



- Published & Edited by Ellytinkin Twinfirbling -

10th Earth 2150R

# WAR!

## Cleeve (7<sup>th</sup> Earth 2150R)

It is with a solemn heart that I must reveal to you that a courier from Cleeve arrived in our fair city of Darringmoor in the dead of night bringing news to Protector Fairdon that Sardinian soldiers crossed the River Furlflow at dawn on the 6<sup>th</sup> Day of Earth and have captured the Elkian forts of Stonewater, Taranae and Braddick. At the time that couriers were dispatched across our land to warn regional Protectors of the threat, a sizeable force of Sardinian soldiers were heading southwards toward Cleeve.

Survivors of the attack on the forts along the Furlflow report that the Sardians secretly crossed the river at several points north and south of the Linton Bridge, in the dead of night, using improvised barges. They moved quickly to seize that strategic crossing point and their main force began moving across the bridge just before sunrise.

Commander Greysword of Fort Stonewater personally led a force of his best knights to retake the eastern end of the Linton Bridge but was reportedly killed in the first assault. The men of Stonewater put a brave

fight but were unable to stop the relentless assault and were forced to retreat to Fort

Braddick, which itself came under attack later that day.

Eye-witnesses who observed the Sardinian army as it advanced south along the Furlflow described the banners of the Legions of the Black Widow and Sundered Skull, confirming previous reports we had that those elite Trezkillian units were active in the Porgruu Bogs in the weeks prior to the invasion.

What news could be sourced from Protector Fairdon indicates that a declaration of war was delivered to the Lord Protector of Denhaven by the Sardinian ambassador at midday on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Earth – hours after the attack had commenced! Denhaven has sent messengers to all garrisons putting our nation on a war footing and ordering local officials to raise their feudal levies and muster at their respective staging points. While the situation appears grave, the Lord Protector has called for calm, saying that diplomats have been immediately sent to Gablehead to negotiate a peace and end this skirmish before it escalates out of control.

The Northern Marshall is said to have left his garrison in Thungar and will personally

take command of forces to be marshalled in Darringmoor.

## **HARD TIMES IN NORTHLAND**

### **Potterville (30<sup>th</sup> Gold 2150R)**

News brought to us by merchant traders who docked this week tells us of disastrous flooding in Northland that has severely impacted the grain harvest this year.

Farm holdings near Potterville and as far north as Hearthvale Home were completely inundated by torrential rain over many weeks, causing land subsidence in many areas. There was minimal loss of life but the damage to the wheat and barley crop was significant and will have an impact on grain supplies to major cities across the Greater Inner Sea.

Mayor Tallfoot, of Potterville, is quoted as saying, “The damage was great and will cause a sharp rise in prices. The cost of a loaf of bread could rise to as much as a silver trade – which I certainly could not afford!”

## **SPINDLETHRIFT SPENT – ASHFOLD MAY FOLD**

### **Ashfold (5<sup>th</sup> Earth 2150R)**

A break-in at the famous Spindlethrift distillery in Ashfold is causing grave concerns in the local area.

Supply of Ashfold Sweet, the popular liquor made from mead by local distiller Spindlethrift, has been threatened. Ashfold Sweet is widely sort after across the north of Eldoria, and (according to experts) the first batch of the season is the sweetest, with the honey aroma strongest. Unfortunately this first batch has been stolen during a midnight raid, right under Spindlethrift’s nose.

Four men are sort after for questioning in conjunction with this theft and a possible link to five murders in the tiny nearby hamlet of Rowland. A tall thin nobleman accompanied by his retinue - a soldier of average build , an extremely well built sailor and a tall, gaunt well-spoken man are wanted in relation to this matter.

Master Spindlethrift woke in the morning only to discover the batch had been taken and said, “I don’t know who would want to do this to me. The innkeeper said four people stayed the night and were gone in the morning...maybe it was them...I don’t understand...”

Master Glowin, Ashfold’s Innkeeper said, “The men in question kept pretty much to themselves but I thought it mighty suspicious that they kept looking out at the window facing the distillery!”

The citizens of Ashfold, who are dependent on Ashfold Sweet, have grave concerns regarding the fiscal impact on their economy, particularly after the bee blight two years ago.

Kyron the local Ormocean Justicator said no stone would be unturned to bring these culprits to justice!



## **‘PANDA’ KILLER STRIKES!**

### **Darringmoor (9<sup>th</sup> Earth 2150R)**

Local undertaker, Gern Nobel, a popular and professional resident of our fair city was brutally murdered, along with two of his employees, by a barbarian who has become known as the ‘Panda Killer’. Witnesses report that a very large, dangerous man who sports a black and white fur cloak was seen in the local vicinity.

Our local Darringmoor guards were quick to act and quickly tracked down and placed into custody an individual fitting this description and wearing the distinctive ‘panda’ cloak.

It is not clear why this atrocity happened but it has left a community in shock and grieving. This reporter has not seen the like of it in her travels; an innocent man murdered in cold blood, weaponless and in the act of doing his work for the community. There have been many floral tributes left outside the door of ‘Soul’s Rest’.

The suspect has been taken to the Darringmoor Justicator for questioning and sentence is expected to be passed and the fitting punishment dealt today.

## LLANISH MERCENARIES RELOCATE

### Tokia (5<sup>th</sup> Earth 2150R)

The Company of the Silver Gauntlet, one of Llan’s permanent mercenary groups has moved to Tokia and established themselves at Quester Keep, just south of the city. The Silver Gauntlet is commanded by the battle-hardened fighter, Dlerdra Duelbane, whose notoriety was achieved three years ago when she defeated the Acorn Rebels at the Battle of Farristar’s Field, in the Llanish Highlands.

What brings Duelbane and her mercenary band back to the east, especially at a time of military unrest between Sard and Elkia? Is it possible that she had knowledge of the invasion of Elkia this week? Does this bode well for the humble folk of Darringmoor? Tokia is the largest Llanish centre of power to the north Elkian border. Is the relocation of the Company of the Silver Gauntlet a defensive move by the Guilds of Llan or will they try and take advantage of the conflict between Sard and Elkia and seize Darringmoor port? Llan has done this in the past!

It may be time to dust off your festival flags and turn them to the side with the Llanish sheaves of wheat emblazoned on it and fly it

proudly when the Company of the Silver Gauntlet marches into town!

## OBITUARY

### Darringmoor Undertaker Dies at 51

Gren Nobel, a fashionable undertaker of Darringmoor, died last week with a shovel in his hand, doing the work he loved, while on the job at a local Darringmoor ceremony. Six foot tall, gentle of touch and with a ready smile, Gren was always at hand to assist with any needs of families of Darringmoor. He was always sensitive and caring to those grieving their loved ones.

Gren was an upstanding member of the community, involved in many local committees and was life member of the Undertakers Guild. Mr Nobel was often seen donating his time or money to those in need. He was no ordinary undertaker; he was often seen spending Festival days working for the local Esmian healing hall in the Holy Trinity compound.



Gren was born and bred in Darringmoor and apprenticed as a carpenter before he heeded the calling to undertaking. He is mourned by his wife and sons who have taken over the business. Despite their grief they are bravely continuing in Gren’s footsteps looking to the needs of the community because, as his widow aptly said, “Gren would have wished it.”

A private memorial was held by his family and in lieu of any flowers or tokens of sympathy, his widow has asked for donations to the Esmian temple be made in his name.