

Entrenched

By Trex Varax

Verd'ika Sol'yc Trex Varax of Delta Squad 4th Infantry Company, 10th Infantry Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, Mandalorian Army. Was waiting cautiously in his company's designated Tra'kad transport ship. As he waited he saw his fellow Mandalorian company mates preparing for the battle, the majority of them possessed A295 Infantry Rifle's and were waiting silently and patiently for the battle ahead. A fair few less inside the Tra'kad had LJ-90 Blastech weapons and were priming the cocks on them and were standing inside the Tra'kad pretending to point them at the enemy's head and easing their fingers on their respective triggers and pretending to blow their heads off in quick successions of fire. Fortunately, he saw a few R-17c Missile Launcher operators beside them who were loading the warheads inside their missile-launchers confidently. And lastly, he saw the dreaded Enforcer shotgun operators who slotted in the 20 round slug magazines in each of their Enforcers, even though there were few of them like the R-17C Missile Launcher operators, they were just as lethal and knowledgeable about their weapons as they were.

In addition to that, all of the soldiers inside the Tra'kad had 3-6 thermal detonators, along with the standard-issue combat-knives and ELG-3A sidearms. Along with other basic gear and armour needed for extensive combat and effective soldiering. [b]"BOOM!"/b] Varax looked to the side of the Tra'kad as a massive object literally implanted itself into the outer-metal plating right by the right side of the airborne Tra'kad. [i]"PRIVATE! GET THE HELL BACK FROM THERE!" [/i] Varax's Ruus'alor Brad Fel yelled at him with a loud shout." The Ruus'alor was a tall human male with a menacing figure, who obviously held a formidable authority amidst the ranking of the Company "Understood Ruus'alor" Havrok then proceeded as ordered a few paces back from the damaged side of the Tra'kad. [i]"Alor'ad Remus-Qui Wraan"[/i] the Tra'kad's pilot yelled amidst the loud sounds of the flying Tra'kad. We will be landing in the next 60 seconds, make sure your men are prepped and and ready to kill. "Understood" Varax's company commander yelled amidst the sounds of the Tra'kad. [i]"Alright men, look the hell over here and listen up"[/i] The Captain yelled towards all of the Soldiers of the company, as he moved the harness of his Enforcer to the side of his back away from his arms so he could reach into his webbing pouch. He then opened the flap of the webbing pouch and took out a small compact Holoprojector, and activated it and a sizable hologram sprung upwards half a meter and began to project a image of the battlefield they were going to attack. Captain Remus-Qui Wraan wasn't a short figure, but he was definitely a well-sized and respectable Nautolan. And it was clearly evident he was respected and admired by his subordinates in any field of battle they may encounter and experience together.

By now the Company's members who comprised of a variety of races, from Rodians to Humans were all huddled by the Holoprojector and were peering down into it. [i]"This here is where we are located."[/i] The Captain then pointed his slimy finger to where the Company was located directly at the south of the massive map, right by a area of rocky outcrops, although directly north of these outcrops were 4 enemy bunkers that were most likely used to provide suppressive fire against the landing Mandalorian troops. In front of the bunkers were minefields, and a variation of deathtraps and field wire riddled with grenades which evidently were used to stall and mince the Mandalorians intended advance, a few hundred meters behind that was a single large and heavily-fortified line of barricades, sharpshooters, and enemy Infantry, who most likely possessed anti-armour capabilities. Behind the bunkers, was a massive field of trenches and anti-air units, and artillery emplacements and cannons designed to shoot down incoming Tra'kads and other airborne craft, along with blasting any advancing enemy Infantry and enemy armour. [i]"The 2nd and 3rd Infantry Battalions will be proceeding to our left and right flank respectively, and the 8th Armour Division will be proceeding on

forward to guard our front-flank."[/i] The Captain said as he was stopped short once more.[i]"30 Seconds Alor'ad"[/i] The pilot stated respectfully. [i]"Prepping all weapon systems"[/i] the co-pilot of the Tra'kad said. Almost instantly the Primary weapon systems, which the company gathered were the Tra'kad's sidewinder missile-launchers and automatic minigun weapon systems that clicked just outside the Tra'kad.

