

Hello and welcome to an accurate and concise history of the Comstar Order.

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If you don't know what a battletech is, consider watching the first video on this series, otherwise let's get into it.

Before we can get to comstar though, we should first look at the technology they exist to manage, the HPG or Hyper Pulse Generator. HPGs work like the FTL engines that send jumpships tens of lightyears, but rather than sending space faring vessels full of passengers, cargo, and weapons, the HPGs exclusively send data. About two kilobytes per millisecond of compressed data. And that can be sent fifty lightyears to the next HPG station and chained for as many jumps as you need, or are willing to pay for.

At the height of its power the Star League had created the Star League Communication Network or SLCOMNET, and had built 50 class A HPGs which would send a data pulse every twelve hours or so, and a class B above every inhabited planet, which would send messages once a day.

When Stefan Amaris staged his Coup and took over the Star League he destroyed several of the HPGs, crippling the vast communications network. After Amaris had been dealt with by Aleksandr Kerensky, he went to one of his friends within SLCOMNET, Jerome Blake and told him of his plan to evacuate the inhabited systems to keep the immense power of the SLDF out of the hands of the warring great houses. Blake disagreed with Kerensky but respected his decision, asking only that any of the SLDF officers that wished to stay within the inner sphere be placed under his command so he could have a force specifically to defend the communications network. \*remember that, it will be important later\*

Once Kerensky fucked off, the five great houses immediately began plotting how they could pull one over on the other four, and while none of them could agree on anything related to the running of the Star League, they did all agree to promote Blake to Minister of Communications so he could repair the HPG network.

After several years Blake renamed SLCOMNET to ComStar and conned each of the great houses to signing a non aggression pact, that granted ComStar neutrality and prevented them from engaging in hostilities against it else they should lose access to the only viable form of interstellar communication. The communication protocol of 2787 also officially designated Blake's own crypto the C-bill as the default form of currency to be used when conducting business with his monopoly, I mean company.

Once all of the houses had signed and his legally binding documents, Blake took the remainder of the SLDF that Kerensky had left him, swooped in, took over earth, and declared it ComStar property, and as such neutral and untouchable to the five great houses. They were all outraged of course, but Blake was in control of their phone service, had a better army than any of them, and they were too busy attacking each other to even attempt to remove him and his organization from terra and claim the birthplace of humanity for their own.

Blake, seeing that the great houses were wantonly destroying each other with no regard for what got in the way, decided it would be up to ComStar to secure the scientific and technological advancements humanity had managed to create, lest they be lost forever. In that regard he created the First Circuit and fostered a “secret Brotherhood” among the members of his organization, as to keep the secrets of the Star League safe.

As he got older the more fanatical parts of ComStar grew, and when he eventually grew ill, he purportedly told his second in command, **Conrad Toyama**, that ComStar must be turned into a religion if it were to survive the coming darkness and then painlessly passed away. This is obviously the undeniable truth of those events as Conrad wouldn't let anyone see Blake's body, immediately declared himself Primus, and enacted sweeping changes to the organization Deifying Blake, so there's no way he **killed him and took power for himself**.

**Commented [1]:** Maybe put in an image of discount dan?

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**Commented [3]:** there was a short story about that meeting between Blake and Conrad

Conrad went reverse mechanicus and replaced the corporate structure of ComStar with a Mystical Religious one, obfuscating their technical practices behind rituals and occult ceremonies so onlookers could not comprehend how to operate their ancient technology.

During this time the elite intelligence agency ROM was also created within ComStar. As Blake has purportedly told Conrad that humanity had to “burn itself out” ROM spent decades sabotaging the Great Houses any time they were on the verge of even the smallest technological breakthrough, as he thought that ensure Blake's vision came to pass, ComStar must be the only faction with any access to higher technology.

Shortly after the second Succession War ComStar tried to raise the price of sending transmissions, and much like the how the CEO of Costco threatened to murder anyone who tried to raise the price of the hot dog combo above 0.31 C-bills, the Primus of ComStar went crazy and started trying to assassinate the members of the first circuit which led to the ComStar Civil War. Which ended when one of the Precentors sent his best assassin to execute mad Primus and then create an elaborate coverup so no one would be aware that ComStar was capable of infighting. He also formally created the ComGuard, a secret and elite private army to protect ComStar so they did not have to rely on mercenaries.

