continually amazed at the ludicrousity of the previous administration's foul-ups. This is not news to you, since our reports list as addenda to the current work the affairs re-dredged and finally written off the books.

However, something rather startling and troubling has just been brought to my attention and I wanted you to know about it directly from this office first, though I am sure that your own network will bring you info about our recent implementations in this matter.

To clarify: During that time pundits have humorously dubbed "The Oopsie Era", countless mistakes in transportation and delivery were made. Most of the fuckups (and you will see soon that I do not use this term loosely) were harmless and some were even humorous -- the classic example being the specially-bred amphibians mistakenly transported to the ice planet Dalaam. For quite some time the Dalaamese enjoyed fresh frog-sicles and more quickly developed their reverse cryogenic technologies. Many other Oopsies across the sectors were quickly corrected.

But the forces were already overworked anyway -- a contributing factor to the "Oopsies", according to our astute Historio-Analysts -- and so they didn't always get around to righting the less drastic wrongs as quickly as we would have hoped.

Things like this would never happen now, I might hasten to add, and though of course I share a healthy competitive disdain for my predecessor's ways and means, I also have a healthy respect for the way this department was run for the last twelve years.

No, there is no longer anyone alive to blame for what happened. Unfortunately. But it falls to us here on Denebola to try to correct it if possible.

It seems that one of my more meticulous staffers, in cleaning the old computron logs for reprogramming, came upon a loose transpo-didge. Being curious by nature (as are all my staffers -- hand picked and hand trained, I might add) she ran it through a quick scan. Not halfway through she rang me down to take a look.

I must tell you I didn't like at all what I saw. The didge showed an Override-for-Correction message marked "Priority A-1". Yet if it had been corrected and completed, the didge would have been stored in Archives rather than in the open files. We quickly ran it all the way through and didn't find the slightest indication that any work had ever begun at all.

In other words, this was a Priority Correction Order that somehow got lost in the "Oopsie" shuffle and -- we fear -- may still remain uncorrected. Needless to say we didn't want to create any undue distress, so without making a to-do about our discovery, I sent out a codex request for all available input and analysis on the two planets involved. At the same time I sent out a probepicker (scan-sensor-record model) to each of the planets. This is what your (ever-vigilant if I know you at all), network may report to you: two probepickers on apparently unassigned missions.

This memo is not, I repeat NOT, a request for authorization.

As you are well aware, my authorities as Meridian Base Commandant include State-of-Emergency Procedural Override and it is this authority (Section 506/1B of the Elected/Appointed Officials Code) that I cite for justification for my actions. However, I believe you should be as quickly apprised of all such actions as soon as possible: hence this missive.

There may indeed be no cause for alarm, but one of my campaign promises as well as one of the prime directives of our organization is Foresight and Advance Planning, known crudely in the vernacular as "covering your ass". I pray to Lupfus this will have been an unnecessary maneuver, but with the little information we have on the two planets so far -- Cygnus 3 and Sol 3 -- I

have an uneasy feeling we may be very glad we rushed through with our "covering".

We expect the probe-picker info returns in .5 weeks.

I will keep you informed.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2341

To: Commodore Ramell **BROASE III - BASE 5**

Ready six squads of Transfer Teams on line for immediate departure.

G-type planets. Humanoids.

Hold for orders. MINE ONLY.

CLASSIFICATION: !!!TOP SECRET!!!

!!!READ AND DESTROY!!!

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2341

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

You always were a pedantic ass.

Due to sensitive nature, route all future correspondence re: this topic via 62A.35/Scramble AACode2B.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09-65-2345

To: High Commissioner Valchekk

As you see, coded and sent as you requested.

Pedantic, my ass! Only in comparison to your rapacious, tear-ass-through-the-galaxies approach. If there were more people like me, we wouldn't need as many people like you. Remember the Natykas Incident...?

I assume that you have Transfer Teams standing by. If not, please do so.

Without putting a strain on our urgent current affairs, I have pulled as many staffers as possible in to work on this "Big Oopsie" as we are now calling it, hoping a little injection of humor will take the edge off what we come day by day to believe may be a very fragile and potentially disastrous situation.

