## MC80 Home One-class Star Cruiser Paragon Deep Space

"...For this reason, I, Darth Pravus, reigining Grandmaster of the Brotherhood, declare a cease of all hostilities between the Forces of the Iron Throne and those who have associated themselves with the Resistance known as the Lotus Formation." The holographic image of Darth Pravus froze and the dimmed light in the office of the Taldryan Consul increased its intensity up to a normal level.

"Can we be sure that this is real?" Andrelious Mimosa-Inahj, the Clan's rolemaster spoke up, the eyes of the darksider still on the tiny impersonation of the Grandmaster.

"We have tracked the source of the transmission back to Arx." The ektrosian Quaestor and leader of the Taldryan Intelligence Directorate said. "Still I am currently running it through our most capable agents in the Signals Intelligence Division just to confirm its legal. After all it sounds too tempting to be real."

"I agree with Rian, there will be an open war all too soon in which we will have to make our stand, but this pause in the conflict buys us some more time to rebuild our own forces." Rhylance said sitting back in his chair. "But the one question, I would like to bring up is: Has the Taldryan Intelligence Directorate or Ektrosis been involved in any way in the process of the Grandmasters decision?"

Rian, who only recently has drawn the Consul's attention for running secret missions outside the regular Command Structure of the Clan remained silent for a minute before answering. He knew that his recent actions have cost him most if not all favors he had on the Consul, but at least they had brought up results that helped the Clan to get up again after it was almost destroyed by the Justicar. "If there was any involvement of Taldryan, it wasn't authorized by me, though this won't mean there couldn't have been one of our agents going on a rogue mission."

"So have there been plans made by the TID for undercover missions on Arx?" Rhylance demanded to know seeing the others looking sideways at each other.

"I am not saying that there haven't been plans to weaken the Forces of the Iron Throne." Rian continued. "Plans that SeNet or the Intelligence of any other Clan associated with the Lotus would surely have come up with as well. After all Intelligence Departments work in an equal fashion all over the galaxy."

"And can you give us an example of what this missions would be like?" Rhylance may not be a a force-sensitive like the other two leaders within his office, but something in his gut told him that there was more than the two men in front of him were up to tell him."

"Consul, with all due respect, but you need to understand that explaining the status of current or potential missions may compromise the agents involved."

"I am not asking for details, at least for now, but just out of curiosity, if you would be up to run a mission to weaken the Forces of the Iron Throne, what would this mission be like?" Again Rhylance saw them glancing at each other, now more openly.

"Well then, there are numerous kinds of possibilities, assassination of high priority targets, assaults on supply lines, attacks on shipyards and starships. Any of these would cause a more or less strong drawback on the Forces of the Iron Throne. "And of these possibilities, which would you think would have the biggest impact on the Iron Throne?" Rhylance grew impatient. "And whatever it is, I want you to tell me the truth because somehow I think you know more than you are actually telling me."

"The assassination of a Dark Councillor, more exactly, the Master at Arms." Rian said. "We managed to place at least two agents near him but the mission failed and we had to extract the agent who was meant to do the assassination from Arx before the Inquisitorius could have gotten a hold on her.

The words of Rian acted like a thermal detonator detonating in front of the Consul, he knew that Force-users were known to go extreme ways but the Master at Arms was a Taldrya himself, a man Rian considered one of his closest friends and yet, the same man just bluntly admitted that he made an attempt on killing him without so much as a twitch of his eyelash.

For some time Andrelious spoke up again: "In the end, the mission wasn't a complete failure, given it was the reason for the cease of fire, Pravus surely hadn't expected an outside agent to get as close to one of the Dark Councillors as we managed. Now he will be forced search any weak spots within the Inquisitorius to make sure something like that never happens again."

"I see." Rhylance concluded. "In that case, I should say, congratulations on the mission, but for the next time, I want to be informed if you are going to run such a mission, for now you both are dismissed."

The two force-sensitives rose from their seats and bowed slightly before leaving the office. Once they were outside and the doors were shut again, Rhylance mind went through the recent meeting again, he would have never expected Rian to be as cold blodded as he just revealed himself and at the same time he decided to have an much closer eye on the both of them just in case...

## The End

PS: The aforementioned Mission mentioned in this fiction can be found linked at the end of this paragraph and has been approved by the Howlader Taldrya as to fictionally explain how it can be possible for a Clan that has been branded a traitor to the Iron Throne is receiving new members from the Brotherhood: [Part II: A common Friend]