



# Blue Alert

Excellentia in Defero - Excellence in Communication



Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2011

## Letter From the Editor

by CDR SF Warp

Internal PR Section Leader, Blue Alert Editor

Officers of Online Starbase, this is *your* Blue Alert. A staff of six very talented feature writers and correspondents write the articles that give the BA it's essence and uniqueness. All I do is edit and publish it, although I sometimes write for it.

A major Blue Alert feature, created by Captain Crockett, is the OSB Fiction Writing Contest. Few have entered up to now, but one officer who entered was none other than Rear Admiral Jade. She entered twice and won twice. When there are no entries, a BA staff writer fills the void. My first assignment was to fill that very void. There are many of you out there who are equally as talented as any member of the BA staff (or the admiral) and can write great stuff! Where is it?

Article submission is not restricted solely to the OSB Fiction Writing Contest. You can write and submit articles about practically anything you like: Star Trek, sci-fi in general, Online Starbase, likes, dislikes, it's your choice. All you have to do is write your article and submit it by PM to the editor.

Finally, you can remain anonymous if you prefer, or you can see your own byline in print. Either way you can contribute to and leave your mark on OSB. So pick up your pen, put it to paper, and let the readers see what *you* have to say! The Blue Alert needs *you!*

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## Commander / Major Relationship

Commander Benjamin Sisko and Major Kira Nerys  
Part 2: The Kohn-Ma Asylum Incident

by LCDR Kira Marys

Feature Writer

A Cardassian war vessel enters Bajoran space in pursuit of a small craft on the brink of destruction. In the split-second before the craft is blown to bits, the Bajoran pilot is beamed aboard Deep Space Nine. Major Kira recognizes the man, Tahna Los, with whom she fought in the underground. The wounded pilot asks for asylum but Commander Sisko won't agree blindly to his query. In fact, Tahna is a member of the Kohn-Ma. To put it bluntly, this independant organization lives to kill Cardassians and if unsuccessful, makes their lives miserable.

On the one hand, we have Gul Danar pleading for the criminal's transfer to him and on the other, Kira Nerys fighting for Tahna's safety. In the middle: a pondering Benjamin Sisko.

**GUL DANAR** [on viewscreen]: He is Kohn-Ma! Even the Bajorans would not grant his kind asylum. He has committed heinous crimes against the Cardassian people and I demand you release him to our custody.

**SISKO**: I'll investigate the matter immediately.[...]

**KIRA**: You're not seriously considering handing Tahna over to the Cardassians?\*

The Commander and Major have a serious talk about where Kira's loyalties lie. She negates being part of the Kohn-Ma and reasserts her allegiance to Bajor. Yet, she insists that "Bajor needs men like Tahna Los" to rebuild a strong homeworld. They enter the infirmary, where Sisko begins to question Tahna.

**SISKO**: I'm Commander Benjamin Sisko. I have a few questions for you if you're up to answering them.

**KIRA**: Commander Sisko hasn't decided whether to grant you asylum yet, Tahna.

**SISKO**: Major, perhaps I should conduct this alone.\*

Next thing we know, Kira's in her personal quarters denouncing the Commander's conduct to a Starfleet Admiral!

Continued on Page 5

# Officer Profile

## **CDR StarFinder Warp**

*Internal PR Section Leader, Blue Alert Editor*

**by LCDR Kira Marys**

Feature Writer



Name: Ken

Age: 69

Position on the Starbase: Internal PR Section Leader, Blue Alert Editor

Location: Southern California

Hobbies: Watching sci-fi and mystery shows and movies, and writing when I have the time.

Enjoys: All Star Treks, The Event, Firefly, Leverage, CSINY, NCIS and Bum Notice to name but a few; classical music and swing dancing (once upon a time).

Hates: Unfairness and injustice.

Guilty Pleasures: Vanilla ice cream and Dove chocolate bars.

**LCDR Kira:** How did you and Star Trek meet? When was this first encounter?

**CDR Warp:** I really don't remember the first time exactly, but it was when Star Trek was in syndication. Already a fan of "Space Patrol" and "Flash Gordon" serials, I was hooked from the moment I saw my first Trek episode. I became a Trekker, a Trekkor, and a Trekkie.

**LCDR Kira:** Which is the most valuable thing you have learnt from Star Trek?

**CDR Warp:** To embrace the concept of IDIC (Infinite Diversities, Infinite Combinations), accepting and appreciating all life forms regardless of species, race, beliefs or preferences.

**LCDR Kira:** What is your favourite Star Trek race and why?

**CDR Warp:** The Vulcans. Mr. Spock endeared me to them. And they're more human than they let on.

**LCDR Kira:** Your favourite Star Trek character and why?

**CDR Warp:** Guinan. She has immense wisdom, great strength of character, and a perception that transcends normal time and space. I like those traits.

**LCDR Kira:** How long have you been on Online Starbase (OSB). Under what circumstances did you join?

**CDR Warp:** I've been a member for just over a year. I joined Online Starbase late at night on March 9, 2010 at the invitation of, then, Lieutenant Commander Kal-EI.

**LCDR Kira:** What do you like most about OSB?

**CDR Warp:** Being able to associate with so many really gifted and talented people, the friendliness, and the Starfleet atmosphere. I've made some fantastic friends here that I cherish greatly. I like the military courtesy, the chain of command, and the respect they engender.

**LCDR Kira:** As Editor in Chief of the Blue Alert, part of the Public Relations (PR) Department, what are some of your most critical responsibilities and what challenges have you faced so far?

**CDR Warp:** Publishing the Blue Alert on time, getting it to look like a truly professional newsletter, editing the articles carefully so they read well, and making the puzzles challenging and fun.

