
THE BRILL SUBSECTOR

Setting Notes

THE SPINWARD MARCHES: The Imperium's farthest frontier sector, containing 439 star systems divided along a coreward/rimward line by the Imperial border. The region is dominated by two major powers: the Imperial Spinward Marches subsectors and the frontier provinces of the ZHODANI CONSULATE. In the independent territory between the two powers lie smaller interstellar nations which either align themselves with either of the two major powers or struggle to remain independent.

SOLOMANI: A Human Major Race (*Homo sapiens sapiens*) that evolved on Terra from those members of *Homo sapiens antiquus* that the Ancients left behind when they spread Humaniti among the stars around -300,000.

VARGR: Intelligent Major Race derived from Ancient genetic manipulations of Terran carnivore/chaser stock, apparently dating from approximately the same time that HUMANITI was scattered to the stars. They look very much like dogs (Huskies, Doberman Pinchers) but walk on their hind legs, standing on about 5 feet tall. Their hands are very similar in size and appearance to those of a human, although there are significant internal differences. They have approximately the same physical parameters as humans and are able to use the same equipment without modification or additional instruction.

HISTORY OF HUMANITI SPACE AND BRILL SUBSECTOR

Years of the First Imperium (-4045 to -2421)

Years of the Interstellar wars (-2422 to -2203)

Years of the Second Imperium (-2204 to -1776)

Years of the Long Night (-1775 to 0)

Arrival of Vargr in Brill Subector (-1,000)
Arrival of Solomani Colonists in Brill Subsector (-400)
Creation of the Third Imperium (0)
Arrival of Third Imperium in Spinward Marches (400)
Fourth Frontier War: 1082 to 1084
The War of Lloka Independence (1095)
Fifth Frontier War: 1107 to 1110

EARLY SETTLEMENTS & THE LONG NIGHT

Vargr originally settles the area in a collection of worlds known as Utheng (later renamed as the UTHENG FEDERATION) during the Second Imperium. Solomani settlers looking for better conditions during The Long Night arrived c. -400. The Solomani came to depend on the Vargr for aid during the Long Night and Solomani settlers continued to arrive for several hundred years. Although tension often flared on both the personal level as well as on the political level between the two species, Solomani and Vargr lived in relative peace and established a network of thriving worlds.

ARRIVAL OF THE THIRD IMPERIUM

Explorers of the Third Imperium arrived in what would come to be known as the Spinward Marches c. 400. As the Imperium pressed their colonization and conquest of already settled worlds, the descendents of the Solomani settlers, who did not see themselves as part of the new Imperium made it clear to diplomatic envoys they had not interest in become an Imperial client state.

Meanwhile, the Vargr in Utheng, furious at hearing how the Third Imperium trampled Vargr worlds on their way through the Corridor Sector into the Spinward Marches, began taking military action against Solomani citizens. Violence – slow at first, but rising in intensity – spread across the Utheng Federation. By the time the Imperium's settlement of the Spinward Marches bumped up against the borders of the Utheng Federation,

agents of the ZHODANI EMPIRE had made contact with the Vagr, enticing them to work on tandem with an assault against the Imperium's frontier worlds cutting through the middle of the Marches.

FOURTH FRONTIER WAR

Thus, the Vagr joined the Zhodani during the Fourth Frontier War. However, their efforts were hampered by the immediate focus of their anger and efforts: the Solomani living among them. They proved ineffective in aiding the Zhodani attack.

Moreover, the Solomani, a proud and independent people, had no desire to become part of the Third Imperium. This complicated the efforts of the war, as many Utheng Solomani joined the Vagr in the fight against the Third Imperium in an attempt to keep the incursion of the Imperium at bay.

All in all, the Vagr proved ineffective against the Imperium forces and the borders remained static.

However, a group of worlds to the Coreward portion of the Utheng Federation began a pogrom against the Vagr, killing and enslaving their former neighbors in large numbers. Duke Aristar of Lanth saw an opportunity and sent his forces into the worlds to aid the Vagr. Many of the worlds in question were well developed in both industry and resources, and Aristar saw that if he could turn the worlds he would have a beachhead into the subsector.