Most of the information on the two planets is now in our system and we have even called in some civilian analysts, giving them blind data. They come up with the same results as my staff.

It appears from this that both planets must be nearing crisis point and must, I repeat and emphasize MUST be dealt with at greatest speed. This is without our probe-picker info returns, however, so we could find that the current situations on both Cygnus 3 and Sol 3 are calmer than the historical records would indicate. The chances of that are, shall we say, close to one picon of a driccle.

Though I'm sure you have some competent historians on your staff there at Headquarters, let me give you a quick rundown of the situation, as I don't believe they would have the detailed info that we've been able to compile by putting our full input into this...(?) problem. This may also help you determine the staffing of the Transfer Teams.

As you are aware, Cygnus and Sol occupy approximately the same starpositions in different galaxy sectors. And the planets in question are both the third out from the central suns. Hence a possible cause of the "Oopsie". Although I tend to think it was just another in that continual string of fuckups, most of which can not be attributed to misjudgment or mental error but which were the result of blatant incompetency coupled with computron breakdown compounded by confusion. Be that as it may, the similarity of the two planets may now work to our advantage in correcting the "Oopsie": both are G-Type and the dominant species is currently Humanoid.

Cygnus 3 was an Eaon A-5 training planet specializing in internecine warfare. Though we are far above that sort of thing now, history teaches us that at one time the entire System Chain was irritated by this sort of activity, and so it was only rational that it would be taken to a fine art.

After the Peace & Travel Unification [PTU] Act of Eaon A-12 however, Cygnus 3 was supposed to be dismantled and lay fallow until some more appropriate use could be found for the basically bleak, though life-nurturing planet. As we also know, not everything went according to plan and there were occasional rebellions here and there throughout the System Chain.

One of those rebellions chose Cygnus 3 as a base and virtually escaped notice for many years. Their raiding parties would always strike from other quadrants and no one bothered to check life activities on a supposedly deserted planet. The rebel forces eventually paid for their isolation, however, and were slowly cut off from all access to support materials.

As the PTU forces gained virtual control over the System Chain, the rebels retreated to Cygnus 3 and since the planet did not contain easily accessible elements necessary for space flight, they soon became stranded there. Good enough, figured the PTU Command: let them live, but let them live in exile.

Perhaps that was a mistake.

It was just before the "Oopsie Period" that a random probe-picker scanned the Cygnus system, found extensive activity on Cygnus 3 and subsequently made a detailed scan.

The rebel forces had managed to survive and were in virtual control of the planet, having overrun the other humanoids and less-developed species to the point of actual slavery. This is not surprising, rebels finding equality and fairness an anathema to their very natures (e.g. our own experiences with the Hig-Philtre uprising of 09/35/6663. I mention this not to harp on the fact that as it turned out I was right and you were -- shall we say "mistaken" -- but only to suggest that you may find similar tactics helpful in dealing with this situation, this time.)

Your predecessors at H.Q. decided to use the peaceful approach to equalization and to inject specially-bred and programmed humanoids to

counteract the rebels. This was to be done initially by violent physical contact and then by subsequent inbreeding to dilute down the species.

The prime directive of the humanoids was internecine "unpleasantness".

H.Q. supposed (we learn from scanning the records of the debates at the PTU conferences) that infighting would serve a number of their purposes: 1) It would keep the Cygnoids busy on their home planet and away from redevelopment of space travel until they were more PTU-minded; 2) It would, as warfare does, eliminate the weakest of the species; and 3) As warfare on a continual basis also does, eventually tire them of such activities and bring them naturally round to the tenets of the PTU.

Therefore, humanoids programmed first for hostile individualism and secondarily for tribal sectarianism were readied for the implant to Cygnus 3. The implants were of the Male-620 type, felt to be adequately attractive and acceptable to the Cygnoids, most of whom (though extensive inbreeding with the lesser species had also occurred) were of the Female-640 type. A reasonably compatible Helix-grid combination.