[i]"Weapon systems prepped, we're going on hot Alor ad!"[/i] the co-pilot yelled. [i]"In addition to that..."[/i] Captain Remus-Qui Wraan said and for some reason stopped short for a moment. And then began to speak again. [i]"We will advance on forth behind the 8th Armour Division and with them and the 2nd and 3rd Infantry Companies relieve and provide support to the 12th Air Cavalry Battalion which have inserted their troops to provide a stable foothold on the front-flank, and finally the 2nd Sniper Company will be situated at the rear-flank to provide sniper-support as we advance, Now.. As for the enemy.."[/i] The Captain said with a short-breath. Then a large [b]"SMASHING!"[/b] sound exploded into the rear of the Tra'kad, and a massive amount of suction sucked a fair number of the company members outside of the rear Tra'kad. [i]"WAYII!"[/i] The co-pilot yelled as the pilot of the Tra'kad was struck by a single precise large-caliber sniper round and was slumped back dead in his cockpit seat. Varax was by some small chance was able to remain inside the vehicle as he was being sucked back to the exposed rear of it via the speedy back draft, and he then pulled his way upwards to where the Captain was located by the Pilot's area of the Tra'kad. As he went back, he saw the area below which was littered with fires and numerous firefights, and a variation of wreckages and destruction. [i]"KEEP CLEAR, KEEP CLEAR!"[/i] The Captain screamed as his helmet was literally sucked off his slimy head and his exposed head was shaking violently and flapping about in the windy back draft. [i]"PRIVATE! WITH ME!"[/i] The Ruus'alor yelled as he cocked his A295 Infantry rifle and moved down in a crouch, bracing his head.

Alor'ad Remus-Qui Wraan then took a massive Enforcer shotgun weapon system from his back strapped armour, and slotted in the standard 20 slug magazine. And then cocked it with a satisfied smile. [i]"Muun'bajir time Vodes!"[/i] He yelled to the remaining Mandalorians inside the Tra'kad. Then a volley of projectiles struck the right side of the Tra'kad and literally shredded the side of it and forced the remaining occupants inside of it in a scatter. [i]"Gah!!!!!"[/i] A absent minded Corporal yelled out as he was struck by some incoming shots. The Tra'kad then veered on forward and landed in a massive [b]"CRASH!"[/b] cockpit-first into a unknown location. By some miracle the remainder of the Mandalorians in the Tra'kad who weren't either sucked out of the Tra'kad or shot survived unharmed. [i]"Ergh..."[/i] Ruus-alor Brad Fel said as he shook his head hard, and then proceeded on forth to the back opening of the Tra'kad. The Captain then appeared to be asleep lying down by the wall and then quickly, flipped back up onto his feet and proceeded to the back opening of the Tra'kad.

[i]"What the hell is this?!"[/i] Another Corporal yelled out loud. Who Varax noticed was his fellow squad mate who was a human male Alor'uus Jest Repel who was of medium height yet very muscular and stockily built. The co-pilot then managed to prime himself free of his cockpit seat, and then proceeded down to the back of the Tra'kad and fashioned himself a LJ-90 BlasTech weapon system from a marked weapon container inside the Tra'kad's passenger bay, and fashioned himself a few 100 round powercell magazines he attached to the side plates of his pilot-chest armour. [i]"Sol`yc Ver`alor Talor Dakari at your service, Alor'ad"[/i] the tall and distinguished human said with confidence. All up the survivors were Alor`ad Remus-Qui Wraan, Sol`yc Ver`alor Talor Dakari, Russ'alor Brad Fel, Alor`uus Jest Repel, and Verd'ika Sol'yc Trex Varax. [i]"Flight Lieutenant, can you get our communications up and running?"[/i] The Captain asked. [i]"Negative sir, the Tra'kads comms are burned out, all other communication devices inside the ship are not operational"[/i] the Flight Lieutenant said with annoyance.

