

Unto Dame Brionna, Captain of the Archducal Guard and Chief Military Advisor to His Gracious Eminence, Alastair, Archduke of Canberry
From Clarence Strawberry, Director of Military Intelligence

Two pieces of data mi-Lady

1. The battle in Hanal has ground to stasis and is likely to remain so until next Spring. Church troops and their allies cannot make further advances because they are too badly outnumbered, but they cannot be overrun due to the positions that they are in. We estimate that military casualties between the two sides now exceed 40,000. We cannot estimate civilian casualties at this time. We are unable to estimate the long term goals of the Queen Empress. We have reason to believe however that spring will force unaligned nobles who have been holding out as neutrals to jump one way or the other.
2. We are now positive that the "war" as a whole is also taking place in the Underdark. We have allies in which we have embedded agents, and the battle near Gates in the upper Underdark is not the only one. There was some sort of ejection and possibly the fall and destruction of an entire drowan city. Refugees streamed out and went to two nearby drow cities, and the tunnels now seem sealed, allowing no trade. Some particularly powerful magic is also in play.

Please advise us of any actions you or his grace wish taken. We can do little in either case, but we can direct intelligence gathering as you wish.