



The Book of EVE

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compiled by



thx to
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EVE News 2003 YC 105

15/05/2003

CONCORD Pirate Warning

CONCORD has issued a warning statement of a suspected increase in pirate activity in the very near future. Experts on the situation believe that the pirates are intensifying their activity in response to dramatic increase in space travellers within regions traditionally associated with pirates. In order to acclimatize space farers to this new and dangerous situation the DED will make an exceptional effort to keep the pirates at bay, but these efforts can only be sustained for 24 hours or so. After that the DED will leave the outer regions alone and those that travel into these areas will do so at their own risk. Thank you for listening.

29/05/2003

Strip-mining

The empires are becoming concerned that independent individuals are harvesting too much of the stellar resources the empires had staked for their own use. Couple this with the intensified pirate activity due to increases in space traffic and the empires have a real problem on their hands. They have now joined forces in a program that will augment their authority throughout civilized space in the near future. The police will make itself more visible with more staff and increased number of patrols, for instance in areas of empire space hitherto ignored by the police. In reality many feel this effort is too little too late - the asteroid fields owned by the empires are already almost totally ravaged and experts believe that rare asteroid ore is now only available out in the outer regions.

02/06/2003

Used ship salesmen

The SCC has become increasingly agitated with the influx of deceitful merchants dealing in wares which do not meet up to the expected standards. In addition the blatant bundling of various lousy salesmen, who sold ships to other people yet forgot to strip them of the extra equipment, further enlightened the SCC of how bad the situation had become. As a result the ruling body of the SCC has acted hastily to rectify the situation, and decreed that all ships and modules must henceforth be sold in a package and given a stamp of approval by local officials. No assembled ships can be sold on the market, they have to be in mint condition and repackaged. Breaking this law will result in serious repercussions. Turn to a friendly station to repair and repackage a ship and modules before selling.

03/06/2003

Security warning in Obe

CONCORD has issued a travel warning to all those going through the Obe system, a popular hub and trade route. Apparently a loosely held group of terrorists and marauders have been preying on innocent traders. Without mercy, these evildoers prefer erasing all traces of their crimes by actually killing their victims. CONCORD will not stand idly by, and is now calling for re-inforcements. Until then, strong escort is recommended for lone travelers.

07/06/2003

CONCORD deploys Special Ops

An emergency meeting of high-ranking CONCORD officials was held in closed session earlier today, as confirmed by an anonymous source of impeccable reliability.

The impromptu meeting was called following a tidal wave of reports from law enforcement agencies representing each of the five empires and some small, independent territories. "We can no longer guarantee the safety of our citizens. All efforts to restore order have failed. Officers have been slain. We implore CONCORD to come to our aid before more innocent lives are lost," one memo read, according to the source.

Following this morning's conference, a message was immediately transmitted from CONCORD to DED, giving the green light for the deployment of specialized forces to police the most heavily affected areas until a shipment of additional sentry guns can be transported and installed. "Dispatch The Four," one cryptic message read. Further information is unavailable; regularly monitored security channels have gone into "Code Red" mode, in which the transmissions are scrambled and encrypted. The Scope will be at the ready the moment these channels are reopened and more facts are available.

A Travelers' Advisory has been issued for citizens to use extreme caution when visiting the Lonetrek region. Alternate routes, if available, should be selected.

12/06/2003

Concord comments on recent security breaches in empire space

Our sources claim that several steps have been taken within local and galactic law enforcement agencies to address the recent tide of piracy and criminal activities within the boundaries of empire space. High ranking officials within Concord and army officers have denied to comment on any details regarding these operations, as this would compromise the safety of their military and staff, but state that naturally they will do all they can to ensure the safety of all civilians and space travelers within the empires.

The SCOPE

12/06/2003

Factory demand drives up rental prices

Industrial tycoons running manufacture space stations are ecstatic over the high demand for the factory service they provide. Being true capitalists the tycoons have decided to raise the rental cost for their factory slots. It is expected that price for renting factory slots may rise as much as 800% in some areas, less in others.

Manufacturers have already started to complain about the pending rent increase, while the tycoons where last seen laughing all the way to the bank. The rent increase will come into full force tomorrow and experts predict that this will have minimal effects on the extreme demand.

12/06/2003

New and sophisticated friend-foe tracking system implemented

A new and highly advanced galactic system for tracking aggravations between space ships is being deployed by CONCORD and is expected to become operational tomorrow. According to official sources the new system will give CONCORD a better overview of deep space conflicts and will reflect more clearly the nature of the combat. The result is that the legal benefits for attacking pirates will diminish, while attacks on civilized space travelers will have more severe legal repercussions in this new system.

12/06/2003

Small space shuttles to be put on market

The empires have responded to the many requests for cheap alternative ways for space travel by launching space shuttles. These small vessels are only intended to ferry personnel between places and have no weaponry or other ship equipment. The shuttles offer a fast and efficient way to travel between distant places for a very small sum of money. Each of the empires have launched their own shuttle type, so all space farers should be able utilize these new machines. The first batch of space shuttles will arrive tomorrow.

23/06/2003

CONCORD's Most Wanted List published

In an effort to enlist the help of law-abiding citizens concerned over the banditry now rampant in deep space, CONCORD has released a list over the 10 most wanted pirates. The list includes their current known whereabouts, making it easy to track them down. The list will be updated frequently and hunters that manage to kill one of the fearsome pirates will get a honorary mention. Here is the list as it stands today:

Pirate name: Lord Zap
Bounty: 7.562.810
Corporation name: m0o Corp
Location: Passari

Pirate name: Mikhail
Bounty: 6.568.130
Corporation name: m0o Corp
Location: Passari VI - Echelon Entertainment Development Studio

Pirate name: j0rt
Bounty: 4.444.280
Corporation name: m0o Corp
Location: Passari VI - Echelon Entertainment Development Studio

Pirate name: DeiZoN
Bounty: 4.190.001
Corporation name: m0o Corp
Location: Assah IX - Moon 1 - Imperial Armaments Factory

Pirate name: syndic4te
Bounty: 2.011.389
Corporation name: Viziam
Location: Chaven VIII - Moon 1 - Imperial Academy School

Pirate name: Xenocide
Bounty: 2.000.000
Corporation name: I.R.A Inc.
Location: XX9-WV VII - Moon 3 - Salvation Angels Trading Post

Pirate name: Rot Animal
Bounty: 2.000.000
Corporation name: I.R.A Inc.
Location: XX9-WV VII - Moon 3 - Salvation Angels Trading Post

Pirate name: riffin
Bounty: 1.515.589
Corporation name: m0o Corp

Location: Assah IX - Moon 1 - Imperial Armaments Factory

Pirate name: Ywev

Bounty: 1.515.084

Corporation name: m0o Corp

Location: Passari VI - Echelon Entertainment Development Studio

Pirate name: Gauss

Bounty: 1.205.000

Corporation name: m0o Corp

Location: Piekura

25/06/2003

First Contact Festival celebrated tomorrow

Tomorrow marks the 105th anniversary of the Yoiul Conference, where the guidelines for inter-stellar peace and co-operation between the empires were set. As usual, grand banquets are to be held in many places, with the top politicians, financial tycoons and entertainment celebrities present. The day is a national holiday throughout the world of EVE, which may cause reduced service in some places. Space travelers are advised not to take on jobs for empire corporations tomorrow, as they may be lost in the chaotic festivities.

03/07/2003

Malfunction in the Secure Commerce Committee's centralized billing system corrected.

This just in from the Galactic News Network: Shortly after noon GMT (Galactic Median Time) today, system administrators doing routine maintenance work at the Caldari Business Tribunal Information Center in Averon discovered a serious malfunction in the Secure Commerce Committee's centralized billing system.

The source of the malfunction is unknown at this time, but its effects were described by SCC spokesman Jeroku Haldarius as a "significant setback, one which we will be working hard to correct."

Reports from top SCC sources indicate that over the last few weeks, a significant number of the bills charged for public rental of factory and research facilities were not sent out as they should have been. The SCC's accountants will reportedly be working 24 hours a day to correct the errors caused by the breakdown.

In response to the rising wave of outrage from independent station managers and Trans-Empire corporations hit hardest by the malfunction, the SCC are instating a "rapid recovery" program whereby a backlog of rental fees will be sent out to the corporations and individuals who have not been charged yet.

"This is an outrage," said Josanna Worusar, station manager of the Ishukone Corporation Factory at Malkalen V, who rents out both factory and laboratory facilities to individuals and corporations, and who has just recently had to cancel many of her rental agreements due to the SCC decree issued earlier today.

"Of course this puts a dent in our operation. How am I supposed to run a station if I can't get the funds? Rubber bands and bubble gum?"

Confronted with recent rumors claiming the error was the result of an intentional subroutine maliciously planted in the system by an unknown party, the SCC spokesman declined to comment.

20/07/2003

Ameinaka IX - Moon 21 - Six Kin Development Warehouse station closed for repair.

A series of explosions has forced station owners to shut down the docking facilities at the Ameinaka IX - Moon 21 - Six Kin Development Warehouse station. It's generally believed that the damage was caused by a meteor and repairs are underway. Pilots are asked not to attempt docking there until further notice, as the docking facilities are now running on emergency power and can not support sensors or communication systems.

23/07/2003

CONCORD deplores increase in slave trade

CONCORD has released a harsh statement warning against slave trade. The statement is in response to persistent rumors that slaves are becoming increasingly popular as forced labor throughout the world of EVE. CONCORD wants to remind people that slave trade is strictly forbidden everywhere except within Amarr borders and that there are harsh penalties for engaging in human trade. CONCORD ships, and other police forces, may shoot on sight anyone carrying slaves. The Minmatar Republic has also released a statement where they express sadness that the slave trade industry seems to be on the rise and encourages people to stop slave trade wherever it is found, by any means necessary. The Republic itself has taken a strong stance in this and has already attacked and annihilated several slave trader ships.

22/08/2003

CONCORD Issues Travel Advisory

In a statement from Admiral Baryn today, CONCORD issued an emergency travel advisory for the Jakemhii and Kashag constellations, Domain region. "A large number of unprovoked pirate attacks have been reported in those systems," Baryn said. "The identities of the attackers remains unconfirmed, but in all cases the attacks

were swift, merciless, and with superior firepower." CONCORD warns that any pilots in the area may be putting themselves at risk.

27/08/2003

Yong Residents Report Conflict

Colony residents of the icy planet Yong III reported a great battle in the skies, Sunday. Tracking systems identified many ships, of varied make - several of which were apparently destroyed. Debris rained down upon the nearby planet in a fiery astronomical display, reportedly damaging a wasteland relay station. No casualties were reported. The identities of the pilots involved is still unknown, but rumors abound about a connection to the pirate activity in the region.

03/09/2003

SCC takes drastic measures against copyright infringements

The Secure Commerce Commission has taken drastic measures against illegal copying of blueprints. Since the copy laws were changed recently, SCC has tracked down numerous cases where people are still using the old regulations for blueprint copying. SCC will start installing restrictions in appliance with the new laws on blueprints used in illegal copying. This will eject them from their lab slots, but will not otherwise affect them, apart from the new restrictions already mentioned.

03/09/2003

Heideran VII's much appraised book 'Pax Amarria' published

Pax Amarria, a book written by the Amarr Emperor Heideran VII himself, was released yesterday through the Amarr Empire Ministry of Information. It will be published shortly in other empires. In the book, Heideran VII describes his lifelong dream for galactic peace and how he has worked zealously to enforce his vision. The book has met great critical acclaim throughout the Empire and political analysts everywhere say it's a 'must-read' for everyone interested in inter-stellar politics.

06/09/2003

Heideran VII fails to show up at CONCORD meeting

Earlier today the Inner Circle of CONCORD was in session, anxiously waiting for a rare visit from the Amarr Emperor. Heideran VII was intended to make a speech at the meeting, outlining his plans for maintaining the current status quo of peace and harmony. Thus it came as a great surprise when it was Imperial Chamberlain Karsoth that took the podium in place of the emperor. His speech was dry and dense, with little in the way of new information being relayed. No explanation was given to why the emperor failed to show up and the Amarrian delegation quickly left CONCORD headquarters as soon as the session was over.

08/09/2003

Where is the Amarr Emperor?

Since emperor Heideran VII failed to attend a CONCORD meeting the other day there has been no signs of him anywhere. All plans for his public appearance have been cancelled, including many book signings of his new book, Pax Amarria. News from the Amarrian authorities have been conflicting, with offices of the Imperial Chamberlain saying he's resting from a slight ailment, while the Imperial Chancellor says he's on a vacation at one of his remote palaces and does not want to be disturbed. The rumor-mill is already at full speed as could be expected and speculations are ripe.

09/09/2003

Freed child slaves massacred in Roushzar

A ship carrying several hundred slave children en route to Minmatar space was savagely attacked last night in the Roushzar system. The children, all under 15 years of age, had just been given freedom as part of the FAS program initiated by Doriam Kor-Azor and were on their way to relatives in the Republic to start a new life. The carrier ship was attacked by at least five heavily armed frigates and never stood a chance. There were no survivors. No one has claimed responsibility for the act, but paramilitary units loosely connected to the Sarum family have been mentioned as likely candidates. National leaders, as well as the CONCORD Inner Circle, have released harsh statements denouncing the attack. A spokesman for Jamyl Sarum says the heiress lamented the act, but could not condemn the perpetrators for 'acting on their beliefs for the good of the Empire.'

10/09/2003

Zealot cult blamed for massacre. More attacks feared.

Preliminary investigation into the Roushzar atrocities, where hundreds of freed slave children were killed, suggest that a small fanatical Amarrian religious cult may be to blame. They have yet refused to comment on the incident, but their leadership has suddenly gone into hiding. The cult, called Tetrimon (Divine Devotion), has existed for some time now, but this is the first time it has resorted to violence, which begs the question where they got their armaments from. The members of the cult have scattered to the wind after the attack, some to go into hiding, others seeking opportunities for further mayhem. Reliable sources have indicated that two priestesses, Hamida Ytheros and Omon Drakian, along with their escorts have actually entered Minmatar space and have been spotted in the Angils constellation. It is thought that they will be in the Gukarla system, a sacred location in their doctrine, at 17:00 GMT for their midday prayers.

11/09/2003

Nefarious priestesses annihilated yesterday

Yesterday two of the cultists responsible for the attack in the Roushzar system were attacked and killed deep in Minmatar space. A small group of these fanatics were at their midday prayer in the Gukarla system when they were assaulted by a group of patriotic Minmatars. Leading the attack were G'Quan, Loctar and Estios, the three of them promptly destroying the zealots ships. Intelligence agencies have been on the lookout for other members of the Tetrimon cult, they predict at least five prominent members are still on the loose. There has been no sign of them, as of yet.

11/09/2003

A vigil for the Amarr Emperor tonight

A vigil for Heideran VII, the Amarr Emperor, will be held tonight at 19:00 at the Emperor station in the Amarr system. The vigil is being organized by Lady Vetinari of the PIE Inc. and she urges all Amarr pilots and others that wish for the swift recovery of the emperor to attend. The whereabouts and condition of the emperor are still a mystery and many fear that he may be mortally sick. It is the hope of those organizing the vigil that the emperor can quickly return to office before the empire fractionalizes.

12/09/2003

Vigil for the good health of the emperor great success

The vigil held last night in the honor of Heideran VII, the Amarr Emperor, went very well. The vigil was held in the Amarr system and was attended by up to 300 pilots. Most of the attendants were Amarrians, but pilots from other races were also there to show the emperor their respect for his endeavors to maintain world peace. A few troublemakers reared their ugly heads, but no serious breach of peace occurred. An Amarrian delegate was there with a message from the emperor himself. The text of his message was: 'To my concerned children: word of your vigil reached my ears and I send you these few lines in gratitude for your devotion and concern. Alas, my health is not good enough to be with you but in spirit, though your good deed will be remembered now and forever. In times as treacherous as these, peace may seem a distant illusion, but we must never stop fighting to achieve and maintain it. Disruptive forces seek tirelessly to tear us apart and it is easy for the weak-minded to follow the flow. It is up to you, strong of mind and spirit, to hold high the torch of peace; to fall in a war of hate is a disgrace, to fall fighting for peace is a virtue that few can aspire to. But isn't it better to die trying than to never try at all? Fare well, my children, my thoughts are with you and your mission.'

12/09/2003

Gallente President Foiritan concerned for Emperor

The Federation's President, Souro Foiritan, is reportedly gravely concerned about developments within the Amarr Empire, where Emperor Heideran VII has remained out of sight for days. Yesterday the President appeared before the Senate to discuss budgetary issues, but he took the opportunity to discuss the situation within the Amarr Empire. President Foiritan did not hide his admiration for the Emperor, which he described as having 'dragged the world kicking and screaming from a state of perpetual petty rivalries to a state of peace and prosperity.' He continued by saying that the Emperor was a 'shining beacon of light guiding us to safer havens and that if this light would go out we would be lost in this dark and turbulent sea that is inter-stellar relations.' Flowery words indeed, but political analysts tend to agree with the statements made by the president. President Foiritan nevertheless remained optimistic that Emperor Heideran would reemerge soon stronger than ever, and that his message of amity would resound throughout the civilized world for eternity.

13/09/2003

Political instability keeps markets shaken

The uncertainty surrounding the disappearance of the Amarr Emperor has kept the markets all over the world of EVE in a straightjacket. Shares have tumbled and investors are holding back. CEOs of the largest Caldari corporations voiced their concern at a recent meeting of the Chief Executive Panel. Many Caldari corporations have invested heavily in the raw materials and heavy industry in the Amarr Empire and they fear that their money may be at risk in case of war or severe civil disorder. Many Caldari companies are already pulling out of Amarr space and will not return until the situation has stabilized. Amarr authorities have tried to put a brave face on this development, but inside information indicates that several regions will face grave economical hardship if this continues. Regions under the control of the Tash-Murkon family are considered especially vulnerable, as they have received the brunt of the investment.

17/09/2003

Grave news from the Amarr Empire, Heideran VII has died

In an official statement released today Amarrian authorities have confirmed the death of their beloved leader, Heidearn VII. The Emperor succumbed to the Turit Disease that has ailed him for a long time. Condolences from all over have streamed in and leaders of other nations have expressed their sadness at the news. A week of mourning has been declared throughout The Amarr Empire to allow the public a time to grieve his departure.

19/09/2003

Interstellar community anxious about future

The recent news about the death of Heideran VII, Emperor to the Amarrians, has sent shockwaves throughout the universe of EVE. Markets are tumbling and experts predict it will take them several days, even weeks, to recover. But mostly people are anxious to know who will succeed Heideran. Five heirs will vie for the throne, with the most likely candidates being Doriam Kor-Azor and Janyl Sarum. The two represent the opposite sides

within Amarrian political life, with Kor-Azor leader of the liberal peace-party that wants to renovate the Amarr Empire to move it closer to the other nations, while Sarum heads the belligerent war-party that wants to renew the Reclaiming and 'place the empire where it belongs; as the master state in the universe of EVE', as they put it. Yet the other three candidates can not be discarded, the Kador family embodies the imperial grandeur of the Amarr while steering a moderate middle-ground; Idonis Ardishapur is a charismatic leader that may very well seem the ideal choice to the conservative elements of the empire and the Tash-Murkon family has amassed great wealth since being elevated into heir status and their money can buy many favors. Political analysts have already started debating who will succeed, but the only thing they can agree on is that the eventual choice will have great bearings on the future of the whole world of EVE.

25/09/2003

Amarrian Committee of Moral Purity and Elimination of Vice regrets Stavros' claim to throne - condemns his actions as heretical

The Amarrian Committee of Moral Purity and Elimination of Vice has condemned Stavros' claims that he intends to go forth as an Emperor. The Amarrian ruling system is an ancient and proven far more efficient at retaining order and peace than the decrepit and chaotic system sometimes referred to as Democracy. It considers his public appeal for the Throne heretical to say the least and strongly urges him to retract his bid and apologize publicly for making the remarks he did where he criticised various prominent Amarrian community leaders.

27/09/2003

Details of Championship plans leaked

A leaked document from the Amarrian Empirical Succession Committee has been circling news agencies in the EVE Universe. Apparently each of the five houses will let a small number of champions compete amongst themselves on who shall represent their house in the championship that ultimately decides which house gets the throne.

Championship fights are frigate matches where a champion along with three wingmen must destroy the ships of a competing champion and his wingmen. While the champion himself must be of pure Amarrian descent, his wingmen are said to be allowed to be of any race and bloodline.

In order to select the champions that will compete within each house, the committee is opting for a controversial method: As a gesture of continuing Heideran VII's legacy of honoring the traditions of other nations, they will allow for every Amarrian citizen to vote for a champion.

This hint of democracy has outraged various Amarrian fundamentalists, amongst them Jamyl Sarum, whose spokesman denounces this method of selection as "Heretical and fit for ants and vermin but not pure blooded Amarrians". He elaborated: "Democracy is a proven failure throughout the known Universe and has undermined many civilisations and been the death of many great organisations".

It seems that this will go through nonetheless. Details of this are expected to surface in the coming days.

29/09/2003

House of Kor-Azor demands positive standings for potential champions

A spokesman for one of the five contending houses to the throne of the Amarrian Emperor, the Kor-Azor, has issued a statement regarding the upcoming election that will allow Amarrians to select their candidate for the upcoming championship fights. "The House of Kor-Azor has decided to approve of the Empirical Succession Committee's system of voting representatives for each house in order to pre-select contenders for the sacred ritual of succession. The House of Kor-Azor wants to stress that any candidate that intends to go forward as a representative of the house, must have a positive standing towards that house, as measured by the CONCORD Interstellar Standings Code (CISC). Our champions must have proven their allegiance to us in order to be allowed to fight on our behalf."

Representatives of other houses weren't available for comment but they are expected to follow this example of demanding positive standings for their candidates.

12/11/2003

The Federation makes a formal request for compensations

The Gallente Federation has issued a request to the Caldari State demanding indemnities for the selling of contaminated food products within Federal space. After inspecting the claims for that past several days, the Senate Committee pushed for the request to be made. It is the conclusion of the committee that Sukuuvestaa Corporation, the manufacturer of the tainted Protein Delicacies, was aware of their product's defective nature, but had willfully decided to sell it to the Federation nonetheless. The Federation is demanding both monetary reparations, as well as hi-tech equipment, such as cyber implants, to aid those unfortunates that have succumbed to the brain diminishing side effects of Protein Delicacies. The Senate committee believes it has a strong enough case to go full force against the Caldari within CONCORD and pursue this matter to the end. The Caldari have not yet responded to the demands made by the Federation, but it is believed they will wait for the Chief Executive Panel to pass a verdict, which should happen any day now.

13/11/2003

Caldari Chief Executive Panel decides not to compensate

After careful scrutiny by the Chief Executive Panel into the Protein Delicacies crisis, it has decided not to follow through with any further actions. Offering a rare glimpse into the power setup of the panel, it has been revealed that the panel was roughly divided into three camps. In one camp, headed by the Sukuuvestaa Corporation, it was argued that the business practices employed in the manufacturing and marketing of Protein Delicacies were not untoward and in perfect harmony with what normally goes on in the cutthroat Caldari capitalistic economy. The second group, headed by the Kaalakiota Corporation, argued that the ill effects of the Protein Delicacies on the Gallenteans paled in comparison to the sufferings the Caldari had endured for centuries at the hands of the Federation, not the least being the loss of the Caldari home world. Only the third group, headed by the Ishukone Corporation, was in favor of accepting the demands for compensations, arguing that different principles applied to inter-stellar trade, where cooperation and mutual benefits should be the guiding light. But their view was the minority one and the consensus of the panel was to decline taking any responsibility for the Protein Delicacies incident. The Caldari made one small gesture of goodwill when they imprisoned for three years the manager responsible for the development of the Protein Delicacies, but on unrelated tax-based charges. It is unlikely that this gesture will be seen as enough by the Federation.

15/11/2003

Gallente fury over Caldari inactivity

Following the news that the Caldari State had declined to offer any kind of compensations or aid to the victims of the foul Protein Delicacies, Gallenteans everywhere have expressed their outrage and shock. For the last few years the relations between the two nations has been steadily improving, but all that has been carefully built up in that time is now under threat of being undone. The Federation Senate has been in uproar since the Caldari made their decision and many senators have been extremely outspoken on the matter, talking about anything from trade boycotts to renewing the war. The official stance of the Federal cabinet has been less severe, it has expressed its sadness that the Caldari were unwilling to lend a helping hand, or even accept their responsibility in the matter. But anonymous government officials have hinted that the President is deliberating ways to 'get back' at the Caldari. Only time can tell what these actions, if any, will be.

27/11/2003

Tight security surrounds Emperor Inauguration as applications pile up for attendance

A veil of secrecy shrouds preparations for the most talked about event in modern Amarr history. Next Saturday, Doriam Kor-Azor of House Kor-Azor will be inaugurated Emperor of Amarr, succeeding Heideran VII who recently passed away.

The ceremony is expected to be fraught with tension, as the four Amarr heirs whose champions failed to secure them the throne, are expected to commit ritual suicide while Amarr's most sacred priests sanctify Doriam's god-like reign. Historically, most heirs have performed this ritual of voluntary suicide and accepted their destiny but there have been exceptions.

The ceremony will be held at an undisclosed location and will be closed to the public. The proceedings will be broadcast on a secure chat channel, in the same manner as the championship award ceremony was broadcast last weekend. However, as a gesture of good will, the Amarr high council has decided to allow 50 pilots to attend the ceremony in person. The pilots must be of Amarr / Ni-Kunni nationality and have a positive security standing. Attendees are to send electronic mail to storyline@eve-online.com with the subject line "inauguration tickets", along with their pilot name and "user name". They are also to write in four sentences or less, why they should be chosen to attend this event. The Council will choose the most deserving pilots.

The Council reserves the right to deny pilots access to the event at its own discretion. This is a rare opportunity to witness history in the making and witness first hand the final moments of four great Amarrian leaders.

29/11/2003

Amarr Imperial fleet on alert as Inauguration draws closer - Miner executed

Captains of the Amarr Imperial fleet have received notification that they are to be "alert and ready" today as security measures are stepped up all throughout Amarr space. Convoys of ceremonial ships have been seen travelling at the outer edges of Empire space today surrounded by large military fleets. In an unfortunate incident, a lone miner was detained and later executed for "suspicious curiosity" after contacting passing Imperial Fleet ships and asking, "where they were going with all those guns". Empire spokesmen were unwilling to confirm claims of several other incidents similar in nature that have been reported today: "We are simply making sure that today's sacred event is not disrupted in any way. There are many who wish our Empire ill and it is our duty to insure that their will is not done."

Invitations to the event have been sent out to selected Empire pilots.

10/12/2003

Seas quieting for Amarr

In the two weeks since the events surrounding Amarr Emperor Doriam Kor-Azor's inauguration, the average Amarrian's life has been full of whispered half-truths and uneasy speculation. Rumors have run rampant from corner to corner of the vast empire, the normally subdued arenas of Amarr political debate have been close to erupting in violence on several occasions, and the Amarrian stock market has had to face record instability.

"It's really a matter of the Empire's self-image, more than anything else," remarks Gundar Mirosoabin, political analyst and respected author of bestseller Power's Personality. "That 'strong, benevolent overseer' image they had of themselves under Heideran's rule does seem, quite naturally, to be receding, and the empire is struggling to find its new face under a new leader."

In the past few days, however, many signs have pointed to increased stability, leading some to suggest that the Empire is beginning to adjust to its new ruler and the changes his regime will bring. The stock market is restabilizing, political debates have lost much of their earlier venom, and according to Amarr Certified News several decrees instated by the new Emperor have met with resounding approval among all five ruling houses. At a rare press conference held last Monday Hrollulf Sodalrat, Chief Coordinator of Public Relations for the Court Chamberlain's Office, stated that "The Empire currently sits at the dawn of great prosperity for all of its loyal subjects, and His Holiness the Emperor will see us to our glorious zenith."

17/12/2003

Ishukone CEO Gariushi unveils Crielere discoveries

Otro Gariushi, CEO of Ishukone has announced that recent discoveries made at the ultra secret Crielere labs are to be made freely available to the public.

Lead scientists at Crielere labs today published a detailed white paper describing possible manufacturing methods using a relatively unknown mineral named morphite. Driven by advances in deep core mining, the team has found an economically feasible method of using the mineral, found in mercoxite ore, for mass production. Research agents throughout the known universe are sure to make use of the information given by the science team, to the surprise of many, as it was not expected that the two main funding partners of the Crielere research project, the Caldari State and Gallente Federation, would give their research results out that freely.

Political analysts have been at a loss to explain why the usually secretive CEO is suddenly so keen to share knowledge with the rest of the world. Skeptics claimed that Gariushi is hyping up this invaluable mineral as he intends to profit from the manufacture of deep core mining lasers, known for their below average performance in mining standard ores.

18/12/2003

Doriam Kor-Azor renames planets to commemorate Champion - Pirate violence on the rise

Amarr Emperor Doriam Kor-Azor has issued a decree stating that planet IV in the Kor-Azor system shall be known as Eclipticum. Its moons will now be named "Black Viperia", "Griklaeum" and "Kileakum". These name changes are to commemorate the champion whose combat skills earned Doriam the throne.

Imperial chamberlain Dasham Nestorik was quoted saying "the heroes of our empire are never forgotten, never ignored. Our beloved Emperor wanted to give his champion his place among the stars".

Critics claim that Kor-Azor is trying to divert the public's attention from increased pirate activity in the outer regions that has resulted in a spate of apparently senseless killings in the past days. Although the problem is not solely focused on Amarr space, Kor-Azor has made it his personal agenda to address this issue as quickly and decisively as possible.

Emperor Kor-Azor has been meeting with his security advisors and is believed to be working on a strategy to counter this deterioration in stability. "There are always those who envy us of our glory, our power and our purity of purpose. They will hunt our weaker brothers and ambush our undeserving traders. The Emperor does not and will never accept this", Nestorik said.

22/12/2003

Minmatars excited over new technologies

The slew of new technologies flooding the Minmatar Republic has spurred many Minmatars to start agitating for taking up arms against the enemies of the Republic. Parliament members from the Brutor tribe, which suffered the most under Amarrian tyranny, are certain that with the host of new weaponry available the Amarrians and the hated Ammatars can be defeated once and for all. The Brutors are being supported overtly and covertly by the Krusual tribe, though political experts say they are only doing so to weaken the authority of the Sebiestor tribe, the leaders of the parliament and the main rivals of the Krusual tribe.

Spokesmen for the Sebiestor tribe have tried to tone down the fierce sentiments of the Brutors, for instance by pointing out that the other empires, the Amarr Empire included, are also reaping the benefits of these new technologies, so even if the military might of the Republic is undoubtedly stronger, the same applies to the navies of the other empires. A strong rumor from within the government suggests that a compromise deal may be in the making, where the Republic would secretly support unlawful elements that are fighting the Amarr Empire. It is believed that this not only includes Minmatar rebels, but also independent factions in the outer regions, such as the Angel Cartel and even the Blood Raiders and Sansha's Nation. Naturally, nothing of this has been confirmed

28/12/2003

Emperor Dorian plans to visit every Amarr planet

The new Amarr Emperor Dorian II is taking a very hands-on approach to his running of affairs of his domain. Since his inauguration he has been on the move constantly, traveling from one system to another. He states he wants to 'get intimate' with his subjects and learn every detail about his vast domain. Some have voiced their concern over this manic approach, saying it keeps Dorian from seeing the big picture, but the populace is ecstatic with the interest their beloved leader is taking in the daily life of the Commoners.

Dorian has also found the time to visit abroad and attended a meeting at CONCORD headquarters recently. The issue being discussed was the increased threat posed by pirates and other bandit elements in the outer regions. Dorian expressed his concerns in the matter and suggested an inter-racial committee should be formed to further look into it, highlighting the Emperor's great belief in bureaucratic process and teamwork. His suggestion was met with some skepticism from the delegates of the other empires and was not supported, though no definite decision was made regarding the pirate threat.

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06/01/2004

Kor-Azor heir involved in 'incident' at cathedral

Aritcio Kor-Azor, the new head of the Kor-Azor family and son of the recently appointed Amarr Emperor, was involved in an unspecified 'incident' at an ancient cathedral on his home planet of Eclipticum last week. Aritcio, which has a reputation of enjoying the wild side of life, rented the cathedral for himself and a group of his friends to engage in some 'religious festivities', as he described it. These 'festivities' were abruptly ended when a resident priest accidentally walked in on them and witnessed the 'incident'.

Following this 'incident' the cathedral had to be thoroughly cleansed and partly renovated, it has also been revealed that several valuable holy artifacts in the possession of the cathedral had to be destroyed. Naturally, this has upset the religious community on Eclipticum as well as abroad. It is also understood that a foreign exchange student from the Gallente Federation was involved in the 'incident', though it is not known to what extent or purpose. She has already been shipped back to the Federation for medical treatment.

The public relations office of the Kor-Azor family has yet to release a statement on the matter, though one is expected in the very near future.

08/01/2004

Yonis Ardishapur voices concern over Articio Kor-Azor 'incident'

Yonis Ardishapur, one of the five Amarr heirs, has publicly voiced his concern over the 'incident' involving his fellow heir Articio Kor-Azor in a cathedral recently. The news that many irreplaceable religious artifacts were lost and untold damage done to the sacred ground has enraged those strong of faith and Ardishapur especially bemoans the loss of the holy artifacts, of which he is an avid collector.

Ardishapur has demanded a full report of the 'incident' to be given to the Theology Council as soon as possible and that the Emperor, as the chief religious figure in the empire, reprimand Articio Kor-Azor for his irresponsible and sacrilegious behavior. The Imperial Chamberlain has already answered Ardishapur's request on behalf on the Emperor and stated that Doriam did not share Ardishapur's concern on the matter and would not take any action against Articio Kor-Azor.

14/01/2004

Theology Council concludes inquiry into heir 'incident' - Articio cleared

The Amarr Theology Council made an inquiry into the 'incident' involving the royal heir Articio Kor-Azor at the request of the church authorities where the 'incident' took place. The Council has now concluded the inquiry and reported its findings. Surprisingly little is said in the report and it seems the Council was unable to delve deep into the secrecy shrouding the infamous 'incident'.

Various witnesses seem to have disappeared into thin air or are suffering from a sudden stroke of amnesia, but are rumored having received lucrative promotions or large sums of money. The centerpiece of the inquiry, a Gallentean exchange student, has since disappeared making investigators unable to question her. Though the report strongly suggests that an elaborate cover-up has taken place, the investigators were unable to uncover the truth in the matter. Perhaps one day someone will come forward with the whole sordid story, but until then Articio Kor-Azor can continue living his extravagant lifestyle as before, free of worries.

21/01/2004

CONCORD Task Force Sighted Leaving Empire Borders

AEDITIDE - An armada of CONCORD police ships, comprised of at least 6 battleships with 8 cruiser escorts, was sighted approaching the Egbinger gate in the Aeditide system and then jumping into unregulated space. The circumstances surrounding this highly unusual, unannounced expedition beyond Empire borders are unknown, as CONCORD representatives have refused to comment on the development. There are strong indications that the maneuver was not planned or authorized by CONCORD Fleet Command, as sources close to DED reveal a sudden flurry of activity among high-ranking personnel and at least one fleet reassignment to the Molden Heath region.

"Two words: Rogue commander", said Vinntekken Napas, Commander of Internal Security with the Caldari Navy. "There is no other plausible explanation for it. They are not supposed to be out there, it violates their prime directive." The DED is primarily responsible for maintaining law and order within Empire space, especially in high-security systems. A sudden redeployment of military assets to deep space implies a radical shift in law enforcement policy, which would normally be preceded by an official announcement. "There would have to be some very compelling reasons for a DED skipper to do this without explicit permission from Fleet Command, ranging from pure insanity to the spacefaring equivalent of mutiny."

"Whoever it is certainly has an agenda," said Tsutara Yorsen of Home Guard. "This wasn't just one ship, it was an entire task force-the kind of muscle CONCORD likes to flex when they've made up their mind to really go after somebody. Each of the components of that fleet seems to be on the same page, united in purpose and completely defiant of what I can only assume to be very, very explicit orders from the DED brass to return home."

The DED has very long-standing, established military laws regarding the conduct of its officers. Legal analysts cite charges that could be leveled against the commander of the rogue fleet include treason, conspiracy to commit treason, unlawful use of government property, and disobeying a direct order from a superior officer. Any one of these charges brings with them a general court martial and carries a maximum penalty of death, plus confiscation of any existing clones.

26/01/2004

Pioneers of Crielere program call for harmony

The two leading scientists in the Crielere program, the Gallentean Henric Touvolle and the Caldari Taromi Umailen, have publicly called for unity amongst their fellow scientists following the stunning revelations that top Caldari officials have systematically been stealing blueprints from the Crielere facilities. Many of the most prominent scientists in the program have since left their posts and gone to work for independent research firms elsewhere. Now Touvolle and Umailen, which pioneered the Crielere program in the first place, are asking the remaining scientists to stick with it despite the internal turmoil and lack of funding.

It seems unlikely that the plea from the two visionary scientists will suffice to save the Crielere program, which is on the brink of collapsing completely. Touvolle and Umailen have vowed to continue their work to the very end 'for the sake of humanity as a whole to progress to the next level', as they put it. Though their dedication and radicalism managed to build the greatest science think-tank in human history, it is difficult to see it survive without the support of the empires. Yet only time can tell.

28/01/2004

Gag Order Imposed on DED Internal Security Chief - CONCORD Activity Spikes To Alarming Levels

NEW CALDARI - Incarcerated DED Internal Security Chief Tantoseisen Kakkichi and his legal representative Dantennen Fisk have been issued gag orders, prohibiting them from speaking with members of the press or anyone else outside of CONCORD. The order came as a result of an Inner Circle mandate, and is exclusively reserved for cases that could expose classified information or pose a security risk, internally or otherwise. The security lockdown was issued amidst reports of suspicious CONCORD fleet maneuvers close to Empire borders and frenzied activity among all department levels within the DED.

"It is interesting to note that it is still unknown if Commander Kakkichi has been formally arraigned on the charges brought against him," said Wallekon Kortadaken of the Republic Justice Department. "My suspicion is that he is undergoing some kind of 'debriefing', if you will. A gag order implies that a bargain has been struck--perhaps pleading guilty to reduced charges in exchange for his full cooperation--which means that from this point on, CONCORD will be speaking on his behalf. We may never know his side of the story, but time will tell if that holds true or not."

Since the public statement from Counselor Fisk, activity at all levels of CONCORD has been significantly elevated, prompting concern from regional government officials. "These developments are extremely disturbing," said Fanason Xalotte of Federation Customs. "I have reports of CONCORD ships patrolling border crossings as if they're waiting for something on the other side to come through. It is irresponsible of them to increase their visibility and remain silent about their reasons for doing so, regardless of this maverick commander's part in it."

Reports from anonymous sources within the DED describe a "pronounced urgency to complete some new mission that has something to do with Kakkichi", but are unable to elaborate due to the security lockdown imposed by the Inner Circle. The timetable for the release of information considered crucial to understanding exactly what transpired in deep space with Commander Tantoseisen Kakkichi and his fleet appears to be contingent upon the completion of this mission, the object of which remains a mystery.

01/02/2004

Leaked DED Intelligence Memo Hints at Second Generation Combat Vessels

News agencies have been sent copies of a CONCORD Directive Enforcement Division intelligence memo by an anonymous source. The document details "hull-type nomenclature for recent emergent technology vessels." It appears to be a DED-internal communication regarding apparent code-words DED has implemented to refer to a class of new "light-strike combat craft" apparently in development by various and diverse firms.

The memo details four "hull-type designates" broken down by corporation of origin, with brief points listing their chief differences from traditional design and apparent technological advances. The memo apparently contains extensive engineering data, which is coded, but also contains uncoded descriptions and information on aspects of the manufacturing processes of the various "ETVs." The memo reads, in part:

"Malediction (Khanid Innovations, Executioner-class derivative). Typical of the ship design we're seeing from KIV; advanced shield generation coupled with potent electronics, probable implementation of Bashhamen findings. Design seems to sacrifice hard defenses in favor of soft capabilities.

Stiletto (Core Complexion Inc., Slasher-class derivative). Probable influence of Crielere project FE-442-1331 (DED designation) findings here; CCI has increased armor and electronics capabilities with this design at the cost of traditional Minmatar brute offense capabilities. Handler 144 has requested further info re: electronics schematics from operative.

Raptor (Lai Dai, Condor-class derivative). LDC may be benefiting from greater access to Crielere data. This design shows advances in numerous areas, making it more adaptable and flexible than traditional Caldari design. Perhaps weaker for task-specific application, but with significant advantages in operational versatility.

Ares (Roden Shipyards, Atron-class derivative). Obvious Minmatar design influence, possibly via Crielere project(s) KS-133-0951, KS-141-4832, or AV-211-6970 (DED designation(s)). Faster, more versatile hull design. Space usually devoted to drone implementation sacrificed here for greater post-build engineering flexibility and launcher mount hard points. 'Fast attack craft' profile similar to abandoned KS-133-0951 design."

Though much of the technical data apparently contained in the memo is coded, some specific detail about the construction process is revealed, including a "reliance on advanced technological components" presumably such as have recently been developed by Crielere Labs, and "utilization of the morphite mineral in key systems."

CONCORD and its DED subsidiary declined to comment officially on the leak, other than to say "it is being looked into." Sources inside CONCORD indicate the data contained in the memo appears genuine and "as correct as these sorts of things usually can be." Representatives for the firms named in the memo also declined comment, citing confidentiality agreements.

03/02/2004

State and Federation abandon Crielere

The Caldari State and the Gallente Federation have finally officially decided to abandon the Crielere research facilities, something that has been expected for quite some time. Most of the staff has already left and security personnel and police ships will leave the system in the very near future. The rift caused by the theft of valuable blueprints by high ranking Caldari officials has grown so deep and severe that it was quite obvious that the two great nations could not continue their cooperation in the Crielere program, despite the grand successes it had achieved. Thus, it was only a matter of time before the program would collapse completely.

But not all are willing to abandon the vision around which the Crielere program was created. The two leading scientists in the program, Touvolle and Umailen, have refused to leave the facility and have secured themselves along with a handful of loyal followers in a single lab in the vast complex. There they intend to continue the work they started, regardless of what the empires wish. Whether the pair can manage to stay alive without any kind of support is another matter all together.

06/02/2004

Academic Community Divided On Crielere - Idealists publicize formerly secret innovations

As research scientists at the half-abandoned Crielere facility brace for another assault by Guristas pirates, academics throughout the universe of EVE are divided in whether they support the somewhat stubborn idealism of Crielere founders Henric Touvolle and Taromi Umailen of refusing to bow to politics and free market pressure. In recent days, a trend has risen amongst engineers working for various corporations and races, to publicize formerly confidential blueprints, and have placed them on the open market for anyone to buy. Both nationalists and military officials ranging from the Amarr Empire to Gallente Federation are criticizing this venture claiming that introducing new combat modules to the market simply escalates the lawlessness that abounds these days and invites more terror by giving criminal elements easy access to advanced technology.

An engineer whose corporation has recently put a new blueprint on the market insisted that criminals already have this technology and it was the common man that gains from this, who until now was not able to defend himself properly.

15/02/2004

Guristas pirates in disarray as they seek to offload scientists

The Guristas, yet again grabbing the headlines the world over after their latest exploits in the Crielere system, are reported to be in an uproar following the loss of their leader, commonly known as Fatal. It is believed that the cocky Fatal only possessed an inferior clone of himself and is now suffering from severe loss of memory and motor functions. His partner in crime, known as the Rabbit, is not happy with the state of his former compatriot, nor his conduct during the raid on the Crielere complex. Fatal has gone into hiding and his future role with the Guristas, the cartel he helped create, remains uncertain. Yet some have speculated that the rift between the Fatal and the Rabbit is only a ploy the pair is playing to confuse their enemies, with Fatal only taking his time to recover and, perhaps, seek revenge on those that 'podded' him. Fatal was killed after a multi-system chase that ended in Second Wave Inc.'s Security Chief Doc Brown cracking his escape pod.

In the meantime, the fate of the famed scientists the Guristas kidnapped from the Crielere station is still to be decided. The intelligence community is reporting that the Guristas are currently seeking a buyer in secret, someone willing to pay the vast sum the crime cartel is demanding for their prized assets. Negotiations are currently underway with several unidentified parties, with the ransom believed to be in the region of several trillion isk.

03/03/2004

Search for scientists continues as Articio and Foiritan clash

Rescue teams have arrived on the planet Inis-Ilix I in an effort to locate the renown scientists Touvolle and

Umailen, accidentally sent there as common slave labor. Machal Corde leads the search effort, but isn't very optimistic about the task ahead. 'It's like looking for a needle in a stack of needles,' he explains, clearly exasperated after dealing with befuddled Amarr officials, which don't seem to grasp the idea that slaves might have unique identities. Corde continues: 'To them [the Amarrians] all slaves are the same and the notion of searching for individuals in the mass is alien to them. It makes things that much harder.'

Meanwhile, Articio Kor-Azor demanded the immediate execution of the two Minmatars that managed to masquerade themselves as the scientists to escape the sulfur mines on Inis-Ilix I. But his plans for revenge were thwarted by the Federation delegates, acting on instructions from president Foiritan. They claimed the Minmatars were now free, as the Federation had paid for their release. Articio, clearly not wishing to escalate the matter into a full-blown row with the Federation, grudgingly accepted. The two Minmatars are currently heading back to Federation space and from there they will be sent on to the Republic.

With the slave mines on Inis-Ilix I suddenly in the limelight of the galactic media a debate has arisen in many quarters about the poor conditions of slaves in some areas of the Amarr Empire. While the current Emperor was still royal heir the circumstances of slaves within his domain were somewhat improved, but they've been in a rapid decline since his son Articio took over. Many are also angry over the apparent hypocrisy of the Gallente Federation, outspoken critics of slavery for many years. They've turned a blind eye to the fate of the thousands of Minmatar slaves toiling in harsh conditions such as those found on Inis-Ilix I, but as soon as a known Gallentean is sent there then suddenly the Federation is all ready and willing to act on the matter and send in rescuers. The folksinger Amelia Piroette, a well-known activist and humanist, is organizing a fund-raising concert called Slave-Aid to be held in the near future, where many of the leading musicians in the world of EVE will help raise money to free slaves from the poisonous sulfur mines on Inis-Ilix I.

06/03/2004

Sentry gun range now up to 150 km!

Sentry gun software has now been beefed up all over Empire space and criminals can thus expect to feel the cold caress of space against their pod after the sentries make light work of their ship.

Sentry gun range is now up to 150 kilometers in response to ever more aggressive tactics favoured by outlaws in Empire space.

08/03/2004

Scientists found starved dead at Inis-Ilix Royal Mines - Slave imposters missing with sensitive documents

Sad news have arrived from the Royal Mines at the planet of Inis-Ilix I as the bodies of the two missing scientists Henric Touvolle and Taromi Umailen were discovered near a small cave on the outskirts of one of the slave camps. It was a team of professional bounty hunters, hired by the Federation, which tracked down the scientists' whereabouts, but arrived too late to have a chance of reviving them. Tentative inspection suggests that malnutrition and respiration problems may be the cause of death, though authorities refrain from any further comments until after an autopsy. The toxic atmosphere of Inis-Ilix I claims the lives of hundreds of slaves each week, sparing only those whose stamina has been hardened through years of survival in brutal conditions.

The science community is shaken by the loss of its brightest beacons and memorial services are being held today all over the world of EVE in respect of these giants of modern science, responsible for bringing many wondrous discoveries into the world.

In related news the Amarrians are claiming the two Minmatars that stole the identities of the two scientists and replaced them in Articio Kor-Azor's new research labs were in fact rebel infiltrators intending to sabotage the laboratories. After the pair left with the help of federal escort it was discovered that sensitive information, including blueprints for rare Amarrian space vessels, was missing from the research facilities. The Amarrians are demanding that the two Minmatars be returned to Amarr space immediately, but the pair vanished after entering Federation space and is not likely to be seen again. Sources say that Articio is fuming over the whole escapade and is plotting to avenge this affront to his honor.

11/03/2004

Brutor Tribe expresses support for Khumaak - new proposal detailed

At a Tribal Council session yesterday afternoon Wkumi Pol, head of the Brutor Tribe, announced that after much deliberation the tribe has decided to put all their weight behind supporting the Khumaak's cause. Citing in his statement "our devoted brethren's tireless advocacy of the traditions so dear to us and the callous response their commitment has garnered from members of the ruling class" as the main reasons for the decision, Pol then went on to detail a proposal for compromise, a fifteen-page document that has reportedly had top Brutor officials working day and night for the last week to formulate and finalize.

The Brutor proposal calls for the Khumaak to be kept on the official list of sanctioned Minmatar state, military and fleet apparel while detailing an exhaustive list of exceptional circumstances in which the weapon can not be openly displayed, including among other things official Amarr diplomatic gatherings and trans-empire summits. Many have pointed out that the proposal's wording never explicitly states that the weapon must be absent from said gatherings -- merely that it must not be openly displayed. This has prompted voices of criticism from within both the Sebiestor and Krusual tribes; according to Sebiestor council member Atuor Turvan, the proposal is "too

mealy-mouthed to be taken seriously by any legislative body."

Turvan's outspokenness on the issue does not, however, seem to be shared by many of his tribe's leaders. Most notably, PM Karin Midular, Sebiestor's tribal head, has opted to remain virtually silent on the issue until a thorough evaluation of the proposal at hand has been completed. Analysts are interpreting this as a watershed moment in the debate; for the first time since the initial ban motion was put forth, both sides have ceased screaming at each other long enough to take stock of the current situation, and hopes are high that the Brutors' increased involvement is the first step towards a possible amicable solution in what has been one of the most fiery debates in Minmatar political history.

19/03/2004

Khanid Kingdom strenuously denies ill treatment of slaves

There has been a considerable political backlash in the wake of the news that the Khanid Kingdom and the Ishukone Corporation signed a trade deal for Transcranial Microcontrollers. Many humanitarian organizations have claimed the microchips will be used on slaves to suppress their thoughts and will, effectively 'de-humanizing' them. These claims have reached such a popular appeal, being constantly fed by the media, that the Gallente Federation and the Minmatar Republic have also joined in denouncing the deal as being inhumane.

The Khanid Kingdom has from the start vigorously defended their actions and now, in an attempt to strengthen their side of the story, it has decided to reveal further information into what the Transcranial Microcontrollers will be used for. The Kingdom, or Dark Amarr as it is better known as, has always been a strange mismatch of old Amarrian traditions coupled with brand new theories in technology and economics, creating a society that may seem decidedly schizophrenic to the untrained eye. As in the Amarr Empire, slavery has always played a large role in the economical and social life of the Kingdom. Yet in recent years the Dark Amarrians have become increasingly frustrated by the lack of economical benefits provided by slavery in a modern world. The cost for raring, supervising and guarding slaves is only marginally lower than the productivity of the slave, especially when one bears in mind that the productivity is already hampered by the slaves being resentful, inexperienced and, frequently, unhealthy.

The Transcranial Microcontrollers will change all that. Following the age-old mantra that a 'happy worker is a good worker', slaves implanted with the chip will feel happy and content, with no rebellious or ill feelings towards their supervisors. The Transcranial Microcontroller can be programmed in such a way as to create an illusionary existence for the implantee, making him believe he lives quite an ordinary life, with a family, home and freedom. Every night, the mind is re-programmed anew, effectively allowing the slave to constantly re-live the same day, though without him realizing this.

Early studies by economists indicate that the productivity of slaves with the implant is up to 120% greater than of other slaves. Furthermore, tests by medical doctors and psychologists show that slaves with the implant have significantly reduced stress levels and psychological disorders compared to other slaves, and even to 'ordinary' people. Dark Amarr officials do not deny that they were mainly driven by economical factors in making this step, but any suggestions that they are treating their slaves badly they counter by asking: People can rave all they want about free will, but do they really want to take a slave from the happy life he now leads and throw him back into the squalor and misery of his old existence just to prove they're right on some utopian altruistic level that has no basis in reality?

23/03/2004

Otro Gariushi defends Dark Amarr deal - claims chips improve slaves' lives

Otro Gariushi, CEO of Ishukone Corporation, has publicly defended the deal his company made with the Khanid Kingdom regarding the controversial Transcranial Microcontrollers. Ishukone has received considerable flak for selling a product it knows will be used on slaves. But Gariushi has dismissed these criticisms as pure infantile babble. "Like every corporation, Ishukone has responsibilities towards its stockholders to be profitable, that's the only reason for our existence." Gariushi is quoted as saying. "No matter what we may feel on a personal level, that is the main duty of us that run the company." He continued: "What usage our clientele make of our products is none of our concern - do armaments manufactures care what their weapons will be used for? Of course not. Such scruples have no place in the modern business world and companies pursuing them deserve to perish. Besides, in my opinion the chips are a great gift for slaves, giving them happiness they would otherwise never experience."

Gariushi also talked about the relations Ishukone and the Khanid Kingdom have enjoyed in the past. "We have dealt with the Dark Amarrians for years now and regard them as one of our most cherished customers. All our dealings have been totally harmonious and there are several cases where they've literally saved our ass in difficult situations, such as when Crielere was being built." Gariushi was unwilling to expound on what exactly Dark Amarr had done for Ishukone in Crielere, only reiterating that Ishukone and Dark Amarr enjoyed a close and fruitful relationship that would surely flourish even further in the future.

07/04/2004

Transcranial Chip price rises as Federation demand increases

The price of the highly controversial Transcranial Microcontrollers has risen considerably in the last few days as demand increases from a surprising source - the Gallente Federation. The chips, manufactured by the Caldari Ishukone Corporation, have until now mainly been in demand in the Khanid Kingdom, where they are used to

pacify slaves. But the chips can be programmed in various ways, as the idle rich within the Federation have found out. The chips have become a huge fad amongst the social elite and 'chip parties' are the newest rave, where people randomly draw a chip from a bowl as they enter. Of course, the chips are programmed differently than those used by the Dark Amarr, usually involving a fetish of some sort, lurid fantasies and id alterations.

In addition, reports indicate that some Gallenteans are now using the chips to slightly alter their perception of themselves, making them think they are younger, more attractive or more popular than they really are. Though many frown upon this practice, psychiatrists say this helps people deal with self-esteem issues, a rampant problem in a society that values youth and beauty above everything else.

11/04/2004

Dark Amarr rifts chip deal with Ishukone

In the wake of rising prices for the Transcranial Microcontrollers due to increased demand from the Gallente Federation, the Dark Amarrians have decided to rift the deal they made with the Ishukone Corporation, the manufacturers of the chips. A spokesman from the Khanid Kingdom explained that the price of the chips was now so high that it counteracted the benefits the chips provided in economical terms. The kingdom thus saw no reason to continue buying them. The spokesman said that those chips already purchased and currently en route to the kingdom would be implanted, and those slaves already implanted would stay that way, but otherwise the old slave policy would be reinstated.

Ishukone has released a statement following these news, stating they are sorry to lose such a valued customer as the kingdom, but insisting that the laws of the market should prevail and that the price should be dictated by those willing to pay the most for them, Federal citizens in this case.

The news have received a mixed response, many are rejoicing that the 'barbaric implantation of mind control devices' is being terminated, while others lament that the Dark Amarrians are taking up the old, brutal, ways of slavery, with no thought given to a more humane treatment of slaves.

20/04/2004

Caldari armament industry accused of warmongering

High-ranking CONCORD officials have accused several prominent Caldari weapon manufacturers of promoting war and violence in many parts of the world. The Caldari armament industry has in recent years increasingly turned its eyes outside the State to do business, as the domestic market dwindles. Though most of these exports go to legitimate sources it is estimated that as much as 20% ends up in the hands of the less scrupulous social elements.

CONCORD has many times in the past issued stern warnings to several Caldari corporations regarding trade with unsavory entities, reminding them that there are regulations that forbid such dealings. Yet the trade continues, often disguised as aid relief or sample containers. It has become clear that as long as the powers that be within the Caldari State turn a blind eye on this situation, then there is little that CONCORD can do to remedy it.

21/04/2004

Amarr government seeks extradition of UDI operative

Kador Region - The Amarr Civic Court today requested that Ni-Kunni Goran Mitelek, the UDI operative captured by Gallente police forces in a skirmish in Sinq Laison last week, be extradited to the Amarr government.

Mitelek, an electronic warfare specialist and reputed former Angel Cartel member, is reportedly wanted for a long list of crimes against the Empire, among them the supplying of arms and explosives to "anti-government revolutionaries" and participation in "numerous operations detrimental to the Empire's interests."

Mitelek's involvement in the Elarel massacre of three weeks ago is at this time unknown, but according to inside intelligence sources he is believed to have played a major role in orchestrating the attack. His influence within the UDI organization is unknown.

President Foiritan of the Gallente Federation has not been reached for comment, but a senior aide in the President's Office, speaking on condition of anonymity, believes the chances of the President's acceptance of extradition terms are "less than slim."

The matter is expected to be taken up in tomorrow's Federal Branch Assembly, where political analysts are already predicting fireworks between President Foiritan and his opponents in the Senate.

26/04/2004

Catiz Tash-Murkon sparks controversy over cathedral renovation plan

Harsh words have been exchanged between the Kador family and the Tash-Murkon family regarding the latter's plans to turn a religious site into a tourist attraction. Catiz Tash-Murkon recently bought the now infamous cathedral on Eclipticum, the site of the sordid incident involving Articio Kor-Azor. The cathedral has been closed since the incident and in need of repairs and renovations. None has been willing to take up this burden until Catiz stepped in.

Catiz plans to fund the extensive repairs needed by allowing tourists, for the first time, to visit the holy site -

dedicated to the saint Tal-Romon, the first Udorian to reach sainthood.

This has sparked a hot debate amongst the Amarrians, and been especially fiercely criticized by the Kador and Ardishapur families, which are outraged that commoners will be allowed to walk the hallow grounds around the esteemed cathedral. But Catiz is adamant she will continue with the plan 'in honor of St. Tal-Romon, which was a guiding light in his time and should continue to be so in our time.'

28/04/2004

Kador ups the ante in cathedral debate - Amarr pilot community says no to tourists

Uriam Kador, head of the Kador family, has intensified the ongoing debate surrounding Catiz Tash-Murkon's acquisition of the Tal-Romon Cathedral on Eclipticum by questioning the heir status of the Tash-Murkon family. The Tash-Murkons replaced the Khanid family when the latter broke from the Empire following Heideran's election as emperor. The nomination came as a surprise to most, not the least because the Tash-Murkons were Udorians, and thus not of pure Amarrian ancestry. Heideran ruffled a few feathers with his decision and now that he is gone the Kador family seems eager to pick at these old wounds. Five hundred years may have passed, but Amarr Holders have long memories. It seems that Uriam, already at odds with Articio Kor-Azor, is merely using Catiz's plans for the Tal-Romon Cathedral as an excuse to continue a feud that started 500 years ago. At that time many feared the empire was breaking up following Khanid's departure. The same fear seems to be welling up again - but only time can tell if it's justified.

In a curt statement from Catiz Tash-Murkon she refrained from 'stooping as low as her esteemed fellow heir Uriam Kador by acknowledging his cheap verbal attacks' and would instead focus on the continued renovation of the Tal-Romon Cathedral, which she felt had the 'moral support of all upstanding Amarr citizens, as evident by their public outcry on the matter.'

The issue is already causing a stir in the Amarr community as a whole, with distinguished Amarr pilots offering tens millions in ISK donations to the restoration of the Cathedral, provided unworthy tourists are not allowed to walk the hallow grounds and desecrate them further still by their ignorant gaze and uneducated fascination with Amarr architecture. While aware of this, Catiz Tash-Murkon representatives claim that the decontamination process alone costs more than is being offered at the moment. 'We respect the wishes of those brave devout Amarr pilots, but at the moment, our initial plan offers looks more financially viable.'

05/05/2004

Jovian liaison to make anniversary visit to heads of state

The Jovian Directorate today issued a press release to all major news agencies throughout the universe. The release states that Misu Baniya, Extra-Racial Liaison for the Jove Directorate, will tomorrow, over the course of only one hour, make diplomatic visits to President Foiritan of the Gallente Federation, Amarr Emperor Kor-Azor, PM Midular of the Minmatar Republic, and the headquarters of the Caldari State's Chief Executive Panel, as well as "other factional leaders, heretofore unrecognized by the diplomatic community at large."

As stated in the release, the visit is intended to commemorate tomorrow's one-year anniversary of the founding of the Interstellar Services Division, the multi-corp, multi-racial conglomerate which many believe has been the biggest contributor to the vast increase in the number of pilots traversing the spacelanes this last year, and which, according to the release, "has worked wonders in stimulating economic and social growth throughout the universe."

Baniya himself was instrumental in founding and setting up the ISD, helping get the giant multi-billion ISK project off the ground. He became known by associates for his deft touch at dispute mediation and calm detachment in times of crisis.

Baniya's visit will also be used as an opportunity to utilize the Jovians' latest state-of-the-art technological marvel, a new form of transportation. The release's wording is cryptic when describing this piece of equipment, but judging by the sheer number of visits Baniya intends to make in only one hour - and the distances involved between them - it looks to be something quite special indeed.

Halls of government everywhere have already begun preparations for the liaison's arrival. He is expected to arrive at his first stop, New Caldari, at 12:00 EVT tomorrow.

