

Unto the Mouth
From a toe in the South

Report:

I have been long instantiated in the refugee population in the South - those from the old Confederacy of the South Kingdoms. By direction of the Brain.

I was to only report occasionally, and I think this is a proper time, as it pleases you honored Mouth.

The Princess is well loved among her people, even in exile and despite the failure of her father to protect them. Nevertheless they love her and they accept her marriage to the Archduke as good not only for her but for them. They look forward in general to being part of an organized state again.

Her people have cleaned out the corrupted quite well I must say. They have reached decent agreements with several small time plars from the eastern borders of the Spicelands, who are supplying some of their needs. They have set up several hundred townships. That empire must have been quite the thing, as by my count there are still between 1 and 3 million of them, even after the invasion, the flight, and the toll that various slavers and raiders took on them. Yet, they are still of good cheer and most are good folk.

Four things tho I wished to bring to your attention honored Mouth and through you to the ear of his Grace.

1. The Mountains of the Mages have finally taken notice of them, due to encroachments, and have reacted... stiffly - now that's only some of the mages of course, but they blasted two towns that had set up beyond the border posts to flinders. The folk need to hear clearly that they must not cross those markers. Otherwise there will be more deaths. The mages bother no one but each other... and anyone who crosses their markers with the blackened skull symbol.
2. There are still very active groups worshiping Berta. I don't no no theo stuff BUT, I do know she went crazy and was married or something to that whip guy that all those who follow the Lord of Light know to hate. I know they all used to worship Berta, but our priests are making good progress with the true faith - however these cults... I don't know, these are nice folk, they don't mean nothing, I don't want them to be et or something horrid. You know?
3. A group of them have started building an actual castle - most of the towns have just forts, but one group - its got a couple of the pitiful handful of surviving mages with it. Ul'foth the Unshriven and Caldrena the Witch by name - and they have used their power to help build this castle. I wonder why... they aren't making any gesture at ruling, but they MUST want something.

4. Oh yeah, a force of those damn things from off the coast fell on a Southerly village with no fort a week ago - and slaughtered all of them in a horrible blood ritual. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes. After the fact, otherwise I wouldn't be writing this. There was a survivor though, a boy who hid in the trees, he gave me a description and that matched what the Brain said about tentacle guys with purple flying monsters.