**LCDR Kira:** What future plans do you have for the Starbase, where would you like to go from here?

**CDR Warp:** We have a fine group of officers, the finest, I've ever seen, and we have some great forums. I'd like to see the membership grow and participation increase. I myself am exactly where I want to be. I love editing and publishing the Blue Alert, I love writing, and I love working with my superb team. If, however, I'm called upon to step a little higher, I shall do so.

**LCDR Kira:** If someone wants to become a staff member of PR, what type of person in your opinion would fit the job?

**CDR Warp:** Whether your talent is in writing, as for the Blue Alert; in research, as for the History Section, or in salesmanship, as for recruiting with External PR; it's best if you do what you love and love what you do.

**LCDR Kira:** In a short paragraph, tell us more about yourself.

**CDR Warp:** When I graduated from high school, I didn't think I was smart enough to go to college. Happily, I was wrong. I like to think that, since then, I've acquired some wisdom in life, and a good sense of fairness.

**LCDR Kira:** Any other information or thoughts you care to share with us?

**CDR Warp:** Captain Crockett gave me a chance to learn about and exercise my abilities when he hired me into PR. I'm indebted to him for that. I've learned a great deal.

**LCDR Kira:** What words of wisdom do you have for members new to OSB that would help them get integrated?

**CDR Warp:** Have a look around and get your space legs. Then find out what you like best about OSB and partake of it. Trust your instincts. Be inquisitive. Above all, enjoy!

**LCDR Kira:** Thank you for your time Commander Warp! My best wishes for a long and prosperous career. ♦

## To Interfere or Not to Interfere A Prime Directive Dilemma

by **CAPT Yu'Wanna**  
Deputy Chief, Public Relations

What if you've just found yourself in a middle of a conflict that doesn't concern you? Furthermore, you find out that some of the people involved turn out to be taking advantage of the others? You have the opportunity to help the abused ones, who, by the way, have no idea in what way they are being abused, but the Prime Directive forbids you to interfere. This is the moral dilemma Picard and the Enterprise crew are facing in TNG's first-season episode Symbiosis.

The U.S.S. Enterprise answers a distress signal from a disabled freighter and manages to beam four individuals aboard along with their ship's cargo. Immediately after coming aboard, the new passengers start to argue over the cargo right in front of the crew's puzzled eyes.

But who are they, these three men and one woman, and what is the issue regarding the cargo? Two of them are from the technically advanced planet of Ornara. The other two are from its neighboring planet, Brekka.

Picard is told that the precious cargo is in fact a remedy for a deadly plague which has been affecting Omara's population for two centuries. The remedy can be manufactured nowhere else but on Brekka, whose people provide it to the Ornarans in exchange for food and other basic necessities. Now the two Brekkians claim the Ornarans did not pay for their cargo, and they want to take it back to Brekka, while the Ornarans claim they already paid for the precious cargo and they desperately need it, or they will die. And Picard, who was only trying to save a disabled ship, suddenly lands as mediator of this conflict, against his will.

Meanwhile, Dr. Crusher makes a discovery that complicates the situation even more: she finds out that the so called cure is in fact a narcotic, which makes the Ornarans are a race of drug addicts, unaware of their addiction!

It seems the Brekkians "have forgotten" to let the Ornarans know that the plague is not deadly and has already been cured two centuries ago. So they have instead allowed the Ornarans to become addicted to the fake cure of a no longer existing plague. Why? According to the crew's investigation, the two worlds took different paths, beginning several thousand years ago. Omara became technologically sophisticated, Brekka did not. Then two hundred years ago, Ornara was stricken by a devastating plague. Their advanced technology could provide no solution. Somehow, the cure was found in a plant indigenous to only Brekka, and which resisted all attempts at cultivation on Ornara. In any case, a trading situation developed which still exists. "A nice arrangement for the Brekkians."\* Sarcastically points out Dr. Crusher, as they've found out the Brekkians have developed no other industry but the production of the "magic cure" they call felicism which they trade to Ornarans in exchange for the rest of their necessities.

From that point on, another conflict arises between Picard and Crusher as Picard, citing the Prime Directive, refuses to inform the Ornarans that the Brekkians have been

deceiving them for 200 years. Crusher strongly disagree with Picard's choice, claiming the Ornarans are being exploited. She would not only tell them the truth, but also provide them with help to ease the withdrawal pains.

However, Picard chooses not to tell the Ornarans the truth, but instead, he cleverly "takes care" of the Brekkians by withdrawing an earlier offer to repair the Ornaran freighter ship, which will destroy the possibility of contact between the two worlds. This way, the Ornarans will be unable to honor their trade agreement and will be forced to overcome their addiction.

This is one of the strongest moral conflicts that have ever emerged between Picard and Crusher. While Crusher's sense of compassion towards the suffering ones made her believe it was very cruel and they could have helped them Picard tried to justify his actions from the perspective of the Prime Directive:

"CRUSHER: When the Felicism runs out, the people of Omara will suffer horrible withdrawal pains.

PICARD: No doubt, but they will pass.

CRUSHER: That seems so cruel. We could have made their burden easier.

PICARD: Could we have? Perhaps in the short term. But to what end? Hold. Beverly, the Prime Directive is not just a set of rules. It is a philosophy, and a very correct one. History has proved again and again that whenever mankind interferes with a less developed civilisation, no matter how well intentioned that interference may be, the results are invariably disastrous.

CRUSHER: It's hard to be philosophical when faced with suffering.

PICARD: Believe me, Beverly, there was only one decision.

CRUSHER: I just hope it was the right one.

