



PLANETARY SURVEY

Document No. XXFGOW/24

SUBJECT: OCCULTA MAIORIS



Occulta Maioris – Planetary Survey

Segmentum: Obscurus.

Sector: Gothic.

Sub-sector: Orar.

System: Naphax. Three planets (Naphax Prime, Occulta Maioris, Burgheim). All inhabited.

Satellites: None.

Size: Equatorial diameter – 4'420 miles.

Gravity: 1.07 G.

Population: 200'000 (consisting almost exclusively of Imperial Guard personnel). Expected to grow drastically in coming years.

Rotation speed: 600 miles per hour.

Climate Classification: Dry.

Mean Surface Temperature: 12°C.

Prefix Inquisitoria: Stable

Summary of Physical Geography: Occulta Maioris is a barren planet covered to 48,5% by salty seas that provide the planet with an thin atmosphere. No life forms except simple vegetation have evolved. Most of the planet is covered by low mountain ranges and deep canyons, the aftermath of highly unstable tectonic and volcanic activity. Occulta Maioris is known for its recently discovered rich mineral deposits.



Known History: Occulta Maioris is a planet that has only recently been discovered by the Imperium after a gigantic warp storm [*Ref.76/F54.235/78*] that has raged for roughly 8'000 years and receded in 751.M41. Warp storms are relatively common in the Gothic sector, which is located not far away from the Eye of Terror [*Ref.Occularis Terribus/HX8*], yet they usually do not last for such long periods of time. Despite the fact that Occulta Maioris' orbit exceeds the area once covered by the storm, it has never left it. This unusual discovery gave the planet its name.

The warp storm only covered a small area of the Naphax system and so imperial activity could continue in defiance of minor inconveniences. It is so that Occulta Maioris suddenly appeared amidst Naphax Prime and Burgheim, two large-scale hive worlds, and the remains of Naphax Secundus, a planet that suffered complete destruction during the Gothic War.

An imperial exploration fleet led by the Adeptus Mechanicus approached the planet and analysed its geological and biological characteristics from space. No life forms have been discovered on its surface, yet standard procedure requires for planets who have come into contact with the warp to be surveilled most sharply. Occulta Maioris was ordered to be quarantined for 100 years.

After the quarantine was lifted by the Inquisition a century later, ground exploration teams under command of the Imperial Guard High Command of Segmentum Obscurus encountered no signs of past life forms, suggesting that the planet was never inhabited.

Nonetheless, an enormous amount of gas and mineral deposits were discovered by rogue traders and prospectors, amongst them an unknown metal whose properties were somewhat similar to those of adamantium. A research facility was constructed in order to determine whether this new metal could prove useful for the Imperium.

Current Status: Given that the Gothic sector is constantly subjected to innumerable threats, most importantly chaos incursions from the Eye of Terror, the Adeptus Administratum has decreed Occulta Maioris to be transformed into a mining world that shall supply Naphax Prime, Burgheim as well as nearby factory worlds in others systems with much needed metals. This was a controversial decision since the warp storm, even though receding, has not entirely disappeared and the future of Occulta Maioris is still uncertain.



There is another advantage the Imperium seeks to exploit besides the valuable resources on Occulta Maioris. As it turns out the planet appeared close to the large, charred chunks of planetary debris that are the remnants of Naphax Secundus. Renegade human and Eldar pirates who raid the innumerable merchant vessels supplying the two hive worlds of the system use this pseudo asteroid field as a hideout. Occulta Maioris is placed in a strategic position, making stationed ships able to intercept the raiders and oversee these important trade routes. It is so that the Departamento Munitorum has decided to fortify the planet as soon as possible and deploy several regiments from Naphax as well as from nearby systems there. In addition to defending the planet, the Imperial Guard is ordered to annihilate any uprisings from the enormous workforce that is currently being gathered.

In sum, Logisticum Adepts are currently planning the massive project of transforming Occulta Maioris into a mining world. Thousands of construction vehicles and millions of penal workers are being prepared throughout the sector, wherever they can be spared. Months, maybe years will pass before the construction of the mining facilities and the orbital defense system can begin. In the meantime the new planet had to be secured and research on the new metal, temporarily referred to as "Kadanium 47-2", needed to be conducted without delay. It is for these reasons that in 419752.M41 a small reinforced military base was constructed, incorporating the research complex with its overseers, magi, technicians and servitors, as well as the Administratum Department for Occulta Maioris with its many hunchbacked bureaucrats. The military base and its facilities, known as Demnos and officially considered to be the planet's capital, are fully functional and so far the astropath's reports of progress have always been satisfying.

End of Report.

This document is a summary of various reports of Junior Officer Ezra Bottequin.

Notes

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