

STARSIEGE 2845

**Compendium Filler Document
Compendium_Units_Dragoons.pdf**

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1. PURPOSE

To provide a brief overview of the Tharsis Dragoons for purposes of publication in the Compendium and possible public release. Word limit of approximately 250 words in order to fit page layout.

2. COLONIAL UNITS – THARSIS DRAGOONS

THARSIS DRAGOONS

Formal Rendering: Second Battalion of the Fifth Colonial Brigade (Armored)

Motto: "Free men only die once."

Current Commanding Officer: Colonel Joakim Saxon

When the remnant veterans of Mars that survived the Starsiege returned from operations on Terra, they were greeted with jubilant fanfare. Mars itself however, and the tunnel-running "dustrats" who had stayed behind, were deeply scarred. Only a handful of the desperate pilots who had formed the heart of the Martian Rebellion now remained, and their former command structure was in tatters.

With the memory of Imperial oppression fresh on their minds however, survivors immediately began to agitate for the reconstitution of independent forces to safeguard against further aggression. Reluctantly, and after much pressure from former comrades-in-arms, Hunter Otobe agreed to lead the effort and founded the Tharsis Dragoons. Over the next five years, as fresh recruits swelled the ranks of colonial forces, Otobe orchestrated a radical transformation of the once ad-hoc colonial military into a supremely organized fighting force. When the Free Colonial Forces were formally established the Tharsis Dragoons were commissioned as a Battalion in the newly minted ranks of the Third Armored Division.

Now led by Harabec's former aide Joakim Saxon and attached to the Artemis Pursuit Armada, the Tharsis Dragoons maintain their leading role in the colonial military transformation. Their ranks include veterans from both Mars and Venus, as well as the outer colonies, and a host of new recruits from throughout the inner and outer system. With a cadre of pilots trained to a peak unknown by their rebel predecessors, the Dragoons now represent the dawn of a new era for the colonies.