**Machina Terra: Emissaries of Sol**

**MTD04 Detailed Mission Outline**

**Mission Preceded by: MTD03**

**Mission Followed by: MTDEndCutscene**

Command Briefing:

* This is an Admiral Briefing (so date is given). Stage makes a general assessment of the GTVA internal struggles after the escape of Shivans into Polaris. It notes that the GTVI now have supreme authority than any Fleet officer in this operation.
* Talks about the hunter-tracker team activities, in parallel with the accounts that the Shivan behaviour is nothing like before. Makes a reference that the Shivans have converged on a special point, and perhaps the mystery behind this Shivan battlegroup will be explained.
* The state of Capella, in which Command describes Capella as a lost cause and given authorization for the collapse of nodes.
* The New and Final Plan. Hunter-trackers were driven off by a small force of Shivans due to their poor offensive capability, and GTVA Command wants an end to this business.

General Briefing

North Star personally briefs the elite team in this mission.

He gives a small background on the attack, in which the GTVA were planning to attack the Shivans in their converged position before they escaped again. Although the original plan was to attack a few days later, the lack of surveillance on the Shivans (provided by the hunter-trackers) forced Command to initiate an assault before the Shivans can disappear.

Aware of the dangers of committing a powerful force into enemy space based on old intelligence, Admiral Reyna wants an assessment of the Shivans prior to an assault. The elite team, chosen the best of different squadrons will be led by North Star.

Courtesy of the GTVI RnD, the pilots will be provided with a standard fighter modified with experimental cloaking technology. This will allow the fighter to approach the Shivans without being detected, as long as no afterburners or thermal weaponry are used or the fighters are grouped together. Therefore, the different pilots will be split up and monitor the Shivans from various angles, and not be close to each other.

Once the situation is deemed acceptable, North Star will relay the information to the Proximus, who will inform the Aeneas to attack. North Star will give an account of the general plan in which the enemy will be destroyed; the use of AWACs and the commitment of multiple capital ships.

North Star states that the mission should be a simple matter of assessing the situation, but he warns that the Shivans have reached whatever they were searching for, so be on extra guard.

Mission

Alpha 1 begins in stealth approximately 4km away from the Shivan battlegroup who are arranged in a circular formation around 5 Chimeras, scattered in a random way.

The pilots along with North Star begin to talk about the unidentified craft, and if this was the target the Shivans had all along from Capella. Midway through their discussion, the Shivans deploy 3 Asmodeus class freighters to capture the fighters. The North Star opens a channel with the Proximus who wants an analysis of the strange craft. Shivan fighters begin a patrol waypoint and North Star orders Alpha 1 (being the closest ship to the unidentified craft) to get a scan.

Alpha 1 successfully evades the patrols, composed of maras, basilisks and astaroths. Alpha 1 gets an analysis scan, which takes about 10 seconds to complete. Alpha 1 then returns to the monitoring position, indicated by a virtual nav.buoy.

Upon reaching the monitor position, Alpha 1 shares the information with the rest of the pilots. The Fleet pilots are perplexed, some spouting up theories of a new class of Shivan fighter, or remains of an extinct race. North Star remains silent on the subject, only stating that the unidentified craft is unmanned and structural scans show that the drone has been in space for a very long time. He comments that the drone has a very technological design, but is confused how, or where the Chimera came from.

As the pilots are talking, the Shivans successfully managed to capture all 5 Chimera and the Shivan warships break circular formation in preparation to leave. Knowing that the GTVA have only minutes until the Shivans vanish again, the Proximus initiates the attack plan and in the 20 seconds the two AWACs accompanied by the first wave of GTVA warships take emerge from subspace, briefs the pilots that they are not to destroy the Chimera and disable an Asmodeus if opportunity allows. North Star is ordered at this point to leave.

Immediately the fighting and sudden and brutal. The opening shock attack by the GTVA successfully destroys one Raksasha, but the Shivans rapidly respond to the threat, moving to engage the GTVA and protecting the Asmodeus. At this time the AWACs state that the navigational scrambling is directed toward Shivan vessels.

Alpha 1 can freely fight but is under orders to protect any vulnerable targets from enemy bombers.

Eventually however, the Shivans locate and begin attacking one of the AWACs in attempt to weaken the navigational scattering field the AWACs are projecting. The GTVA deploy a reserve Deimos corvette and a fighter wing to protect the AWAC from a Moloch, Raksasha and a large wave of Shivan fighters. Alpha 1 must quickly fly to the AWACs and help protect it.

The Shivan attack strength is too strong however, and a triple beam salvo from the Raksasha rips through the hull of the AWAC. The navigational field is lessened, and the 3 Asmodeus take the opportunity to escape the battle, followed also by the Moloch that was attacking the AWAC.

The Proximus announces its plan to pursue the freighters, but the situation is still too volatile for the Proximus to leave the scene. In the meantime, Alpha 1 aids the Deimos in destroying the remaining Shivans that attacked the AWACs. At some point, the Proximus departs.

After the Shivan clean-up, Alpha 1 along with the rest of Alpha (they are guardianed to last throughout the battle) to warp out and aid the Proximus in any possible.

<Upon warping out, use SEXP end-mission to initiate end cutscene>