



June 6, 2123

Dear Fellow Solarian,

My associates have brought to my attention your lifelong record of courage, enthusiasm and selfless attention to duty. No matter what the circumstances, you have never failed to rise to the occasion, to succeed in the face of adversity, or to meet new challenges with skill and willingness.

Now a challenge of unprecedented magnitude faces all the peoples of Solara. Humanity must band together to bring this unwanted war with the evil empire of Andromeda to a rapid close, with victory our only acceptable goal. Make no mistake about it, should Andromeda accomplish its ends, civilization as we know it shall cease; our descendants will live their lives under the slavemaster's lash. For that is Andromeda's true intention, as shown by its history and our knowledge of the territories it has conquered.

But Andromeda shall not succeed in this intention, no matter how superior their numbers and equipment may appear at this moment. For we have one asset which is as alien to the Andromedans, with their insect-like social order and community intelligence, as they are to us. They can never understand the nature or power of that asset -- the free and unconquerable spirit of the individual human which has ended so many tyrannies in the past. We can state with confidence that although the enemy can breed hordes of vicious fighters and send them hurtling through space toward our heartlands, he can never breed anything to equal, let alone surpass, the individual intelligence and resourcefulness of our human citizens. In the face of this intelligence and resourcefulness, Andromeda's apparent superiority is as a child's sand-castle against a great ocean wave.

It is therefore with total confidence that I appeal to those special human qualities that shine with such brightness in you. I ask, in the certain knowledge that it will be forthcoming, for your cooperation in mankind's great effort to protect itself, to shield its children against tyranny from beyond the stars. I ask you to once again sacrifice your personal goals temporarily as you step into the cockpit of a Katana spacefighter to enter the fray against the great inhuman enemy, but I know that you will not consider this a sacrifice. Like me, you know that without this effort, we will sacrifice all. You know that if we do not fight now, we doom all men to living like animals through uncounted eons. You know that nothing we may give or lose in such a struggle is truly a sacrifice.

Therefore, let me thank you in advance for the contribution I am sure you will make, and let us both look forward to the day when all humanity can lay down arms with the contentment that comes from peace, and the satisfaction that comes from the triumph of justice. There is no question in my mind that you will cooperate to the fullest with the accompanying notice from the Selective Service Administration, and I would like to be the first to welcome you to the ranks of the United Planets Space Force. May you and all of us enjoy good fortune in the times to come.

Sincerely,

Giorgi I. Spelnikov
President of the United Planets