
The war for Maelstrom

Hold them back!

Spore mines fell down from the sky, almost touching ground before starting to drift slowly toward the bunkers. The firewarriors knew that the mines would be armless against the concrete bunker, but the sight of it was a sure sign that the battle was about to begin. The earth caste had worked well in their construction, and the mines exploded on the outside walls of the bunkers, without so much of a trace of damage. The tyrannids still had a lot to learn about the Tau defences. Then the fire warriors saw the first genestealers, ahead of the main tyrannid force, coming out of the trees.

- Vui'nee, this is bunker one reporting, we've spotted the first enemies coming out of the woods. Permission to engage?

- Permission granted. Bunker two and three, contact is eminent. Fire at will. Let none of these critter alive.

From his vantage point, the ethereal could see that the enemy line was stretched along the whole field. They would try to overrun all three bunkers at once. But he had a surprise coming for them. More than half of the Tau force was waiting to engage, hidden behind the hills. Three broadsides battlesuits with twin railguns, a hammerhead and six crisis suit just waiting for the perfect moment to reveal themselves and kill all those monsters.

- Bunker three here, we have a visual, engaging enemy. That's four critters down, I repeat four down.

- Bunker one here, we've killed six of them. But there is a huge bastard coming our way. Request heavy support.

- This is Vui'nee. Heavy support on it's way. Should be there soon.

- Aun, take cover, they're lobbing floating bombs our way. There goes one of your shield drones.

- Broadside reporting. We're in position. Opening fire now. It's a hit. That huge winged thing is wounded. Another salvo shall do the thing.

- Negative broadsides. Crisis team Alpha here. We're taking care of this one.

The tyrant hadn't seen the walking metal behind the hill. It was a mistake for they had hurt it badly. It would have to advance more carefully now that it knew they were there. It folded its great wing, ready to leap out of harms way when they fell out of the sky on him.

- Crisis team Alpha here. It is down for good. Acquiring new targets.

- Bunker one here, three more are eating dust.

- Bunker two here, we've taken out the last three big ones near bunker one. Proceeding to next targets.

- Bunker three here, another five down. Two to go.

- Aun, we're still getting those living bombs here. You should take cover in the bunker.

Vui'nee registered the urge in the young ace's voice, and took cover in bunker two as the approaching hormagaunts charged the ace. She managed to fight them off long enough for the ethereal to take

cover in the bunker, and then fled the scene so that the firewarriors could have clear shots of the hormagaunts. She wouldn't die uselessly, her job was done, and she'd live to fight another day.

- Broadsides here, we've just taken out three reptilian creatures. Only two left.
- Crisis team Alpha here, the two floating Zoanthropes popped out of the field. Our next target is the carnifex. It is just around the corner. We're taking fire from the tyrant. Broadsides could you take him out.

The hive mind already knew that it's children would not survive the fight, but the priority was the stones structure were the enemy could hide. It knew that the carnifex was about to die if it didn't take cover, but it's sacrifice would be justified if it could take out that structure.

Receiving mental instruction, the carnifex moved yet further out of cover, close enough to the structure to unleash it's devorer on it. It had known that the structure wouldn't stand such might, but the it's destruction was complete. It could see shadows in the rubble of enemy scrambling out for their lives. It's purpose was fulfilled.

- Crisis team alpha here, one of our brother is down. Broadsides, take that Tyrant. We've manage to obliterate the carnifex to dust, but a second to late, he breached bunker one.
- Stealth team here, both chameleon critters dispatched. We're moving in position to take out their artillery.
- Bunker three here, their offence line is melting like snow to a flamer. We're clear here.
- Bunker two here, we're evacuating the bunker. The tyrant's massive claws are passing right through our walls.

As the last warrior ran out of the bunker, the massive claw of the hive tyrant sliced one more time through the concrete structure. That final gash shook the whole bunker, and it collapsed in a cloud of dust and smoke.

- Crisis team Beta reporting. We've miscalculated our landing. We are now in close combat with a bunch of critters.
- Broadsides here, the tyrant and it's last guard as been dispatched. We have no more target in sight.
- This is Crisis team beta, they are passing through our armour, we're going down. I repeat, we're going down.
- Broadsides, get ready to take out those snake like critters as soon as you get a clear shot... We might still save the wounded crisis team beta.
- Copy that. Target acquired... And target destroyed .
- Good job mens, the field is clear. Let's see to our wounded fast. The earth caste will be happy, we have two tyrant bodies for them to analyse.