PICARD: And we may never know."\*

So, who was right in the end, regarding this delicate matter? Picard or Crusher? Or both? While I can understand where they both stand, I cannot offer an answer. What would you have done if you had walked in Picard's shoes? Have you ever encountered similar situations in your daily life? A discussion topic will be opened in the TNG thread and I would love to hear your opinions on this moral dilemma... ♦



\*<http://www.chakoteya.net/NextGen/123.htm>

## CONGRATULATIONS

Hip, Hip HOORAY to all February OSB Promotees  
(Effective: Stardate 250211)

To CAPTAIN

Matt Foard

To LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

Hana Diosas

Kira Marys

Sara Marshall

**Erin O'Connor**

Hikru Sulu

## CONGRATULATIONS ALSO

HOORAH, to all OSB Positional Promotees  
(Effective: Stardate 220211)

To FEATURE WRITER

LT Kira Marys (now LCDR)

To ENTERTAINMENT CORRESPONDENT

LT Hana Diosas (now LCDR)

## AND

HOOZAH to OSB's New Position Assignees  
(Effective: Stardate 170211)

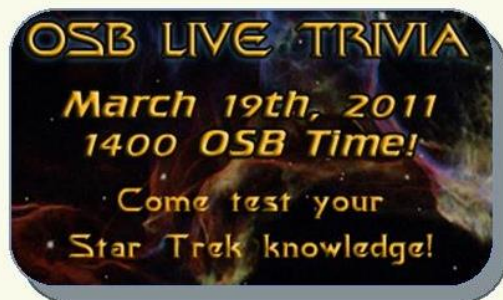
To ENGINEERING (Secondary Position)

LT Hana Diosas (now LCDR)

(Effective Stardate 040311)

To Public Relations (Primary Position)

LT Two Wolves



## Calendar of Events

### Article Submission for Blue Alert Newsletter

Place: PM to CDR SF Warp  
Time: 8 JAN 2011, 2359 OST

Anyone wanting to be published in our newsletter must submit their articles by the 8<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Recreations News

Have we in Recreations got some deals for you! We've got "Caption This" going on every week! Get yourselves involved! Write a prize winning caption! Be forewarned though. "Caption This" can be very addicting!

The Book Club is a great place to find that new Star Trek, science fiction or fantasy book you've been looking for! Or, if you have a suggestion for a good book that you like, don't hesitate to start a thread and let us know about it. We'd like very much to discuss your book with you!

You can write your own short story, mini-series, novel or any article you can conjure up in your mind in our very own "From the Mind to the PADD!" So have a go! Show us your writing talents and inspire us with awe!

The "Phoenix Simm" is better than ever and is getting on towards the exciting end of its first episode! Ah, but it's never too late for you to join and there are positions available. So give us a shout! PM either Captain T.Kerr or Commodore Joel!

You may also be able to join the Recreations Department soon! Some job openings in Recreations may be coming up shortly which you will find in the "Department Openings Board."

So go to one or more of our Rec-Rooms! Join in! Have fun!



## Forum Security News

The Department of Forum Security is the moderating division of Online Starbase. FS is comprised of security officers enforcing starbase regulations, handling member disputes, and moderating the public boards and chat. We serve to protect the citizens of the OSB regardless of race, color, creed or lifestyle. We believe everybody should be free from threats, abuse or unacceptable behavior.

We in Security have been doing very well in keeping the base safe and secure. We don't have any projects going on at the moment, but we are interested in starting some in the near future. We are always on the alert for new recruits to join our ranks. So, any Lieutenant or officer of higher rank wishing to serve in this prestigious department please let me know via PM and we'll review your credentials to see how well you might fit in. Remember you must be an active member of Online Starbase.



## Trek Tech: Sickbay - Part I

By CDR SF Warp

Internal PR Section Leader, BA Editor

Sickbay was the main medical center aboard Federation starships. Sickbay was presided over by the chief medical officer (CMO), a senior staff member. The CMO was supported by various doctors and nurses. The area was also used for certain analyses of new lifeforms a starship might encounter, and for developing treatments for unknown diseases or illnesses. When rendering aid to a stricken planet or spacecraft, the sickbay staff treated and cared for the wounded. On starbases, sickbay was typically called the infirmary.\*

### Features

#### Intensive care unit

Three or four biobeds generally lined the walls of sickbay's intensive care unit, or ICU; these were for patients receiving medical care and were equipped with biofunction monitors. On Galaxy-class starships, private rooms were available for long-term patients. (TNG: "Ethics") \*

#### Surgical facilities

Sickbays also had surgical beds, where major surgeries were performed and critical patients were treated. A large, sophisticated sensor cluster was usually installed directly above this bed. Working in conjunction with a medical tricorder, the sensor suite could give detailed information about a patient's condition. The bed was also designed to use a surgical support frame. This bed was often located in the center of the main sickbay room, although refit Constitution-class and Intrepid-class starships had separate spaces for their surgical beds, the former in a separate room, the latter in a small area that could be isolated by a force field. (Star Trek: The Motion Picture; VOY: "Caretaker", "Phage") If necessary, surgery could be conducted in the intensive care ward if there was an overflow of patients or if another patient was present to donate blood. (TOS: "Journey to Babel"; VOY: "Latent Image") Galaxy-class starships also had separate surgical rooms. (TNG: "Ethics")\*

#### Laboratories

Sickbays typically had small laboratory facilities attached to the ICU. The chief medical officer or other associated personnel could monitor experiments or run tests here during their duty shift. (TNG: "Evolution", "Clues", "The Game"; VOY: "Macrocosm") The laboratory was equipped with a full bioisolation field. (TNG: "Home Soil") Many starships also have separate, larger medlabs. Galaxy-class ships had at least four. (TNG: "Ethics"; Star Trek Nemesis)\* ♦



\*Star Trek Wiki—Memory Alpha

## Commander / Major Relationship

(Continued from Page 1)

KIRA: Admiral, I think Commander Sisko's being incredibly short-sighted. He obviously doesn't understand the issues involved.

ROLLMAN [on monitor]: Thank you for bringing this to my attention, Major. I'll stay in close touch with the situation.

