

Report to the Archduke Alastair, all hail his benevolence
From Victor Clutterbuck, Assistant to the Assistant Minister of Population
Regarding: The Western provinces and borderlands

Well - things do seem to have settled down here your grace, and I've done a preliminary overview of population losses in the Western provinces as most of the refugees have returned or are at least encamped nearby.

Unfortunately I must report an estimated total of approximately 100,000 deceased from the recent incursions. I beg your majesty's forbearance that the report is not more precise, but I am working with only 5 assistants and what information I can get from the squires and knights - many of whom are among the dead and a few of whom have limited calculating skills.

I can definitively verify that a total of 67 communities, mostly thorps and dorps but 9 villages, 2 of them walled seats, have been eliminated entirely except for stone structures. We have found thousands of dead unburied in and near those communities and I have requested that military and civil defense units take what actions they can to prevent any appearance of plague as a result. My suggestion has been incinerating the corpses, but of course it is only a suggestion generally. In some limited cases when no survivors or officials were present and the land was bottomland (and thus most likely to harbor plague miasma) I have taken it upon myself, your greatness - I do beg your forgiveness if this does not meet your exacting standards or desires - to have my escort ([a detachment of the forces of one of the knights](#)) to gather and burn the corpses.

Thousands of farms have been razed, including the destruction of fields, standing haystacks, cattle, pigs, chickens (less effectively), ducks, sheep, and geese - farmsteads have generally been burned along with barns. Many of the dead were at these farms.

I simply was never prepared to issue this type of report Your Most Magnificent Grace, and I can only ask that you send some direction as to the specific statistics you desire from me. I am so much more used to tallying births and death notices sent by local community leaders, rather than the often disfigured, dismembered and ruined corpses of entire areas. I will however endeavor to give good service as I always have. Let me know what you want and I will obtain it.