07/05/2004

UDI operative extradited to Amarr

This just in: according to confirmed eyewitness sightings, alleged UDI terrorist Goran Mitelek was late last night escorted from Federation Navy HQ in Algogille to an undisclosed location in Amarr space.

The extradition comes hard on the heels of two weeks' worth of tooth-and-nail debates within Gallente government, where Federation President Foiritan has, with unflagging consistency, made his wishes to hang on to the prisoner abundantly clear. Representatives from the Office of the President were not available at time of going to press, but the general expectation is that the President will not take the news lightly.

Mitelek, who up until yesterday afternoon had been held in captivity at one of the Federal Intelligence Office complexes in the Essence region, was reportedly transferred to Algogille on direct orders from the Senate.

Following a brief period of interrogation, the prisoner was then escorted by Navy personnel off the premises and into a transport, which took him to Amarr territory.

Polling on the subject over the past two weeks has revealed that a vast majority of the Gallente public are opposed to seeing Mitelek extradited. According to an impromptu poll conducted moments before going to press, roughly eighty-seven percent of those polled replied that they wanted to see the Ni-Kunni brought to justice by Gallente tribunal, while only seven percent wanted to see him given to the Amarr.

More on this development as it unfolds.

12/05/2004

Troubled Times For Fledgling Republic

Sebiestor tribal head Karin Midular at a press conference yesterday expressed disapproval on the Republic's behalf towards the People's Republic of Minmatar, an alliance of paramilitary groups which last Wednesday officially seceded from the Republic, proclaiming independence under a new constitution and claiming the constellation of Tartatven in the Molden Heath region as their sovereign territory.

Claiming "disappointment at the impertinence displayed by our brethren," Midular then went on to state that the Minmatar Republic officially did not recognize the PRM's claim to sovereignty over the Tartatven constellation.

In response, PRM High Council Member B13ach leveled harsh criticism at the current Republic administration, claiming Midular's reaction had been expected from an administration known for its policy of "hiding one's head in the sand and pretending that a third of our people are not still in the vile clutches of the Amarrians, degraded and treated as commodities." The councilman added that the PRM had laid its claim upon Tartatven "so that the principles and ideologies of our people, which seem sorely absent from the bureaucracy of the old Republic, may be enforced."

Diplomatic rows aren't the only battles the PRM is fighting these days. The day before yesterday saw an incursion of ships from Amarr fundamentalist paramilitary organization CVA (Curatores Veritatis Alliance), on what appeared initially to have been a scouting patrol, but which escalated into a skirmish resulting in CVA forces retreating from Tartatven.

Questioned for comment, CVA Grand Inquisitor Gaius Kador stated, "The PIE Inquisition Wing entered so-called "claimed" space to obtain intel, and was successful in doing so before enemy presence forced a tactical retreat."

Propagandists for both the CVA and the PRM have begun a fierce duel of words on the GalNet networks, and hostilities are expected to escalate in the coming days and weeks.

Meanwhile, down on the planets, a shift is taking place. Since last week's declaration of independence, almost twenty thousand Matari have moved from planets in the Sveipar constellation and are taking up residence on Tartatven's major centers of commerce and industry, the cities of Argrald and New Rixarn (located on Hrober II and Aedald VI, respectively). This migration is seen as indicative of the growing feeling, particularly among younger generation Matari, that the current Republic is growing soft in its policies.

Questioned at a press conference yesterday as to whether this recent trend was cause for worry for the Republic, Head of Parliament Malaetu Shakor replied: "The Republic does as it must, as, I am certain, does the PRM. I am not now, nor have I ever been, in a position to judge my fellow brothers and sisters for the paths they choose. Our struggle is, after all, a common one."

17/05/2004

Empires to enter a bidding war for Jovian body parts

With confirmation from the Jovian government that they will indeed try to collect as many parts of the unfortunate liaison Misu Banyia in order to revive him, the four empires are poised to enter a bidding war over who can collect the most parts. Starting tomorrow, the empires will start buying back selective body parts on the market. Due to the massive logistics involved they will only buy in bulk, meaning they will only do business for one thousand units or more at a time.

As gruesome as this spectacle promises to be, it will no doubt attract a huge amount of attention from every corner of the world. Not only because of the money involved, but because people are curious to see in what way the Jovians will reward the empire that collects the most body parts. There have even been rumors that the Jovians will reward those pilots or corporations most prominent in the collection process, though this has not been officially confirmed.

The Jovians are still close-mouthed about what went wrong with the teleportation device that resulted in the sad demise of Banyia. What little they have revealed suggest that the failure was human rather technological in nature, strengthening the rumors suggesting that foul play was involved. Nevertheless, the Jovians are preparing to conduct further tests on their new device, though one can only hope the results will be less dramatic in the future.

12/06/2004

Jovians gather body parts from empires

Cloaked Jovian convoys have traveled into empire space and gathered the thousands of body parts that the empires collected yesterday. The Jovians, eager to collect enough parts to be able to reconstruct Misu Baniya, jumped on the offer presented to them by the empires for the latter to organize the collection of the myriad small pieces of Baniya's body. They even encouraged it by promising gifts to those most prominent in collecting pieces of the cadaver and by awarding all pilots of the winning race a favorable standing with the Jove Empire.

The response to the body part collection efforts was immense, with thousands of pieces turned in, some for cash, others as donations in an effort to become the victorious race. The Jovian Gyt Quisog headed the Jovian fleet that picked up the frozen body parts of Misu Baniya from the empires. "Most of the parts are in good condition," he explains. "Though many have become contaminated or corrupted. But we should be able to fix that." Quisog continued by saying that all the races had done well, each turning in several thousand pieces. "The outcome is much better than we hoped for. Now we go home and start doing what needs to be done."

When asked for what race will receive the coveted Jovian favor he replied. "As I said before, all the races were outstanding. But there was one race that outran even its own reputation for ruthless efficiency and that was the Caldari State. On behalf of the Jove Empire I congratulate them and look forward to future relations with them. As for awarding individuals for outstanding contribution, these will be dealt with in a couple of weeks."

15/06/2004

New frigates in the outer regions a cause for concern

Several travelers in the outer regions have recently reported spotting new frigates of advanced design in the outer regions, piloted by known brigands. These news tie in with earlier reports by DED that pirate factions are receiving substantial aid from inside the empires, something that has undoubtedly been going on for a considerable time. These new frigates are just the last in what seems to be a concentrated effort to bolster the strength of all the major pirate factions.

The impact these new frigates will have is still to be determined but travelers in unsafe space are urged to show even more caution than before, as more audacious pirate activity is the likely outcome. On the other hand, the increased wealth of pirates may be a blessing in disguise for some as the pirates themselves are undoubtedly now a more lucrative target for those bold enough to confront them.

16/06/2004

Pirate activity surges, DED considers its options

After many meager months it seems that pirate activity is on the rise again. News agencies are being flooded with reports that pirates, emboldened by recent overhaul in their command structure and new ships, are now operating close to stargates, harassing unsuspecting spacefarers.

DED recently warned about this possibility, citing that the confidence of all the major pirate groups are soaring, which naturally results in bolder attacks by them. DED will monitor the situation closely over the next few days to see how the pilot community responds to these developments, hoping that the increased pirate activity will not disrupt trade and mining operations overly much.

Meanwhile, accusations are flying as to whom to blame for the sudden surge in pirate activity. Some are blaming the Jovians, others Caldari armament manufacturers and still others claim that DED itself is responsible, in order to increase their annual budget through illusionary importance. For all those pilots suffering at the hands of pirates in the outer regions, the truth is perhaps irrelevant.

21/06/2004

Federation Seeks Information on Suspected UDI Operatives

The Federal Intelligence Office in a press release today stated that, according to an order handed down from Office HQ yesterday, the Federation will start giving out cash rewards for information potentially leading to the capture of several suspected UDI agents reported to be operating out of Gallente space.

According to the release, any sightings of the following personnel are to be reported immediately to FIO Deputy Director Deverin Gonate:

Garenis Toleitaane
Honadone Neartavis
Kolipon Vaneede
Junosana Sameker
Deprete Jonara
Alionis Fylmino

The FIO asks people to also include the name of the system the suspect was spotted in, along with the time of encounter, suspect's ship model and ship name. Rewards of 500,000 ISK will be handed out to individuals managing to give leads through confirmed sightings.

The operatives are believed to be armed and highly dangerous. Pilots encountering them are advised to refrain from engaging, and encouraged to contact the Federal Intelligence Office as soon as possible.

The release, coming only a week after the mysterious killing of UDI operative Goran Mitelek in Amarr territory, has prompted widespread speculation as to the Federation's intense determination to bring UDI operatives to justice.

According to one analyst, "I won't say ulterior motives, but I won't promise not to say it at some point in the future."

Responding to these allegations, Thuire Dercoucon, President's Office spokesman, retorted:

"The President finds all claims of foul play to be frankly hilarious. The Federation is engaged in protecting its assets and its way of life, both of which have come directly under attack from these individuals. The Federation wishes it to be known that if it is war they want, then it is war they will get."

25/06/2004

Jovian Delegate Revived, Preparing For Diplomatic Journey

The Jovian Directorate yesterday issued a statement claiming its Extra-Racial Liaison, Misu Baniya, has undergone molecular reconstruction and is on the road to recovery. The statement also affirmed the Directorate's gratitude towards the dedicated masses of pilots who coordinated their efforts in order to collect the necessary amount of biological material required for the reconstruction.

Baniya is expected to begin a diplomatic tour of the galaxy cluster early next week. According to the statement, the intention is to visit the four largest empires' heads of state, but reportedly most of the liaison's time will be spent establishing diplomatic contact with the leaders of various nation-state alliances which, over the course of the past year, have cropped up in almost every corner of non-CONCORD-policed space but have hitherto been ignored by the four empires as political entities.

"If they're trying to make a point, I don't know what it is," stated a Federation senator who asked to remain anonymous. "Sure, since the ISD came about the eggheads have spread all over the place, but putting those 'societies' of theirs up there in lawless space on the same pedestal as us? If I didn't know better, I'd say the Jovians were deliberately trying to undermine the rich history and traditions of our civilizations. In fact, I'm not entirely convinced that's not what they're trying to do."

Individuals within other governmental circles throughout the cluster have expressed similar reactions. Caldari officials have declined to comment on the issue altogether, but newsfeeds within the Amarr Empire have been rife with political pundits of all stripes spinning their heads in confusion.

"We don't know what to say," said a senior tribal council member within the Minmatar Republic, who also wished to remain anonymous. "We can't begin to fathom their motivations. We're stumped."

06/07/2004

Amarrians complete monumental feat; cathedral safely transported

The immense Tal-Romon Cathedral has been safely transported piece by piece from Eclipticum to Amarr Prime, where it will be reconstructed on the Amarr continent itself. The cathedral debate pitted the Amarr Emperor Doriam II against the royal heir Catiz Tash-Murkon, who was the previous owner of the cathedral before the emperor confiscated it. Though the Tash-Murkon family did not openly oppose the emperor on the matter it is well known that they supported private efforts to foil the transportation efforts.

A spokesperson for the Imperial Chancellor stated that 'this success speaks volume about what Amarrians can accomplish when they work together towards a common goal. I hope this encourages Amarrians everywhere to follow their dreams, as they will surely have the grace of God with them in all their endeavors.'

The massive undertaking saw hundreds of private pilots rally to the cause, completing a staggering ten thousand sorties for the greater good of the empire. This despite several thousand failed sorties due to attacks from unsavory assailants working indirectly for Catiz Tash-Murkon. Now all that remains to be seen is whether the emperor and the fiery heir can sheath their swords and establish some sort of a status quo. The odds are this will happen as the Amarrians have a long history of finding compromise solutions to thwart civil wars. But they also have a long history of personal vendettas.

06/07/2004

Jovian Ambassador Concludes Tour of Alliances With Empire Visit

According to the Jovian Directorate's Ministry of Information, Jovian Liaison for Extra-Racial Affairs Misu Baniya yesterday met with representatives from the Coalition of Deklein and the Coalition of Free Stars. These two meetings conclude a week-long tour of the outer rim alliances, undertaken by the famous liaison to, in his own words, "give long-overdue acknowledgment to the incipient nation-states growing on the edges of explored space."

According to a press release from the liaison himself, diplomatic contact has been established with the Curse,

Fountain, JQA, Stain, Phoenix and 3rd Front Alliances, the Xetic & Immensea Federation and the member alliances of the Northern Alliances Security Treaty (The Fade Union, NORAD and CoD) in addition to the above-mentioned Coalition of Free Stars. All of these alliances have been added to the Jovian Register of Sovereign Nation-states, effectively placing them in the same diplomatic category as the Amarr Empire, the Caldari State, the Gallente Federation and the Minmatar Republic.

Baniya concluded his tour of the alliances by paying a visit to diplomats within each of the four empires. With the exception of the Caldari, who hailed the Jovians' efforts as "admirable," officials from each empire expressed disappointment with the Directorate's decision to add the alliances to their register.

"There is no society, no populace to speak of, no national customs, no real history, no common origin, no language. How, then, can these alliances be thought of as nations? What possible permutation of the definition can give rise to an initiative such as this?" asked Federation Senator Traude Bonailles at a Senate meeting last Saturday. Amarr and Matari officials have, in a similar vein, expressed their vexation at the Directorate's actions.

The Caldari Chief Executive Panel, however, issued statements of a different kind. At a Panel Policy Advisory Committee meeting yesterday Ogas Alfelar, Committee Chairman, stated "Our esteemed friends and allies in the Directorate are fully justified in adding these young nations to their register. Despite a few missing ingredients the fundamental building blocks are there, and we see no reason to further ignore the potential for sovereignty among those who have shown themselves capable of surviving in those dangerous territories. On behalf of the State we wish to welcome the outer rim alliances into the international community."

When asked whether the Caldari State intended to send its own envoys outside CONCORD jurisdiction to establish official diplomatic ties with the alliances, the Chairman stated that it was "a distinct possibility, but one that would require careful planning."

15/07/2004

Caldari Private Police Forces Lock Horns in Lonetrek

Yesterday afternoon saw warning shots fired between vessels from the Ishukone and Kaalakiota corporations' private police forces, the Ishukone Watch and the Home Guard.

Reports indicate that at just after 16:00 EVT, a contingent of Ishukone Watch ships appeared near Kaalakiota HQ in Nonni. Failing to respond to hails on open frequencies, Watch forces proceeded to initiate long-range scans of the area, in response to which Home Guard battleships and Kaalakiota sentry guns fired warning shots, ordering them out of the system.

Niteloho Koirolen, Kaalakiota spokesman, called the altercation "a direct result of the unannounced and unexpected presence of an Ishukone Watch squadron in close proximity to Kaalakiota holdings."

"There are mutually agreed-upon private zones into which corporation police forces don't cross. The Ishukone Watch know this as well as we do. We are currently in discussion with the Ishukone Corporation as to the nature of these transgressions, and we sincerely hope this can be resolved without further incident," said Koirolen.

Ishukone representatives were unavailable for comment.

16/07/2004

Federation Places Bounty on Terrorist Operative - Gallenteans Express Discontent

The Gallente Federation Security Council yesterday issued a statement detailing a large bounty placed on the head of Henry Foudreal, alleged UDI operative.

According to the statement, recent investigations have revealed Foudreal to have acted as main orchestrator in the UDI's foiled attack on the Gallente Frontier Tour Lines resort in Sharuveil three weeks ago. Additionally, the statement details a long list of bombings, kidnappings and guerilla strikes he is believed to have had a hand in.

Foudreal's image has been in circulation on the Federation's holovision and advertisement networks since last night. The Federation is promising a reward of 30 million ISK to anyone managing to give clues leading to his apprehension.

President Foiritan, known for populist tendencies and a habit of maintaining contact with his people at a grassroots level, has remained out of the public eye ever since the Elarel massacre nearly three months ago. At those occasions where he has been seen, he has remained laconic and reticent, usually opting to bow out early - behavior which, it seems, has become standard protocol for his staff.

The President has faced criticism from within senatorial ranks these past months, mostly for what senators claim is a "lack of attention to the many and varied problems facing our vast nation" and "an inordinate amount of focus upon matters of terrorism and the UDI at the expense of other pressing social issues such as declining standards of living in the outer systems and increasing marginalization of minorities."

"It is one thing to seek justice for your people," stated Senator Aldous Doucet, Chairman of the Federation's Joint Committee on Social Affairs. "To neglect those very people while doing it is quite another."

20/07/2004

Reclusive ORE founder meets with leader of Mordu's Legion

Orion Mashel, the founder of the Outer Ring Excavations company, is known for his secluded nature. He never travels outside his fortress-like home in the Heart constellation and very rarely invites visitors. Thus, whenever he meets with someone it is always a point of considerable interest for the press and it is now chewing over what Mashel's meeting with Muryia Mordu, leader of Mordu's Legion mercenary corps means. Especially in the light the Legion guards ORE property in the Outer Region.

The two met yesterday at Mashel's sprawling complex, the meeting lasted more than two hours and when Mordu left he was visibly upset. But he declined to comment to the media waiting outside and left in a hurry. Calls to Mashel himself were not returned.

Orion Mashel founded ORE several decades ago when the private corporations were taking their first tentative steps outside empire space. His company grew rich trading in Nocxium, which back then was in heavy demand. ORE established itself in the Outer Ring region and surrounding areas, scouting out the systems better than anyone before or since. The company is thought to know the locations of fabulously wealthy asteroid fields deep in space, which they mine slowly so as to not flood the market.

Mashel withdrew from the public eye some half a century ago and has since lived almost as a hermit in the midst of the Outer Region. But he still manages to be well informed about goings on in the outside world and the few times he has stuck his neck out it has always turned out to be transitional periods for his company; either to save it from looming threats or to expand its already great fortune to even greater heights. Now we are left wondering what the meeting between Mashel and Mordu portrays, is there some impending doom waiting to fall on ORE, or are we witnessing another chapter in its extraordinary success story?

22/07/2004

FIO Agents Conduct Fruitless Search for Terrorist Operative

Acting on several tips, a squad of FIO agents this morning scoured the Crux constellation in search of UDI operative Henry Foudreal. Combing at least four systems over the course of two hours, the agents found themselves unable to locate the terrorist.

"We received a number of reports that he was docked somewhere in the Duripant system," said Agent Joel Brouille, one of the presiding field operatives. "They all came from different enough directions that we saw reason to take them seriously."

After conducting security sweeps of every station within a four-system radius, the agents departed the area empty-handed.

United against Decadence and Impurity, the enigmatic cabal allegedly responsible for numerous acts of terrorism in Gallente space over the course of the last few months (most notable among them being the attack on Quafe Ultra's premiere party at the Rent-A-Dream Pleasure Gardens Complex in Elarel three months ago) have not released any statements recently. In addition, the absence of large-scale terrorism within the Federation in the past two weeks leads many to wonder whether the FIO's unseen efforts have been bearing fruit.

Federation President Foiritan is nevertheless finding himself the victim of ever-more vehement attacks in newspapers, political journals and holovision news programs alike. Polls have indicated his approval ratings declining rapidly, and within Federal assembly meetings Senate motions are gaining more ground than ever in the history of his three-year presidency.

23/07/2004

Mordu's Legion mobilizing, what is ORE up to?

Muryia Mordu, the venerated leader of Mordu's Legion, has ordered for a full mobilization of the Legion's forces. According to sources inside the Legion Mordu is putting together a task force with strike capabilities, which he intends to lead himself. Legionaries everywhere are left bewildered by this development as no explanation has followed in the wake of the order. Pilots on leave have been recalled to duty and ships in dry-docks hurried back into service.

The biggest employer of the Legion in recent years has been ORE, charging the Legion to protect the property of ORE against encroaching piracy at the hands of Guardian Angels and others. There is little doubt that this mobilization is the result of the stormy meeting Muryia Mordu had with the elusive Orion Mashel of ORE. Though the content of that meeting remains a secret still one can easily surmise that Mashel put the screws on Mordu, using the strong financial grip ORE has on the Legion as leverage to get Mordu to agree on whatever scheme Mashel is hatching.

Until now ORE has not been known to dabble in power politics or to use undue force, so a strike against a neighbor is thought to be unlikely. If an attack is imminent the most likely candidates are the Guardian Angels or even the Intaki Syndicate, though the purpose of such an attack are a complete mystery. Until the task force is assembled and on the move it's anybody's guess what ORE and Mordu's Legion are up to on the outskirts of civilized space.

27/07/2004

Mordu infiltrates Serpentis space but avoids conflict

A Mordu's Legion task force under the leadership of Muryia Mordu himself infiltrated Serpentis space in the Fountain region yesterday and moved deep into its territory. The task force refrained from any direct conflict with Guardian Angel ships or Serpentis ships. Instead, the task force headed straight for Serpentis Prime in the Phoenix constellation and approached the chemical refinery orbiting the second moon of Serpentis Prime VIII. As the station readied its defenses Mordu's task force halted and orbited the station at exactly 30 km distance. Mordu then employed an unknown device from his flag ship; a device that radiated purple-greenish light and pulsed like a quasar. The device was aimed at the Serpentis station for several minutes before disappearing again into Mordu's ship. The task force then promptly left and headed out of the system before the pirates could muster a response team.

According to the latest news Mordu is still on the prowl deep inside Serpentis territory, though avoiding any direct confrontation with pirate forces as before. Considering the strength of the Serpentis and Guardian Angels it is remarkable that the Legion has managed to bypass their defenses with such ease. Perhaps Mordu has more strange devices onboard, one that helps him get around unnoticed? If so, did he get them from ORE? And where did ORE get them?

03/08/2004

Mordu's Legion and Guardian Angels clash in Fountain region

The task force led by Muryia Mordu into Serpentis space was pinned down yesterday by Guardian Angels forces led by Brynn Jerdola and Setele Schellan and forced into combat. The Guardian Angels have been trying to corner Mordu ever since the latter entered the Fountain region, but he has always managed to slip out of their grasp just when they thought they had him. Whether this is due to Mordu's tactical brilliance or the aid of unknown gadgets at his disposal is not known, but it wasn't until the equally brilliant Jerdola and Schellan arrived on the scene that Mordu's luck finally ran out.

The battle that ensued lasted more than an hour, but the clever defensive strategy employed by Mordu kept losses at a minimum. In the end the Guardian Angels retreated to lick their wounds and rally their troops for another assault. But in the meantime Mordu withdrew his task force in an orderly fashion, not willing to take his chance again against the much larger forces that the Guardian Angels could muster on their own home ground.

Having seemingly completed his mission Mordu has now left Serpentis space and is heading back to his headquarters. It is anyone's guess whether his mission can be deemed a success or not, but at the very least it has stirred the Guardian Angels, embarrassed by how easily Mordu managed to penetrate their perimeter defenses and slip deep into Serpentis territory. Some sort of retaliatory attacks, either on the Legion or on ORE, the Legion's employers and supposed instigators of the operation, is thought to be likely so space farers in the area are urged to show caution.

Other factions in the Fountain region are understandably concerned over the whole episode and have demanded an explanation from Mordu's Legion or ORE for the reasons for this unwanted incursion into their territory. Damaclease, co chairman of the Fountain Alliance council, said Mordu must explain his actions in person, otherwise the wrath of the FA would be felt. A spokesperson for ORE tried to placate the irritated FA by asserting that Mordu's mission was not aimed 'in any way whatsoever' at any members of the FA, but solely against the Serpentis corporation. The spokesperson declined to go into details about Mordu's mission, but said that ORE and the Legion offered their sincere apologies to members of the FA for not informing them of the imminent incursion. It was the hope of the leaders of ORE and the Legion that relations with the FA could be restored to their usual good status despite this small 'oversight'.

10/08/2004

Minmatar Border Patrols Report Caldari Corp Police Border Zone Activity

Republic Navy Operations Command yesterday reported Ishukone Watch patrols making incursions into Minmatar-controlled territories, performing unsolicited ship scans and questioning passers-by on closed frequencies. This is the sixth time in the last two weeks that Ishukone forces have been seen in the area. Border systems Todrir and Eust have both played host to ships from the privately-controlled police force, resulting in stepped-up patrols from Republic Navy forces in the vicinity.

According to Republic Navy spokesman Raurvest Arrum Caldari private police forces have traditionally stayed out of areas belonging to neighboring nations. Inquiries as to the nature of these recent incursions have been met with silence on the part of the Ishukone corporation, with diplomatic circles yielding no satisfactory response either.

"We're unsure where exactly their motivations lie," said Arrum. "They've been seen here six times now, scanning ships and questioning bystanders, and they never give any explanation as to what they're doing." Reports from those questioned have indicated the Ishukone Watch are particularly interested in shuttle traffic from Caldari space into Matari space, but no concrete information beyond that has been revealed.

Ishukone Watch ships were also last month seen in Kaalakiota-controlled territories, leading many to speculate whether hostilities were on the rise between the two corps.

17/08/2004

Press Release: Caldari State Announces Opening of Sign-Up For COLOSSUS Race Series

Continuing its fine tradition of providing State citizens with only the best in sports and entertainment, the Caldari State proudly announces its forthcoming COLOSSUS race series.

It's months of brutal, no-holds-barred racing action as eight of the State's biggest and most powerful corporations pit their representatives against each other -- no vessel restricted, no piece of equipment off limits, no tactics forbidden! Kaalakiota racer next to you getting on your nerves? Send some missiles his way! Hyasyoda captain been on your tail too long? Show her what for with your smart bomb! Nothing is taboo - racers do whatever it takes to win.

First, a series of exciting qualifier races will determine who's worthy of representing their favorite company in the crowning event - The COLOSSUS Final! One hundred devoted pilots will be allowed into the COLOSSUS Qualifiers on behalf of each corporation. Once the grueling series of qualifiers has run its course, a team of only ten brave speed demons will be left to represent the corporation in the Final Race, a Massive Marathon spanning Most Of The Known Universe.

Due to the intensity of the matches scheduled and in the interests of maintaining a level playing field, the State is allowing only pilots of capsule-fitted vessels into the race. This serves the purpose of ensuring that both the quality of the pilot and his equipment is cutting edge, all the way.

Sign up today! Show your loyalty to the Corporations who have made the State what it is, and help to make this the greatest sporting event in galactic history!

25/08/2004

New Ship Class Released Exclusively to Pod-Fitted Pilots -- Columnist's Column Causes Stir

Much has been made in local media recently over the release of a new standardized class of capsule-fitted space vessel, the assault frigate. Hitting the space-lanes with little to no advance warning on Tuesday of last week, these vessels have been the subject of much speculation - why did every major designer of capsule-fitted ships put their prototypes up for patent finalization on the exact same day? And why is this class of ship intended exclusively for the relative elite that comprises the pod pilot community? Many have speculated that the reasons are primarily economical in nature, but infamous Federation Marquee columnist Maxim Peltast has his own theories.

In his column of last Thursday, Peltast states that "the real reason for the uniformity of the patent release - as well as the shady uniformity of the covert ops frigate patent release a scant month ago, which no one seems to have noticed - is that the powers that be, the ones who create the technology behind these ships, are drooling all over themselves to get in good with the eggheads."

'Eggheads' - those relatively few pilots cleared to fly capsule-fitted ships - have become increasingly common since the technologies of cloning and capsules were married a year and a half ago. The ease and speed with which they travel (a pilot in a capsule can physically withstand a great deal many more stargate jumps per hour than a cockpitted one) as well as the levels of technological expertise and physical conditioning necessary for operation of their equipment, has catapulted them to what could be called the top of the intergalactic food chain.

"They're trusted with top secrets. They're contracted by nations and megacorporations to do their dirty work. It's no wonder they're given the best toys," states Peltast in the column. "They're the cutting edge, and as such they receive the cutting edge to play with. "

"Some of you, naturally enough, may ask how much power we should reasonably expect to be able to put in the hands of a single, roughly fifty-thousand member segment of interstellar society before it ends up exploding in our faces. This is a natural enough question to ask, and I'm glad you asked it. But they know you're asking it. The manufacturers know. The producers know. And the eggheads know."

"The question we should be asking is this: who holds the keys to the technologies which make all this possible? Who makes the eggheads what they are? Who stands to benefit from the eggheads' ascension as a group?"

Peltast then pointed his finger at the clone manufacturers, going on to list a web of financial connections linking clone giant Poteque Pharmaceuticals to spaceship developers like CreoDron and Kaalakiota. Making the kind of conspiratorial inferences which have granted him his infamy, the controversial columnist concluded with these words: "Whoever controls the clones controls the pods, kiddies. And whoever controls the pods controls the eggheads. And the eggheads... who knows where they're headed?"

Spaceship developers have made no comment as to the exclusivity of their latest designs, but Poteque Pharmaceuticals last Friday released this statement in response to Peltast's column: "It is only natural that our company be connected with the parties mentioned. In a pan-regional capitalistic economy, connections between corporations are many and varied, and we frankly fail to understand the motives for Mr. Peltast's apparent willingness to incite needless fear among people. Pod technology is the next step forward, and a thing to be embraced rather than dreaded."

06/09/2004

Morkt Drakt, Feral First Members of Lai Dai Team as COLOSSUS Qualifiers Open

Tonight saw the opening of the first round of qualifiers for the COLOSSUS race. 18 brave contestants attempted to qualify for the Lai Dai Corporation, with pilots Morkt Drakt of Lai Dai and Feral of Drink Starsi™ finishing first and second, respectively, to take their spots in the final ten-man Lai Dai team.

The race's route took contestants through the dangerous, lawless expanses of the Orpana constellation through to contested areas of the Venal region. Unsurprisingly, most of the pilots encountered some unfriendly fire along the way, though most appear to have survived the race.

After an exhilarating 20 jumps Morkt Drakt came in first, with Feral a very close second. Moments after they finished, Hitzu'Kai Brena, COLOSSUS correspondent, managed to track the two down for a brief word:

Hitzu'kai Brena: Good day, Citizen!

Feral: Good evening.

Hitzu'kai Brena: Good evening, Mr. Drakt.

Morkt Drakt: Hello. Nice event.

Hitzu'kai Brena: So, how does it feel to be winners?

Morkt Drakt: Quite surprised. In the heat of things, it's hard to keep track of who is in the lead.

Feral: Surprising... I saw a number of ships at the destination and initially thought I was 4th.

Hitzu'kai Brena: So, Morkt, you're the winner, Feral, you're in second place. How do you feel your ships behaved, and will you be making any alterations to them for the final?

Feral: My ship behaved admirably, although I feel there is room for improvement in the autopilot coding. As for alterations... we'll see.

Morkt Drakt: The agility implant payed off, I guess, and I am going to stick with my setup because I realised a key point with the route, and that won me first place.

Hitzu'kai Brena: What would you say was the key to your success? Was it a balanced ship setup, pure luck or something else?

Morkt Drakt: As I said, certain systems favoured my setup, and hopefully there will be more than a couple of systems like that in the final race.

Feral: I believe it was my knowledge of my ship's performance and abilities. At one point i was running at least 6th, and one of the people ahead of me had a virtually identical setup.

Hitzu'kai Brena: Excellent! Well done, gentlemen - a deserved victory.

Tomorrow's qualifier, for the Wiyrkomi Corporation's team, kicks off at 19:00 EVT.

07/09/2004

Trooper B99, Jeffrey Lebowski Triumph in Wiyrkomi Qualifier 1

As Day 2 of the COLOSSUS Qualifiers draws to a close, the first two members of the Wiyrkomi Corporation's Final team are on the score card: Trooper B99 of the Zoners and Jeffrey Lebowski of Imperial Dreams.

Spanning 34 jumps and ending up deep in the bowels of the Catch region, tonight's race saw the two winners go toe-to-toe for much of its duration, leaving most of the other contenders in the dust. At the qualifier's halfway mark, as the route veered off into HED-GP, the racers were confronted with a Shinra blockade. Details are sketchy at time of going to press, but unconfirmed reports state that some contestants may have been shot down and pod-killed by the Curse Alliance corporation. More details on that as the information is confirmed.

Race organizer Utaro Ziilikam had a few words with the two winners after the race:

Utaro Ziilikam: Congratulations to both of you on qualifying for the finale. Do you have any words you wish to say to the press?

Trooper B99: Jeff, after you, lad.

Jeffrey Lebowski: I'll just say it was an honour flying in this race, and I hope I will do even better in the Finals. For Wiyrkomi! Trooper, all yours.

Trooper B99: I'd like to thank the honourable Wiyrkomi Corp for allowing me to fly, my employer, and of course Zoners and the lads of CA. And last but not least, my gallant competitors. You were great!

Jeffrey Lebowski: Indeed they were. Thanks, guys.

Trooper B99: Aye - and, of course, my new team mate, Jeff. I'm sure we're going to have a blast.

Utaro Ziilikam: That's great - Congratulations once more, guys.

Tomorrow's highly anticipated qualifier, the first of five for the Kaalakiota Corporation, begins at 22:00 EVT.

10/09/2004

Kaalakiota, Nugoeihuvi Qualifiers Rife With Violence As Masses Cheer

Yesterday and Wednesday saw the first qualifier heats for the Kaalakiota and Nugoeihuvi corporations light up the skies in the Venal, Catch and Curse regions of space.

In Wednesday's qualifier sixteen pilots ventured through the Venal region, where they encountered heavy resistance from a blockade of Reikoku and Evolution forces. Numerous contestants were confirmed pod-killed, with one brave soul who lost his ship nevertheless limping to the finish line in his pod to place in the top five.

Pilots Hasek and Rancid Mare were the first two of those who managed to break through the blockade, emerging victorious at the finish line and securing their places in the Kaalakiota Corporation's final ten-man team.

Thursday's Nugoeihuvi qualifier, taking place in the Catch and Curse regions of space, also played host to a bloody fireworks display as the Curse Alliance came out in force, responding to the intrusion on their turf. Two pilots managed to break through all obstacles and come out victorious -- Nikita and Martinus Crimson.

Public response to the race series within the Caldari State has been tremendous. Since the opening of qualifiers Monday, sales of merchandise related to the COLOSSUS Championships has gone through the roof. Chat broadcasts and public forums have been rife with speculation, predictions and expressions of wonderment -- and malice -- towards the corporations and contestants in the race. As the first round of qualifiers continues, things look to be heating up.

13/09/2004

President Foiritan planning for the future

Souro Foiritan, president of the Gallente Federation, is poised to push through constitutional changes that would allow him to run again for president when his current term expires in two years time. The current constitution mandates that the president can only serve a single term of five years. But Foiritan wants to ensure he has enough time to act out on his promise to hunt down the UDI terrorists that have been plaguing the Federation for months, culminating in the infamous Elarel massacre a little over five months ago.

All constitutional changes needs the support of the Senate and Foiritan is already applying all of his political pressure on it for the bill to pass. Political experts predict this will be tough, as Mentas Blaque, the leader of the Senate, is a sworn enemy of the president and will undoubtedly do everything in his power to keep the bill from becoming law. Indeed, a spokesperson for Blaque's political alliance, the Sociocrats, has already criticized the motion, stating that the alleged terrorist hunting is simply a smoke screen and that the real agenda is Foiritan's endless thirst for power and prestige.

The first session discussing the president's proposals will be held tomorrow in the Senate, where Foiritan himself will introduce it. Heated debates are expected, though much of the arm-wrestling will undoubtedly take place behind the scenes. The reception the president gets in the Senate will though go a long way in determining the chances of his bold measure to go through. Some political analysts even go so far as to claiming that a disastrous reception might mean the end of this most colorful and energetic president the Federation has seen in ages.

14/09/2004

Wiyrkomi, Lai Dai Add to Teams as Second Round of Qualifiers Kicks Off

Four speed demons last Sunday made it to the final teams of megacorporations Wiyrkomi and Lai Dai in the Caldari State's monumental sporting event, the COLOSSUS Championships.

In the former race, contestants Nelno and Lord Azrael sped through the finish line first to join last week's winners, Trooper B99 and Jeffrey Lebowski, on the Wiyrkomi team, while the latter saw racers Alewood KJ and bsspewer take their place on the Lai Dai team's roster.

As the corporations' teams slowly come together, sports analysts have begun to speculate as to what kinds of tactics will be favored by the differing teams for the final race. Trooper B99's role on the Wiyrkomi team, for example, is widely rumored to be a combative one, so other teams are reportedly keeping special tabs on him, planning to assign special guardians to him while making sure their own key finishers are able to race ahead without incident. Tactical twists and turns like these are expected to continue as the teams finish settling into place.

"It's like some infernal mix of chess, war and the marathon," said Fernand Muirria, State Mirror sports analyst, yesterday.

Tonight's qualifier, for the Nugoeihuvi Corporation, kicks off at 19:00.

17/09/2004

Stormy Senate session ends on a compromising note

Yesterday saw the most heated Senate sessions in years, as Souro Foiritan clashed with the leaders of the Senate in an attempt to push through constitutional changes allowing him to run again for the presidency in two years time. Foiritan's ambition is to stay in office until a full and decisive victory can be called in the fight

against the UDI. The president is rallying all the support he can in the Senate in a bid to overturn the stranglehold the Sociocrats have on it. Favors are being called in and rumors suggest that Foiritan systematically lined up face-to-face meetings with wavering and neutral senators in order to work his charm on them.

On the other end of the spectrum, Mentas Blaque, leader of the Sociocrats, worked diligently to thwart Foiritan's plans, using his own extensive network of friends and lobbyists. The tug of war climaxed with a verbal argument between the two antagonists inside the Senate hall itself, where Blaque accused Foiritan of 'improperly muscling in on the legislative territory', while Foiritan fired back that Blaque was simply 'using every opportunity to sensationalize every trivial matter like it was a question of life or death'.

The end result was something that could either be called personal victories or defeats for both Foiritan and Blaque, as Foiritan didn't manage to get enough Senatorial votes for his bill to pass, but got a compromise deal where an independent committee of law experts will be formed to discuss the matter and make suggestions. All parties are anxious for this committee to conclude its business as soon as possible, so results are expected in few days. Such are the fast and furious workings of the Gallente democracy.

In related news one of the top political advisors of president Foiritan has resigned. Though the official explanation states this was due to health reasons, it is widely believed that Foiritan is ridding himself of those aides that don't support his reelection bid. Indeed, many analysts claim that this can turn out to be a major blunder for Foiritan that might cost him dearly in the long run.

20/09/2004

Federation leaders clash as committee commences work

The committee charged with coming up with a compromise solution to the fierce debate raging between the Senate and president Foiritan held its first meeting this weekend. The committee, populated with independent legal experts and scholars, must decide whether or in what way the constitutional changes advocated by president Foiritan can come about. These changes would allow him to run for the presidency again in two years time.

The leaders of the Federation, notably Souro Foiritan and Mentas Blaque, head of the Senate, have launched a verbal war in the media, hurling insults at each other in an attempt to sway the public opinion. Foiritan has accused Blaque of putting his own personal grievances above the sufferings of victims of terrorist attacks, while Blaque, when asked by a journalist whether he felt Foiritan was using his political clout to overwhelm his opponents, retorted that 'the only thing the president is clouding is his senses.'

22/09/2004

Folklore idols irk DED who warns against hero-worship.

As the space industry expands and becomes a more integral part of the economy of EVE, more and more people are becoming aware of the heroes and villains that ply the vast inter-stellar trade routes. Some of the pirate factions are now established enough that they are known by the majority of the populace. Consequentially, the leaders of these nefarious organizations are becoming known to the world at large, often through dramatized holo-reels based more on fiction than fact.

The branch within CONCORD responsible for dealing with pirates, DED, is becoming increasingly worried over the apparent hero-worship displayed by ordinary citizens towards notorious pirates. The best known case is that of Fatal and the Rabbit, whose stunning exploits against the Caldari State and Gallente Federation are already stuff of legend. But other infamous pirates are also getting unwarranted, in the eyes DED, adulation from the public. The pirates have started taking more risks, increasing their exposure in reckless and daring endeavors.

To counter this, DED has started compiling a most-wanted list, hoping that this will put so much heat on those on the list that they'll scurry back into the shadows. Though the list has not yet been made public, several names have already been mentioned that will undoubtedly be on it. This includes Tobias Kruzhor, aka Raze, the right hand man of the leader of the Dominations; the traitor Brynn Jerdola of the Serpentis and the sociopath Draclira Merlonne of the Blood Raiders. DED officials have confirmed that the list will be updated frequently, and though it will initially consist of pilots from the established pirate factions, it may eventually also include people from more recent pirate groups.

24/09/2004

It's election time in the Federation - public gets to decide

The independent committee charged with finding a compromise solution to the serious political deadlock that emerged from last week's Senate session has finished its work. The solution they came up with should come as no surprise to those familiar with Gallentean democracy: the matter will be resolved in a public elections. The elections are scheduled to start on Wednesday next week. Due to the size of the Federation they will be open for five days, ending on Monday the week after the next. All citizens of the Federation will be allowed to vote on whether constitutional changes allowing a sitting president to run again for the presidency should go through.

Neither president Foiritan, nor Mentas Blaque, head of the Senate, could be reached for comments on this announcement. It is believed both sides have mixed feelings for public elections, though Foiritan can be quietly confident based on his strong showing in recent polls. The results of this vote can have long-lasting effects on the political landscape of the Federation, yet the man on the street seems rather indifferent on the whole

matter. A random poll of pedestrians walking the sidewalks of Caille showed that less than a third was even aware of the debate last week and those that knew about it didn't care one way or another. Analysts are already predicting a low turnout, probably less than 40%. This, however, is not unheard of in public elections in the Federation; the record being only a 14% turnout 8 years ago when voting what color the new presidential palace should be.

The short time until the elections start forces the propaganda machines of the president and the Senate into overdrive, as they try to convince the lethargic populace the importance of voting, and voting right. More information about the elections will follow.

25/09/2004

Richer pickings as world grows wealthier

The Golden Age of inter-stellar travel has brought great riches and wondrous discoveries into the world, but at a price. The lure of plunder has reduced many former upstanding citizens to petty thievery and piracy. Strong freighter escort in the outer region has saved many from pirate ambushes, yet more and more fall pray to these dregs of society every month.

As new, advanced equipment enters the market it is only to be expected for this trend to continue in the foreseeable future, as CONCORD seems incapable of mounting strong enough resistance to these pests feeding on the hard work of others. Fortunately, the low moral fiber of the pirates keep them constantly at odds with each other in their petty territorial squabbles. One can only hope they do us all a great big favor in the near future and annihilate each other completely, leaving the rest of us to conduct our business in peace.

28/09/2004

Election booths open tomorrow for Gallente pilots

The first public elections in the Federation in two years are scheduled to start tomorrow at noon. Excitement is mounting, though turnout is predicted to be poor. The political future of president Foiritan may hinge on the results of these elections, even if they will have little direct implications for the ordinary citizen. Supporters of the president are counting on the goodwill of the general public and urging everyone to vote. The president's opponents in the Senate have in the meantime tried to besmear the motivations of Foiritan for pushing through his referendum on constitutional changes, questioning his stated reasons of wanting to personally eradicate the UDI terrorist network.

Political activists, of which there are plentiful within the Federation, are already forming picket lines in the major cities, prompting authorities to put their police forces on high alert. No major disturbances are expected though, as such activities have become the norm for every election. In fact, only a fraction of the protests has to do with the election itself, the majority revolving around social or economical issues.

The election booths will be open for five days, until next Sunday. All Gallentean citizens are eligible to vote. The results will be released early next week.

29/09/2004

SCC Approves New Market Items -- Backlash From Captain Community At Large

The SCC Advisory Council yesterday approved a variety of new sales commodities for general release on SCC-regulated interstellar markets. Notable among them are such items as long-anticipated learning skill packs from the Society of Conscious Thought, material which will give advanced students the possibility of, as a SOCT press release puts it, "taking their potential to the stars and beyond." The University of Caille and the Republic University yesterday also released the fruits of what has been their joint project over the last three months: the first batch of preparatory learning materials for the upcoming changes to be made to SCC interstellar markets in the coming months.

What really has heads turning, however, is the unanimous patent finalization of a new class of pod-fitted star vessel, the heavy assault ship. The finalization, approved only a few days ago by the SCCAC, is the third of its kind to take place over the course of the last two months. It has left market speculators confused, and thoroughly outraged the growing contingent of obsolescent non-capsule-fitted bridge captains who feel they're being left behind in the backwash of new technology.

"It is our strong belief that these new developments are not good for the world at large, neither socially nor economically," said Tomas Andeluth, Chairman of BCE (Bridge Captains for Equality), a newly-founded organization intended to protect the interests of non-capsuleer starship captains.

"Capsule-fitted pilots represent only a fraction of the starship captains out there, yet their niche has been catered to almost exclusively over the past year. The consolidation of wealth in these people's hands is growing out of proportion. Too much power -- both technological and economical -- is going to them, and too fast. If this continues, it could lead to massive recession and millions of jobs lost, both for bridge-piloted vessel captains and their crew. We find it frankly irresponsible of these ships' designers to exclude the vast majority of the galactic population from their designs," stated Andeluth.

Responding to these accusations, Maktina Obasa, director of public relations for Amarr ship designer and manufacturer Carthum Conglomerate, stated: "We are a corporation. Capital is a corporation's lifeblood. In order

to thrive, we must go where the capital is."

"The state of today's galactic economy is simply that the capsuleers have the cash. You cater to the group with the money, and the money comes to you. "

Obasa's comments have provoked widespread ire, not least from Federation Marquee columnist Maxim Peltast, a long-outspoken opponent of the "capsule craze." Making his point in characteristically coarse style, Peltast this morning appeared at Carthum Conglomerate's offices in Padrine, Duripant III's largest city, dressed in a loose garment composed, it appeared, entirely of blueprints, save for open patches on the front and the back where the journalist's genitalia and backside were in full view.

"Who finalizes the patents?" Peltast was heard screaming as building security officers moved to subdue him. "Who makes the real money from this? The designers? The manufacturers? Think again!"

A formal letter of apology from the Federation Marquee was reportedly received by Carthum Conglomerate's head office in Pimebeka a few hours later. Peltast's whereabouts are currently unknown, and it is uncertain at the time whether his weekly column, "Mad World," will run in tomorrow's Marquee as scheduled.

30/09/2004

Election turnout surprisingly good; narrow margin outcome expected

The public elections where the citizens of the Federation vote on whether president Souro Foiritan can run again in two years time started yesterday. Political analysts had predicted a very low turnout, but first indications show otherwise. With the elections still only in their second day the turnout is already almost 20%, with three days still remaining.

The media is forbidden from making actual polls with the elections ongoing, but a few unofficial polls have been circulating. Again the analysts have been proven wrong, a strong turnout was thought to strengthen the president's cause, but the opposite seems to be true. Though the numbers are sketchy at the moment, only 40-45% of voters are supporting Foiritan. Spokesman for the president, Endt Strovare, declined to comment on these unofficial polls, apart from pointing out that in the presidential elections three years ago, Foiritan came from behind to narrowly win in the last couple of days. Although Strovare didn't go so far as to predict the same would happen now, he strongly hinted that this might be the case.

30/09/2004

COLOSSUS Contestant Fires Prematurely, Kills 2 - Caldari Gaming Commission Perturbed

This afternoon in an undisclosed system in The Forge, as Qualifier 5 for the Wyrkomi Corporation's COLOSSUS team was getting underway, a contestant activated her weapons before the race was officially started, pod-killing two of her fellow contestants despite being explicitly warned by race coordinators that such behavior would result in disqualification.

The Caldari Gaming Commission has reacted to the news with much anger, immediately disqualifying the contestant in question and barring her and her corporation from any further sporting events held under the Commission's auspices.

"It's an absolute outrage," stated Airas Sukela, head of the Commission. "The blatant disrespect shown not just to the other contestants, but to the Commission and the Caldari State itself, is nothing short of a travesty. Completely outrageous."

Questioned as to his thoughts on those contestants who were killed, Sukela stated, "Yeah, that's terrible too."

State officials have remained tight-lipped as of yet regarding what action, if any, will be taken against the Curse Alliance, of which the offending contestant was a member.

"Obviously if these states are to be taken as sovereign entities in their own right, they must demonstrate that they are able to keep their subjects from willfully destroying honest-to-goodness sporting events held by other nations," said Kisiras Haakenen, Caldari Executive Panel Director of Public Relations. "The Panel has not decided to take any action as of yet, but it does feel that at this juncture a formal apology to the State would not go amiss."

The qualifier, the last of the Wyrkomi qualifiers, went ahead as scheduled. The COLOSSUS Qualifier season is slated to end Friday, October 8th.

02/10/2004

Is Foiritan losing it? Federation leaders on edge.

As the elections in the Federation draw to a close, rumors from inside the presidential palace in Caille describe president Foiritan as being unusually irritable and edgy when outside the public spotlight. It's said that Foiritan's foul temper has brought some of his aides to tears, while the staff of the palace are keeping their head low to escape being the brunt of one of his irrational tantrums. If true, this strongly indicates that Foiritan is feeling the pressure as wave after wave of unofficial polls predict that his referendum, which he has invested so much of his political capital on, will be rejected by the people. This would certainly ruin the illustrious career of one of the

most charismatic presidents the Federation has ever seen, forcing him to live out the remaining two years of his term dancing to the beat set by the Senate.

However, none of these signs have reached captivating as ever while he's out amongst the people. The president has been touring the Federation non-stop in the last few days, hoping to win over enough voters to tip the elections his way. This is exactly what happened in the presidential elections three years ago, so the political enemies of Foiritan are wary of declaring him finished quite yet. The public eye, as the happy-go-lucky charms of Foiritan are as

The leaders of the government have been clamoring for media attention in the last week, but in one case none of them was willing to comment publicly. The recent sabotage of the COLOSSUS race being held by the Caldari State and turned out to be the responsibility of Gallentean loyalists has the administration acutely embarrassed. It has harshly denounced the terrorist acts of the UDI, claiming these terrorist acts were supported by fanatical totalitarian regimes. Then for some of their own people to commit a similar act of aggression completely unravels their case. The little the leaders of the Federation have been willing to say on the matter is to deny any kind of links whatsoever to those responsible for the incident last Thursday during the race.

04/10/2004

Results just in for elections. Foiritan prevails!

Official results have finally been announced in the Federation elections that ended yesterday. President Foiritan's controversial referendum on constitutional changes was accepted by the people, despite continuous unofficial polls claiming otherwise. A spokesman for the president spoke briefly to the press a few moments ago, saying that the president was relieved and very grateful to the citizens of the Federation for their support. The spokesman said the president had gone on a much needed vacation once the election ended yesterday, after having toured the Federation non-stop for two weeks, and could not be reached. Leaders of the Senate, who opposed the president's bill, are still to comment on the results.

The election turnout was rather good, with about 30% of registered voters casting their vote. Though exact numbers are still to be released it is believed that the vote was extremely close, with less than 2% separating those who voted yes and those who voted no. More information tomorrow.

07/10/2004

Senate repercussions anticipated in the wake of election results

This week has seen several stormy sessions in the Federation Senate, where the Sociocrats, egged on by their leader Mentas Blaque, take turns blasting Foiritan and his comrades in the Senate. Blaque is sensing the faltering resolve of many Senators hitherto considered staunch supporters of the president. It is widely known Foiritan applied extreme pressure on several Senators in an attempt to get his referendum on constitutional changes pushed through the Senate awhile ago. Now the time of reckoning may be at hand, where those same Senators may abandon Foiritan to get back at him.

It is understood that Foiritan has hastened his return from his vacation to try and patch things up with the Senators he so rudely toe-trod on. Whether he manages this is hard to say, the Senate is in an uproar, but one can never underestimate the charismatic Foiritan.

11/10/2004

Senate to hold a vote of no confidence on the president!

Sensational news from the Federation Senate yet again, as Mentas Blaque has managed to have the Senate hold a vote of no confidence on president Foiritan. The vote is scheduled for later this week and if it passes then Foiritan will be forced out of office and presidential elections held at the earliest opportunity. As two thirds of the Senators need to vote against the president, Foiritan still has some hope of passing this unscathed. Indeed, if he does so he will emerge stronger for having fended off such a serious attempt to remove him from power.

The vote is the result of the political backlash the president is feeling after pushing through constitutional changes allowing him to rerun for the presidency. His intention was to run again once his current five year term runs out in two years time, but with the way things are going for him he may be forced to call upon the new constitutional amendment sooner than expected.

12/10/2004

Caldari State Issues Statement of Condemnation On Curse Alliance Response

Kisiras Haakenen, Caldari Executive Panel Director of Public Relations, at a press conference yesterday evening let fall harsh words regarding the Curse Alliance and its response following the much-publicized COLOSSUS Qualifier incident the week before last, where a racer from a corporation flying under the CA banner pod-killed two of her fellow contestants before the race's scheduled start, despite explicit warning from race organizers.

"The Curse Alliance has made no bones about its response to the State's modest request for a public mea culpa," said Haakenen. "While assurances were made that similar incidents would not take place again, the fact remains that no formal apology was issued, nor were there any suggestions towards a diplomatic solution made. There was not even a token offer of restitution. At the same time, sources from within the CA made it abundantly and publicly clear that there had been discussion of conflict within CA war rooms, statements which were later confirmed by our own intelligence sources. It is our considered opinion that the Curse Alliance should

cease and desist from any and all military planning if they wish to remain a recognized sovereign entity in the pan-regional arena."

"We are still waiting for our apology," added the Director before leaving the podium.

"What the CA seem to be neglecting is the aspect of face," commented independent political analyst Rae Strammin in today's Galactic Observer. "In all dealings with the Caldari State, it has to be remembered that they need, first and foremost, to save face. By not allowing them that, you get their hair up. And I don't think many of us have a particular desire to see the State sporting a Laisonian hypra-grav do. That doesn't do much for face. And it won't do much for galactic peace in an already unstable political environment."

Jovian official Misu Baniya, when questioned as to whether these recent diplomatic rows would affect the Curse Alliance's place on the Jovian Register of Sovereign Nation-States, declined to comment.

14/10/2004

Presidential elections to be held! Senate votes Foiritan out!

The Federation Senate voted this morning on whether president Foiritan was to hold his office or be booted out. Almost 80% of the Senators voted for Foiritan to be stripped of office, much more than the two thirds needed. This means that presidential elections will be held next December, where the public get their say on whether Foiritan is fit to continue as president or if he should leave the political arena for good.

The Federation has been in an uproar over the last days following Foiritan's victory in the recent public elections held on his referendum for constitutional changes. Many have openly accused Foiritan's administration of mishandling the elections, some even going so far as to say that the elections were rigged in Foiritan's favor. The Senate, who opposed the president on his referendum, obviously believes that the public opinion has swung in their favor and believes that Foiritan has overstepped the boundaries of his authority one time too many. It's ironic that the very referendum that made Foiritan enough enemies in the Senate for him to be voted out now allows him to run again in the upcoming elections.

Speculations are already ripe for what candidates will vie for the presidency. The rules for entering the run are very strict now, following some embarrassing moments some decades ago when thousands upon thousands entered the presidential race. Thus, like last time, only three candidates are expected. Foiritan is the most likely candidate for the Progressive Party, despite the opposition of many of his party members within the Senate. Mentas Blaque, leader of the Sociocrats, is also a probable candidate. Several more names have been named, but are still only speculations.

Interesting times are ahead in the Federation as all candidates must carefully choose the emissaries that will represent them and promote their cause to the general public. More on this later.

19/10/2004

Presidential candidates to seek support from corporations

Three candidates have emerged as forerunners in the upcoming presidential elections in the Federation. The three all have sizeable backing within the Federation, guaranteeing them a place on the ballot. Souro Foiritan has been working diligently to become the candidate for the Progressive Party and his official nomination is now merely a formality. Mentas Blaque has already been named the candidate for the Sociocrats. The third candidate is the eminent humanitarian Eman Autrech, who's liberal agenda on free trade and galactic unity have earned him support from various quarters of the Federation.

The candidates are aiming to enlist the aid of corporations in promoting their cause, as corporations have the discipline and wherewithal to give more substantial support than individuals can ever do. To this end, the candidates will soon start asking any corporation that's interested to sponsor their candidacy. The sponsoring corporation will then have a chance to show their diligence and resourcefulness, with the best ones receiving hefty rewards.

At the same time, the candidates will spare no expenditure in presenting themselves and their policies to the public, hoping to drive their image indelibly into the minds of voters and well-wishers alike.

22/10/2004

Presidential campaign heats up as candidates clash.

Even this early in the campaign for the Federation presidency it is becoming evident that this will be anything but a quiet campaign fought on issues alone. Already the candidates are getting their smear machines into gear, ready to throw every bit of dirt at each other that they manage to dig up or fabricate. The negative image this generates is already spreading to the supporters and culminated last night when opposing groups clashed at a mud wrestle match, fittingly enough.

Political pundits are predicting an ugly campaign season ahead, where every trick in the book will be employed by all sides. Though issues are expected to play second fiddle to personas and charisma, the ones that will garner the most attention are: terrorism, relations with neighboring states such as the Caldari State and the Intaki Syndicate, and integrating the blooming space industry with the existing planet-based economy.

Corporate lobbyists have begun evaluating the candidates, deciding which one will fit their own agenda best. Established corporations like Quafe and CreoDron can make a huge impact on the outcome, depending on where their support lands, but some are hinting that the surprise package in these elections may be the space pilots. With their privileged positions and increasing wealth their actions may very well be the deciding factor when the dust finally settles come January.

25/10/2004

Corporations to sign sponsorship deals with candidates

In the true spirit of lobbying, the prolific pilot corporations can now sign up as supporters for one of the candidates competing for the presidency of the Federation. This will open up a formal path for them to follow later on, where the pilot corporations will compete amongst each other to become official sponsors of their chosen candidate. Apart from the rewards reaped for this, the victorious corporations will get to nominate one of their own to become an Emissary for the candidate in one of the six Federation regions. The eighteen Emissaries will then promote their candidate's cause, culminating on Election Day, when pilots get to vote their favorite Emissary.

The sign up phase will last for several weeks and is open to all pilot corporations interested in participating in the democratic procedures of the Federation. Once sign up is complete, the participating corporations start competing against each other with the aid of agents working for the candidates.

03/11/2004

ORE Syndicate To Retail Previously Unavailable Technologies on SCC Markets

This afternoon the ORE Syndicate announced its intention to begin SCC-market sales and distribution of moon mining equipment, as well as components and building blocks for the construction of deep-space starbases. The type of equipment in question has not, up until now, been made available on open markets due to the immense startup costs associated with its use. According to ORE CFO Nase Bekour, however, the concurrent release of revolutionary new moon mining equipment into the open markets will drastically increase the feasibility of such endeavors for smaller corporations and entities. Market analysts agree that the most likely target market for the new technologies will be pod pilots, that specific class of spaceship captain qualified to fly ships outfitted with capsule technology. Now numbering just over fifty thousand, this breed has taken to the outer regions, where they have formed their own alliances and dominate vast tracts of space, coming into constant conflict with each other as well as the regions' native pirate inhabitants. With the massive capital these capsuleer organizations have at their disposal, it is considered very likely that they will be the primary benefactors of this new technology. ORE's announcement has met with mixed reaction in interstellar political circles. A spokesman for the Caldari Chief Executive Panel was quoted as saying the CEP wished to initiate discussion with the Syndicate on the advisability of proceeding in this manner, and the rest of the empires made statements much in the same vein. The Jovians, as is their wont, made no comment. According to the announcement, the new equipment will hit the markets November 17th.

04/11/2004

Rogue drone infestation discovered but kept secret

A report filtered out from reliable sources within the Inner Circle of CONCORD has revealed that a huge infestation of rogue drones was found well within empire space. There is a strong indication that the recently discovered swarm constitutes a new breed of the drones. The leaked report further states that this discovery was made some weeks ago, but has been carefully kept under wrap by CONCORD since. The reason given is that the exact nature of this new breed is as of yet not fully understood and the presence of curious bystanders can lead to infestation or contamination of these vessels, spreading the rogue drones even further.

The report also claims that the rogue drone hive was discovered in a so called deadspace pocket, which explains why it remained undetected for so long. Many feel that this claim discredits the whole report, as every spacefarer knows that deadspace is totally inaccessible. Since the deadspace phenomenon was first discovered centuries ago, many have tried to unlock the secrets to entering these elusive areas, but to no avail. That semi-sentient entity like the rogue drones have mastered deadspace sounds frankly ludicrous. Nevertheless, there is a grain of truth to be found in the report and it will be interesting to see how CONCORD officials respond to the leaked report.

05/11/2004

Empires Meet With ORE Founder

Representatives from the four empires yesterday met with Orion Mashel, founder of the ORE Syndicate, along with key ORE administrative personnel at an undisclosed location somewhere in the Outer Ring region. The subject of their meeting was ORE's recent announcement that come November 17th, they would commence SCC-market retail of starbase components and moon mining tools previously available only to empire governments and megacorporations. According to reliable reports, empire representatives were adamant in stating that the proposed retailing of these items would serve to give even more power to an already disproportionately powerful segment of the population, and would furthermore hamper financial empire interests by denying them sole rights to the technology such as they have enjoyed up to this point. ORE administration representatives were equally adamant, however, in stating that the move to retail these items was a significant step forward for the interstellar community, countering the empire representatives' concerns with their stated belief that these items would lead to a mass migration of capsuleers from empire-controlled territories, leaving the empires' economies safe from the massive condensation of wealth - and subsequent economic troubles --

commonly found where prolific capsuleers set up camp. The meeting ended with no discernible conclusion, but according to an inside source the consensus among empire representatives was that if the Syndicate would put its own financial interests above the general welfare of the interstellar community, other measures would have to be taken. More on this as it develops.