[i]"Understood"[/i] The Captain replied. [i]"What about your commlinks Vode's?"[/i] Then quickly

each squad member reached into their webbing pouches and took out their commlinks, activated them, then checked to see if they were operational. "Negative sir" each of them said seconds between them shortly after. [i]"Ok Vodes! With me let's go!"[/i] The highly motivated and energetic Captain yelled out as he scurried quickly outside the Tra'kad. Varax and the others proceed out and formed a tightly-nit formation outside of the Tra'kad. [i]"Set your sights to thermal!"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said silently as he scoped on forth into the distance via his A295's thermal sights. The rest of the survivors with the A295 set the thermal sights on their scopes, and if they didn't happen to have the thermal sights, they instead just used their inbuilt helmeted thermal sights.[i]"Alright Vodes, stick close and keep low."[/i] The Captain quickly whispered.

As the remainder of the squad filed out of the Tra'kad Varax noticed it was fairly early in the morning, so early it was still fairly dark. Although there was what seemed like a massive mass of fog in the area. He scoped his A295 upwards into the sky, and around the dark and isolated area, as the squad silently advanced a short distance in the dark murky landscape... As they advanced Sergeant Brad Fel moved to the front of the squad, then Corporal Jest Repel moved to his left flank a meter or two from him, after that Private First Class Varax moved to the Sergeants right flank, then Captain Remus-Qui Wraan formed the center of the squads formation, with Flight Lieutenant Talor Dakari forming the rear of the formation, with each of the squad members advancing they scoped and aimed around the entirety of the area they faced. [i]"We'll proceed on north and hope we run into our friends.."[/i] The Captain said as they advanced on north and in the distance the squad heard small explosions pulsating and ringing softly through the air. [i]"Must be the minefield the 2nd and 3rd IB"[/i] Corporal Jest Repel said. [i]"Although I don't think the 8th AD will've gotten too far though.."[/i] Corporal Jest Repel stated with a tone of sadness.

[i]"CONTACT!"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel yelled out. Varax quickly aimed on forth towards the call and sighted out a enemy soldier. A volley of shots from all squad members then tore him literally to pieces. [i]"Nailed him, proceed on forward"[/i] The Captain yelled out with a gleeful smile. And then the rest of the soldier's squad mates suddenly appeared in front of the Mandalorian squad, as they advanced to inspect where the shots came from that evidently killed their squad mate. [i]"OPEN FIRE!"[/i] Captain Remus-Qui Wraan yelled out loud, and instantly the Mandalorian squad aimed forward crouched down, and fired into the advancing exposed enemy squad, then instantly the enemy squad fell down dead and shredded not firing a single bolt or round. Suddenly in the distance the squad members heard a variation of vehicles fly overhead with a loud [b]"ZOOM!"[/b] sound. [i]"That's our birds!"[/i] Flight Lieutenant Talor Dakari yelled out happily. [i]"Terrific"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said with a slight unseen smile as the squad advanced north. As they advanced on forth, they noticed about 16 drop pods implanted into the ground of the terrain roughly 200 meters ahead of them. [i]"Heh.. Rangers"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said, as he scoped his A295 towards the drop pods as the sky began to slightly light up due to the morning getting older. [i]"Why didn't we get briefed on the Ranger units sir?"[/i] Private First Class Varax asked as the squad continued to advance in their designated formation. [i]"Because the Rangers are a quick and ready reaction force, hell their airborne troops they attack and destroy enemy positions and they defend and hold claimed positions, that's what they do, Private, and unfortunately we were so short of time we couldn't even inform the company about it either although I doubt they'll be so cocky about this conflict.."[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said as he advanced scoping forward" [i]"HOLD!"[/i] The Captain shouted.

In the distance right past the insertion pods as the fog began to clear, the entire squad heard a massive amount of footsteps dash behind them not far from where they were located. Varax aimed to the squads rear along with the Lieutenant and the Captain. [i]"Best we get back to where the pods are located"[/i] The Sergeant said quickly. As the squad quickly advanced to where the pods were located, they noticed a few wounded Rangers and others that appeared to be dead. [i]"Corporal Repel check to see if the survivors are capable of contributing to the battle"[/i] The Corporal just nodded to the Captain acknowledging his orders as a Ranger slumped over to the Captain tugging at

his camouflaged pants. [i]"Sir.. enemy Infantry are everywhere... a squad of ours proceeded a few hundred meters north.. "We also got word a full company of enemy Infantry will be proceeding from the south up to where we are... What the hell are you guys doing here? This isn't even your sector, we're just here to secure the front flank, your way too far ahead..."[/i] Then the Ranger drifted off and died silently. [i]"He's dead sir"[/i] Corporal Jest Repel said simply to Captain Remus-Qui Wraan. [i]"Alright squad, form a formation around these insertion pods, these slight slopes the insertion pods made will provide good areas for us to duck down, buckle down and take cover, but be sure to keep clear of the overhead crossfire, space yourselves out on each of these two spaces and two flanks," Looks like we'll have to improvise"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel stated, as he reloaded a fresh magazine into his A295.

