

Reunion at Daemon Run

BFG Scenario Competition Runner Up By Michael Pike

This scenario, set in the closing years of the Gothic War is about a Grey Knight force led by an Inquisitor seeking to destroy a Slaaneshi fleet.

REUNION AT DAEMON RUN

The closing years of the Gothic War were witness to many battles between the Imperial Navy and remnants of the vast Chaos Incursion fleet. During these years the Inquisition, particularly the Ordo Malleus, was active in cleansing the taint of Chaos activity from the Gothic Sector.

Because of the inherent secrecy of the Inquisition, little is known of their efforts. What have emerged are rumours and legends of their deeds. One legend is that of Inquisitor Lord Gyorgy Coldiron's pursuit of the Slaaneshi fleet of Warmaster Lady Erzsebet. During the Gothic War, Lady Erzsebet and her fleet terrorized the Orar Sub-Sector. The daemonic activity associated with the Slaaneshi force was so prevalent that it drew the attention of the Ordo Malleus. Inquisitor Lord Gyorgy Coldiron is said to have taken a personal interest in the pursuit of this particular Chaos force. Some say that it was the high level of daemonic activity; some say it was his particular hate for the vile God of Deviant Pleasure, and some say it was because the Slaaneshi Warmistress, Lady Erzsebet, was rumoured to be his twin sister, Lady Erzsebet Coldiron.

Whatever the reason, by the grace of the God-Emperor, Lady Erzsebet's fleet was brought to bay by Inquisitor Lord Coldiron's Grey Knights task force outbound from Anvil 206.

THE BATTLE OF DAEMON RUN Historical Grey Knights Forces

Inquisitor Gyorgy Coldiron

Grey Knight Brother-Captain Andros, Master of the Fleet Leadership 10, 1 re-roll

Grey Knights Terminator boarding party On board the *Divine Blade*

Divine Blade Grey Knights battle barge

Nemesis Grey Knights strike cruiser

Valorus Grey Knights strike cruiser



Emperor's Chosen Grey Knights strike cruiser

Aegis Grey Knights strike cruiser

Hammerbands 3 x Gladius class frigates

Bannishers 3 x Nova class frigates

Exorcists 4 x Hunter class destroyers

Historical Chaos Forces Warmistress Lady Erzsebet Coldiron Leadership 9, 1 re-roll The Mark of Slaanesh On board the *Favoured Concubine*

Favoured Concubine Despoiler class battleship

Daemonette Repulsive class grand cruiser-Daemonship The Mark of Slaanesh

Insatiable Devastation class cruiser

Deviant Lust Carnage class cruiser

Wanton Desire Murder class cruiser

Incubus Slaughter class cruiser

Succubus Slaughter class cruiser

Sirens of Cruelty 4 x Infidel class raiders

FIRST TURN

The Chaos fleet takes the first turn.

BATTLEZONE

Generate Celestial Phenomena from the Deep Space Generator table. The Grey Knights player may place 1 additional asteroid field anywhere on the board between the mid-point and his board edge after the Chaos player sets up. The sunward edge is either of the short edges.

SET UP

The Chaos player places their entire fleet within 30cm of the sunward edge.

The Grey Knights player places their entire fleet within 30cm of the opposite short edge.

SPECIAL RULES

The Grey Knights use the standard Space Marine fleet rules.

Inquisitor Coldiron affords a +1 boarding modifier.

All Grey Knight vessels ignore the effects of the Mark of Slaanesh.

As an option, the Daemonhunter rules from Battlefleet Gothic magazine issue 16 may be used instead of the above special rules.

The Favoured Concubine may not disengage.

GAME LENGTH

The game lasts until the *Favoured Concubine* is destroyed or escapes via the short edge opposite its set up area.

VICTORY CONDITIONS

Favoured Concubine escapes without being boarded – *Major Chaos Victory*

Favoured Concubine escapes after being boarded – *Minor Chaos Victory*

Favoured Concubine is destroyed without being boarded – *Minor Grey Knight Victory*

Favoured Concubine is destroyed after being boarded – Major Grey Knight Victory

Any other result is a draw.

