

Witness Statement- Toryn Farr

My name is Toryn Farr. I am from Chandrila and served with the Alliance to Restore the Republic. I was stationed in Echo Base on Hoth during the Galactic Civil War. We had been forced to flee into hiding on the Outer Rim to escape Imperial kill squads after the Battle of Yavin.

The entire Alliance wasn't on Hoth at that point but I would estimate that Echo Base had about 7,500 combat personnel and maybe another 350 non-combatants, mainly medical personnel. It took us 18 months to carve the base out of the rock and ice. It was grueling work to dig and cut all those tunnels so the whole base was pretty spartan. We didn't have time to set up much but Echo Base was protected by a shield generator and we'd installed an Ion cannon to screen us from orbital assaults. Or at least, that's what we thought. We'd prepped smaller artillery weapons in the event of a ground attack, but all in all it was pretty light defenses. Mostly, we were just hoping to stay hidden.

I was a communications officer serving under Commander Chiffonage. There wasn't much in the way of communications since we were trying to stay hidden. My job was to monitor anomalies in Hoth's atmosphere looking for any indication that the Empire had discovered our location. It was pretty dull work overall until we got readings of an unidentified metal object.

We were all afraid that the Galactic Empire had discovered Echo Base, so General Han Solo and Chewbacca were dispatched for a reconnaissance mission. When word came down that they'd engaged an Imperial Probe Droid it threw the base into a panic. General Carlist Rieekan immediately gave the evacuation order and we all began to pack as much of the equipment as we could. Echo base had only been operational for a month.

I was put in charge of communication between the Command Center and Ion Cannon Control. We were calculating firing solutions for the incoming Imperial Star Destroyers. The Ion Canon was critical to our forces escaping. The transports couldn't make it past the Star Destroyers on their own and we only had limited star fighters but an Ion blast could disable a Star Destroyer and give our ships a chance to run the blockade. And of course we had the shield.

Since the Empire couldn't get past our shield and ion cannon from orbit they dropped a ground assault. The Empire landed Imperial Walkers at Moorsh Moraine. We had a coordinated defense of ground troops and our T-47s. My sister was flying one of the Speeders in Rogue group. They did their best to hold off the assault but the Empire had AT-AT heavy assault vehicles with armor so thick that even the blasters on the T-47s couldn't penetrate it. I was still coordinating with Ion Control but I could hear the reports coming in from the front lines. The commanders were reporting more and more snow troopers were getting past the barricades. The T-47s managed to down some of the Walkers, somehow, but the battle was still going poorly. My sister's speeder was shot down but I couldn't get more information on if she'd survived the crash and the whole time the Imperials were getting closer and closer to the base. I was terrified. I mean, we got some training in the Alliance but I wasn't really combat trained

and I'd never been in any battles that devolved into the kind of fighting in the hallways that happened at Echo Base. Once the Walkers got through and destroyed our shield generator... it was awful. After the shield generator was knocked out they started hitting the Command Center. The whole base shook from the explosions, parts of the ceiling started falling on us. We lost communications with most of the squads outside, but they were routed at that point. I could hear blaster fire all over.

My team in the communications center included Corporal Sunsbringer. She was severely injured when the ceiling collapsed on her. There was so much blood. I did my duty and stayed at my post through it all, but it was difficult not to panic. When Commander Chiffonage gave the evacuation order I was so relieved, but then I realized we needed to run through the fight. I was one of the lucky ones. What was left of my team and I were able to avoid the Imperial troopers in the base and make it to the Bright Hope, the last transport ship. I was lucky and made it out without severe injuries. When I found my sister in the hanger before we both made it on the Bright Hope she was being loaded in on a stretcher. We both made it out on the transport but she'd gotten burned in her speeder crash. I've never been so afraid in all my life. We were totally overwhelmed, we had no chance. Sometimes I still wake up in the middle of the night and I can hear the screams of the Alliance commandos who gave their lives so we had time to escape.