

LEADER: Landgrave Jasek Kelswa-Steiner

QUOTE: "The Steiner fist will lift you up or crush you ... your choice."

Jasek Kelswa-Steiner is a traitor not only to The Republic, but also to his traditional homeland-at least that is what his father believes. Duke Gregory Kelswa-Steiner-only the second person ever to be Governor of Skye and Lord Governor of Prefecture IX at the same time-rules many of the worlds originally part of the Isle of Skye in House Steiner's Lyran Commonwealth. For centuries, Skye had been a hotbed of cessation, attempting on numerous occasions to break the yoke of the Archon on distant Tharkad. In Duke Gregory's eyes, when The Republic formed and took most of the core worlds of the Isle with it, the people of Skye achieved what they had dreamed of for hundreds of years: freedom from the Steiner Archon!

For Jasek, Landgrave and heir-apparent to Skye, it is not so simple. The people of Skye may have achieved freedom, but they simply traded one overlord for another. More importantly to Jasek, unlike the Lyran Commonwealth, which Skye had been a part of since its formation almost eight centuries ago, The Republic is an upstart that cares nothing for Skye or her people. In his mind, it is better to be Lyran than Republican, and if that requires he return Skye to Archon rule, then so be it-Steiner blood flows through his own veins, after all.

Having heard merchant JumpShip captains' tales of the Dragon's Fury and Swordsworn, Jasek knew the time had come. After securing the loyalty of a cadre of Republic militia he led before the blackout, he openly declared for House Steiner, and others of like mind quickly flocked to his banner.

He has, however, made an enemy of both The Republic and the powerful Duke of Skye. And the Kelswa bloodline has a long history of using lethal means to solve their problems.

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- 1) FOLD ALONG DOTTED LINE
  - GLUE BACKS TOGETHER
  - 3) CUT OUT FOLDER ALONG SOLID LINE
  - 4) FOLD FOLDER IN HALF ALONG DASHED LINE



ELITE UNIT: Archon's Shield

Record No DF-819-01

MOTTO: "A shield can be a deadly weapon ... in the right hands."

The Archon's Shield is an elite unit of individuals hand-picked by Jasek himself. Though Jasek speaks of returning to Steiner rule, the name of

this unit could mean either returning to the rule of the Archon on Tharkad or returning to his own rule; he's left it deliberately vague.

Though many in the Archon's Shield come from the Republic Skye Militia that Jasek commanded, quite a few come from other units, and some simply do not have histories. In fact, the majority of the militia Jasek



**VETERAN UNIT:** Lyran Rangers

Record No 🤿 DF-819-02

MOTTO: "Why use a small 'Mech when a bigger one will do?"

Following the formation of The Republic and the slow decommissioning of military units within its borders, the Fourth Skye Rangers—the only Skye unit to survive the twin blood baths of the

FedCom Civil War and the Jihad that followed—was kept on active duty and became the Republic Skye Militia. Though Jasek earned their loyalty and respect as their commander, when the blackout descended and he eventually split with his father, only some of the unit followed his lead; centuries of conditioning could not be swept away in only two generations, and most felt they still owed their loyalty to the current Duke of Skye.



- 1) FOLD ALONG DOTTED LINE
  - 2) GLUE BACKS TOGETHER
  - 3) CUT OUT CARDS ALONG SOLID LINE



originally commanded now constitutes the Lyran Record No Rangers. That Jasek apparently did not trust most of the Republic militia who followed him has bred hard feelings toward the Archon's Shield, as well as to Jasek himself.

The reason Jasek didn't designate the Shield as his veteran unit is that several Archon's Shield members are Lohengrin agents from the Lyran Commonwealth. The presence of these elite Steiner antiterrorist troops—who are trained in almost every form of combat as well as espionage—not only explains the cohesive unity of Archon's Shield after so short a time, but also shows a strong, clandestine support for the Stormhammers by the Archon herself.

With those soldiers at the core of the Lyran

Rangers, other descendents from the lost

Seventeenth and Twenty-Seventh Skye Rangers stepped
forward, offering their enthusiasm and passion—even
if sometimes lacking in expertise. Though the unit has
shown a marked improvement, there are still two major
flaws with which Jasek will have to contend. First and
foremost is his treatment of these soldiers; he didn't
create his elite core unit around the Rangers. Second
is their own turmoil. Loyal to the Duke of Skye more
often than the Archon even when a part of the Lyran
Commonwealth, some within the Lyran Rangers doubt their
own commitment to the Landgrave and his bold new vision.



GREEN UNIT: Tharkan Strikers Reco

MOTTO: "Wolves strike without mercy."

The Tharkan Strikers exist because of the supreme will of a single woman: Alexia Wolf. Though it would seem contradictory for a Wolf warrior to be leading what is in effect a House unit, Alexia does not hail from any Clan Wolf

enclave in The Republic, or even from Clan Wolf itself. Instead, Alexia is a freeborn warrior raised in Clan Wolf (in-Exile).

During the catastrophic Refusal War between Clan Wolf and Clan Jade Falcon in 3058, under the orders of then-Khan Ulric Kerensky a small holistic slice of Clan Wolf fled to House Steiner. There they defended the Inner



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Sphere, convinced that the Clans had become the enemy. Seventy-five years later, Clan Wolf (in-Exile) has mostly integrated with the Lyran people, still maintaining their culture and guarding against Clan predation along House Steiner's border.

Though Alexia is a freeborn, she was raised a warrior—but she failed her Trial of Position. Ashamed, she left her Clan on a self-imposed exile and finally found herself in The Republic at the fall of the HPG grid. Raised to protect House Steiner, she was drawn to Jasek's charismatic call for a return to Lyran rule. Jasek immediately saw Alexia's potential and put her obvious warrior skills and passion to good use, letting her whip into shape the glut of new recruits flocking to Jasek's banner. In addition, Jasek and Alexia have begun a secret relationship.