

# FREEDOM FORCE

When Good Intentions Go Bad

Game Master: Jim Caswell

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## Prologue

Shortly after terrorist attacks were foiled, a group of high-ranking officials realized that the United States had struggled under the thumb of international terrorism for far too long. Seeming to be untouchable, organizations like IOGWP were continually defeated, only to rise from their own ashes to strike once more. Operating under former-U.S. Marshal head Arthur "Ice" Slade, Freedom Force was again made operational, using volunteer operatives and were based out of the Mongoose – a flying fortress. This time, the war on crime is being taken to the enemy's doorstep.

## Chapter 1

Pallequin, now following leads on the actions of Vision and her fellow Followers of Germanicus after leaving [The Hawk](#), finds himself in Washington D.C. Having learned of a ritual murder in the Ritz hotel, he meets Detective Fredrick Wyte, head of the Washington branch of Strikeforce. The two exchange information and investigate the deaths of 20 influential innocents. The trail turns out to be cold with no sign of the Followers, though Wyte promises to keep Pallequin up-to-date on the investigation. Pallequin also learns of an on-going hearing that Wyte is to testify at that is investigating the involvement of Neska International with Viper and ongoing investigations into other terrorist organizations. Pallequin decided to tag along.

At the hearing, Pallequin meets up with Midnight, who is there to provide testimony on IOGWP operations, even though his information appeared to be out-of-date (or completely erroneous). As the two of them talk, they see Slade enter and try to find out about him. The three talk about the war against IOGWP until a strike team breaks up the meeting. Acting quickly, Midnight throws up a force wall that slows them down for only a fraction of a second – long enough for a squad of CSB agents to start evacuation procedures. The three men then begin to fight the four IOGWP agents. Pallequin is quickly set at a disadvantage when Harlan Oates opens the ground beneath Slade and Midnight is forced to fight defensively, making a strategic withdrawal due to a lack of armor. This soon leaves Pallequin being beat upon by the other three agents at once. While Shannon O'Dell and Fernando Gomes took turns hitting Pallequin, Xu King continued to shoot at him from a distance until Midnight resurfaced with CSB backup and took away his rifle. The tide quickly started to turn as Slade climbed out of the ground and began assisting in the fight. Soon all but King had been defeated as CSB reinforcements arrived. The trio also learns that a squad of IOGWP assault agents had attacked the Washington Monument to provide cover for the hit squad, but had been stopped by the D. C. Defenders and a visiting Ravenclaw.

After the IOGWP hit squad is taken into custody, Slade petitions Midnight and Pallequin to join the new Freedom Force. He offers Midnight legal support in gaining custody of his daughter after 15 successful missions and a release from his probation after 30. Pallequin asks for help in investigating the Followers of Germanicus in exchange for his membership. All parties agree as Slade puts six operatives at their disposal to finish investigating the homicides in D. C.

The next morning, the two heroes meet Slade at the airport, where they take a private jet to the Mongoose. Slade gives the men the grand tour of the facilities and introduces them to the staff, leaving them to make themselves equated with their new environment. The two sit down to discuss the future

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when Ravenclaw vortex's in and informs them that he too has joined Freedom Force and is looking forward to hanging out with Pallequin once more. The three then begin to discuss what types of trouble they can get into.

## Interim

*(Inauguration events GMed by Ken Hallaron in The Champions of Justice)*

After an incredibly close race between Chillin and Mahn, the villain group known as Havok interrupted the inauguration ceremony. Although the American Rangers and the D. C. Defenders were on hand to fight them, V. P. -elect Niels Patsen died. While the CoJ tracked down Havok and brought them to justice, the damage had been done. In the process, a pair of daggers were found with rune symbols carved in them. Taking note of this fact, Slade makes a point to get a copy of the report and the broken daggers, sharing the information with Pallequin. Mahn quickly chose Chillin to be his Vice President and had a emergency swearing-in ceremony at 11 p.m. This did not stop America from losing some global credit, leaving Freedom Force spending a majority of the next few months detouring foreign powers from trying to strike at America while they are down. Meanwhile, it is ruled by the committee that Neska not only has nothing to do with Viper operations, but proves to be a shell corporation itself, leaving yet another question unanswered.

## Chapter 2

Slade called the three heroes into his office with a lead on a terrorist outpost within the United States. After going through Neska International's dummy records, a bar was found. Located in a small town in Mississippi, it was bought through a subsidiary several levels down the line. The boys were sent out to check it out incognito. With the help of a Ravenclaw spell, he and Pallequin are made to look a little less obvious. When they get there, however, they find that the bar is actually a strip club. Among the occupants is the former-Vigil member Maelstrom, who appears to be there strictly for the entertainment. In addition, as the trio begins to make plans, an Asian woman enters alone. As Maelstrom fails at trying to pick up the new arrival, Pallequin begins trying to draw attention to himself. By waving around a large wad of cash, he draws the attention of the dancer on the stage, which offers him a "fantasy dance" downstairs.