Sol 3's history is rather different. Since Eaon A-12 it had flourished as a garden planet, a training ground for the Priestly Caste of the Old Medeans. But the star system itself was rather unstable and periodically great cataclysms would reverberate through the whole chain of planets.

So, Sol 3 was periodically re-seeded, but always with the Light-Body Humanoids and for the most part, as far as we can tell, with those of the Female-453 type.

Your bio-anatomists can further explain the curious humanoid androgynous-heterotype factor, but very briefly we understand it to mean that both Male and Female series 200 through 800 are capable of procreation with or without the opposite sex, according to the situation. We have since found that this proclivity is a recessive factor and is usually bred out after a few thousand years in one mode or the other. A shame.

Also note that both Male and Female-450 types tend to be Light-Bodied when androgynous but Heavy-Bodied when hetero-typed. We still don't know the reason for this, but other than it being one of the causes for this crisis in the first place, it is not our concern at the moment.

If the Med-Techs were to come up with an answer/antidote it might help though, so you may want to implement some high priority R&D in that area

from your end. Besides, an injection of funds and sanction might "spur" them to work a little harder.

Far be it from us in Overall Research & Development to dictate details to the Medical Division, but you see here a painful example of the need for such overlapping interests and influences. Maybe we've become a little too specialized in these last few years.

About the same time that the random probe-picker scanned Cygnus 3, Sol 3 requested an infusion of Male-453 for experimental purposes. The leaders of the Priestly Caste were anxious to try inbreeding with the desired effect of overriding the Heavy-body effect through Mental Reprogramming. A noble idea.

In their proposal to PTU (see attached file) they outlined their objectives, which were approved heartily by the PTU Council on Genetics and Socio-Political Affairs. So H.Q. was given the go-ahead to implement programming of Male-453s for implantation on Sol 3. Meanwhile the leaders of the Priestly Caste were readying their trainees by a steady bombardment of Mental Reprogramming that included the standard forms of Myths and Facts, but because of Light-Body abilities of that Caste, also included Dream and Archetypal programming.

Now we come to the "Oopsie Factor".

Regardless of how it happened, the Transportation and Delivery division picked up the wrong payloads and the Male-620s -- freshly programmed for primary internecine unpleasantness -- were sent to Sol 3 while the Male-453s -- freshly programmed for physical, mental, emotional and intellectual compatibility with Female-453s and implanted with the drive for Light-Body activity peaks -- were sent to Cygnus 3.

A ghastly mistake! I shudder to think what those first days must have been like on both planets.

We are not even sure yet if the implants survived. There's enough similarity in the humanoid species as a whole for simple genetic procreation to occur without too much difficulty. But the social ramifications.... Well, I don't want to create undue distress on mere speculations, but suffice it to say that we're worried as hell out here. A bit guilty, too.

Remember that night we spent on Arrogan in the Ring Cafe -- when you'd just taken control of the Denebola sector? I hate to admit it, but perhaps I now know how you felt about beginning that difficult assignment. I also hate

to admit this, but I actually wish I could look across my desk right now and see the twenty-weight of metal on your chest gleaming through the thin glassyne of a thick, deadly drink of Denebolan grifkey. Or better yet, I wish this mess were all over and we were both back at the Ring Cafe (I hear it's become quite the rage with artistic young people) drinking whatever it takes these days to let us both forget the bad times and celebrate the good.

It's funny how assuming a new post always gives you a sense of responsibility for everything that's ever happened in that Division. The dedication and caring of my staffers continues to amaze me. We are all very, very concerned about what may be happening on both of the planets. We vacillate between trying to comfort ourselves with the thought that perhaps the implants didn't take and at the worst a thousand or so specially-programmed Males died and were wasted, which is actually very little consolation to either our troubled minds or the Males concerned. Or that after all, the mistake was not as bad as it would seem and somehow both planets have managed to muddle through. We daren't think however that either have done better for the fuckup.

I remain, hopeful but cautious.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2346

To: Commodore Ramell BROASE III - BASE 5

Transfer Teams should be prepared for "Hostile" conditions.