06/11/2004

CONCORD admits to hiding facts regarding infestation

The Inner Circle of CONCORD released a rare press statement yesterday. The statement confirms the authenticity of the report that was leaked earlier in the week. A rogue drone hive was indeed found recently well within empire space, though the exact location is still held secret. CONCORD officials state that the rogue drones discovered constitute a new breed and their exact nature is still to be determined. CONCORD wants to make sure that these new rogue drones are not capable of spreading their evil influences to nearby space vessels before the location of the new hive will be revealed. It is estimated that a full investigation of the matter will take close to two weeks. The official promised full cooperation with the public from now on.

However, that promise may have to be broken if the chief Caldari representative to CONCORD, Tashin Ernabaita, is anything to go by. Ernabaita says that the accidental discovery of the hive within deadspace opens up interesting possibilities for the empires in increasing their power and security in space. The empires are planting warp beacons within known deadspaces to allow dronesweepers to enter and clear out any rogue drone hives. Ernabaita says that the State considers access to these warp beacons a state secret and should be guarded by the empires. The State is already planning to construct complexes in deadspaces within its borders and wants them to be out of bounds to the general public. The other empires are still to comment on this, but may be persuaded by the Caldari to follow suit and keep deadspace warp beacons hidden.

The statement released by the Inner Circle concludes by describing how the rogue drone hive in deadspace was discovered a few weeks ago. Transmission with a freighter from one of the empires (presumably from the empire where the hive is located) was suddenly lost while it was in transit. The freighter was carrying new types of implants, valuable enough to warrant a strong search party being sent out. The area where the freighter was lost was located close to a deadspace bubble, a phenomenon known for a long time, but considered to be of no interest due to its inaccessibility. But after a fruitless search for days, the leader of the search party finally decided to search close to the deadspace bubble. And there he received faint signals from the freighter, from within the deadspace. Further probing revealed an ancient acceleration gate on its outskirts. The gate was only capable of handling a frigate size ships, so a couple were sent in. There they were immediately set upon by dozens of rogue drones. Only one of the frigates returned to tell the story; that residing within the deadspace bubble was a vast hive of rogue drones, thought to be long extinguished from empire space.

08/11/2004

Caldari State Threatens Sanctions on ORE Syndicate - Amarr Empire Follows Suit

Officials from the Caldari Executive Panel yesterday morning released a statement wherein it was indicated that the Caldari State might impose severe sanctions on the ORE Syndicate, should the Syndicate not back down from its declared intention to release moon mining equipment and starbase materials into SCC markets later this month. According to the statement, "The ORE Syndicate and its administration have shown no willingness to accommodate the Caldari State nor its neighbors in our wish for galactic stability, both economic and militaristic." In an official statement from the Imperial Chancellor's Office just three hours later, the Amarr Empire declared that it placed its full support behind the actions of the Caldari State, prompting speculations that they would follow suit sometime in the next few days. The news has sent shockwaves through the stock markets, with some investors seeing this as the end of the ORE Syndicate, others seeing it as the beginning of a new era in its history. ORE officials remain mysteriously unruffled by the news; no comment has been forthcoming so far, but an unofficial source stated founder Orion Mashel was "in repose at his home, unperturbed by bristling monoliths." The Syndicate's nonchalant reaction has led to discussion on whether the defiant stance taken by the notorious Curse Alliance early last month with regards to the incident at one of the State's COLOSSUS qualifier races, where two pilots were shot down and pod-killed by a CA member, may have been the first indication of a subtle power shift in the galactic political arena. Analysts, journalists and social speculants have wondered aloud whether the old empires may be slowly giving ground to a new world order of sorts - according to State Beacon journalist Kisasen Purukai, "a pure meritocracy where survival is dictated by the strongest and the cleverest, and the importance of pure racial boundaries takes a back seat to the importance of shared goals and common interests. It comes as little surprise that Mr. Mashel, shrewd businessman that he is, realizes that these are the people he wants to do business with." The Gallente Federation and the Minmatar Republic are reportedly on the fence at the time of going to press, neither nation having given an official response. Fevered debates are reported to be taking place within the Federal Senate, and the Republic's Tribal Council has convened four times within the last forty-eight hours. Statements are expected from these nations very soon.

09/11/2004

Infestation under control; deadspace debate rages

CONCORD has issued a statement declaring that the potential rogue drone infestation has been squashed in its infancy. The infestation was widely feared after the discovery of huge drone hives hidden within deadspace in various locations around empire space. Under the leadership of CONCORD the empires have undertaken a massive clean up operation against the rogue drones, clearing those hives already discovered out.

The statement also reveals that the warp beacons used to pinpoint locations within deadspace was given by CONCORD to the empires to help them in their dronesweeping efforts. The empires have now declared their interest in using the warp beacons, along with the ingenious acceleration gate technology employed by the rogue drones, to build up their own infrastructure in deadspace locations. To secure their interests, they have united to keep access to the warp beacons restricted only to the empires themselves. Caldari scientists have already reversed engineered the modified acceleration gates, allowing them to be manufactured. It is believed that the Caldari State used the gates as leverage in securing the support of the other empires by promising to sell them gates at a very reasonable price. Liberal politicians, mainly from the Federation, have denounced this decision. They claim it will stifle the expansion of the independent pilot industry, which has looked so promising in recent months.

10/11/2004

SCC Starbase Disagreements Approaching Critical Mass

Over the last few days, the Caldari State and the Amarr Empire have come under fire from various interest groups, who have been exerting tremendous pressure on agencies within these nations to retract their threats of economic sanctions against the ORE Syndicate. As has become widely known, the Caldari State three days ago released a statement proclaiming their intention to institute sanctions against the mining giant for its moves towards making deep-space starbase components and moon mining materials available on the open market. Poteque Pharmaceuticals and Zainou, Inc., along with a number of military supply and logistics companies, have filed formal complaints and exerted fiscal leverage against the empire agencies in question, among other things stating that clone contracts currently in place between them and the governmental bodies' military arms would have to be reconsidered in light of impending sanctions and their potential economic consequences. Tertlaert Auste, Chief Coordinator of Public Relations for Poteque, at a press conference yesterday claimed "these governments are acting out of nothing more than a fear of getting a slightly smaller piece of the pie, and a fear of future technologies that borders on the hysterical. There is no reason for the ORE Syndicate to give in to these empty threats." Pro- and anti-cloning splinter groups have also been very vocal in the last few days, leading to at least twelve separate riots on Amarr and Caldari worlds over the last two days. One of the largest pro-cloning groups, the Imperial Immortality Foundation, yesterday afternoon staged a protest outside The Imperial Chancellor's Office in Dam-Torsad, an occurrence which ended in dozens of casualties as Imperial Army troops released nanotoxin agents on the gathered crowd instead of the semi-soporifics normally utilized under such circumstances. Army spokesmen have since declared the incident an "accidental tragedy," and expressed regret over the lives lost. As more and more groups and factions get dragged into the debate, many are predicting the disagreement will reach critical levels very soon.

11/11/2004

New 25ers group to fight empire monopoly on deadspace

The 25ers were activists that a little over a century ago fought the empires over the freedom enjoyed by independent pilots. The 25ers, their struggle long since won, then faded into obscurity. But now unidentified activists, believed to be Gallenteans, have revived the old grass-root organization to fight the empires over access to deadspace. The original 25ers group laid the foundation of the independent pilot community, unattached to the empires that fostered them at first. The pioneering work of the 25ers has been taken for granted for so long that most pilots don't even know that they owe their independence to this century-old activist group. But some have remembered, it seems, and are now ready to tackle the empires once more.

As reported recently, the empires decided to keep to themselves the warp beacon technology necessary for deadspace access. Deadspace offers a unique opportunity in allowing for space installations that are inaccessible to all but those with the means to link with the warp beacons. Naturally, the empires have taken every care to make the warp beacons and their signals totally unhackable, or as a Caldari scientist triumphantly put it: "you could link all the quantum computers in the world together and you still wouldn't be able to crack the code."

The new 25ers have vowed to use any means necessary to crack the warp beacon code and break the monopoly the empires currently enjoy on deadspace. They will undoubtedly receive support in this endeavor from all freedom-loving pilots and pilot corporations that don't want to be frozen out of deadspace and the opportunities it presents. But only time will tell of this latest 25ers campaign will meet with success or humiliating defeat.

15/11/2004

The unhackable warp beacons hacked; scientists shamed

The deadspace warp beacons, proclaimed as being unhackable by the Caldari scientists that built them, have been hacked. Not by any nefarious government agency bent on industrial espionage. No, the hacker has turned out to be a 17 year old Gallentean girl. The story has been well covered by the Scope. The family of seventeen year old Ladette Russeot was moving to a new home in the Jeon constellation, traveling on a high tech vessel owned by Ladette's scientist father. Ladette missed her favorite soap opera, the Adventures of White Lightning, from her old home planet and decided to try and find it amongst the stellar wavelengths en route to her new home.

Ladette possessed just enough technological knowledge to be able to put the equipment on her father's ship to good use, but not enough to realize how hopeless her task was. Undeterred, she set out to scan her surrounding space lanes and ended up finding the signal used by the empires for the deadspace warp beacons, quite by accident. Empire technicians are still trying to understand how Ladette managed to do what she did, but to the

common man it doesn't matter. All that matters is that what the empires intended to keep top secret is now out in the open, accessible to anyone interested in knowing how to enter deadspace locations.

22/11/2004

Empires escalate deadspace construction as competition heats up

All the empires that make up the civilized part of space are putting increased emphasis on deadspace complexes now that the technology behind keeping them secret has been compromised. The empires are keen to keep unwanted parties out of deadspace areas within their borders, and the only way to do that is to occupy them for themselves. This move comes as no surprise, as it is only a matter of time before other factions catch up with the complex technology and start building their own complexes in deadspace. It is already rumored that pirate factions have launched cleanup operations of their own in deadspace areas, clearing out any rogue drone infestations, in preparation for this. Though commendable from the point of view of checking any possible rogue drone plagues, many feel that deadspace pirate havens are just as bad.

Details are still vague on how exactly the 17 year old Ladette Russeot managed to break the encryption guarding the warp beacon signals used to enter deadspace. The Caldari State has launched an internal investigation into the matter, but any findings will most likely be kept under wrap. Especially as the Caldari are feeling rather embarrassed that the encryption technology they devised and flaunted as being unbreakable was so easily brushed aside, by a teenager to boot. However, this is of little interest to the common pilots, all they care about is that the efforts of Russeot allow them to experience deadspace for themselves. For better or for worse.

24/11/2004

CONCORD Makes Revolutionary Statement of Recognition For Alliances as Starbase Components Hit SCC Markets

In a surprise announcement at 12:00 EVT today Irhes Angireh, Head of CONCORD's Inner Circle, declared CONCORD to be in full official support of the outer rim alliances. Further, she stated that official provision had been made for alliances to, for the first time in history, become recorded entities on the level of nation-states. "The last two weeks have been a tumultuous time, with nations, institutions, organizations, even families, split down the middle in disagreement," said Angireh. "Thusly, in fulfillment of the duties bestowed upon us by our position, CONCORD has made a decision. As of this moment, an official CONCORD-sanctioned Alliance register has been put into effect. Those political entities which comply with our criteria may, from now, be recognized for the powers they are. Additionally, the SCC has made no provision to restrict the ORE Syndicate's retailing of moon mining and starbase technologies, technologies which we feel will do nothing but expand humanity's frontiers and speed our path into the future." The news has sent shockwaves through the political community. Representatives from the four empires have logged official complaints through all available channels, some even going so far as to claim CONCORD has overstepped its bounds completely and that the Inner Circle has been corrupted by the interests of the cloning and spaceship industries, as well as pressure from vocal capsuleer groups through GalNet feed channels. "Mark my words, this is the beginning of the end," stated Amarr Court Chamberlain Proconsul Camoul Hinda. "With people like these allowed access to that level of advanced technology, there's no telling what will happen. It seems to me that CONCORD is acting purely out of self-interest, with no concern for the economic well-being of the nations it was created to protect." "It's like a bad dream. I just don't know what to say," said Gallente senator Aubrille Dramou. "It's like they took a touch sculpture, detached all the constituent parts and just threw the pieces back into the field randomly. I'm not even sure I want to know what happens next." Meanwhile, outer rim alliance leaders have expressed approval of CONCORD's move. Fountain Alliance representative TornSoul in an interview this afternoon stated, "The core empires need to wake up to the fact that there are other powerful entities in existence, and they need to start dealing with these entities on equal terms. They should realize there is something to be learned from those who have been able to do what they could not - namely, establish permanent footholds in the outer regions. While the FA welcomes this move from CONCORD, it is really nothing more than a formalization of the current de facto state of affairs -- we're here, and we're here to stay."

02/12/2004

Quafe intern in trouble after mystery theft

A bizarre story has filtered out of the Quafe Company. A large shipment of Quafe recently disappeared from the company's warehouse in the Allamotte system. Dune Mirmueren, a spokesman for the company, has revealed that the disappearance was being treated as a theft, with the prime suspect, and also sole witness, being a lowly intern. A reporter for the Scope managed to speak to the intern, Hared Loudier, before he was whisked away by Quafe officials.

According to Loudier, a small wormhole appeared inside the warehouse, sucking out large quantities of Quafe. Loudier's tale grows even stranger as he speaks of strange beings, most likely human, on the other side of the wormhole. The beings spoke in incoherent babble and were fighting amongst themselves, seemingly for the privilege to be the first to enter through the wormhole. Their surroundings were sparse, the only item of notice a green comfy-chair. 'It was a really nice looking chair,' Loudier mused just before he was pulled away.

Dune Mirmueren dismissed Loudier's story as simply ludicrous. He said Loudier was on the ever popular enzyme-diet, which is known to induce hallucinations on occasions. 'But we think Mr. Loudier is spinning this whole story as a cover up to what we believe is a pure and simple theft,' Mirmueren continued. 'Men with red hair and green comfy chairs, pah! Anyone can see that such tales are just pure fabrication.' Mirmueren concluded that Quafe

would put every effort into locating the lost stash of their treasured soft drink. 'We will hunt down the perpetrators, through space and time. We will not rest until those responsible are behind bars, where they belong.'

14/12/2004

Support changes expected as sign-up draws to a close

The candidates for the post of the president of the Gallente Federation are ready to start their hunt for emissaries in earnest. Naturally, all of them want only the very best to act as their emissaries, which prompted them to seek the support of the energetic corporations of the pilot community. The move has met with great success for all the candidates, with dozens of corporations already having declared their support.

Now the corporation sign-up phase is drawing to a close, but in the final stretches, participating corporations will be allowed to change their allegiance, in the truest of democratic manner. Corporations are also allowed to alter what region they want to participate in. As the regions hold different amount of electoral votes, choosing the right region compared to the relative strength of the pilot corporation is imperative.

Once the sign-up phase ends, the competition itself will begin: collecting vouchers for the chosen candidate. More news will be posted when the sign-up phase is about to end.

16/12/2004

The Scope Profile: Souro Foiritan

The Person:

In the three years since taking office, president Souro Foiritan has gone from one controversy to another. But he has an uncanny ability to turn adversity into triumph, emerging stronger every time. The Federation is distinctly multi-cultural and Foiritan has been extremely careful never to pick sides or show too much favoritism to one side over another. Thus, he can draw his support from all elements of Federation society; from the Minmatar immigrants to his fellow Intakis to the thoroughbred Gallenteans.

Foiritan is the master of skillfully navigating the treacherous edge between affability and buffoonery. Being very much a man of the people has allowed him to get away with many things other politicians would never even dream of, but while his colorful exploits endear him to the people, they also gnaw away at his credibility. Foiritan may be favorite as a leader while everything is going well, but the big question is whether the public will trust him when the push really comes to shove.

All the same, president Foiritan has been remarkably skilful in maintaining his popularity through thick and thin, suggesting that these presidential elections will just be the latest hurdle for him to traverse with ease.

The Past:

Foiritan graduated with honors from Center of Advanced Studies (CAS) before being hired as a research graduate for Chemal Tech. While still in school he was cajoled by his (then) girlfriend into taking part in student politics, eventually becoming student body president. Having thus gotten an early sniff of politics at grass root level, Foiritan soon became restless in his job at Chemal Tech and eventually quit to pursuit a full time career as a politician.

While some hint at some nefarious acts on his behalf in promoting himself, there is no doubt that his sudden and dramatic rise to power can mostly be attributed to his empathetic charisma and clear purpose in life. Though Foiritan has promoted his image as a lenient and benevolent leader, there are many cases in his past that suggest that he can, in fact, be quite ruthless and self-serving when the need arises, leading to the conclusion that he regards politics more as a platform for self-aggrandizement rather than for any visionary reasons.

The Policy:

During his time as president of the Federation, Souro Foiritan has aimed to lessen governmental influences on the domestic front, effectively giving the various states and planets previously unheard of autonomy. He has admirably maintained internal stability, while fostering the growth of the hi-tech industry that is starting to rival that of the Caldari in scope if not in sophistication.

On the foreign front, Foiritan has been the fiercest supporter of CONCORD amongst the member states, even to the point where it has started to infringe upon the sovereignty of the Federation. He has also sought to improve the relations with the Amarr Empire and the Caldari State, something he has been criticized for by some. But to most federal citizens these are minor issues that they are hardly aware of. However, his handling of the UDI terrorist threat, making it into a personal issue, has cast him in some negative light in many quarters.

If re-elected, it is likely that Foiritan will continue the current policy of limiting governmental intrusion in the day-to-day running of the Federation, with the corresponding result of favoring further independence of the pilot community, amongst other things. The UDI affair may still turn into a fiasco that may very well sour relations with the Amarr Empire and the Caldari State, but baring that, one can expect that relations will continue to improve. Foiritan himself has stated, following the failure of the Crielere project, that he would very much like to see something similar happening again. The independence of CONCORD will increase, perhaps to the point where it can finally start to live up to its promise of offering protection to space farers outside empire space.

20/12/2004

The Scope Profile: Mentas Blaque

The Person:

Once described as the most intelligent man in the Federation, but also the most cold-hearted, Mentas Blaque is a political hard-liner of the best, or the worst, sort. It all depends on your perspective. While the Federation has always stood for equality, to Blaque some people are more equal than others. While Blaque has never advocated that the Federation should be for Gallenteans only, he has many times stated that it should be governed solely by Gallenteans. In his view, the Gallenteans are the true champions of democracy, other members of the Federation are simply 'guests' of the great and generous Gallentean nation.

Furthermore, Blaque believes that the essence of the democratic spirit must be defended vigorously against foreign threats and subversive elements. The aggressive nature of Blaque dictates that the initiative must be seized and actions taken against those seeking to undermine the Federation. Blaque's views have made him a controversial figure in the Federation. Many are swayed by his persuasive argument that the Federation can only remain a sanctuary to the oppressed if it can prove itself to be strong and secure. But others point out that this matters little if the Federation itself becomes the oppressor.

The Past:

After graduating as a lawyer from Caille University, Blaque went to work for one of the most prestigious law firms in the Federation, Tuvouille, Tuvouille & Reniz. Quickly establishing himself as extremely competent trial lawyer with a merciless and cunning edge, Blaque also started to make a name for himself in the political arena with biting articles in leading newspapers. Blaque retired from law business in his early thirties, already having amassed enough wealth to last several lifetimes.

Blaque then started his political career in earnest. Applying the same ruthless methods that made him notorious during his lawyering days, he quickly rose to prominence. He became Senator before he was forty and was quick to stamp his authority in the lofty halls of the Senate. It wasn't long before he was elected head of the Senate, a post he has held ever since. Now his ambition has awakened once again, propelling him to take on Foiritan for the presidency. The two have clashed many times in the past, with Foiritan generally the winner. This time Blaque is pulling all the stops to come out on top.

The Policy:

Mentas Blaque hates the Intaki Syndicate with a vengeance. Whether this is because of his ongoing feud with president Foiritan, who is an Intaki, is unknown. Blaque maintains that Foiritan is secretly dealing with the Syndicate, fattening his own pockets with smuggler's money in exchange for allowing the Syndicate to operate unhindered close to Federation space. While these accusations have never been substantiated, it is clear that with Blaque in power the Syndicate will feel the wrath of the Federation.

Blaque has also criticized the president for his friendly overtures to the Amarr Empire and the Caldari State. To Blaque, such moves will only be perceived as a sign of weakness and ruthlessly exploited. He points to the Protein Delicacy fiasco, the Crielere project and the deal with Articio Kor-Azor as examples of this already happening. With Blaque in charge, relations with the other empires are bound to sour, what with Blaque's decidedly xenophobic views. For the same reason, CONCORD will undoubtedly suffer. Blaque has already stated that he will withdraw funds earmarked for CONCORD and use them to strengthen the Federation Navy instead.

On the home front, Blaque is bound to take greater interest in the day to day running of affairs than Foiritan has done. Blaque will no doubt try to patch up the poor relations between the president and the senate, aiming to unite all the government agencies and make the start working for each other instead of against each other, as has often been the case under Foiritan. Blaque's insistence on increased security may not affect the average citizen much, but stiffer regulations regarding transportation of goods and people can be expected.

20/12/2004

Capsuleer Idolatry on the Rise

In its annual report published yesterday, CONCORD's Communications Regulation Agency (CCRA) revealed a number of intriguing facts about current trends in universal communications. Most notable was the rise in popularity of the GalNet forum, a podium venue for the capsuleer community to bring to light issues of concern to them and their associates. Originally intended as a pure communications vehicle for pod pilots, GalNet has, in the course of the last year, become something more. Last February, in response to budgetary difficulties brought on by Inner Circle funding cuts, the CCRA hit upon the idea of optioning GalNet view access to planet- and stationside holofeeds. This met with little success initially, but as the capsuleers' ranks and influence grew throughout the course of the year, the popularity of the GalNet feed soared. According to the CCRA's report, GalNet view-subscriptions among the non-capsuleer population today number in the hundreds of millions, spanning the breadth of the universe. Whether as a cause or effect of this development, hundreds of pro- and anti-capsuleer interest groups have sprung up within the past year, their stances towards these pilots ranging from quasi-xenophobic dread to an almost religious devotion. Many reported cases exist of noted capsuleers' pronouncements signaling large-scale incidents planetside, as groups variously in support or conflict with the pod pilots make their loyalties known. One recent such incident concerns sermons made by the PIE corporation's Kostantin Mort, a Religious Tribunal Justice and capsuleer paramilitary of some repute. In a recorded entry from the 17th of this month, Justice Mort gave a missive interpreted by some as a harsh indictment of the Caldari way of life. The sermon was contested by many of his GalNet peers, but no smaller was the reaction, planetside, of

various interest groups. The Society for the Conservation of State Traditions, a fiercely nationalistic Caldari lobbyist organization headed by several independently wealthy entrepreneurs, in the wake of Justice Mort's sermon launched a scathing series of propagandistic advertisements against PIE Inc. and its perceived propagation of "blind Amarrian arrogance." This then prompted several traditionalist factions within the Empire to respond in kind, affirming their support for the much-beloved paramilitary organization and painting the Caldari as "mindless followers of an inert deity." Cultural analyst Brill Stone warns that the growing number of incidents like these may indicate that a subtle shift in the world's ideological power structures could be under way. "If this development continues in the direction it's been going, there's no telling what the climate will be in the future. We could be looking at a different world. I'd say it's high time the empires took note."

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05/01/2005

The Scope Profile: Eman Autrech

The Person: Despite his obvious talents, Eman Autrech was for years not considered to be a serious contender in the political arena of the Federation as he was thought to be 'too nice'. In latter years he has managed to reign in this what can only be described as a serious vice in a politician. Consequently, he now finds himself poised to take the Federation by a storm.

Autrech is a brilliant orator, possessing that rare talent of being able to explain the most complex things in simple, elegant terms. This, combined with his friendly demeanor, is slowly increasing his popularity throughout the Federation, especially amongst the lower middle class and common governmental workers. The fact that he never speaks down to the lower classes or puts himself on a high horse undoubtedly contributes greatly also. Since hitting the spotlight Autrech has been revealed as a bit of an eccentric. He collects vases made from eggshells and is an avid meaterian. In any other state, Autrech's eccentric ways would count against him, but in the liberal Federation his peculiarities and small quirks merely act to strengthen his image in the minds of the public.

The Past: Although Autrech is working fervently to strengthen his public image, his main power base is the established bureaucracy of the Federation. Though he has reached prominence with his rapid career advancement within CONCORD, his roots firmly lie in the vast, entrenched bureaucratic organism that the Federation has become. Autrech is very much the little bureaucrat that could; hero in the eyes of every pencil pusher harboring a dream of a better life. Being a man of the system will undoubtedly act both against and for Autrech in the upcoming elections. While it gives him kinship with billions of disgruntled office workers around the Federation, he is very much cast in the mold of the rigid, as-the-rules-dictate type of a man. Consistency and dependability may find a cuddly home in his soul, but flexibility does not.

Autrech started out as a lowly intern in the Federation Administration. After working himself up to a division leader he was lured by the greener pastures of CONCORD. There he quickly established himself as a competent administrator, first as an official within the Inner Circle before moving to SCC, where he steadily climbed the corporate ladder to the top. Autrech's work experience, especially as head of the SCC for more than five years, has given him a unique insight into inter-stellar wheeling and dealing. This has given him the steadfast belief that trade is the best and perhaps the only way to promote peace, through shared prosperity and trust.

The Policy: The foundation of the Federation is based on laws. While not immediately apparent, the smooth, easy going lifestyle of the Gallenteans would be impossible if it weren't for strict codes governing such important concepts as ownership and human rights. It's from this foundation that Eman Autrech launches his candidacy to become president of the Federation. Alone amongst the candidates, Autrech acknowledges the importance of keeping the responsibilities of each governmental branch clearly distinguished and separate. This has earned him praise from various quarters within the Federation, not the least the Supreme Court, who is beginning to see Autrech as its champion.

Yet despite this widespread support Autrech enjoys from within the Federation administration, it is in inter-stellar trade and cooperation where his hopes and dreams lie. Autrech feels that a mental shift is needed on the empires behalf regarding the boundaries of civilized space. CONCORD is a child of the empires, but it is becoming very much a bastard child as the empires are increasingly looking inwards towards themselves. Yet so much activity is taking place outside empire space, outside CONCORD jurisdiction. Autrech wants the empires to stop squabbling amongst themselves and start looking outwards, to the myriad minuscule elements that are slowly expanding the borders of human existence in space further and further away from the old established borders of the empires. Only by integrating all these different elements into one coherent whole can the true economical and technological potentials of the human race be reached, and the first step is for the empires to acknowledge the existence of said elements.

12/01/2005

Caldari Gaming Commission Announces COLOSSUS Final Date

Following speculation as to what the Caldari Gaming Commission has been doing the last few months, Commission Head Airas Sukela has stepped forward and delivered this statement: "The Commission is proud to announce that preparations for the COLOSSUS race finals are finished and a starting date and time have been decided. The race finals will be held on the 30th of this month at 22:00 EVT. The race itself will be flown in ten-person teams, each team representing a corporation. It will proceed through waypoints, where items will have to be picked up at each waypoint system." Airas further stated, "The Caldari Gaming Commission would like to express our excitement for this grand melee and give a big thank you to all our racers. We wish you the best of luck." Many have speculated whether the announcement's timing has anything to do with the recent separatist rumblings coming from within the notorious Curse Alliance. When questioned as to whether the final race's delay had been in any way connected to potential Caldari/Curse hostilities, Sukela replied: "The Chief Executive Panel has been busy with internal affairs of a grave nature in the recent months. While it is not my place to comment on those, I will say that any perception of the Caldari State as being an entity easily swayed by acts of terrorism is entirely laughable." Prizes for the race have yet to be announced.

27/01/2005

Caldari Gaming Commission Announces COLOSSUS prizes, rules

The Caldari Gaming Commission earlier today gave a long-awaited announcement about the prizes to be awarded in this Sunday's COLOSSUS race event finals, in addition to publishing a full set of rules for the contest.

Following in the Mikranian tradition of gaming philosophy so frequently favored by the Caldari over the last century, the Commission has decided to award separate prizes for the team victory and for the individual victory, in order to further stimulate the tension between loyalty to the team and advancement for the individual, a theme much recurrent in Caldari literature and entertainment.

As stated in the Commission's announcement, each member of the winning team will receive a Caldari Navy Issue Raven battleship, fully kitted out with specially augmented Caldari Navy modules. The net worth of such a vessel is estimated to come somewhere within the vicinity of three to four billion ISK.

The individual coming in third place will receive a Caldari Navy Hookbill, the specialized patrol craft of the Caldari Navy, while the second place winner will get a Navy-issue Caracal cruiser. Both vessels will, like the Ravens, be fully fitted with modules tweaked by the Navy's engineers.

What has garnered the greatest attention, however, is the individual first prize award: a capsule-fitted Rattlesnake battleship, famously designed by Korako "The Rabbit" Kosakami and one of only a few such vessels currently known to exist. According to the Gaming Commission, the ship was confiscated by the Caldari Navy after a Navy raid on a Gurista deadspace complex last month killed its owner, high-ranking Gurista terrorist Mourani Tremane. The vessel was subsequently donated to the Commission by the Navy for use as a prize.

Betting for the final race, meanwhile, is breaking records even within the Caldari State. Exact figures vary, but according to estimates something in the vicinity of three hundred billion ISK total is being bet on contestants and teams.

The final is set to go ahead at 22:00 EVT this Sunday.

01/02/2005

Lai Dai Team Takes COLOSSUS Team Victory, Individual Prizes

It was Lai Dai time on all fronts last Sunday at the COLOSSUS championships as Team Lai Dai swept the tournament's final race, winning both the team contest as well as the individual 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

Alia Ursul of Evolution came in first of all racers, making her the first known Rattlesnake owner in the pod pilot community. Deovina of Omega Enterprises came in second, winning a Navy-issued Caracal missile boat, and Feral of Drink Starsi took third place, earning himself the right to call a Navy Hookbill patrol craft his own. All three racers came in on behalf of the Lai Dai Corporation's team, which won the team victory as well as the individual battle, making every member of the team a proud owner of a Navy-issue Raven battleship.

Haalonen Ihoya, Chief Coordinator of Public Relations for Lai Dai, was quick to issue a release exclaiming Lai Dai's immense pride in its superb team of racers and congratulating them on the victory. According to the rules of the championship, the Lai Dai Corporation, being the winner, will receive a bonus from the Chief Executive Panel Treasury this year for promotional purposes, as well as receiving substantial grants towards research and development of new technologies. Ihoya was quoted as saying, "Our thanks go to our brave racers, who sped past all obstacles and never looked back. Their prizes were well-earned."

The marathon race began in the depths of the Fountain region, where immediately racers were set upon by a blockade from the notorious Evolution corporation, presumably out to help those of their members participating in the contest. The one-hundred-plus jump route then took racers through five waypoints across the entire northwestern face of the known universe. A fair few locations, such as a waypoint in the Cloud Ring region, played host to attackers hell-bent on destroying as many of their allies' competitors as possible. The race ended in the depths of the Branch region, where racers came through the finish line after a final sprint heavily camped by hostile forces.

The CBD, Hyasyoda, Ishukone, Kaalakiota, Nugoeihuvi, Sukuuvestaa and Wiyrkomi corporations have all issued releases extending their heartfelt thanks to the teams representing them in the contest.

The award ceremony will be held at the Lai Dai Corporation's Headquarters in Airkio this coming Friday.

04/02/2005

Caldari Gaming Commission to Host Award Ceremony Tonight

The Caldari Gaming Commission this evening will host an award ceremony for the winning team of this year's COLOSSUS championships.

The reception, to be held at Lai Dai's headquarters in Airkio, will be hosted by Gaming Commission Head Airas Sukela and Lai Dai CEO Alakoni Ishanoya. Ten Caldari Navy-issue Ravens, a Caldari Navy-issue Caracal and a Caldari Navy Hookbill will be given away in addition to the grand individual prize, a fearsome Rattlesnake battleship.

The winners of the Year 106 COLOSSUS Championships are:

TEAM LAI DAI

Alia Ursul of Evolution (also 1st place individual finisher)
Deovina of Omega Enterprises (also 2nd place individual finisher)
Feral of Drink Starsi (also 3rd place individual finisher)
Morkt Drakt of Black Omega Security
bsspewer of Corp 1
Wulfnor of Roving Guns Inc.
Shivaja of CHON
Akima of Spaced-Out Corp
proximo of Triton Industries

The Chief Executive Panel and the Caldari State extend its congratulations to these brave pilots, as well as the 2nd and 3rd place finishing teams, those of the Wiyrkomi and Hyasyoda corporations.

The reception is set to begin at 21:00 EVT.

01/03/2005

Emissary selection procedure finally ready to start

The customary legal wrangles, that always surround every major public election in the Federation, are finally coming to an end. Now that the fierce court room scuffles are over, the battle can move into the public arena, where freelance corporation vie for the honor and prestige of getting to select an Emissary from their own ranks. As usual the candidates have tried to gain an advantage over each other by suing and counter-suing each other, hoping to come out cleaner in the ensuing mudslinging. While political analysts relish the court room dramas and love reading deep meanings into every simple gesture, the public quickly tires of the whole farce.

The candidates have spread their envoys throughout the Federation, ready to hand out assignments to those wanting to experience the vibrant democracy exercised by the Federation first hand, and perhaps win a Navy-issue Dominix while they're at it. While the name of the game is to find the most fervent supporters of the candidates, the candidates are not above putting their adoring pilots to work. After all, it should weed out the gold diggers and leave only those truly worthy to be participants in the great democratic traditions of the Federation.

03/03/2005

Breach Threatens Biotech Company's Reputation, Stock Value

In recent days, word has spread throughout the Caldari corporate community that Zainou Biotech, one of the State's leading biotechnology corporations, has suffered a massive security breach.

According to rumours, two leading scientists from within the biotech giant's inner circle of research and development have gone away without leave, reportedly in possession of a highly classified experimental drug taken from the corporation's main laboratories in Isseras. The drug, known only as "Inсорum," is reportedly a mild euphoric whose short duration and lack of immediately apparent side effects make it ideal for black market sale in mass quantities. The pair, pharmacologist Ullia Hnolku and his wife, graviton physicist Eckarine Mitumi-Hnolku, have neither been seen nor heard from in three days.

According to Chief Executive Panel sources, the CEP Business Bureau intends to launch a full-scale investigation into the matter within the next few days. No official comment has been made by either the CEP or Zainou Biotech.

Meanwhile, the rumour mill has taken its toll. Zainou Biotech stock within Caldari markets has in the past two days plummeted by 22 points (the largest drop by any Caldari corporation this year so far), and at least three big-name clients are known to have submitted void applications to the Caldari Business Tribunal with intent to rift their long-standing agreements with the biotech company.

"If they can't be trusted to hold on to their employees, how can we trust them to hold to their agreements?" stated an anonymous source from one of the voiding parties.

Zainou, a subsidiary of the Ishukone Corporation, has been at the leading edge of the State's biotech and nanomechanical industries for years, and turns over billions of ISK annually. How much this incident will affect them remains to be seen.

05/04/2005

Interstellar Threats on the Rise

According to a bi-monthly report submitted by the DED's Observation and Analysis Subcommittee yesterday, the numbers of illegal deadspace outposts harboring dangerous elements are steadily increasing on the fringes of CONCORD-policed space. The Guristas and Sansha's Nation are among the criminal organizations known to be building new outposts in various locations along the divide of the outer rim frontier.

Centus Sansha, the Nation's wing of deadspace operatives, have according to the report built the first of a new type of True Power complex, the first of Sansha's outposts to be branded a Level 10 on the DED's Threat Assessment scale. Additionally, Gurista leaders have reportedly authorized a schematic for a new type of penal

complex which the organization intends to build in several locations.

The report brought some good news as well. Due in no small part to consistent raids by capsuleer fighter pilots and empire navy forces, the resources of the Angels and the Serpentis have been weakened, leaving some of their most powerful strongholds in a somewhat weakened state. The DED has publicly commended the tireless efforts of capsuleer organizations to this end and remains firm in the belief that with their help, the tide of intergalactic crime may continue to be stemmed.

06/04/2005

Highly Dangerous Compound Believed Compromised, Massive Search Underway

An investigation into the disappearance of noted pharmacologist Ullia Hnolku, who along with his wife disappeared from Zainou Biotech's HQ in Isseras last month, has uncovered facts believed to pose a great threat to the biotech giant.

According to sources within the CEP Business Bureau, under whose authority the investigation was conducted, the pair are in possession of an experimental compound only recently developed in Zainou's main laboratories. The compound, Insozapine bisulfate, was previously believed to be a mild euphoric, but facts uncovered during the course of the investigation now seem to indicate something with far greater potential implications.

According to Special Counsel Tar Maurisi, head of the investigation, the drug is what's known as a reactive mutagen inhibitor, a compound whose active chemical responds dynamically to mutagens in an organism's body, limiting and eventually stifling their effectiveness completely. For certain diseased individuals, says Maurisi, this is revolutionary medicine: of more concern, however, is the fact that when given to a healthy organism the compound will attack natural DNA repair processes, causing a rapid chain reaction of cell suicide that within days leads to a cancerous death.

The Chief Executive Panel has ordered Ishukone Watch vessels to immediately cease and desist in all efforts to search for the missing scientists, and has handed executive authority in the matter to the Caldari Navy Operations Command, who as of yesterday afternoon have declared the two scientists Code-Five public hazards within Caldari-controlled space. Anyone with any information as to the pair's location is asked to contact Caldari Navy Vice Admiral Natakko Saijimo as soon as possible.

More on this as it develops.

08/04/2005

Minmatar Republic Claims Caldari State in Breach of Yulai Convention - State in Diplomatic Hot Water

Minmatar Republic officials this morning lodged a formal complaint with CONCORD, stating that according to security footage and docking transcripts, two Caldari Navy vessels had illegally docked at a Republic Fleet station in Matari-controlled space last night, reportedly in search of missing Caldari pharmacologist Ullia Hnolku.

According to article 37a of the Yulai Convention, vessels of national navies are explicitly forbidden from docking at other national navies' stations if those stations are within the confines of the owning navy's borders. Exceptions are granted only through specific written permission and statement of intent, both of which must go through proper CONCORD channels beforehand.

"We realize they're in a crisis, but that does not give them the right to step on international law any way they see fit," stated Republic Parliament Head Malaetu Shakor this morning. "The Caldari State has to realize it represents only one entity in the pan-galactic playground, and you can only step on others so many times before others start pushing back."

The State has a history of similar oversights: in August of last year, Ishukone Watch vessels were repeatedly spotted on the Matari side of the Caldari/Minmatar border zone, scanning passersby and inconveniencing travelers. Neither the Ishukone corporation nor the Chief Executive Panel issued any sort of diplomatic comment on that matter, a fact believed to contribute to the current sour state of relations with the Republic. A similar, though unpublicized, incident took place in Gallente space a few months later, where Caldari Navy vessels went searching for Gurista operatives believed to hold stolen schematics for as-yet unreleased ship designs. Their maneuverings within Gallente space provoked protests from the Federation, which also went unanswered by the CEP.

"The State has a long, proud tradition of obstinacy in diplomatic affairs," says Roger Montand, professor of political science at the University of Caille. "Now they have this missing scientist problem on their hands, and they need to be able to move their people freely, but they're just not trusted. The situation certainly wouldn't be so bad had the State actually given diplomacy its due course instead of digging their heels in and staying stubbornly quiet every time they were questioned as to their little slips. As it stands, they're paying the price."

Neither the Chief Executive Panel nor the Caldari Navy have commented at this point.

14/04/2005

Presidential candidates launch emissary contest

The three candidates for the Federation presidency are set to find their ideal emissaries to run their all-important election campaign. Each candidate has formulated his own way of finding those pilot corporations most suitable and to their liking. The corporations that work most diligently will have the honor of nominating one of their own to become an emissary for their chosen candidate. As even further incentive they will also become proud owners of a Navy issue Dominix battleship.

Delegates for the candidates are now in position in strategic locations throughout the Federation, ready to hand out assignments to members of the participating corporations. Mentas Blaque has accused Eman Autrech of jumping the guns and allowing his delegates to hand out assignments earlier than allowed, but independent observers of the elections have stated that Autrech followed regulations to the letter. Still, Blaque and sitting president Souro Foiritan were left scrambling to get their own delegates into action in time. For those eager to participate in the dynamic Gallentean democracy a full list of delegates and their locations will be posted shortly through a different medium.

14/04/2005

Interstellar Correspondent Recruitment

The Interstellar Correspondents, the newest wing to the Interstellar Services Department, have decided to throw open their doors in a recruitment drive to find the best reporters in the galaxy. The Interstellar Correspondents are looking to boost their coverage of events and politics in all regions of EVE, from Yulai to the furthest reaches of low security space.

Having a good grasp of interstellar politics is also a must. You must have a sound understanding of all of the history of EVE, as well as the political relationships between all of the corporations and factions - both empire based and sovereign pilot entities.

So, if you would like to join our illustrious team and report on events from all over the universe, then fill out an application form which can be found here. Please be sure to specify Aurora within your application.

There is a lot going on throughout EVE every day, but we cannot cover it all without help from you, the pilots. Even if you don't think you would like to join the team, but you find something happening that you believe is newsworthy, or have advanced information you would like to disclose in complete confidence, submit it here

15/04/2005

Internal Report Indicates Prior Untruths on Part of Zainou

Special Counsel Tar Maurisi, head of the CEP Business Bureau's investigation into the Ullia Hnolku disappearance, at a press conference this morning revealed some of the latest discoveries made by the investigative committee. Chief among these was information brought to light by a report which had found its way from an anonymous source in Zainou's main labs.

The report, four pages long, begins by detailing progress on a few projects under development at the laboratories, after which it delves into the subject of Insorzapine bisulfate and the company's attempts to reproduce it. According to Maurisi, at several points the report indicates that, in fact, the mutagen binder is "not as dangerous as the public has been led to believe."

The Special Counsel went on to reveal excerpts from the report:

p. 2: "Half-life testing on Insorzapine-4 has shown that two of the compound's breakdown elements, at RTT 1.6 and 1.8, exceed the CPRC's 0.4% limit. Since the bisulfate variant was lost we have made some steps backward in the safety dept, but as of yet protective gear has not been deemed required by staff."

p. 3: "... and we feel that in order to reduce toxicity to the levels evidenced by preliminary Insorzapine bisulfate tests, a greater emphasis needs to be placed on development of non-covalent binding patterns and ionic channel receptivity."

Maurisi went on to state that "this apparently willful misrepresentation of facts by Zainou will be investigated to the full extent possible." When asked as to his thoughts on why the biotech giant would exaggerate the danger posed by the drug, the Special Counsel replied "Well, that's what we're here to find out, isn't it?"

27/04/2005

New CONCORD Legislation Prohibits Agent Distribution of Advanced Tech Components

After a series of meetings over the last week, CONCORD's Inner Circle this morning passed new legislation prohibiting empire corporation agents from passing on Tech II construction components to capsule pilots engaged in freelance work for them. The primary reason for the legislation, according to Inner Circle Head Irhes Angireh, is "the need for the empires to divert their resources towards their own ends. Both CONCORD and the four empires have paid tremendous amounts of money and resources to the capsuleer community in these past months, and it's time to begin cutting the cord." Also stated was CONCORD's belief that the legislation would have an energizing effect on capsuleers' outpost-building efforts and other industrial endeavors.

Parties from within both the Caldari State and Amarr Empire governments have complained that the legislation will cause massive inflation on capsuleer Tech II markets and serve only to "hamstring those operating on the technological cutting edge and slow down their progress." Some, indeed, argue that is exactly what CONCORD is out to do. Ever-controversial Federation Marquee journalist Maxim Peltast applauded the move, calling it a "kick in the [censored] for the [censored] cloning [censored]." He did, however, warn that these new circumstances would effectively force capsuleers into industrial operations on a greater scale than before, and history had shown that "when you force the eggheads into a corner, you're going to make those [censored] more powerful, whether you like it or not."

The Gallente and Matari governments meanwhile have expressed their approval of the legislation, claiming that the economic backlash created in the space community through this excessive flow of capital and components could now be nipped in the bud. While it is unknown how the Inner Circle's votes fell, the decision is widely reported to have been near-unanimous.

The mixed response to the legislation is seen by some as indicative of a growing rift between the old empires. States analyst Brill Stone, "With capsuleer traffic within - and influence upon - the empires increasing every day, and sweeping legislation like this being passed, you have a lot of voices talking about grand-scale changes on the horizon, you know, the universe's power structures undergoing seismic shifts. I think we'll start to feel some tremors pretty soon."

27/04/2005

Campaign blunder makes Foiritan a laughing stock.

While Eman Autrech and Mentas Blaque launched their election campaigns with only the minimal of hitches, current president Souro Foiritan was left sitting in the dust looking like a fool. Foiritan has never been known to be the most prepared or meticulous of men, but even his blasé reputation can't save him some blushes now. While the thoroughly trained delegates of Autrech and Blaque are busy stoking the campaign fires of their respective masters, Foiritan's supporters have nothing but pitiful embers to spit at.

Soon after it became evident that Foiritan's delegates were woefully unqualified and inexperienced the president quickly distanced himself from the whole thing. All he has been willing to say on the matter is that it was still early in the race and plenty of time to catch up. Even if pilots supporting Autrech and Blaque got a good head start on those supporting Foiritan, it is of no consequence as the latter are only competing against themselves.

Still, this does not detract from the fact that Foiritan's cause has suffered greatly in the public eye. But only time will tell how, or if, this will affect Foiritan's chances of retaining his presidency. In the meantime, those wishing for five more years under Foiritan can only hope that the crash-course his delegates just went through suffices to keep Foiritan in the race.

04/05/2005

Investigation Info Leaked - Special Counsel Moves To Deny

This just in: several major interstellar news agencies have in the past twenty-four hours run breaking news on a new development in the Insorzapine bisulfate investigation being undertaken by the CEP Business Bureau. According to a report apparently leaked by a top-level Bureau aide, the Insorzapine variant carried by renegade scientist Ullia Hnolku and his wife is in fact a drug capable of wholly reversing the effects of Vitoc on the human body, breaking the chain of cellular addiction which keeps individuals hooked on the drug's antidote.

Special Counsel Tar Maurisi, head of the Bureau's investigation, has swiftly moved to deny the claims, stating that they are "sensationalistic propaganda spread by opportunistic parties interested in seeing Amarr-Caldari relations soured." While Maurisi mentioned no names, the consensus within diplomatic circles is that the Special Counsel's words were directed towards the Gallente business machine, whose interests would be greatly served by a rift between the Amarr and Caldari nations. No response has been forthcoming from the Federation at this time.

Meanwhile, the news has promoted unrest among the Amarrian populace. In preparation for the eventuality of the drug's mass distribution, a number of holders have begun pulling their slaves back from specialized colonies as well as public areas, and the Amarr Navy is reportedly mobilizing a task force to search for the scientists. The Imperial Chancellor's Office refused to give comment "until more concrete information is brought to light."

The search for Dr. Hnolku continues, but little success has been had by officials moving against the scientist. It is widely whispered that capsuleer mercenaries have been paid to apprehend Hnolku outside the confines of Caldari space, but such rumours are wholly unsubstantiated at the present time.

Zainou Biotech stocks have dropped a further twelve points in the time since the report was released. Ishukone stock has taken a three-point dive.

More on this as it develops.

06/05/2005

Federation Transport Intercepted By Serpents Strike Force, Soltueur Titan Believed Stolen

This just in: a Federation cargo transport passing through the Alperaute system was three hours ago intercepted

by what is believed to have been a Serpents strike force of unknown size and make-up. Preliminary reports indicate losses on the Gallente side were significant: in addition to dozens of frigates and a number of cruisers and battleships, the Federation is said to have lost control of one of its six Soltueur titans into the hands of the Serpents.

Federation officials have at this point neither confirmed nor denied the titan's loss, but are admitting the brutal attack "came as a complete shock, seemingly out of nowhere." Salvage and rescue teams have been at work in the system for the past two hours, and the exact nature and number of Federation losses is expected to come in soon. More updates as they arrive.

06/05/2005

Serpents Attack Update: Federation Issues Bounties on Culprits, Manhunt Underway

This just in: As reported by Federation Navy High Command in the last hour, the culprits of this morning's coordinated strike upon Gallente assets in the Alperaute system have been identified as Salvador Sarpati, CEO and founder of the Serpents organization, and several high-level commanders and operatives in his personal army.

Also confirmed was the capture of one Gallente Soltueur titan, the Molyneux, by the Serpents forces. The Molyneux is the first Gallente titan in history ever to be seized by a hostile force. According to Navy pilots who survived the battle, the vessel sustained considerable damage in the attack and is believed to be operating at less than full capacity.

Eyewitness reports indicate the group is headed into the Syndicate region, possibly intending to make their way to their home base in the Fountain region. Federation Navy Joint Operations Command has approved a CONCORD-authorized bounty of 1.2 billion ISK for Salvador Sarpati, 500 million ISK for Tuvan Orth, his right-hand man, and 50 million ISK for other ranking officers in command of the Serpents force.

Souro Foiritan, President of the Gallente Federation, in a statement at 15:00 this afternoon exhorted all capsuleer pilots loyal to the Federation to "rise up against the tide of villainy that threatens to destroy the very fabric of all we hold dear." He furthermore stated that the Sarpati family had "made a war for itself that it couldn't afford," and that "the Federation will do everything in its power to get the Molyneux back."

More news as we receive it.

10/05/2005

Questions Arise Concerning President's Apathy

Since last Friday's shocking Serpents strike against a Gallente cargo transport convoy, an incident that saw one of the Federation's six titans disappear into the hands of the criminal organization, numerous questions have been raised in the media as to President Foiritan's apparent unwillingness to send troops outside the jurisdiction of CONCORD to chase after the stolen vessel.

The Office of the President has denied that any spurious motives lay behind the decision not to send the Navy into the Fountain region on the day in question. Thuire Dercoucon, the President's Press Secretary, went on record Sunday as saying, "The President is conscious and aware of the fact that once our forces enter non-CONCORD-policed space there is precious little space left that's not claimed by some faction or organization. Trespassing on their areas was not something the President nor the Navy's commanders felt in a position to do, so it was decided that capsuleer intervention would be sought and large bounties rewarded. The Federation naturally is interested in maintaining good relations with our capsuleer neighbors and we will continue to respect their borders, whether or not that continues to be the trend in international politics."

When asked what the Federation's response would be to the fact that a large contingent of heavily-armed capsuleers banded together to help the Serpents reach their goal, the Press Secretary told reporters the incident was still being investigated and that an official stance towards those who aided and abetted the Serpents had yet to be formulated. He did however state that "those who openly act against [the Federation] should not be surprised to find themselves in the metaphorical line of fire at some point in the future."

25/05/2005

Emissary selection process draws to a close

After weeks of uncertainty the ponderous Federation bureaucracy has finally given the green light for the conclusion of the presidential emissary selection process. The Federal Administration has instructed delegates working for the candidates to cease handing out assignments early tomorrow.

Each of the thousands of candidate vouchers that have been handed out has an electrical chip in it that allows the Administration to track the location and ownership of it. Even so, it will take the Administration several days to sort through the heavy data load and come up with the final results. With the winning corporation receiving handsome prizes, CEOs the world over are undoubtedly already squirming in their seats in anticipation.

The Administration has come under heavy criticism for its handling of the election campaign, both from the public and the presidential candidates themselves. Eman Autrech even went so far in a recent speech at a rally that he accused Agenbaert Goisin, head of the Federal Administration, of 'attempting to sabotage the elections

for some nefarious purpose.' Goisin is still to respond to those allegations, though Chief Coordinator Dasbrulier has went on record stating that the elections were a serious business and needed to be governed with care. Nevertheless, it is widely expected that heads will roll once a new president has been elected.

25/05/2005

Blood Raider Statement Causes Uproar

In a coded message released to all major news agencies this morning, Omir Sarikusa, leader of the notorious Blood Raider Covenant, claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Eckarine Mitumi-Hnolku, wife of outlaw scientist Ullia Hnolku. Accompanying the message were images of a woman, later confirmed by State sources as Mrs. Hnolku, being subjected to "blooding" - the ritual draining of blood which constitutes a focal point of the Covenant's highly controversial religious practices.

Furthermore, Sarikusa stated that the Blood Raiders were "now in control of the Insorum prototype, and more than willing to use it to strike at the heart of our enemy. The Empire's infidels will cower in their palaces tonight, for their foundations are about to be shaken. It is time for the fall of Amarr."

The news has caused massive unrest on Amarr Prime, with businesses and institutions closing down all over the planet and Holders recalling outsourced and subcontracted slave labor. Dam-Torsad has reported the largest gridlock in the city's history, and the planet's sub-orbital air force is reportedly working with Navy forces in securing airspace above all major metropolitan areas and labor colonies.

Others, meanwhile, are not so certain that the threat claimed by the Covenant is real. Caldari State officials have declared that "no conclusive evidence has yet arrived from the Executive Panel's investigation that would indicate that the drug has the effects described by the doctor or his supporters. Furthermore, to create any mass-distributable form of this drug would require cutting-edge scientific minds, the likes of which we are confident can only be found in a few places in the universe. We sincerely doubt the Blood Raider Covenant has access to any such individuals."

When asked of the possibility that Mrs. Hnolku could have been carrying a possible second copy of the Insorum prototype, Zainou Biotech officials have given the answer that theoretically, the drug may have been replicated before the two scientists eloped from Zainou headquarters in Isseras. They added that while no evidence could be found of such a replication having taken place, the possibility could not be discounted.

Dr. Ullia Hnolku remains at large. He is known to be in negotiations with several capsuleer parties via GalNet, a communications thread played and replayed by feedsites the world over in the past week.

More news on the situation as it develops.

01/06/2005

"Insorum Imbroglia" Puts Focus on Capsuleers as Eyes Turn Toward Blood Raider Covenant

Last week saw the brutal murder of infamous Caldari scientist Dr. Ullia Hnolku at the hands of a force of capsuleers known as the Caldari Independent Navy Reserve. As reported by various eyewitnesses, the doctor was shot down in the Magiko system while being escorted to safety by a twenty-strong fleet of Matari freedom fighter ships. Apparently Dr. Hnolku, weakened by blood loss after a savage knife attack earlier that evening, had made an error in judgment and engaged his shuttle's warp drive too soon, thus running into an ambush set up by his pursuers.

Details are sketchy at this point on whether the doctor's prototype for Insorum bisulfate, rumored to represent a cure for Vitoc withdrawal, made its way into the hands of Caldari or Matari forces. A number of unconfirmed reports state that Matari alliance the Ushra'Khan are currently in possession of the prototype, but no concrete evidence has surfaced as of yet.

The incident is reported to have inspired a great deal of vehemence among government officials at all levels of the four empires, though a remarkably low number of official statements have been made. Political analyst Jozek Molaine describes the situation thus: "With such a potential destabilizer as this prototype hanging on the line, tensions are high. Everyone is being politically cautious, and with good reason. The slightest move could cause a ripple effect that can destroy worlds."

In the face of this uneasy diplomatic stand-off, the capsuleer parties involved in what has become known as "The Insorum Imbroglia" have been thrust into the limelight via GalNet, the capsuleer community's podium venue. GalNet was optioned as a holofeed by CONCORD's Communications Regulation Agency not long ago and has since soared in popularity, not least these past few weeks. Cultural analysts and political commentators have noted the increase in the public's interest in capsuleer affairs and this powerful class's growing influence on world events. Stated one Gallente pundit, "They're the new stars in the sky."

Some see even darker things behind the four empires' cautious silence. In the case of the Caldari State, Federation Marquee journalist Maxim Peltast, in an article two days ago, stated: "Those putrid rat bastards are just happy there are lap dogs out there doing their dirty work. They're not doling out pats on the back, sure, but notice the loud and clear lack of public condemnation. If it's not obvious to you that they're happy as fedos in mud over this, then you have no business among the breathing."

As reports continue to come in of warring capsuleer factions turning their attention to the Bleak Lands - home of the Blood Raider Covenant, captors of Dr. Hnolku's wife and reported possessors of the Insorum prototype - the universe waits and watches for the next turn of events.

More news as they arrive.

05/06/2005

Ore/Mordus relations in trouble?

Although mere conjecture until recent hours, numerous credible yet confidential sources have confirmed that diplomatic ties between the ORE and the Mordus Legion have deteriorated to a breaking point.

The relationship between the two powers over recent months has proven to be strained with a commonly held view that the source of the friction has arisen from disputes between the two faction leaders. Both Orion Mashel, founder of the Outer Ring Excavations Company, and Muryia Mordu, the leader of Mordus's Legion Mercenary Corporation, have had a history of public personal conflict, a factor that may prove to be the source of the recent sudden drop in mutual co-operation.

The source of the hostilities remains a mystery with no official comment regarding either groups standing to the other, but it is believed to be due to feelings within the Legion regarding apparent stagnation at the hands of continued service to ORE.

Already reports have been issued by members of the pod pilot community regarding the amassing of Mordus Legion in critical ORE locations upon the Eastern flank of ORE systems. Although not outwardly aggressive the movement of Mordus Legion personnel and assets to central locations has sparked a deep-rooted concern within the local populace.

We shall bring you more information as the situation develops.

09/06/2005

Catastrophe Strikes Amarr Planet - Blood Raiders Claim Responsibility

At 09:42 EVT this morning, Mabnen I in the Throne Worlds constellation was struck by disaster as an unknown aerosol was released into its atmosphere above Hemlock Field, an aggregation of slave colonies that stretches across one of the planet's continents and represents one of the single largest indentured worker habitats in the Amarr empire.

The fourteen orbit-breacher vessels distributing the aerosol were swiftly shot down by regional detachments of the Mabnen Air Force, but the damage had already been done: the planet's strong surface winds had caught the toxin and would, within minutes, distribute it throughout most of the colonies' vast territory.

Eight minutes after the orbit-breachers had been shot down and the crisis was thought to have been averted, two of Hemlock Field's twelve colonies were in flames. News cameras have since caught footage of Amarrian guards' disembodied heads, staked out on the parapets girding the guard fortress of a colony belonging to Holder Terram Kador.

Other colonies, too, suffered great upheavals. At 10:08 EVT, roughly 30 minutes after the initial attack, seven of the twelve colonies had suffered complete radio communications blackouts. Military forces were called in at that point, and at time of going to press pitched battles are still being fought between Mabnen Army squadrons and the insurgents, most of whom are reportedly armed with little more than stones and tools. Four of the colonies have been hit with air strikes. Casualty numbers are unknown at this time.

Omir Sarikusa, leader of the Blood Raider Covenant, at exactly 12:00 noon today released a statement to the media, claiming full responsibility for the attack and stating that "today's exercise was merely the beginning. The complacent giant is about to fall, and Insorum shall be the knife in its stomach." He furthermore went on to thank loyalist capsuleer corporation Blood Inquisition - and their associates - for their "discreet and professional aid" in transporting large quantities of the drug to the site of the attack.

Neither the Emperor nor the Imperial Chancellor has released any form of statement at time of going to press, but Emperor Kor-Azor is known to be sitting in council with some of his top advisors. A statement is expected either later today or tomorrow.

Preliminary estimates of the asset damage caused by the attack are reportedly in the vicinity of seventeen billion ISK.

More on the situation as it develops.

14/06/2005

Amarr Empire Goes To War

Coming before his people for the first time in months, His Holiness The Emperor of Amarr this afternoon spoke from the steps of the Imperial palace in Dam-Torsad. In his speech, he exhorted his subjects to "through strength

of mind and heart, weather the tide of evil that now assails the servants of God."

The Emperor then went on to proclaim that every single arm of military might controlled by the Empire would now be pointed squarely in the direction of the Blood Raider Covenant. "They have dealt us a blow, to be sure, but Amarr did not reach her heights of glory by buckling under pressure, least of all from craven heretics such as Omir Sarikusa and his lot. The Hand of God shall lend us strength. The Hand of God shall guide us. From this moment, let it be known that the Empire is at war."

As the Emperor spoke, bedlam struck the Imperial palace's surroundings. According to one eyewitness, "I haven't seen anything like it. Thousands upon thousands of people came together in adulation of their nation, their God and their Emperor. It was really a sight to see."

Perimum Aryn, Minister of War for the Empire, speaking at a press conference shortly after the Emperor had made his statement, said a mixed force of sub-and superorbital vessels was being assembled which would strike at key Blood Raider tactical locations, the aim of the campaign being nothing less than the total annihilation of the Covenant and their followers.

When asked about the role of capsuleer forces such as the Blood Inquisition (a pod pilot corporation which played an instrumental role in the Mabnen attack) in the upcoming struggle, Aryn stated that the Ministry had reliable intelligence that "the ceaselessly loyal, ever-vigilant paramilitary capsuleer forces of the Curatores Veritatis Alliance and the Aegis Militia have declared war on the Covenant's supporters." Asked of the likelihood that the Empire's military forces would coordinate their efforts with these paramilitaries, Minister Aryn said the chances were "significantly high."

The Emperor's announcement is seen as a radical departure from his policies, which have been described as quasi-pacifistic. This has led to a certain degree of speculation on the reasons for the declaration, as well as confusion regarding the stuttered time frame in which decisions seem to have been made. Neither the Emperor family nor the Court Chamberlain have issued comments on the matter.

More news as they come in.

23/06/2005

Winners of election emissary contest announced

The Federal Administration has finally come out with the much-anticipated list of winners of the election emissary contest. With literally thousands of vouchers to wade through, even the extensive bureaucracy of the FA was at a breaking point matching them all up.