Later Primus founded the Explorer Corps and sent out agents with the public mission of exploring and mapping more of the galaxy, but with the secret agenda to locate and destroy any lost tech left behind by Kerensky so it would not fall into the hands of the Great Houses. Their greatest failure was when a mercenary company, the Grey Death Legion, discovered the Helm Memory Core and proliferated copies of advanced Star League Era Technology to all of the Great Houses before **ROM could intervene**. They would also stumble on the Clans a bit later but we'll get to that.

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Primus Julian Tjepolo decided that the only way to bring about the end of the Great Houses and fulfill Blake's Word, as the previous three Succession Wars failed to make any meaningful change, was to foster alliances between Great Houses so they would ally themselves and have greater power to kill each other. Unfortunately one of the superpowers he created to be easily

steamrolled over, the Federated Commonwealth, pulled a pro gamer move and won the fourth Succession War and became a palpable threat to even ComStar itself.

When Primus Myndo Waterly became Primus she tried to take a more active role in bringing about Blake's supposed plans. She publicly revealed ComGuard stationed at the HPGs above every planet "For their own Protection" and then tried to drum up tensions between the Draconis Combine and the FedComs.

Just before the Clans invaded in 3049, she actively tried to **snuff out humanity herself** rather than let it burn out on its own by using the explorer corps agents who'd found the clans home worlds to funnel them information, and attempting to hand the inner sphere to the clans. She was killed by Precentor Marshal Anisatias Focht.

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Focht worked closely with the clans while they were taking over periphery planets, but when they set their sights on earth, he challenged them to a single battle for the fate of the inner sphere. And so the Battle of Tukayyid took place and Focht managed to rout the clans with thousand year old technology underhanded tactics like supply lines, and logistics infrastructure.

Once the impending threat of the clans was temporarily dealt with Focht and the new Primus Sharilar Mori set about trying to change ComStars public appearance and return to Blake's original mission of running a neutral secular company rather than a religion. This caused the ComStar Scism and the Word of Blake, the dogmatic neophyte faction, split off and fled to the Free Worlds League.

ComStar then had little trouble helping form the Second Star League, having manipulated all of the great houses for centuries prior.

With the backing of all the great houses they helped execute two operations that eliminated one of the clans, and permanently ended the Clan Invasion, only to return home to the Word of Blake capturing Terra, forcing ComStar to relocate its headquarters to Tukayyid, and then launching a Jihad when **they were denied entry into the new Star League.**

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The Jihad lasted thirteen years and caused problems for everyone, but they were eventually defeated by Devlin Stone, an amnesiac and possibly just Arthur Steiner-Davion. Stone kicked the crap out of the Blakists and took Terra for himself, and placed restrictions on ComStar, barring them from having a security in intelligence force.

ComStar personnel were also confined to their facilities and were kept under constant military supervision by the republic of the sphere.

In 3132 the entire HPG network was sabotaged, attacked, or otherwise destroyed by forces unknown, (it was the deep cover blakists within the republic literally nuking hyperspace, but that's fairly new info) and ComStar **was once again tasked with fixing the network.** Unfortunately

the very fabric of hyperspace had been altered in such a way that repaired HPGs burned out immediately, and so their very purpose, running the HPGs, unachievable, the C-Bill lost all its value, and ComStar went bankrupt, being absorbed mostly by the Republic of the Sphere and later the Wolf Empire, while all of their Free Worlds Republics assets were absorbed by Clan Sea Fox, who would eventually figure out how to stabilize hyperspace and fix the HPG network.

And that's it for ComStar, they had a little uprising from a militarized faction called the Blessed Order in the end I didn't mention, because it was put down by Devin Stone after they did a single thing, so they were largely inconsequential.

ComStar Started as nothing, became the conniving mystical space AT&T we know and tolerate, and then faded with a puff rather than bang.

This video would not have been possible without the Sarna Wiki, so if you want to do your own reading on everything BattleTech, head over there, or for a more in depth look at some of the factions mentioned in this video go watch tex of the black pants legion, Critical rocket, or Grimdark Narrator as they have much more focused content than these overviews. Links are down in the dooblydoo. Thank you for watching.

**Commented [7]:** yeah that's some bullshit on the writers part not going to lie