The front space signified the northern area, the east flank defined the right flank, then the southern space marked the rear spaced area and lastly the west flank was the left flank. Captain Remus-Qui Wraan stationed himself at the front flank, Sergeant Brad Fel situated himself by the rear space with Private First Class Trex Varax, Corporal Jest Repel positioned himself at the right flank, and Flight Lieutenant Talor Dakari moved over to the middle of the pods to provide overhead suppressive fire upon any incoming enemy troops on each space and flank. Overall the squad members were about 50 meters away from each other, except for the ones that were side by side on the same space. Roughly 200 meters ahead of Captain Remus-Qui Wraan's position was a allied platoon of 18 Rangers, many of them were wielding A295 Infantry rifles, along with a few that were manning Enforcers and even fewer had LJ-90's and they were quickly retreating back to the Captain's position, the Captain scoped on past them for any other Rangers and as they arrived, they automatically spaced themselves out and took up positions with the Captain's squad, on each respective space and flank.

The CO of the platoon, a annoyed-looking Chiss crawled over to Captain Remus-Qui Wraan silently [i]"Major Zeks Assuri here, I'm in command of this platoon and other Rangers in this sector, we got hit by enemy Infantry fire, and artillery up north a few clicks from our current position past the insertion pods.. [i]Unfortunately, the enemy has somehow received some tanks from their far rear flank.[/i] [i]If we stick here and hold we'll provide a secure foothold for the advancing infantry battalions and the remnants of the 8th armored division, once they get here we can link up with them and assault the man enemy frontline. If we can manage that we should be fine.."[/i] [i]"Looks like it's a plan, Major"[/i] the Captain said with a tone of resilience. [i]"Say, what's the deal with the main assault, any progress sir?"[/i] The Captain asked. [i]"Not too sure, Captain" But I take it if our Comrades make it to our position it'll be evident that they've have broken through the minefields at least.."[/i] The Major stopped there thinking intently.

In the distance, the fog somehow got even thicker and a variation of enemies began to advance quickly to the right flank. The Rangers with Corporal Jest Repel began to open fire upon the enemies as they advanced and fired upon them, shots ringed overhead and missed them by inches. A Ranger by the Corporal's side pulled a thermal detonator from his combat-belt activated it, and tossed it with perfect precision at the incoming enemy swarm. [b]"BANG!"[/b] The thermal detonator exploded into the enemy squad scattering their incoming and advancing formation. The enemy squad members then ducked down with a seemingly shattered morale, as the right flanking Mandalorians picked each of them off with accurate A295 fire, and LJ-90 suppressive fire. [i]"Shredded"[/i] Corporal Repel said happily. [i]"REAR FLANK!"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said loudly. "TANK!" The Sergeant said angrily. A fairly large grey and metallic tank with a sizable turret and large automatic un-manned machinegun began to fire upon the Sergeants position and advanced via it's hovering systems that enabled it to move on forward, a nearby Ranger perked himself upwards and acquired a lock on the tank with a R-17c Missile Launcher. But before he could fire, the tanks main turret fire at the Ranger and impacted directly on his chest, and literally blew him to bloody pieces with a loud [b]"KABOOM!"[/b] The Rangers missile launcher literally fell to the rocky floor slowly, as

this occurred enemy Infantry were forming behind and on the enemy tanks left and right flanks. [i]"DAMN IT!"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel yelled. [i]"PRIVATE VARAX GET THAT MISSILE LAUNCHER AND TAKE OUT THAT TANK!"[/i] the Sergeant said loudly. Private First Class Varax then quickly dropped his A295 Infantry Rifle to his right side, and rolled over to where the obliterated Ranger was, picked up the missile launcher, primed it, and fired it manually at the enemy tank, the missile from the weapon literally skidded as it's machinegun fire from the enemy tank fired upon Varax missing him by a mere half inch. throughout the air in a blinding streak of fury and impacted directly onto the tanks turret, and blew it up into smithereens on impact, the enemy troops on the tanks flank and behind here were blown back, and the metal shrapnel from the exploded tank flew into them and shredded them to pieces. The ones that survived ran back from the destroyed tank dropping their weapons in the process.

