



THE  
TRAITOR

THE REVOLUTION

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WORLDS OF  
THE SEVERAN  
DOMINATE

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SEVERAN  
DOMINATE  
REGIMENTS

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FORCES OF  
THE SEVERAN  
DOMINATE

## DUCAL LEGATE

For the Severan Dominate to survive, its people must remain focused and devoted to their cause. The ongoing Imperial and Ork invasions certainly serve as a convenient reminder of the tyrants who seek to obliterate their interstellar nation and its worlds. Even with that constant reminder, it is far too easy for the populace to lose their sense of urgency and let vigilance slip. An overwhelming workload in concert with strict rationing saps the minds and the spirits of the fledgling nation's citizens. This can lead to decreases in productivity, or even calamitous losses—neither of which the Severan Dominate can afford to bear in their hour of desperate need. Unless something is done to prevent such decreases, the wars are doomed to failure from the very outset.

Duke Severus the Thirteenth chose to implement political officers as a core part of his nation's cultural identity, because he felt that they were the best means to offset his citizens of their responsibilities. In part, the Duke made this decision because he was very familiar with the Commissariat. The military units that had used Imperial training techniques were designed to function in cooperation with Commissars. At the time of the secession, there were very few Commissars within the worlds that seceded. Those present had simply been involved in detached duty so that they could assist in training soldiers on the worlds beyond the Periphery Subsector. Without exception, all of the Commissars remained loyal to the Imperium of Man. Consequently, all were eventually executed, leaving a gaping hole in the Severan Dominate military hierarchy.

Even though the citizens of the Severan Dominate remain true to the Imperial Cult, there are no Schola Progenium institutions within their boundaries. These schools are the sole source of Imperial Commissars. Without them, the Duke's armies had no facility to properly train their political officers. The Duke decided, as these officers were clearly vital to his military, that he would need to design a new training regimen. As Severus created the training protocols for these new political officers, he made significant changes, so that they became a practical reflection of his own political and personal philosophies.



Even with his limited military savvy, the Duke was aware of this impending issue in the years that led up to his declaration of secession. During that time, he prepared the curriculum of study for the officers that would initially form the core of the Ducal Legates. As part of assembling the regimen, Severus became directly involved with several dozen prospective candidates who were well-suited for the roles and receptive to his beliefs. Over a course of several years, he moulded these men and women into his vision of ideal political officers. When the secession formally occurred, the Duke used these initial trainees to found his schools. Now, every world of the Severan Dominate hosts at least one Ducal school to provide the increasing numbers of Ducal Legates required for the secession to effectively continue.

## SEVERAN DOMINATE BELIEFS

Ducal Legates serve primarily as a physical manifestation of the Duke's political beliefs—at least the ones that he chooses to espouse to his followers. Duke Severus charges these officers with making certain that all of the Severan Dominate soldiers are familiar with their cause, and that they remain ardent adherents of it. Because of this, it is essential that the core philosophies are the most central part of their training.

The first pillar of the Severan belief system is that of interdependence. Every world within the Severan Dominate's domain can only function to its fullest when it is capable of relying upon others within its boundaries for assistance. This notion is stressed from an interstellar level down to that of the individual. Each labourer at every manufactory and each soldier within a platoon is reminded on a daily basis that the success of his comrades is entirely dependent upon the hard work of his brethren. This idea is reinforced with the distribution of goods, particularly those that are rationed. In many instances, Ducal Legates take a hands-on role in the distribution of goods, reminding recipients where each item originated. Historically, many of the worlds had been dependent upon materials from the Calixis Sector and the Imperium as a whole. In order to establish the Severan Dominate as a functional entity, the Duke has used this pillar to stress the value of each of the nation's member worlds.

The second pillar of the Severan belief is that of justice. This functions in coordination with the notion of interdependence. While not every world or individual is capable of contributing to the same degree, all are expected to always put forth their best effort. Constant monitoring plays a key element in this regard. Individuals who are consistently observed to do less than their best effort are questioned. In some cases, their fitness for duty is reassessed. In other instances, appropriate punishment is immediately meted out.

I: THE TRAITOR