

Breakdown

Unknown Planet
Unknown System
Unknown Regions

Commander Wynter studied the schematics of the engine of his personal craft, the VT-49 Decimator *Retribution*. The craft was dependable, and had served Wynter well for many years since he had acquired it. The breakdown was very uncharacteristic of the vessel and Wynter was not pleased. What troubled him most was that it was just ran through a full diagnostic and overhaul recently after the war with the Collective. He had ensured everything was done properly and no expense was missed in doing so.

He looked at the engine and continued to be puzzled. He eyed the drive shaft and the gears. He also studied his tool kit. It was not the most full tool kit, to be sure, but it should be enough for a quick fix. He sighed heavily as this could be a timely job. He was lucky to reach a planet to land and find safe shelter.

The engine looked to be in good shape, with nothing but the normal wear and tear of space travel. This would not be a pleasant effort to be sure. He pulled out his hydrospanner and began to tighten bolts and nuts. Every piece was studied and tightened. Every moving piece was lubricated and all fluids were full. "How could this have happened...everything looks good." He said to himself.

Walking over to his communications console he placed a distress call to the Kiast System, hoping that some of the mechanics would be on duty to talk over the issue. He received feedback from the head mechanic assigned to the Tython Squadron. Small engines were the specialty of Tython Squadrons' Tie Defenders and the hyperdrive units on the small VT-49 was not much different from the Tie Defenders in question.

He scanned over the hyperdrive engine to the mechanic staff and waited for the feedback. It appeared that it was not a bad hyperdrive engine after all. It was simply misaligned. He received the guidance on how to fix the engine. Within the hour he had realigned the unit. He had to actually take out many of the nuts and bolts and had to manually calibrate some of the shafts. He placed the engine on standby and began to rescan the diagnostics. It appeared to be in working order. "Lets hope that did the trick..." he said to himself yet again.

Within minutes the hyperdrive was warming up and appeared to be in good order. Slowly, he turned the engine on and enter orbit. "All looks good...turning over the hyperdrive now." He stated. Wynter keyed in the coordinates to return to the Kiast System. All signs good, all lights green, no system failures showing and no defects were being registered.

Slowly, he pushed down on the drive handle and the hyperdrive sparked to life. Within seconds the craft was entering lightspeed with a loud boom as the lights all around the outside of the

vessel whirled into space. “Well that was close. Thank the maker I am not trapped here forever.” Wynter smiled and began the trip home.