The CEOs of the winning corporation have been notified of their corp's success and all of these corporations have received a brand new Navy Issue Megathron as a reward for their great efforts. Here is a list of the winning corporations and the candidate they worked for:

Brave New World	Blaque
Crisis Corp	Autrech
Crux Republic Aerospace Navy Elites	Autrech
Digital Horizons	Autrech
Dire Trucking	Blaque
Eve University	Foiritan
Grumpy Old Farts	Foiritan
Hidden Agenda	Blaque
Nebula Rasa Holdings	Foiritan
Special Circumstances	Foiritan
THE MISPHIT'S	Foiritan
The United Federation of Planets	Foiritan
Thundercats	Blaque
Transfluent Inc.	Blaque
Tri Optimum	Autrech
Tribal Trust of Pator	Blaque
VIT	Autrech

Election overseers noted a discrepancy in the Verge Vendor region and are investigating the matter. Thus, the result for Eman Autrech in Verge Vendor is pending.

Each of the winning corporations will have to nominate one of their own as an official Emissary. They will have a bit of time to mull over their choice and once their decision is made, further information regarding the role of the Emissaries will be published to the general public.

24/06/2005

Capsuleers Drawn Into Struggle as Amarr / Blood Raider Fighting Continues

Wednesday saw the latest in a series of ongoing clashes between the Amarr Navy and the forces of the Blood Raider Covenant. Two main battles are reported to have been fought; a Covenant ammunition convoy was taken down in the Alkabsi system by Navy forces assisted by capsuleer fighters, after which a retaliatory strike against

a Navy scout team in Haras saw Covenant forces and loyalist capsuleers strike back against the Empire.

Capsuleer organizations involved in the fighting include Empire loyalists Aegis Militia and the Curatores Veritatis Alliance, Covenant loyalists Blood Inquisition fighting alongside members of Finite Horizon and Developmental Neogenics Amalgamated, and members of the Huzzah Federation, who fought on the side of the Amarr though their exact ideological affiliations are unclear at this point.

The dual-layered nature of Wednesday's battles has military experts intrigued. "It's been a long time coming," says Matteus Harpet, a noted independent station security contractor and military analyst working out of Oursulaert. "Ever since they arrived on the scene, we've known the eggheads are the next step. They've been steadily growing in power and influence, and their involvement in wars like these comes as no surprise. It's interesting to see how there are really two battles being fought here; one between the Empire and the Raiders, the other between their loyalist capsuleer factions. The dynamics of interplay are intriguing."

Asked whether he believes capsuleers will come to play a greater role in the future of intergalactic conflict, Harpet replied, "Seriously, look around you. I give it two years before the empire navies will be assisting the capsuleers with their wars, and not the other way around."

The past week has seen numerous strikes against Blood Raider assets and hideouts on the sovereign fringe, with imperial Navy forces proclaiming major tactical coups almost without fail. In a release earlier this afternoon, Ministry of War spokeswoman Ialema Kalonne stated that Navy forces had, in the week since declaring a state of war against the Blood Raider Covenant, destroyed an estimated four billion ISK's worth of Covenant assets in coordinated strikes on stations and on planetary outposts.

These announcements of success come in the face of expressed concern among certain holders that the Amarr Empire is not conducting itself in a manner befitting a superpower of its stature. Earlier this week, speaking from the steps of the Sarum estate on Sarum Prime, appointed family guardian Pomikide Haromi sternly reprimanded the Empire for "taking up the proportional response tactics espoused by advocates of democracy and other hopelessly feeble forms of governance." The holder further went on to state that "The Empire should do as Empires do: overwhelm their enemies and grind them into dust, eradicate them so thoroughly that only a fading memory remains."

01/07/2005

Amarr Forces Deal "Crushing Blow" To Blood Raider Assets

In a statement released this afternoon by the Amarr Ministry of War, the Blood Raider Covenant's war effort is reported to have been dealt a "crushing blow" by forces comprising Amarr Navy fighters and capsuleer loyalist paramilitaries.

The release details a tactical strike last night against a key Covenant installation in the Sahtogas system, in which "the logistical backbone of the Covenant's war effort was shattered." According to the statement, the installation in question served as the chief research and development station for the Covenant's replication of the Insorum prototype, in addition to being one of the cult's main munitions dumps.

"The immediate threat to our glorious nation has been neutralized," stated Amarr War Minister Perimum Amyn at a press conference following the statement's release. "Now it is time to eradicate its cause fully. Yesterday we smashed the spine, tomorrow we go for the heart."

Since the original strike on Mabnen I earlier this month, no further chemical attacks have taken place on Amarr sovereign worlds. Blood Raider Covenant forces have likewise rarely been seen inside the borders of the Empire, and when spotted, have consisted exclusively of small raiding and scouting parties. According to an anonymous source at the Ministry of War, no further viral agents are thought to have been smuggled across the border and another chemical strike is considered unlikely.

Yesterday's offensive is being widely interpreted as indication that the Empire has taken to heart some of the criticism previously levelled at it with regard to the proportional response tactics employed by their forces in the war so far. This interpretation is lent support by evidence of the gradually escalating size and intensity of the Empire's attacks in the past few days.

The leader of the Navy force spearheading the attack, Vice Admiral Sathon Sarum, has been reported missing in action. His whereabouts are currently unknown.

01/07/2005

Last emissary winner announced; Autrech jubilant

The final winner of the presidential emissary competition has finally been announced after the Federal Administration was forced to do a recount of certain Autrech vouchers. The winning corporation is Dark Star Enterprises and it will receive a navy issue Megathron the same as others.

Eman Autrech took time from his busy schedule to express his great joy with this announcement: "I was greatly distressed when I didn't see Dark Star Enterprises on the first list of winners. I know their CEO, Kale Jalentis, from good things only and I'm very pleased for him that he and his corporation got the recognition they duly

deserve. With the resourceful Jalentis at the helm, I'm very optimistic for the emissary campaign due to start in few weeks time."

With the list of winners now complete, the next step of the lengthy election process is ready to begin. The Federal Administration is already engaged in preparations and is expected to be ready in about a month. Until then, the people of the Federation can heave collective sigh of relief that the pestering presidential candidates are out of their hair for a while.

03/07/2005

Federation and Republic join forces in fight against smuggling

The Gallente Federation and the Minmatar Republic have joined hands in their struggle against smuggling cartels, most notably the Intaki Syndicate and the Angel Cartel. A brief statement released from the office of Sark Martek, the head of a new task force to fight smugglers in both empires, stated that "the safety and prosperity of the citizens of these two great empires demanded a tough stance against those aiming to undermine their economical strengths."

While more detailed explanation of what this new policy would entail was not immediately released it can be surmised that greater cooperation in tracking and battling criminal elements is to be expected in the near future. It is understood that the new task force lead by commander Martek will have full access to both the intelligence and military resources of both empires.

This development should come as no great surprise to those closely following the politics of the Federation and the Republic. The relationship between the two empires has always been strong and has only grown stronger in recent, turbulent, times. A joint effort such as this is thus an expected evolution, rather than a revolution, of their relationship. More mysterious are the motives for doing this at this particular time. While the smuggling cartels are a constant pest to their neighbors, there has been no noticeable increase in their activity.

Political analysts are already speculating that this move is prompted by the Federation's military forces in the belief that Mentas Blaque will be the winner of the upcoming presidential elections, as Blaque is an outspoken enemy of the Syndicate. Or perhaps this just the Navy's way of throwing their support behind Blaque in a circumspect manner, as an open declaration of support would be a blatant breach of political protocol and likely to backfire.

Said analysts are more excited about the Republic's motives, as they see this is an abrupt change of course for Prime Minister Karin Midular. Midular has been a strong advocate for improving the relations with the Amarr Empire, which has thrown her in conflict with the more militant elements of the Republic on more than one occasion. By throwing its lot in with the Federation, the Republic seems to be changing tack and reasserting its ties with their oldest ally. While any official statement is yet to come out of the Amarr Empire, it is widely expected that this move by the Republic will severely sour the budding relations of the Empire and the Republic, even scuttling whatever hope there was of a peaceful co-existence between the two of them once and for all.

05/07/2005

Nations reel as assassination's backlash spreads

Chaos is spreading around EVE as the consequence of Dorian's II assassination. The Amarr Emperor was slain last night in the Imperial Palace in Dam Torsad by an unknown assailant. The Imperial Chancellery is heading the investigation, with aid from the Ministry of Internal Order. Amarr police has rounded up a few suspects, believed to be foreigners, and is currently questioning them at an unknown location.

At the daily morning meeting of the Chief Executive Panel, the leaders of the Caldari State were unanimous in condemning this 'appalling atrocity and attack on the political harmony of the world.' They also appreciated the need for the harsh response of the Empire in shutting down several border zones and stated they would do the same to keep radicals from exploiting the situation to their advantage.

The Privy Council also held a session this morning, but what transpired there is still a mystery. Sin Callor of the Ministry of Internal Order and a member of the Council let it slip though that 'Dorian's death will drive many shadowy elements to the surface.' We hope future events will cast light on those elusive words.

05/07/2005

Republic Leaders Condemn "Act of Cowardice"

In a statement released this morning, Minmatar Republic Prime Minister Karin Midular avowed the Republic's "dismay at the prevalence of cruelty and the passing of an icon."

"The rising tide of violence and mistrust governing the relations of the world's powers must be stemmed," read the statement. "When evil is allowed to exercise its influence unchecked, good people, with the potential to do great things, will fall into the valley of shadow from whence there is no returning. Acts of cowardice, perpetrated by wardens of such evil, are to be condemned now as ever."

The statement's language has garnered much attention due to its harsh black-and-white nature and a certain dramatic flair uncommonly seen in the realm of Matar politics. Says analyst Jelani Duchamp, "Something has quite obviously struck a nerve with the Prime Minister. Her political legacy has, to this point, been one of

moderation and restraint. To be truthful, I don't think I've ever seen a statement like this from her."

When asked to elaborate on the Prime Minister's statement, Tribal Council representatives present at this morning's Rens III press conference declined to comment, stating that all senior Council and Parliament personnel were currently sitting in special session with Urban Management and the Republic Fleet, and would take opportunities to comment at a later date.

Other questions, such as whether a working Insorum prototype lies in the hands of the Republic or anyone associated with it, remain unanswered by the Republic's government. Allegations have on several levels been variously dismissed as "fantastical" or "absurd," but no hard denials nor confirmations have been given. Speculation on the matter remains widespread.

More news as it arrives.

05/07/2005

AMARR EMPEROR DORIAM II ASSASSINATED

Stunning news has just filtered out of the Amarr Empire. Dorian II, Emperor of Amarr, is dead at the hands of an unknown assailant.

Details are still sketchy at this moment, but the Emperor's death has just been confirmed by the Imperial Chancellor's Office. The Privy Council has been called together to sit in emergency session.

Chamberlain Karsoth, the acting regent, was visibly shaken when confronted by the media outside his office an hour ago. Nevertheless standing firm in his condemnation of the heinous act, he stated that the Empire would "spare nothing in hunting down the perpetrators, wherever they might hide."

While the Chamberlain refused to confirm early rumors as to the killer's identity, he did state that "foreign elements will not succeed in spreading chaos and discord throughout our great empire." When asked to elaborate the Chamberlain declined to comment any further, instead urging his nation to "remain brave in the face of this unspeakable tragedy."

The Imperial Navy has been put on full alert. All border areas are being closely watched, particularly those leading into Republic and Federation space, with emergency stargate reroute plans reportedly being put into effect.

More news as they come in.

15/07/2005

CONCORD investigators identify the Emperor's assassins

After a meeting of CONCORD investigators with acting regent Chamberlain Karsoth at the Imperial Chancellor's Office, sources close to the Imperial administration are speaking of a major leap forward in the investigation, stating that the perpetrators of the Emperor's assassination have been identified.

As the news spreads throughout the Empire like wildfire, many citizens are rejoicing over the prospect of bringing to justice those who have committed this terrible crime. Moreover, a feeling of renewed rage is being felt amongst the pilot community close to the Empire. The general sentiment conveyed is that nothing short of revenge can put their minds at ease.

Members of the Theology Council have already commented, calling the news "a sign of God's bestowing his blessing once more upon the purest of races." The Council went on to state, "Still, it is only a small soothing of the pain and regret we feel at having this greatest of men so violently taken from us. Amarr will continue to mourn, but we will be tireless in bringing to justice those capable of such a crime."

The Council also addressed the acting regent, stating that "the eyes of the Empire are upon you, Chamberlain." While the Amarr community eagerly awaits information regarding the assassination of their Emperor, Chamberlain Karsoth has remained behind closed doors for the rest of the day, unavailable for comments. It is widely believed that the Chamberlain will keep the identity of the assailants classified as long as possible to facilitate further investigations by CONCORD.

16/07/2005

CONCORD's investigation shed no light so far

NEW CALDARI. The State "will regard the assassination of Dorian II as an Amarrian internal affair until proven otherwise", said CEP official earlier this morning.

"To our knowledge, CONCORD's investigation has shed no light so far on the identity of the perpetrator nor the motives behind the crime", said Nashokoda Pekumatken, Chief Executive Panel spokesperson at New Caldari CEP HQ. Following the diplomatic stance on the Mabnen incident during early June "without proof of an external faction being involved, the State will maintain its position and consider these events as amarrian internal affairs. Under these circumstances no special instructions will be issued to the Caldari Navy on the subject". The statement was later confirmed by CalNav spokesperson Kutatala Ikao.

The Amarr Empire has "a good track record not letting strife among internal factions spill into their foreign affairs policies; the controversies during Heideran VII's succession never affected our political or economical relations save for the usual stock market fluctuations that usually follow great political changes. We expect the next succession to be no different."

According to CEP officials the State's position will be revised following CONCORD's findings. An undisclosed source remarked that as of today said findings "amount to an absolute, pathetic zero. The State finds this lack of results disturbing: CONCORD's officials seem much more efficient in telling us how to run our corporations than in resolving an Emperor's assassination", making a clear reference to CONCORD's legislation during late April prohibiting empire corporation agents from passing on Tech II construction components to capsule pilots engaged in freelance work for them, a decision opposed at the time by both the Caldari State and Amarrian Empire.

19/07/2005

Omira Sarikusa amused at CONCORD's claims

Blood Raider Covenant's commander, Omira Sarikusa, reacted to CONCORD's claims of having identified Doriam II's assassins with scorn, "I find it hard to believe that the notoriously incompetent DED investigators managed to solve this 'mystery' in such a short time" he said during a short subspace transmission.

Sarikusa continued, "This shows yet again the false ways of the Empire. They're obviously losing control. Fearing upheaval at the lack of news on the matter, the Council decided to broadcast this blatant lie to maintain its meagre power."

Probed about the recent Blood Raider retreat in Delve space, he commented, "It was part of a reorganization plan we put in motion long ago. From here we'll be able to plan even more devastating attacks on our enemies. With the Empire headless, as it is now, there will be no more obstacles on our path."

DED officials tried to trace the source of the transmission, but all their efforts came to a halt just outside Khanid Space. Amarr Navy officials dismissed Sarikusa's claims as "Meaningless threats after their utter defeat in Sahtogas, the citizens of our glorious Empire need not to worry anymore about them".

20/07/2005

DED Considering action

GENESIS. DED officials are "considering different courses of action against the Finite Horizon corporation" due to their increasing drug-related activities.

Ipeman Psarana, Security Officer at DED Yulai X confirmed this morning that FZN operatives have been under surveillance, "in particular their recent war against the Coreli Corporation and their war bounty of several thousands of m3 of narcotics".

It had been previously suggested that DED attention was due to complaints filed by the Walkai Terraforming Industries corporation after their terraforming convoy was neutralized in early June, and by the Amarrian Empire after FZN and DNA operatives disrupted an Amarrian Navy convoy in Haras two weeks later; both were denied by S.O. Psarana.

"In case of property destruction, under the Yulai Convention framework CONCORD vessels are allowed to use force only inside high security systems and only immediately following said destruction; other than restricting the entrance of dangerous elements to high security space CONCORD cannot preemptively engage individuals or corporations in any way."

"The traffic of narcotics, on the other hand, is regarded as a dire threat by all Convention signing parties, and as such DED is authorized to actively pursue offenders outside normally CONCORD patrolled areas and use force if deemed necessary"

S.O. Psarana also denied DED's actions in this matter being coordinated by Sark Martek, chief of the joint task force created by the Gallente Federation and the Minmatar Republic to fight smuggling in general. "Small fishes are taken care by national customs on a daily basis and are not on DED's priority list. On the contrary, FZN operatives have earned themselves a bit of our attention".

Psarana refused to comment in detail DED's actions on this matter.

11/08/2005

CONCORD Memo Leaked

An internal memo from CONCORD has been leaked which contains details of the alleged assassins of the late Doriam II.

The memorandum provided by a source who wishes to remain anonymous states, "We have evidence that points towards an individual from the Royal Khanid Navy being responsible for the assassination". The memo goes on to detail that, "Preparations are underway for insertion of an under-cover agent into the Royal Khanid Navy to substantiate the claims and gather further evidence". Strangely enough the memorandum does not

include any relevant evidence to back up the claims made.

Amarr citizens have taken the news with a renewed anger at the assassination with many demanding an official statement from Meor Varuna, others wish a more direct response - calling for the Amarr Navy to respond en masse.

Neither CONCORD nor Acting Regent Chamberlin Karsoth would confirm or deny the authenticity of the memorandum at this time.

It will certainly be an interesting time for interstellar politics if the Dark Amarr are proven to be behind the assassination of the late Dorian II.

12/08/2005

Amarr Tensions

As tensions between the Khanid Kingdom and CONCORD rise, we are left wondering how the Amarrian people are taking this. One source within the Amarr Navy, one that wishes to remain anonymous, claims that tensions between individuals that believe in CONCORD's leaked memorandum and those that don't are the direct result of the lack of information forthcoming on Emperor Dorian II's assassination.

The source, a fairly well-off officer, claims that certain factions within the Navy are less than happy with CONCORDS investigations, believing that the Empire itself is more than capable of taking care of their own.

"The Empire should not bow to the bureaucrats of CONCORD. For thousands of years we have been able to take care of our own problems. Regicide is a crime that should be treated with the utmost diligence and CONCORD's interference makes a mockery of traditions started when some civilizations were still in their cradles. It is an insult to the Empire."

Attempts to confirm this were met with harsh words. One private in the Navy, however, was willing to expound, also wishing to remain anonymous.

"I can't believe Chamberlain Karsoth even allows outsiders to investigate this matter. It is an internal Imperial affair. This newly "leaked" memo changes nothing."

Whatever the truth of the matter, it can only be blow to the ego of the Amarrians to have CONCORD investigate the assassination. To some, the leaked memorandum can only mean that they are not doing a very good job. Meanwhile, Amarrians, Khanid and the other Empires await further, official statements of the matter.

12/08/2005

Khanid refute CONCORD claims

Yesterday saw the unexpected and illegal publication of a CONCORD memo, detailing DED plans to infiltrate the Royal Khanid Navy to find evidence to support their claim that a Khanid navyman was responsible for the death of Dorian II, Emperor of Amarr.

Following this outrageous leak, the Royal Khanid Navy held a press conference from its headquarters at Kihthead. Commander Abrikoum Aman of Internal Security stated:

"The news of Emperor Dorian II struck the Khanid Kingdom as hard as the Empire. The notion that a soldier serving in the Royal Navy was responsible for the unfortunate death of Emperor Dorian II is preposterous. Until now, no evidence has been provided, nor by CONCORD, nor by the Empire itself, at our request. We have exploited our diplomatic channels to either extensively. Until now, nothing has been forthcoming"

Following this statement, the Commander went on to say:

"Not only do the appointed officials refuse to offer comments on this supposed assassin within the ranks of our Navy, the memo's most disturbing passage, that a deep-cover operative is being inserted into the Navy, leads us to believe that CONCORD is striving to provide the public with a scapegoat, to cover it's inefficient hunt for Emperor Dorian II's true assassin.

We urge CONCORD to reconsider their plan. This does not serve the greater good, this does not serve the balance the institution was created to keep."

Although CONCORD has yet to respond to this, armchair politicians' columns all over the FTL net are rife with speculations following Commander Aman's veiled insults. Most seem to agree that the accusation of regicide is a serious one, and that CONCORD or the Amarr Empire had better release a statement soon, lest the Khanid take more aggressive steps to route out infiltrators.

09/09/2005

Possible new overseer of the Mordus Legion exodus?

In an earlier broadcast from an unknown source, data apparently taken from the highly guarded communications systems of the Mordus Legion have indicated a flurry of activity in the wake of last week's

exodus from ORE space. In particular, communications have pointed to the office of a senior member of the Legion's staff, an individual that has yet to be identified from the snippets of seized data circulating through the black markets of the information community.

The events of last week have seen a widespread departure of the Legion from ORE space, in the wake of a dispute between the highest levels of the group's administration. The incident, marked with political trauma, cumulated in a disastrous relocation to the Legion's primary headquarters, a move that involved a number of casualties for local pod pilots laying claim to the area.

Military analysts have speculated that the common flight commander of Mordus operations during the movement, Lt. Amlerik Raun, may have been chastised for the recent loss of Mordu's shipping and perhaps even demoted to a lower rank, with command being reassigned to another officer. Recent localised activity by patrol forces round the Legion's primary station indicate a notable rise in the organisation's operations, with a number of notable combat vessels being called from patrol duty.

Legion representatives have remained unavailable for comment on the recent apparent lapse in their security procedures, nor have they responded to questions on their plans for the near future.

15/09/2005

Stargate changes alter the face of trading - Yulai in decay

Yulai, once a vibrant trade hub, now slowly decaying. What used to be one of the largest open markets in our space has lost a significant portion of trade to other systems, a direct result of the stargate re-routing which took place almost two months ago, when the Gallente Federation and Minmatar Republic took action against rampant smuggling of illegal goods. The dwindling of trade in Yulai has not surprised trade moguls.

Visiting Yulai, I had the opportunity to speak to KIAEddz, CEO of mercenary corporation KIA Corp (KillerZ in Action). Asking him why he thought most trade was leaving Yulai, he responded:

"Two words. It's dead. It's simply too many jumps, too far away."

And he has a point. It seems Oursulaert and Jita have replaced Yulai, probably because of their location. Another factor, according to KIAEddz, is the presence of high-profile employers, who are eager to employ privateer pod-pilots. Oursulaert alone boasts the highest number of registered pod-pilots, whereas Yulai numbers have dropped staggeringly. To compare - at the time this article was printed, Oursulaert had 232 active pilots, Yulai had only 48. Jita numbered 208 pilots in space.

Although the Yulai torch seems to have passed to Caldari space, each region seems to have its own hotspot. Condensed information gathered by influential traders shows that Rens, Pator, Amarr and Alenia have all benefitted from the proactive anti-smuggling stances of the Minmatar Republic and Gallente Federation.

27/09/2005

Gallente Elections - A Planetside perspective

From the beginning of the Gallente election campaign, the three candidates and their delegates have been working tirelessly to win the favour of the voting public. Despite numerous setbacks in the initial months of the election process, Souro Foiritan and his two rivals Eman Autrech and Mentas Blaque have chosen their emissaries from the most capable and enterprising of the capsuleer elite that the Gallente Federation has to offer; and are now focusing their colossal political machines on the main populace of the Federation.

Over the past few months, the vast metropolises and cities on thousands of worlds across the Gallente Federation have come under siege from all sides as delegates from the three camps battle for the attention of potential voters. Rallies, speeches, and fundraisers have become a common and almost daily occurrence on the streets of these cities; and even public broadcasting stations have been taken over as the candidates utilise every medium possible get the most coverage, all the while exchanging their smear campaigns and attempts at character assassination with one another.

Through this lengthy election process the public is beginning to feel the pressure. As one citizen pointed out, "You can't even step outside without being accosted by one person or another trying to get your vote, and it's just as bad at home - every broadcasting channel has one politician or another yapping on and on about the election. It's ridiculous."

The candidates themselves have also been hard at work, having spent the last month touring the Federation's key systems and holding debates on important issues within the Federation. The most recent debate, held at the foot of the Gallente-Caldari war memorial in the city of Hueromont, saw Blaque and Foiritan come to blows over the recent theft of a Gallente Navy Titan - a matter in which Blaque criticised Foiritan and his administration greatly for "weakening the Federation through meek indecisiveness".

Though the election has largely dropped from public view in the last few months with regard to the space bound citizens of the Federation, market analysts have noticed an increased demand for certain commodities in several regions where the planetside election campaigns are most concentrated.

09/10/2005

Core Empire Systems Straining From Traffic

A number of Empire solar systems are straining from the massive traffic running through them in recent months, and severe measures need to be taken to rectify the situation. Local authorities are negotiating with mega-corporations who base their business operations in Rens, Oursulaert and Jita to move some of their assets to nearby solar systems so the load on the core areas may be diverted.

Pilots and corporations based in the Rens, Oursulaert and Jita systems are encouraged to relocate their businesses, and start using their connections with agents in nearby systems. Mega-corporation officials point out that pilots can remain in business with them and advise capsuleers to utilize their agents in lower security systems, where the agent missions and contracts are more lucrative.

A Rens pilot, when asked about the situation, stated that "The go*bleeep* da*bleep* station manager bast*bleep* had me waiting for 7 minutes before allowing me to undock. I'm going to the nearest 0.6, where you get complimentary bathrobes from agents. Fu*bleep* this *bleeep* *bleep*."

An Oursulaert native went on record, saying "They better fix the *bleep* *bleep* *bleep* jump *bleep* gates before I *bleep**bleep**bleep* and then some." He then shouted something incomprehensible at nearby Customs Officials, subtle foam beginning to assemble at the corners of his mouth as he finally became able to jump to the next system.

Similar stories have been reported in systems like Nonni, Sobaseki, Inoue and Isaziwa. Wasona Binge reported that rush hour traffic was approaching "Clusterfu*bleeep* proportions."

12/12/2005

Empire Moves to Deny CONCORD Claims as Internal Investigation Continues

The Ministry of Internal Order this afternoon published a report summarizing the progress of the Empire's investigation into the death of Amarr Emperor Dorian II.

According to the report, significant progress has been made in uncovering the identities of the Emperor's killers, though several key people remain at large. In addition, the report claims that no high-ranking personnel in any known agency or organization within or outside the Empire appear to be involved at this point in time.

The report also states that no evidence has been found to back up internal memorandums said to have been leaked from CONCORD headquarters in August, claiming parties within the Khanid Kingdom were behind the Emperor's assassination. Furthermore, the report states, CONCORD investigators may have jumped to conclusions based on spurious evidence.

"At the time, we believed we had sufficient leads to warrant a public statement. We were asked to produce results, and the leads we had at the time seemed solid enough for us to take the course of action we did," stated Banniskore Zabulugi, DED Director of Intelligence, who has since July headed the CONCORD investigation into the Emperor's death.

Meanwhile, Khanid Kingdom officials have consistently moved to deny any involvement, expressing bafflement at the actions of CONCORD investigators. "Not a shred of evidence was found," stated a high-level Khanid source. "Barring one leaked memo from a file clerk - whose motivation is not ours to guess, but whom we have been convinced has been released from his duties - the allegations were found to be completely baseless."

The Kingdom has also in recent months moved to consolidate its relationship with the Amarr Empire, stepping up its role as trade intermediary as Amarr corporation stock dwindles in the absence of an Emperor. "They're completely absorbed," said the Khanid source. "With the Succession Committee and their own internal investigation taking all their attention, they're barely remembering to feed themselves, let alone their nation."

24/12/2005

Caldari State Plays Host to Capsuleer Tournament

Earlier today, the Caldari Gaming Commission announced their plans to host the largest capsuleer fighting tournament since the Amarr Championships. Announcing the names of the sixty-four alliances eligible to compete, a state official said "We are expecting to see some of the worlds most skilled fighters at this event, the capsuleer alliances have tremendous strength and our main interest lies in seeing who will come out on top."

With surprisingly little time for preparation, each alliance must select three of their most competent fighters to compete on their behalf. Six pilots will then meet in an arena set up at a secret location. The winning team moves on to the next round, while the losers are eliminated.

Some political analysts believe that this is the first step of war preparation for the Caldari, and that they are simply "testing them". "In the past few years, capsuleer alliances have been growing at a rate faster than we could have ever imagined, especially in the outer regions. One day they might actually start posing as threats to the empires."

Whatever the case may be, the whole world will be watching as this tournament unveils.

27/12/2005

Betting Services Open for Business

Tensions are rising as only one day remains until the start of the alliance fighting tournament. Voices have been sounding from all over, trying to guess the outcome of the event, and some teams have been revealed as definite favorites by the public. Ever since their original announcement, the Caldari Gaming Commission has remained quiet regarding the event, only stating that they will release the tournament pairings at 18:00 today.

Two large capsuleer corporations have decided to use the opportunity and host public betting services. Both Eve University and BIG Corporation are allowing pilots to take part in the championships by wagering money on the team they think will win. Interest is clearly high, as wagered amounts are already in the hundreds of millions and rising.

Whether for contestants or spectators, excitement is at a maximum.

EVE News 2006 YC 108

23/01/2006

Matari-Gallente Exodus May Be Underway, New Study Says

Researchers at the University of Caille today published a study warning that a mass population exodus from Republic territories may be imminent. According to numbers published in the Federation's Year 107 Census Index, the influx of Matari immigrants into Federation-controlled regions, a figure with little historic variation, has within the past six months swelled to near sevenfold inflation figures from earlier periods.

The report cites increasing unemployment numbers, an ailing economy, and the increased influence of organized crime groups on the Matari population as the primary motivations of the exodus. Additionally, polling in Matari immigrant communities within core Gallente territories revealed that a number of Matari are growing increasingly dissatisfied with the perceived disunity of the Republic's Tribal Council.

Trar Odemenko, Chief Spokesman for the AME (Association of Matari Expatriates) in Darpagne, Renyn IV's cultural melting pot, said the consequences of tribal discord were "evident everywhere" in Republic society.

"Domestic reforms have been desperately needed for months now, but the tribes are too preoccupied with their constant game of one-upmanship to remember that there is a populace to support," he said.

In a claim echoed by the UoC's study, Odemenko also said that incidents of inter-tribal violence are on the rise. As reported by the Raurvor Feednet in Hulm last week, a Krusual funeral ceremony was interrupted by a militant group of self-proclaimed Brutor traditionalists, who claimed the Krusual's use of a particular traditional Matari symbol was in violation of their own tribal codes. The incident precipitated a melee which claimed the lives of seventeen Matari, all of them under the age of thirty. The incident is not an isolated one: similar episodes have taken place throughout the regions of Metropolis and Heimatar in the past months.

"Part of the problem is that as people - particularly younger people - feel the ties to their Republic weaken, they start looking for new identifiers," said Auzue Estisen, Deacon of Social Sciences at the University of Caille and one of the study's chief researchers.

"Clan and sub-clan identifications still serve their societal purposes, but in the absence of a larger unifying entity people will increasingly start to seek the tribal identifier. Under the current climate, with the seeming reluctance of the authorities to attend to aspects of domestic relevance, that makes for a very volatile situation. I believe that in the coming months, unless something is done, we're going to see tribal discord increase to truly worrisome levels."

06/03/2006

Federation Seeks Solutions to Immigrant Influx

Agencies within the Gallente Federation have in recent weeks been engaged in staving off potential problems posed by the steadily escalating influx of Matari immigrants to regions bordering the two nations.

According to a report released by the Federal Immigration Advisory Board to the Gallente Senate yesterday, the inhabitant figures of population centers in the Gallente Border Zone and Nexus constellations have swelled considerably in the past two months, even more so if the presumed number of illegal immigrants is factored in.

The report warns that "a large-scale ingress of displaced societal elements can and very often does contribute to slum formation, increasing crime rates and the drawing of hard cultural lines across areas previously unaffected by racial tensions." It further proposes that the Senate divert significant funds towards fiscal benefits for immigrants, outlining several legislature drafts for Senate consideration.

"We do agree that there is a potential problem looming there," stated Mentas Blaque, Gallente Senate head, at a press conference this morning. "We must, however, keep aware that even in times of prosperity the federal budget has its limits, and the wellbeing of our own has to remain a priority. We will take the matter up later in the week."

Blaque has prompted outrage among the inhabitants of the most heavily affected areas for what is seen as a criminally blasé response to large-scale problems with serious implications. Lirianne Crulart, mayor of Des Ponticelles, this afternoon went on record stating that "if the esteemed Senator sees a particular distinction between border zone residents and other members of the Federation, I sure wouldn't mind him enlightening me. As far as I know, we're all citizens of the same nation."

Des Ponticelles is Bourynes III's largest city and one of the Federation's registered megalopoli. It is home to sixty-three million inhabitants, fifteen million of which are disenfranchised Matari.

26/04/2006

Presidential Candidate Announces Surprise Withdrawal of Candidacy

Gallente Presidential candidate Eman Autrech at a press conference this morning announced that he is withdrawing his candidacy for the Gallente Presidential seat. The announcement follows several months of census taking and legal maneuvering within the Federation, circumstances which have seen the indeterminate

delay of election proceedings.

In his statement, the former presidential hopeful claimed that "due to the apparent flaws present in our mode of government, my faith that the system works as intended is greatly diminished. While my reasons for bowing out of this race are personal in nature, I am certain the untenable situation we are presented with would have compelled me to withdraw before long. The Federation's intolerable census-stalling and gerrymandering is making a mockery of this democracy, and I will not stand for it any longer."

Members of Autrech's campaign have expressed dismay at the announcement, though according to his chief campaign treasurer Louis Grells, it's been "a long time coming."

"Campaigning for this length of time takes its toll," he said. "The coffers were beginning to run dry and our team had lost nearly a quarter of its original number. I'd say we were nearing the end, anyway."

Already the announcement is being hailed by pundits as an indication of the inadequacy of democracy at this level of government. Victor Roanon, representative of radical political think-tank the Trauberge Hollow Institute on Bourynes III, this afternoon called the proceedings "typical of the farce democracy rapidly turns into when you try to get it working under an umbrella of five trillion people."

Still others point to the circumstances surrounding Autrech's stepping down as extremely suspect. A member of his campaign, speaking on condition of anonymity, claimed the candidate had seemed unusually distraught and unfocused in the weeks leading up to the announcement. "It was like one day he was Mr. Autrech and the next he was just someone else. It was very unsettling."

"Plus, if anyone understands the system, it's him. He knows as well as anyone that the bout of legal wrangling is finally ending. This is a very strange time for him to drop out."

27/04/2006

Foiritan, Blaque Comment on Autrech's Withdrawal

President Souro Foiritan's office and the campaign office of Senator Mentas Blaque today sent out press releases detailing the two candidates' stances on Eman Autrech's surprise withdrawal of his presidential bid yesterday morning.

The President's Office's statement reads: "It comes as a blow to this democracy and a personal shock to the President that a good man such as Autrech should decide to step down. His reasons for doing so are doubtless solid and just. The Foiritan Administration wishes the candidate the best of luck in whatever tasks he chooses to undertake next."

Senator Blaque's statement, meanwhile, describes Autrech as "reneging on his duties to this country and this democracy" and "bowing under the pressure of competition." It furthermore states that the candidate's withdrawal, while "a tragedy for the man himself and his supporters" is "nonetheless a blessing for those of us who are serious about our participation in this race, as well as for everyone who is serious about seeing our nation scale the height of its potential."

Autrech's withdrawal, announced yesterday morning, follows nearly a year's period of census-taking and district-rebordering by the Federation government. The period, known due to its pervasiveness of propaganda as "The Winter of Slogans," has seen a quietly escalating battle of imagery and ideology rage between the three candidates, a battle which now sees its first casualty. Already this afternoon, on streets bordering Mercury Square in Caille, workers were seen pasting a new line of Blaque posters over the frayed remnants of Autrech images dating back to January of this year.

Questioned about the other candidates' reactions to his withdrawal, Mr. Autrech declined to comment.

06/05/2006

Billionaire Dies, Leaves Unusual Request in Will

The famed Gallente businessman, entrepreneur and playboy Ruevo Aram has just passed at the age of 173. Admired by the intellectual society for his skill at solving seemingly unsolvable riddles. Known for his wild behavior and rumoured to have ties deep within the Gallente government, he will be missed by many.

In his will, he left this message:

"At the time of my death, one person will have a chance to make history. In the event of my death, ninety-eight percent of my wealth is to be transferred to the government of the Caldari Sate, they have their orders on what to do with it. The rest will go to the first person who solves these eleven riddles:

1

*You might not heed this advice or care
do not go into HED
it's guaranteed that somebody's there
to fill your body with lead.*

2

*Twenty-two trustworthy men
in a popular traders den
mysterious number four
opens this magical door.*

3

*Coming and laying their tents
causing shouts and creating dents
holding their ground for weeks
reaching their peaks
until the coming of tweaks.*

4

*Once friends
once learning
now fiends
now burning
forever.*

5

*Down in Stain
there lies a system
with one way in
it is most eastern*

6

*Many a travellers dream
as hopeless at it may seem
a friend of mine named Gep
is the closest you'll ever get.*

7

*She foiled their plan
and most of them ran
it did not last
this empire of the past.*

8

*Fast deployment and swift results
they'll work for whoever pays
a night stalkers honor heavily weighs
on the orders he gets and obey's.*

9

*To do is to be
to do is me
machine I am
scientist I am
or rather, was.*

10

*A highly dangerous place
you'll find the next clue
hidden away
close to the diamond ace.*

11

*A purple Amarr to the south
deep in the empire's mouth.
above the sea with two ways in
find this system and win."*

Whatever these riddles mean, or where they lead, this reporter cannot tell. Just how large Ruevo's fortune was

remains uncertain, although it is believed to have been in the hundreds of billions.

More information can be found on the GalNet forums.

07/05/2006

Riddles Solved by Burn Eden

Nine hours after the official announcement, Shin Ra and Heinky of Burn Eden managed to come up with solutions to all of the eleven riddles from Ruevo Aram's will.

Following the victory, a Caldari State official made this announcement: "As a part of our deal with Ruevo, we will honor his request and erect a statue commemorating the winners. May his soul rest in peace, and congratulations to Burn Eden."

The whereabouts of the statue remain uncertain, although Jita is rumoured to have been chosen by the winners. In addition to the statue, each of them will receive three billion ISK from Ruevo's will, as well as a commemorable Warp Core Stabilizer II.

16/05/2006

Presidential Candidate Remembers Hueromont Dead

Senator Mentas Blaque, one of two remaining candidates for the presidency of the Gallente Federation, yesterday paid a visit to the city of Hueromont on Gallente Prime. The visit was undertaken in order to commemorate the roughly fourteen thousand Gallente who died when Caldari Admiral Yakia Tovil-Toba flew his carrier into the planet's atmosphere 188 years ago, during the Gallente-Caldari war. The senator held a speech at the site of the calamity, after which he was toured by the city's mayor, Emile Touscagne, through the districts hardest hit by the attack.

During his speech, Blaque paid tribute to the dead of Hueromont, urging his audience to "remember the sacrifices given by those who came before" and to "remain alert to the presence of evils that still today lurk just beyond the horizon." He also encouraged Gallente citizens to "continue engaging in meaningful dialogue about our Federation and the citizen's duty to safeguard his homeland."

The senator's speech, as well as the occasion of his visit to Hueromont, has been criticized by liberal parties as deliberately inflammatory. "It seems fairly obvious that the senator's hateful tirade is meant to incite tensions among the good people of Hueromont," stated Senator Audrey Rairix, a long-time opponent of Blaque's within the Senate. "I think it should be apparent to anyone listening that this was not a speech about acceptance and reconciliation. It was one of anger, mistrust, even vengeance."

Among the assembled crowd no signs of discontent were superficially apparent, though isolated pockets of dissenters within the crowd briefly vocalized their contempt before being escorted off the premises by guard personnel. During key moments in the speech, applause and cheering carried as far as outlying districts as a thousands-strong crowd roared approval at Senator Blaque's words.

Hueromont is today the ninth largest city in the Gallente Federation, with thirty-six million inhabitants in the greater metropolitan area. In the nearly two centuries since the Hueromont Incident, it has been generally regarded as a sore point for Gallente pride and remains something of a taboo subject in international political circles.

14/06/2006

Alliance Tournament Sign-ups to Commence

The official registration period for capsuleer alliances wishing to participate in the upcoming Alliance Tournament will begin today, a spokesperson for the Caldari Gaming Commission has announced. The contest is the second of its kind to be held by the CGC and the first matches are scheduled to commence on the 14th of July.

As with the previous tournament the Executor Corporation CEO of those alliances wishing to participate will be required to register on behalf of their alliance at the tournament sign-up page.

Registration for the tournament will continue for two weeks, during which time the first one hundred and twenty eight alliances to register will be given a place in the competition. The CGC has also stated that the top sixteen alliances from the last tournament will be guaranteed a position if they choose to compete by registering.

Unlike in the first tournament, teams will consist of five combatants, each piloting a different ship class ranging from frigates to battleships. Organisers are hopeful that the inclusion of destroyer and battlecruiser class vessels in the contest will dramatically improve upon the tactical aspect of the competition, and provide far more spectacular and entertaining battles than in the previous tournament.

Edouard D'Evereux, a Professor of Mixed Unit Tactics at the Federal Navy Academy, has applauded the decision to include the newer ship classes. "History has repeatedly shown us that it is not necessarily the side with the best technology that wins a battle, but the side that makes better use of its units and tactics to defeat the enemy." He went on to express his interest in how the capsuleer alliances might make use of the newer ship types in the tournament. "I think the Command Ship battlecruiser variants will really show their full potential for

squad-based warfare in this tournament."

More information can be found here.

19/06/2006

Blaque Approval Ratings Rise Amid Harsh Caldari Criticism

Press representatives from the Caldari State's Chief Executive Panel yesterday released a statement on incendiary speeches held in the past month by Gallente presidential hopeful Mentas Blaque, in particular the candidate's May 16 speech at the Gallente Prime city of Hueromont.

The Panel leveled harsh criticism at the senator's speech, calling it, among other things, "a disingenuous display of nationalism." Senator Blaque was quick to respond, stating in a unicast holofeed interview that "in a political climate of civility and honesty, the Caldari ideally would be the last to accuse anyone of nationalism."

This last month has seen the candidate's approval ratings make a sharp turn upwards, with latest polls indicating that out of registered likely voters 58% would vote Blaque over incumbent president Souro Foiritan. The most commonly cited reasons for the choice are a wish for strong leadership and general public dissatisfaction with how long election proceedings have taken.

In what has come as a surprise to many analysts, President Foiritan has not responded strongly to Blaque's rhetoric, claiming that it is deliberately incendiary and designed only to provoke a response intended to paint opposing stances in a negative manner. It is not known at this point whether he intends to give replies to Blaque's statements, some of which have veered directly into the realm of ad hominem attacks against the incumbent.

22/06/2006

Caldari Gaming Commission announces tournament format change and prizes.

During a press conference yesterday afternoon, the CGC announced the prizes for the winner and runner ups of the second alliance tournament. The head of the commission, Airas Sukela, also stated a change in the tournament's format. The new format is known as a bracket or pool format where contestants are divided into eight four-team groups. The first matches are held between alliances of the same group and only the top two in each group will proceed to the next round to compete against alliances from other groups.

The prizes that will be awarded at the end of the tournament are:

- * First place - 1 x Wyvern Mothership, 5 x Chimera Carrier, 5 x Caldari Raven Navy Issue
- * Second place - 5 x Chimera Carrier, 5 Caldari Raven Navy Issue
- * third and fourth place - 2 x Chimera Carrier

Mr. Sukela explained the decision for changing the structure of the tournament after the press conference, ' We only had 28 confirmed alliances willing to participate, and wanting to provide the general public with two weekends of entertainment, we decided to change the format to extend the tournament period.' People have come to expect the very best of us. I can't say why so few alliances decided to participate, but we are more than happy to accommodate the alliances that have signed up. We still expect this tournament to be thrilling to watch, bet on and participate in.'

For the last weeks many pilots have discussed the tournament through various mediums. Seeing a team bragging about their expensive equipment might have discouraged smaller contenders from competing. This view is shared by Tyrrox Thorrk, the owner of several rare ships, including the Imperial Issue Armageddon and Apocalypse. 'It seems to me like people who weren't willing to spend the ISK for full pirate implant sets simply decided they had lost before signing up.'

Professor Kiyudas Tsalmaki, Lecturer in Emergent Warfare Analysis at the State War Academy, has remarked that given the prizes of the first tournament he expected that more alliances wished to participate. Mr Tsalmaki: 'This can mean two things, either the alliances are so rich they do not think it's worth their time to participate, or they can't afford to lose any ships and don't participate at all. Looking at the list of confirmed alliances, there are some large names missing, and we can only guess why they decided not to enter the tournament. Another possible explanation would be their preoccupation with other activities, but mostly I think it's a matter of them fearing to lose.'

29/06/2006

Ice Fields in Inner Empire Regions exhausted, Conservationists up in arms!

Conervationists have called for a day of mourning today. Strip mining operations have depleted numerous Ice Fields in high-traffic, high-security Empire regions. Initial reports state these resources will not replenish, and other Ice Fields are in danger of the same fate.

"Today is a very sad day, knowing that these once vast stretches of natural ice and beauty are forever gone," said Marcalin Chronet, a noted champion of resource and new Capsuleer protection rights. "How many more fields will suffer the same fate in order to pad the wallets of companies who automate the strip mining process for obscene profits? It's a shame that these large scale, automated mining ops went through these crucial areas

and cleaned them out. Some new pod pilots are going to wonder where they can go to turn a couple ISK for expenses tonight."

Others spoke out against these mining conglomerates. Said Aidan Black, CEO of Serenity Search, Salvage and Storage, "Hopefully, this loss of natural resources will have an impact on how these operations run. Maybe now, they will have to go into less-secure areas where they have to compete with Capsuleers who are at the controls of their mining AND weapon systems. Time will tell."

Attempts were made to contact a number of strip mining conglomerate officers and CEOs. None could be reached for comment.

30/06/2006

ECAID testing new freighter cargo containment system, Insurance companies overjoyed

The ECAID division of ISD, in conjunction with Freighter manufacturers, cargo expander manufacturers and some ship insurance providers, are in final testing of a new cargo containment control system.

The updated control software resolves a major issue with dispersion of containment fields upon the destruction of a freighter. Previously, these containment fields would implode upon collapse, thus crushing the cargo and rendering it unsalvageable. The new control software reverses the implosion of the containment fields, protecting cargo containers so they may be recovered.

Insurance companies and hauling corporations are heralding this as a major improvement to their profit margin. Said Aidan Black, CEO of Serenity Search, Salvage and Storage, "There have been a number of salvage ops where recovery was impossible due to containment field collapse. To me, hearing about a freighter getting popped has always been sad. All that lost revenue for recovery fees gone. This new software is going to improve my bottom line."

If the software upgrade meets all testing criteria, the upgrade will automatically be uploaded via Gal-Net on Tuesday.

03/07/2006

Freighter containment field testing fails. Further testing required.

Weekend testing of the cargo containment software has revealed a flaw with the system and the upgrade will not be deployed tomorrow. While the software worked as intended, the potential release of numerous cargo containers presented navigational hazards in simulations where freighters were destroyed. These hazards slowed or even stopped movement through systems and caused communications delays as Gal-Net became flooded with the sudden appearance of container transponder beacons. CONCORD agents were required to individually disable the transponder beacons, a time consuming and manpower intensive task.

Anonymous sources are stating this deployment is only temporarily halted, but were not able to give a future deployment date. Further testing is required to resolve communication issues with Gal-Net and remove any navigational hazards.

04/09/2006

Over 30,500 Capsuleers join in the celebration

At 1939 Galactic Time, 30,538 capsuleers were logged into the Gal-Net communication channels, more than the channels have seen in the history of Gal-Net Comm. Unsubstantiated reports put over 700 capsuleers in the Jita system at the time of the Gal-Net user record.

Said Lt. Commander AeolusWind, a member of ISD's STAR division, "It's amazing to see the capsuleer brotherhood has expanded such a great deal, but it still has that warm toasty feeling like when everyone in Gal-Net Comm was a rookie."

Such sentiments were also expressed by RipLee, a pilot with The Shepherd's Chapel Nexus; a corporation specializing with assisting rookie capsuleers, "It is with great honor that I see the 30k mark being broke.. I can recall 3 years and 5 months ago, a 90 capsuleer test during the Gal-Net Comm beta.. CONCORD has done an awesome achievement in such a feat..."

During a joint press conference after this event, Obuchi Shikamaa, Chief Coordinator of Public Relations for CONCORD and Admiral Kieron, Administrator of the Interstellar Services Department, both expressed their gratitude to the capsuleer community for their continued support. Stated Kieron, "This is a momentous occasion for everyone, from the newest rookie frigate pilot to the veteran Titan commander, and all of us in CONCORD and ISD. Thank you."

26/09/2006

Ascendant Frontier completes first Titan.

FEYTHABOLIS. Yesterday at approximately 12:20 New Eden Time, the Ascendant Frontier Alliance (ASCN) deployed the first capsuleer owned and built Titan into the AZN-D2 system.

The Titan is the majestic Avatar of Amarrian design now named CYVOK's Avatar after its current pilot and one of

the leading figures who made the production possible. The launch is the result of 8 months of hard work and dedication of an entire alliance, at the cost of over 160 billion ISK, as well as a sophisticated operation to keep the construction site and its contents a secret. This included a "feint" operation producing a smaller capital class vessel to throw off potential attacks to the real construction site.

The accumulation of the vast quantity of minerals required to complete construction was actually handled by refinery taxes, as well as mining operations by ASCN member corporations, who were unaware what the final objective was. Aside from the minerals the Avatar also needed 16 component, 1 ship and 3 module Blueprint originals, all blueprints combined made up for 93 billion of the 160 billion ISK total necessary for the construction. The Titan itself was constructed in secret, with only a small inner-circle of ASCN members aware of the project.

When asked about this achievement, CYVOK, the leader and pilot of the Titan, was quick to reassure that the entire alliance, one of the largest in the cluster, had worked long and hard in order to achieve the completion of the Avatar. The secrecy involved allowed the build up and construction to take place without hostile intervention. CYVOK explained, 'Only 3 pilots knew about the details of the project, lots of folk helped but they had no idea. We placed TONS of thought into misdirection. Pilots were asked to do things for other "projects" they had no idea it was all going to this one.' Enemies of ASCN only came close to finding out the construction site two weeks before the completion of the titan.

The launch in AZN-D2 attracted a large group of pilots from both inside and outside the ASCN alliance to witness the deployment of this new vessel. ASCN members present in AXN-D2 during the maiden flight were very happy that the Titan had been completed, despite the veil of secrecy.

CYVOK commented, 'The completion of the Avatar represents another true first for New Eden brought forward by the hard work and dedication of all the members of the ASCN & AXE Community. Together there is no challenge we cannot accomplish. The face of warfare in New Eden has just changed forever.'

04/10/2006

Blaque In The Lead As Election Day Approaches

As the Federation shifts into election gear, billions of voters across Gallente space prepare to cast their votes in what looks to become one of the most hotly contested elections in the nation's history.

According to the latest numbers from the Federation's polling bureaus, presidential candidate Senator Mentas Blaque is currently in the lead with a public support rating of 54% to incumbent President Souro Foiritan's 46%.

This past summer has seen a steady increase in incendiary political speech by Senator Blaque and his campaign office, as well as by members of the President's cabinet. The President himself, meanwhile, has been consistently reluctant to engage in direct confrontation with the Senator, conducting his personal communications with such care that Sovicou Star chief editor Nelvine Ducomp in a July 27th editorial famously referred to his condition as "a rare case of actual diplomacy, one we all hope he recovers from soon."

Foiritan, previously known for aggressive debating techniques and extreme political fierceness, has this summer instead channeled his energy into extensive campaigning in the Federation's fringe districts. Of particular note have been his excursions into districts such as Chappel and Lavoux, areas with high concentrations of Intaki and Matari immigrants and historically low voter turnout.

Blaque's platform is concerned primarily with, in the Senator's own words, "reclaiming a sense of national pride" and "making sure our own people are cared for before tending to the needs of others." His promises of widespread domestic economic reform have met with resounding approval, and his large bloc of followers have been noted time and again for their almost religious zeal.

Foiritan's platform, meanwhile, revolves around foreign policy and free trade, concepts that have been at the core of Gallente political thought since the days of the Gallente-Caldari war almost a century ago.

Election day is scheduled for October 27th.

05/10/2006

State Denies Recession Claims

Representatives of the Caldari State's Chief Executive Panel issued a public statement this morning, refuting several claims recently put forth by noted economist Arvelan Tokaru.

In an in-depth article published in respected economic journal The Wiramar Index last Monday, Dr. Tokaru warns that numerous signs indicate the Caldari State may be headed for a major recession.

Foremost among these, she claims, are rising unemployment numbers and crippled supply chains stemming from rift trade agreements with the Amarr Empire, previously the State's top trading partner. Dr. Tokaru also states that in an attempt to salvage the situation, the Chief Executive Panel has engaged in what she terms "back-against-the-wall protectionism," heavy-handedly levying tariffs that are beginning to cause diplomatic ill-will among smaller trading partners and "are sure to backfire in the long run."

The Executive Panel in its statement wholly refutes these claims, stating that unemployment numbers are at much the same level they have been at over the last two years, and that the tariffs have been imposed to promote protection of jobs within the State and maintain the domestic standard of living. According to them, the rift trade agreements with Amarr are "an unfortunate consequence of administrative difficulties within Empire agencies, which we have been assured will be rectified soon."

A number of analysts from within the State have spoken out in support of Tokaru's claims, reporting that the State's methods for calculating unemployment figures are misleading and that the actual numbers are higher than they have been for over eighty years.

"They only include workers who sign on," stated an analyst who wished to remain anonymous. "If you haven't reported yourself to the Bureau of Civilian Affairs - a trek through a bureaucratic labyrinth which takes the better part of a day, and can go wrong in numerous ways, all of which will result in your application being rejected without notification - you're not included among the unemployed. This excludes large portions of the population who, even notwithstanding the inefficiency of the bureaucracy, have long since given up any chance of finding steady work."

"There is a very definite underclass here," he said, "and it is growing."

27/10/2006

Election Day in the Federation

At 12:00 noon EVT today, polls for the Office of the Presidency opened in the five-hundred-twenty-eight voting districts of the Gallente Federation. With the projected turnout approaching 2.5 trillion voters, today's election is shaping up to be one of the biggest in the Federation's history.

Booths have been opened in every major city and municipality across the Federation, and already citizens are flocking to cast their votes. Sepault Farina, analyst at the Center for Democratic Advance, a Sovicou political think-tank, touts today's proceedings as the "grand finale of a drawn-out farce that has been going on for the better part of two years. One can scarcely believe it's finally going to be over."

Preliminary numbers are unavailable at this point, but updates will be provided as the day progresses.

27/10/2006

Blaque in Lead, Early Numbers Suggest

According to early numbers just in from the Gallente Electoral Commission, presidential contender Mentas Blaque currently leads incumbent President Souro Foiritan by a five-point margin. Votes have been fully counted from 233 districts out of 528.

An interview with Senator Blaque was aired two hours ago on a popular Gallente feednet, wherein the Senator reaffirmed the driving points of his campaign.

"I think Gallenteans should be proud to call themselves Gallente... I, I think that there is such a focus on being open towards other cultures that people will... sometimes they will tend to forget that they have a rich and proud heritage of their own to draw on. The citizens of our great nation should be more aware that we are just that, a great nation," he said.

The Senator furthermore expounded upon his platform's proposed shifts in focus towards what they term "domestic naturalization," a process involving state-sponsored segregation of immigrant populations to areas specifically designated for them, referred to in the doctrine as "cultural habitats."

The 18-minute interview has provoked mixed reactions from international parties. Keitan Yun, a senior representative from the Minmatar Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, commented that the senator "sounded like he was reading aloud from one of those old ultranationalist textbooks that have by now become the stuff of parody."

Larik Saal, Amarr Ambassador to CONCORD, meanwhile approved vociferously of the Senator's proposals, stating that the Federation "is in great and dire need of a ruler capable of drawing the lines where they need to be drawn."

Updated election numbers will be provided as they come in.

28/10/2006

Foiritan Triumphs in Close Race

Final election results are in from the Federation: President Souro Foiritan has claimed victory by a narrow margin, beating his opponent, Senator Mentas Blaque, by just a single point. This will make him the first president in Gallente history ever to serve more than one term in office.

"I am proud, and I am humbled, to be granted the opportunity to serve this great nation for five more years," said the President in an address to his supporters, delivered minutes ago from the steps of the presidential residence in Caille.

After thanking his family, his cabinet, his campaign staff and his supporters, President Foiritan expressed his intent to lead the Federation into "an era of prosperity and goodwill, in which we shall continue to proudly hold aloft the ideals that have made our country what it is."

"I want to wish Senator Blaque and his family the best, and I thank him for a challenging and spirited campaign," he said.

Senator Blaque has issued a concession statement congratulating Foiritan on his victory. In it, he "strongly urges" the President to "safeguard the values and integrity of our nation."

Nearly 2.8 trillion citizens voted in the election, by far the highest turnout in the history of Gallentean democracy.

28/10/2006

Race Tightens As Border Region Vote Weighs In

According to the latest numbers from the Gallente Electoral Commission, incumbent President Souro Foiritan has gained three points on his opponent, Senator Mentas Blaque, bringing the race to a close two points. The news comes in the wake of a concerted showing of Matari and Intaki immigrants at polls in border regions of the Federation.

The cities of Aubruille, Sargai and Sebirouse, the three most populous cities of Sinq Laison, a border region of the Federation, have seen large rallies of Matari and Intaki voters storming voting locations in calculated rushes, events which are widely believed to be orchestrated by several nameless grassroots immigrant organizations.

Four hours ago Temperance Square, the bustling site of Sebirouse's central voting location, played sudden host to a seventeen-hundred person mixed crowd of Matari and Intaki, assembled within three minutes from smaller groups in several different parts of the square. The silent mob proceeded to the voting station, where every one of them cast their vote for incumbent President Foiritan. The same phenomenon was reported in precisely the same manner in Aubruille, Sargai, and dozens of smaller cities. The proceedings were more or less peaceful in all places, with only a few minor incidents of violence reported.

Analysis of the past few hours has been rife with speculation on the nature of these groups. Many commentators believe them to have been carefully trained and controlled, while others believe them to be nothing more than the end result of ideological memes spreading rapidly through a threatened subset of the population.

Whatever their cause, they appear to indicate a trend: incumbent President Souro Foiritan now stands only two points behind his opponent, Mentas Blaque. The current total tally of polled districts stands at 359 out of a total 528.

06/11/2006

Dozens Dead In Kassigainen IV Riot

Rioting erupted this morning at Truiisu Station, a Kassigainen IV mining colony owned by Caldari giant the Kaalakiota Corporation. The exact reasons for the fracas are unclear, but the fighting is reported to have broken out in the wake of an incident where several officers of the Home Guard, Kaalakiota's private police force, allegedly slit the throat of a former colony worker recently laid off by the corporation.

Exact numbers of deceased are unavailable at this point, but unconfirmed reports indicate that fierce fighting has been going on between former workers and Home Guard forces, with dozens killed so far. Several sections of the colony are reported to have suffered complete blackouts, with a number of the colony's vital functions running on auxiliary power.

The Kaalakiota Corporation at noon today issued a short statement, claiming that outside of some "minor collateral damage," the situation was rapidly being brought under control. They have declined to comment further on the matter.

Truiisu Station is a Type-4, partially-subterranean mineral colony with a Class-B sustenance dome and reinforced atmospheric generators for use in extreme environments. It is currently home to over 1680 people, comprising approximately 1100 Kaalakiota workers and their families.

06/11/2006

Feednets Disagree on Kassigainen Incident's Causes

Several Caldari feednets have in the past hour run news claiming that, according to information just received from inside sources at the Kaalakiota Corporation, the ongoing riots at Truiisu Station on Kassigainen IV are the result of "a planned revolt, instigated by double agents from competing corporations." According to the information, the goal of these double agents is "the subversion of the Kaalakiota work force through incitement of anti-corporate ideals."

Analysts from other networks have heaped scorn on the statement, calling it a "thinly veiled attempt" by the megacorporation to cast the victims of what looks like a major humanitarian incident in a negative light.

"If the general trends are anything to go by," said Nielaus Oilien, economic analyst for Citadel-1, "then I think mass layoffs or grand-scale pay cuts are the likely culprits rather than any form of competing corporate ineterest. These allegations are frankly ludicrous."

The Chief Executive Panel, meanwhile, has issued a statement claiming that "Kaalakiota have been in dialogue with us ... [they] have assured us that the problem is under control and is being handled."

Latest unconfirmed reports from Kassigainen IV put the current death toll at just over a hundred people.

07/11/2006

Foiritan Pledges To Send Aid Convoy As Truiisu Station Death Toll Mounts

Newly re-elected Gallente President Souro Foiritan has just issued a press release stating his intention to send an aid convoy to Kassigainen IV to assist with what the release terms "a major - and growing - humanitarian crisis." The release states that the convoy is meant as "a gesture of goodwill, and a hopeful step towards better relations with our neighbors."

Only a few minutes after the announcement, the Caldari State's Chief Executive Panel released a statement indicating the situation is "under internal review," and strongly urging the Federation to stay out of Kassigainen until proper clearance has been granted. The CEP has since yesterday repeatedly referred to the incident as a "minor revolt by political insurgents," in what many analysts are calling an effort to downplay the humanitarian crisis angle.