HISTORICAL OUTCOME

Because of their deviant desires and lust for forbidden pleasure, Lady Erzsebet's Slaaneshi fleet had been reluctant to give up their new found diversions, but with Abaddon's withdrawal from the Gothic Sector, the Imperial forces became too numerous to remain. Belatedly, the Slaaneshi fleet began its run towards the Eye of Terror.

Acting on information from his Inquisitorial operatives, Inquisitor Lord Coldiron and the Grey Knights were able to intercept the Chaos force as it began its run into deep space.

As the two fleets closed to contact, Brother-Captain Andros manoeuvred his fleet behind a line of asteroid fields to mask their approach. With a screen of Thunderhawks in the lead, the Grey Knight strike cruisers, along with the two squadrons of frigates, emerged from the left side of the asteroid belt. The Chaos screening vessels surged forward to meet the threat.

As her escorts sped forward to meet the Imperial forces, the *Favoured Concubine* launched waves of fighters and bombers to support them. The Chaos fleet was unaware that the battle barge, *Divine Blade*, along with the destroyer squadron were skirting the opposite side of the asteroid field lining up for a flank attack.

With her escorts drawn off, the approach to the *Favoured Concubine* was clear, or so it seemed. As the *Divine Blade* closed at full speed, its sensors detected the faint signature of an enemy vessel off its starboard bow. Suddenly the threat boards on the *Divine Blade* lit up with warning lights and screaming alarms as an enemy vessel was detected close on board. The *Daemonette* had materialized from the Warp and



was bearing down on them. Without command the destroyer squadron *Exorcists* turned as one to meet the new threat. Torpedoes from the *Exorcists* and the *Daemonette* crossed paths as both salvoes fired at close range struck home. The sacrifice of the *Exorcists* was great, but it bought time for the *Divine Blade* to close on her prev.

The batteries and lances of the *Favoured Concubine* bracketed the *Divine Blade* as it continued its attack. Its shields and armoured prow held true. The *Divine Blade* hurtled headlong into the *Favoured Concubine* with tremendous force. The Grey Knights boarding parties poured onto the Chaos vessels led by Inquisitor Lord Coldiron, Brother-Captain Andros, and the Terminators. The savage battle raged on board the *Favoured Concubine* as the terminators cut a path to the enemy bridge. Daemonettes and cultists alike fell under their Nemesis blades.

Lord Inquisitor Coldiron burst onto the enemy bridge to a surreal sight of Lady Erzsebet sitting in her command chair sipping a glass of wine. Lady Erzsebet rose and spoke to her brother for the first time in a hundred years. "Why brother, look at you, mother would have been so proud!" she spat, "and equally ashamed of you." Inquisitor Lord Coldiron stated as he raised his anointed weapon above his head and charge up the steps leading to his awaiting sister.

Daemonhammer met Daemonic blade in an epic struggle as the battle between the Grey Knights Terminators and the daemonic minions of Slaanesh swirled around them. A titanic struggle, not unlike that of the Emperor and Horus ensued. In the end, the *Divine Blade* moved off from the stricken Chaos vessel. Just as it gained safe distance, the warp drive of the *Favoured Concubine* imploded, taking the Carnage cruiser *Deviant Lust* along with it into oblivion.

Upon witnessing the destruction of their master's vessel, the surviving Slaaneshi vessels scattered and ran. The cost was heavy for the Grey Knights and many of those present that day lie with the other honoured dead in the crypts beneath the Emperor's Temple on Titan.

The fate of Inquisitor Lord Coldiron is unknown. Some say he is a hero of the Imperium, others condemn him for using the power of the Inquisition for his own personal vendetta. The Inquisition will not confirm or deny this action.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michael Pike lives in Owensboro, USA. This is his entry to the recent Battlefleet Gothic Scenario competition, he came very close to winning!