“Defend the Breach”

By Dante  
#2407

Eos City  
Cordova Promenade  
0600

As the LAAT/I landed on the street, Dante hopped out of the open bay and looked around. To the east, dark smoke filled the air as the enemy artillery barrage crept closer to his location. Checking his gear, he looked around at the troopers that were with him. As usual, you saw the calm and collected warriors mixed in with the scared faces of the fresh newbies.

All is right with the world, Kell smiled as he adjusted his gear again. He looked over at the officers and said “Form up your units… Briefing in five... We’ll set up the command post over there” as he pointed to the store on the northwest corner of the intersection.

During the last battle, most of the command staff of this unit had been killed when an artillery round had found their command post. Kell watched them head off to their platoons, and he hoped that they were ready for this conflict.

0605

Kell had set up a loose model of the intersection with some beverages that he had liberated from the store. A quick nod to the company commanders, and then he began. “Troopers…. We’re going to set up a perimeter on this intersection. We need to get roadblocks set up on all four corridors. Our primary line will be facing to the east with our exit being to our west. Alpha and Bravo Companies will form up here on the east, Charlie Company to the north, Delta to the south… Questions?”

0814

Standing in the command post, the battalion staff had set up their equipment and had a tactical display set up for the officers to look at.   
  
The comms tech turned and said “Sir… receiving reports from our observation posts that we have skirmishers approaching from the east.” She listened for a moment and then said “The snipers said that they think it might be artillery spotters from their equipment.”

“Alright… have the sniper teams engage them at will,” said the acting executive officer who had been a company commander the day before.

“Do we have any indirect artillery,” responded Kell as he looked over the red blips begin to move towards their positions on the tactical display.

“Negative sir… our heavy weapons company was decimated on the first day of fighting,” said the XO.

The Obelisk nodded and said “Alright… see if you guys can round up something and start laying down some suppressive fire on those coordinates. I don’t care if it is just a drone or a freaking TIE, but we need something to keep them from massing.”

“Roger that, sir…” said the XO as Kell headed out of the command post to look over the defenses.

Just then, the first missile salvo began raining down on their positions.

1140

After a morning of artillery barrages, the first enemy forces appeared at the far end of the four lane roadway. The two companies on the line began laying down suppressive fire as their marksman began picking off any Collective soldier who popped up their head from cover.

1706

Peering through what remained of the twisted, makeshift barrier, Kell could see the enemy forces massing for another attempt to break their lines. Luckily, the Collective seemed to want to not completely lay waste to the entire planet or else they would have been dead a long time ago. The final attack of the afternoon was about to happen. Only time would tell if any of them would survive the battle.

1932

Before falling back to their exfiltration points, the engineers planted had mined the intersection and the

Just as they had done so a few hours earlier, the LAAT/I’s arrived to pick up the battalion, but, as they took on the remaining troopers, the number of casualties was plainly evident.

Just as he had been the first off of the transports, Kell was the last one onto the ship as they evacuated. It had been a long day with many casualties, but they had managed to hold off the enemy long enough for another battalion to counterattack in a flanking movement. “Alright, pilot… get me the hell out of here…”