KIRA: Thank you, Admiral.\*

Talk about a backlash!!! Had I been in Kira's shoes, I would've waited for Sisko to complete his investigation then put out the feelers to see on which side of the fence he was standing. With a little arguing, I might have prevailed. BUT NOOOOO!!!! Kira skipped some crucial steps and jumped right off the ledge straight to the stomping ground, transgressing Sisko's authority by reporting him directly to his superior. To worsen the already precarious relationship between DS9's Commander and Major, Kira plots to overthrow Sisko's decision if it comes to surrender Tahna to the Cardassians, saying Sisko'll have to get "over [her] dead body". She also compares her relation with Sisko as "oil and water". And what would be the appropriate reaction to this trampled authority?

KIRA: I have to say this, Commander. When we first talked I wasn't sure [about] you. This wouldn't have been possible without your support. I want you to know it's appreciated.

SISKO: Be sure to mention it the next time you chat with Admiral Rollman. [LOL!!!]

KIRA: Sir.

SISKO: Go over my head again and I'll have yours on a platter. [OUCH!]\*

Later on in the "Past Prologue" episode, Tahna asks for Kira's help to procure him a warp capable runabout in order to achieve some "peaceful plan" for Bajor. Evidently, he doesn't want to reveal any information and Kira has her doubts. Now it's Tahna's turn to question her loyalties. She wishes to help her former comrade but at the same time fears the consequences. In the end, the Major allies herself with Commander Sisko. She lures Tahna into thinking that she's on his side, putting her life on the line by accompanying him in the runabout. When she learns that his intentions are to destroy the wormhole and that he's ready to sacrifice thousands of Bajoran lives to accomplish his goal, she suddenly accepts the changes that occurred in her life and the lives of her people.

(Kira brings in Tahna, and Odo arrests him)

KIRA: Tahna, the old ways don't work anymore. Everything is different now. I had to do this. One day you'll understand.

TAHNA: Traitor.\* ♦



\*All quotes have been taken from here:  
<http://www.chakoteya.net/DS9/404.htm>

## Little Known Facts About Captain Kirk - Part V

Contributed by **LT Andrew Conlan**  
PR Correspondent

There is no theory of evolution. Just a list of animals that Captain Kirk allows to live.

Captain Kirk once got bitten by a rattle snake. After three days of pain and agony, the rattle snake died.

Captain Kirk doesn't read books. He stares them down until he gets the information he wants.

Captain Kirk can unscramble an egg.

Captain Kirk can lead a horse to water AND make it drink.

Captain Kirk would've found and destroyed every Horcrux by Chapter 2 of "The Sorcerer's Stone." ♦

\*Inspired by: <http://www.chucknorrisfacts.com/>

### A Nugget from CDR Logan Kale



In the Voyager Episode "Imperfection," among the three real Voyager crew members, the casualty list contains some main cast members of the series "The West Wing." ♦

## OSB Fiction Writing Contest

By: **CDR SF Warp**

Internal PR Section Leader / Blue Alert Editor

Created by: **CAPT Marshall Crockett**  
OSB Vice Commander

The Public Relations Department is always looking for creative writers. Contest Submission Guidelines are:

**Maximum Length:** 800 Words

**Deadline:** 8th of the following month, 2359 OST; PM CDR Warp

**Topic:** Finish the starter at the bottom of this section

**Genre:** Any Star Trek genre is acceptable

**Don'ts:** Don't kill off any main characters, have relations between any characters beyond the ones established in ST canon, use foul language, overt sexual innuendo or verbiage, or any other distasteful item not covered here but would make you go, "What? Cmon! Seriously?"

**MAR TOPIC:** The captain was returning from a two hour workout on Holodeck 2. Upon entering the bridge, he suddenly lost consciousness and fell to the floor. When he awoke...

**THE WINNER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!!**

## History of USS Voyager - Part II

Delta Beginnings, Kazon Troubles

by **CDR Tre'gok of Mirtak**  
Sr. PR Correspondent

Stardate 48307.5: Voyager officially lost contact with Starfleet. The val Jean had been destroyed by the Kazon. Janeway and Chakotay merged their crews into one Starfleet crew. Be'lanna took over as Chief Engineering Officer. Chakotay became Executive Officer and the EMH Doctor became Chief Medical Officer. Nelix remained on board and became chef, morale officer and self-appointed ambassador/tour guide. Kes remained on board, began training with the Doctor as a nurse, and converted one of the cargo bays into a hydroponics bay to grow fresh vegetables and fruit so the crew could save their replicator rations.\*

Janeway's decision to destroy the Caretaker's array in accordance with the Prime Directive had left them in poor standing with the Kazon, who were desperately trying to obtain Starfleet technology. To make things worse, two Crewmembers, Seska and Micheal Jonus, former Maquis, didn't agree with Starfleet principles and didn't believe that they should get into conflicts with the Kazon.\*

To the surprise of many former Maquis, Seska turned out to be a Cardassian spy, surgically altered to look Bajoran, and assigned to infiltrate Chakotay's Maquis ship.\*

Seska fled Voyager, joined the Kazon-Nistrim, restored her Cardassian physiology, supplied the Kazon with information about Voyager and trained them in Cardassian battle tactics. Micheal Jonus stayed on board Voyager and started supplying information to the Kazon sometime in 2372. He was eventually discovered by Nelix and killed.\*

The year 2372 was marked by several devastating Kazon attacks. At one point Voyager was attacked four times in two weeks, killing three crewmembers and severely lowering morale. Commander Chakotay suggested forming an alliance with some of the other Kazon sects in order to ensure Voyager's safe passage through the region. Janeway agreed to a meeting but it proved fruitless. Voyager was unable to enter into a meaningful alliance with any Kazon sect. and Kazon attacks continued throughout the year.\*