Hold for orders. Mine only.

CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET -- TOP PRIORITY

"READ & DESTROY"

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS
HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09/65/2346

To: H.Q. HISTORICAL PLANETARY ARCHIVES

Effective immediately into my Computron Center:

ALL info Cygnus #3 and Sol #3
ALL info Humanoid Male/Female Genetic
ALL info Light-Body/Heavy-Body
ALL info Internecine Warfare programs
ALL info Socio-Communal-ism programs

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION NOW "TOP TOP SECRET".

NO OTHER RELEASES OF ABOVE LISTED OR RELATED INFORMATION IS TO BE GIVEN OUT TO ANYONE BUT ME.

REPEAT -- ANYONE BUT ME.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09/65/2347

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Probe-pickers delayed in magnetic flux storm.

Re-routed. Due 09/65/2357

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09/65/2350

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Why haven't I heard from you?

Still awaiting probes. Anxiously.

If your "experts" at H.Q. come up with anything not covered in my last memo, please forward. We may just be R&D out here, but I think we're coming up with some good plans.

Memo will follow.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2351

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Hands tied. Same results your staff.

Await your memo.

Await probes.

Ring Cafe and Arrogan were a long, long time ago.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09/65/2357

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Probes arrived.

URGENT/WAIT FOR REPLY

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2358

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Respond with all available info. Do not wait for analysis.

Via **URGENT/WAIT**

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09/65/2359

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Re: your urgings, it's worse than we feared. This little "Oopsie" is a Major Situation.

Alert Transfer Teams to prepare for Hostile encounters.

Add Medical Staff.

Explanation follows.

TOP PRIORITY

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2360

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Repeat: Respond with all available info. Do not wait for analysis.

I will not have a repeat of the Hig-Philtre affair.

FORWARD YOUR PROBE-PICKER INFO IMMEDIATELY!!!

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09/65/2361

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

You know I only brought this affair to you because of our past. Yes, eventually through the chain of command it would have become yours, but let's not forget that I superseded protocol in bringing it to you in the first place. R&D is not bound by military compunctions. As to whether or not we have a repeat of history, that remains to be seen.

I have not been purposely delaying the transmission of the information, which you not-so-subtly suggest. Frankly, I and my staff have been so overwhelmed with the information and analysis that...well, see for yourself.

At first we doubted that we had read the probe-pickers correctly, so we ran the entire feedback through again and put both probes through a malfunction check, thinking that perhaps the magnetic flux storm had altered their data. But everything checked out so we double-ran the info, cross-analyzed it and continuously came up with the same results.

We've got big problems on Cygnus and Sol.

All data is being forwarded but since we had to recheck everything, it's all in in-house mode now and recoding for transfer will take a bit of time. Perhaps your analysts will find something more hopeful than what we've come up with so far.

To summarize:

Cygnus 3: The Male-453s intended for Sol 3 were successfully implanted on Cygnus 3, using the "found species" technique. True to the rebel strain's history, they quickly enslaved the 453s and began inbreeding. Had these been the 620s the plan to dilute the rebel antagonistic unity would have been extremely effective.

However, the 453s, bred for sensitive interchange and progressive priestly development, were no match for the rebel Female-640's and soon turned to the other enslaved species by choice whenever possible. As well, the ruling

rebels encouraged the "lower" species to inbreed, thereby diluting any strain of counter-rebelliousness.

We see the use of the same tactics over and over. Rather gives us a moment of humbling, doesn't it, to see "our" bright ideas are neither original nor exclusive. (Yes, I do refer to the Cochasci Experiment I so brilliantly conceived and you so effectively implemented.)

The "lower species" were ultimately improved spiritually and mentally by this injection of the 453 strain, but the extreme sensitivity was a definite drawback in that environment. Their proclivity towards peaceful interactions and non-violent communalism made them easier prey to the 640's and the current state of affairs is appalling.