The ice planet of Kassigainen IV, site of Kaalakiota mining colony Truiisu Station, has since yesterday morning played host to steadily escalating violence among its 1700-odd inhabitants. The causes for the fighting are widely disputed, and detailed information on transpiring events are hard to come by, though unconfirmed reports of atrocities against the worker population have consistently arisen over the past 24 hours, including instances of workers being hunted down and murdered in front of their families.

The death toll is at this time believed to have risen above two hundred and fifty people.

08/11/2006

Gallente Aid Convoy Downed In Kassigainen

A Gallente Federation aid convoy was shot down in the Kassigainen system yesterday evening by a contingent of capsuleer forces from the Veto corporation. The convoy was carrying food and medical supplies bound for Truiisu Station, a Kaalakiota Corporation-owned mining colony on Kassigainen IV that has over the past two days been the site of fierce rioting.

The sudden attack came in the wake of a 30-minute long standoff between the captain of the convoy and forces from the Home Guard, Kaalakiota's police force, who had refused to permit the convoy access to its final destination.

According to witness accounts, Home Guard forces had repeatedly told the convoy that no official request for aid had been made and that they did not possess the necessary clearance to enter the Kassigainen IV airspace.

The convoy's captain, Commander Dirai Guvera, had countered by stating the convoy was there in the name of the Gallente President as a gesture of friendship and goodwill, carrying only food and medical supplies.

Matters were not helped when one of the Home Guard ships scanned the convoy's Obelisk-class freighter, finding a 500-troop supplement of Federation Navy marines. It was shortly after this that the Veto force attacked, destroying every ship in the Federation convoy while suffering significant losses themselves. The Home Guard forces did not intervene.

While the motivations for the attack are unclear at this point, Ethan Verone, CEO of the Veto corporation, in a statement released earlier today on GalNet, claimed that "[Veto] were contacted regarding, and subsequently accepted a contract of employment to destroy the Federation Navy convoy ... The client wishes to remain fully anonymous." See the full text of the release [here](#).

President Foiritan of the Federation this morning released a statement wherein he expresses his regret that "an operation intended to save innocent lives instead ended up costing even more."

"The Gallente Federation has extended the olive branch, and it has been torn from our hands and burned," the statement said.

Caldari authorities have yet to comment on the matter. The situation on Truiisu Station remains largely unchanged, with the current death toll rumored to stand at approximately four hundred people.

13/11/2006

Third Capsuleer Tournament Announced

At an open press meeting earlier this morning, representatives from the Caldari Gaming Commission announced the exact dates and rules for the next capsuleer alliance tournament. This will be the third time the tournament

is held, and the Commission has promised to make this one bigger and better than before.

"This will be our third tournament, and hopefully the most exciting one yet. We have many strong contenders out there, and I personally cannot wait to see all the new tactics and setups that our new rule system allows for," said CGC head Airas Sukela. "We have decided that a tournament will be held every six months, and to ensure this becomes a reality we have signed a five-year contract with Boundless Creation public relations coordinator, Sirfortur Ofarter."

When contacted about the contract, Ofarter told reporters that her corporation would be making changes to the way prizes are handled and pumping fresh blood into the tournament's promotional and public relations effort. "Our engineers have been working day and night for months to create these monstrosities. The winners of the next tournament will not be going home empty-handed." She was unwilling to divulge further details about the exact nature of the prizes, but assured reporters that a detailed press release would be forthcoming.

Public opinion of the contract between CGC and Boundless Creation seems to be mixed, especially considering recent political tensions and fluctuations between the empires. Extremist voices have challenged the contract's legality while others embrace this as a friendly act.

The capsuleer tournament is scheduled to go ahead in two weeks' time.

14/11/2006

Bleak Lands Installations Under Attack by Unknown Forces

The Bleak Lands region of the Amarr Empire has over the past week played host to a number of attacks perpetrated by forces of unknown size and affiliation. The attacks, mostly targeting independent holder assets and small to mid-sized orbital installations, have in all cases been swift and decisive, usually laying waste to their targets before responding units can be deployed to the scene.

Ballistic data from installation wreckage, as well as eyewitness reports from colony attacks, have confirmed that the attacking ships are of Matari design, though no communication or demands have ever been received from them. Eyewitness reports furthermore indicate that the forces have been small and mobile, composed mostly of frigates and cruisers.

Little official help has been available to holders in the Bleak Lands regions. "The Navy doesn't maintain much of a presence here," said Eron Tumak-Ahrim, holder of the Sartrad Territories on Hakodan III, which have suffered two separate attacks over the past week, totaling approximately three hundred million ISK in lost assets.

"They mostly stay near the Throne Worlds these days. They don't appear to have much time for us out here on the fringe," he said.

Navy officials have gone on record as stating that "due to an ongoing restructuring process within [the Amarr Navy] ... our fielded forces must be diverted to areas where they are deemed most necessary to Imperial security and the protection of Imperial assets."

"The situation's been like this for months," said Amuran Dekorle, an independent strategic correspondent who has written for a number of publications worldwide. "The Navy barely responds to [acting regent Chamberlain Dokuta Karsoth's] directives at all, and when they do it is with slow sullenness."

"The Empire is really the only place where you could see this happening. The Emperor's authority is absolute ... but regulations don't make provisions for people ruling in his stead for any significant amount of time. There's no real administrative action he can take against them," Dekorle said. "They're just responding to whoever holds the most clout among the heirs. It's all one big political patchwork right now."

The Chamberlain's Office has, according to inside sources, made repeated attempts over the past few days to instigate talks with the Minmatar Republic Fleet. It is unknown at this point what, if any, communication has gone on between them.

22/11/2006

Kaalakiota declare Kassigainen IV situation 'under control' amid harsh criticism from international parties

The Kaalakiota Corporation's office of public relations released a statement this morning wherein they proclaim the situation at Truiisu Station on Kassigainen IV to be "fully under control." The statement comes in the wake of steadily-crescendoing voices of condemnation from various international parties over the past week.

"The insurgent force has been neutralized as peacefully as was possible under the circumstances," the statement reads. "A majority of the people on the colony have been transported to safer havens, and the station's facilities have survived mostly intact. We estimate that repair operations and work force replacement will take a period of three to four weeks, after which Truiisu Station will be up and running at full efficiency."

The statement has been met with widespread scepticism. Senator Mentas Blaque of the Gallente Federation, in a short interview with the Scope this morning, called it "a blanket of lies, incompetently woven by rank amateurs

to cover up the fact they don't care one whit for the well-being of their people." He furthermore claimed he had data from reliable sources which showed the "so-called peaceful neutralization of the insurgents was anything but." Pressed for details, the senator refused to comment further.

Others have moved to cast aspersions on Kaalakiota's statement, variously questioning the considerably drawn-out time frame of the operation, the hush-hush nature of the corporation's methodology and the sparse wording of the release itself.

"It [the statement] doesn't really answer the questions most people have, such as why there have been Home Guard and Caldari Navy dropships stationed in orbit around Kassigainen IV for the past week, with not an aid vessel in sight," said Touvelas Sarkin, senior professor of political science at the University of Caille.

Sarkin said the efforts made by Kaalakiota to salvage the situation showcased more of a desire to sweep the symptoms under the carpet rather than make any moves towards fixing the underlying problem.

"They just want to stamp it out and pretend it didn't happen instead of actually looking at what they can do to make sure it doesn't repeat itself. With the way things are now - salary and benefit cuts, mass layoffs, diminished worker rights - I'd say we're sure to see that happen soon, possibly even on a larger scale," he said.

29/11/2006

Offline stargates activate spontaneously, CONCORD officials issue general travel advisory

At just after 02:00 EVT last night, a large number of offline stargates spontaneously came online, opening access to eight previously closed-off regions of space.

CONCORD officials have issued a travel advisory intended to dissuade pilots from entering the newly-accessible regions due to "unforeseeable dangers," but since CONCORD's jurisdiction does not extend to these regions they have not been able to issue any mandates. Capsuleers are reported to be roaming the new regions already.

The regions were closed off twenty years ago in the wake of a rogue drone attack which left a research outpost, then-headquarters of a Gallente research project known as Operation Spectrum Breach, in ruins.

Operation Spectrum Breach was a Federation-funded research project intended to create openings into regions of unexplored space and facilitate the colonization of new worlds for a rapidly-expanding Gallente Federation.

The project was cancelled after the worker drones at the project's main outpost went berserk, killing hundreds. Reports of rogue drone attacks from several other areas within the eight regions had surfaced concurrently. To ward off the drones' potential expansion into trade lanes and inhabited areas, the project's supervisors had every gate leading into the eight regions closed off.

It is not known what caused the drones to go rogue; many speculate that some form of virus was at play, while others believe that mechanical malfunction or design error are to blame.

Federation officials have expressed surprise and bafflement at the unprecedented occurrence. According to a senior-level aide within the Office of the President, an investigation is "set to be underway."

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12/01/2007

Bleak Lands nexus of mounting Minmatar/Amarr tensions

Over the course of the past month and a half, The Bleak Lands region of the Amarr Empire has played reluctant host to a large number of Matari insurgent attacks, steadily escalating in frequency and intensity.

One attack, in particular, is seen as the flashpoint for the diplomatic tensions that have resulted from the area's conflicts. On December 17, in the Sosala system, a mixed fleet of Matari capsuleers attacked and destroyed an Amarrian battlestation due to undergo redeployment out of the Bleak Lands into Throne Worlds territories.

Simultaneously, in an effort to confuse and delay potential reinforcements from the Amarr Navy, rebel groups elsewhere made similarly successful raids against several smaller Amarr-controlled sites.

The attack, widely believed to have been orchestrated by Matari splinter group The Defiants (with support from rebel capsuleer organizations Ushra'Khan and Fimbulwinter) came as a complete surprise to on-site Empire forces, most of which were killed in the ensuing fracas. The battlestation in question is the first Amarrian battlestation to be destroyed by Matari forces since the days of the rebellion.

The rebels' ability to pinpoint the battlestation's location and the precise execution of their attack have prompted questions about the effectiveness of the security measures taken by the Empire in its outer regions. Imperial Chamberlain Dokuta Karsoth's command of the Amarr Navy has also come into question. A number of reports, from both within and without the Navy's infrastructure, have indicated that the Chamberlain's decrees and directives are variously treated with apathy, scorn and outright defiance.

The Chamberlain's office has not commented on these claims, but has stated on a number of occasions that it is in the Empire's best interest to keep its tactical resources in locations where they can do the most good, and that the Bleak Lands "are not a top priority at the moment." Nevertheless, Bleak Lands regional commander Quibih Jafi of the Amarr Navy was dismissed from his post in November and demoted to the rank of Corporal, following what authorities termed "a woeful neglect of duty and responsibility."

A number of analysts believe that the intervention of capsuleer forces is one of the primary reasons why the Bleak Lands are not worse off than they are today. Most often cited are the efforts of loyalist organizations CVA, Vigilia Valeria and PIE. "Were it not for these pilots," said a January 7th lead article in the Hedion Review, "the region would be far more destabilized than it is. The Empire owes them its thanks."

The situation in the Bleak Lands has led to escalating diplomatic tension between the Minmatar Republic and the Amarr Empire. Over the past two weeks, the Chancellor's Office has on a number of occasions overtly and covertly stated its belief that the Defiants are in league with - and taking orders from - the Republic Fleet, a claim that Fleet officials consistently dismiss as "ludicrous." Republic Fleet spokesman Raurvest Arrum, in a statement last week, said that "if [the Republic Fleet] had any inclination to attack Empire assets at this point in time, it would certainly not be trying to achieve its aims through repeatedly disavowed splinter groups."

29/01/2007

Amarr overreaction 'no surprise,' says Matari Parliament head

Head of Republic Parliament Malaetu Shakor yesterday commented on the Amarr Empire's reactions to Matari splinter group attacks in the Bleak Lands these past weeks, calling the Amarrians' response a gross overreaction, but an unsurprising one.

In an interview with news outlet The Scope, Shakor expressed his belief that Imperial Chamberlain Dokuta Karsoth's hand had been "forced by egotism" into "doing whatever was necessary to salvage the Bleak Lands situation." This is in reference to the steady ramping up of forces within the Bleak Lands areas within the past week, a move widely believed to be in response to a recent deluge of media reports about Karsoth's lack of control over the Amarr Navy, which peaked with the destruction of an Amarrian battlestation roughly three weeks ago.

The party responsible for most of the attacks is a radical organization known as the Defiants, a Matari splinter group composed of ex-Republic Fleet personnel and led by much-decorated ex-Republic Fleet Captain Karishal Muritor. The group has reportedly been pushed back from the Bleak Lands after a large influx of Amarrian forces to the area resulted in significant skirmish losses for them.

Chamberlain Karsoth, meanwhile, has been exerting a great deal of diplomatic pressure on the Republic to rein in these undesirable elements. Accusations of Republic funding have repeatedly entered the discussion, with the Republic issuing vigorous denials every time.

Inside sources confirm that relations between the two nations are at a lower point than they have been at for a long time.

"There's definitely a chill in the air," stated a top-level Matari aide who wished to remain anonymous. "They [the Chamberlain's representatives] are so dead-set on our guilt that they seem unwilling to listen to reason."

Commenting on the situation, Shakor said, "Even though I have a great deal of personal sympathy with the cause of my old friend Muritor, I cannot say I see the sense - diplomatic or military - in our Republic endorsing these raids. As our spokesmen have already stated on numerous occasions, the Republic Fleet has dismissed all of these personnel long ago. Any speculation that they are linked to us at this point in time is tenuous at best."

09/02/2007

Republic claims responsibility for rebel leader's death

An official source from within the Minmatar Republic has said that the clearance for the February 1 death of splinter group leader Karishal Muritor came from the top level of Republic government.

"The order for the operation was given by Prime Minister Karin Midular's war cabinet and carried out by an Admiral of the Republic Fleet," said the source at a press conference in Renyn yesterday afternoon. "We had determined through an extensive campaign of intelligence-gathering operations ... that Karishal Muritor's group of terrorists were posing a threat to our relations with foreign powers ... [and] by association implicating the Republic in military action it has never instigated nor condoned. Muritor was a threat to the safety of our Republic, a threat that very unfortunately necessitated removal by any means."

"The Admiral was ordered to bring him in, and he persisted in refusing, so things regrettably went the way they did," the source said.

Muritor, a highly-decorated former Captain of the Republic Fleet and later leader of the rebel splinter group the Defiants, was killed after a brief exchange of words with Republic Fleet Admiral Kanth Filmir near Planet X in the Auga system.

According to GALNet reports from capsuleer witnesses present at the time of the skirmish, Muritor had agreed to a conversation under a banner of truce agreed to between him the Admiral, the two reportedly having been old friends. After a brief exchange of words, it became clear that Muritor would not cease and desist in his actions against the Amarr Empire, and the Admiral deployed a strike force which held and attacked the rebel leader.

Members of Matari paramilitary organization the Ushra'Khan who were present at the scene at this point opened fire on the Admiral's forces, but were told to cease and desist by both the Admiral and Muritor, who himself refused to open fire on Republic Fleet forces. According to reports, his last words, before his vessel went up in bright ball of flame, were "Do not forget what we achieved with so few. Do not forget."

The public response to Muritor's death has been one of outrage. Multiple wakes and vigils have been held in cities all over the Republic, and dissenter rallies have been held calling for Karin Midular's resignation.

The response within the capsuleer community has been even more pronounced. The aforementioned Ushra'Khan, a group with long-standing yet historically shaky ties to the Republic, declared Prime Minister Midular their "number one enemy," calling for a 1 ISK bounty on her head, the "value representing her worth to the Minmatar people, rounded up."

The Amarr Chamberlain's Office has yet to comment on the matter, but sources from within their administrative wing have reported that the Chamberlain is "eminently satisfied" with the results of the Fleet's operation.

21/02/2007

Nine killed and dozens arrested in Dober Harn riots, protests increasing in frequency Republic-wide

A bloody riot erupted yesterday evening at what was to be a peaceful rally in Gelfiven V metropolis Dober Harn. Hundreds of people had gathered at Liorren Square, the city's most populous locale, to protest the Republic Parliament's actions in recent weeks and the rule of Prime Minister Karin Midular.

According to anonymous witnesses police cordoned off the area early on, an act which led to "a growing wave of dissonance" within the assembled crowd. A quarter of an hour into the proceedings, a firebomb was lobbed from somewhere in the crowd into the line of riot police, leaving two dead and thirteen injured.

The police responded by employing stopfoam and sottoblast equipment on the protestors, leading to a fracas which lasted over twenty minutes. Seven protestors were killed, all of them succumbing to sottoblast-induced brain hemorrhages.

The Bloody Hands of Matar, a newly-formed youth rebel group with suspected ties to organized militias in various provinces of the Republic, has claimed responsibility for the firebombing. On their personal feed, the group claims that they "model ourselves on the ideals espoused by our capsuleer kin," and that they are "dedicated to the overthrow of the current government, be it by word or by fist."

The group's logo, a bloody fist, closely resembles that of notorious Matari capsuleer alliance The Ushra'Khan, one of the organizations that has been most vocal in denouncing Midular and her reign. The past week has seen a number of protests springing up in all corners of the Republic, most of them believed to be inspired by the now-notorious February 12th protest held by the Ushra'Khan over Matar, calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Karin Midular.

The protest is believed to have set off a wave of anti-governmental sentiment. Says Marek Brandeira, leader of The Bloody Hands, "It didn't really set it off so much as push it forward. I mean, those guys are great and all, but there are a lot of people who have been saying these things for years now. This government is obviously corrupt and needs to go."

"We're grateful for the new manpower, though," he said. "This has definitely helped rally more people to the cause."

01/03/2007

Theology Council Investigations continue

Acol Yarwema, Chief Operative of the Theology Council, issued a statement yesterday regarding the recent attacks on Theology Council assets. He announced that the Council's ongoing investigation into the attacks, including the interrogation of two recently apprehended pilots, has confirmed earlier suspicions regarding the identity and intentions of those responsible. The statement did not name the suspected attackers.

Acol continued, "It is certain the capture of these suspects, aided by capsuleers loyal to our great Empire, will advance our investigations considerably. No doubt the true instigators of these attacks are working through third parties in an attempt to hide their involvement."

Ashmod Chieh, spokesperson of the Kor-Azor family, released a press statement where the family condemned the attacks upon the Theology Council, judging them to be "immoral and cowardly." The press release further stated that the Kor-Azor family would be willing to help in the investigation or send general aid if the Council required it. The Theology Council has politely declined the aid of Kor-Azor at this time.

The statement of Kor-Azor comes at a time when the family has been widely criticized for the situation within its borders. Reports have filtered through of excessive brutality by Kor-Azor police forces. Adding to problems are several proclamations by Aritcio Kor-Azor that have been met with increasing disbelief. The most recent proclamation stated that any slaver found outside at the same time as Gaius (Aritcio's own slaver dog) would have its owner tortured to death, before its eyes, and would then be forced to eat the remains of said owner.

05/03/2007

Republic unrest continues, Bloody Hands support grows.

Matar - "One ISK for Midular" said many of the banners at a large protest rally held today. Local police forces estimated the attendance at around two million people, who packed the main promenade of Matar Prime. The protest, organized by political newcomer "Voices of Matar" party, coincided with marches all across the Republic as the government faces ever-growing anger and disillusionment.

The Republic, already under fire for its heavy-handed handling of past protests, responded by stating that it respected the views and opinions displayed at these rallies, and that while it was quite happy for its citizens to enjoy their freedom of speech, it urged the protesters to remain peaceful. The government spokesman took the opportunity to remind attendant press that the numbers at these protests only constituted a relative minority.

The Bloody Hands of Matar, the subject of hot controversy due to their recent violent actions at the Dober Harn riots, have witnessed a swelling of their ranks as dissatisfaction grows. It seems that what once started as a simple ideal and symbol has begun to form into a far more serious movement. Countless newcomers to The Bloody Hands' cause have cited the deep frustration they feel at the perceived callousness of the government's handling of Captain Muritor and of its blatant dismissal of the recent riots and other protests.

Their support from the Ushra'Khan alliance, one that they claimed to model themselves on, has been less apparent. Following the interment of Captain Muritor's body last week, Tar Kovsky stated, "We understand the frustration of groups like The Bloody Hands of Matar, which makes it hard for us to condemn their mistakes. Our people need hope, though, and not continued frustration. If the youth would take a more active role in tribal politics, they might find the solution there...we don't think that attacking the planetary police will accomplish much other than turning people against them".

While certain Minmatar capsuleer groups such as Namtz'aar k'in have echoed Mr. Kovsky's sentiments, others have stepped forward and praised the Hands' defiance. "The Ushra'Khan need to take a long, hard look at themselves before they decide to comment on other terrorist groups," an unnamed source stated.

Already the images of angry young Matari protesters have defined the rising wave of impatience, and now, with their faces covered in blood-red handprints, they are becoming one of many indicators of a growing momentum behind the Bloody Hands.

16/03/2007

Kor-Azor situation escalates on Liparer II

The Kor-Azor region continues to be the site of unrest, exemplified this week by the situation on Liparer II.

The debacle began when Holder Keraci was overheard by visiting Kor-Azor courtiers as he told his wife that Aritcio Kor-Azor is "not fit to be Heir and belongs in a damn mental institution for his new regulations and sanctions."

When Aritcio heard word of what was being said on Liparer II he ordered that every Holder and his family on the planet would be stripped of his fine robes and dressed in rags of the lowest slave. A spokesperson for the Kor-Azor house commented "How dare they talk about their lord sovereign this way? Such manner of treasonous speech shall not be tolerated. As punishment for such heinous talk they will henceforth live like slaves until such a time as our Lord Kor-Azor considers that they have paid for their crimes. These holders should consider themselves beneficent that their lord has chosen to be so merciful."

The robes, sent to every Holder and his family, reek of unwashed slaves and have blood splatter and other unidentified substances on them. Aritcio was reported as stating "What do they expect? That I send clothes smelling fresh and ironed? I ordered my men to find the dirtiest slave and bludgeon their heads in and take their clothes. They shall wear those and nothing else."

The Holders refused the royal decree, resulting in Aritcio declaring the whole planet treasonous, ordering his military forces in and demanding all the holders' heads to be returned to him. The planet is currently under military blockade and there has been report of heavy fighting on the surface.

Reports have also been filtering in on sightings of a Speaker of Truths in the borderlands of Kor-Azor space. Aritcio's representatives have judged this as mere hearsay, for a Speaker has not been seen outside a monastery for centuries. Nevertheless, the representatives continue their investigation into the Speaker's appearance

23/03/2007

Speaker of Truths appears at Liparer II

Seconds before the largest settlements on Lipairer II was to be incinerated by the lasers of the Kor-Azor fleet, a Speaker of Truths appeared and demanded they hold their fire.

Last week had seen the escalation of events on Liparer II with the Holders rising in near-rebellion against the rule of House Kor-Azor. The House's representative promptly gave a deadline for submission, adding that it would otherwise send a fleet to "completely obliterate all resistance". As the Holders did not stand down, a fleet was dispatched to destroy the estates. It was then that a Speaker of Truths intervened.

The Speaker of Truths, known as Brother Joshua, asked that the Admiral in charge returned to Kor Azor so that the Speaker could arbitrate between the two parties involved in the Liparer crisis. Furthermore, Brother Joshua announced that he would be traveling through the Kor-Azor region to investigate the situation, speaking to Holder and commoner alike. It is very rare for a Speaker of Truths to appear in such a fashion, and this is the first such occurrence for nearly a century, has been the subject of great surprise and speculation.

When asked about the situation, the Theology Council responded, "When approached by the Speakers of Truth for permission to investigate the allegations stemming from the Kor-Azor region, we duly gave it. We wish Brother Joshua Godspeed on his mission."

As a reporter inquired after the recent allegations of attacks upon the Theology Council, and any links these attacks might have to Kor-Azor, the Theology council refused to comment, stating only that "our investigations are continuing."

The consensus on GalNet is that the arrival of the Speaker of Truths is a 'welcome development' and that overall the people are hopeful the situation will be solved without bloodshed.

27/03/2007

Heir speaks out on succession as debate continues

Last month witnessed an unprecedented request from Amarrian capsuleers that they be informed as to the progress of the investigation into the assassination of Emperor Doriam. Despite serving as a severe breach of protocol, the request sparked fervent academic debate within the Empire regarding the next Succession championships and what form they will take.

While no outright dissent has been aired on the issue, it is no secret that the people of the Empire are growing impatient with the wait for a new Emperor. In an announcement late last week, Uriam Kador endorsed the ongoing debate by making his opinions known publicly. Here is an excerpt from his statement:

"For too long has our Empire languished without an Emperor. It is due time that we, the Heirs, decide how the next Championships shall be held, lest we incur God's wrath for our Chamberlain's apparent lack of will to move forward."

"I move that the Championship not be fought in the barren byways of the infinite, but rather here on God's earth, by those of pure flesh. We should look not to those who cheat death by shedding and donning bodies like discarded rags, for who can tell what happens to the soul through its endless leapfrogging from body to body?"

"We should look to true Amarrians, the chosen people of God, barren of the impurities of their spacebound kin."

Dr. Emuil Zalaveille, political analyst at the University of Caille and an expert on Amarrian affairs, regarded the

speech as just the latest in a series of affronts to Chamberlain Dokuta Karsoth's authority.

"His [the Chamberlain's] position has been growing ever weaker in the last months," said Dr. Zalaveille. "With the murder investigation yielding no apparent answers and the Navy all but directly disobeying his commands to police the Bleak Lands, the addition of a royal Heir's accusation of laxness in the matter of the succession comes as no surprise."

03/04/2007

Succession debate rages on.

At the most recent sitting of the Privy council, Pomikide Haromi, steward of House Sarum, voiced his house's express views on the recent succession debate.

"House Sarum feels that the past open doors policy of ascension was patently ridiculous. We cannot and should not allow anyone but true Amarrians to decide the future of our glorious empire. It's no wonder that the last two chosen Emperors were such weaklings?"

It is time for Amarrians to stand for Amarr, stop kowtowing to these heathen Empires and reclaim our glorious past. It is time to choose a new Emperor!"

When asked whether House Sarum would be naming its successor to Jamyl, the steward reminded all present that "House Sarum's business is just that, but you can be assured that all will happen as it should"

Upon hearing the steward's comments, Aritcio Kor-Azor, Heir of house Kor-Azor, took the opportunity to present his own views upon the subject:

"Oh, please. It is obvious to even the dumbest heathen who the next Emperor should be. The blathering of the other houses only postpones my own inevitable ascension. As for the Chamberlain, I am amazed he has even survived this long.

Concerning the Championships, I move that we abolish representation and have individual combat. Who would dare stand against me?!"

Across the Empire, the debate continues.

05/04/2007

Speaker of Truths saved by PIE Inc and Ordo Quaesitoris

Last Sunday evening the Amarrian Speaker of Truths, Brother Joshua, was attacked by the Holland Reclamation and Salvage corporation en route to the Ordion system. Thanks to a capsuleer escort, however, he was able to proceed on his journey unharmed.

Last week, Brother Joshua publicly announced his intention to travel through the Kor-Azor region in order to investigate "allegations of misconduct" on the behalf of Aritcio Kor-Azor, after getting permission from the Theology Council to conduct such an inquiry.

Brother Joshua set out to visit the systems between Kulu and Ordion, where he intended to visit several Holders and discuss with them the region's situation and future. At the start of his journey the Praetorians Imperialis Excubitoris and Ordo Quaesitoris joined him in order to escort him to his destination.

Around 18:45 New Eden standard time, the Holland Reclamation and Salvage laid ambush and attacked Brother Joshua, but their attack was unsuccessful thanks to the loyalist forces, commanded by Rodj Blake.

23/04/2007

Remaining royal houses speak out on succession debate

With the debate over the succession still ongoing in the Empire, the Tash Murkon family called a short press conference to extend their opinion on the ongoing debate, one which they apparently feel affects their house greatly.

Taridor Khiknizi spoke for house Tash Murkon and went on to say:

"While we acknowledge and respect the views of the other Royal Houses, this Royal House is strongly against the racial implications of allowing only True Amarr to decide the next championship.

The Empire was forged in our collective blood. We worship the one and only Lord God. It is by all our strengths that the Empire was made great, and it will be by all our strengths that it shall continue."

With the only Royal House yet to make its views known on the subject the Amarr News Service managed to arrange a short sitting with Yonis Ardishapur himself shortly after a meeting with Chamberlain Karsoth.

"The Lord God saw fit to create only one race of his Chosen. We are that race. While the lesser races follow God's word faithfully and loyally, as well they should, and while they have their place within the Empire, it is not for

them to rise above their station. Decisions of this importance should be left to God's true Chosen, and none other.

House Ardishapur moves that the current Championships incarnation, a result of hasty reforms of the venerable institution of the selection of the Emperor, should be replaced with just that institution."

25/04/2007

Minmatar to rise above hatred: Midular speaks on discovery of Republic Parliament's secret talks with Ammatar Consulate

As reported by the Scope this morning, according to documented sources from within the Republic Parliament, "top people" in the Republic's governmental infrastructure have been involved in secret talks with representatives from the Ammatar Consulate for the past six days. The talks, all of which took place on Minmatar soil, covered such wide-ranging subjects as POW exchanges, Ndorian mining rights and the retraction of several long-standing war crime accusations on both sides.

It is not known at this time whether an end to official hostilities between the two nations is on the cards, though the news has prompted widespread speculation that this may be the case. The news has been greeted with tremendous furor in both the Republic and the Mandate, in particular from anti-appeasement segments of both populations.

Prime Minister Karin Midular moved swiftly to head off the outcry, broadcasting a speech across the Republic this afternoon. The full text of the speech follows:

"My fellow people of Matar.

I fully understand the outcry over the recent revelations. I am here to assuage your fears and explain our reasoning. I would appeal for your composure and attention.

We have been in a state of war with the Nefantar since the creation of our beloved Republic. War is a terrible thing. All of us know our history and none of us can deny this simple fact. Throughout time, wars have been fought for conquest, for plunder and for freedom. But this war, which has gone on so long and cost us so much, has been fought for one simple reason: hate.

As a people, we possess a lot of hate, and perhaps rightly so. No other people in the history of our universe have suffered so much in the cause of tyranny and sacrificed so much for the cause of freedom. But is this all we are? I choose to believe not. I choose to believe we are better than that, that we can rise above such hatred. Though we may spit their names today through clenched teeth, I choose to believe we may one day look upon our kin and feel an emotion other than hatred. Did not the great Kiaor himself say: 'Those whom you hate so fervently, you must have once loved so deeply?'

I will not deny that the path in front of us is long and arduous - that there exists an almost insurmountable gap between our peoples - but I will do all within my power to bridge it.

We have lost so much. Let us not, in the throes of hatred, lose yet more."

The speech, the first Republic-wide broadcast by Midular for over a year, seems to have quietened unrest in the short term. Though Matari everywhere continue to voice their confusion and discontent, the angriest voices have stopped shouting. Even among the Tribal Council, one of the hotbeds of the ever-present appeasement debate, a vote has been passed pledging support for continuing talks with the Ammatar.

The Ammatar and the Matari have been in an official state of war ever since the Great Rebellion 129 years ago. While the intensity of the fighting has ebbed and flowed, the peak was hit 7 years ago as a long-term Matari offensive, dubbed the Vindication Wars, came to a close at the Battle of Tears, one of the highest-casualty engagements in recorded history. Since then, the two nations have settled into a tense stand-off. With the exception of the occasional skirmish no fighting has taken place, and the borders of both nations have remained secure.

No information has been publicly released as to when and where the talks will continue.

30/04/2007

Caldari Gaming Commission under State investigation

The Caldari State has agreed to open a fraud investigation into the Caldari Gaming Commission's (CGC) recent activities, sources revealed yesterday. This follows repeated requests from the Mercantile Club and the Caldari Business Tribunal that an inquiry be made into the CGC's accounting history.

The CGC has promised its full cooperation in the investigation. A spokesman said they expect to be cleared of all suspicion once the investigation has been concluded and its outcome is presented to the public.

A Mercantile Club security officer recently discovered footage of a meeting between high ranking members of

the CGC and their accountants, where they are seen discussing the option of tax evasion. The officer gave the holoreels to his superiors, who in turn presented them to the Caldari Business Tribunal.

"Even though the Club prides itself on our private meeting chambers, it was our decision in this case that concealing possible intent of grand-scale tax evasion would go against our values as a proud corporation of the State," said Temikko Aikikonen, Mercantile Club spokesperson.

The Caldari Business Tribunal has decided to involve the Chief Executive Panel in the prosecution of the CGC, as the CEP would stand to be the largest beneficiary of the allegedly owed taxes. A committee is currently being formed that will lead the investigation and eventually present its findings to members of the Business Tribunal and the CEP. The committee will be lead by Prof. Sari Hazel, a Gallente specialist in criminal fraud, well known for her work during the Religious Donation Trial several years ago.

07/05/2007

Ammatar Governor comments on Matari/Ammatar Talks

Ibrar Ondagoi, the Governor of Ammatar, yesterday afternoon released a statement claiming the Amarr government was "informed well in advance" of the Ammatar Consulate's intention of entering into talks with the Minmatar Republic. The reason the talks were kept secret, the statement says, is that "neither the Empire nor its mandate wanted to give opportunistic hatemongers a reason to incite violence in protest of peaceful communication."

The Governor issued his statement after several meetings with top-level Consulate officials over the past week in the San Matarian capital of Auguria. Public response in Amarr and Ammatar has been mixed; polling indicates that a large portion of people from both the Empire and the Mandate believe the Amarrian government did, in fact, have no idea the talks were going on. A number of analysts have theorized that in the absence of an Amarrian Emperor, the Mandate is responding to shifting currents in the astropolitical spectrum.

"While we can understand some confusion at the news of these talks, there is no need for alarm," said Ammatar Consulate High Commissioner Anfrid Uptemulf at a press conference yesterday. "We will not be restricted by blind hatred. The Consulate of the Ammatar Mandate will work in the best interests of the Ammatar people under, of course, the guidance of the Amarr. We will not compromise the ideals upon which the Mandate was founded.

What fruit the discussions will bear has yet to be decided. At this time we remain cautious but hopeful."

18/05/2007

Caldari Gaming Commission found guilty of tax fraud

The committee investigating the alleged tax fraud presented its findings to the Chief Executive Panel earlier today. The committee concluded that 'the Caldari Gaming Commission (CGC) is guilty of tax evasion for trying to hide 3.4 billion isk from the State.'

The CEP has announced that they will abide by the decision of the committee, lead by Prof. Sari Hazel, and will act on the recommendations given.

'We (the CEP) have reached an agreement to accept the conclusion stated in the report. We unanimously decided that the best course of action, for all parties involved, is for the CGC to pay back the evaded revenue with an additional penalty of 1.5 billion', stated Jukkizaras Aboraala, Principal Clerk of the Chief Executive Panel, in a press conference.

Dabel Kaelikohani responded to the verdict in a companywide e-mail, declaring it an 'unjust, biased decision influenced by greed' while expressing his doubts on the future of the CGC.

24/05/2007

Dozens believed dead as explosion rocks Egonbet station

At approximately 22:50 EVE Time last night, a bomb exploded in the Republic Parliament Bureau station in Egonbet, the station scheduled to host the next round of talks between the Minmatar Republic and the Ammatar Mandate. The explosion tore into a civilian habitat section of the station and severed several transport corridors, catching the Ammatar delegation and killing one of the Mandate consulate members.

According to Republic Security officials, the bomb was a crude high-yield device which somehow went undetected by their security sensors until the time of activation. While the target seems to have been the Ammatar delegation, the bomb is also believed to have caused significant civilian casualties, reportedly numbering in the dozens, although the Republic have yet to release any concrete numbers. The Republic security on the station were quick to react to the explosion and contain its aftermath, saving many lives.

Evidence at this time suggests that the bombing was executed by the organization known as 'The Bloody Hands of Matar,' a terrorist group who have kept a low profile lately but, with this act, have propelled themselves back into the media spotlight. In a public statement released shortly after the explosion they went on to claim responsibility, stating:

"We will not sit idly by while our Republic kowtows to these race traitors who sold us out to the Amarr and even now keep our people in bondage. How dare we seek terms with these scum? It is a grave dishonour to the sacrifice of the great rebellion. Have we learned nothing? What we do, we do for Matar. There will be no peace with the Nefantar traitors."

A flurry of activity followed in the aftermath of the explosion as the Ammatar quickly evacuated their people from the station, retrieving their fallen and racing back to Mandate territory under the guard of the Ammatar capsuleer corporation Delictum 23216, who have been providing security for Mandate personnel since the talks began. The future of the talks is deemed very uncertain at this point. Voices have been heard from within Ammatar accusing the Republic of murder and treachery, while the Republic has declared its abhorrence of the act, pointing out that many of their own died in the explosion and that they will not rest until they have tracked down and brought these terrorists to justice.

According to an anonymous source from within the Republic Parliament, diplomatic channels remain "open but extremely fragile."

05/06/2007

RSS tasked with hunting down Bloody Hands of Matar

The Minmatar Republic Parliament late last week tasked the Republic Security Services, the Republic's intelligence arm, with hunting down an organization known as the "Bloody Hands of Matar." The order was issued as a direct result of the Bloody Hands' bombing of an Egbonbet space station on the 23rd of May, an act which took the lives of 42 people, among them Faulk Stian, an Ammatar consulate ambassador attending peace talks being held between the Ammatar Mandate and the Minmatar Republic.

Adrand Allsvert, Head of the RSS, at a press conference last week claimed that Republic forces would "hunt down and remove this illness that has pervaded our nation. There will be no refuge for these terrorists, no place they can run and hide. They have murdered their own and plunged talks of peace into despair. We will come down upon them heavily."

It had been previously believed that this organization, despite having publicly displayed anti-government sentiments on a number of occasions, did not pose a distinct security threat. They were viewed simply as angry youths following an ideological example set by certain capsuleer organizations, most notably the Ushra'Khan. The explosion on the Republic Parliament station in Egbonbet has catapulted them into the spotlight, with many experts expressing disbelief at their ability to organize such an act.

The RSS's crackdown is already under way. Two days ago, the members of an organization known as the "Voices of Matar" were arrested in a large-scale operation and brought in for questioning. They are still being held under charges of suspected ties to the Bloody Hand terrorists. A number of other raids have been reported across the Republic, but the RSS has yet to release a statement pertaining to the results of its continuing investigation, stating only that "inquiries are continuing apace."

The Ammatar Mandate, for its part, released a statement yesterday proclaiming that "the Mandate remains shocked, saddened and angry over the death of our esteemed consulate member, Faulk Stian. A proud and accomplished diplomat, ever faithful to God, he did not deserve such an end. While it seems that the Republic was not directly responsible for the attack, their inability to provide adequate security to deter such an atrocity leaves us with a bitter taste. We would see these Bloody Hands brought to justice and made to pay for their crimes. When this is done, perhaps the Mandate can forgive and resume talks with the tribes."

02/07/2007

Caldari Gaming Commission will no longer host the Alliance Tournaments

Dabel Kaelikohani, founder of the Caldari Gaming Commission (CGC), announced yesterday that the Alliance Tournament will no longer be hosted by the Commission. Kaelikohani released a statement to all major news agencies concerning the future of the CGC.

In the statement Kaelikohani explained why he felt that hosting the Tournament was no longer a feasible business venture for the CGC. 'After much deliberation the management of the CGC has come to the conclusion that hosting the Tournament will not be lucrative enough to excuse its costs in planning, taxes and other fees. We wish any other corporation the best of luck if they plan to continue the Tournament. Sadly the CGC does not see how you can run a healthy business combined with the enormous expenses the Tournament requires.'

Instead of the universally celebrated tournaments the CGC will now focus on smaller quizzes and challenges across Caldari controlled space. 'We won't abandon the capsuleers just yet,' said Kaelikohani, 'They really are the best audience you can hope for and we wish to continue working with them for years to come.'

17/07/2007

Intaki Bank secures funding for Syndicate R&D program

POITOT, SYNDICATE - The Intaki Bank has secured funding for an extensive interstellar R&D program, its spokesman revealed during a delayed Quarterly Reports meeting today. The project will be run on behalf of parent body The Syndicate - which was recently granted licenses to key astromechanical patents - and while no official confirmation has been given, most analysts agree it will be almost certainly focused on starship

technology.

Intaki Bank CFO Mesybier Echard refused to comment on the nature of the research program, and when asked when he expected the investment to pay off he would only say that "it will take time - obviously we're hoping we'll see marketable results soon, but you can't rush these things". He was more willing to discuss the recently-awarded patent licenses, saying that, "the Empires have been trying to keep [the smaller factions] out of the market for decades. We've had the facilities and the expertise to perform this sort of research for a while, but the patent issue has prevented us from legally doing so."

When asked what had prompted the breakthrough, he answered, "As you no doubt know, the Khanid Kingdom has been lobbying for these licenses for many years, and we learnt earlier this year that they'd finally succeeded - although this wasn't made public knowledge at the time. Once word got out that the precedent had been set, it was really only a matter of time." Mr Echard declined to comment on exactly how The Syndicate became aware of the Khanid deal, but acknowledged it had been "politically convenient" that several smaller factions including The Syndicate, Mordu's Legion and the Thukker Tribe had all become privy to the information at around the same time.

The financial results announced during the meeting showed strong figures once again, and while Federal officials made their usual noises about cutting corners, substandard vetting procedures and a general lack of transparency, the Intaki Bank looks to be in good health. The only significant downturn on their balance sheet was from sales to loyalist Capsuleers, which have dropped off since the Serpentis stopped supplying The Syndicate with its notorious but popular biotech hardware. Syndicate representatives refused to be drawn on this issue, stating that, "it's not our place to comment on this matter", but an anonymous Serpentis representative was more forthcoming, claiming, "now just seemed like a good time to restructure the way our product is distributed into the channel. We're seeing healthy in-house returns, and various concerns made it prudent to consolidate our offerings at a single point-of-sale." She indicated it was "unlikely" that Serpentis products would be offered through third parties again in future, and when asked if the Sarpati family were worried about competition from the Intaki, obliquely commented, "the Corporation's original core competency was R&D".

23/07/2007

Independent Gaming Commission to host Alliance Tournament

Woratome Kikawa, Chief Executor of the newly-founded Independent Gaming Commission last week announced that the Commission will officially take over handling of capsuleer alliance tournaments.

'I'm happy to announce that the Tournament will continue, but it is not longer strictly tied to one empire. To collect the funding needed for the tournament we now instead have investors from all four. From the Caldari State, we welcome members of the Mercantile Club; from the Minmatar Republic we enjoy the expertise of the Leisure Group; the Gallentean Bank of Luminaire will provide us with financial backing; and the Amarr Certified News will cover all news from the Tournament this year. '

Mr Kikawa began his career with the Caldari Gaming Commission last year as a top executive, quickly landing the hosting contracts they needed to continue the tournament. His skill at negotiation and general business savvy had him quickly ascending the corporate ladder. When the CGC was found guilty of tax evasion and announced their decision not to host the Tournament, Kikawa began lobbying to find a team of people that would host the Tournament independently of one single empire.

23/07/2007

Independent Gaming Commission to host Alliance Tournament

Woratome Kikawa, Chief Executor of the newly-founded Independent Gaming Commission last week announced that the Commission will officially take over handling of capsuleer alliance tournaments.

'I'm happy to announce that the Tournament will continue, but it is not longer strictly tied to one empire. To collect the funding needed for the tournament we now instead have investors from all four. From the Caldari State, we welcome members of the Mercantile Club; from the Minmatar Republic we enjoy the expertise of the Leisure Group; the Gallentean Bank of Luminaire will provide us with financial backing; and the Amarr Certified News will cover all news from the Tournament this year. '

Mr Kikawa began his career with the Caldari Gaming Commission last year as a top executive, quickly landing the hosting contracts they needed to continue the tournament. His skill at negotiation and general business savvy had him quickly ascending the corporate ladder. When the CGC was found guilty of tax evasion and announced their decision not to host the Tournament, Kikawa began lobbying to find a team of people that would host the Tournament independently of one single empire.

27/09/2007

CONCORD declares naming committee for the new regions.

In a surprise move at a press conference today CONCORD delegate Ashiro Nakuyama announced the beginning of a 'capsuleer outreach' program. Critics see this as a shrewd move by the powerful organization responsible for Empire security and stability which in the past has criticized much of the independent capsuleer community for being at the top of their most wanted lists.

The delegate went on to briefly explain the continued rogue drone threat and the sheer potential of a mass incursion from the new regions that was realized when, with what CONCORD is referring to as the Activation event, the gates to the new regions spontaneously opened. Mr Nakuyama explained that the capsuleer presence in these areas seems to have had a detrimental effect on the rogue drone population, in effect acting as a population control mechanism.

To reflect these efforts and in a olive branch to the capsuleer organizations he announced that CONCORD will be accepting applicants to the long awaited naming committee for the new regions.

To qualify an applicant must either be the executor or sponsored by an executor of an alliance which holds sovereignty in the region(s). Mr Nakuyama was at pains to explain that there were a limited number of seats which would be decided upon such factors as territory controlled, position of said territory and level of sovereignty achieved.

The full rules for the application process and resultant decision making can be found [here](#).

Questioned by the assembled press as to whether CONCORD had anything further to disclose about the activation event or the rogue drone threat Mr Nakuyama declined to make further comment.

15/11/2007

Outlook grim for The Bleak Lands

Netsalakka, The Bleak Lands - An official report by the Amarrian Ministry of Assessment yesterday revealed that The Bleak Lands has become the most dangerous sector of settled space in the Amarr Empire, a title previously held by the sparsely-settled region of Aridia. Long known to harbor pockets of Blood Raider loyalists, The Bleak Lands has seen a marked increase in the number of pirate raids in the last several months.

In particular, the number of miners and prospectors in space attacked and destroyed by pirates (a statistic closely tracked by the Ministry of Assessment) has risen sharply. Curiously, many of these attacks lack some of the more gruesome hallmarks (exsanguination, mutilation, etc) that have come to characterize Blood Raider attacks. This has led many to speculate that there is a new group of pirates plying the region. A contrary view points to a potential schism within the Blood Raiders organization, with members letting some of the more esoteric practices of the cult fall by the wayside in favor of simple piracy.

Whatever the case, the rise in hostile encounters with pirates has left many miners, haulers, and Holders in the area nervous. Santivar Khazhad, a prospector who has worked in The Bleak Lands for almost a decade and lucky survivor of a recent raid had this to say: "I've seen plenty o' pirates in my time. You don't harvest ores in unsafe space and not run into your fair share of despicable folk. But the last four expeditions I've been on have been busted up by raids that came in blazingly fast and with no warning. This last time had I not had the good sense to fit stabilizing arrays for my warp-drive, I and my crew would have bought it for sure. As it was we had several compartments on fire by the time we were safely away, and twelve good men lost their lives. Something needs to be done soon, or all legitimate activity in the area is going to come to a screeching halt."

This sentiment is echoed by Holder Lyrvan Kourmos, who holds sizable estates and facilities in the Erkinen system. "In these remote reaches of space, we depend on imported goods for our very livelihood. We are far from self-sufficient, and given the disruption caused to shipping by the increasingly bold activities of these pirates, our situation is becoming dangerously tenuous. The lack of necessary replacement parts for our equipment is becoming particularly dire, and threatens to shut our production down entirely."

Since the publication of the Ministry's report, the office of the Court Chamberlain has so far declined to comment publicly on the issue.

19/11/2007

Entire Colony of Minmatar Slaves Goes Missing

Sosala, The Bleak Lands - One of the largest slave breeding colonies in the Bleak Lands has mysteriously vanished with little explanation. The colony, established several decades ago on a habitable moon in Sosala, was home to over thirty thousand slaves of varying stock. The facility, which was well guarded, was attacked and destroyed last night, with the entire generation of Minmatar slaves vanishing without a trace.

The slave colony existed for the purpose of breeding, raising, and training new generations of slaves for the Amarr Empire. The vast majority of the slaves were of Minmatar stock, with many of the lines dating back to the initial invasion of Minmatar space by the Amarr Empire. The size of the colony justified building a significant defensive networks, which had until last night deterred even the largest Blood Raider pirate groups from attempting a raid.

Early this morning, the facility was attacked by an unidentified pirate organization. According to reports, all of the weaponry, training devices, and slave records were removed or destroyed. In addition, a large quantity of Vitoc from the colony's stores is unaccounted for. Most notably, however, nearly thirty thousand Minmatar slaves vanished from the installation. The remainder of the slaves, mostly of Eular and Ni-Kunni heritage, were left behind by the raiders.

Security data was inconclusive, as the camera and sensor devices were electronically jammed and then rapidly eliminated, along with the entirety of the security team. The remaining slaves, though unharmed by the raiders, reported only "shadowy shapes" who "checked if we were Minmatar, then shoved us back inside our quarters when we weren't."

Some Holders believe that this attack, on the heels of increased pirate activity in the region, is further evidence that the Empire needs to send in troops to protect the area. "Our very lifeblood is being drained away," said Holder Lyrvan Kourmos. "Every day these attacks grow worse and worse. If something isn't done soon, all the hard work the Navy put into ejecting the Blood Raiders from the area will be for naught. It will just fall into the hands of a new group of heretics."

Ever since a Navy battlestation in Sosala was destroyed several months ago by a terrorist assault, Holders of the Bleak Lands have been calling for a more robust and visible Navy presence in the area. Instead, they have seen a gradual downscaling of Navy installations. Despite the calls for military action, the Amarr Navy has remained silent on the issue.

27/11/2007

Imperial Court Remains Silent about Bleak Land Troubles

The Bleak Lands - Despite the numerous calls for military action against the increasing pirate forces in the Bleak Lands, there has yet to be any response by officials inside the Amarr Empire. In prior cases, such calls have come from capsuleers and other paramilitary forces, but these latest demands come from those Holders who count the Bleak Lands under their domains. In spite of this, all official organizations have kept silent.

"The silence is becoming tiring," remarked Holder Kamelleth Falduur. "First, we had to deal with the Blood Raiders. Then we had to deal with the Defiants. It's becoming a war zone, only our side has no troops."

The frustration with the lack of Navy action in the area has long simmered under the surface. "We thought when they drove the Blood Raiders from the area, that meant a change in policy," said Holder Lyrvan Kourmos. "But once they finished that, they only left token forces behind. It was so ineffectual, it couldn't even deal with Minmatar terrorists properly. After that debacle, they pulled out entirely. We have made numerous petitions to the Navy and the Court Chamberlain, but nothing."

Both the Amarr Navy and the Court Chamberlain have seemed to even refuse to acknowledge that there are complaints. Repeated requests for comment have been completely unanswered. Reporters have been turned away and there are rumors that even the Holders themselves are finding their normal channels of contact closed.

"My cousin is a Captain in the Navy," said one Holder on the condition of anonymity. "Normally, I can speak to him and have him transmit messages further up the command chain. But recently, he hasn't even been accepting communications. Not from me, not from anyone."

The situation is deteriorating to such a degree that some Holders are even discussing the possibility of holding a rally to gather popular support. These discussions are being dismissed by most of the Holders in the area, with Kourmos going as far as to proclaim it "sounds like some claptrap probably invented by some Gallente rabble rouser trying to embarrass the Empire." Despite that, he did say, "If I thought it would have any effect, I might consider it. But the Empire does not work that way and, hopefully, it never will."

Since the disappearance of 30000 slaves earlier in the month, several other Amarr installations have been attacked. While only a few have been slave holding facilities, reports of unusually high numbers of missing slaves continue to come in from across the Bleak Lands.

30/11/2007

Amarr Navy Patrols The Bleak Lands in Force

Sahtogas, The Bleak Lands - A massive military mobilization has been underway in The Bleak Lands. In just two days, the entirety of the Amarrian 7th Fleet (under the command of Admiral Vanazir Saracen) has relocated from its bases in Domain to staging areas in The Bleak Lands. Since that time, Navy elements have been seen patrolling the region in force.

The move of an entire fleet, along with most of its logistics capacity, in such a short time has stunned observers. Equally stunning is the fact that neither the Chamber, the Chancellery, nor the Admiralty of the Amarr Navy had given any prior notification that the move was coming. Normally, the transfer of hundreds of ships and tens of thousands of men from one logistics area to another is a monumental undertaking, and the wheels of bureaucracy turn slowly.

The immediacy of the transfer and the speed with which it was carried out has concerned many observers of Amarrian politics, however. Some feel that by relocating an entire fleet from the home regions to the frontier the Chancellor has overstepped his bounds, especially in a time of Succession. Others attribute more sinister motives; While the beleaguered Holders in The Bleak Lands welcome the increased Navy presence, speculation abounds that the true reason for relocation was not to have the 7th Fleet in The Bleak Lands, but to have them out of Domain. Given Admiral Saracen's ties to the Tash-Murkon family, it is natural that such suspicions might arise.

When asked to comment publicly on the move, Admiral Saracen said only, "The people of this region have called and we have answered. It is the duty of the Navy to protect God and Empire. That is what we are doing, nothing more." Eager as always to back up words with actions, Admiral Saracen wasted no time in getting the forces under his command into the field. Already there have been several large skirmishes between Blood Raiders and Navy forces, and the Admiral has vowed to continue patrolling and fortifying The Bleak Lands until "the two-headed serpent of piracy and heresy is burned to ashes."

"God be praised," said Holder Kamelleth Falduur. "Finally the Light will shine once again into this dark place." Falduur, who runs several agricultural combines in the Bleak Lands had previously lamented the interdiction efforts of pirates in the region. "Without regular fertilizer deliveries, we were on the brink of complete crop failure. I don't think people realize just how close some of the more remote systems in the region might have been to starvation. But I am confident that Admiral Saracen will sort things out quickly."

To all appearances, the 7th Fleet is doing just that.

04/12/2007

Amarr 7th Fleet Fortifies Bases in The Bleak Lands

Sahtogas, The Bleak Lands - After a few hectic days of military operations in the region, the forces of the Amarrian 7th Fleet have begun construction efforts to consolidate and fortify their positions in The Bleak Lands. The Navy Logistics Base at Sahtogas in particular has seen a marked increase in the traffic of heavy industrial ships over the last few days. It would appear that the officers and crews of the Fleet, dubbed "The Saracens" after their charismatic Admiral, are serious about enforcing and maintaining Divine Law in the region

When asked about the fortification efforts Admiral Vanazir Saracen was characteristically direct. "Having established our logistical beach-head, we are taking the next natural step. We have brought the Empire back to the Bleak Lands, and now we are expanding our reach, as the Scriptures dictate." The strategic sense of the effort is unquestionable; Admiral Saracen has stated that his ultimate goal is to have no system in The Bleak Lands more than three jumps from a heavily fortified naval installation.

Most Holders in the region have greeted the news with unbridled enthusiasm. Kamelleth Falduur, a Holder openly critical of the bureaucracy's initial slowness to act, was ebullient in his support of Saracen's actions. "At long last The Bleak Lands will be tamed and return to the fold of civilized Amarr space. There is no reason why this region shouldn't be as safe and prosperous as the rest of the Imperial Domain. Admiral Saracen's efforts give hope to us all, God praise him."

But the situation has not been without its controversy. In order to fund and man the rapid construction projects, Admiral Saracen has taken the unusual step of instituting an Imperial tithe. Normally a power reserved to planetary and regional Viceroys, the move has caused dissent among a few Holders in the region. "I don't know who he thinks he is, but showing up with a contingent of Imperial Marines and loading my entire slave stock into a transport bound for some construction site God knows where is a galling abuse of power," said Veralan Naakhubis, a minor Holder from Kuomi. Several Holders have lodged formal complaints with the Chancellery, but as yet there has been no official response.

Most residents of the area dismiss such complaints out of hand however. Gastnik Froom, a hauler pilot native to the region echoed the general sentiment. "Listen to them, whining like Furriers. A month ago they were begging for a savior. Now they have one and they're still not happy. Ingrates. I was honored to lend my ship's service to the Admiral when he asked it. The Empire demands sacrifices of us all, and some of these mewling Holders would do well to remember that."

As men and material continue to flood into Amarr Navy logistical depots, it is clear that the Saracens are planning a long stay.

06/12/2007

Suprise Attack Catches 7th Fleet off Guard

The Bleak Lands - At 11:50 Standard EVE Time today, the following message was transmitted over several independent media frequencies by an individual identifying himself as Ode Goriad.

"You thought we were gone.
You were wrong."

Multiple sources within the Amarr Navy have confirmed that within minutes of the transmission, unidentified military vessels mounted a concerted attack upon 7th Fleet installations all across The Bleak Lands region. Attempts to mount a coordinated response were hampered by a scheduled downtime of the region's military communications network, leaving local units isolated and forcing them to defend as best they could with whatever vessels they had available.

When the communications arrays came back online, and the full scope of what was until that point believed to be a localized problem was made clear, the 7th Fleet immediately activated reserve units to reinforce their positions. Most reported however that the attacking forces had already dispersed by the time they arrived. At

1400 Admiral Saracen issued the following statement:

"At 12:00 today the terrorist organization known as The Defiants launched a series of scattered raids on our facilities across the region, which were swiftly beaten back by my indomitable Fleet. The physical damage was superficial, but the 7th Fleet does not suffer fools gladly. I have worked long and hard to bring this region back under Amarr Navy control and I will not permit these barbarians to destabilize the peace we have built. The 7th Fleet is mobilizing all its forces as I speak, and we will burn our enemies out from the holes they are hiding with the full force of our holy wrath."

Just a few days ago it seemed that there might finally be an end in sight to the troubles that have plagued The Bleak Lands. Today's events show that, once more, the region balances on the edge of a dangerous precipice.

06/12/2007

Saracens Push Ahead With Fortification Program

Myyhera, The Bleak Lands - In a news release earlier today, Admiral Saracen of the Amarr Navy 7th Fleet stated, "God's peace is settling in The Bleak Lands, as the 7th Fleet is progressing its fortifications apace and have secured all key systems. Our next major task is to upgrade all communication relays in the region to support Amarr Navy standards, which will be carried out today. After that completion we will have reached our main objectives for this phase of the operation."

The 7th Fleet's presence in the region has continued to ensure that supply and military convoys travel uninterrupted into the region, showing signs that The Bleak Lands is becoming liberated from pirate influence. Navy patrols become more common each passing day, and there has yet to be any more reported incidents of attacks on slave pens.

While initially thought to have been perpetrated by pirates or Blood Raiders, recent investigations into the raids have revealed none of the characteristics traditionally associated with such organizations. These reports have prompted the Admiral to order his personal staff to head up a detailed analysis into the true origins of these attacks.

The Bleak Lands communication relays are due to be taken offline as of 11:45 Standard EVE Time and should return to full operations shortly after.

18/12/2007

Bleak Lands situation still unstable

Haras - A variety of unaffiliated sources have reported that strikes continue to be made against Amarrian facilities in The Bleak Lands.

In the early hours of the morning, a 7th Fleet communications array in an isolated sector of Haras was destroyed. Reports from survivors have positively identified the attackers as the Minmatar organization called the Defiants.

The communications facility is one of several recently established by Admiral Saracen's 7th Fleet and was reportedly under guard by a detachment of Navy vessels. The Navy engaged in a brief but ferocious fire fight, leading to the eventual destruction of the communications facility. According to initial reports, the facility itself was the main target of the attack. The Defiants only turned their weapons on the Amarr Navy vessels after the facility had been destroyed. Witnesses have stated that the attackers sustained numerous casualties, with several ships retiring from the engagement heavily damaged. There are some concerns as to whether the communications tower was boarded during the firefight, but no confirmation of this has yet filtered in.

The 7th Fleet has refused to officially comment on the attack and have since ordered all non-command personnel to refrain from speaking with reporters.

Less than an hour following the destruction of the Naval facility, a supply depot belonging to House Torash on the far side of the system was attacked and destroyed. Representatives of House Torash have declined to comment, but it is widely suspected that the raid was conducted in order to loot local resources to fuel the Defiants escalating operations in the area.

18/12/2007

7th Fleet Defense Network Compromised.

Sosala - Reports are just filtering in of a large scale fleet assault on the Saracens central defense cortex in The Bleak Lands.

The region was beset with numerous small raids prior to the main attack focusing on targets of opportunity in what now looks like an attempt to draw away elements of the 7th Fleet, spreading their forces out thinly. This was followed by a seemingly large, direct fleet assault on the Saracens central defense cortex.

A typical Amarrian central defense cortex performs many functions but the primary one is in coordinating signal scrambling across regions, effectively masking the presence of Amarr Navy facilities from ship scanners.

The details of the attack are little understood at this time, what is certain however is a large number of cynosural field activations and a heavy ship count in the system, unconfirmed sightings of several Minmatar capital ship wrecks have been reported along with numerous other wrecks believing to belong to the Defiants.

What is certain however, is that the attack force seems to have been successful in their assault and the Amarr Navy central defense cortex appears to be non-operational in The Bleak Lands.

18/12/2007

New Region Names Announced.

Yulai - At a CONCORD press conference held earlier today, the official nomenclature of the recently opened regions - commonly called "the drone regions" by the general capsuleer populace - was announced. Speculation had been rife regarding the delays in announcing the names following the landmark decision by CONCORD to solicit the capsuleer community in the naming process.

Commander Nakuyama, the official in charge of the naming committee, used the conference as an opportunity to apologize for the delay. "As you know, CONCORD has stringent regulations regarding the demarcation and labeling of geographical space. All proposed names must be checked against our sanctioned database for suitability and uniqueness. In this case, the procedures took considerably longer than originally anticipated, as a few last minute changes were necessary to meet the requirements."