Near year's end, Voyager received a message from Seska saying she'd given birth to Chakotay's son. The crew, immediately suspicious of this, suspected a trap, but rallied behind Chakotay and his responsibility to his son. After arriving, the crew's original fears came true. Voyager was captured and the crew abandoned on the Planet Hanon IV.\*

Tom Paris, having escaped in a shuttle, reached a nearby Talaxian Colony. With the help of the the Talaxians, the Doctor and Lon Suder, who sacrificed himself, he was able to re-take the ship and rescue the crew in early 2373. Seska was killed in the battle and her child was found to be Maje Culluhs. Shortly afterwards Voyager left Kazon space.\* ♦

\*Star Trek Wiki- Memory Alpha

## Starfleet Alerts - Part III

by **CDR Logan**  
Sr. PR Correspondent

**RED ALERT** - This is the highest state of Alert in the Federation. It means that an emergency has occurred and that an attack is either imminent or in progress. During Red Alert situations on a Starship, the crew and attached personnel from all three duty shifts are informed via alarm klaxons and enunciator lights. Key second shift personnel are ordered to report immediately to their primary duty stations, while other second shift personnel report to their secondary duty stations. Key third shift personnel are ordered to report to their secondary duty stations in fifteen minutes.\*

Red Alert situations, by their very nature, frequently involve unforeseeable variables and unpredictable circumstances. For this reason, Red Alert requires the Commanding officer and all personnel to remain flexible. All red Alert operating rules, therefore, are subject to adaptation. Red Alert can be ordered by the CO, Ops, CEO, TAC/SC, TAC/ASC. The Computer might also bring the ship to Red Alert Status. Also certain areas can be at a Red Alert simultaneously, e.g, Sick Bay and the Bridge, while others such as Engineering remain at a lower alert level.\*

Specific system preparations, on the Enterprise-D for example, include:

- If presently offline, warp power core is brought to full operational condition and maintained at 75% power output. Level 3 diagnostics are performed on warp propulsion systems at initiation of Red Alert Status, with Level 4 series repeated at 5 minute intervals.\*
- Main impulse propulsion system is brought to full operating condition. All operations backup reactor units are brought to hot standby.\*
- All tactical and long range sensor arrays are brought to full operations status. Secondary mission use of sensor elements is discontinued, except with approval of Ops.\*
- Deflector systems are automatically brought to tactical configuration unless specifically overridden by the Tactical Officer. All available secondary and backup deflector generators are brought to hot standby.\*
- Phaser banks are energized to full standby. Power Conduits are enabled, targeting scanners are activated.\*
- Photon torpedo and Quantum Torpedo Launchers are brought to full standby. One torpedo device in each launcher is energized to full launch readiness.\*
- The battle bridge is brought to full standby status and backup bridge crews are notified for possible duty in the event of need.\*
- All three shuttle bays are brought to launch readiness. Two shuttlecraft are brought to launch status minus 30 seconds.\*
- Level 4 automated diagnostics are performed to verify readiness of autonomous survival and recovery vehicle systems. Readiness of ejection initiator servos is verified through a partial Level 3 semi-automated check. Security officers are assigned to ensure that all passageways to

lifeboat accesses are clear.

- Isolation doors and force fields are automatically closed between sections to contain the effects of possible emergencies, including force and decompression of habitable volume.\*

The Federation has used Red Alert on a few occasions as well, such as when the Probe arrived at Earth and started to evaporate the oceans as it was looking for Humpback Whales which had been hunted to extinction. (ST:IV)\* ♦

\*Star Trek Freedom's Wiki and Memory Alpha

## Planets of the Federation: Calder II

by **LT Andrew Conlan**  
PR Correspondent

Calder II is an uninhabited planet, poor in resources and barely suitable for colonization. It is the site of the Sakethan Burial Mounds, which were built by ancient Romulans during their diaspora from Vulcan. The mounds, and some surviving colony ruins, are the subject of a Federation archaeological program.\*

### Environment

Most of the surface of Calder II is cold desert, with small intensely salty oceans. Native life consists of hardy plants, insects, and lichen. The breathable but thin atmosphere is mostly suited for Vulcans and Romulans, while humans who wish to remain on Calder II for long periods of time are recommended to take blood-oxygenation supplements.\*

### Locations

The chief site of interest on Calder II is the Sakethan ruins, which consist of five stone structures covered with topsoil, and arranged in a crescent around a paved central plaza. Upon initial discovery bodies were found neatly arrayed inside the first mounds opened. Subsequent discoveries have led to the theory that the mounds were used for experiments in psionics and psionic technology and only upon the colony being abandoned were the mounds used as tombs.\*

Due to rich magnesite deposits in the area, interference with both sensors and transporters have hampered the excavations. Standard tricorders and probes have been unusable thus forcing archaeologists to proceed very slowly htan anticipated.\*

Nearby is a science station consisting of several prefabricated housing modules, with a small power plant and food replicators.\*

### Conlan's Rating

Unless you're visiting scientists, graduate students, a curiosity seeker or an amateur archeologist, seriously, skip this one. ♦

\*Source: Planets of the UFP

# Fiction

## Terra in a Bottle

by **CDR SF Warp**

Internal PR Section leader, BA Editor

The Red Alert sounded and the entire bridge crew jumped. When the captain commanded, "On screen," the image displayed before them...the two images...filled them with awe. "All stop," commanded USS Ranger Captain Theo Goss. "*This bears looking into!*"

Displayed before them was what looked like an immense piece of landscape carved from a planet's surface and placed inside a giant glass egg. Beyond that lay a vortex.

"Resembles the Los Angeles Basin a little," commented Commander James Butcher.

"Jimmy, you scan the object. Velas, the vortex."

The solid First Officer and the petite Vulcan Science Officer, Velas, both went to work.

"Sir, this is odd. The vortex appears to be dimensional, opening to another universe. There may be more, but scans are yielding little."