A small number of the Female-640's control the entire planet, subjecting the other species to humiliating slavery in unimaginable ways. (Well, there are some not new to the archives, but a detailed listing of atrocities is a bit out of place here. Suffice to say you could recall the period of the blue-skinned Siriun pirates to get an idea of what's been going on on Cygnus 3.)

Unfortunately, the sensitivity and Light-Body aspects of the injectees has only created another way they can be enslaved.

Whereas before the implant there was only physical subjection, there is now mental and emotional dominance rampant throughout the planet. I have even seen one of my hardened, experienced staffers weep over the plight of these poor humanoids.

Something has got to be done immediately. Not only is this situation an anathema to everything the PTU stands for, it is ultimately deleterious to the entire System Chain. For, Lupfus preserve us, they have managed to begin space flight again.

So far it's only within the gravitational field of Cygnus 3, but if the rebels continue (with the sufficient genetic patterning now encoded from those early inbreedings) to call upon the Light-Body/Space-Travel engrams and use the more pure strains of M-453 minds, they could be out to the other five planets of the system within two to three years.

And we know how quickly the jump from in-system to out-of-system space travel occurs. You see the immediacy of the danger. The rest of that sector is entirely pacific and would have absolutely no defense against any type of invasion.

Besides, Cygnus 3 would likely refuse the Quarantine Regulations for Space Travel, and....

Immediacy. Urgency. How strongly can I put it?

Sol 3: The High Priestess's preparations were so effective that the females on Sol 3 still expect somewhere deep in their emotional and mental engrams, for their males to be and function as Male-453s. You can imagine the social and domestic unrest this has caused.

The Female-453s were a very strong, sensitive, powerful grouping and were programmed by their own hierarchy to expect a "union with the Gods" that would ultimately elevate them to another level of Light-Body ability.

Needless to say, this did not happen.

Save in a very few isolated areas where the inbreeding was minimal and the resultant humanoids nurtured and clung to more 453 training than most, the results were Heavy-Body. These former isolated groups are rapidly becoming extinct as the Heavy-Body majority has no practical use for them or their "primitive", "weird" ways and I would suppose, feels rather intimidated by any display of Light-Body qualities.

Let your geneticists and Light/Heavy people in on this next item: A funny thing seems to have happened mixing the M-620s with the F-453s. The Helix-grid combination was of course not exact, and thank Lupfus the links fell as they did, for we may be able to salvage something there because of it.

What happened was that for the most part the tendency to Light-Body keeps reappearing in the females with a high enough incidence that it is now commonly called "feminine nature" by the Sol 3 inhabitants.

A few males have shown these abilities and inclinations throughout the years, too, but for the most part they were/are persecuted and/or reviled. In a few societies at various historical points they were held in reverence and even elevated to positions of priests, consuls, and teachers; an oddity we might find useful at a later date in more favorable circumstances.

There are also reasons to believe that the androgynous factor did an aboutface from it's expected recessiveness and for the last few hundred years has been surfacing more and more in the females.

This would lead us to believe there is a chance to salvage some remnant of the original plan. But.... The catch is time. Always time. Beastly consideration.

The Male-620s were very well programmed and highly functional along their expected lines. The method of implantation on Sol 3 was the Heavy-Sleep-Mythos technique. From the very first the 620 Males exhibited internecine squabbling and the 453 Females, because they had been programmed to expect counterparts and gods, were naturally inclined to go along with the "new ideas". Factions began splitting off from one another, squabbles turned into more serious differences and before long, turned into full-scale wars.

Because the females tended to be favored with more of the Light-Body engrams (as explained in the Genetic-Coding Analysis attached) they offered no effective resistance to this escalation of interspecies hostilities. Mothers taught their children much of the priestly lore, but it soon was appropriated by the males and before long all the myths and engrams were reworked to favor the Masculine Myth of Superiority.

Over the years this has resulted in a mad imbalance between the two sexes until today there are not only the continued internecine unpleasantnesses and outright tribal hostilities and wars but as well a very disturbing conflict between the females and the males within each tribe.