[i]"Hell yeah!"[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel shouted. [i]"Good shot Private"[/i] Varax quickly rolled back to the Sergeant and nodded in confidence to him. [i]"Mandalorians, if you are low on ammunition or lack sufficient weaponry gather some more from the insertion pods, there still should be some gear left over!"[/i] The Chiss yelled amidst the destroyed area on the southern part of the position. The Sergeant and a few other Rangers shot at the retreating enemy soldiers Then Private Varax then proceeded to a drop pod, gripped onto the front of it and pried it open with a tremendous amount of effort. Inside the pod was a dead Ranger, who upon further inspection of his rank located on his field-uniform happened to be of the rank of Corporal. Varax quickly took a Rocket 5-pack situated and implanted in the wall of the insertion pod and clipped it into place on the back of his chest armour, took a missile expertly out of the pack, and inserted into into his R-17c Missile Launcher, it then instantly clicked into place, then Varax proceeded back to the Sergeant's position. "Locked and Loaded Sergeant" Private First Class Varax said enthusiastically "Good to hear Private" said the Sergeant, as he scoped further on into the fog. [i]"Damn it!"[/i] Captain Remus-Qui Wraan said out loud. Enemy Infantry and armour approaching from all flanks and spaces! "In the distance the entire group in the insertion pods position heard tanks hovering towards them, and what seemed like dozens upon dozens of enemy Infantry approach them from all sides. [i]"Fire at will!"[/i] Major Kargak yelled out loud. With incredible ease the men in the position dug themselves in, and ducked down even further and set up their weapon bipods aiming forward from their positions at the enemy that was yet to come. Suddenly a troop transport zoomed over to the northern space and stopped roughly 60 meters from Captain Remus-Qui Wraan's position, the troops began to file out of the troop transport. [i]"Wait for it..."[/i] The Major said to the Captain by his side, as the troops filed out and began to form defensive positions. [i]"NOW!"[/i] The men at the northern flank began to fire upon the troop carrier and it's deployed troops and the Captain's Enforcer literally sent round after round into the enemy troops shredding them to pieces. [i]"Die, Die, Die!!!!!"[/i] The Captain yelled out, basking in the glory of the extreme destruction of the battle.

Suddenly, tanks and infantry appeared from all sides of the position firing their small-arms and their cannons into the Mandalorian position. [i]"FRESH CLIPS VODE'S"[/i] The Major yelled out to the Mandalorians. As all the Mandalorians there reloaded their weapons with fresh magazines, discarding the used ones to the side. A variety of [b]"CLICKING"[/b] occurred in the area as well, signifying that the weapons were reloaded, and cocked, ready to fire when needed. As the enemy shells hit the Mandalorian position, shrapnel shattered in the center of the position, but was luckily blocked off by the pods in the center of the area. [i]"TAKE THEM DOWN!"[/i] Corporal Jest Repel yelled out loud with the Rangers by his side, firing round after round, and throwing thermal detonator, after thermal detonator at the enemy position at their flank, ripping, shredding, and destroying the enemy tanks and Infantry advancing towards them. [i]"PAR MAND'ALOR!"[/i] All the Mandalorians including Private First Class Trex Varax yelled. [i]"FOR GLORY"[/i] Flight Lieutenant Talor Dakari shouted as he and his Rangers by his side fired repeatedly at the incoming enemy swarm of tanks and Infantry, shredding them to pieces. A stray tank shell exploded into the Flight Lieutenants position and blew up three Rangers at once, into a bloody wave of blood, as it exploded

