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EMPEROR'S HAMMER GALACTIC NEWS

The Official EH News Agency



ASTATINE NEW FLEET COMMANDER



Ten standard years after taking command of the Emperor's Hammer Strike Fleet, Grand Admiral Ronin will be stepping down from his duties as Fleet commander. In his place EH Executive Officer Sector Admiral Astatine, promoted to Grand Admiral last week will be taking command. Together with a promotion to the most prestigious rank of the Imperial Navy, Astatine will handle all the duties Ronin holds and his ownership of the EH will be increased to forty per cent. This announcement was made at the weekly CO Staff Meeting last week.

Many promotions and medals were received but SA Astatine's reward was unquestionably the most honourable but also the most surprising.

Despite giving away command, GA Ronin will remain in the Fringe and as an advisor to Astatine. He will also continue overseeing his sixty per cent ownership of the

EH, which includes mining corporations, and other facilities and businesses operating for the EH. They will of course still be used to supply the fleet and its territories.

Even though his share of the EH is greater than that of Astatine, he has made it clear that he will not order or micromanage him and the latter will have full command authority.

The reasons behind Ronin's decision to retire his position are unclear, although he has expressed that after ten long years in command, it was time to pass on the burden of expanding the EH and restoring the Empire to someone else. He also expressed total confidence in his XO and that he was certain he would make a great leader.

The promotion of an officer to the highest and most honourable rank is an optimistic direction for the EH. The number of high ranking officers is increasing all the time, strengthening the fleet with strong leaders. The appointment of a second Grand Admiral shows a stronger EH with the restoration of the Empire looming even nearer.

The ceremony for GA Astatine's promotion to Fleet Commander will take place at 2300 hours on Aurora Prime. In the event, GA Ronin will hand him his Fleet Commander badge and his flagship the SSSD Sovereign. Other flagships from each of the other battle groups will also be present at the occasion including the recently named new TIE Corps Battle Groups flagship: the formidable ISD *Challenge*.

