

News Dispatch #1

Bay Jing -- The Devourers may be on the move again, this time towards Bay Jing, according to unconfirmed reports received by BJNC.

Unnamed sources within the Joint Fleet of Bay Jing, Concordia and Earth report increased military activity among the High Command, as well as emergency order dispatches to all fleets.

"The fleet is on full alert," says a source on condition of anonymity. "All starship captains have been ordered to prepare themselves for an imminent attack by the aliens."

The Joint Fleet High Command will issue a statement shortly.

News Dispatch #2

Bay Jing - Chaos has gripped Bay Jing following the official full invasion alert announced by the Joint Fleet.

According to the military press release, two days ago several scouts detected the Devourer fleet approaching from the LHS 1723 star system. Based on earlier experiences of the alien ships' speed, High Command expects them to enter our Omicron 2 Eridani system within the hour, and to reach Bay Jing about two days after that.

During the press release a haggard General Bruce Sager declared that the Joint Fleet will "shed every last drop of blood" to stop the aliens and guarantee the survival of Bay Jing.

Evacuation procedures to Concordia have accelerated, although barely a few hundred thousand will have an opportunity to escape the planet, even with all the resources provided by the Circle and the Psion Brotherhood.

Bay Jing has a total population of sixty-six million.

As civilization collapses around Bay Jing several acts of looting and violence have been reported, particularly among citizens desperate to board or have their loved ones board the final evacuation ships.

News Dispatch #3

Bay Jing – Just two hours before the main engagement for Bay Jing begins, several Concordian warships have deserted the Joint Fleet and begun the trip towards their home star system of Epsilon Eridani, our war correspondents report.

Apparently, the Concordian captains have decided that victory is impossible in the face of overwhelming enemy numbers and firepower, and have retreated to reinforce the meager Concordian defenses at Epsilon Eridani.

Unable to hide his frustration at this disruption in his forces, General Bruce Sager has insisted that what is left of the fleet will do its best to “stop the enemy in its tracks.” However, in the last few hours several anonymous sources have declared that there is no chance of victory.

There is no word yet on whether the desertion was requested by the Concordian military or not.

The Joint Military Fleet will engage the enemy within the hour.

News Dispatch #9

Concordia – Following the tragic destruction of the Joint Fleet and complete obliteration of Bay Jing, Concordian civilization has been thrown into turmoil.

The few surviving ships that were in the Omicron 2 Eridani star system during the battle and who managed to jump away (no military forces escaped) described a “massacre,” with Devourer ships casually destroying the fleet’s most powerful battleships and bombing of Bay Jing’s surface in just a few hours.

Concordian President Kenneth Livley issued an emotional message to the planet in preparation for the attack.

“The bombing of two entire planets and genocide of eighty-one million people apparently is not enough to quench the thirst of these aliens. Their ultimate goal is the entire annihilation of our species.”

While activating as many evacuation procedures as possible, as well as the creation of several underground refuges for the many who won’t be able to escape the planet, President Livley pledged to devote the entire resources of the planet to repel the Devourers.

As is their pattern, the Devourers have not immediately proceeded towards Concordia, and it is unknown when they will attempt to jump towards the Epsilon Eridani star system. Only one jump separates Epsilon Eridani from Bay Jing’s Omicron 2 Eridani star system.

Rumors of a fresh fleet approaching from Earth to bolster the planet’s defenses have not been confirmed.

Handout #1

Brawl at Popular Drinking Spot Attributed to 'Ghost Ship' Tall Tale

Providence, Logan's End – Yesterday's larger-than-usual bar brawl at the well-known Providence bar "Fearless," which ended up with four injured and eight arrested, was sparked by a discussion about a 'ghost ship' story.

Melonia Ferrato, owner of Fearless Bar, explained that a merchant crew recently arrived from space caused the fracas by telling the story. "They looked shaken and scared, and were obviously drunk," Ms. Ferrato declared. "One of them then began shouting that in their last trip they had come across and destroyed a 'ghost ship,' a ship that came out of nowhere in the depths of space, from a place called 'Chrysalis.' Or something."

According to Ms. Ferrato the story of the 'ghost ship' from the place with the strange name caused hilarity in Fearless' customers, who promptly began teasing and laughing at the merchants, who responded first with insults and then with violence. Then fighting erupted.

Local police have arrested the most likely instigators of the violence, including the five members of the merchant crew who started the story. They have been identified as Kevin Windon, Hassan Leova, Gerardo Bevard, Doug O'Malley and Oliver Sarria. Their ship is known as the Aurora Borealis and indeed it has recently parked in one of the orbital spots of Logan's End.

Ms. Ferrato has stated that she will not press charges. It is unknown whether the police will charge the suspects or if they will be set free soon.