[b]"KABOOSH"[/b] all over the position via the sheer force of the tanks cannon. The Flight Lieutenant was exploded back and landed heavily onto the area by the pods, amidst the carnage of the battle. [i]"Dakari!!!!"[/i] Captain Remus-Qui Wraan yelled out. As he somehow had a even more concentrated focus as he fired round after round into the incoming enemy horde of troop carrier, he then leaped from his position, and ran to a destroyed enemy troop carrier, took cover by it, and repeatedly fired at the incoming enemy hordes, he then unclipped about 3 thermal detonators off his belt, activated them and tossed them separately into three separate squads of Infantry expertly, blowing them to pieces on impact. [l]"Hehehehe!"[/l] The Captain said to himself, as he retreated back to his position by Major Zeks Assuri. Shortly after, the Flight Lieutenant moved back to his position and appeared to be fine, signaling to Captain Remus-Qui Wraan that the shrapnel had luckily just severely damaged his pilot armour and didn't cause him any injury, besides some mild concussion.

Then out of nowhere a starship appeared on the northern flank, clearly a enemy vessel, it opened sustained fire onto the position exploding various drop pods in the center of the Mandalorian position, by the sheer force of its cannons. [b]"BAM!"[/b] The insertion pods exploded, catching fire to the center of the area. [i]"MANDALORIANS OVER HERE, EVERYONE TO THE FRONT AREA"[/i] Major Zeks Assuri yelled amidst the fire, as the Mandalorians proceeded to the front, they discarded there light Infantry Rifles, and all the surviving Mandalorians quickly aimed to the enemy freighter and fired repeatedly upon it with steely determination. It's shields absorbed the blast, and then a few missiles fired by Ranger and Infantrymen, from the Mandalorian position exploded into it's shields, and blew into its hull damaging it badly. Then, out of nowhere a YT-2000 appeared from the southern flank roughly 50 meters in the sky with two Aggressor Assault Fighter's on each of its side in a tight-knit formation firing their heavy laser weapons, and ion cannons at the damaged enemy freighter, and soon after it exploded into a million different pieces, and the remaining parts of it collapsed onto the rocky floor of the planet. Dust then followed as the fog cleared and in the distance to the far south, there were engineers disabling the mines so that the Mandalorian armour and infantry could advance to relieve the Mandalorian position north of them.

[i]"HELL YEAH! WE DID IT! GOOD WORK MANDALORIANS!"[/i] [i]"Yeah Yeah Yeah!"[/i] Some Rangers yelled, and the rest of the Mandalorians either moved onto their backs exhausted, or just scoped around the area, sighting for any more enemy forces. [i]"Captain Remus-Qui Wraan, Flight Lieutenant Talor Dakari, Sergeant Brad Fel, Corporal Jest Repel, and Private First Class Trex Varax. You've done our Mandalore proud!. Damn good job!"[/i]. The Major said with a smile. As the Mandalorians watched the Engineers disable the last of the mines and the Infantry advanced to relieve them of their position. [i]"Now for the Bunkers..."[/i] Sergeant Brad Fel said as he looked on forth north with Private First Class Trex Varax they both gazed at the menacing bunker positions, trench positions and distant artillery position which for some reason did not fire. The Mandalorians assumed they didn't fire due to some kind of malfunction or maybe they were conserving their ammunition for the next assault.

A Tra'kad ferrying Mandalorians from Varax's own 4th Infantry Company who had somehow survived the drop from the Tra'kad earlier on had landed just north of their position and it's ramp opened up and troops filed out to greet the Mandalorians at the recently assaulted position. The single YT-2000 and the two Aggressor Assault Fighters from before flew overhead past them and far into the sky directly above them with lightning speed. But as the fire still burned at the center of the position at the charge was evident all around them, they waited thinking intently on what they had done, they had fought a lethal enemy they had never encountered before, a lethal enemy they had beaten in combat and that they had hardly knew anything about, a lethal enemy who's morale had been destroyed and had been overpowered and outgunned by a small expert group of soldiers. They were Mandalorians, and they were prepared for anything, and this day proved that..

The End.

Written by Verdi'ika Sol'yc Trex Varax, all characters that are real Star Wars Combine Characters gave their permission for their names to be used in this writing piece and it is entirely fictional and is purely for entertainment/story writing purposes for the Mandalore Literacy Contest.