

Unto Dame Brionna of Stanway, Commander of the Arch-ducal Guard and Military Adviser to the Throne

From Clarence Strawberry, Director of Military Intelligence

Re: The military situation in Hanal

Several noteworthy developments in the last week:

- The Hanalian airguard has defeated the rebel vollers and control the skies generally, with a couple of notable exceptional areas.
- The Hanalian navies have control of the seas near Hanal, but due to the nature of their ships cannot stop fast cutters, schooners or other maneuverable ships, which pass them and avoid them at will. Rebel warships however, except for those within the bay at the city of Snannurkazz have been destroyed.
- Rebel armies, primarily directed by the Kov of Snannurkazz and his immediate generals, and composed of his troops, the troops of four other Kovs (out of 36 Kovs total) and the more modest forces of several Stroms and with the support of a considerable number of Pallans (knights as it pleases you) are nimble, well generalled and under better direction than the much more massive national army, which includes royal forces (the Iron Legions) as well as the personal armies of the bulk of the Kovs and most Stroms. It is noteworthy that many Pallans are refusing to take sides, meaning that in chivalry there is rough parity, but the troop numbers overwhelmingly favor the crown, should they manage to ever bring the rebels to pitched battle.
- Snannurkazz and two allied cities are well fortified and capable, now with renewed supplies, to survive a siege through the winter - which is very bitter in the far north.
- The Inquisition army has "liberated" a swathe of territory near the southeastern border of the Empire, but is now at a total standstill, they are simply too outnumbered. They are in a holding pattern now, waiting aid from other Paranswarmian kingdoms no doubt.
- There is an Elder Man of War holding station over Snannurkazz, which is the most vulnerable of the three rebel cities to bombardment. The other two (Spikakur and Menaham) are partially underground and are well supplied. The Man of War has not communicated with anyone, but it shot down a squadron of vollers intent on continuing the bombardment using its energy lances, and since then the airguard has not attempted to repeat the process.
- There is a small taskgroup of a full Nolder Armada (the largest voller known of any nation) and two war schooners that are traversing the country slowly. No airguard ships approach them, and generally they have not engaged in the war, but puzzlingly they twice used a combination of death lances and energy lances on small fortified villages that did not seem involved with either side of the civil war. We know nothing appreciable about them, except that they are blazoned with the symbol of Curinirim in some white metal on their crystal hulls and seem to be crewed entirely by drow with a Nolder admiral (I cannot guarantee that, but there are many reports of sightings of a Nolder commanding the bombardments of the aforementioned fortified areas.) I apologize, but

the intricacies of Nolder uniforms and symbols are too great for us to determine more than that.