**Teaser 02/06/2019**

**Ordo Malleus Restricted Archive**

Transmitted: Conclave of Nyx

Received: Astropath Benito

Destination: Conclave of Samarkand

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Reference: Ordo Malleus/09FJ4536B1/AS

Author: Lord Inquisitor Odysseus Tor

Priority: Yellow

*Per your last request, I sent one of our colleagues to obtain the order of battle for the new Honour Guard of Space Marines which has been created to protect the Saint. Let me emphasize your fears have no reason to be given the current strength of this formation. The Dawnbreaker Guard, as its members have proclaimed themselves, are thirty-five strong as I am writing this message. With the departure of the majority of Space Marine contingents from this Sector, the possibility of increasing their numbers significantly is extremely low. And the command structure is based on the sole decision of protecting their charge, thus making any attempt of one Space Marine to overstep himself and gain ideas above his station inferior to the odds of an average Astartes doing the name in a Codex-compliant Chapter. Seraph Gamaliel of course has the unconditional respect of many of his fellow Astartes, but he’s not by far the only important figure in this Honour Guard.*

*The symbol of the triangular red tear, blue beetle and golden flame on a white field has not suffered any changes since its first presentation, as thus you can record it in the archives as the official banner of the Dawnbreaker Guard.*

*Below is the order of battle as far as my agents have been able to discern from highest rank to lowest:*

*Seraph Gamaliel, Exalted Herald of Sanguinius, Sanguinary Guard of the Blood Angels Chapter*

*Sanguinary Guard Puriel, Sanguinary Guard of the Angels Encarmine Chapter*

*Sanguinary Guard Simiel, Sanguinary Guard of the Angels Vermillion Chapter*

*Champion Kratos of Flesh Tearers Chapter [ref Olympus Incident, yes that Kratos]*

*Captain Quintus of the Angels Sanguine Chapter*

*Captain Rhodes of the Knights Hospitallers Chapter*

*Standard-Bearer Riel of the Brothers of the Red Chapter*

*Chaplain Zuriel of the Crimson Scions Chapter*

*Chaplain Sidonius of the Crimson Swords Chapter*

*Sanguinary Priest Claudius of the Exsanguinators Chapter*

*Sanguinary Priest Philip of the Charnel Guard Chapter*

*Sanguinary Priest Galen of the Red Seraphs Chapter*

*Sanguinary Priest Sterzing of the Angels Resplendent Chapter*

*Epistolary Aslan of the Templars of Blood Chapter [ref Librarian]*

*Epistolary Hendrik of the Blood Legion Chapter [ref Librarian]*

*Techmarine Dyson of the Knights of Blood Chapter*

*Techmarine White of the Blood Exemplars Chapter*

*Techmarine Renaldo of the Blood Drinkers Chapter*

*Techmarine Ben-Ur of the Sons of Scelus Chapter*

*Veteran Sergeant Gavreel Forcas of the Dark Wardens Chapter [ref martyr 35178 imperator]*

*Veteran Sergeant Jonas of the Angels of Defiance Chapter*

*Veteran Sergeant Alfonso of the Disciples of Blood Chapter*

*Sergeant Bohemond of the Angels Redeemed Chapter*

*Terminator Veteran Karael of the Blood Swords Chapter*

*Terminator Veteran Morael of the Angel Guard Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Herman of the Flesh Eaters Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Rahab of the Red Wings Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Maxime of the Heralds of Vengeance Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Sari of the Angels Numinous Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Richard of the Knights Sanguine Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Bertrand of the Crimson Paladins Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Midas of the Golden Sons Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Wald of the Crimson Legion Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Thermoses of the Red Legion Chapter*

*Battle-Brother Vesuvius of the Scions of Sanguinius Chapter*

*I will contact you again in five standard days for the preliminary report on the cleansing of the Neptunia System from Ruinous influence. May the God-Emperor guide us to victory.*

Thought for the day: Fear runs as deep as the mind allows.

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*And thus on 744.289M35 the Living Saint began her unforgettable rule of the Nyx Sector. The Menelaus dynasty, which had ruled for one thousand and six hundred years faded into oblivion, and few regretted their disappearance. The ork threat, which had loomed everywhere, was now routed on dozens of fronts and was annihilated by the counter-attacks of the Navy and the Guard.*

*Naturally, hundreds of thousands were prompt to label it as the beginning of an ‘Age of Weaver’, but given how many times the same thing was proclaimed in the 35th millennium and those which followed it, a new denomination was required. It was in 010M37 that the official name we still use today was published by retired Lady General Elena Dalten, my ancestor.*

*Thus the period between 744.289M35 and 110.403M35 is known as the Age of Silk and Hope, one of the ten Ages of the Living Saint.*

*It was an age of prosperity and victories for billions of men and women.*

*It was also an age of political and social upheavals.*

*The Nyx nobility, which had abused its powers and privileges for centuries, was the first to receive the wrath of Lady Weaver.*

*The purges were, by all written accounts, a brutal affair in every aspect.*

*When the Living Saint became the Basileia of Nyx and renamed the capital Hive Athena, the nobility living in the Menelaus seat of power was estimated close to five million. This was five million men, women and children divided into seventy-one nobility titles and in their great majority they had never worked a single day in their lives. Yet they played their dynastic games while below them, more than ten billion souls toiled and died in the manufactorums, forging the weapons the Imperium military forces desperately needed to hold the lines.*

*While the Fafnir-Nyx archives are rarely unsealed to the public, certain facts remain. Post 290M35, the Nyx Nobility had a grand total of one hundred and three million people. After the Inquisition had finished their executions and Lady Weaver her creation of penal legions, the nobility was a shadow of itself.*

*The nobility rolls published on 001.292M35 affirm thirty-one million nobles remained for Nyx Tertius as a whole, one million and five hundred thousand living in the Upper Hive districts of Hive Athena.*

*The punishments were incredibly varied, but the sentence which focused a lot of attention, both internally and externally, were the induction in the penal legions. It would be a mistake however to assume every aristocrat arrested by the Adeptus Arbites or the Nyx Justicars received this harsh punishment. Many nobles were not deported off-world, but lost one third to one half of their personal fortune along with their peerage, their privileges, and their shares in the various corporate cartels established in the Sector Capital. Some Dukes escaped with nothing but a slap on the wrist and an exceptional tax levied on their yearly income. But many did not. From Prince-Magister to Esquire, the Nyx peerage was brought on judgement for their excesses and their willingness to abandon their duties to the God-Emperor. Executions, decades of forced labour in promethium extraction facilities and exile were a few of the judgements rendered at the time.*

*By comparison, the loss of the hereditary nobility rights for almost a quarter of the high nobility could seem almost an after-note. And at the time, for the millions of nobles dragged in chains in front of the judges, it certainly was.*

*But the fate of Nostradamus ‘the Grox’ Vandire and the fall of the nobles who had supported him were not forgotten by other blue-blooded tyrants. The Reign of Terror was still far away, and yet it was becoming slowly ineluctable...*

Extract from *The Fires of Hope*, by Taylor Dalten, 990M41.