The men who were originally sent to counterbalance the aggressive insensitive dominance of the Cygnus Female-640's have instead physically and socially enslaved the Sol 3 females...and a goodly number of their own kind as well.

In a natural retaliation, the females have managed, through the use of Priestly and Light-Body attributes, to emotionally and psychically enslave as goodly a number of the males. There is massive unrest in the populace as the females keep expecting the males to be different and the males resist these expectations -- naturally, since they are not programmed to function in those ways -- and continue to follow their own inbred dictates.

Ghastly situation.

As if that weren't bad enough, the Light-Body training that has managed to seep through and into some of the males has been contaminated by the programmed competitiveness and has sped up scientific and military development to the point that not only have the inhabitants of Sol 3 actually become capable of humanoid in-system space travel, but they are bordering on molecular destruction by a gross misapplication of the Unification Field Flow Theorems.

One would have hoped that those males fortunate enough to receive Light-Body engrams would have also been the ones to implement the information they developed. But in most cases it seems that the information was taken over by males with the highest 620 factors and put to militaristic purposes.

We have not dared to calculate the risks any further than the borders of their own system should this misapplication come to crisis point, but I can tell you what we do know -- a total molecular dissolution of the Sol System will assuredly occur! We haven't the heart or the stomach to take these figures further.

Suffice it to say we are looking at a Major Situation 10-X.

Our analysts are running as many factor/plans as we can come up with: combing the archives, rearranging modules, everything. I know yours will do the same.

Our results will be channeled to you piecemeal, as is so often the case with R&D primaries. We may be supplying one piece of the puzzle and your people the other. Cooperation is essential. Speed is critical.

I suggest you go ahead and route your Transfer Team to Alert Status on outpost Tangor II, which we show is at least 5 parsecs closer to both planets, assuming you're using Commodore Ramell's people.

More soonest.

!!!TOP PRIORITY!!!

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2362

To: Commodore Ramell

Effective immediately move all Hostile-Transfer Teams to Tangor II.

Await further instructions.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2362

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

For your information, per your information -- our confirmation.

Preparing eliminate F-640's Cygnus 3: Destruction Plan #662340.

Preparing eliminate entire populace Sol 3; Destruction Plan #665032.

!!!TOP PRIORITY!!!

RUSH

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2362

To: MILITARY HYGIENE DEPARTMENT

HUMANOID DIVISION

Prepare PLAGUE FACTOR. Standard form, specify strain effectiveness Humanoid Female-640 only. Total termination, planet-wide.

Prepare GEOPHYSICAL MALFUNCTION COMPONENTS. Standard G-type, third orbit range; one artable cycle (our time) per their solar revolution. Cataclysmic level, planet wide.

When ready signal Transfer Team at Tangor II; intercept at coordinates Cygnus .026S/Sol .136.

URGENT/WAIT FOR REPLY

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09-65-2363

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Please hold Destruct Orders!!

New data! Sending soonest.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2364

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

DP#662340 and DP#665032 begun.

Situation Critical per your determination and data received to date.

Awaiting new info.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09-65-2364

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

REPEAT: PLEASE HOLD DESTRUCT ORDER SOL 3!!!

Following data copied your Analysts.

Suggest implementation of selective decimation on Sol 3. Plague Factor Particulate, specify strain effectiveness Humanoid Male-620: ONLY THOSE WITH NO (repeat NO) STRAIN OF LIGHT-BODY HELIX-GRID.

We believe this will effectively terminate the current hostilities, yet save the planet and a portion of the populace within 40% to 67%, depending on how accurate the probe figures on Helix-grid spectra prove to be. We see this as the most effective approach, considering: 1) the fertility and productivity of the planet itself; 2) the high incidence of Light-Body engrams still extant in the female populace; and, 3) the increasingly high incidence of Light-Body engrams surfacing in younger males.

In combination with the Plague Factor Particulate (and here we suggest the relatively painless but very effective strain #553268 which will affect the cardiovascular systems of the Heavy-Body dominant males and result in early termination) we also recommend a planet wide diffusion of Helix-grid Chain Block to prevent the conception of male children with less than 50% Light-Body engrams.