"Keep on it," The lanky captain advised. "Got anything yet, Jimmy?"

"Sir, that land form is closer than it looks." Butcher said, clearly puzzled. "And it's a lot smaller than it appears to be. It's about a twentieth the size it should be. Also, except for external dimensions, my sensors can't get any clear readings! It's like they're out of sync with the object. Cap, I'd like to go out and take a look."

"Sir," Lieutenant Velas interjected, "that might explain what I'm seeing through the vortex. I can't get any definitive readings either. Sir, I'd like to accompany Commander Butcher."

"Very well. When you go for E.V.A. tether yourselves to each other and to the shuttle. Anything goes wrong, I'll tractor the shuttle."

"Aye, sir," two voices responded in unison.

Velas arrived at the object first, the commander a few seconds later. She touched the shell with her thickly gloved hand. She wished she could actually feel it; to know and be able to fathom it's texture. With a sigh, she activated her tricorder.

Butcher took out his optical scanner and began peering at the Earth-like surface below. After several minutes he said excitedly, "Captain, this is incredible! That's not just a land mass down there! There are buildings, air vehicles, land vehicles; I can even make out bipedal human-like beings on the surface! And everything's moving at an accelerated pace! Captain, it's a world unto itself!"

"Well done, Jimmy!" Goss was ecstatic. "Velas, what are your scans telling you?"

"Scans are useless, sir, but it appears that every object below, bipedal humanoid included, is almost exactly one-twentieth the size of everything we are accustomed to. And I believe the miniaturized nature of what we have encountered here extends to the subatomic level."

"Understood. Keep me..." Goss began.

"Wait a minute," Butcher cut in. "I think we're being approached. A shuttle craft is coming our way."

Velas instinctively finger-tipped the shell. She said, almost whispering, "They want desperately to communicate with us. I can hear one's thoughts." Then, mere seconds later, she yelled, "Velas to engineering! You've got to set the tractor beam on repulse and send that thing back where it came from! Now!"

Captain Goss barked into the Comm, "Do it!"

Velas and Butcher hurried back to the shuttle and moved quickly out of the way.

The Ranger, impulse engines and repulse beam engaged, began gently pushing the object back toward the vortex, gaining speed and momentum as she went. With but a hundred meters to spare, she veered off. All eyes watched as the "island in space" returned to its place in the grand scheme of things, in just barely enough time before the vortex closed in on itself.

Back aboard the Ranger, Velas enlightened captain and crew. "What we encountered is a resort city housed in a virtually indestructible transparent composite shell. Called The Aerie, it orbited the centrally located planet Daron. People from many worlds vacation on The Aerie, entering and leaving via transporters not unlike our own.

"A few hours ago, a stellar core fragment ventured close enough to Daron to dislodge The Aerie from orbit. The difference in charge between Daron and the fragment created a powerful static discharge that opened the vortex between our two universes and sent The Aerie through. Thrusters now disabled, The Aerie was dead in space. The people there knew that the vortex was about to close. Their matter, being incompatible with ours, would eventually have decayed. They simply had to go back."

"Well done, everyone," the captain proclaimed, "Well done indeed! Bar's open 'til 2200!"





**ACROSS**

1. Clairvoyance, e.g.
4. Sandler of "Big Daddy"
8. "Cogito, \_\_\_ sum"
12. Wheel shaft
13. Long, for short
14. "Genetically engineered leaders"
16. Greek portico
17. "Assassin after Kira's old resistance cell"
18. Gives off
19. Incensed
21. Cast a ballot
23. On the peak of
24. Devotee
25. Big loser's nickname?
27. Kipling's "Gunga \_\_\_"
29. Acquire
30. Pinup's leg
31. "\_\_\_ lost!"
34. "Orion Syndicate leader"
37. Humid
38. Parisian way
39. Clue
40. Hippie's hangout
41. Legal prefix
42. \_\_\_ Grove Village, Illinois
43. "Yes, \_\_\_"
45. "He believed Kira was his missing daughter"
47. Beast of burden
48. "To \_\_\_ is human ..."
49. "Hold it!"
50. "I \_\_\_ you one"
51. Escritoire

52. Eccentric
55. "Now hear \_\_\_!"
58. Pasty-faced
60. Boredom
62. Account examination
64. Tugboat sound
66. Shows curiosity
67. "Dominion ally"
68. small needle case
69. Heavy, durable furniture wood
70. Fruity pastry
71. "Pah-wraith in prophet's clothing?"
72. His "4" was retired