The commander went on to admit that CONCORD has been both surprised and impressed by the professional conduct of the capsuleers now resident in the region. "We look forward to instituting new programs with capsuleers," he commented in relation to CONCORD's often-criticized relationship with capsuleers, whose influence has been growing greatly as its population expands.

The press conference ended with the announcement of the new region names, which are as follows:

H3J8-U - Cobalt Edge
6HL8-L - Outer Passage
VU-WU2 - The Spire
7-KXBJ - Etherium Reach
87-1CW - Kalevala Expanse
LQ-OQN - Malpais
S-I6VU - Perrigen Falls
G5KW-3 - Oasa

19/12/2007

7th Fleet Appear Blindsided by Defiants

Sosala - For the past several weeks The Bleak Lands has been the victim of numerous raids which have targeted and disrupted trade routes and ambushed Amarr Navy patrols throughout the region. The Navy themselves have to date been quick to downplay the effectiveness of the attacks, and to assure the public that the re-appearance of the Defiants was contained and of minimal concern. A few days ago Lieutenant Joshua Epaphras, Capsuleer liason for the 7th Fleet, had this to say:

"The situation in The Bleak Lands is stabilizing and our infrastructure construction is keeping to schedule despite the recent efforts of antagonists. Thanks to Admiral Saracen's leadership we are once more making this region a place where we can confidently raise our families in order and purpose."

The Navy seems to have underestimated the resources and the capabilities of the Defiants however, as it now appears that these attacks were just a precursor to a much larger attack, personified in the strike against the Saracen central defense cortex located in Sosala. The details of this attack are still being confirmed, and the number of casualties and ships lost is unknown. Initial reports however appear to indicate that the 7th Fleet may have been blindsided by this attack but were doubtless quick to respond and the toll on the attackers seems to have been high. This could be a significant blow for the Empire's plans for the region, particularly as without a central defense cortex in place to co-ordinate signal scrambling across the region, many more of the Navy's facilities in the area may now risk becoming compromised and vulnerable to attack.

Captain Anath Shoshana, a local salvager, was drawn to the unusual Cynosural activity nearby and found herself an eye-witness to the attack.

"I was searching the area for useful wrecks when I detected three cyno fields activate less than 6AU from my position, all in close proximity. Curiosity got the better of me so I went in. What I found was some sort of Naval base under attack and surrounded by Minmatar ships, I figure they might have been these 'Defiants' I keep hearing about, you know, terrorists! I saw a wing of Nidhoggur's taking a pounding by a string of Revelations, there were fires breaking out all over the place and Amarr Navy ships swarming around like flies! It looked like at least half the dreadnoughts were going down when yet more Minnies swarming in to engage the Rev's and turning their guns from the station's defenses onto the garrison ships. I don't know what happened after that, the terrorists noticed me and I just ran for it!"

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30/01/2008

7th Fleet Scores Major Victory

Kurniainen, The Bleak Lands - Forces of the Amarrian 7th Fleet clashed with forces of the rogue Minmatar organization known as The Defiants during the early morning hours today. The engagement was part of ongoing interdiction efforts by the 7th Fleet to strike at the Defiants' logistics chain. 7th Fleet Captain Jezander Allad explained, "After we lost our defense cortex, we were put on the defensive. But rather than continue to keep our forces in a protective posture, we sought to strike an aggressive blow to the enemy to try to disrupt their operations in The Bleak Lands."

To that end, numerous small 7th Fleet scouting patrols have been scouring the region, making extensive use of cloaking technology. Knowing that the stargates were well protected by regional forces and Customs fleets, the goal of the 7th Fleet's patrols was to determine how the Defiants were bringing in supplies and new combatants. "We knew that attrition was taking its toll on their forces, and that they had to be re-supplying themselves somehow. We suspected capital ships, and this morning's engagement confirmed that suspicion."

When scouts reported cynosural activity in Kurniainen, a quick-response force entered the system. Once on scene, the force was able to pin both an enemy Nidhoggur and a Nomad in place long enough for heavy combat units to arrive. The ensuing firefight saw rapid escalation, as both sides brought more and more forces to bear in attempts to sway the outcome. Ultimately, the 7th Fleet carried the day. Confirmed enemy losses stand at two capital ships, one battleship, eight cruisers, and four frigate class hulls.

Admiral Vanazir Saracen was animated when discussing the engagement at a hasty press conference from his headquarters in Sahtogas. "This quick and decisive battle illustrated very clearly that these terrorist filth are no match for the Amarr Navy in open space. We expect this victory to disrupt their operations in the region for quite some time. Let this be a lesson to all those who would try to withstand the will of God - while the instruments are not yet decided, your fates are already sealed."

Saracen was also quick to credit the activities of allied capsuleers acting as auxiliaries in the area. Acknowledging the logistical difficulties of coordinating individual pod-pilots with Naval operations, he praised the efforts of those who sought to defend Naval facilities, allowing 7th Fleet forces to go on the offensive. "The Empire is blessed with some of the most skilled and dedicated pilots in the cluster. With their help, we have struck a decisive blow to these terrorists."

25/02/2008

CONCORD Report On Drone Region Operations Leaked

Yulai - The wall of secrecy that surrounds the CONCORD Inner Circle has been breached once again when a copy of an internal report was leaked to The Scope, as well as multiple other news agencies and public opinion groups in New Eden. In many cases the file itself has been uploaded to multiple public access servers for public download. From there the file made its way onto the public GalNet when capsuleer Mera Vahlsina, a recent antagonist of controversy involving the questionable retirement of CONCORD Commander Gispali Rhatal, relayed a link there to the general capsuleer population. The circulation of this report has sparked a diverse range of speculation about its authenticity and the motives of the purported source of the leak. The source of the leak had claimed to be a member of an administration support department under the Inner Circle, however there has been no success in verifying this claim given the level of anonymity the source has adhered to.

The report, produced by a division called the Code Aria Inquiry and titled Infested Region Progress Report, details an investigation conducted in the wake of the Infested Regions opening without warning over one year ago. Among the content of this report are details on the unauthorized gate activation incident, CONCORD taskforces assembled and sent into the new regions, a blacked out list of deceased and missing personnel and summaries of previous drone experiments that ended in disaster including an emphasis on the Orphyx incident over two decades ago. The Orphyx incident hailed a new era of Drone AI which ended in disaster following a malfunction resulting in the deaths of multiple people working on the project. Widely regarded in academic circles as the first documented instance of what have become known as Rogue Drones. The anonymous source within the Inner Circle states that the report had recently been released outside of the highest ranks of the Inner Circle of CONCORD, and that most details had been routinely censored for this reason. Of particular interest was the unknown source indicating that this lowering in classification was done at the urgent request of the Inner Circle in order to facilitate an audit on activity that was convened late last year. This is also evident in the report as an addendum points to this fact.

Worrying implications of the report's authenticity have been aired in a political debate session on Echelon Entertainment's current events channel when their own experts in CONCORD affairs revealed the following. "My own sources state that, as far as anyone is aware, there are currently no sanctioned activities beyond the secured empire borders involving the Drone Regions themselves. And in the past such sanctions have been extremely rare. The Inner Circle has clearly withheld this information from lower ranks and the representatives of the empires for quite some time. The mobilisation of CONCORD assets into the Infested Regions without Assembly approval and debriefing, as is required with operations into unsecured space, is a major breach of CONCORD's charter."

"Currently the CONCORD Assembly seems to be in a state of numbness and shock over the leaking of this report." Stated another CONCORD analyst working for The Scope in the wake of the report leak. "We should not expect this to last much longer, given their reaction thus far is more indicative of caution against over reaction. After all, neither the source of the report nor the report itself has been verified as genuine." However, the moment the report hit the public domains and began to spread, the Inner Circle was reported to have launched an investigation into the source of this leak. In regards to this action The Scope's analyst stated the following. "This is a curious reaction on the part of The Inner Circle, and personally speaking it reinforces my belief that the report is indeed a genuine document. They are looking for the source of a leak before determining if the leak and the report itself are of CONCORD origins. Call it a gut feeling if you will, but I think that the Inner Circle has just let the cat out of the bag. I would expect that the CONCORD Assembly representatives will be up in arms at the next Assembly session, if not already enraged behind closed doors. What remains to be seen from future reactions in the CONCORD Assembly is if there was authorization for this operation which is simply buried in a pact of secrecy between The Inner Circle and the Assembly representatives, or there is no authorization and The Inner Circle have acted alone."

26/02/2008

Major Empires Outraged. Amarr Representative Blasts The Inner Circle.

Yulai - In the wake of the Code Aria Inquiry report leak to various media services and public domains, the CONCORD Assembly has descended into a swirl of rumour and outrage. Amid the torrents of harsh words directed in all manners of directions, the Inner Circle have been reported to have launched an emergency investigation seeking to determine both the source of this leak and the authenticity of the report. Meanwhile on the floor of the Assembly itself the representatives of the four empires have begun to fall into step with each other, in what is turning into a rare showing of like minded thinking, and are demanding answers from the Inner Circle on the content of the report. Sounding the rallying call among the Assembly is the senior representative of the Amarr Empire, Lord Kumar, who has vehemently condemned the Inner Circle, confirming the speculation of the media CONCORD analysts that much of the information in the report has been withheld from the empires themselves.

"If the substance of this report is authentic and accurate," Stated Lord Kumar in a post-Assembly press conference, "then this is completely intolerable. The actions of the Inner Circle must be held to account. The very leaking of this report has all but shattered our confidence in the current state of security in the Inner Circle which, if nothing else, requires immediate attention. Ironically we also have this breach of security to thank for bringing this to light. The very details of the report, in which both the wider results of the investigation into the sporadic activation of the newly opened regions as well as information of CONCORD ships entering these regions with CONCORD assets has never been disclosed to us. The Inner Circle has denied all of us information relating to the safety of our borders, the security of our sovereign jumpgate network and the request for the use of CONCORD assets outside of the secured borders they are meant to serve within. Their blatant lack of regard for proper channels is an outrage of the highest order."

Not alone in his anger, one of the Caldari State lower representatives stated in a different interview. "CONCORD assets that have been devoted to the proposed excursion into the drone infested regions could have, and should have been put to much better use within the borders of the empires CONCORD was created to serve. Anything else, such as this, is an abhorrent waste of resources which none of the empires were consulted about."

Multiple CONCORD experts in the media have fixated on the possible connection between these developments and the more recent incidents in the last three months, as mentioned by capsuleer Mera Vahlsina who those events involved. Having poured over the leaked report several times, the tenuous connection of the date the report was lowered in classification and the mishandled retirement of a CONCORD Commander which was surrounded in rumour has been raised. Not to mention the recent information from Mera Vahlsina herself on the GalNet stating the closeness in date from her partner's departure on an unspecified CONCORD patrol and the publishing date of the leaked report.

"It is entirely possible" stated one expert, "that what we are witnessing is the crumbling foundations upon which a very large house of cards has been built."

Further to this speculation political analysts and The Scope, turning their attention to the finer points of this recent development, have begun ruminating over the levels of autonomy that currently exist within the Inner Circle. Armed with this incident, along with an infrequent history of security breaches and operational charter violations by CONCORD personnel, fears are being raised over just how much power the Inner Circle as well as other branches of CONCORD have at their disposal. The Scope's head political analyst for the Genesis region stated the following in a broadcast this morning.

"It is becoming increasingly clear that the Inner Circle have begun to exercise more power than they have available to them. One might speculate, and I must be clear given the situation that this is entirely a point of speculation, that the departments of CONCORD outside of the empire's Assembly itself have grown a little too big for their boots. And that they are evidently deluding themselves with regards to their scope of authority. We can only hope that this is not a typical and frequent occurrence within CONCORD."

26/03/2008

Several Theology Council Justices Declared Missing; Families Plea for Help

Avair - Several Theology Council members, among them Lords Falek Grange, Aulus Gord, and Victor Eliade, have been declared missing by relatives and close associates. All three were last seen departing a Council meeting earlier this week, and have not been seen or heard from since. Family members have issued an urgent request for anyone with knowledge of their whereabouts to come forward, and have offered a 5 million ISK reward for information leading to their direct recovery.

Heavy police activity is currently underway at the Council's headquarters in Avair and several other locations known to be frequented by the missing individuals. Access to personal offices and staff residences of the councilmen has been restricted, as Imperial Paladins at each of the sites are forcibly denying access by reporters and stating only that an official announcement from the Court Chamberlain is forthcoming.

In addition, numerous large patrols of Imperial Navy warships were recently spotted at the Sakht border system, in the Aridia Region of the Amarr Empire. It is unknown whether the increased military activity is indicative of a large-scale manhunt, or part of an unrelated operation. The office of the Imperial Chancellor refused to comment, citing operational security issues.

The justices, all highly trained capsuleers, were once vocal Reformists, calling for the Succession Trials to be eliminated in favor of a rotating cycle of rule for each of the chosen Heirs. After numerous clashes with Conformists, various royal ministries, and the Court Chamberlain himself, the men have lowered their profiles considerably in recent years.

Lord Falek Grange is best known for having served in the late Jamyl Sarum's royal court; both Lord Aulus Gord and Lord Victor Eliade are former Commanders in the Imperial Navy. Each is said to control vast estate holdings on several Amarr worlds.

31/03/2008

Assassination Attempt on Chamberlain Thwarted; Missing Theology Council Members Are Prime Suspects

Amarr - *Breaking News* The Court Chamberlain is today expected to announce a thwarted assassination attempt on his life, and implicate the missing Theology Council justices as being directly responsible for the act. A public address to the empire is expected by Chamberlain Karsoth later today.

Sources close to the chancellor confirmed that the conspiracy was spearheaded by Lord Falek Grange, and "coordinated in large part" under the direction of Lords Victor Eliade and Aulus Gord. Sophisticated, sensor-evading bomb producing materials were smuggled into the Emperor Family Academy Station through a network of individuals working directly for the three justices, thus implicating numerous Theology Council staff. As such, a "purge" of these individuals has been executed by Imperial Paladins, although the source would not elaborate further.

The Imperial Navy confirmed that search and destroy operations are underway, and that the presence of naval warships in the Sakht System was due to its importance as the last system the three fugitives were seen in. Believed to have crossed the border, the Navy has not ruled out the possibility that their escape was aided by Blood Raiders, but reiterated that the motivations of Grange, Eliade, and Victor have not been specifically tied to the cult-at least not yet.

Imperial forces, in particular Paladins under the command of the Ministry of Internal Order, have imposed draconian security measures in light of the assassinations of two emperors in recent memory. Sweeping reform enacted by Chamberlain Karsoth shortly after the late Emperor, Dorian II's death awarded the Paladins with additional search and seizure powers, which include prompt "guilt by holy witness" judgments if crimes are caught in the act by "ordained representatives of Amarr."

A full transcript of Chamberlain Karsoth's address will be available following his announcement.

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A full transcript of Chamberlain Karsoth's address will be available following his announcement.

01/04/2008

Text of Empire Address Delivered by Court Chamberlain Dochuta Karsoth; Accused Council Members Executed

Amarr - The Imperial Chancellor released the official transcript of the empire address implicating several Theology Council members in an assassination plot against Chamberlain Karsoth, in which he states that justices Grange, Eliade and Gord were all executed. Imperial Navy representatives confirmed that clones of the capsuleers were destroyed, and that their ships were "neutralized" beyond empire borders. The Imperial Chancellor's office released the full transcript of Chamberlain Karsoth's address, which was described by those in attendance as "his most impassioned and authoritative to date".

The following is the text released from the Chancellor.

Believers of the Church, Paladins of the Righteous, oh humble among those who seek the divine, welcome!

We are convened here today to discuss a matter of sinister consequence. A scourge has descended upon our realm; a blight which has threatened the core of our faith and the house I have sworn to protect.

I have prayed for strength; strength to bear the burden of being the sole protectorate of this throne; for never has the Demon had so great a temptation as the void which is before us now; the void that has remained since the holy ordained was taken from us.

To covet is evil; and mark my words, there are those who covet this throne. The Demon whispers to them, testing their faith night and day, tempting them with visions of power and worldly promises of lust and greed. Take the throne, he says. No need for Succession Trials. No need for Scriptures, for the rule of God, or the laws which He hath appointed.

It seems that we who preach these words, we who are charged with spreading the precious message of the Scriptures, are not immune to the Demon's ploy. It is with sadness and anger that I bring to you the news that some of us have failed the Test of Faith. Those who have been damned-those who are guilty of the most heinous crimes imaginable-they are none other than the corrupt souls of the Theology Council.

Blessed Amarrians, it is no secret that since the death of our beloved Emperor, there are those who have conspired to desecrate our Faith and defy the law of these Scriptures. These so-called Reformist heathens, motivated by political ambition, insult the sanctity of this church! They have renounced the Succession Trials; they dare to suggest that the Emperor's throne can be filled by the will of man, and not by holy edict!

I am a servant of the Lord! And I will not fail my test of faith! I am devoted to the law of Scripture, and no man has any right to disclaim it. If God wills a change to His law, then His word will be spoken through the next ordained Emperor of Amarr-no one else!

A short time ago, Paladins of the Ministry of Internal Order thwarted a plot to take my life. Yes, those demonic patrons saw me as an obstacle to their elaborate plans to install another heir-one held under the spell of their intent, an obedient dog who would forever be in their debt for placing him in power.

But no! I stood before them with the Scriptures in my hands, with my faith in my heart, and I sent them back to hell! God revealed this plot on my life, and granteth me the sword to smite them in His name!

Dearest servants of the Lord, we have lost one Emperor too many to the hands of murderers. As Chamberlain, I am compelled to send the message of God's wrath to all those who believe the Demon's false promises; that we will no longer afford would-be assassins the privilege of a fair trial; that if they are so careless with the precious life they have been given; that if they elect to commit such acts of deviance in the name of favor from idols; then we, as True Believers, will act as God's sword and pursue these hell minions with inspired resolve.

Humblest believers, it is thus that I inform you that the Holder Falek Grange, his loyal brigand Holder Aulus Gord,

and the members of his private court on the Theology Council have each been hunted down and destroyed. We are rid of the blight they brought to that Council, whose good name was marred by the evil acts of these men; who abused their cherished privilege as capsuleers to plot, to conspire, and to betray all that we hold sacred. Their deaths, and subsequent excommunication from this Church, saved not only my life, but those of the fellow Council members who opposed their Reformist ways.

Falek Grange was a traitor! A conspirator! And his memory will be one of deceit and mistrust. May his death, curse his soul, serve warning to those who hear the Demon's whisper. To act on his words is to be damned for all of time!

I am steadfast in my faith; it will be stronger tomorrow and every day thereafter until my journey to the gates of heaven. Amarr will have a Succession Trial; this is my solemn mission for all of you. No man shall stand before this altar and defy the laws that have held us for millennia; the very laws which God Himself bestowed upon us.

When the heirs are ready, when they make their peace with God and accept His divine plan, then we shall proceed with the laws of Succession. Until then, I will protect the sanctity of this throne with all of my might.

May his light guide us all in faith and reclaim, amen.

-- As spoken by Court Chamberlain Dochuta Karsoth, St. Kuria the Prophet Cathedral, 110 EST

02/05/2008

Caldari Stocks Plummet Following News of Constructions Revolt

Yulai - Caldari mega-corporation shares across the State have begun to freefall following word that Home Guard troops have been deployed to the Constructions Armor Forge facility on Piak III. This follows a spate of bad news for the State in recent weeks as investors continue to sell off Caldari assets and move to more secure investments, in particular Federation securities. Leading analysts are calling the situation at Piak "emblematic of the State's broader issues", citing the rampant inflation figures for the localized economies under mega-corporation control. Shares of Caldari Constructions stock, leading the downward spiral of the broader Caldari Funds Index, have already lost more than 30 percent of their value in heavy trading.

02/05/2008

Home Guard Dropships Reported Landing on Piak III

Piak - Home Guard dropships have landed at the Armor Forge manufacturing facility on Piak III, deploying mechanized infantry to counter what is now being called a "hostage situation". According to a statement released by Caldari Constructions, a rogue employee named Tibus Heth is blackmailing the corporation "at the expense of his own coworkers", and is threatening to kill those inside unless his demands are met. However, hundreds of laborers have gathered outside the security perimeter in apparent support of the man, and unconfirmed reports are circulating that only management-level Constructions employees are being held inside against their will inside the facility. No statement has been issued yet by Kaalakiota, the parent company of Home Guard, regarding the show of force onsite. The Constructions Armor Forge, by far the largest planetary asset of the corporation, is believed to be a primary supplier of industrial starship components and heavy equipment to several mega-corporations.

02/05/2008

Breaking News: Home Guard Troops Open Fire on Constructions Workers; Dozens Killed in Resulting Riot

Piak III - Home Guard troops opened fire and killed at least one Caldari Constructions worker at the Armor Forge facility on Piak III, inciting a riot that claimed the lives of dozens of employees. Lured outside by Constructions CEO Torkebaira Shutsu for alleged negotiations on behalf of the employees trapped inside, a Home Guard sniper shot the Constructions worker as he approached the executive in the open. Recorded footage depicts a man believed to be Tibus Heth braving the gunfire to rescue the fallen comrade as the enraged crowd rushed the security perimeter, inciting a stampede that left numerous victims crushed or electrocuted. Anonymous sources have provided credible evidence that Kaalakiota CEO Haatakan Oiritsuu herself issued the order to use deadly force on the Constructions employees to retake the facility; the mega-corporation is furiously denying those claims. Tibus Heth, believed to be responsible for leading the revolt, is still alive after retreating back into the Armor Forge with the wounded Constructions worker slung over his shoulder as Home Guard troops and MTACs faced the rioting Constructions workers. Both sides are currently at a standstill; the Armor Forge remains under control of Heth and his loyalists. The dropship of Caldari Constructions CEO Torkebaira Shutsu was seen departing the Armor Forge just moments ago as Home Guard troops secured the perimeter and established triage centers for the wounded.

02/05/2008

Breaking News: Worker Revolt Underway at Caldari Constructions Facilities

Piak - Reports are coming in from the Caldari State that three Caldari Constructions factories in the Piak, Aikantoh, and Litiura systems have been seized by rioting workers. Reports of halted production and shipping schedules from each of these sites have been verified by on-scene news agents. The Stateside news networks are following this story closely and we will continue to provide coverage as it becomes available.

02/05/2008

Tibus Heth Obtains Nationwide Broadcast Feed, Addresses Nation

Piak - Tibus Heth secured unauthorized airtime for the Caldari State's largest news broadcast hub to make his first public address since the Constructions Revolt. In a passionate, fiery speech, Heth asserted his ownership of the corporation and accused mega-corporate leadership and Federation influence as being the core root of the Caldari State's woes, and promised to make an example of Constructions to "restore the State's dignity".

The full transcript follows:

A young man died in my arms today...bright, capable, brave...everything that we should be, he was: A true Caldari patriot. He was killed by a single bullet, fired from the barrel of a mega-corporation's rifle-a bullet...that was intended for me.

The mega-corporations want me to tell you that his death was necessary; that he was guilty of committing a crime. They can go to hell, for I will not be compelled by anyone to insult that hero's memory. He spoke no last words, made no final request, cried no plea for mercy, nor whispered a prayer for forgiveness. His wound left him without the voice to speak in the final moments of his life. But I knew him well enough to know this:

That man gave his life so that I could live. And I swear to you that I'm going to do my best to live up to his example, by any means necessary.

His death serves as a warning to all those who are Caldari: The evil which took his life has killed many times before; it is piercing Caldari flesh and blood right this moment; and it will kill tomorrow and every day thereafter-unless you listen well to what I say now.

As of 1600 hours today, I became the Chief Executive Officer and majority shareholder of Caldari Constructions. The entire executive team of the previous regime has been removed from power. The men and women standing behind me have already been designated to fulfill the roles of those who have departed.

We have each sworn, on our very lives, to uphold the responsibility we have to the Caldari State. I don't give a damn about shareholders, because it's apparent that they don't give a damn about the workers who slave to put the fat into their bellies. In return for the life of luxury afforded to them by the proletariat armies of this State, they have returned the effort with this:

Look at it. All of you, put yourself into that armor, if you dare. What happened to us? Our wounds are self-inflicted. Have our leaders destroyed the Caldari soul, the Caldari conscience, the Caldari power that once was-and may yet still become?

It's true that I led a coup against the masters of this corporation. I led this coup not expecting to survive, but my intent was never to kill my brothers. We spared the life of every guard and worker in the Armor Forge-you can ask them yourself. And I swear...that Caldari man did not have to die! It was the greed of mega-corporations that killed him; the greed of sinister men that was killing Caldari Constructions. How could our leadership allow this to happen? What was it that subverted them, that turned them towards this path? Think of it: all of those gifted, talented individuals, the so-called elite, whom we charged with guiding us? From where-or from whom-did they learn this path?

It was learned from the same enemy they were supposed to protect us from. It was learned from the Gallenteans.

The Caldari people are the strongest souls of New Eden; no other nation has done so much with so little. An objective look back upon our history demonstrates that the Gallenteans, from the moment they contacted us, have been the bane of our existence. They and their righteousness, they and their criticism of our way of life, they and their insistence that their values are appropriate for us all...and still...still! This goes on today, just as it did a thousand years ago!

Is it not insulting that they can just dismiss the culture we've held dear to us for generations; to blatantly dismiss the values which have kept us alive in this cruel universe? Their self-indulgence in moral proclamations is, make no mistake about it, a superiority complex, a hateful arrogance that blinds them to the vulnerability of our human selves.

Every ambition we have that lies beyond our borders is an act of war. Every Gallentean ambition beyond their borders is 'the spread of ideals' and the 'initiative for peace'. We ask to shelter the livelihood of our workers by begging them for restraint in their trade policies. They accuse us of protectionism, of being enemies of free trade and free thinking. Nothing we do is acceptable to their standards, and no discourse or discussion is acceptable to their tastes.

I will not stand for this hypocrisy any longer! To the Federation, I say this: The notion that a man can be free does not exempt him from his obligations to his fellow man...the obligation to be decent, to be respectful of traditions that differ from your own, to acknowledge the possibility that your ideas can cause more harm than good.

You use the rhetoric of emancipation as a guise to veil your malicious intent to seize advantage for yourself, always at the expense of other races. The very freedoms that you proclaim are exactly what divides a nation, and what has divided the cultural brotherhood of our own race.

My promise, my solemn swear, is to adhere with the values that made us who we are, and not to the corruption of those whom I have replaced. My responsibility is to rid the scourge of Gallentean ideals from the ranks of our corporate leaders, and I will demand accountability for the failure of our State. I am you, Caldari, born among these masses, and a soldier, one of millions in your ranks, and now I am accepting my responsibility to right the course of Caldari Constructions. May its example inspire the courageous Caldari spirit, and illuminate the path for all those who dare to take action in the name of saving our race.

Effective immediately, the assets of mid-grade employees and up will be frozen and repossessed. This company will no longer reward failure. The days of entitlement strictly for caste and class merits are over. These men and women will have to earn what they've taken from this corporation. Here, talent means nothing unless you have the willpower to exploit it to its full potential. My measure of compensation will be based on work output, in whatever role you serve, and not the unproven potential of genetic competence.

Personally, I will not draw one single credit from the coffers of this corporation until I've earned the right to be called its CEO.

To those who call yourselves clients of Caldari Constructions: it is business as usual. Obligations will be met, orders will be filled, and debts will be collected. You will notice vast improvements in the production efficiency of this corporation. Understand that I am a fair man. Any attempts to subvert, deceive, or manipulate the operations of this company will be taken as a personal attack on those whom I am charged with protecting. Do not ever cross me. You will regret it.

To the rest of my fellow compatriots, you should demand nothing less of your own leaders, who are nothing without you and undeserving of your allegiance until they prove otherwise. They have failed to deliver us from the humiliation of Gallentean influence. They have made us inferior to a lesser race, ignoring the threat as if the illusion of wealth and prestige somehow shelters them from the reality of national failure.

According to the laws of the mega corporations, I have committed crimes here today. But none...none...are greater than those committed by the elite, who still dare to call themselves Caldari.

My name is Tibus Heth, and I am a Caldari patriot. The restoration of our State's dignity begins now.

08/05/2008

Republic Academic Appointed to Ambassador Post

Illuin - Republic Prime Minister Karin Midular today announced the appointment of renowned long time academic Keitan Yun as the nation's ambassador on the CONCORD Assembly. "Mr. Yun has served our nation well in the capacity of our universities," she said. "No man is better versed in our culture or history than him. He is a true Minmatar patriot, and will represent us well before the Assembly."

Despite his new responsibilities as an international diplomat, the enthusiastic Sebiestor will still retain his honorary fellowship with Republic University. "This is a great honor," he commented. "I've spent most of my life studying the history of this great Republic. I never imagined the day would come when I could be so close to the making of that history, and I sincerely thank the esteemed Prime Minister for the opportunity to serve."

Parliament Head Maleatu Shakor was uncharacteristically supportive of the prime minister's choice. "About time she picked someone worthy of the title," he commented. "Hopefully the man has the spine to stand up to her nonsensical politics and truly speak for Minmatar for once."

Ambassador Yun will make his first appearance before the CONCORD Assembly this Sunday in a closed-door session.

09/05/2008

Ethnic Violence, Vandalism Shocks Caldari Prime

Luminaire - Dozens of acts of vandalism and violence were committed overnight against Caldari expatriates on Caldari Prime. Security camera footage revealed numerous bands of Gallentean vandals engaged in hate crimes ranging from the physical assault of ethnic Caldarians to the torching of the last surviving Tikiona State archeological site on the planet.

The flames from the archeological site could be seen for miles. "This is an unspeakable tragedy," Dr. Hans Demato of the Science and Trade Institute proclaimed. "This place was sacred to us! These were our ancestors, the ones who founded the Caldari State! Who would do such a thing? Why?"

Anti-Caldari sentiment was especially evident at defaced memorials dedicated to Caldarians killed during the Federation bombardment of those same locations hundreds of years earlier. "Where were the police?" one terrified expatriate asked. "We're supposed to be under Federation protection here-how could they let this

happen?"

Municipal Federation authorities have released images of the vandals and are asking anyone with information to notify authorities immediately, also warning that any "vigilante justice" would be dealt with harshly. With the exception of the largest cities of Arcurio and Tovil, Caldarians and Gallenteans live in mostly isolated communities, with the former holding "expatriate" status and permanent work visas permitting them to remain on the planet. All property and land titles for Caldari Prime are owed by the Federation government or private enterprises.

10/05/2008

Ethnic Rioting Shakes Caldari Prime; Deaths Reported

Luminaire - Breaking News - At least a dozen deaths have been reported as reaction to the hate crimes and acts of vandalism against Caldari landmarks on Caldari Prime led to violence. Clashes between Caldarian expatriates and ethnic Gallenteans are underway in the major cities of Tovil and Arcurio as Federation riot police attempt to contain the violence. Reports of death and injury are filing in from industrial sites in the periphery of the city, where the riots are believed to have started. Eyewitness accounts describe enraged Caldari workers turning against Gallentean proprietors, who in turn are defending themselves with "all means at their disposal", including the use of deadly force. Municipal Federation police are urging citizens to "stay out of harm's way" by remaining at home or within the more secure central districts.

11/05/2008

Federation Police Use Deadly Force on Rioters; Death Count Soars

Luminaire - Update - Raging ethnic violence on Caldari Prime took a turn for the worse as Federation police opened fire on rioting Caldari expatriates. Although there are conflicting reports about the specific circumstances surrounding the incident, reliable sources claim the decision to use force was made following the shooting death of a Federation police officer. Camera drones on site are recording imagery of groups of young males attacking Federation establishments as owners return fire. Municipal police forces are erecting barricades around businesses and private property. Although local politicians have appealed for calm, the death toll is estimated to be in the hundreds, with at least twice as many casualties.

11/05/2008

Disgraced Minmatar Ambassador Evicted From First CONCORD Assembly Session

Yulai - Newly appointed Minmatar Ambassador Keitan Yun was banned from his first Assembly appearance following the delivery of his inaugural speech. The impassioned sermon was conducted behind a closed door session, during which he accused CONCORD of failing to "conquer the fundamental challenges of universal equality and human rights" and challenged them to explain the "hypocrisy" of allowing the Amarr Empire to hold a seat on the Assembly.

The insulted Amarrian ambassador responded with a fiery counter of his own, reminding the audience that Chamberlain Karsoth has continued the Minmatar goodwill programs enacted by the previous two Emperors, and that the woes of the Republic have nothing to do with CONCORD or Amarr, but are instead due to the nation's own fragmented nature and "corrupt, spineless leadership". The angry Assembly moderator apologized to the Amarrian ambassador and conceded that Keitan Yun's remarks were inappropriately "combative". Mr. Yun was then banned for the remainder of session and threatened with permanent expulsion if such behavior continued.

No comment was available from Minmatar Republic Prime Minister Karin Midular, who just appointed Mr. Yun to the diplomatic position late last week.

11/05/2008

Ethnic Violence Spreads Throughout Caldari State

Lonetrek - Numerous racially-motivated attacks against Gallentean expatriates residing in the Caldari State were reported last night as word of the ethnic violence on Caldari Prime spread. The sudden rise in incidents follows the use of lethal force by Federation municipal police forces to quell rioting in the major cities of Tovil and Arcurio. Reports of assaults, property damage, and hate crimes against Gallentean expatriates have been confirmed throughout territories held by the Lai Dai, Sukuuvestaa, Kaalakiota, and Wiyrkomi mega-corporations. Anonymous sources are also reporting that mega-corporate police forces are doing little to stop it, undoubtedly reciprocating the treatment of ethnic Caldari on Caldari Prime.

Millions of Gallenteans operate businesses within the State ranging from commodity importing to wealth management services, many of which are unpopular locally yet somehow manage to thrive in a sluggish State economy. The sudden escalation of hostilities is largely attributed to the dramatic takeover of the Caldari Constructions corporation by Tibus Heth, who blames the State's economic problems on Federation influence, and whose openly anti-Gallentean comments have fueled racial tensions.

12/05/2008

Breaking News: Ishukone CEO Pleads for Calm, Denounces Tibus Heth

Malkalen - Otro Gariushi, the hugely popular CEO of the Caldari mega-corporation Ishukone, secured nation-wide broadcast rights to make an emotional appeal for calm in the Caldari State, renouncing ethnic violence and calling Heth's actions "unnecessary, selfish, and unspeakably dangerous". The announcement follows escalating racial tensions between the Caldari State and Gallente Federation, whose expatriates have both been targets of

ethnic violence in recent days. Gariushi's influence seems to have worked, at least on Caldari Prime, where hostilities have ceased.

A full transcript of his speech is below:

Caldarians, I have come before you to deliver this message: Those of you who are attacking Gallenteans right now, you are enemies of this State. I take no pride in having to ask you this, but please...stop what you're doing... take a step back... and remember your humanity. You have anger-so do I. We've been reminded of our failure, as a nation, to live up to the expectation of the Caldari ideal. We've made mistakes-ones that we can correct-but this is not the way.

Our problems come from within. Not from outside of our borders, and not in the past that we're ashamed of. Tibus Heth showed you the extent of executive greed in our system of governance. He demonstrated that the elites of this nation have failed to create wealth in a way that benefits those who have labored the most to produce it. In the Caldari State, opportunities are created through the work of good men and women. Good people. Not animals. Good human beings. Not savages. We are people who take responsibility for our actions, and we are people who believe that others should be held accountable for theirs.

But Tibus Heth is wrong. He wants a scapegoat. He wants change through hate. He revealed just how fragile this...this concept we call 'civilization' is when you test the limits of people's patience. It's true that some people did some horrible things...evil people who purposely sought to insult us right at our core, to strike directly into our hearts. But to you on Caldari Prime, or anywhere else in this State, don't let yourself play into the hands of a tyrant. Don't let him lead you down this path, because I promise you, it will lead to disaster.

You know my past. You know I've never backed down from a fight. But for the sake of this generation, don't confuse rationality with cowardice. Heth's appeal to hatred is unnecessary, selfish, and unspeakably dangerous. Now, I'm promising all of you that we will find those responsible for these malicious acts on Caldari Prime and prosecute them to the full extent of the law. And then we'll find those who misled the finances of the mega-corporations for personal gain, and they will be held to account for their greed.

From the moment I took this post, I have governed Ishukone with the interests of its workers ahead of my own. I commend Tibus Heth for exposing the flaws of mega-corporate governance. But I condemn him for inciting us into anarchy. We are destined for greater things than this. Our path should have never led us here. There is a better way. But you must step back from what you're doing now, or else we'll lose everything that we have left of ourselves.

I'm asking each of you-in fact, I'm demanding it, in the name of this State-to be calm. Return to work, to school, to the tasks that we chose on our own accord. You looked to me for guidance once before; now I'm imploring you to trust me again. Follow me. Follow the example of Ishukone. We can make this State stronger...we can be united in purpose...but we will never, ever be united in hate.

14/05/2008

Malkalen Economic Summit Announced by Gariushi, Foiritan

Malkalen- In a clear sign of a national effort to reduce racial tensions, Ishukone Corporation CEO Otro Gariushi released a joint statement with Federation President Souro Foiritan announcing the commencement of an economic summit to be held tomorrow at the mega-corporation's headquarters in Malkalen. The show of solidarity follows an intense period of ethnic strife between the two nations and an appeal for calm from both leaders, especially in the volatile cities of Caldari Prime.

"This proposal is about hope and reconciliation," President Foiritan stated. "Our goal is to address real economic concerns as a means to promote healing between our nations."

The urgency of the summit and quick turnaround on arrangements reflects the severity of the crisis. In recent days, the death toll from rioting throughout both nations has soared, as expatriates have become targets for hate crimes. Economic distress, particularly in the Caldari State, has served as a catalyst in the heating of racial tensions. Without providing specific details, the Ishukone CEO spoke enthusiastically about the proposal. "Clearly, President Foiritan is serious about improving ties between our nations," he said. "Economic cooperation forms the core of our relationship, and this proposal is beneficial to us both. I'm truly looking forward to meeting their delegation, and I know that the spirit of this summit appeals to all Caldari."

Presenting the economic proposal on behalf of President Foiritan will be Federation Economic Minister Wadis Chene, who helped architect the spectacular growth of the Federation for the last five years. Admiral Alexander Noir, the popular recipient of the Aidonis award, will be delivering the Federation Delegation to Ishukone headquarters tomorrow.

Violence has decreased in both nations since Otro Gariushi's national address, in which he denounced Tibus Heth and pleaded for an end to racial tensions. "Our relationship should have never deteriorated to this point," Gariushi stated. "We're all better served through positive relations with our neighbors. As President Foiritan says, we will use tomorrow's historic summit as an opportunity to heal, and to dismiss the ideology of hate once and for all."

14/05/2008

Heth Responds to Malkalen Economic Summit Announcement

Piak - Tibus Heth, the firebrand CEO of Caldari Constructions widely held responsible for inciting racial tensions between the Caldari State and Gallente Federation, released a brief statement endorsing the surprise economic initiative between the Federation President and Ishukone CEO:

"I welcome Otro Gariushi's initiative to calm the situation on Caldari Prime, and praise his peaceful approach to managing our relationship with the Gallente Federation. I look forward to hearing the details of this agreement, and wish to contribute to the diplomatic process any way that I can to provide the best possible outcome for the Caldari people."

The abrupt turnaround in sentiment follows the renewed popularity of Ishukone corporation CEO Otro Gariushi, who has openly denounced Heth and his ideals.

15/05/2008

UPDATE: FEDERATION NYX RAMS ISHUKONE HEADQUARTERS STATION

Malkalen - **** Breaking News Update**** A Nyx-class supercarrier that was part of the Malkalen Economic Summit delegation has collided with Ishukone Corporate Headquarters. The calamity occurred shortly after a general evacuation order was issued on the station during the summit. Preliminary estimates place the death toll in the "hundreds of thousands". Although unconfirmed at this time, the collision appears to have been deliberate. Eyewitnesses report that the supercarrier's escorts were engaged and destroyed shortly after the impact by Caldari Navy and Ishukone Watch warships. We are continuing to monitor this story will provide details as soon as they become available.

15/05/2008

Ishukone Corporation establishes disaster relief program

Malkalen - Still reeling from today's unprovoked atrocity, the Ishukone Corporation has released a statement announcing the formation of an emergency disaster relief program. The damage caused by the impact of the FNS Wandering Saint on the Ishukone Headquarters station has left many survivors trapped within the superstructure, and while repair and rescue crews are battling to rescue them, efforts are hampered by chemical fires, extensive power failures and the constant threat of further decompressions and detonations.

Jeanna Kishuo, an Ishukone official helping co-ordinate efforts from the nearby Ishukone Watch station revealed that "there's no proper chain of command right now - everyone's doing everything they can but we can't get access to the Corporation's general funds because there's nobody around who can authorize it." When asked what else could be done, she replied "get the news out to the capsuleers - we're bleeding here, and if they want to do any damn good tell them we need supplies hauled in yesterday! We're running out of critical hardware and people are dying right now because of it!"

Buy orders for the needed items, including antibiotics and hydrogen batteries, have been placed by Ishukone representative Jeanna Kishuo at Malkalen III - Ishukone Watch Assembly Plant using the remaining available funds. Ishukone has appealed to all loyal Caldari citizens to fill these orders as quickly as possible in order that further loss of life be avoided.

15/05/2008

UPDATE: LOCAL BROADCAST AUDIO CONFIRMS NYX COLLISION WAS DELIBERATE

MALKALEN - Logs from the Local subspace channel in the Malkalen System obtained by the media have confirmed that the Nyx supercarrier piloted by Admiral Alexander Noir of the Federation Navy was deliberately piloted into Ishukone Headquarters station. This attack occurred during an Economic Summit hosted by Ishukone CEO Otro Gariushi and included representatives from the Federation government. Partial transcripts of the local reveal Admiral Noir's final words, just before impact:

"I have an obligation to my beloved Federation to settle accounts with this hateful race, these cursed Caldarians. For my entire life, I have mourned for Hueromont, wishing, praying, willing for the day when I could strike back on behalf of those souls who perished. Fate has bestowed upon me this grand opportunity, this great day, to take vengeance for all those who gave their lives for the Federation, the true guardian of our precious Gallentean race . . . may you rest in peace now, brave souls of Hueromont, and you, kindred spirits of Nouvelle Rouvenor, knowing that I will take back what was stolen from you . . . Curse you, Caldari . . . may I take as many of you with me that I can!"

The Federation has not issued a statement as of this time. Search and rescue efforts are underway to reach survivors onboard, where numerous fires are still burning throughout. The scale of damage to the station is catastrophic, with the death count estimated to reach into the hundreds of thousands.

15/05/2008

BREAKING NEWS: EXPLOSIONS REPORTED, CONTACT WITH ISHUKONE HEADQUARTERS STATION LOST

Malkalen - **** This is a breaking news flash **** Eyewitnesses have reported a massive explosion at Ishukone Headquarters Station in Malkalen, the site of the economic summit between the Federation and Caldari State, where a general evacuation order was issued moments ago. Contact with the station, including reporters onboard, has been lost. Scope News has released recorded footage of the event taken from outside the station

before the explosion was reported. We are still trying to get information and will continue to provide coverage of this event.

15/05/2008

BREAKING NEWS: GENERAL EVACUATION ORDER ISSUED AT ISHUKONE HEADQUARTERS STATION

Malkalen - ** This is a breaking news flash ** Reports are coming in that an emergency evacuation is underway at Ishukone Headquarters Station, the site of the ongoing Malkalen Economic Summit. The exact emergency is unknown at this time. General evacuation orders require all personnel, military and civilian, to exit the station immediately. We will continue to provide coverage as information becomes available.

15/05/2008

Economic Summit Underway

Malkalen - To the enthusiastic applause of all in attendance, including the hundreds of reporters and camera drones present, Federation Economic Minister Wadis Chene and Ishukone CEO Otro Gariushi began the session with an embrace. The emotional welcoming was symbolic of the two nations' efforts to reduce racial tensions and strengthen economic ties. Also in attendance were various guests from Ishukone, all of whom expressed interest in meeting with Federation delegates in advance.

Following the handshakes, the summit commenced with a question and answer session with Otro Gariushi and Wadis Chene. Both officials expressed deep regret at the recent escalations in ethnic violence, conceded mutual blame for its origins, and accepted responsibility in taking the necessary steps to prevent it from happening again.

When asked directly if he was attempting to supersede Tibus Heth's aggressive 'power play' entrance into Caldari politics, Otro Gariushi answered that he "wasn't aware of any power contests in this part of the State", drawing a chuckle from the audience that quickly evolved into full-blown cheering from the Ishukone crowd. More seriously, he added that he planned to hold Tibus at his word to give the peace process a chance.

A gala reception began following the session. Formal negotiations will begin tomorrow, during which time details about the proposal will be released to media channels.

15/05/2008

Federation Delegation Arrives in Malkalen

Malkalen - For the first time since the end of the Gallente-Caldari War, a procession of Federation Navy warships entered Caldari Space, only this time flying a banner of peace. Met by Ishukone Watch ships at the Border Zone, civilian and military ships alike paused to watch the majestic Nyx-class super carrier and her escorts as it traveled to Malkalen.

"I've never seen one in person before," admitted one Caldari Navy officer, who preferred to remain anonymous. "That's one impressive looking ship. Not as impressive as one of our own Wyverns, of course. But impressive."

The Caldari Navy harbors a great deal of respect for Admiral Alexander Noir, the pilot of the Nyx and the last living veteran of the war. He has since become a spokesman for improving the relationship between the two nations, undoubtedly selected for this summit because of his years of advocating peace.

"We wouldn't let just anyone fly a capital ship into the heart of our space," stated Caldari Navy Fleet Admiral Morda Engsten. "Admiral Noir has done more to bridge our differences with the Federation than anyone else. We are honored to have him, as with the entire delegation."

Federation Economic Minister Wadis Chene and the members of her team left the carrier in a shuttle and docked at Ishukone Headquarters Station moments ago, where she was welcomed aboard by Otro Gariushi.

16/05/2008

ISHUKONE STATEMENT: OTRO GARIUSHI CONFIRMED DEAD

Malkalen - The Ishukone Corporation released a statement in which they confirmed that CEO Otro Gariushi was killed during the attack on its headquarters station in Malkalen. Also killed were Federation Economic Minister Wadis Chene and the entire Gallentean delegation. Although Chief Financial Officer Kinachi Hepimeki was declared the acting CEO, she has not been seen since the tragedy occurred. The statement recounts the sequence of events leading up to the catastrophe.

The transcript is available here:

"The Federation delegation arrived at Ishukone headquarters station shortly after 11:00 Local without incident. As per harbor control instructions, the Nyx and her escorts took position approximately 25 kilometers off-port from the main station hangar. To this point, all Federation ships followed the pre-arranged flight plan and complied with all border transit agreements issued by the Navy. At approximately 11:46 Local, Ishukone Watch and Caldari Navy escorts reported an unscheduled aspect change on the Nyx followed a sudden increase in speed. When the final course correction vector aligned with the station, we attempted to hail the Nyx pilot, which we know for certain was Admiral Alexander Noir. No response was received.

"At 11:48 local, a general evacuation order was issued directly by Otro Gariushi, and intercept orders were issued by the Watch. Numerous attempts to hail Admiral Noir went unanswered before he made his parting statements on the local channel. We estimate that between twenty and twenty-five thousand civilian and military personnel were evacuated from the station before impact, which we registered at exactly 11:52 local.

"We have ceased all search and rescue efforts. Recovery operations will continue for as long as it takes to bring closure to loved ones as best as we can. We have approximately 5,000 survivors in our custody, all of which remain in serious condition at Ishukone medical facilities. The death toll currently stands at 421,000, with at least that many more missing. Of the confirmed deaths, most were permanent station residents. Ship crews on shore rotation make up the bulk of those who remain unaccounted for.

"Otro Gariushi is dead. His clones were located in this station. Chief Financial Officer Kinachi Hepimeki is the acting CEO until the Board of Directors hold elections for an official replacement.

"We simply do not have the words to describe this tragedy. We will do everything we can for the families of victims, and we sincerely thank those capsuleers who have been donating to the relief effort."

19/05/2008

Federation President Affirms Ishukone's Account of Event, Denies Complicity in Malkalen Attack

Ladistier - Gallente Federation President Souro Foiritan today expressed his sincerest sympathies towards the families of victims in the Malkalen disaster and offered "the full resources of his nation" to assist to those in need. He also emphatically denied claims of Federation complicity in the attack, stating that Admiral Alexander Noir's actions were his own and that "no one suspected that he was capable of such a monstrous act". The delay in a formal response was attributed to an "exhaustive and ongoing investigation" into Noir's actions and a search for any clues that might have provided advanced warning of such as attack.

President Foiritan spoke cautiously about the post-collision battle that resulted in the destruction of the Nyx escorts, stating that "all loss of life in Malkalen that tragic day can be attributed directly to the actions of Noir alone," further adding that Ishukone's account of events in the moments leading up to the disaster were accurate.

Meanwhile, the streets of Caldari Prime remain eerily quiet since Otro Gariushi's appeal for calm in the days leading up to the Malkalen Economic Summit, and there have been no additional reports of violence against Gallente expatriates in Caldari space.

20/05/2008

Ytiri Warehouse CEO Steps Down, Appoints Heth As Acting Director

Elonaya - Ytiri Warehouse CEO Tantima Iwisoda today announced a surprise plan to step down from his position to award full control of company assets and strategic operations to Caldari Constructions. The move was unanimously approved by the Ytiri board of directors.

"By taking this step, we are embodying the ideal that will always be the legacy of Otro Gariushi: that the State's needs are greater than ourselves," Mr. Iwisoda stated. "We are a nation in crisis; the acquisition of wealth or political gain no longer has any virtue in this corporation. As a Caldarian and a Chief Executive Officer, my actions are a patriotic imperative. The atrocity committed by the Federation has demonstrated just how vulnerable we are, and the depths to which we have fallen. Mr Heth, the men and women of the Ytiri Corporation are at your command."

Although Ytiri is a comparatively small corporation, the willingness of its leadership to relinquish control of operations to Mr. Heth appears to be supported by the majority of Caldari citizens. Following the press statement, representatives acting under the banner name of "Provists"-the nickname for Mr. Heth's new "Caldari Providence Directorate" structure within the corporation-explained the working relationship between the two entities. Financial markets have responded positively to the new partnership thus far.

22/05/2008

Heth Announces Kaalakiota Takeover, Declares Quarantine of Gallentean Expatriates

Piak - Tibus Heth today addressed the Caldari State for the first time since the Malkalen disaster, during which he announced his effective takeover of operations for the Kaalakiota mega-corporation and declared an immediate quarantine of all Gallentean expatriates residing in Caldari space. Set against the backdrop of the damaged Ishukone Headquarters Station, his broadcast began with a national moment of silence on behalf of "all those whose lives were taken in Malkalen" and for Otro Gariushi, whom he mourned as a "true Caldari hero".

Emphasizing his belief that no excuse can relieve the Gallente Federation of direct responsibility in the catastrophe, Heth declared that all Gallentean expatriates are to be "quarantined and held for questioning until their innocence is proven". While not mentioning Admiral Noir by name, Heth hinted that if Noir was the most trustworthy man between both nations prior to Malkalen, then his "deceit" warrants such drastic matters as a pure "security precaution".

A statement issued by the Kaalakiota corporation board following the national address confirmed that CEO Haatakan Oiritsuu has voluntarily stepped down from her post, giving Tibus Heth control over the Caldari State's largest mega-corporation. These powers authorize him to enact the quarantine program, whose methods will

likely include deployment of his growing numbers of Provists. Because the resignation of Ms. Oiritsuu was voluntary, the board of directors has the power to appoint any individual they see fit to the position of CEO.

Regardless of shareholder sentiment, public support for Tibus Heth is skyrocketing, especially in the wake of days of national mourning over Malkalen and the loss of Otro Gariushi. The death toll has risen past the 600,000 mark and is still climbing, making this the most grievous tragedy of empire space in modern times.

28/05/2008

Archangels "Annex" Skarkon From Minmatar Republic; Popular Vote Confirms

Skarkon - In the latest blow to Prime Minister Karin Midular's government, the Archangel cartel has declared "democratic sovereignty" of the Skarkon System, a transit hub separating the Republic border from unregulated space. CONCORD promptly dismissed the notion of any real transfer of sovereignty, calling the cartel's actions "politically motivated with zero legitimacy". While largely symbolic in nature, the Archangels have produced a petition containing over ten million voluntary signatures taken from the inhabitants of Skarkon II, the system's capital planet. This embarrassment follows local promises by Midular to clean up the system as part of a broader effort to reduce crime in the most dangerous parts of the Republic.

The Archangel's openly defiant reaction to her initiative, coupled with the apparent authenticity of the signatures, is a political nightmare for the prime minister. The cartel's influence in Skarkon has been growing for years, and has apparently gained enough popularity such that they are now the preferred governing authority of the system. Between this and the near-ousting of her ambassador appointee to the CONCORD Assembly, the embattled prime minister is facing the worst polls of her premiership, with an approval rating of less than 10%.

29/05/2008

Mega-Corporations Announce Partnership with Caldari Providence Directorate

Lonetrek - The Sukuuvestaa, Nugoeihuvi, Wiyrkomi, Hyasyoda, CBD and Lai Dai mega-corporations today announced a breakthrough agreement with the newly formed Kaalakiota-Ytiri conglomerate. The new deal would give Tibus Heth's Caldari Providence Directorate direct access to most of the Caldari State's industrial base. While details remain sealed, mega-corporate executives have stressed that dire economic circumstances present a compelling need to align the State's interests. "Tibus Heth and Otro Gariushi stood for the same ideals," stated Wiyrkomi CEO Kuruta Irio. "We have an obligation to restore pride to our workforce, and we will do so by placing the State's needs before ourselves. There is ample opportunity for every Caldarian to thrive by coordinating our collective efforts, and we intend to pursue that ambition to its fullest capacity."

Financial markets had mixed reaction to the news. While Heth's unifying appeal to nationalism appears politically motivated, there are considerable economic advantages to shifting mega-corporate relations from adversarial competitiveness to more of a strategic partnership. The potential benefits of this partnership are driving speculation in Caldari securities despite the racial tensions between the State and the Gallente Federation.

The Ishukone Corporation, still reeling from the Malkalen disaster, is the only mega-corporation that has not joined this partnership.

30/05/2008

REPORT: MINMATAR AMBASSADOR KEITAN YUN CONNECTED TO YULAI INCIDENT, SHOW OF FORCE WAS A THREAT TO CONCORD

Illuin - Scope News has obtained information indicating that the armada which appeared in Yulai is connected to disgraced Minmatar Republic Ambassador Keitan Yun. The anonymous source revealed that the timing of the fleet's appearance coincided almost directly with an alleged threat issued by Mr. Yun directly to CONCORD. The sudden show of force, which included Thukker Tribe warships, was apparently intended to back his claims. However, the precise nature of the threat itself is unknown, nor is it clear on whose behalf it was made.

Mr. Yun, appointed to the post of Minmatar Ambassador to the CONCORD Assembly by Prime Minister Karin Midular last month, caused an uproar with his vocal confrontation with his Amarrian counterpart during his inaugural address. CONCORD Chief of Staff Kivas Odaka would only confirm that Mr. Yun has become a "person of interest" in the ongoing investigation of today's events, and that his present whereabouts are unknown.

30/05/2008

REPORT: Yulai Escapes Violence As Mysterious Armada Departs

Yulai -The mystery armada whose threatening presence nearly touched off a deadly confrontation outside CONCORD Bureau Station in Yulai has left without incident. The sudden appearance of the fleet, their unknown origins, ability to jump capital ships into the most secure space in New Eden, and refusal to communicate has left the prestigious law enforcement agency scrambling for answers. CONCORD issued a terse statement clearly intended as a warning for would-be criminals that "respond and neutralize" capabilities are operating at maximum capacity. Full coverage of the event, including raw footage recorded onsite, can be found on the Scope News Network. A high quality feed is also available.

30/05/2008

BREAKING NEWS: Mystery Armada Containing Thukker Tribe Warships Surround CONCORD Bureau Station

Yulai - ***This is a breaking news story*** Scope News has confirmed that CONCORD Bureau Station has been

surrounded by a fleet composed entirely of Minmatar-designed warships, including at least a dozen Naglfar-class dreadnoughts with Republic Fleet markings. More surprisingly, the escorts of these capital ships are reported to be Thukker Tribe vessels. However, none of the ships are registered with NEOCOM broadcast tags, and all attempts to communicate with the intruders have failed. CONCORD and DED warships are locked in a standoff with the armada, but no shots have been fired. Reporters from the Scope News network are on scene and will continue to provide coverage of these events as they unfold.

30/05/2008

MIDULAR SPOKESMAN: "WE DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE"

Illuin - A spokesman for Minmatar Republic Prime Minister Karin Midular firmly denounced any involvement with the mystery fleet which threatened CONCORD Bureau Station in Yulai. "The location of every ship in the Republic Fleet at the time of the armada's incursion has been accounted for," he announced. "Although those ships were clearly of Minmatar design, we just don't know who they are or what their intentions were."

When asked about Ambassador Keitan Yun's alleged involvement with the mysterious fleet, he stated only that such claims have "very serious implications for Mr. Yun which are yet to be verified", and that "under no conceivable circumstances would Premier Midular authorize or endorse any threat against CONCORD."

Karin Midular is facing increased scrutiny following a string of embarrassing incidents which have weakened her premiership, most recently the "annexation" of the Skarkon System by the Angel Cartel.

30/05/2008

ISHUKONE BOARD CEDES STRATEGIC CONTROL TO HETH; MARKETS RESPOND POSITIVELY

Malkalen - The Ishukone Corporation Board of Directors agreed to grant strategic control of industrial operations to Tibus Heth, joining the rest of the mega-corporations in their partnership with the Caldari Providence Directorate. Ishukone employees, still mourning the loss of Otro Gariushi and the hundreds of thousands who also perished in the Malkalen disaster, overwhelmingly support the measure.

The board also announced that an active search is underway to appoint a new CEO. Chief Financial Officer Kinachi Hepimeki, considered the most qualified candidate, has reportedly resigned, citing personal reasons linked to the disaster. She and the late Mr. Gariushi are credited with running the most financially-sound mega-corporation in the Caldari State. Ralirashi Okimo, current head of the manufacturing division, is now considered the most likely replacement.

Markets are responding favorably to the news. Ishukone shares lost nearly 20% of their value following the Malkalen disaster, which forced the mega-corporation to cease industrial operations for a full week. Mr. Heth, known for his fiery anti-Gallentean rhetoric, has demonstrated considerable leadership qualities in corporate affairs that Caldari executives are keen to work with. The reinvigoration of workforce morale and subsequent revitalization of industrial efforts is largely attributed to Heth's alignment of mega-corporate interests under the Caldari Providence Directorate. Some analysts speculate that the beleaguered Caldari State economy may have already bottomed out, with local currencies stabilizing versus the ISK and State index shares rebounding slightly from all-time lows.

BREAKING NEWS: Unidentified Armada Detected In Yulai

Yulai - *****This is a breaking news story***** Scope News has learned that an armada of unknown origin has jumped into the Yulai System. CONCORD and DED warships have been scrambled to intercept. We will continue to provide coverage of these events as they unfold.

02/06/2008

VIOLENCE ON CALDARI PRIME CONTINUES AS GALLENTAAN EXPATRIATES FLEE CALDARI STATE

Luminaire - Racially motivated violence continues to plague Gallente-controlled Caldari Prime since Tibus Heth's mandate to quarantine Gallentean expatriates in Caldari Space, which has led to the unlawful incarceration and/or expulsion of hundreds of thousands thus far. The mandate is being enforced with renewed vigor following Heth's acquisition of the bulk of the Caldari State's industrial base. Clashes between the two ethnicities on Caldari Prime have been ongoing ever since, and Federation riot police are struggling to contain the violence.

Gallentean expatriates attempting to leave the State have been ordered to leave "donations" at border crossings before facing permanent exile. "We don't have anything left," reported one former expatriate, now safely within Federation space. "Those Provist thugs boarded the transport and made us sign it all away, right in front of our own families. Caldari Navy ships were right alongside of us, supervising the whole thing. What could we do?"

Millions of Federation expats remain unaccounted for as tension between the two nation-states worsens by the day. While obtaining information from the Caldari State has become increasingly difficult since Tibus Heth's rise to power, reports are circulating that drastic increases in production outputs across all industries have been underway since the Malkalen disaster.

03/06/2008

HETH DECLARES NATIONAL DRAFT, CITES GALLENTAAN THREAT

Piak - In response to an apparent threat by President Foiritan, the Caldari State moved closer to war with the Gallente Federation as Tibus Heth declared a national draft. Invoking the Malkalen disaster as evidence of the

need to "defend themselves", Heth instantiated a mandatory conscription of all "eligible men and women of age" for active military service on behalf of the Caldari Providence Directorate. The mobilization follows an apparent threat of martial law on Caldari Prime by President Foiritan, who has been pressuring Heth on behalf Gallentean expatriates attempting to leave the Caldari State safely.

Military analysts believe that the conscription could only utilize excess labor that would otherwise be dormant within the industrial base of the Caldari State. Although the mega-corporations each have their own active police forces, the precise extent of manpower and assets remains unknown.