In this way, we feel, there will be substantially less shock to the populace as the decimation of the extant male population will be relatively painless and spread out over a couple of generations.

With the immediate removal of the Male-620s in power we believe the misapplication of the Unification Field Flow Theorem will not be pursued. We have every reason to believe this will be so, based on the high incidence of open resistance to that pursuit of UFFT for militaristic purposes. It is a small controlling minority that has to be dealt with and our data shows that removal of that factor will defuse the Major Situation 10-X immediately down to a 2-X. This being because there is always the chance of accidents and, of

course, there is the possibility that we have miscalculated the incidence of Light-Body occurrence in the controlling sector.

Saddened by the Cygnus situation, but cannot argue your decision in that area. Reminds me of the Capellan Tragedy, nomenclature which as I recall, you were personally responsible for changing from the "Capellan Victory": how rare for the military to value lost life, my continued kudos to you.

Hopeful you will agree with our suggestions for Sol 3.

Awaiting your reply.

Anxiously.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2365

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Yours of 09-65-2364 received.

Flattery from you is like hail during a Madresseh monsoon -- overkill. Subtlety was never your strong suit. But however weak your emotional appeal, your logic is well received.

Attempting to abort Destruct Order Sol 3.

No promises.

!!TOP PRIORITY!!

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2365

To: Commodore Ramell BROASE III - BASE 5

ABORT Destruct Order Sol 3.

REPEAT.

ABORT Destruct order Sol 3.

Hold for further orders. MINE ONLY.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE COMMANDANT TYAMMA KUMARA, DIRECTOR

Date: 09-65-2365

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Please let us know what is happening?

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2365

To: High Commissioner Valchekk

a ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Regret Destruct Order Sol 3 begun.

Will try to halt and rectify.

50/50 factor.

Awaiting further instructions.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2366

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Attempting halt and rectification.

You'll receive copies all relevant input/output as-it-happens.

H.Q. analysts agree your proposal.

Implementing soonest.

Good work.

URGENT/TOP PRIORITY

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2366

To: GENETIC-MEDICAL R&D HUMANOID SPECIALTY DIVISION

See attached analysis and proposal from Denebola R&D.

Ready ASAP and transport to Sol 3 immediately.

Advise implementation date.

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2367

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Geophysical malfunctions begun.

Have requested backup for rectification.

Outcome unsure.

Sorry.

Date: 09-65-2367

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Why are we so Lupfus-damned efficient these days?!?!

Thanks for the computron plug-in, we copy you and yours.

We're hoping and praying to all the deities there might be that the backups will get there in time.

Time again.... Damn.

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2368

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Destruct Cygnus 3 Female-640's completed.

Request immediate Social-Political analysts assigned: "Restructuring".

Date: 09-65-2370

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Why didn't they say anything about Sol 3?

We aren't getting anything else done around here. All my staffers sit and wait at the computron consoles.

Can't you do anything?

Faster?

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2370

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Remember the Ring Cafe?

Sit on it!!

Date: 09-65-2370

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Sorry my scathing earlier this day. I know you're doing the best you can. (I'll never forget the Ring, and it's my fault for bringing it up, but I'd have expected you to have more imaginative strategy than to use my own tactics against me.)

Guess we all got a little over involved in this project. It's just so damned disheartening to think that after all those thousands of years of suffering those two planets have gone through -- caused by this department's fuckup -- we may lose them both.

We had a memorial service earlier for the Cygnus 3 rebels. It was very touching. In spite of our disapproval of their actions, they were nonetheless members of a living species with a long history. On their own, my staff put together a computron memorial of the history and development of the rebel strain on the planet. It's really quite nice. Will send you some once we byte off some dupes.

The tension is still high here. No one has even suggested making up a memorial for Sol 3 -- afraid it would jinx the results, I guess. Besides, there's a major impact differential between the hygienic elimination of one species strain and the decimation of an entire planet.