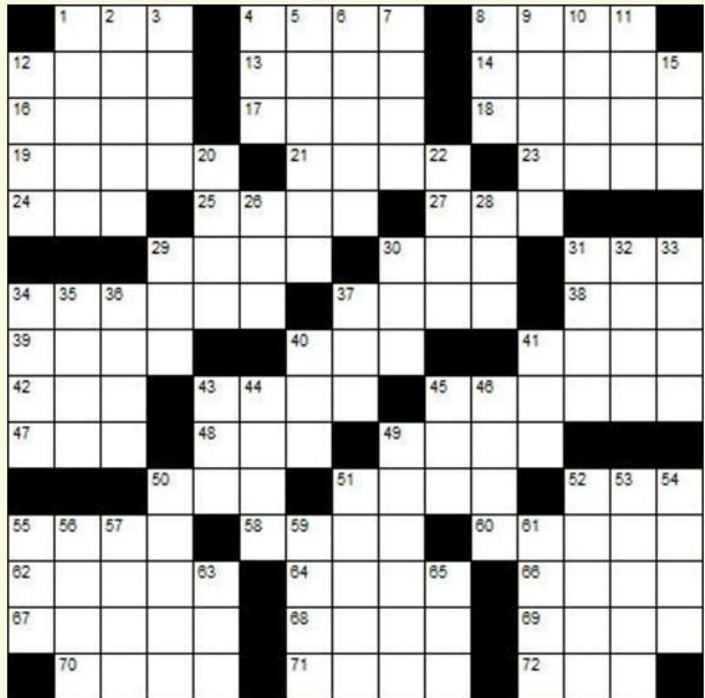


**DOWN**

1. Bonus
2. "Clandestine operative"
3. \_\_\_ moss
4. Increase, with "up"
5. "Saboteur, twice thwarted"
6. Self-evident truth
7. In perfect condition
8. "The Three Faces of \_\_\_"
9. "\_\_\_ Holiday": 1953 Audrey Hepburn film
10. Sand
11. \_\_\_ von Bismarck
12. "\_\_\_ I care!"
15. Nile biter
20. Son of Isaac
22. \_\_\_ cheese
26. Fleur de \_\_\_
28. Mischief-maker
29. Clock std.
30. Flit (about)
31. Unit of fat
32. Continental capital
33. Rend
34. Perlman of "Cheers"
35. Is unwell
36. Signs, as a contract
37. Beaver's work
40. Average
41. Stroke
43. Kitten's cry
44. Length times width, for a rectangle
45. Neon, e.g.
46. Go backpacking
49. "Gamma Quadrant diplomat (is a clone)"
50. Basket material
51. Hindu loincloth
52. Beginning
53. "Last Prefect of occupied Bajor"
54. Data holder
55. Bar bill
56. Injured
57. "I had no \_\_\_!"
59. Mulligan, e.g.
61. Alliance acronym
63. Atlanta-based station
65. Food container

**Online Starbase's Blue Alert Crossword Puzzle**

\*DS9 Villains? - Edited by SF Warp - March 2011



**Answers to Previous Puzzle**

R	E	M	U	S		E	E	L		L	O	R	E	
E	R	A	S	E		B	R	A		C	O	L	O	R
E	G	R	E	T		B	A	N		L	U	L	U	S
L	O	C	U	T	U	S		A	G	I	T	A	T	E
						P	E	N		G	I	M	P	
R	A	T		E	L	B	E		T	O	R	E	T	H
E	B	O	N		I	O	N	S		N	I	C	H	E
C	A	N	E		T	R	E	K	S		P	L	E	A
A	C	E	R	B		G	R	I	T		S	A	I	D
P	A	R	D	E	K		A	N	E		T	R	Y	
						L	O	L	L		N	A	Y	
H	O	R	A	T	I	O		T	O	M	A	L	O	K
A	G	O	N	E		T	A	R		P	L	A	I	N
G	R	I	N	D		U	F	O		U	T	I	L	E
S	E	L	A			S	T	Y		M	A	N	S	E



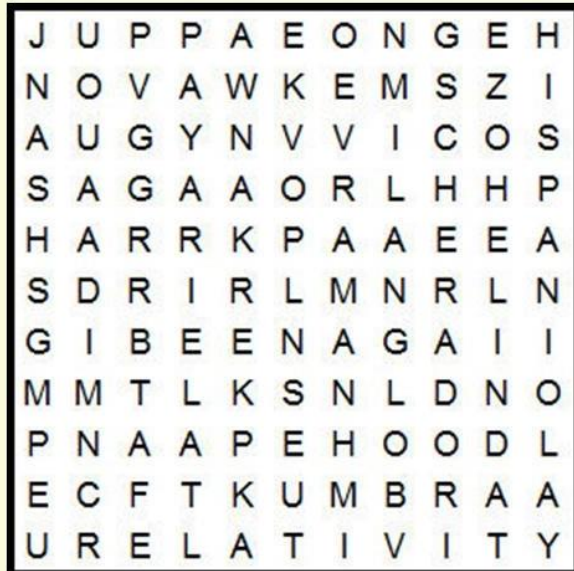
SF Warp



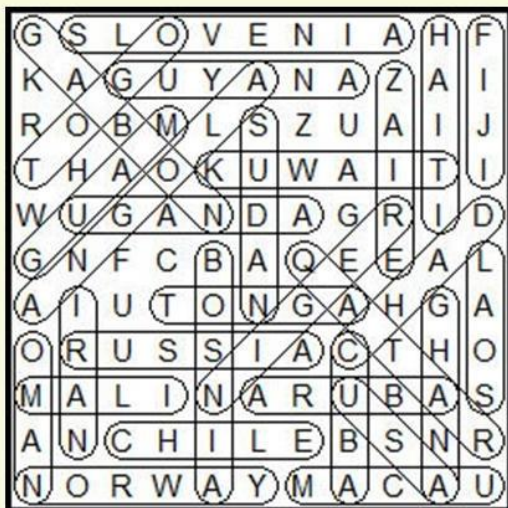
# Puzzellary

## WORD SEARCH

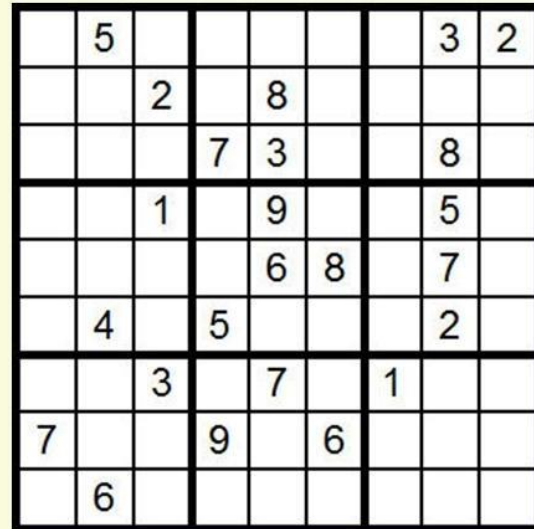
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Look for 24 words