As Pallequin carries Knight Stalker downstairs, he moves out of sight of Ravenclaw, thus breaking the wizard's spell and revealing him in his true form. Fortunately, Midnight had already made his way downstairs and blew out the lights. This tactic worked until he was forced to blow out the entire basement. This drew some attention as the girl's downstairs set off an alarm. Their movements also alerted Midnight to the location of the hidden lab. At this point, Knight Stalker hit Pallequin with an electrical burst. Meanwhile, upstairs, the Asian woman revealed herself to be Whirlwind with her incredible burst of speed as she and Maelstrom began fighting hired mercs while Ravenclaw, Chocolate Starfish, and Cow Patty headed downstairs.

With Silo and various mercs picking off innocent bystanders left and right, Maelstrom tried to provide cover and strike back in his fog form while Whirlwind faced off against Boy Toy and Dominatrix Barbie. At the same time, a traffic jam of bodies formed upon Pallequin's location. As Ravenclaw slowly whittled down the opposing forces, Midnight attempted to scout out the lab and detain Knight Stalker. As soon as

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Pallequin had gained some ground, he started dismantling the club from the ground up. Ravenclaw pulled off a mass teleport to just outside the building as the bar crumbled. Once outside, Whirlwind finished off Silo and introduced herself to the group. She revealed that her objective was to find Silo (the daughter of an old ally who had gone astray).

Begrudgingly working together, all of the heroes took the bad guys (minus an escaped Starfish) into custody and transported them to the Mongoose, where they were greeted by Slade. After introductions to Whirlwind and Maelstrom were done, Whirlwind asked that Silo be turned over to her after questioning was completed; to which Slade begrudgingly agreed. Midnight also suggested that Slade talk to the two of them about membership. While Maelstrom seemed eager to hear of such an offer, Slade simply told him that there might be a job for him (but not with Freedom Force) and that he would see what he could do about setting it up.

After an extensive questioning session that led to this being a solo operation, Slade turned Silo over to Whirlwind and transferred the other prisoners to a normal holding facility. Having the local authorities meet her at the parents' home, Whirlwind returned Silo to her parents and had her arrested by the police.

## Chapter 3

*(Guest-GMed by Ken Hallaron)*

Pursuing a tip reporting terrorist activity in Seattle, Slade called Freedom Force into his office for a meet and greet with several guests. Midnight was the first to arrive in the office, only to be greeted by Windwalker (a new recruit to the team), Powerball and Spectrum. After a heated verbal battle between Midnight and Spectrum with Slade enjoying every second, things wore down and prepared for the meeting. Impatient about Pallequin and Ravenclaw's absence, Slade called out to his secretaries, only to be answered with silence. Further investigation not only revealed that the heroes and secretaries were missing, but the entire crew of the Mongoose as well.

Putting out a call for backup from the rest of the Champions of Justice, Spectrum received word that rescue operations were underway by both them and the Hawk to rescue over 100 people, including the two missing heroes, who appeared in midair. The signal was then immediately cut off, once again stranding the quintet aboard the shanghaied stealth ship. After much bickering, they agreed to stick together and search the ship. The first strange discovery was that of a dinosaur carcass, killed by what appeared to be gun wounds. This strange discovery was soon followed by them finding a time machine, which had been recovered by the Champions several years before and turned over for government study. The final surprise was a dinosaur that was moving through the ship, which Slade killed in short order. This led the ensemble to the conclusion that the time machine must have malfunctioned and was hurling them through time.

It didn't take long for the heroes to learn the truth, however, and discover that Kristoffer, Son of Modred was the one behind the hijacking. While the resident heroes didn't want to follow the advice of the visiting Champions, the group soon discovered some of Kristoffer's henchmen, overpowered them, and tried to take their place. When the men and their suits teleported out, the group was forced to pursue Spectrum's idea. While Spectrum and Powerball teleported out of the ship and headed for England to get backup

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pilots, the remaining Forcers headed for the bridge to face off against a golem. Spectrum made the round trip in time to give them a hand, bringing a pilot along with, while Slade used his override commands to return control back to the bridge. The final difficulty was in the fact that the landing gear was locked up, forcing Spectrum to manually lower them from the outside and bring the giant ship in for a landing on his back.

## Epilogue

Once all of the heroes were on terra firma in England, Spectrum made a few calls including to Vice President Chillen, calling for the permanent grounding of the Mongoose. Chillen did him one better by telling him that Mahn was removing Freedom Force's charter and reassigning Slade. Windwalker returned to the states as a disgruntled independent hero. Pallesquin and Ravenclaw once again headed out on their own to continue the search for the Followers of Germanicus. (For the continued adventures of Pallesquin and Ravenclaw, go to [Avatar](#).) Midnight was granted a pardon for his help with the organization. Once he was settled in his native country once more, Midnight was visited by Valiant and the Pendragons and was offered membership to the elusive group. He was grateful for the offer, but declined with the understanding that he would help if ever needed.