03/06/2008

PRESIDENT FOIRITAN DECLARES MARTIAL LAW ON CALDARI PRIME

Luminaire - Stating that "all other options have failed", President Foiritan declared a state of martial law on Caldari Prime. The order sets an enforceable curfew on all Caldari expatriates, requiring them to stay in their homes within established "expatriate zones". Reports from the surface indicate that Federation municipal police have resorted to deadly force in "numerous" incidents already, with casualty numbers estimated to be "in the hundreds". Police are also actively blockading Caldari neighborhoods in the metropolis cities of Tovil and Arcurio, surrounding them with barriers and effectively isolating the entire Caldari population of the planet into segregated pockets.

"We have exhausted all other means of quelling the violence," President Foiritan stated. "Martial law is a last resort to protect those who want nothing to do with the bigotry plaguing our nations. But it appears there are some individuals who are determined to spread as much mayhem as possible, and I hold Tibus Heth directly responsible for inciting it. We have repeatedly stated that the Malkalen disaster was a rogue act. And though we may never know the reasons for Admiral Noir's actions, what we do now will define how our nations move forward. I implore all of you on Caldari Prime, and indeed everywhere in both nations, to reconsider any acts of aggression. Our wounds will heal, but it is going to take time."

04/06/2008

MIDULAR FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGES STARKMANIR NEWS

Illuin - Minmatar Republic Prime Minister Karin Midular released a statement thanking Eifyr & Co. and the Sisters of EVE for "sharing this breathtaking discovery with the universe" and called for a "cooperative effort with the Amarr Empire to secure their prompt release." Her comments caused an immediate firestorm in the Republic Parliament, especially among the Brutors, who have long opposed Midular's "appeasement" foreign policy doctrine with the Amarr Empire.

The late timing of her statement, which comes after Chamberlain Karsoth's near-immediate offer of assistance, has infuriated members from all four main parties. Many believe that the Amarr Empire, which makes no secret about its reliance on Minmatar slave labor, would do little to assist Midular with any kind of recovery effort despite Chamberlain Karsoth's pledge to the contrary.

Meanwhile, representatives for the Ammatar Consulate continue to deny any advanced knowledge of the Starkmanir's survival prior to their discovery by the Sisters of EVE.

04/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: LARGE STARKMANIR SLAVE POPULATION DISCOVERED IN AMMATAR CONSULATE

Elgoi - The renowned Minmatar Republic biotech corporation Eifyr & Co. held a press conference today announcing the discovery of a large, "genetically pristine" population of Starkmanir slaves residing on the sixth planet of the Jarizza System. The Sisters of EVE, a charitable organization with an established humanitarian mission, apparently made the discovery "by accident" and reported the findings directly to Eifyr shortly after leaving the planet. The corporation confirmed the findings in a nationally broadcast press conference just moments ago. The survival of the Starkmanir Tribe, believed to have been extinct for hundreds of years, has shocked the Minmatar Republic.

"We have in our possession approximately one thousand unique samples taken from a population of slaves on the Ammatar world 'Halturzhan'," Eifyr spokesman Frelf Laer said. "We've completed genome sequencing on each of them. They're authentic. There's no lineage or association with the other tribes at all. We know they're Starkmanir because the sequences match those extracted from ancient burial sites."

When asked whether the Starkmanir population knew that, the spokesman answered "You'll have to ask the Sisters of EVE. They were the ones allowed onto the surface, allegedly to look into a viral outbreak that the Ammatar overlords couldn't control. This particular slave population specialized in agricultural labor, and I'm almost certain that none of them know anything about their own origins, or what their existence means to Minmatar."

The Sisters have referred all inquiries back to Eifyr, stating only that "They have all of the relevant facts. Our mission was and continues to be a mission of the human spirit, nothing more."

04/06/2008

CHAMBERLAIN KARSOOTH PLEDGES HELP TO PRESERVE STARKMANIR; AMMATAR CONSULATE CLAIMS NO ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE OF LOST TRIBE

Amarr - Court Chamberlain Dochuta Karsoth released a statement pledging "the full benevolence and assistance" of the Amarr Empire towards "preserving the remaining population of the Starkmanir Tribe, if in fact it is proven that such a population exists". Adding that the Empire will "bring its considerable expertise to bear" in the investigation to verify the findings, his announcement comes within minutes of Eifyr & Company's announcement of the discovery by the Sisters of EVE.

News of the Starkmanir's discovery has shocked the Minmatar Republic. Believed to have been fully exterminated during the Amarr occupation of Minmatar space hundreds of years ago, the Starkmanir's survival on the Ammatar planet of Halturzhan raises hope that other hidden populations may also exist. A spokesperson for the Ammatar Consulate stated that they are "unaware" of any such populations within their borders and "plead caution until the Empire completes their investigation, of which the Consulate has committed its full cooperation towards assisting."

05/06/2008

MALEATU SHAKOR LAUNCHES VOTE OF NO-CONFIDENCE; MEASURE PASSES REPUBLIC PARLIAMENT

Illuin - Brutor party leader Maleatu Shakor called an emergency parliament session in which he demanded a vote of no-confidence in Karin Midular's government. The parliament head delivered a fiery speech denouncing the beleaguered prime minister, citing the Archangel-Skarkon debacle, the futility of her appeasement doctrine with Amarr, and finally the Starkmanir discovery and her subsequent pledge for a "cooperative" recovery solution. The packed session quickly turned violent as parliament members confronted each other as they rushed to cast their vote. Although largely symbolic, the end tally showed overwhelming support for the no-confidence measure, which could prove to be the final nail in the political coffin of Karin Midular.

Shakor, a long-time rival of the prime minister, is considered a primary candidate to replace her in a general election. The capsuleer is known for being the most vocal hawk in the Minmatar Republic, demanding a "zero-tolerance" policy of slavery towards Amarr.

06/06/2008

REPORT: KARIN MIDULAR DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT, OUSTS SHAKOR AND YUN FROM GOVERNMENT

Illuin - The political crisis in the Minmatar Republic worsened as Prime Minister Karin Midular defiantly responded to Shakor's successful vote of no-confidence by dissolving parliament. The measure requires a call for new elections within two months, as mandated by Republic law. In addition, there are reports that Ambassador Keitan Yun has been relieved of his post and that Parliament Head Maleatu Shakor has been "expelled" from government. However, Karin Midular lacks the legal authority to dismiss an elected official unless evidence of a crime has been presented, which she has not yet claimed—at least not publically.

Mr. Yun has not been seen since the Yulai "incident", in which his apparent threat to CONCORD was supported by the sudden appearance of a menacing Minmatar-Thukker fleet in Yulai. Maleatu Shakor was last seen being escorted from session following the no-confidence vote against Midular.

Violence erupted on the parliament floor immediately after her announcement, forcing station security to quickly surround and then escort the prime minister from session.

06/06/2008

GOVERNMENT INACTION WITH STARKMANIR, DISSOLVED PARLIAMENT TRIGGERS RIOTS

Hek - Violence has struck the Minmatar Republic as the ripple effect from Karin Midular's decision to dissolve parliament spread throughout the nation. Protests against the lack of action to help the Starkmanir quickly escalated into a backlash against government officials, spurred on by fears of labor and supply shortages. Looting has been reported at numerous food silos, merchandise outlets and even government offices as riots flared in several major cities throughout the Minmatar Republic. In addition, spaceports in these cities are overwhelmed with congestion as those who can afford transportation attempt to leave the Republic for the Gallente Federation, which already accepts millions of Minmatar immigrants per year.

Officials from the Republic Fleet, the only government branch unaffected by the turmoil, are urging people to remain calm and to refrain from spreading panic while "government processes are allowed to work."

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: CONCORD ANNOUNCES AUTHORIZATION OF EMERGENCY MILITIA WAR POWERS ACT

Yulai - The CONCORD Assembly, still reeling from the destruction of its headquarters station in Yulai, has announced the immediate authorization of the "Emergency Militia War Powers Act". This action follows an emergency meeting with all four session members, who petitioned for this section of the charter to be ratified following the drastic events of the day. Fleet Admiral Kasora Neko is reported to have represented the Minmatar Republic.

The War Powers provision of the CONCORD Charter authorizes the "immediate and unconditional formation of capsuleer militias among the nation-state members of the CONCORD Assembly for the purpose of waging

uncontested war within the boundaries of Empire space." According to Charter experts, the founders added the emergency provision as a means of absolving CONCORD of any obligation to interfere with combat between nation-states, an act that protects the DED more than anything else.

The militias sanctioned by the Emergency Militia War Powers Act are:

Gallente Federation: Federal Defense Union
Minmatar Republic: Tribal Liberation Force
Caldari State: State Protectorate
Amarr Empire: 24th Imperial Crusade

10/06/2008

REPORT: SECOND MINMATAR-THUKKER ARMADA INVADES AMARR EMPIRE

Kor-Azor Prime - Heavy fighting is underway in numerous locations throughout the Kor-Azor Region as a second titan-backed Minmatar-Thukker armada invaded the Amarr Empire. Multiple surface landings have been reported on planet Eclipticum, and Kor-Azor Family Bureau Headquarters Station has been stormed by elite mechanized troops. Kor-Azor's independent security forces are defending against the onslaught on both land and in space, but the Minmatar-Thukker forces are overwhelming them with sheer numbers.

Although the attack marks the first time in history that a foreign power has invaded sovereign Amarr territory, Imperial Navy warships have not yet moved to intercept them.

10/06/2008

REPORT: THIRD MINMATAR-THUKKER FLEET DETECTED IN DOMAIN REGION; FIERCE FIGHTING REPORTED OVER SARUM PRIME

Sarum Prime - In what eyewitnesses are describing as an "epic, violent clash between empires", the Imperial Navy has just engaged a third Minmatar-Thukker fleet over the third planet of the Sarum Prime system, 'Mekhios'. Multiple worlds within the Amarr Empire, in particular the Kor-Azor Region, have been attacked with orbital bombardments just prior to the surface landings of hundreds of thousands of Minmatar troops, who despite their uniform ethnicity cannot be confirmed to be Republic infantrymen.

The invaders are believed to be using Inorum in their bombardments, saturating ground targets with airborne variants of the Vitoc-neutralizing agent before commencing their assaults.

It is unclear why the Imperial Navy has chosen Sarum Prime to make its stand, where it appears the bulk of the Empire's warships are either onsite or en-route to the battle.

10/06/2008

REPORT: "MASS MURDERS" REPORTED AT MINMATAR REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

Illuin - Scope News has just obtained confirmation of the mass-murder of hundreds of municipal and regional government officials and throughout the Minmatar Republic. The assassins, believed to be aligned with the same Minmatar-Thukker strike force invading the Amarr Empire, are allegedly leaving evidence of the victim's complicity with Amarrian intelligence services with each corpse. This "purge", as the attackers have allegedly described, was clearly timed to coincide with the invasion. Police detectives have remarked that the Minmatar-Thukker operation was "flawless", leaving "no opportunity for police forces to react."

The Republic Fleet still denies any involvement with the attackers, but has ordered all combat vessels to amass near the borders as a "precaution against any Amarrian counterstrike."

10/06/2008

REPORT: MINMATAR-THUKKER TASK FORCE ARE MINMATAR ELDERS

Illuin - Scope News has learned that the Minmatar-Thukker force which is responsible for igniting a war in New Eden are the Minmatar "Elders", the legendary ancient leaders of the original seven tribes. If true, this claim would validate the Republic's official denial of involvement with the Amarr invasion, and of the Republic Fleet's defensive posturing along the Amarrian border. Editor's Note: Under normal circumstances, Scope News would discredit this claim. However, given the Thukker Tribe's alignment with the attack force, the apparent mass-defection of millions of Amarrian civilians, their ancient affiliation as the Nefantar tribe, and the resurgence of the Starkmanir, we made a collective decision to publish this news with a "caution" disclaimer. These are extraordinary times, and on behalf everyone at this agency, we implore all of you to remain vigilant as these unprecedented events unfold.

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: CALDARI NAVY TASK FORCE CROSSES FEDERATION BORDER, INVADES GALLENTA SPACE

Allogille - *** This is a breaking news story *** A Caldari Navy task force has just crossed the Federation border

in what is unmistakably a large-scale invasion of Gallente space. Numerous Federation Customs patrol ships have already been destroyed as Caldari ships continue to stream across using the Kassigainen stargate and at least two jump portals. This is a breaking news story that we will continue to update as information becomes available.

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: CALDARI NAVY TASK FORCE LOCKS DOWN LUMINAIRE

Luminaire - *** This is a breaking news story *** The Gallente Federation capital system of Luminaire has been locked down from the inside by the Caldari Navy and an accompanying task force composed of thousands of ships. Witnesses describe sighting capital ships representing every mega-corporation and at least one Leviathan titan in the armada that smashed its way into the system. As hundreds of Federation Navy warships amassed outside the Luminaire stargates in Algogille and Pettinck, numerous distress calls could be heard on subspace comm channels monitored by Scope News.

Unconfirmed reports have surfaced that anti-ship mines have been deployed at all stargate entry points inside Luminaire, and that any attempt to run the blockade, no matter how many ships are sacrificed, is effectively impossible.

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: CALDARI NAVY BOMBARDS CALDARI PRIME, DROPSHIPS LAND ON SURFACE

Luminaire - The Caldari Navy-led task force that has locked itself inside the Luminaire System is reportedly landing "hundreds of thousands" of dropships onto Caldari Prime following a systematic orbital bombardment of strategic defense emplacements all over the planet. The task force has achieved absolute space superiority in the system, as all Federation Navy and Customs warships inside the system have evidently been neutralized. However, despite its complete vulnerability, Gallente Prime is reporting clear space in its vicinity, with absolutely no sign of the invaders at this time.

Military analysts consulted by Scope News have stated that the Caldari Navy appears to have committed "every resource at their disposal" to this colossal endeavor, and as such has left its rearguard flanks completely exposed to Federation counterattack.

10/06/2008

REPORT: FEDERATION NAVY CONVERGING ON TIERIJEV AS CALDARI MECHANIZED INFANTRY ATTACKS TOVIL, ARCURIO

Luminaire - The Federation Navy has abandoned its attempts to break the Caldari Navy's blockade in Luminaire and is reportedly deploying "all spaceborne military assets" to the isolated Caldari system of Tierijev. This report follows confirmation that millions of Caldari troops supported by armor, MTACs, and gunships have launched frontal assaults on the two largest cities of Tovil and Arcurio. Although some pockets of Federation police and marines are fighting back, it appears that the vast majority of defenses in both of these cities was obliterated during the bombardment.

Civilian casualty reports remain varied, as the bulk of Caldari citizens remain largely isolated because of President Foiritan's efforts to quell civil unrest in the past several weeks.

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: TIBUS HETH CONQUERS CALDARI PRIME, FOIRITAN CEDES CONTROL

Luminaire - Tibus Heth, the dictator whose mercurial rise to power has shocked New Eden, has just raised the flag of the Caldari State over the city of Arcurio on Caldari Prime, in the Gallente Federation capital system of Luminaire.

The historical act follows a conversation with President Foiritan, in which Tibus allegedly threatened to bomb Gallentean civilians from space, all of whom are segregated from former Caldarian expatriates by President Foiritan's own decree. Tibus also stated that this action ends nearly two hundred years of Federation "occupation", and that although the path to Gallente Prime was clear, he did not consider it as a "show of good faith".

Terms of the negotiated "truce" stipulate that Mr. Heth's sovereignty claim is for the planet of Caldari Prime alone, and not for the system of Luminaire. Although the bulk of Caldari Navy forces are expected to return immediately to Caldari territories, some "military assets" are going to remain over Caldari Prime, although the exact composition of this force is not known at this time.

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: FOIRITAN ORDERS FEDERATION NAVY TO STAND DOWN

Ladistier - *** This is a breaking news story *** Scope News has learned that President Souro Foiritan has ordered the Federation Navy to call off its attack on Tierijev and issued a general order to "cease all hostile actions against the Caldari Navy". This shocking revelation is believed to have been issued following a direct

conversation with Caldari dictator Tibus Heth. This is a breaking news story that we will continue to update as information becomes available.

Posted 15:32 GMT

10/06/2008

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Posted 15:47 GMT

10/06/2008

REPORT: Caldari Naval forces withdraw to the Citadel; Federation Navy does not engage

Luminaire - Reports are coming in that the Caldari Navy has withdrawn the bulk of its forces from Gallente space. The Gallente Navy has refrained from halting the withdraw under the orders of President Foiritan. However, Federation Navy forces have tailed the Caldari task force back to the border and there have been moments where it appeared hostilities would reignite between the two sides.

The Caldari Navy appears to have withdrawn to the Citadel region along the border with the Gallente Federation. With the Federation Navy deploying along its own border with the State, both Navies remain on high alert.

Surprisingly a Caldari Navy force, including a Leviathan-class Titan, remains in orbit around Caldari Prime along with weapons platforms and other defensive measures. The Federation Navy has managed to clear the mining of the stargates into Luminaire but has purposefully kept its distance from Caldari Prime for reasons of its own.

10/06/2008

REPORT: IMPERIAL NAVY RETREATS OVER SARUM PRIME

Sarum Prime - The Imperial Navy has unexpectedly withdrawn all of its warships from the colossal fleet battle over the skies of Mekhios. In what was largely being described as a "brutal stalemate" between the two armadas, the fighting came to an abrupt halt as Imperial Navy warships disengaged en-masse and warped away from the Elder Fleet, which made no attempt to pursue the fleeing defenders. Military analysts can provide no explanation for the sudden departure, and are speculating that Grand Admiral Sundara has opted to abandon Domain and regroup in the Kor-Azor Region.

Fierce surface battles continue to rage across Mekhios as streams of Elder dropships ferry troops and armor to the surface.

Posted 16:05 GMT

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: JAMYL SARUM SIGHTED OVER SARUM PRIME

Sarum Prime - *** This is a breaking news report *** Reports are flooding Amarrian comm channels that the royal heir Jamyl Sarum has arrived on the battlefield over Mekhios with an escort of just twelve battleships. Jamyl Sarum was killed five years ago in the Succession Trials following the death of Emperor Heideran. This is a breaking news story that we will continue to update as information becomes available.

Posted 16:25 GMT

10/06/2008

BREAKING NEWS: MASSIVE EXPLOSION DETECTED OVER MEKHIOS

Sarum Prime - *** This is a breaking news report *** A massive explosion has been detected over Mekhios. All news feeds covering the conflict have been incapacitated by the detonation, and no data will be available until these systems are restored. This is a breaking news story that we will continue to update as information becomes

available.

Posted 16:27 GMT

10/06/2008
BREAKING NEWS: ELDER FLEET OVER MEKHIOS DESTROYED

Sarum Prime - *** This is a breaking news report *** Scope News has obtained visual confirmation that the Elder fleet over Mekhios has been destroyed. Camera feeds restored following the potent detonation revealed thousands of wrecks littering a vast area of space over the planet, some of which has fallen into dangerously low orbit. Battles in major cities, most notably the capital of Xerah, have turned in favor of Amarrian defenders as Elder infantrymen are hunted down.

The presence of Jamyl Sarum just moments before the explosion has yet to be confirmed, and no trace of her or her escort ships was spotted near the wreckage.

Posted 16:39 GMT

10/06/2008
BREAKING NEWS: IMPERIAL NAVY EMERGES IN KOR-AZOR REGION WITH JAMYL SARUM, ELDER FLEETS RETREATING

Kor-Azor Prime - *** This is a breaking news report *** The Elder fleets operating in the Kor-Azor Region of the Amarr Empire and Derelik Region of the Ammatar Mandate are retreating towards Minmatar Republic borders. Imperial Navy forces are in pursuit and are engaging the attackers wherever they can be caught. The wrecks of dozens of capital-class Minmatar vessels have been spotted by Scope News camera drones thus far. The general retreat follows the appearance of Jamyl Sarum and the unexplained destruction of the third Elder strike force operating over the planet Mekhios.

The resurgence of the former heir, long believed dead, is confirmed to be among the pursuing Imperial vessels and appears to have inspired the Amarrian counterattack.

Posted 16:51 GMT

10/06/2008
BREAKING NEWS: CONCORD RESTORES COUNTERTHREAT CAPABILITY, ISSUES GENERAL WARNING TO CEASE HOSTILITIES

Yulai - *** This is a breaking news report *** CONCORD has restored NEOCOM broadcast capabilities and has issued a general warning to all the nation-states of New Eden to cease all "non-sanctioned" hostilities. The exact transcript has been obtained by Scope News:

TO THE MILITARY FORCES OF ALL NATION-STATE MEMBERS OF THE CONCORD BUREAU ASSEMBLY:

CEASE ALL NON-SANCTIONED COMBAT OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS MANDATE IS PUNISHABLE WITH DEADLY FORCE. DED AND CONCORD COUNTERTHREAT DEPLOYMENT CAPABILITIES HAVE BEEN RESTORED.

REPEAT: CEASE ALL COMBAT OPERATIONS AND FALL BACK TO RECOGNIZED TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES.

TRAVEL ADVISORY - THREAT LEVEL CRITICAL

MERCENARIES POSING AS MINMATAR REPUBLIC AND/OR THUKKER WARSHIPS HAVE BEEN SPOTTED NEAR THE MINMATAR/AMMATAR AND MINMATAR/AMARR BORDERS. THIS GROUP IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND WILL ATTACK WITHOUT PROVOCATION. CAPABLE FORCES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENGAGE WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE.

THESE MERCENARIES ARE CHARGED WITH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. EACH CONFIRMED KILL WILL BE COMPENSATED BY UP TO 10 MILLION CREDITS EACH, AND 100 MILLION IF CAPTAINS ARE BROUGHT IN ALIVE.

Posted 17:00 GMT

10/06/2008
REPORT: SARUM HALTS AT MINMATAR BORDER, CHAMBERLAIN KARSOTH DISAPPEARS

Ezzara - The Imperial Navy has halted its pursuit of the Minmatar Elders at the Vard stargate in the Ezzara system, heeding the warning broadcast on the NEOCOM just moments ago by CONCORD. Scope News has also learned that all stargates leading into Yulai have been reopened, and confirmed that CONCORD Bureau Station appears to have been destroyed.

Court Chamberlain Dochuta Karsoth was last seen shortly after the Elders' invasion of the Ammatar Mandate. The Ministry of Internal Order is reportedly "exhausting every measure" to locate him.

Posted 17:24 GMT

10/06/2008

REPORT: ELDER FLEET ALLOWED TO PASS THROUGH REPUBLIC SPACE UNCONTESTED

Vard - In an apparent snub of CONCORD's bounty offer, the Republic Fleet refused to attack Elder warships as they retreated through Minmatar space. Thousands of Elder warships passed through stargates and jump portals towards the general direction of the Great Wildlands while Republic Fleet warships continued to patrol the Amarr border. Most of the Elder warships displayed signs of extended battle damage.

Unconfirmed reports place the number of slaves rescued by the Elders in the "tens of millions", and that the entirety of the Starkmanir population in the Derelik Region was recovered.

Posted 17:53 GMT

12/06/2008

Chief Midular calls for Emergency Session of Parliament.

Pator - Sebiestor Tribal Chief Karin Midular today called upon the Minmatar Republic to hold an emergency session of parliament as soon as possible, stating that "while the populace remains in shock at these recent events, decisive action by the leaders of the people of Matar is long overdue".

The other tribal chiefs were quick to respond, silencing the usual flurry of arguing parliamentarian members. The Emergency Session of Parliament is due to commence in two days time.

12/06/2008

President Foiritan addresses the Federation

Luminaire - "My fellow citizens, I come to you today with sorrow in my eyes and anger in my heart. We were knocked down but now we stand tall. Shoulder to shoulder. One people, one voice. We have been wronged and we will have justice.

I come here today as one of you, as your leader and as your servant. You came to me demanding the good life, and by Luminaire we've had it good! We have reached for the stars and held them in our grasp - nothing is beyond us, and you see our reach in every station gleaming in the deeps and in every child's beaming smile.

And now we have been brought low by two nests of serpents. The first is the one you know - Heth, and his army of barbarians. The Caldari people are an unhappy people, never content with their lot, always grasping for more, always biting the hand that feeds them. They coveted what we had here, and tried to take it by force, not realizing in their greed that what we have is not something that can be bought and sold.

No, what we have comes from what we are. We are a great and mighty people, and we can achieve whatever we set our minds to. That is the secret of our success, and it is that quality which will bring forth the avatar of our justice. You came to me demanding the good life before, and I delivered it. Now you come to me demanding justice, and so help me, you shall have justice.

The Caldari think that because we are cultured we are weak; they think that by striking us as we sleep, that makes them mighty. They will soon discover their error to their great cost, for they have woken the sleeping giant of the Federation and soon they shall feel its wrath! Even now the vanguard of our loyalist capsuleers are delivering crushing defeats to the Caldari war machine, while the patriotic men and women of our own Navy steel themselves for the coming conflict. It won't come today and it won't come tomorrow, as we are a patient people, slow to anger and slow to forgive, but when our hammer falls, our enemies will truly know the fate they have secured for themselves.

But I spoke of two nests of serpents, and the second is the one you do not know. I speak of the serpents within, those twisted individuals who share in the fruits of our successes with one hand, and seek to bring about our downfall with the other.

There are traitors in our midst.

You ask how our mighty fleet could fail to halt the Caldari war machine? It is not down to the soldiers on the front lines. They did their job. It is not down to the technicians and specialists who support the fleet. They did their job. It is not down to the armories who supply the ships' weapons, or the countless other industries supporting our fleet. They did their job.

No, the enormity of this failure falls on the shoulders of one man. Grand Admiral Advent Eturrer, Master of the Fleet, Guardian of Luminaire, First Defender of the Federation, Traitor. Traitor. Foremost military officer in the Federation, afforded every luxury, extended every trust, and it wasn't enough. When he was finally called upon to

do his duty, it wasn't enough, and he sold. Us. Out.

He has run to his bolt-hole like the rat he is, but we will find him. My word on this, we will find him, and we will see him atone for his crimes. But he is just the head of the serpent. He did not work alone in his conspiracy, and his is not the only conspiracy rotting within the Federation. Make no mistake, there are traitors in our midst. And we will find them. Every. Last. One.

By the emergency powers invested in me by the Senate, I am enacting laws to ensure that when the time is right, we are ready to strike back, against our enemies without and within, and that when we strike back, we strike back hard. We will leave no stone unturned, leave no opportunity untaken, leave no option unconsidered. The full force of the unbridled wrath of the Gallente Federation will be brought to bear on those who seek to harm us and our children, and when our avenging angel visits them they will know what it truly means to be mighty.

My fellow citizens, we will have justice."

13/06/2008

Heirs back Sarum, highlight obstacles

Ardishapur Prime - On behalf of himself and the other three remaining Heirs, Yonis Ardishapur today released a short statement declaring their support for Jamyl Sarum's immediate accession to the Imperial Throne. The text of the statement follows:

"On behalf of Yonis Ardishapur, Uriam Kador, Articio Kor-Azor and Catiz Tash-Murkon, we, the anointed Heirs of the Great Houses of the Empire, do hereby jointly and individually name and nominate Jamyl Sarum as our preferred heir to the Imperial Throne and pledge our undying fealty to her and her holy cause. In doing so we each waive our right to stand for Succession by Trial or other means.

"We commit to abiding by the judgement of the Honored Authorities in the matter of the Succession of Dorian II and petition them to discount our candidacy. In withdrawing ourselves in this way we indicate that we shall lend our Empress whatever support she may need and require of us in times to come, and that we will not directly intercede further in the Succession on behalf of ourselves or any other considered candidate. This does not remove or void the necessity of the selection of a new Chamberlain to officiate after the apparent abdication of Chamberlain Karsoth, or for the revered members of the Theology Council to validate Jamyl Sarum's legitimacy as a candidate."

15/06/2008

Kor-Azor to nominate new Chamberlain

Kor-Azor Prime - Sources close to the Kador family have revealed that, as his first official act since his recent encounter with one of the Speakers of Truths, Articio Kor-Azor is to nominate an interim Court Chamberlain in the next few days. His choice will reportedly have the blessing of the other Heirs and the Theology Council.

As general coordinator of the Imperial Succession the Chamberlain's role is a pivotal one, and with former Chamberlain Karsoth no longer present the selection of a replacement is a key step in the coronation of a new Emperor. Our Kador contact intimated that the debate over the correct protocol for appointing a Chamberlain in the absence of an Emperor was a protracted and acrimonious one. The arguments leaning heavily on the traditional appointment of the Chamberlain by the Emperor, and Articio's status as heir of the last Imperial family, finally convinced those advocating devolving the responsibility to the Theology Council to acquiesce.

It has been suggested that this appointment, in enabling the Succession to proceed, will allow the reign of Dorian II to finally come to a close. The new Emperor traditionally appoints their own Chamberlain shortly after the coronation, at which point the last vestiges of Dorian's reign will be laid to rest.

16/06/2008

Shakor asked to return as Midular calls emergency election

Pator - At an emergency session of parliament this evening, Sebiestor Tribal Chief Karin Midular called for emergency elections to be held no later than a week from today. Her directive came hard on the heels of a speech given by Keitan Yun, the Republic's former ambassador to CONCORD, in which the ambassador called for former Parliament Head Maleatu Shakor to return to Minmatar politics.

"The Gallente had a dream, and they called this dream democracy," said the Ambassador in his speech. "This dream was given to the Republic in its infancy and held to be the right and true way for a civilized society to govern. We now stand in the shattered remains of this dream with one unavoidable truth facing us: democracy has failed."

"It did not fail because of lack of good leaders. In my opinion, we had one of the best. It did not fail because of a fault in the system. The success of a democratic Federation has lasted long enough to bear this out. The Gallente are gripped by neither poverty nor disenchantment. They do not suffer our lack of identity and unity. No, democracy did not fail because we did not try. On these things we cannot be faulted."

"Democracy failed because it was not our dream. It was not for the Minmatar. We are a people not easily led, and brothers and sisters, on a precipice we now stand. If we continue to bicker and argue amongst ourselves without heed for our people's needs, we will fall. We need change. We need strength."

"There was once a Minmatar Nation that thrived before the Amarr came. I would see that Nation reborn, its tribes united. I would see us have a leader to give strength and solidarity to those united tribes. I would call upon Emissary Maleatu Shakor to return, to finish what he started. Now is the time to stand as who we are, true Minmatar."

As Ambassador Yun finished his speech, a few delegates rose to challenge his remarks. Their protestations continued for a few moments but were quickly quelled by the tribal chiefs. Sebiestor Chief Karin Midular then replaced Ambassador Yun on the podium.

"I was a champion of this dream, and I have lived it in every waking hour of my life as Prime Minister," she said. "It pains me beyond measure to admit its failure. But this pain is a relief, sharp and bright, for it heralds the true awakening of our purpose as a united people."

"We go now down a path that's new and uncharted, and yet its ancient direction is familiar to us. In this I have full faith that we will find success, provided we remember who we are and why we are on this path."

"So, as we transition from our dream to the waking world at last, it is my final task to start this new journey, to prepare the way for the great men and women who shall lead us to freedom at last. With the support of the chiefs of this Republic I call into immediate effect Article 341a of the Republic Charter and issue an emergency election of parliament, no later than a week from today."

Drastically reduced numbers were in attendance at the session, following the murders last week of several parliament members along with hundreds of other Minmatar government officials. Despite the small turnout, the proceedings were frequently marred by chaos, as several issues were vocally raised with the Republic's current situation since the June 6 dissolution of parliament. Few of their queries were answered, with tribal chiefs generally stepping up to quieten down their respective members

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16/06/2008

Chamberlain Hemirin seeks Theology Council approval to coronate Sarum

Avair - In an extended hearing today, Chamberlain Hemirin petitioned the Theology Council to endorse his intention to declare Jamyl Sarum Empress-elect in light of the lack of challengers to the throne.

Hemirin, who only formally accepted the post of Chamberlain this morning, spoke at length to the Council on his reasoning behind the request, claiming that "single-handedly saving the Empire from being overrun by barbarians is surely Trial enough to demonstrate capability for the role", and asking "Sarum has the support of the commoners, the Holders and the Heirs - what council would seek to thwart the will of those they claim to serve?". Eyewitnesses report that the Justices of the council appeared unmoved by the Chamberlain's speech, with one describing them as "stone-faced".

Protocol dictates that on a topic like this the Council be given until the following evening to deliberate their decision, and after hearing Hemirin's plea they retired to one of the inner chambers of the court to confer. The debating chamber itself is considered inviolate but sources suggest that many members of the court have been taking breaks from the discussions to meet with various representatives of the four Heirs, with some reports indicating that the Heirs themselves have been negotiating with key Council members.

When pressed about this, a Kor-Azor functionary commented that her master was "simply seeking reassurance that the eventual decision will be in the best interests of the Empire" but refused to be drawn further. Many however suspect that the interest being taken is a rather more active one.

17/06/2008

Theology Council confirms Sarum nomination

Avair - Revealing the results of their extended discussion on the matter, the Theology Council has announced its acceptance of Chamberlain Hemirin's request to declare Jamyl Sarum Empress-elect and hold a coronation ceremony "as soon as is practicable".

After being ensconced in their chambers for nearly a day, the Council finally reconvened to announce its support of Hemirin's position. Acceding to the other Heirs' requests to be withdrawn from consideration, and accepting the legitimacy of Sarum's claim, it acknowledged that as the sole remaining candidate the only acceptable course of action was to declare her Empress-elect and proceed with the coronation. It declined to pass any comment on the circumstances of Sarum's return, stating simply that "there is no acceptable explanation of [her return] available to us at this time".

While Articio Kor-Azor, Catiz Tash-Murkon and Uriam Kador fielded questions and commended the Council on "a difficult decision handled expertly", the Justices of the Council filed out swiftly as soon as the announcement was completed, followed shortly after by Yonis Ardishapur, who elected to dispense with the customary speech following decisions of such magnitude. On being pressed for comment by members of the press, Ardishapur Family Chief Co-Ordinator Bedaliba Izon attempted to deflect questions but after further consideration and some deliberation agreed to make a short statement. He expressed his support of the individual men and women of the Theology Council, declaring that they had "the fortitude to make a very serious decision in an unfavorable and highly pressured environment, the wisdom to know which choice would be the best one for the ancient and glorious Empire, and the intelligence to make a decision following their heads rather than their hearts", and then swiftly exited the hall.

18/06/2008

Shakor Returns to Republic

Pator - Today saw the return of former Parliament Head Maleatu Shakor back to the halls of Minmatar government. Arriving at the head of a large naval force, the noted political figure was joined at the Pator border by a detachment of Republic Fleet warships which escorted him and his ships to Matar.

After being greeted by the tribal heads and a visibly elated Karin Midular at the capitol, Shakor announced that "the force accompanying me saved many of our people in the recent hard-fought liberation." He went on to add that "with the blessing of the chiefs of this Republic, we will now seek to integrate these brave warriors with the Republic Fleet, bolstering its strength as guardians of our nation."

When asked about the reason for his return, Shakor stated simply "because I was called."

19/06/2008

Shakor is named as presidential candidate, elections prepared.

Pator - Brutor Party Leader and Tribe Chief Wkumi Pol today announced that he would step aside as party leader to allow Maleatu Shakor to enter his bid for the premiership in the upcoming elections. In an address to the Republic Parliament, Wkumi Pol stated that "the Minmatar people need a leader who can lead us away from the wreckage of democracy and guide us through dangerous times". Mr. Pol further ensured that Mr. Shakor "has the full support and endorsement of the Brutor Tribe" for the election.

All Republic parliament heads soon followed suit, declaring unity in the cause for Maleatu Shakor's premiership. Sebiestor Party Chief of Staff Nobor Gaban, speaking on behalf of the incumbent Karin Midular, stated that his tribe was "committed to the betterment of the Minmatar people", also adding that no candidate would be submitted to compete with Shakor for the premiership.

The Minmatar Republic, still reeling from the events which saw the liberation of millions of slaves in the Amarr Empire at the cost of nearly as many lives, is making headway on preparation for the elections. While complying lawfully with the democratic process, political analysts note that these measures could mark the beginning of a complete transformation of the Republic as it is known today.

24/06/2008

Election underway in Minmatar Republic

Election booths opened today across the Republic as citizens began to vote for their new parliament and prime minister. With all the tribal parties rallying behind Maleatu Shakor's bid for premiership, the outcome seems foretold. This has not dimmed the resolve of the populace to go out and vote, with vast numbers already queueing up at public voting booths to show their support.

No opponents have stepped forward to run against Shakor, making this the first uncontested election in the history of the Minmatar Republic. Public support for the lone candidate is high, although dissenting voices have been heard from several democracy activist groups, who have been vocal in their opposition to the arrangement.

"It's ridiculous," said Sastia Langon, spokesperson for the Minmatar Process League. "It's a subversion of all that we've been laboring to build in this great nation. It's a step backwards for everyone. Who's to say there aren't opponents willing to step up? Who's to say they haven't been intimidated into not running?"

Langon's comments, as with all other public commentary on the issue, have gone entirely unheeded by the extant power structures within the Republic as they gear up for what appears to be not only a regime change but, in the words of one analyst, "a complete restructuring of the government, from the ground up."

Signs and banners are visible everywhere, carrying slogans of support for Shakor. Rallies and spontaneous celebrations have been commonplace in all of the Republic's largest cities ever since liberated Minmatar began to pour into the spaceports.

"There's a mixture of jubilation and hope now," said assembly technician Arnatt Kimkar, who yesterday was reunited with his twenty-two year old son Markus after eleven years apart. "For the first time, it feels like something could happen. You know, something real."

01/07/2008

Maleatu Shakor elected Prime Minister of Minmatar Republic

The final ballots have been counted in the Minmatar Republic elections, with lone candidate Maleatu Shakor winning by default.

At his inaugural speech this afternoon, Prime Minister Shakor said:

"Sons and daughters of Matar, make no mistake about it. Now is a moment that tomorrow's people will look back on for inspiration. Now is a moment where we do what should have been done long ago. The tone of the future will be set by our actions today. We will submit no more, to neither despot nor nation. Let it be known from this day forth that we are a race of warriors, not slaves, and that we will fight to the last drop of blood for what we hold dear."

Shakor also stressed the importance of clan unity. Flanked by the Chiefs of the Minmatar tribes as he spoke, he made repeated mention of the tribes' diverse cultures and capabilities coming together under the umbrella of a unified Minmatar nation. He finished his speech to thunderous applause and a standing ovation from the thousands in attendance.

The reasons for the voter turnout - the lowest recorded in the Republic in thirty years - are widely disputed. Some sources claim it is due to a grassroots movement of democracy advocates who disapprove of Shakor's methods in coming to power, but others dismiss such notions, explaining the numbers by saying that in a one-candidate race there is simply little incentive to vote.

Regardless of the turnout and what it may mean, social elements within the Republic appear to widely favor Shakor. Several of the largest organizations and special interests groups in the nation have been quick to declare

their support of him.

Maleatu Shakor, 62, steps up as Prime Minister of the Minmatar Republic after nine years of service as the head of the Republic Parliament. Prior to that, he spent fourteen years serving various administrative posts within the Parliament, the Republic Justice Department and the Brutor Tribe. In his younger years Shakor was a revolutionary of some note, rumored to have been responsible for a number of coups against regional holders in several areas of Ammatar space. He is unmarried and has no children.

08/09/2008

Independent report will show progress from Heth reforms

An independent audit of Caldari State Leader Tibus Heth's reforms will provide solid evidence of improvements in workplaces across the entire nation, according to Dr. Heyata Saari, Assistant Auditor General in charge of the State Independent Audit Authority's Bureau of Human Resource Development.

Originally due to be finished ninety days after the first major reforms were put in place, the research is purportedly running ahead of schedule and will be delivered earlier than expected. Dr. Saari held an advance viewing of some report details in New Caldari last evening, where she explained that the research had been focused on the widespread industrial reorganization undertaken by Heth's government, as well as various individual programs and reforms.

Protectorate Director Janus Bravour was in attendance at the forum and delivered a short address. Thanking the Asst. Auditor General and her team for their hard work, he then outlined their assessment of the Self-Education Initiative, a State-wide education reform that has met with considerable success.

"Education and training are vital to the prosperity of a nation," said Mr Bravour. "Talent and dedication should be rewarded. A bit of praise is one thing, but does it help people put food on the table day after day? People want to believe that their hard work will pay off, that they'll get that promotion, the raise, or even just a good recommendation when a new job opens up. Our reforms ensure that these things will take place."

The report stated that approximately 30,000 Caldari citizens occupying various positions within dozens of private-sector corporations had already been accepted and enrolled for further education and training, with a predicted total intake of over 50,000 by the end of the year. A separate study of over 2,000 graduates from six different 3-month courses revealed that more than half of them were able to successfully negotiate an increase in pay or benefits.

Dr. Saari said the final version of the report would be delivered shortly, once all submissions had been received.

10/09/2008

Shakor to be named Sanmatar

Pator - Maleatu Shakor has been awarded the newly resurrected title of "Sanmatar", the Minmatar Republic government announced today.

The title is used by some Ammatar on their lands, where it means "true home". Another meaning is "true Matar", an honoured position of the Minmatar Empire, the government's release says.

The Sanmatar was the de-facto head of state, acting as a mediator for the Council of Tribes. This position brings a costly honour for its bearer, who must renounce all ties to their former tribe in order to maintain objectivity, an act usually considered a harsh criminal punishment.

The ceremony is due to take place tomorrow, where Maeletu Shakor is expected to address the nation after a period of relative silence from the government.

11/09/2008

Sanmatar Inaugurated; Declares New Vision for Minmatar

Pator - The ceremony to officially grant the title of "Sanmatar" to Prime Minister Maleatu Shakor took place this morning on Pator. The Sanmatar, which is now the formal title of office, thanked the assembled dignitaries for the honor and stated that this was simply the first step towards creating a new system of government for the Minmatar people.

Sanmatar Shakor then went on to outline his vision for this new government with the formation of a council of tribal heads to replace the parliament as the decision making body for the Minmatar Republic, a return to a state where a tribe has full control over its internal affairs and a reunification of all seven Minmatar tribes under one nation.

He then went on to say "we're not a people that are easily led and the road to this end will be long and hard" but added that "in the end, we will be able to stand and say, we have a Minmatar government, ruling a Minmatar society, peopled by all tribes of the Minmatar. That prize is worth any hardship".

18/09/2008

Audit of Heth reforms released

The release today of the State Independent Audit Bureau's 90-day audit has painted a cautiously positive view of State Leader Tibus Heth's reforms. Delivering the report at a crowded press release, Assistant Auditor General Dr. Heyata Saari said the paper offered a comprehensive overview of reforms undertaken by the Heth government.

Dr. Saari once again stated that the focus of her team's research had been on workplace reform and reorganization. Among the many new programs reviewed, one highlight for the Heth government was the evident success of their Job Choices program, which saw widespread participation across key industries and had received glowing feedback from the general populace. The paper revealed that over one third of those eligible had opted in, with as much as 40% participation in many areas.

Offering paid training and increased chances of relocation for veterans of the workforce, the program allows long-serving citizens to change jobs late in their career without the usual hassles involved. A majority of those surveyed said the flexibility of both training and positions available had been the reason for their enrolment.

The Job Choices program wasn't the only good news for the Heth administration, however. Their Workforce Modernisation program had seen similar numbers of participation and was proving equally popular amongst citizens.

Considered to be the larger sibling of their more selective Self Education Initiative, the WMP allocates resources and funding to workers through their corporate sponsors rather than on an individual basis. All of the "Big 8" MegaCorps opted in at least partially, lending considerable momentum to the program from the beginning.

The program was a two-pronged attack aimed at inequality and inefficiency in the workplace. One of the single largest outlays was the funding for the automation of over fifty million jobs in the last three months. According to surveys taken from the report, this alone saw a drastic reduction of injury and dissatisfaction in affected workplaces. Workers in outmoded industries or those recently automated were offered paid training to upgrade their skills and advance elsewhere in the workforce.

From manufacturing and agriculture through to the entertainment industry, key figures have come forward to support early signs from the report that point to a happier, more productive workforce. Although the final cost of the reform remains unclear, Dr. Saari did stress that if current spending and enrolment continued it would stand as the most expensive workplace reform in Caldari State history.

Various State officials are set to attend further discussions in the coming days, where they will elaborate on Dr. Saari's report and field questions from the press.

19/09/2008

Federation split over results of independent audit

A tense political showdown was sparked inside the Federation Senate today following the recent release of an independent audit into Tibus Heth's reforms.

Seizing on the absence of President Souro Foiritan, opposition members of the Senate took to questioning his deputies on matters normally handled by their superior. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Head Aulmont Meis had to repeatedly deny making any official comment on the Saari Report, stating that the government needed more time to properly assess all the information.

Her refusal to speak in the President's stead was met with derision from her opponents. Influential Mannar and Jin-Mei Senators demanded either an official response or the early return of the President, who left Villore last evening to meet representatives of the Minmatar government in Sinq Laison. Senator Mei retorted that their demands for an immediate statement were "completely irresponsible."

Reactions from inside the Federation have been mixed following the release of the report. Large sections of the Intaki population as well as their powerful lobby groups urged President Foiritan to encourage what they saw as a positive move. "There are some things we can agree with the Caldari State on," said Intaki activist Kirae Eillen. "Only through dialogue that encourages positive changes can we hope for true progress on anything else."

Elsewhere in the Federation experts lined up to question the interpretation - what many called outright spin - the State had put on the figures. Whilst agreeing more or less with the numbers presented, the experts claimed they frequently didn't tell the whole story or had been distorted. Professor Heloi Gachall at the University of Caille questioned the presentation of many programs. "It's not up for debate that the enrolment numbers in many programs are quite high...but that alone doesn't prove they've been a success. The report offers no insight into just how much the average Caldari will benefit, contrary to many claims made by State officials."

It is expected that the official response to the figures from the report will focus on remarks made by Prof. Gachall and others. "There is much yet to be seen," she said. "I agree that any statement one way or the other would be premature at this point."

21/09/2008

Independent audit receives mixed reception outside the State

Reactions across the cluster were mixed following the release of an independent audit into the recent workplace reforms in the Caldari State.

Claiming to have seen the results of the reforms better than any others outside the State, the Khanid Kingdom and Amarr Empire both offered their support of the changes. Carthum Conglomerate spokesperson Maktina Obasa said the corporation had benefitted from the flow-on effects of success inside the State. Partly owned by the Caldari mega corporation Lai Dai, Ms Obasa said that Carthum stood to profit from the improved efficiency of its partner corporation.

Khanid Innovations Chief Researcher Ohulainen Pesabato was similarly impressed. "The many reforms encouraging scientific innovation and development are to be applauded," she said. "We were greatly pleased to see the Caldari State continuing to build upon the strength of its scientific community. As always, we look forward to further collaboration and the building of beneficial friendships between their scientists and ours."

Meanwhile back inside State borders, Protectorate Director Suvasemi Aikinen was busy defending the reforms from Minmatar and Gallente detractors, whose most repeated claim was that the corporate elite were as corrupt as ever. Standing in for an ill COO Janus Bravour as he answered the press, Mr Aikinen shot back in emphatic refusal of their claims.

"I'm aware of the statements and find them utterly ridiculous. From day one we've been meeting this challenge head on. We began by immediately redistributing assets to those who truly earned them and have followed this up by granting increased oversight of the mega corporations through the Caldari Business Tribunal. Corporate executives and those in upper management are more accountable and under more scrutiny than ever before ... in line with their subordinates."

When asked why these reforms and others had been left out of the report, Mr Aikinen said it was due to them being "notoriously difficult to measure," adding that the Federation "knew this all too well and...evidently preferred political point scoring to substantive debate."

Despite the brief appearance of Protectorate Directors Bravour and Aikinen, official comments on the report from the State have been largely relegated to lower-level officials. Mr Aikinen explained the move, claiming that "those involved directly in daily operations of corporations were some of the best placed to understand and elaborate" on the reforms and how they benefitted workers.

23/09/2008

Coronation date officially confirmed by Court Chamberlain

Hedion - Janyl Sarum will be coronated Empress Janyl I in three days' time, Chamberlain Hemirin confirmed today. It has been known for several weeks that the coronation would take place imminently, but the precise date has been kept secret.

At a packed press conference this evening, Hemirin cited "unresolved security issues" as the reason for keeping the coronation date from the press for so long. Hemirin asserted also that although attendance at the coronation event itself was strictly by invitation, anyone wishing to join in the planned post-coronation festivities had "more than enough time" to travel to the Amarr system and that additional transport capacity had been made available to cope with expected demand.

While Chamberlain Hemirin's message has been one of measured control, inside sources on Mekhios claim that negotiations covering protocol, attendance, and scheduling have repeatedly failed to reach consensus. A spokesman for the Chamberlain's office has denied any political concerns, calling such claims "scurrilous falsehoods."

It seems clear that Friday will be a turning point in Amarr's recent history. The coronation speech will be Janyl's first formal address to her new empire, and analysts agree that she is unlikely to waste the opportunity to make a dramatic first turn.

23/09/2008

Caldari citizens speak out about reforms

Following the reactions from nations across the cluster, the Caldari people have spoken out in overwhelming support of the Heth reforms, claiming outsiders aren't in any position to judge their success.

Yesterday Echelon Entertainment hosted a day-long forum, inviting people working in various occupations to attend and offer their opinion of the changes. Excerpts from the forum were screened on Caldari networks throughout today. The comments coming from State citizenry were for the most part positive and hopeful.

"A year ago we had no real way to move into management positions," said assembly line worker and father of

two Utreki Makkolen. "Nowadays I'm studying four nights a week to become a foreman, along with plenty of others. Raising a family is meant to be a challenge, it's meant to be an achievement, but these new opportunities make it that little bit easier. This can make all the difference for some of us."

Perhaps the most pleasing comments for the Heth government were those made by Oduma Akkadan, a senior executive in charge of over 100,000 staff employed by his corporation, a Kaalakiota Corporation subsidiary.

"I oversaw a rise of 12% rise in our department's profits this last quarter and was rewarded accordingly," he said. "Contrary to popular belief outside the State, the Heth administration is not about hurting those of us at the top without reason. There is a difference between holding managerial staff accountable and simply hounding them...it would be hypocrisy for only some of us who work hard to be rewarded. I welcome the changes and believe they are long overdue...we are all better off for having them."

The integration of the Young Provists program into Crèches across the State was the most salient point of concern for Caldari citizens, who expressed a desire for another independent review focused more closely on their performance.

Offering free or low-cost holidays to young adults, the purpose of the program as described by the official press release is to "invest in future generations by instilling a sense of duty and self-reliance." The weekend retreats focus on community-minded projects and team building exercises, as well as light vocational training. Participation so far has been significant, with one in three families participating according to Dr. Saari's report.

"My children seem to love the camps," said Administrative Assistant Suresen Takin. "I've no doubt they're learning vital skills that will benefit them later on. My only concern is the impact this time out from their family and school work has over the long term. As the program matures, some studies into that would be very welcome."

Other parents said they had decided against letting their children attend at all. "If I let my children go to these weekend camps I'd never see them," said one mother.

State officials said they appreciated the feedback from the forum and were monitoring the progress of all reforms carefully. "There is certainly a balance that needs to be struck," said the Lonetrek Regional Manager of the Young Provist program, Aremi Litaanen. "We're listening closely and working tremendously hard to find and maintain it."

25/09/2008

Coronation delayed

Hedion - The Coronation of Jamyl Sarum as Empress Jamyl I that was due to be held tomorrow has been postponed one week, Chamberlain Hemirin announced today. The Chamberlain did not explain the change, but did note that the future Empress had approved it.

Speculation on the event is rife throughout the Empire. Some point to several inauspicious events such as the recent disappearance of several Speakers of Truth enroute to the coronation; and an outbreak of Phyrezi fever, a short-lived but virulent and easily transmitted virus, which is spreading rapidly throughout Uriam Kador's domain.

Others point to rumors of an assassination plot against the Empress, though no clear evidence of such a plot has yet been presented in any open court. The Sarum Family has been operating an extremely strict security procedure in the weeks leading up to the ceremony, but Security Commander Pareh Mere claims that this is merely a normal precaution.

While no firm reason has come forward for this change, the general mood in the Empire remains optimistic and its people seem patient.

03/10/2008

Coronation of Empress Jamyl Launches New Era for the Amarr Empire

Amarr - Jamyl Sarum, the resurgent heir to the Sarum royal family, was today crowned Empress of the Amarr Empire. In a ceremony that began with her arrival amidst a huge assembly of Imperial Navy warships, interim Court Chamberlain Hemirin placed the sacred crown upon Her Majesty, declaring her the "Holy Ordained Empress of Creation".

Delivering a powerful opening speech, Empress Jamyl boldly announced the start of a new Reclaiming, calling on all those of faith to "stand by her side" as the Empire recovered from "the excesses of a misguided path". Seemingly mindful of those questioning the merit of her rule, she ended her address with a forceful demand for loyalty, possibly directed at the remaining heirs, with a vow to return "what others give to the Empire [sic]".

If there were any doubts about the legitimacy of her ascension, no such sentiment was present among the thousands of Holders and clergy present for the historic occasion. The spectacular coronation was held within the massive vaulted chambers of St. Kuria the Prophet Cathedral in Amarr, which has also witnessed the mourning of Emperor Heideran; the coronation and funeral of Emperor Dorian II; and the proxy rule of Chamberlain Dochuta Karsoth, who is believed to have fled during the Minmatar Elder's invasion of Amarr earlier this year.

Despite official claims to the contrary, the Imperial Navy appears to have brought a significant portion of its vaunted Imperial Domain Fleet to the coronation. This unprecedented maneuver was part of a series of massive security precautions that included the complete shutdown of the Amarr System for the coronation, forbidding all access to travelers except for those receiving a direct invitation from the Court Chamberlain.

Speculation remains that the coronation's earlier delay was due to the epic logistical challenge of recalling the Domain Fleet from deployment elsewhere in the Empire without exposing the flanks of the remaining Imperial fleets operating close to low-sec borders, which would be considered a risky tactic even during peacetime. The Ministry of War has forbidden new agencies from delivering any footage of the actual event until a later date.

As to be expected, the Empress received a cool welcome from the governments of both the Gallente Federation and Caldari State, with emissaries passing along well-wishes to be followed by formal addresses from chiefs of state later on. However, a spokesperson for the Minmatar Republic outright decried her decree of reclaiming as a "blatant insult and a disappointing start for the so-called 'empress'."

Empress Jamyl remains hugely popular with the general population of Amarr and the Imperial Navy to a degree that borders on deific. Long believed dead, her sudden "resurrection" was received with predictable skepticism among the orthodox practitioners of the Amarr faith, versus enthusiastic approval with the Reformist movement in the Empire. However, the circumstances surrounding her timely arrival during the legendary Battle of Mekhios remain unclear, especially as to how she was able to repel or otherwise inspire the Imperial Navy to counter such a large Minmatar attack force.

04/10/2008

Empress Jamyl I begins reign

Amarr – In her first acts as the reigning leader of the Amarr Empire, Empress Jamyl I issued several proclamations today, the highlights of which included the confirmation of a new Sarum heir and the appointment of a new Court Chamberlain.

In a move that surprised few, Jamyl confirmed that her nephew, Merimeth Sarum, had been nominated and accepted as the new Heir of the Sarum Family. International opinion seems divided on the young Heir who has been kept in wings of the Sarum Family for some time, which had for several years displayed an unexplained reluctance to replace the assumed-deceased Jamyl. Speaking briefly after the ceremony, Merimeth remarked that he was "honored to accept the responsibility, and impatient to begin [his] duties."

Slightly more controversially, long-serving Sarum House Steward Pomik Haromi was sworn in as the new Court Chamberlain, replacing Chamberlain Hemirin who had briefly occupied the position to help lay the late Emperor Dorian II's legacy to rest. While highly experienced in administrative matters, Pomik has elected to stay largely removed from Court politics during his career, and several self-declared contenders for the position have quietly questioned his ability to properly discharge the responsibility.

Further changes are on their way: a reorganization of the Privy Council was announced but not detailed, and while interpretations vary it seems that Jamyl's coronation speech hints at larger revelations to come. In particular, the cryptic promise to reward those who help the Empire has triggered a great deal of discussion, with some suggesting it is directed at neighbouring nations, while others claim it's a direct challenge to the surviving Heirs. There is little consensus on this issue yet, but while most Court notables have refused to comment on the matter, rumours abound that several clandestine schemes are already in motion.

25/10/2008

Report shows large gain in Republic repatriation

Pator - The Republic Government today released the latest report on immigration figures which continued to show a dramatic decline in emigration from the Republic, coupled with a steady rise in Minmatar returning to the Republic from the Federation.

Although experts in the field predicted a continuing drop in emigration numbers due to the positive industrial news, continuing unity from the government and the growing optimism of the general populace saw a surprising gain in immigration from the Federation.

"A closer study of the numbers," stated Professor Kell Baraim, dean of Economics at the Republic University, "shows that the vast majority of those returning are first generation immigrants, the ones who have been in the Federation shortest. It remains to be seen whether this is a sustainable trend or simply a short term reaction to the current upswing of confidence in the Republic and its environs."

28/10/2008

Boundless Creation plays host to delegation from Thukker Mix

Hagilur - Executives of Boundless Creation today laid out the welcome mat at Hagilur as they hosted a delegation from one of the Thukker Tribe's largest recognized corporations, Thukker Mix.

Thukker Mix are perhaps best known for their cutting-edge ship designs, many based on standard Republic ship hulls, which have risen to prominence amongst the capsuleer elite. The Mix have also created a number of lesser known innovations that have found their way to the mass market.

Boundless Creations spokesperson Wyum Ril stated: "We have been involved in dialogue behind the scenes with Thukker Mix for some time and are now ready to take the next step into what we hope will be a prosperous relationship between our two groups. We'd like to give a warm welcome to our friends from Thukker Mix, and we thank the government for its continuing support of our efforts."

In the wake of the Elder War (the name given to the recent conflict by the Republic's citizenry), the stance towards the Republic's Thukker kin has started to shift substantially. The old government once pursued a policy of actively distancing itself from the Thukkers, who were widely regarded as scoundrels and vagabonds. This policy has been reversed by the new administration, with Sanmatar Shakor issuing his personal congratulations to Boundless Creation for what he refers to as a "move towards the future."

31/10/2008

Sanmatar Shakor announces Thukker Tribe visit.

Pator - Sanmatar Shakor and the Republic Tribal Chiefs will host a meeting with Ennar Aeboul, Chief of the Thukker Tribe, it was announced at a press conference today.

Shakor was short on details, stating that the goal was to "promote goodwill between the tribes of the Republic and our Thukker brethren after a long period of misunderstanding between our people," and that he hoped Chief Aeboul's visit would be productive for both factions.

When asked about the Thukker Chief's arrival date on Matar, Shakor surprised the assembled press by saying that he had arrived this morning, adding "I hope the nation will join me in showing Chief Aeboul our warmest welcome. It has been far too long."

This move comes after a general upswing in relations between the Thukkers and the Republic, following their near non-existence before the Minmatar invasion of Amarr.

07/11/2008

Unannounced Military Training Exercise Detected in Tash-Murkon Region

Tash-Murkon - Approximately 200 Amarrian warships were detected moving through the Tash-Murkon Region earlier today in what is being described by analysts as a training exercise by the Imperial Fleet. Although no official statement has been released by the Ministry of War, the movement of such a large number of purely Amarr-class vessels "could be nothing else" according to military strategists familiar with Imperial Navy operations.

The Tash-Murkon family spokesman expressed concern over the developments. "We have not been informed of any exercises by the Ministry of War," he said. "We would like to think they would have the courtesy to inform us before moving such a large number of ships through our space."

07/11/2008

Report: Republic Fleet Fortifying Border Systems

Molden Heath - The Republic Fleet is reported to be shifting naval forces to border systems with the Amarr Empire. This movement is believed to be in response to unannounced military exercises by Imperial Navy forces in the Tash-Murkon Region. Although no official statement has been issued by the Ministry of War, the Republic Fleet appears to be gearing for a direct assault on its sovereignty.

Analysts report that the redeployment of naval assets to key strategic points is standard operating procedure for this kind of development.

08/11/2008

REPORT: KADOR FLEET LAUNCHES INVASION OF GALLENTA FEDERATION IN SOLITUDE - HEAVY CASUALTIES REPORTED AS FIGHTING IS UNDERWAY

Ratillose - Amarrian Heir Uriam Kador has launched a personal invasion of the Gallente Federation. The unprovoked attack follows a series of misdirection actions by the Kador fleet in the last 24 hours. Heavy fighting is underway in the Ratillose System on the Federation side of the border, which is home to at least two Federation Navy bases. This is a breaking news story. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

08/11/2008

IMPERIAL FLEET SPOKESPERSON: 'WE HAVE NOT SANCTIONED THIS ATTACK'

Amarr - The Imperial Navy issued an emergency press release explicitly stating that the Kador invasion was not

sanctioned by the Ministry of War and that all military actions by his forces should be considered rogue and not representative of the Amarr Empire. Meanwhile, heavy fighting continues as the Federation is reported to have launched a massive counterattack to support forces in Ratillose. This is a breaking news story. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

08/11/2008

REPORT: MASSIVE FEDERATION COUNTERATTACK UNDERWAY - KADOR FLEET ESTIMATED TO BE OUTNUMBERED 4:1, SUSTAINING MASSIVE LOSSES

Ratillose - Forces loyal to Amarr Heir Uriam Kador are being routed in what is being described as an "epic" counterattack by Federation Navy forces, and are reportedly outnumbered by a factor of almost 4:1. The military action follows an unprovoked invasion of the Gallente Federation just under an hour ago and emphatically described as "unsanctioned" by the Amarr Ministry of War. Scope News has confirmed that no Imperial reinforcements have arrived to support Kador's fleet. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

08/11/2008

FEDERATION NAVY GRAND ADMIRAL: 'THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED SAFE PASSAGE BACK'

Ratillose -Remnants of the forces loyal to Amarr Heir Uriam Kador responsible for launching an unprovoked invasion of the Gallente Federation have been spotted retreating into Aridia. Federation Grand Admiral Anteson Ranchel has issued a statement condemning the attack, vowing that Kador's forces "will not be allowed safe passage back". It is unknown at this time if Federation warships will pursue the invaders into Amarr space.