THE UTHENG FEDERATION WAR

The Solomani rulers resisted the combined Vagr forces, but eventually, starting on the world of VAERR, capitulated in the face of overwhelming force. The planet LLAKO, the nominal leader of the industrial collective, agreed to strong arm the other worlds into breaking away from the Utheng Federation and become a Client State of the Imperium IF the Imperium would back off and deal with the Vagr as the Solomani wished. Duke Aristar agreed to the deal. The Imperium's armies retreated, cut the Vagr off instantly from supply lines and heavy support. Led into battle and abandoned, the Vagr suffered horrific losses. The break away worlds

became known as the LLAKO PROTECTORATE. It is expected they will be the central hub of the Imperium's efforts to take control of the subsector in the next 50 to 100 years.

FIFTH FRONTIER WAR

When the Fifth Frontier War broke out twenty years later, many Vargr sided once again with the Zhodani, driven to vengeance by the slaughter within the Llako Protectorate.

However, several worlds at the Trailing edge of the Utheng Federation had been visited by traders and settlers from the Imperium. They often took the Vargr side in disputes between the Vargr and the Solomani. Several hot wars took place on these worlds, with Imperial forces, once again attempting to the Vargr as a wedge against the Solomani inhabitants, aided the Vargr against the Solomani and giving them charters to control and rule the worlds. One of the worlds, Helius, became a destination for Vargr fleeing the rule of the Solomani in the Utheng Federation.

THE BATTLE OF HELIUS

During the Fifth Frontier War, the Vargr of Helius split into two factions – one siding against the Imperium, the other deciding to throw their lot in with the Imperium in the hopes of having a safe world of their own.

Stationed on Helius was the 149th Marine Division, the same division that had betrayed the Vargr on Vaer only ten years earlier during the war for the Llako Protectorate. The surrender of the Vargr to the brutality of the Solomani had nearly broken the division, and the men and women of the 149th were determined to make good to hold the peace on Helius.

When Solomani naval forces arrived in system from the Utheng Federation, using the Imperium's far-ranging border war with the Zhodani as cover for their operation, it was clear they planned to re-take control of Helius and slaughter and Vargr they found.

Imperium ground forces fought incredibly bloody defense actions in Helius' main cities, defending both the Vargr who had been their allies and the Vargr who had been recently been gunning for them.

A retreat order was finally issued, with Admiral Conner Apollo deciding it was better to cede Helius to the Uthengs, save the troops from slaughter, and redeploy them on the ground to worlds with Imperium citizens upon them.

Accounts differ on what happened next. It is known that Imperium forces across the planet retreated off world. It is also known that the communication gear of the 149th became faulty and failed to coordinate the retreat of the marines from the capital city of Gorzol. The 149th remained – the only Imperial forces on the planet. Led by Sergeant “Zee” Fujita, the marines rallied the Vargr forces in a final defense against the Solomani onslaught. Countless marines died, as well as thousands of Vargr. But on the 18th day of the battle the smoke cleared and the 149th and the Vargr emerged triumphant. Fujita was knighted by the Emperor for his efforts, and made a member of the Order of the Frontier Star. The Vargr of the Helius fought alongside the press of their own kind working alongside the Zhodani, and turned the tide of the war to the Imperium's favor along the border of the border of the Brill subsector.

THE Z'HARDE CALIPHATE

The politics of the subsector have become more complicate in the years since the end of the Fifth Frontier War. Arriving with humanitarian aide, missionaries from the Z'HARDE Caliphate have begun fermenting rebellions and supplying weapons and to the enslaved and fugitive Vargr on the worlds of the Llako Protectorate. The rebellions are growing in intensity and meeting with more and more success. The Z'harde Caliphate has begun moving troops and navel elements into area.

An internal intelligence report compiled by subsector Duke Fujita of Basquara suggests that the Z'harde Caliphate is engaged in the beginnings of a jihad. While still relatively weak, the secretive worlds of the Caliphate are very successful in gathering the loyalty of worlds they reach with food and arms, but with a message of God's Love for the poor. As the Duke wrote in his report, “There may be nothing more frightening amid the stars than a man who knows he has God on his side.”