

***** ATTENTION: INCOMING COMSPAFLT TRAFFIC—PRIORITY 1*****

Sending: Single Page A.I. Analysis of Mission (aka "S.P.A.A.M." report; parenthetical items may or may not be shared with PCs)

Mission Target: *SS Hecate Rose*; medium range bulk transport registered to Misko Shipping Inc. Reported missing 3.8 solar years ago; detected on system traffic control sensor 72.15 solar hours ago. Will not reply to Standard Comms, Navigation Relay Instructions, or IFF signals; ID provided by visual recognition and EM profile recognition protocols. Identity 100% confirmed.

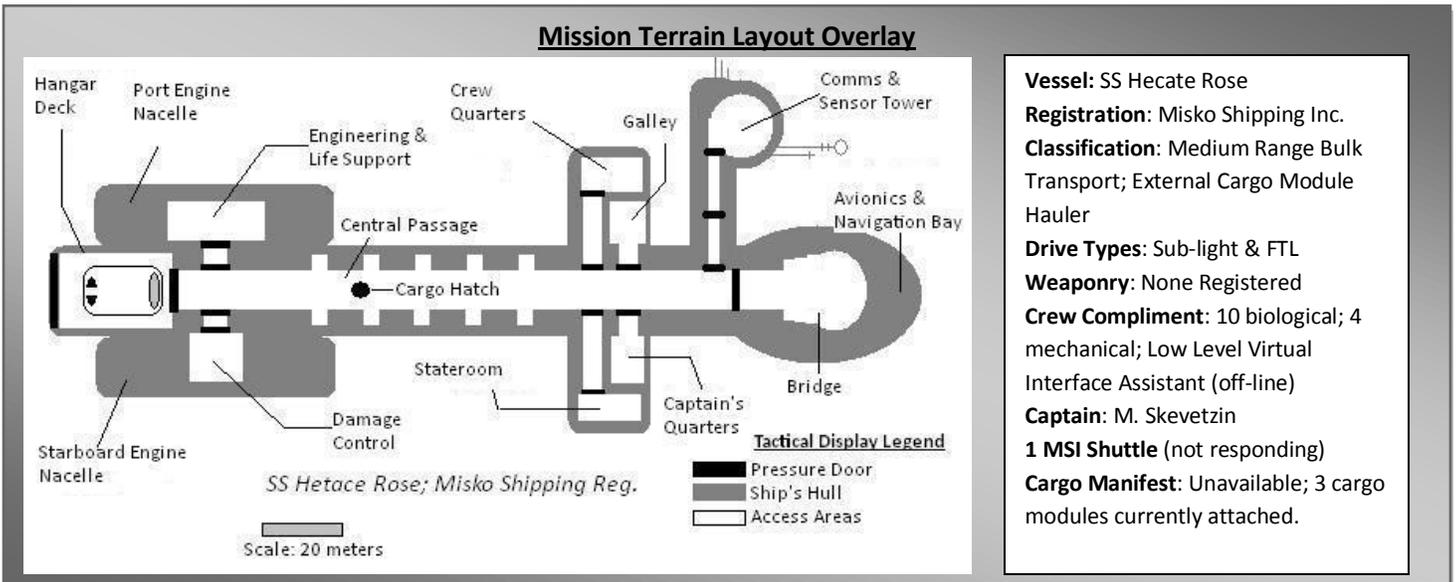
Mission Type: Boarding action to perform recon, rescue, and removal of navigational threat presented by vessel. Investigate vessel's disappearance as mission allows. Below are initial Remote Scout Drone (RSD) scans from 33rd Space Wing / 2nd Recon Squadron:

As per **COMSPAFLTINT SOP**, all mission threat and value assessments are assigned a level (TL) of 1-5, 5 being the highest. Estimations are based on all available HUMINT, SIGINT, A.I.ANAL, and PSYINT sources. *****WARNING: High Levels of Psionic Spectrum Disturbance Detected! Use Extreme Caution!*****

Note to Commander Alpha Team: All local intel was gathered from the on-file registry data (almost 4 years out of date) and a single internal and external sensor pass from RSDs from 33rd / 2nd Recon. The drones have not replied to any signals nor sent any updates since accessing the bridge 6.23 solar hours ago. Intelligence Reliability Assessment: Moderate Accuracy.

Scans indicate that there is currently no internal access to cargo modules; the cargo hatch has been turbo-bonded shut by parties unknown, requiring dock level maintenance to correct. Bravo team will search for external access via EVA operations and recon cargo module if access is found. Bravo team S.P.A.A.M. sent in separate transmission to team commander.

Alpha Team insertion will be via EVA ops through aft hangar door. Airlock functionality confirmed. Disabled shuttle in bay prevents the unit's lander from entering; tether to external load bearing structure and enter via hangar. **Access Code: TT-590-KH.**



Hangar Deck: Ship's shuttle disabled; see insertion operation notes. (Shuttle controls destroyed, interior covered with dried blood.)

Galley: 3-4 armed crewmen, strong psionic emissions consistent with psionic control detected. Disposition: hostile. **TL-4**

Damage Control Locker: CAUTION—armed illegal explosive ordinance detected. **TL-5.** Analysis: high probability of use against boarding parties or to use as self-destruct mechanism. Suggest disarming device before proceeding. Requisition a "bomb-bot" before departure if team lacks demolitions skill-set.

Engineering / Life Support Station: Status: gravity compensators offline but functional. Atmosphere: normal. **Access Code: A-33-T-5.**

Crew Quarters: Three corpses hanged and mutilated. Bodies in advanced decomposition; air filtration suggested.

Stateroom: Multiple remains of organics, each seated in stateroom chairs. Residual psionic energy detected. Active terminal detected; attempt access to company files / logs to help determine ship's recent status; target of opportunity.

Central Passage: Large amounts of cover. Two heavily modified maintenance bots with laser weapons destroyed 1 RSD before evading; still considered hostile. **TL-3.** (Bots will hide in maintenance panels until party investigates Cargo Hatch, then ambush.)

Bridge: Status: unknown. Status of RSD's: unknown. Strong Psionic emissions detected. All ship's systems accessed via Bridge.

Captain's Quarters: Unidentified woman dancing, no audio detected; observed skill: high. Dance genre: erotic. No psionics detected. Schizophrenia or severe PTSD suspected. **TL 1.** Nonresponsive to RSD standard questioning; attempt interrogation.

Comms / Sensor Tower: Status: unknown due to EM and psionic interference. (A large, alien looking bio-mechanical matrix can be seen out portals winding around tower. Bravo team is also seen, floating limply in space until party observes them. Then they start clawing madly at portals before disappearing out of view towards the rear of the *Hecate Rose*. Assessment: Bravo team is under control and coming for you. Strong PSIONIC emissions detected from outer hull. Subdue Bravo team if possible. **TL 5.**)

Top Secret Ultra Golf Mike (GM) Level Clearance Only: *SS Hecate Rose* was purposefully jumped into deepest space by a computer virus installed by Misko Corporate Office, to remove all trace of an illegal bio-chemical experiment being investigated by the authorities. Insurance claim has also been collected. The ship ended up in a system with a stranded, powerful psionic alien of great intelligence and age. It controls surviving crew and bots and used their knowledge and ship databases to figure out how to jump back. It is now seeking to capture a powerful warship in order to find the race that stranded / banished it ages ago and get revenge. Will a controlled boarding party lead it to the very warship it seeks? Tech levels can be altered to match settings without greatly affecting the adventure. I hope you enjoy playing...

The Return of the Hecate Rose

1 Page Dungeon by Aaron Kavli