

TIE Case File 104

Spatial-temporal coordinates: [specifics to be retrieved from black box/interviews] 2152

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While traveling en route to a mission, the TIE Fighter collided with a 22nd century mining ship in deep space. According to DASCAs, the odds of such a collision occurring were 73,685,403,814 to 1. Although our force fields protected us from the worst of the damage and also prevented immediate decompression of the mining ship, we required a large quantity of sodium dioxide for the repairs that were needed to the TIE Fighter.

DASCA detected 15 life forms aboard the mining ship. First we had DASCAs project the appearance of a small asteroid, then we donned spacesuits appropriate to the time period. By the time we were suited up, we determined that three of life forms were now outside the TIE Fighter, taking readings and trying to determine why the asteroid seemed to be emitting some sort of force field.

The captain and I successfully exited the TIE Fighter out of view of the crewmembers, but soon after needed to explain our presence on the ship. We posed as a team sent by the mining company to determine the cause of the crash and to collect the asteroid for study, with our ship to return soon to retrieve us. We were able to requisition the needed sodium dioxide from the mining vessel; fortuitously one of their four transport pods contained the sodium dioxide we required; another contained cadmium nitrate.

In the course of our investigation we learned there had been tampering with their navigation that had caused them to veer off course and impact with the "asteroid." We also learned that they had a crew of only seven; so in addition to the two of us, that accounted for only nine life forms. A thorough survey of the ship revealed no additional beings onboard, however, and we conjectured that the additional life forms were in the transport pods attached to the outside of the ship.

DASCA informed us that the force fields that were preventing decompression of the damaged hull would hold out only another ten minutes, so we made a hasty change of plans, and had the crewmembers eject the "asteroid" into space and implement the temporary patch to their hull. We arranged to simply detach the sodium dioxide pod, to be left with the asteroid for pick up by our soon-to-be-returning vessel. After we'd detached the pod, the captain proceeded to do an external examination of the mining ship.

She observed a strange, coral-like growth along the cadmium nitrate pod, which appeared to have punched through the pod at one end and the mining ship at the other. DASCA detected an increasing number of life forms within the tube. We radioed Sam, the captain of the mining ship, to have his people do a security sweep; they eventually pulled up the flooring in the entertainment room, and found evidence of the "coral" forming there. We told them to evacuate and seal off the area, but before they complied, one of the miners, Aurora, was killed by an invisible creature.

We had them jettison the black box so that a later study could be made of what tampering had occurred to their controls. After private discussion, with the captain and I deciding that it was unlikely that the crew had survived this attack in the original iteration of the time stream, the captain made the executive decision to rescue the remaining crew and hand them off to the Alliance to determine proper disposition. We instructed them to gather in the airlock. They had only three spacesuits remaining, and six people, so we needed to have them come over to the TIE Fighter—now made to look like an appropriate ship of the time period—in shifts. We got the first three on well enough and had them shed their suits so the captain could return with the suits to collect the remaining miners.

Sadly, one of the creatures broke through into the airlock while the second group was preparing to leave, and Sam was killed. The captain got the other two safely aboard the TIE Fighter, and we raised the force field, but not before one of the creatures got aboard. The captain managed to kill it. We deemed it wiser to space the remains rather than keep them for study, but know the temporal-spatial coordinates in which to find these creatures should further information be necessary. What we do know is that they are apparently 98% cadmium nitrate, and since there are no known records of other encounters with such creatures, we feel that they cannot be a widespread life form.

As all of this was going on, DAsCA at one point detected a sentient-made temporal disturbance half a light year away from our location. Presumably it was connected in some manner to the tampering with the mining ship and the specific targeting of the TIE Fighter. The identity is currently unknown, but we hope that by having our engineer examine the black box data, that we may determine the responsible party.