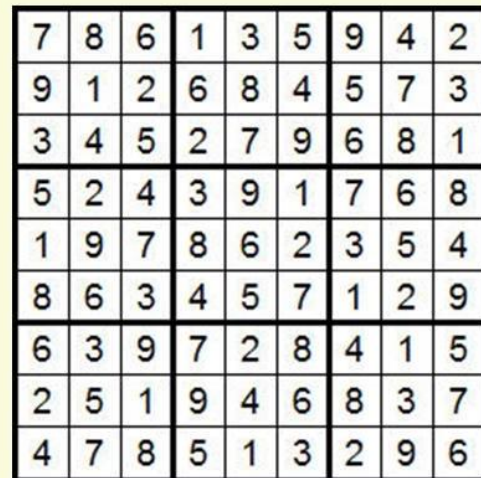
Answers to Previous Word Search  
Topic: Countries



## SUDOKU PUZZLE



Solution to Previous  
Sudoku Puzzle



# Announcements

## New PR Project Beyond Orion's Belt

Here at OSB we are blessed with people with so many talents and one of the things many of you love to do is write. I am excited to announce a new competition for you to enter to show off your creative skills! It's called "Beyond Orion's Belt" and will be eventually a collection of your finest fan fiction and stories.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Original Fiction in the Star Trek, ST:TNG, ST:DS9, ST:VOY, ST:ENT or ST:OSB worlds.

- MUST be your own work!!
- No main characters in any universe/timeline can be killed, no graphically sexual situations, no relationships that are not eluded in the ST canon, no treason or treachery by an established main character and no explicit language. If you wouldn't read it to your mum...don't write it here!
- Length between 3,500 and 10,000 words.
- 12 pitch, Times New Roman font, Double Spaced
- Created in MS Word or compatible
- Each member can submit up to 3 stories
- Deadline for submissions is 31 August 2011
- Emailed to [osbpublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:osbpublicrelations@gmail.com)

### JUDGES:

- **Captain Crockett**: The Starbase Vice Commander and former Chief of Public Relations.
- **Captain Foard**: The Chief of Public Relations, former OSB Historian and Forum Moderator.
- **Captain Yu'Wanna**: The Deputy Chief of Public Relations and regular writer in the Blue Alert Newsletter.

### WINNERS

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention Winners announced by 31 October 2011
- Work published as .pdf by 31 Dec 2011
- Non-winning submissions will be published individually in the OSB From the Mind to the PADD Thread

From the three judges we look forward to reading your stories and hope you have fun creating 😊

Kindest Regards...

*CAPT Matt Foard*  
Chief Public Relations

## Troubles with Tribble Impostor!

There is a Tribble Impostor on-board Online Starbase. He looks just like our resident tribble, **Murray**. But don't be fooled! It's not him!

Beware! This impostor has a tendency to reverse the buttons on control panels, leave hairballs so some innocent cat or targ gets blamed, and steal everyone's left boot.

Base Security has done what they can, but he's tricky and somehow slips past when they think they have him cornered. Therefore, I call on the members of this base to help find this menace.

It's believed that if you call his name he will appear and be under your control, but no one knows what his name is. That's where you come in! We need help finding his name.

To search for his name all you have to do is try different names in the OSB chat box. Be sure to sandwich the name between two colons.

**Example = :Ed: :Bob: :Rumpelstiltskin: :Elmer:**

When you find the correct name, a picture of the impostor tribble will show in the chat box. Like this:



If you should come upon the tribbles name, don't tell anybody! Please promptly **PM RADM Jade** the name so that Base Security can bring this impostor to justice.

The first person who correctly guesses his name will get a special award and a custom rank of their choosing for one month.

So visit the chat and search for this impostor. Murray's tired of the mix up and is counting on you.

## We'd Like Your Thoughts and Ideas

We the staff of the Blue Alert like to think that we are publishing the finest newsletter anywhere. Our hope is that the Blue Alert is timely, informative and entertaining; above all, that you the reader likes it and enjoys reading it. As good a job as we like to think we are doing, it is ultimately you the reader who determines what's best for OSB's signature publication. So, we are asking you to send us any thoughts or ideas you may have as to how we might improve the Blue Alert. What do you especially like or dislike about the BA? Is there something you'd like to see included? Whatever your thoughts, please PM them to the BA Editor, CDR SF Warp. You might just influence future issues.



Visit our Public Relations Homepage  
by visiting us at:

<http://onlinesb.proboards.com>

then, click on Public Relations!



RADM Jade  
Commander

CAPT Marshall Crockett  
Vice Commander

CAPT Matt Foard  
Chief, Public Relations

CAPT Yu' Wanna  
Deputy Chief, Public Relations

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Entertainment Correspondent

LT Andrew Conlan  
PR Correspondent

LT Two Wolves  
PR Correspondent

## On Command

by **CAPT Marshall Crockett**  
OSB Vice Commander

Have you ever considered what it means to be a leader here on OSB? It is an interesting concept since most web-based forums are focused on posting and other such trivial matters whereas here, we focus on the officer; your professional development is my #1 priority. What makes you a good leader here? Is it your rank? Is it your grade? Is it your position? Is it your post count? I think it's a little bit of all of those things...and your ability to take care of those whom you serve.

I cannot stress enough that, in my opinion, OSB is training leaders. We have an ability here to have some officers as young as 14 years old. Due to this, those of us who have been around the block once or twice (or more...) can impart our lessons of leadership upon them; teach them to be department staff, advise them on development and mentor them as they promote. As leaders, our ultimate goal is to train those in grades below us to replace us. I challenge all of you to do exactly that.

## ATTENTION OFFICERS!!!!

If you were a staff officer in OSB's past, please contact LCDR Cottingham with your office, dates and historical recollections. The Public Relations Department's History Section needs your input for Online Starbase's newly established Historical Archives

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