

Draconis Combine

History

The Draconis Combine held up under the Word of Blake Jihad better than any other realm. Bolstered by its complete control of the media and built on a culture designed to embrace trials of courage, few worlds abandoned the Kurita family at the WOB demands, fighting tooth and nail at every chance. Because of this, the Combine was also the hardest hit of any Successor State. The rise of Hassid Ricol to the position of Coordinator after the assassination of Coordinator Theodore Kurita in 3069 was a turning point for the proud nation, but he had little trust for the Nova Cats and Azami.

As the war continued and Word of Blake forces destroyed factory after factory, he sent his dwindling supplies only to units he trusted, leaving units loyal to the Kurita family undersupplied. His trusted units, with their new supplies, began hunting down the Word of Blake invaders with improved efficiency, making some outside the Combine wonder if they were purposefully not working as well before. Whatever the truth of that matter, in the end, with some minor Star League support, his loyal units proved capable of pushing the Word of Blake elements out of the Draconis Combine, but the damage to the Dragon's industry was terrible. Boasting a fraction of its pre-Jihad construction capability, the Combine was unable to act upon the weakness of its neighbors and fell back into a period of reconstruction.

After nearly a decade of quiet rebuilding, Coordinator Takashi Ricol, Hassid's son, gave Warlord Kiyomori Minamoto his blessing to remove an untrustworthy thorn from his side. The Nova Cat Prefecture, laying a mere jump from the capital of the Draconis Combine, was to be made reliable, and the untrustworthy Nova Cats were to be interned on reservations. The Nova Cats were ready, and they fought back, but Minamoto was prepared for that, and sent in more units to handle them. What he wasn't prepared for was the entry of the Rasalhague Dominion, the Arkab Legions, and elements of Clan Sea Fox into the war. On the side of the Nova Cats. After three years of fighting, the Combine armed forces were on the verge of collapse, with Duchess Sandoval of Robinson steadily pushing forces up along the weakened border with the Republic, and with Tikonov joining in to take the worlds on their border. Even the Raven Alliance on their Periphery border was making its presence known with raid after raid destroying precious Combine BattleMechs and supplies.

The battle of Meinacos, where the Second Draconis Fleet flagship *Siriwan* exploded with all hands, was the final straw. Faced with the extinction of his realm, Coordinator Ricol requested a cease-fire with the Nova Cats, Arkab, Dominion, and the Sea Foxes. In the subsequent negotiations, he officially denounced the criminal actions of Warlord Minamoto. The final peace treaty formalized Nova Cat and Azami independence from the Combine, and on his return to Luthien Warlord Minamoto was ordered to commit seppuku for his failure.

After another decade of rebuilding, the Combine is itching for another fight. Smarting at their defeat at the hands of the Azami and Nova Cats, raids are up along all borders, as the Combine Samurai MechWarriors make their prowess known. The Dragon was bloodied, but its fangs are still very sharp, and every realm that borders it has learned to fear the arrival of Combine raiders.

Military

The *Urizen II*, the last remaining *Kirishima*-class battleship, leads the Draconis First Fleet, supported by numerous smaller WarShips and DropShips. Recently seen on the border with the Raven Alliance, many wonder if raiding is the only thing on Takashi Ricol's mind.

While furthest behind in technology, the Combine can build *Inazuma*-class destroyers, the new *Yamato*-class cruisers, smaller recon and anti-piracy ships, and JumpShips, at the Togura, Midway, Chatham, and New Samarkand yards, and the (mostly) restored factories of Luthien build BattleMechs at a rate only matched by Hesperus. The various OmniMech designs still built on Luthien are seen throughout the Combine, and many nearby realms, making up the bulk of the Combine BattleMech forces.

Factories

Chatham – Stellar Trek – *Merchant*, *Invader*, *Star Lord*, and *Ashiko* patrol frigate
– Tomori Trans Industrial – *Vengeance*, *Rose*, and *Nekohono'o*
– Wakazashi Enterprises – *Lucifer II*, *Shilone*, *Oni*, and *Tatsu*

Dover – Hinsdale Elec – *Nagumo* and *Condor*
– Wakazashi Enterprises – *Slayer*

Hachiman – Tanadi Computers – Various electronics

Hun Ho – LexaTech Industries – *Cerberus*

Luthien – BBP Industries – *Intruder*, *Okinawa*, *Triumph*, *Excalibur*, and *BattleSat*.
– Buda Imperial Vehicles – APC, Mobile HQ, Coolant Truck, and Tokugawa
– Luthien Armor Works – *Jenner*, *Daimyo*, *Grand Dragon*, and *Charger* BattleMechs.
Raptor, *Owens*, *Strider*, *Firestarter*, *Blackjack*, *Black Hawk-KU*, *Avatar*, and *Sunder* OmniMechs.
– Matabushi Computing Equipment – Various electronics

Midway – Midway Shipyards – *Inazuma* destroyer, *Neko-te* pirate hunter, and *Naginata* escort frigate

New Samarkand – New Samarkand Metals – *Demolisher*, *Schrek*, and *Behemoth*.
– New Samarkand Shipyards – *Yamato* cruiser and *Ono* assault frigate.

Togura – Stellar Trek – *Tessen* Q-ship

Systems

Benjamin – The solar reflectors in orbit were destroyed during the Jihad, leaving the planet to starve as its ability to grow food diminished. Now a shadow of its former self, the world's main claim to fame is the Osaka Fields, a kind of mini-Solaris where MechWarriors and other fighters compete for prizes and fame.

Bicester – Home of the Kensai Kami training program, every Combine military formation is expected to send one warrior to Bicester at least once a year for a three-month intensive training program. They must pass a final test that includes a raid on the Nova Cats, Azami, or Smoke Jaguars before graduating.

Dover – Like most factory worlds, it was a primary target of the Word of Blake and they razed the Dover Institute for Higher Learning to the ground. It was rebuilt with support from Coordinator Hassid Ricol after the Jihad though and once again graduates some of the best minds in the Combine.

Shibukawa – It is famous for the production of Cholobara wine, a delicate and short-lived beverage of amazing potency that is prized throughout the Human Sphere though is rarely seen outside Combine space.