Our new triple-check function is running smoothly, the central matrix took it just fine. I'm sending the grid-diagrams to Programming Central. It's a brilliant piece of engineering and if we'd had it back then, there wouldn't have been an "Oopsie Period" and we wouldn't be in this fine mess. "We." Hah. Funny how we've started identifying ourselves with the Solians these past few days.

Impatiently awaiting news.

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2371

To: Commodore Ramell BROASE III - BASE 5

Where the fuck is that information?!!?

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2372

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Still working to avert cataclysms.

Some localized destruction unavoidable.

Casualty count rising.

Will advise soonest.

Give us a break!

Date: 09-65-2372

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

You know that planet is finely balanced and was already thrown way off by the impact of the recent UFFT manipulations of the Male-620s.

Do they know what they're doing, your Military Hygiene people?

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2373

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

They know.

Get off my back.

(A good warrior always uses his opponent's weapon against his opponent.)

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2373

To: Commodore Ramell BROASE III - BASE 5

Do you clowns know what you're doing?

That planet is finely balanced and almost out of alignment as it is.

BE CAREFUL.

HURRY!

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2374

To: High Commissioner Valchekk

a ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

We know.

You trained us.

We are.

Date: 09-65-2374

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

My apologies for adding to your burden. I know this is all coming down on you. I'm sorry. Morale is at an all-time low here. I caught one of my staffers collating information on Sol 3 this morning, for a Memorial. I didn't have the heart to stop her.

What's the status on the Plague Factor Particulate from Gen-Med? It would help us here if we knew they were proceeding on that.

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2375

To: Genetic-Medical R&D Humanoid Specialty Division

Your technicians arrived.

Implementation begun.

Copy: High Commissioner Valchekk

a ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2375

To: High Commissioner Valchekk

a ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Plague implemented.

Localized destruction continues.

Panic Control utilizing troops necessary for aversion of cataclysms. We're doing a balancing act out here. We've lost a lot of the coastal areas, some high population density centers. Weather out of control. Magma fissures Scale-7.

But slowing.

Date: 09-65-2377

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

High elation! We just picked up Commodore Ramell's communiqué of 09-65-2377. Thank Lupfus! I know it's not much, but it's a start. If they can keep the slowing trend for two more months (two years their time) it should settle out.

I suggest we send Soc-Pol Analysts, Medean Priests, and Light-Body Medical Analysts to Sol 3 as soon after the restoration of planet balance as possible to assist in the transformation. From what we've learned of the myths and religions, there are convenient "prophecies" we could plug into so that our envoys would be quickly accepted and heeded. It shouldn't take too long to clean things up, IF your military people pull off the Rectify soon enough.

Even some of my top Supervisors have volunteered. They're a great bunch here, and by now have a deeply felt affinity for Sol 3.

What do you think?

And how about a celebratory drink at the old Ring Cafe?

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2378

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

I think you're counting your analysts before you have an analysand.

Don't open the bottle until you've got a victory.

BROASE III - BASE 5 COMMODORE RAMELL

Date: 09-65-2379

To: High Commissioner Valchekk

a ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Sol 3 stabilized.

Crisis averted.

CLASSIFICATION: !!!TOP PRIORITY!!!

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2380

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Start counting!

Date: 09-65-2380

To: High Commissioner Valchekk @ ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS

Would the most illustrious, efficient and efficacious High Commissioner Valchekk and select members of her staff deign to join me and select members of my staff at a celebration fete in honor of the illustrious, efficient and efficacious High Commissioner Valchekk and her success in handling the "Oopsie Affair" of Sol 3?

That would be the Ring Cafe at 09-65-2382.

Or do you drink with pedantic asses?

CLASSIFICATION: !!!TOP PRIORITY!!!

ARCTURUS HEADQUARTERS HIGH COMMISSIONER VALCHEKK

Date: 09-65-2380

To: Commandant Tyamma Kumara, Director

R&D - DENEBOLA MERIDIAN BASE

Some of my best friends are pedantic asses.

If you're buying, we're drinking.

But don't think this means I agree with all your tactics....