

Combat Operations Report and Status

Operation Silent Justice

Date: October 20, 2019

Location: Beriget, Armenia

30 miles southeast of Mount Aragats, Amberd Fortress

Command Officer: Col Ambrose L. Washington

Mission Overview:

Operation Silent Justice was a high-priority mission tasked to the Beastmen, a specialized superteam with unique abilities, to capture Armenian warlord Amil Dvordgric. Dvordgric was known for his brutal reign of terror and egregious crimes against factions within the local populace. The Beastmen team were operating under AEGIS approval and consisted of the following members:

- Lionheart (Commander, Enhanced Strength and Leadership)
- Bullrush (Enhanced Speed and Durability)
- Condor (Flight and Aerial Reconnaissance)
- Chameleon (Invisibility and Stealth)
- Paragyne (Insect Control, Super Strength, Resilience, Intelligence)

Deployment and Engagement:

The Beastmen were deployed via aerial insertion into the target area, utilizing their diverse abilities to navigate through enemy territory undetected. Intelligence reports pinpointed Dvordgric's location in a heavily fortified compound nestled deep within the rugged terrain of [Redacted]. Upon arrival, the team swiftly moved to encircle the compound, employing Bull Rush's speed to breach the outer defenses while Chameleon provided cover with his invisibility. Condor maintained aerial surveillance, relaying crucial information to the team.

After significant success in the initial attack, the team was forced to fall back under heavy artillery and the use of human shields as the enemy forces fell into a defensive position in a reinforced stone structure just outside of [Redacted]. The team formulated a number of attack plans, and finally came to an agreed strategy to be implemented in the light of day.

Stand-Down Order and Conflict:

As the Beastmen closed in on Dvordgric's stronghold to breach, a sudden stand-down order was relayed from higher command. It was revealed that an unnamed U.S. diplomat had brokered a deal with Dvordgric, offering him immunity in exchange for undisclosed terms. The team stood down and allowed Dvordgric's core team to escape. Upon entering the bunker, they discovered forty-eight dead civilians, killing with sharp knives and some exhibiting signs of torture. The team disagreed on the course of action, and after a few minutes of argument, Bullrush left the site and pursued the attackers.

The team pursued Bullrush and upon catching up to him, were ordered to use deadly force to stop his pursuit. The Beastmen, fueled by a sense of justice and a commitment to protecting the innocent, adamantly refused to comply with the order. Lionheart, as the team leader, made the difficult decision to proceed to engage Dvordgric's convoy despite the command's directive to stand down. After the team had captured Dvordgric and brought him back to the village, a conflict broke out between those loyal to the warlord and those who he had wronged. In the end, both sides became hostile and aggressive towards the Beastmen, who reacted defensively at first, and then escalated as the conflict continued.

The initial command decision led to a catastrophic chain of events. The Beastmen's defiance against the stand-down order escalated into a violent confrontation with both the local forces loyal to Dvordgric and the incoming U.S. forces dispatched to secure his extraction.

Conflict and Casualties:

The ensuing battle was fierce and chaotic. The Beastmen, outnumbered and facing adversaries with advanced weaponry, fought valiantly to apprehend Dvordgric. However, the combined forces of the warlord's loyalists and the U.S. military resulted in significant casualties on both sides.

Several dozen fatalities and multiple times that number in casualties, both civilian and paramilitary, were reported, including civilians caught in the crossfire. The Beastmen responded with greater violence and bloodshed as the situation spiraled out of control. When U.S. and AEGIS forces closed on the scene, they also sustained casualties from the unrestrained assault of the feral Beastmen. The situation was eventually dispelled through complete evacuation and disengagement, noting however, that such a strategy was only afforded through the benefit of isolated geography and dispersed population in the locale.

Aftermath and Consequences:

In the aftermath of Operation Silent Justice, the Beastmen were placed on inactive status pending a formal investigation into the events that transpired. The mission's failure to apprehend Dvordgric (he was dismembered and only parts of him were recovered), coupled with the loss of life and collateral damage to local populations, local military, EUCOM deployments, and AEGIS forces has sparked international outrage and diplomatic tensions. Considering the numerous engagements and parties involved, containment and redirection were not available options.

The team members, burdened by the weight of their actions, underwent debriefings and psychological evaluations. The incident served as a sobering reminder of the complexities of operating in volatile environments and the ethical dilemmas faced by superpowered operatives.

Moving forward, the Beastmen must undergo extensive reevaluation and training to regain operational readiness and trust. Lessons learned from Operation Silent Justice will be integral in shaping future missions and protocols to prevent similar tragedies.

Note special addendum regarding Beastmen team member noted as Paragyne. Her transport and disposition are in AEGIS Brief EIF03834-10 and AEGIS has arrogated her evaluation and disposition per AEGIS Sub-commander Elaine Battle.

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