08/11/2008

Federation Navy Crushes Kador Invasion

Luminaire - In an emergency press conference, the Federation government announced a "decisive victory" against forces loyal to House Kador of the Amarr Empire.

Spokespersons for the Federation Navy and the Foiritan Administration told reporters that Kador forces had launched an "unprovoked attack" on Federation assets in the border region of Solitude.

Heir Uriam Kador has previously been characterized as friendly to the Federation. He visited the Federation on several occasions during the interregnum between the reigns of Emperor Heideran and Empress Jamyl I, and was linked romantically to a Gallente broadcast star.

The Federation counterattack was swift and brutal. Remaining Kador forces were described as heavily damaged retreating in "complete disarray." The engagement represents the first major military action for the Federation Navy since the fall of Caldari Prime. Analysts have cited a rapid buildup of conventional Navy crew and assets to serve alongside capsuleer militias. The Navy spokesperson said that "the human element, as always, was key to our success and our continued freedom."

The Navy was previously well-known for using drone fleets to avoid risking human crews.

Moreover, the last six months have seen a massive retrofitting of the Federation's industrial base to focus on defense. Private and government investments have bolstered existing military suppliers while converting a substantial portion of the civilian industrial base to serve the Federation war machine.

Neither the Imperial Ministry of War nor representatives of the Kador family have returned requests for comment.

08/11/2008

Imperial Fleet spotted in Aridia

Aridia - An unidentified Imperial Navy fleet, apparently incorporating much of the Amarrian fleet exercising in Tash-Murkon yesterday, has resurfaced unannounced in the Aridia region. The Ministry of War has still not released any statement explaining these unannounced manoeuvres.

While it has long been Naval policy to maintain a press blackout during scheduled exercises, it is also customary for affected parties to be notified in advance. Statements from the Tash-Murkon Family yesterday suggest that these protocols have not been observed, and while the Ministry has given no official comment, anonymous sources indicate that there is some confusion internally. Attempts to solicit comments from other Imperial Families, who maintain their own standing navies and are usually well-informed of Fleet movements, have so far yielded no conclusive information.

08/11/2008

BREAKING REPORT: AMARRIAN WARSHIPS CROSS FEDERATION BORDER IN SOLITUDE

Aridia - An Amarrian war fleet has just been sighted entering sovereign Federation space through the border region of Aridia. The action represents the most significant military action in the history of the cold war between

the Amarr Empire and Gallente Federation. This is a breaking news story. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

08/11/2008

BREAKING REPORT: WARSHIPS REPORTEDLY ACTING ON ORDERS FROM AMARR HEIR URIAM KADOR

Solitude - The Amarr war fleet which crossed the Federation border in Solitude is reportedly acting under the direct command of Amarrian Heir Uriam Kador. Spokespersons for the Heir are unavailable for comment as of this time. Federation warships have been sighted moving towards the Gallente system of Ratillose. This is a breaking news story. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

08/11/2008

REPORT: KADOR FLEET LAUNCHES INVASION OF GALLENTE FEDERATION IN SOLITUDE - HEAVY CASUALTIES REPORTED AS FIGHTING IS UNDERWAY

Ratillose - Amarrian Heir Uriam Kador has launched a personal invasion of the Gallente Federation. The unprovoked attack follows a series of misdirection actions by the Kador fleet in the last 24 hours. Heavy fighting is underway in the Ratillose System on the Federation side of the border, which is home to at least two Federation Navy bases. This is a breaking news story. We will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

13/11/2008

Minmatar Republic and Thukker Tribe announce open border policy.

Pator - The Minmatar Republic and the Thukker Tribe have formed an open border policy, Sanmatar Maleatu Shakor and Thukker Chief Einnar Aeboul jointly announced at a press conference today.

The agreement, coming after a week of talks between the two leaders, will allow Minmatar and Thukker citizens to travel freely between their respective territories. The agreement, notably, also extends to the Starkmanir and Nefantar tribes currently sheltered in Thukker territory.

"With this historic agreement, we open the door for peoples of all tribes to finally return home," Shakor announced. "We have already enacted several plans to allow us to cope with the influx of people, and I urge all Republic citizens to welcome our long-lost kin." Shakor went on to say that he hoped this would be only the first step in a growing relationship between the Minmatar Republic and the Thukker Tribe.

Chief Aeboul also welcomed the agreement, but tempered his approval by saying that "while this is indeed a historic occasion for the Minmatar people, the Thukker tribe still values its independence and way of life. I can assure everyone that we will not be relinquishing our sovereignty." He also stated his tribe would welcome immigrants from the Republic, and finished by reminding those in attendance that while the Thukker life is a hard one, it is also exceptionally rewarding.

The agreement comes after several years of growing discord between the Republic and Thukker tribe. While Chief Aeboul made some strong remarks about his tribe's independent status, Sanmatar Shakor has made it clear he wishes a joint tribal government for all Minmatar, and several pundits have claimed this agreement is just the first step in his grand scheme to further that goal. Official sources have neither moved to confirm nor deny these claims.

14/11/2008

Empress Jamyl reprimands Heir Kador, confiscates fleet

Amarr - Empress Jamyl I made a short address to the Empire today, chastising Imperial Heir Uriam Kador for his abortive military incursion into Gallente space and announcing the full integration of the remains of the Kador Family home fleet into the Imperial Navy.

Speaking via public address systems from the Emperor Family station in Amarr, the Empress said "I made a promise that I would respond in kind to actions affecting the wellbeing of our great and holy Empire, be they good or ill. The failure of Uriam's private military adventure has caused the Empire significant inconvenience at home and abroad. As such I will be imposing commensurate inconvenience upon him. All Kador-aligned military forces and assets will be turned over to the Ministry of War for reassignment, and Heir Uriam will in the future be expected and required to conduct himself in a manner which the Ministry of Internal Order deems acceptable."

The Empress also extended the Empire's condolences to the families of innocents killed and injured by Heir Kador's actions, her disregard of their race or allegiance an acknowledgement of the gravity of the political situation with the Gallente. Mention was made in passing of Emperor Heideran VII's proclamation prohibiting the Heir Families from maintaining standing military forces, which has not been enforced for many years.

While some outsiders have questioned Empress Jamyl's firmness in this matter, sources more familiar with Imperial politics have expressed a measure of shock at the perceived severity of the sanctions imposed. It is believed that this is the first time the Ministry of Internal Order has ever been given clearance to have any overt

involvement with Heirs or their families. The rumored integration of the remaining Kador naval assets with the disgraced 7th Fleet, still currently based in the Aridia region, has caused many eyebrows to be raised in military circles.

14/11/2008

President Foiritan addresses Gallente Federation.

Luminaire - President Foiritan addressed the Gallente Federation today in the aftermath of the invasion of Federation territory, apparently by military forces belonging to the Amarr Kador Family.

"An enemy chose to attack our Federation with the presumption that we were weak," the President began, taking his time. "That mistake cost them dearly. The Federation Navy met the invading fleets with such force that they were wholly routed and destroyed. "

"No quarter was given to the invaders who attacked our people; those few who survived now await trial for their crimes." The President went on to say that while the motivation and circumstances of the attack were still unclear, Federation military intelligence is currently considering what action to take next.

The President wrapped up his speech saying, "This sends a strong message out to all those who might think the Federation easy prey. While we hold our values dear, we will protect those values with terrible force, and if necessary with our lives. Long live the Federation."

21/11/2008

Breaking News: Gallente navy vessels seen entering Aridia

Aridia - Breaking news at this hour: A number of Federation Navy ships have reportedly been spotted crossing into Amarr territory from Gallente space. Neither the Amarr government nor Amarr Navy High Command have commented on the situation, though it is rumored that Amarr Navy vessels have been scrambled to monitor the incursive squadron.

More on this situation as it develops.

21/11/2008

Breaking News: Unauthorized Gallente presence confirmed in Amarr space

Aridia - Earlier reports that a fleet of Federation Navy vessels had crossed over the Gallente-Amarr border into Aridia have now been confirmed by several independent sources. Amarr Navy scout squadrons have reportedly been scrambled and are conducting long-range reconnaissance, but have made no move to engage yet. The Gallente vessels have failed to respond to all hails directed towards them, and top sources within the Federation Navy have reportedly disavowed any knowledge of their actions. The fleet, variously reported to number between sixty and one hundred unmarked vessels of diverse class and specification, was last spotted in the Noranim system in Genesis.

More on the situation as it develops.

21/11/2008

Breaking News: Reports of heavy fighting in Kador Prime

Kador Prime - Reports have just come in about ongoing heavy fighting in the Kador Prime system, apparently concentrated around the Kador Family Bureau station at the system's first planet. Combat has also been reported at several other points in the system, but these reports remain unconfirmed still.

Several feeds from eyewitnesses at the station appear to show Gallente forces clashing with ships aligned to the Kador Family. Amarr Navy fleets have been sighted not three systems away, but appear to thus far be making no move to assist the embattled Kador forces in Kador Prime.

21/11/2008

President Foiritan announces capture of renegade Admiral

Luminaire - President Foiritan addressed the Gallente Federation today in the wake of the Federation Navy's first instance of direct military action within the Amarr Empire's borders in over three decades.

"In response to intelligence received yesterday, this morning I authorized our military forces to cross the border into the Amarr Empire and conduct a forced extraction of the traitor, former Grand Admiral of the Navy, Anvent Eturner," said the President, speaking to an assembled crowd of thousands.

"The force encountered some resistance, which it summarily overcame. I am glad to report to you that the promise I made five months ago has been fulfilled. We have found the traitor and we hold him in our talons. Anvent Eturner is now being kept at a secret maximum security facility where he awaits trial for his crimes against the Federation."

Though no date has been set for the trial, nor it decided what exact form the proceedings will take, the President went to great lengths to assure the nation of Eturner's fate.

"I promised you he would atone for his crimes... that he would stand judgment, be made to pay for what he cost this Federation. Citizens of the Federation, I promise you this -- he will pay."

"With this extraction effected, and the Kador forces that chose to strike out against us dissolved, we are satisfied that no further action will be needed against the Amarr Empire at this time," the President also said.

Amarr authorities have so far remained silent about the situation. According to Gallente officials no high-level communication has taken place between the two governments, and no apparent mobilization has taken place among the Amarr armed forces.

21/11/2008

Fighting in Kador Prime ceases

Kador Prime - The heavy fighting that just moments ago was occurring in Kador Prime seems to have ceased, all reports coming in indicate that the Federation Navy vessels that were involved in the combat have left the system.

We have no further sightings of the Federation Navy fleet and we have no further information at this time.

28/11/2008

Empress Jamyl places Ammatar Mandate under Ardishapur vassalage

Amarr - Amarr Empress Jamyl I this morning released a statement declaring that, as of noon tomorrow, she would be handing executive oversight of the Ammatar Mandate to Ardishapur Family heir Yonis Ardishapur. The announcement comes after several months of speculation on the empress's intentions for the Five Heirs and how they will fit into her much-vaunted plan for the restoration of the Reclaiming.

The empress's decree states that Lord Ardishapur, "pursuant to Imperial directive, shall henceforth carry ultimate responsibility for the fates and fortunes of the Ammatar Mandate, its bordered districts and outlying holdings, its economic and military resources and the souls of its faithful servants."

While the heir himself has yet to comment on the announcement, House Ardishapur did release a statement shortly after the empress's, which asserted that Ardishapur would "treat this worthy assignment as seriously as any other task bestowed by the anointed ruler of God's Empire." The statement contained no information on what policy directions the heir intends to take with the Ammatar Mandate.

Ammatar has been beset by turmoil and uncertainty ever since the Elder War earlier this year, when its lucrative tsula plantations - the Mandate's largest export crop and arguably the backbone of its economy - were systematically destroyed by Chamberlain Karsoth's forces in retaliation for the Mandate government's harboring of Starkmanir Minmatar tribesmen. While several of these plantations are in the process of being restored, the lack of strong centralized authority at home has caused efforts to flounder with little funding. Foreign private interests, primarily Khanid and Caldari, have offered outreach agreements, but the Consulate's interim government has thus far denied all offers under strict orders from the Imperial Throne.

Lord Ardishapur is expected to announce his new Consulate governor within a week.

21/12/2008

Royal Khanid Navy releases statement on Blood Raider attacks

Royal Khanid Navy Grand Admiral Zidares Khanid this morning released a statement claiming that Khanid Kingdom forces yesterday attacked thirty-three separate Blood Raider Covenant targets - ranging from unmanned installations to fully-defended outposts - in what the release terms "an effort to strike a blow against the spreading blight of willful heresy."

The Admiral's statement went on to detail the statistics of yesterday's conflicts, some of which are reportedly still raging. Among the largest were a one-hundred-battleship-strong attack on a major Covenant outpost in an undisclosed location, where the report states that over twenty thousand Khanid soldiers were killed, and a three-pronged attack on a critical Covenant arms production facility which resulted in the destruction of the facility and the deaths of over fifty-five thousand people, the Khanid's and the Covenant's alike.

Questioned about the swift and ferocious nature of the attacks, Admiral Zidares responded: "The Blood Raiders have been a thorn in our side for years, and we felt that now was the time to make a coordinated effort to strike back and weaken them. Our intel had indicated to us that certain weaknesses were developing, and now was the right time to exploit them."

Overall, approximately a hundred thousand Khanid are believed to have lost their lives in yesterday's attacks, and several thousand more are missing in action or believed captured by Blood Raider forces. Battles still rage at

a number of sites, and auxiliary forces are being sent in for support and rescue operations. It is unclear at this stage precisely how great an effect the attacks have had on the Covenant's operations.

21/12/2008

Khanid forces mounting large-scale attacks against Blood Raider targets

Reports are coming in that today has seen a major coordinated strike by the Khanid Kingdom against Blood Raider holdings in several separate locations around New Eden. Damage reports are difficult to come by at this point, but at least three deep-space outposts and several dozen planetside installations have been confirmed as infiltrated or destroyed by Khanid forces in the last six hours.

Believed to be the largest single offensive ever mounted by an independent nation against a criminal organization, the series of attacks has prompted speculation in channels of public discourse as well as among those few media outlets who have had facts to report. According to an unnamed source with all of these outlets, the Royal Khanid Navy has committed several battle fleets' worth of ships and personnel to the endeavor, including a large portion of their special forces.

More on the situation as it comes in.

23/12/2008

Amarr Empire announces capture of former Chamberlain

The Imperial Throne this morning released a statement which claims Dochuta Karsoth, former Chamberlain of the Amarr Empire, has been apprehended.

According to the release, Karsoth, who defected from the Empire during the Elder invasion earlier this year, had been sheltered by Blood Raider allies in the time since. He was captured by elite Khanid squadrons during the aftermath of one of the Khanid's attacks on Blood Raider holdings last Sunday. The building where the former chamberlain was being sheltered, a Blood Raider arms facility on a moon in the Anath system, was captured in the attack, and Karsoth himself apprehended elsewhere on the moon approximately 17 hours later.

The statement went on to express the Empress's gratitude to King Khanid II. "He [Khanid] has done Amarr a great service," it read. "Long shall be remembered this favor rendered at such a time of need, and generous in turn shall be the hand of Amarr."

It is unknown at this time whether Royal Khanid Navy High Command had foreknowledge of the former chancellor's whereabouts, but there is a good deal of speculation among experts that Sunday's attacks may have been at least partially motivated by such information. Neither the Royal Khanid Navy nor the Royal Palace on Khanid have commented on these allegations thus far.

The announcement of Karsoth's capture, meanwhile, has been met with mostly silent approval by the people of the Empire. "It should be no surprise that people aren't dancing in the streets," said Pyros Ram-Sotat, a popular director of Imperial indoctrination holoreels and frequent commentator on national affairs, in an interview this afternoon. "This man basically ran roughshod over the Empire, sullied its good name and left it wide open to defeat and humiliation. We don't want to be reminded of him. We just want to see him gone."

The Imperial Throne has announced that the Empress will give a special nationwide address on the afternoon of the 25th, where she is widely expected to make a comment on the matter.

25/12/2008

EMPRESS JAMYL I MAKES HISTORIC EMANCIPATION ANNOUNCEMENT

DAM-TORSAD – Empress Jamyl I this afternoon made a special nationwide address to the people of the Empire wherein it was announced that, in a historic turning point for Amarr, a significant portion of the Empire's slaves are being "emancipated from their obligations to our nation and our Lord."

"Out there on the event horizon, a new age races toward us," said the Empress in her announcement, "and it is approaching fast. The Lord in his infinite grace has instructed me that the chains that fetter us will no longer be necessary in this new age of light and reason, neither the chains of hatred that restrain our minds nor the chains of indenture that restrain those less fortunate than ourselves."

According to the Empress's announcement, the emancipation extends to every Minmatar slave of ninth generation and up, along with Minmatar academics and religious figures. It is unclear at this time exactly how many slaves are being set free in total, but all experts thus polled so far agree that the number will reach into the hundreds of millions.

"That's going to be between six and seven hundred million slaves," said Betancour Soraine, a senior analyst at the Federal Readjustment for Extraditions and Escapees program on Gallente Prime. "Who knows what crises that's going to cause for the Empire? How they intend to replenish that kind of work force is beyond me. And, I mean, these aren't glave-collared factory drones, these are educated people, these are specialists. This is a

brain trust we're talking about here.”

Others, meanwhile, seem to disagree. “There’s no real loss here,” said Jakunda Mishar, a senior operative at the independent Agency for Indenturee Rehabilitation in Dam-Torsad. “Academics are easily replaced, and most of truly indispensable ones will end up staying anyway. Besides, if you’re ninth-generation, you, your parents and all the ancestors you know of will have known nothing but the Empire. The Republic is a distant and frightening dream to these people. Where do you think they’re going to go?”

The announcement has caused turmoil in parts of the Empire, most notably in areas with significant slave populations. Small-scale rioting broke out earlier today on some of the Empire’s largest slave colonies, but Holders had been notified in advance of the Empress’s decree and were prepared with additional security measures which mostly sufficed to bring matters under control before they escalated.

Similarly, areas with high-generation slave populations were witness to massive celebrations as newly emancipated Minmatar took to the streets in large numbers. In several of these areas, makeshift statues and other artwork depicting Empress Janyl I have been erected or otherwise brought into being, and her name is widely sung and chanted among the multitudes.

No comment has yet been forthcoming from any of the other nations of New Eden, save for a short announcement from King Khanid II this afternoon, wherein he commended the Empress for “making major strides toward a stronger Empire.”

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10/03/2009

All Contact With Seyllin Lost

METSEREL – All communications with the planet Seyllin I have ceased. Automated efforts to restart fluid router transmissions have failed, and distress signals emanating from the system have gone silent.

SCOPE is unable to obtain any additional information at this time.

10/03/2009

First Contact: Serpents Mayday Received from Seyllin

SEYLLIN – A distress call from a Serpents freighter stranded in Seyllin has reached the blockades surrounding the system. According to sources, a mechanical failure dropped the vessel out of warp before it could reach the nearest stargate. After a partial repair of the drive, its captain attempted to return to Seyllin I rather than warp out of the system. In a voice transcript of the distress call, the Serpents captain states "To anyone who's listening, Seyllin's not there anymore. You hear me? Seyllin-one is gone, do not attempt to approach..."

The transmission stops after that. No additional information is available as CONCORD and the Federation Navy continue to maintain a blockade of the system.

10/03/2009

CONCORD to Drop Blockade on Seyllin

METSEREL - CONCORD and Federation Navy authorities have announced that the blockade of the Seyllin System has been dropped, allowing starship traffic to enter the system. Starships are warned not to travel to Seyllin I "due to circumstances related to the ongoing crisis."

President Foiritan is expected to make an announcement within the hour.

10/03/2009

President Foiritan Addresses Nation, Confirms the Loss of Seyllin I

LUMINAIRE - President Foiritan has just issued an internationally broadcast address to New Eden. The transcript is as follows:

"Citizens of the Federation, fellow souls of New Eden.

"It is with unspeakable regret and sorrow that I must deliver to you the news that we had hoped to never hear. Though we may have hoped that we could have prepared ourselves for this moment, I believe I speak on behalf of us all in saying that this catastrophe is the realization of our worst nightmares.

"By my order, all rescue efforts have been suspended, and no recovery efforts will be permitted. It is true that the main-sequence anomaly of Seyllin has caused the effective destruction of the planet.

"The decision to withhold that information and detain the reporters who sought to deliver such news was my own. Given the limited amount of time we had to pull people out, maintaining as orderly an evacuation as possible was given the highest priority.

"It is a small consolation that we were able to save some people. But it will haunt me for the rest of my days that we could not save them all.

"Scientists are still struggling to understand exactly what has happened. My instincts tell me that any explanation will provide little comfort.

"I would like to thank all those who offered their assistance in our time of need.

"As we have more information, we will share it. But if you'll please join me in a moment of silence for the half billion souls who just perished, I would be most grateful."

10/03/2009

SCOPE Establishes Live Feed from Orbit of Seyllin Remains

SEYLLIN - SCOPE News has established a live feed of the remnants of Seyllin I. The hellish scene confirms that a plasma wave passed through the area, and that the planet's remains are coalescing back into sphere. Massive fragments are still orbiting the world, and capsuller traffic has been sighted inspecting the remains.

CONCORD maintains that the area surrounding the planet is extremely dangerous, and should be approached with caution.

10/03/2009

Ishukone Watch Offers Assistance To Federation Government

MALKALEN – Mens Reppola, Ishukone Watch CEO, spoke to reporters at Ishukone's Malkalen headquarters, telling them that he had spoken to President Foiritan and offered any assistance he could render. "This is not a Federation problem, this is an international tragedy," said Reppola. "While Ishukone has no assets in the Thoulde constellation itself, our facilities elsewhere in Essence and Sinq Laison have been ordered to accept secondary casualties and refugees in the coming hours and days."

10/03/2009

Seyllin: Panic Grips Planetside Installations, Rescue Operations Disrupted

SEYLLIN – Mass panic has all but halted rescue operations following an unofficial warning of a possible world-shattering plasma wave approaching the planet. Several spaceports have been forced to turn away approaching dropships as the boarding gantries have been overrun with panicked residents fighting for space aboard the next transport.

SCOPE News has maintained contact with several reporters trapped in the cities of Southern Cross and Valimor. They have sent word that many residents within the vast underground caverns have made no attempt to leave, peacefully enjoying what could possibly be their final moments alive. Despite the lack of power in many parts of the cities, they report that there is an eerie calm in the deepest levels, forged perhaps from the resignation that there is little chance of escape.

The unofficial rescue count currently stands at 843,000 residents. CONCORD and the Federation Navy have ceased cooperating with news agencies at this time.

10/03/2009

CONCORD Lashes Out Against SCOPE News

YULAI – CONCORD blasted the SCOPE News corporation, calling Chief Editor Lars Kiormen's last report on the crisis in Seyllin "impetuous, inflammatory, and irresponsible." The harsh reaction follows Mr. Kiormen's report that a potentially world-shattering solar mass was heading towards the planet, plus an emotional farewell to SCOPE reporters trapped on Seyllin I. CONCORD angrily dismissed the report as a "shocking, selfish attempt to exploit sensationalism during a time when composure and calm are needed most."

CONCORD adamantly denies the unlawful detention of any SCOPE personnel, "or the fictitious existence of any timers or countdowns for Seyllin."

10/03/2009

Scientists Rush to Analyze Mass in Seyllin

BOURYNES - Scientists are rushing to collect data about the superheated mass heading toward Seyllin. Despite limited information, several theories have emerged, ranging from a massive vessel heading toward the planet to a gravitational distortion in the system; no consensus has been reached to completely explain the phenomenon, however.

University of Caille scientists have urged anyone to contact them immediately with any data related to these events, including any information from systems affected by similar phenomena early today.

10/03/2009

Marines Open Fire on Refugees

We have unconfirmed reports that Federation Navy Marines have opened fire on a crowd of refugees who were "rushing the dropships".

Despite this heavy-handed approach, hundreds of thousands of refugees are still pouring into the evacuation centers in a desperate bid to escape Seyllin.

10/03/2009

Heroism Among Outrage as Seyllin Prisoners Evacuated

SEYLLIN – Throngs of people at the evacuation points were outraged to hear that the prison population of Metal City was being evacuated amidst security fears following several escapes reported. The facility was reported to have taken heavy damage and already suffered the escape of several high security prisoners.

Military transport ships aiding the evacuation were recently diverted to the scene to secure the prisoners and evacuate them to prevent further escape attempts. Word of this has sparked a wave of anger and unrest among those still waiting to be lifted from the planet surface. News of the superheated mass heading for the planet has contributed to crowd panic, with riots reported at the evacuation points.

However, early reports from the prison evacuation detail indicate that lower-security prisoners have offered to assist with the evacuation effort of their fellow inmates, as well as providing additional manpower to dig survivors out of the damaged areas of the prison.

10/03/2009

Shakor: Thukker Caravan Was Destroyed

ILLUIN – Sanmatar Maleatu Shakor confirmed that the Thukker caravan reported missing in the Great Wildlands has been destroyed. While declining to provide specific numbers, Shakor stated that a "significant and tragic loss of life was incurred" and that "they perished as a direct result of an anomalous solar event similar in scale and power to those described in Seyllin and the Syndicate region."

Shakor's announcement brings the total number of reported near-simultaneous mass-sequence anomalies in the last few hours to four, stoking popular fears that a widespread celestial armageddon is underway.

10/03/2009

God's Righteousness Conclave Releases New Statement

God's Righteousness Conclave, an Amarrian fundamentalist group, released a follow-up statement moments ago. "We warned of the dangers of associating with heretics, and yet thousands responded to help.

God's warning against iniquity and sin was not heeded, and the consequences shall now be paid. While we mourn any loss of life, those lost in the Seyllin system shall serve as a stark reminder to both the glory and power of God. It is through that sole path of purity that heresy and its support are punished."

Amar government officials would not comment directly on the group's statement, directing reporters to Empress Jamily's previous statements regarding the situation in Seyllin.

10/03/2009

Special Report: Sisters of EVE Warn of Possible Wormhole Formation Throughout Cluster

SYSTEM X70-MU – The Sisters of EVE have released an unprecedented general warning to "all space faring travelers of New Eden" that they are forecasting the imminent formation of multiple wormholes throughout the cluster. The claim from the reclusive humanitarian organization comes amidst one of the most deadly natural catastrophes in modern history, as Seyllin and at least three other systems have been devastated by a main-sequence anomaly within the last several hours.

The highly technical warning states that "multiple instances of defect-mediated turbulence in the fabric of spacetime have been detected in various locations throughout the cluster," and that the sightings "coincide with the erratic behavior of multiple star systems, many of which are unreported, all throughout New Eden."

The statement adds that "such intense topological turbulence has every potential to collapse into pairs of defects, and that the resulting point-defect turbulence would be readily detectable using existing starship scanning technology."

Addressing CONCORD directly, the Sisters are strongly advising that "travel warnings be issued with immediate effect warning spacecraft to avoid them all costs, as there is theoretically no limit to the distance separating pairs of defects, or any reliable means of predicting how long such pairs will remain stable."

If true, the Sisters of EVE will have foreseen the appearance of the first naturally occurring wormholes since the collapse of the EVE gate more than fifteen thousand years ago.

10/03/2009

Seyllin Corporate Facilities Remain Open

SEYLLIN - While forces rapidly evacuate the Seyllin systems, both Roden Shipyards and CreoDron announced in a joint statement that their facilities would remain open to new docking for as long as station managers deemed it safe. Neither CONCORD nor Federation Navy officials would comment on the safety of the stations from the plasma event threatening Seyllin I.

"We are still accepting as many ships as our docking bays can hold. For those ships that can't get out-system for whatever reason," the statement read, "we are here to provide a safe haven. Our facilities, like many others, are crowded and strained, but we are ready to go the extra mile in order to save lives."

The stations' defenses can be considerably hardened, but doing so requires all docking bays sealed and shield integrity boosted, preventing inbound and outbound traffic from passing through. As the extent of the damage potential from the system event is not known at this time, station officials could not comment on the extent of potential damage to the station.

10/03/2009

Dropship collision on Seyllin

SEYLLIN 1040 - Two Federation Navy dropships carrying survivors from Seyllin have collided on take-off, with the resulting wreckage killing an estimated 4000 people. The dropships were both reported to be carrying well over the two hundred permitted personnel for such vessels.

Armed Marines have placed a cordon around the loading bays in an attempt to limit the amount of refugees being allowed to board.

10/03/2009

Seyllin I Distress Call Warns of Nuclear Attack

SEYLLIN 0944 - In what looks like an alarming confirmation of earlier suspicions, military authorities just moments ago received a warning of a potential nuclear attack underway in Seyllin. The warning came as a delayed-release emergency signal from the only ground-level security installation on the planet. Specifically designed to withstand the effects of a nuclear blast, the emergency probe escaped into orbit just barely, transmitting its message to regional listening posts before disappearing off radar.

Military officials have refused to confirm the attack, stating that various questions remain. "We firstly ask that people remain calm during this time. We are seeking answers through multiple lines of investigation and will be able to more fully report on the situation in a very short amount of time," said the Federation Navy's Emergency Services Manager, Elette Decaix. She added that the distress call alone was not conclusive enough to confirm a nuclear attack. "The distress call was part of an autonomous early-warning system. The system appears to have activated as designed, but there are any number of other environmental events that may have triggered the probe launch."

10/03/2009

Report: Thukker Caravan Reported Missing in Great Wildlands

SYSTEM SL-YBS 0952 - SCOPE News has learned that a Thukker caravan has been reported missing in the Great Wildlands region. The elusive tribe consulted with the Republic's Sanmatar Maleatu Shakor a short time ago, stating in confidence that the caravan's last checkpoint was a transit waypoint through the SL-YBS system.

Known for their nomadic culture, Thukker caravans typically consist of hundreds of vessels. Though home to large numbers of civilian tribesmen, they are generally well-armed and entirely self-sufficient, rarely if ever seeking port in stations.

10/03/2009

Panic in Oursulaert

OURSULAERT 1002 - Security forces and medical first responders aboard the Federation Navy Testing Facilities in orbit around Oursulaert III have responded to reports of a deadly stampede in the commercial docking bays.

Eyewitness reports indicate that the panic was sparked by the news of communications failures in the Seyllin system. Passengers waiting in the commercial transportation terminal attempted to storm a waiting vessel in order to secure passage out of the system. A report from the transportation provider indicates that the vessel is currently locked down and secure, a significant number of passengers have been injured during the stampede, and the mob is currently refusing to peacefully disperse back into the terminal.

10/03/2009

Scientists: Solar Radiological Pulse Event to Blame for Seyllin Catastrophe

BOURYNES 1003 - An emergency conference of scientists arranged by University of Caille has concluded that a "solar radiological pulse" originating from the blue sun of the Seyllin system is to blame for the ongoing catastrophe on its innermost planet. They ruled out the possibility of a military attack - including a potential nuclear strike - based on the size and scale of the devastation, stating that "no arsenal in the possession of any nation-state in the cluster is capable of delivering such widespread and deep devastation in such a short period of time."

More ominously, the conference reported that the possibility of a supernova still cannot be ruled out, despite the fact that the local Seyllin sun (a powerful O-class star) was not expected to do so for at least another million years. The symptoms of Seyllin I appear consistent with a post-main sequence event, as the planet has been doused in massive bursts of ultraviolet energy and high-energy particles such as x- and gamma rays. Those deep beneath the surface or on the night-side of the planet might be spared the brunt of any thermal effect, but radiological damage would be felt across the entire world.

The scientists warned that for any installation or outpost on the surface of the side directly facing a radiological pulse of that magnitude, the probability of survival is zero.

10/03/2009

ORE Confirms Survey Expedition Team is Lost

SYSTEM 3HQC-6 1007 - Outer Ring Excavations (ORE) has confirmed that the deep core survey expedition operating on the planet 3HQC-6 I has been lost. The mining corporation suspended rescue efforts after being warned by the team not to approach the planet. The deep core surveyors, who were below the surface when contact was first lost, reestablished a temporary link before going offline for good.

An anonymous ORE employee with the corporate HQ in 4C-B7X stated that the last transmission sent by the team predicted "they would all be dead within minutes" and that they believed a "possible nuclear strike or other radiological pulse weapon" had detonated above their location. The team's final moments are being described as eerily reminiscent of the fate suffered by victims in Seyllin, who reported a nearly identical event at almost the same time. ORE reported that the planet is "shimmering with radioactivity" and that the daytime surface temperature of the world is "several times hotter than usual."

ORE officials stated that they are in contact with the Gallente Federation and are sharing information with the scientist consortium in Bourynes.

10/03/2009

Federation Navy, CONCORD Warships Arrive at Seyllin I

SEYLLIN 1008 - CONCORD has confirmed that "a natural disaster of unprecedented scale and consequence has occurred" and that a joint press conference with President Foiritan will be announced shortly. Dreadnoughts, carriers, and freighters have arrived by the hundreds at the stricken planet -- with even more en route -- to begin one of the largest mass rescue efforts in modern history.

A Navy spokesman stated that capital ships are ferrying dropship squadrons to be used in surface runs to evacuate the wounded, whereas freighters will provide fuel, supplies, and orbital triage centers. Stabilized patients will be transported from freighters to intensive care units throughout the Federation using "any and every means possible."

10/03/2009

SPECIAL REPORT: CONCORD-Federation Joint News Conference Transcript Issued

LUMINAIRE 1014 - A joint press conference has been concluded just moments ago with President Souro Foiritan (present) and CONCORD Chief of Staff Kivas Odaka (virtual). The following is a transcript of the opening remarks by Federation President Souro Foiritan:

"Ladies and gentlemen, members of CONCORD, fellow citizens listening throughout New Eden, thank you for your attention. At 08:41 EVE Standard, a weather monitoring outpost on Seyllin I reported a service outage of its Cassandra satellite system. At 08:49 EST, fluid router communications at the primary underground cities of Southern Cross, Metal City, Valimor, and Loadcore were suspended following a self-imposed preventive shutdown. At 08:59 EST, contact with Southern Cross was reestablished, at which point it was confirmed that a radiological pulse event had disabled the communications systems of the entire planet. In addition, global electrical grids have been incapacitated, and the combined thermal and radioactive energy of the pulse has damaged or destroyed any equipment operating above a surface depth of 20 meters.

"The source of this pulse was the local sun. It was not an attack by any sovereign nation. The cause of this solar activity is not known, but appears to be a singular event. We do not anticipate any subsequent bursts at this time. However, given the extent of damage to vital structures and the high levels of radiation saturating the planet, I have issued an executive order to evacuate citizens from the planet. This is to provide medical assistance for those in need, to deliver search and rescue crews to critical sites, and to provide engineers with time to assess the situation and recommend an action plan for restoring vital services.

"I have appointed Grand Admiral Anteson Ranchel to oversee this operation, and I have absolute confidence in his abilities. Federation authorities reporting to him are coordinating with planetside emergency management personnel to provide an orderly and safe evacuation. Citizens are advised to leave physical possessions behind and head towards the nearest spaceports in the cities of Southern Cross and Valimor. With the assistance of CONCORD, Federation dropships will be available for transport at all times. Most of the primary intercity magrail lines linking these locations with Loadcore and Metal City are still operating on backup power. Citizens are advised to use these lines to reach Southern Cross and Valimor.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the toll in human life and injury from this tragedy will be too great to comprehend. Everything that we know about ourselves will be tested. Some of you will have to make some cruel choices, as you will encounter circumstances for which there are no right answers. I ask you to make way for those who can be saved, and to put your best foot forward for the safety and well-being of your fellow man. Thank you.

10/03/2009

Gallente Mining Stocks Tumble As Seyllin Crisis Unfolds

LUMINAIRE 1022 - Share prices in the Gallente mining sector have tumbled dramatically as the situation on the planet Seyllin I is developing into a full-blown crisis. Although virtually no details of the incident are available yet, the market turbulence is expected to increase.

A news bulletin just released by the Garoun Investment Bank says: "Seyllin is a very important system for the Gallente industry. It is clear that some sort of crisis situation is rapidly developing there. Although we cannot yet estimate its severity, we expect the volatility to spread across other market sectors in the Federation".

10/03/2009

Orbital Triage Centers Established, Rescue Operations Underway

SEYLLIN - Freighters converted into medical wards have established orbits over the night side of Seyllin I and are accepting injured survivors. The overwhelming number of cases are severe burns and trauma caused by secondary splash-effect damage from local structures after the original event. As promised by President Foiritan, dropships have been returning full loads of people onto these floating hospitals nonstop, pausing only to take on fuel and returning immediately to the surface.

The lack of atmosphere limits the number of landing sites to recover passengers, thus restricting the rate of retrieval. Engineers have reported that there are a total of 37 spaceports between the cities of Southern Cross and Valimor, each with up to 20 hex-pads to accommodate vertical landings. Each pad is equipped with pressurized boarding gantries in case the spaceport's protective shield dome is retracted, which seems likely to be the case in this situation. In stripped configurations, the largest dropships can accommodate up to 500 passengers.

Southern Cross and Valimor have populations of 80 million and 110 million, respectively.

10/03/2009

Report: Serpents and ORE Send Assistance to Seyllin

SEYLLIN 1035 - After a brief confrontation with Federation Navy warships, unarmed Serpents vessels were in the last hour allowed to pass through to Seyllin I. The pirate faction, a longtime rival of the Federation, has delivered medical equipment and personnel to help assist victims rescued from the planet. In addition, they have brought specialized excavation equipment provided by ORE which can be used to "create new access points for dropships or clear major obstacles to rescue operations," according to a company spokesperson.

As a sure sign of the extraordinary and dire situation on Seyllin I, President Foiritan thanked the cartel but warned that "such actions, though noble, do not exonerate the criminal organization from past misdeeds." Serpents CEO Salvador Sarpati remarked that "the sentiment is mutual, and in the interest of saving those trapped beneath the surface of Seyllin, our differences have been temporarily set aside."

Separately, ORE stated that using Serpents to dispatch the equipment was the fastest way to get it to Seyllin, and that the loss of their survey team in Outer Ring makes their own participation in the Seyllin rescue effort "deeply personal to them."

10/03/2009

Federation Navy Rushes Ships to Border Zone; Caldari Navy Responds in Kind

CARROU 0912 - President Foiritan has authorized the immediate mobilization of "Tripwire" defenses along the constellation border separating the Gallente Federation and the Caldari State, escalating tensions between the two warring nations. The act follows the sudden and mysterious loss of contact with the planet Seyllin I. Although the measure is being called "precautionary" by Federation officials, many view the act as reckless given the dangers inherent to such large war fleets operating in proximity to each other.

Analysts have stated that the lack of communication with Seyllin I means an attack on the planet cannot be ruled out, as fluid router hubs are typically the first targets of any orbital bombardment or commando-style operation.

The Caldari Navy has responded in kind, mobilizing its forces along its border in what appears to be a purely defensive posture. State Executor Tibus Heth is expected to issue a statement to address these developments within the hour.

10/03/2009

Heth: No Military Operations in the Vicinity of Seyllin

NEW CALDARI 0920 - Caldari State Executor Tibus Heth has issued a message directed at President Foiritan, intended to diffuse escalating tensions along the border zone. In the address, he states that they are not responsible for instigating the crisis in Seyllin, but will defend themselves if provoked. The full statement is as follows:

"The Caldari State does not ever discuss the deployment of forces necessary to defend our interests. However, I

feel that the current situation warrants an exception to the rule. As of now there are no military operations in the vicinity of the Seyllin System, or in fact the entire constellation of Thoulde. Although we regret the aggressive posturing by President Foiritan in the border zone, I believe that his actions stem from a lack of information regarding the fate of the planet Seyllin I, and are therefore tolerable-for now. "However, we are always vigilant. I have therefore ordered our armed forces to mobilize and prepare to defend the sovereign territory of Caldari State. They will not attack unless provoked. At the same time, I offer our assistance to the Gallente Federation in determining not only the cause of the communications disruption in Seyllin, but in providing the technical means of ensuring it does not happen again. Such is the least we can do, considering the bond we share in Luminaire. We mean no ill will towards these or other citizens of the Federation, and wish a speedy and safe resolution can be found in these trying times. Thank you."

10/03/2009

BREAKING NEWS: Seyllin Communications Restored, Emergency Channels Flooded with Planetary Distress Calls

SEYLLIN 0936 - Fluid router traffic restored with Seyllin I has opened to a flood of distress signals originating from all four primary cities of the Federation planet. It is believed that the communications system was restarted autonomously following a self-imposed shutdown to protect itself from an external threat. Emergency channels have since been overwhelmed with distress calls, many with specific requests for an evacuation from the planet itself. There is no official word on the cause of this calamity or the extent of damage incurred. CONCORD and Federation vessels are reported to be scrambling towards the planet at this time.

This is a breaking news story. More information will be provided when available.

10/03/2009

Report: Seyllin Fluid Routers Located Kilometers Beneath Surface

LUMINAIRE 0909 - The FTL communications link between Seyllin I and the Federation is located several kilometers beneath the surface of the barren mining world, stated engineers familiar with the planet. Four main subterranean cities linked by underground magrails hold the bulk of the planet's population, whose residents mostly support mining operations. Access points to the surface are limited due to extreme daytime surface temperatures, but robust thermal shielding methods allow for spaceport access and limited space elevator operations. Most of the power generation for the planet is conducted through geothermal or aneutronic fusion means, as some excavation sites have reached depths of more than 100 kilometers below the surface.

The economic value of Seyllin to the Federation is significant, accounting for a quarter of all raw ore production in the Thoulde Constellation, and making up a significant fraction of the Federation's supply of key heavy metals. It is unknown if the communications outage is associated with the earlier reported loss of the planet's Cassandra weather monitoring system.

10/03/2009

Breaking News: All Contact Lost With Seyllin

LUMINAIRE 0901 - Federal Administration has reported that all contact with the planet Seyllin I has been lost. Attempts to restore communications are ongoing, but SCOPE has learned that the Federation Navy has diverted a task force towards the area, and that CONCORD has offered "the full scope and breadth of its capabilities" in assisting them.

This is a breaking news story. More information will be posted as it becomes available.

10/03/2009

Weather Satellite Glitch Causes Travel Disruption

SEYLLIN 0843 - A disruption in solar weather monitoring services has forced travel delays in the Seyllin system. The satellite network known as "Cassandra" is reported to have dropped offline shortly after 0840 local time, temporarily locking out traffic attempting to enter the system.

Researchers at the base monitoring facility on Seyllin I are attributing the incident to a communications glitch, and expect service to be restored shortly.

10/03/2009

CONCORD Confirms "Topological Defects" are Wormholes, Imposes "Unenforceable Travel Ban" From Portals in Regulated Space

YULAI - CONCORD has just confirmed that the "topological defects" predicted earlier by the Sisters of EVE have begun appearing throughout the New Eden cluster. The wormholes are reported to be structurally stable enough to traverse, although they cannot predict the duration that they will remain open.

In addition, CONCORD has stated that they can only protect those who enter or leave from portals within hisec space, and have thus declared an "unenforceable travel ban" in an attempt to discourage pilots from entering.

Rumors have begun circulating that probes sent through wormholes can maintain contact with their deployment platform, but cannot determine their location on the far side.

10/03/2009

Federation, CONCORD Ships Pulling Back from Seyllin I; Stargates Blockaded

SEYLLIN – In an apparent confirmation of New Eden's worst fears, the flotilla of rescue ships above Seyllin I has left orbit and are pushing towards the system's stargates. SCOPE News vessels attempting to defy system-wide evacuation orders were fired upon by Federation Navy warships. Before leaving the Seyllin System, SCOPE was able to confirm that no dropships remained at any of the spaceports.

CONCORD warships have blockaded the entry points into Seyllin from the Aporulie, Ane, and Metsere Systems. SCOPE News will be unable to report on events on the far side until the blockade is lifted.

10/03/2009

Report: Communications Lost with ORE Survey Team in Outer Ring

3HQC-6 0855 - Fluid router traffic linking a remote ORE expedition in Outer Ring with its headquarters in the Heart Constellation has been severed following reports of an emergency. Although ORE was unavailable for official comment, SCOPE has learned that the mining corporation dispatched a small task force to the Sword Constellation to investigate.

The lost expedition is believed to be prospecting on 3HQC-6 I, the system's innermost planet. Establishing fluid router communications is standard operating procedure for any remote mining or surveying operation, and disruption of established links is most commonly caused by equipment failures or accidents.

The expedition is believed to have been performing deep core surveys on the planet's interior when the emergency was sounded.

10/03/2009

CreoDron Discovers Wormhole, Refutes CONCORD Advisory

Following on the heels of the travel ban established by CONCORD, CreoDron's lead Astrophysicist Lianda Burreau announced the discovery of a "stable wormhole" in an undisclosed system.

Speaking to The Scope from an undisclosed location, Prof. Burreau has staked a claim on the safety of the wormhole, stating that she is so confident of the "needless overstatement" in CONCORD's travel warnings that she will travel through to the other side herself. She added that the excursion would not be pursued recklessly, and that long-range autonomous scout drones had already been deployed ahead of her to warn of any unforeseen risks.

Prof. Burreau is understood to have the complete confidence of CreoDron CEO Roni Darieux and the Board of Directors. No comment has been forthcoming from Federation officials, as they, the scientists, and millions of citizens alike wait to hear back from the scout drone expedition.

10/03/2009

CreoDron Scout Drones Transmit Initial Findings

CreoDron scout drones, sent through a "stable wormhole" discovered by CreoDron astrophysicists, transmitted the first images from the other side of the wormhole.

The first pieces of data received included five blurry image captures. The images clearly depict another system unlike any seen before, with darkened, empty planets set against an unfamiliar, crimson nebula.

Prof. Burreau, the woman responsible for the wormhole's discovery, conducted a brief conference from an undisclosed location thought to be near the site of the wormhole.

"Despite the strange nebulae, we believe what we are seeing here is a system not unlike those familiar to us in New Eden, although it is far, far away. Initial data gathered from intracluster medium analysis on the other side has led us to strongly consider the possibility that this system resides in a galaxy other than our own.

"Aside from that, everything about this system appears to be typical of our own. We are encouraged by early signs. The planets are in heliocentric orbit, which suggests that the environment there should remain similar to ours, although some abnormalities in the readings suggest a level of volatility in this system's local electromagnetic fields."

Prof. Burreau remained resolute that a manned excursion into the unknown system would proceed, despite the risks. "We must not fear the unknown, we must understand it," she said before calling the conference to an end and excusing her team to prepare.

10/03/2009

Signs of unknown civilizations found by CreoDron scout drones

CreoDron scout drones have identified "non-natural deadspace signatures" while currently exploring an unknown system on the other side of a wormhole, suggesting they were designed by intelligent lifeforms.

This startling news was delivered moments ago by Prof. Lianda Burreau, this time via a local fluid router broadcast in the Balrille system. This system is in the process of being heavily locked down by local Federation Navy pilots.

Although the news cannot be confirmed at this time, dozens of eyewitness reports from Balrille all relate the same story. Those present to hear her communication claim that Prof. Burreau seemed "hurried" with the news. "She just opened up in local comms before I could make sense of what she was saying. Something about discovering signatures, that she was going, and that she would transmit from the other side," said one anonymous witness. "She seemed defiant, more than anything. I think people were trying to stop her," stated another.

10/03/2009

Federation Held In The Grip of Recent Events

Luminaire - People from all across the Federation are expressing their sympathy and support to the families of victims of the Seyllin disaster. Many families are also complaining that the media attention had instead turned to recent discoveries by CreoDron instead of focusing on the world-shaking tragedy.

According to Gallente authorities, the amount of donations to families of the victims has surpassed any previous relief drives by an extensive margin. Federation citizens also formed large queues in front of the banks in order to contribute as much as they can.

"I had some distant relatives in Seyllin's Metal City," said Orla Meale, an orbital assembly worker, as she exited the branch of a local bank. "We were never close, but now I can't stop thinking about them. I have donated all my savings to help the victims' families, and a lot of my friends have done the same."

Emerging from this disaster is the news of CreoDron's expedition. Hundreds of thousands of people gathered on the streets of Gallente cities, watching the holoivid systems broadcast real-time news on the expedition's progress.

"It is a travesty," shouted an outraged woman outside the bank. "Our friends and relatives have died, and yet the media act as if nothing has happened!"

Compared to the nationwide interest in the CreoDron expedition, these complaints are far and few between. Mark Ufford, a teenager eagerly watching the holoivid broadcast, told The Scope team, "Don't think I'm not sorry for those who died today - I really am. But what we are seeing now can change our lives forever."

10/03/2009

Federation Navy Detachment Locks Down Barille Constellation

The Federation Navy has ordered a reserve detachment, destined for Seyllin, to seize control of the CreoDron site and all key system-wide infrastructures across the Barille constellation, including the receiving station for the scout drones. Eager to pre-empt negative speculation, military spokespeople have already pressed their case to local media that all measures currently underway are precautionary and "designed to limit any further loss of life and property."

When questioned about the location of Prof. Lianda Burreau's research team, military officials revealed that she had left through the wormhole "long ago." They stressed that the professor "had in no way been threatened or coerced" and that she "entered the wormhole out of her own accord." They added that her decision to enter the system risked not only her life, but potentially that of "many other innocent and law-abiding citizens."

The Federation Navy issued a statement warning interstellar travelers to continue avoiding any system disturbances and has encouraged starship captains to report any unusual sightings.

10/03/2009

Navy reports loss of contact with CreoDron team

Only moments after seizing a CreoDron facility somewhere in the Barille constellation, Federation Navy officials have reported to local media that contact with the CreoDron team cannot be established. The Navy is claiming to have only just recently located the site of the wormhole, which they believe Prof. Burreau and her team have entered, aiming to explore the other side.

"Immediately upon securing the facility, we set about establishing a priority commlink with Professor Burreau," stated one military official. "We have not yet been able to make contact with her team, nor the drones that

initially entered the system. For now, the best we can do is wait and hope."

11/03/2009

Expeditions underway across New Eden, rumors abound

Following in the footsteps of others such as CreoDron, numerous organizations across New Eden have begun to prepare themselves for expeditions of their own. From small, private endeavors to larger entities such as the Imperial Navy, people are mobilizing exploratory squads en masse, all in the hope of finding some answers to today's extraordinary events.

Various rumors of hostile encounters on the other side have been filtering down from the capsuleer class already, almost as often as whispers of rare new resources have surfaced. Reactions to these claims have been mixed so far, with nobody yet willing to state any definitive facts in a politically-charged public arena. Some have brushed the talk of hostility aside as a mistaken case of capsuleer piracy. Others have charged the capsuleer class with conspiring against the baseline populations and lying about the threat as they try to monopolize resources that they, above all others, would have the easiest time accessing. None of the empires have confirmed or denied these claims, preferring instead to focus on their own expeditions and defensive deployments.

With talk of strategic resources and potential threats flying around FTL comms, the Empire navies appear to have decided to maintain their current state of alert. Prepared now after the events of Seyllin, they stand more ready to guard against any number of unforeseen eventualities. In amidst a chaotic mixture of rumor and fact, the growing sentiment seems to be that the capsuleers of New Eden, with their immense resources and access to cloning technology, will be the best hope for some answers in the near future. Until that time, each of the Empires seems content to simply brace themselves for the unknown.

Initial ardishapur speaking engagements "doing well" reported by ISD Caleb Kang 26.04.2009 15:01:28

As Yonis Ardishapur's speaking tour continues through the Empire, initial reports indicate the events are gaining in success. Held mainly in churches and other areas of religious gathering, the Heir has attracted sizable crowds. While many of the venues can hold several thousand safely, seats have been taken quickly, leading to some being turned away at the door. In addition to those in attendance, tens of thousands have watched broadcasts of the engagements.

Commenting on the popularity of the events, a factory worker from Romi stated, "It's not every day you get to see an Heir in person. The nearest I'd ever seen before was Lord Kador's vehicle passing by during a parade. And he makes perfect sense, too! I never thought the royalty were so much in touch with the common faith."

The Royal Heir's celebrity is only one factor in the popularity of the events, however. "He speaks of times of glory and how to regain what we've given up, and his suggestions are remarkably apposite," remarked one Holder. "It would be wise of us to give him credence."

The initial positive reaction to the events has encouraged Ardishapur, who recently announced plans to expand the tour to larger venues, along with broadcast deals that would project his speeches into less-inhabited areas.

Secondary explosions lead to further loss of life reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 2010.05.04 15:54:02

Pashanai - A series of secondary explosions has rocked the shattered hulk of the Ministry of War station in Pashanai. Given the extensive and ongoing rescue and recovery operations taking place, this new series of blasts is sure to add to the death toll, especially among responders and aid workers.

It is unclear as yet what caused these secondary blasts. While some theorize that they are the result of charges placed by the original terrorists with the express purpose of targeting first responders, the Bloody Hand of Matar has not yet claimed credit. Further, there is some indication that these smaller explosions may be the delayed result of damage to the station's power-generation infrastructure.

Rescue crews are redoubling their efforts to free aid workers who have become trapped. Ministry of War officials have brought in an investigative crew in an attempt to determine the cause of the blasts, though serious forensic work may be forced to wait until the bulk of critical rescue operations are complete.

Boundless creation marketing holo banned reported by ISD Gaspard Sorelo 24.04.2009 11:50:59

Hagilur – A review panel at the Republic Justice Department has ordered a ban on the latest marketing holoreel produced by Boundless Creation after fierce opposition from a Minmatar-Gallente based pressure group. The group, named "Reconcile," is a pro-peace movement seeking to move the major governments of New Eden toward a peaceful end to current hostilities.

Reconcile filed a petition with the Republic Justice Department several days ago, stating that the upcoming Boundless Creation marketing holoreel was “needlessly antagonistic and totally lacking in any measure of class.”

The disputed holoreel contains publically sourced footage of the recent capture of the last Curatores Veritatis Alliance outpost in AY-YCU in the Providence region, where an all-Minmatar starship taskforce was assembled by the alliances Against ALL Authorities and Ushra’Khan, as well as several other capsuleer organizations.

A Reconcile spokesman stated the following after the hearing today: “We are very happy with the ruling and feel that something worthwhile has been achieved here today. As our first major move into any high-profile lobbying, we are understandably excited with the results, and the prospects of future success.”

Aardishapur holding public court during engagements in own domains reported by ISD Caleb Kang 2010.05.05 09:57:17

Sasta – In an unusual move, Lord Yonis Ardishapur has begun holding public court while touring his domains. Following his speaking engagements, the Heir has been opening his ears to the grievances of his underlings.

During a recent speaking engagement in the Ammatar system of Sasta, Lord Ardishapur held a public court, encouraging all members of society to bring their problems before him. While it is common for the Heirs to hold Royal Courts and hear the grievances of Holders under their rule, it is highly unusual for commoners to be granted equal standing.

His subjects' reactions have mostly been positive. “Lord Ardishapur's words made me realize the error of my grievance,” said Arro Hakim, a Ni-Kunni merchant who had long been attempting to escape a contract made with a Dabka holder. “I made the agreement in good faith and, while it may have ended up worse for me, it is my responsibility to bear, no one else's. I've had scripture quoted at me before, but this time it honestly made a new kind of sense.”

Ducia foundry team target of mysterious attack reported by ISD Ria Nicaea 07.05.2009 00:30:51

X-70MU - Following up on an anonymous report, The Scope has obtained classified sensor data from a Sisters of Eve search vessel sent deep into w-space. The operation was undertaken at the request of Ducia Foundry for the recovery of a team which was reported missing earlier in the week. The leaked sensor data reveals damage visible on recovered ships and outpost structures which is minimal and does not follow known Sleepers attack patterns. All members of the missing team are as yet unaccounted for after a thorough search of the mining outpost. Ducia Foundry spokesman Youd Rassosa has declined to comment at this time.

Ardishapur refutes claims he has overstepped bounds of power reported by ISD Caleb Kang 10.05.2009 10:05:57

The popularity of Lord Ardishapur's speaking engagements have continued to rise, with events now selling out stadium-sized venues and being broadcast to millions system-wide. The engagements have not been without some controversy, however, as some claim the Heir has overstepped the traditional bounds of his power.

The claims began after an incident in Dantan, where two long-feuding Holders approached the Royal Heir for advice to resolve their dispute. According to one of the Holders, they “have been unable to find satisfaction in other public courts.” Lord Ardishapur agreed to hear them and listened as each man listed his grievances with his neighbor.

Once they had finished, the Heir prefaced his opinions by the reminder that, “Any words I say here are merely a suggestion, as it is beyond my power to bind your actions. Only Lord Kador, your liege-lord, holds that authority.” The Royal Heir then laid out his understanding of their grievance and offered several suggestions, including a complicated, large-scale swap of territory that the Heir claimed “would resolve many of your issues.”

Several high ranking Amarr officials have claimed that such an act undermines the authority of Lord Kador and the Theology Council, before whom the two Holders have argued many times. The Holders dispute this contention, one claiming, “Had I thought poorly of Lord Ardishapur, I could simply ignore his suggestions.”

Lord Ardishapur himself says there was no harm intended with his actions. “These are his subjects alone and I have no hold over them. I would never attempt to usurp the rightful power of the Heirs.”

For his part, Lord Kador appears to be pleased that the dispute has been resolved, claiming, “If only Lord Ardishapur had been here before, hundreds of hours may have not been wasted on those two.”

26/05/2009 Khanid 1st Fleet crosses Imperial border, meets Amarr Navy

Moments ago, the Khanid Royal 1st Fleet crossed into the Tash-Murkon Region of the Amarr Empire. The Fleet

was immediately met by the Amarr Navy. The Amarr Navy ships took up escort positions around the Khanid 1st Fleet and the two fleets tandem warped away. Current reports have the two fleets traveling toward Tash-Murkon Prime.

The presence of the Khanid 1st Fleet in Imperial space marks the first time Khanid warships have entered Imperial sovereign territory in centuries. Neither the Amarr Empire nor the Khanid Kingdom had any comment to make regarding the unprecedented border-crossing.

The 1st Fleet is the traditional honor guard of King Khanid II. Since it normally leaves Khanid Prime only when King Khanid II does so - a scenario that has become increasingly rare in recent centuries - the 1st Fleet is today a largely ceremonial posting.

26/05/2009

King Khanid II arrives in Tash-Murkon Prime, met by Catiz Tash-Murkon

Tash-Murkon Prime - King Khanid II arrived in Tash-Murkon Prime earlier today along with the Khanid Royal 1st Fleet and an honor guard of Imperial Navy warships. News of the arrival came hours after the 1st Fleet unexpectedly crossed into Imperial space and was met by an Amarr Navy escort force.

King Khanid was met in person by Lady Catiz Tash-Murkon, Royal Heir of the Tash-Murkon Family. Both King and Heir were accompanied by throngs of dignitaries and officials. The two groups quickly retired to private quarters without addressing the media.

A representative of the Tash-Murkon Family released a brief statement, saying only that "the arrival of King Khanid II was anticipated" and that the meeting between Catiz Tash-Murkon and King Khanid "marks the beginning of a new era for the Amarr Empire." The Tash-Murkon Family has been engaging in extended diplomatic negotiations - mostly centered around trade agreements - with the Kingdom and its corporations over the past several months.

The 1st Fleet remains in Tash-Murkon Prime, while their Amarr Navy escort has returned to its normal duties patrolling the Tash-Murkon/Khanid border.

28/05/2009

CONCORD Issues Additional Agent Licenses Due to Professional and Corporate Demands

Yulai – CONCORD authorities responsible for licensing and auditing the activities of station agents have agreed to issue an additional 23 licenses for highly-qualified agents, as a result of lobbying from the Association of Market and Contract Brokers (AMCB) and major empire corporations. The AMCB negotiators had pointed to a considerable increase in the demand for agents in a number of key hubs and lobbied very hard to relieve the pressures on the agents it represents, mainly Gallente and Minmatar professionals.

Originally a professional body for market brokers dealing with negotiations with the SCC over terms and conditions, the AMCB had expanded to represent contract brokers, recently changing its name to reflect this. Following some high-profile cases of station agents making severe errors or engaging in criminality, the pressure on agents to conform to CONCORD regulations while serving the needs of corporations and pilots increased considerably. Coming from a wide range of corporate backgrounds, many agents were unable to agree on how to put their concerns to CONCORD until Julius Scarpacchio, President of the AMCB, suggested to an Intaki acquaintance working as an agent that his organization was well-placed to represent agents' interests.

Initially representing a bloc of Gallente agents, the AMCB was soon able to prove its value by negotiating a comprehensive package of compensation for agents who were forced to move locations due to CONCORD re-organization of routes and stations. Joined by more Gallente and many Minmatar agents, the AMCB then embarked on a six-month period of negotiation with CONCORD on behalf of agents in major hubs.

Parallel pressure was also exerted on CONCORD by a number of Caldari State and Amarr Empire corporations, whose agents were not represented by the AMCB. CONCORD insiders have indicated, however, that the State and Empire corporations preferred to allow the high-profile lobbying to be done by the AMCB, possibly to capitalize on the perception that this was primarily an issue of maintaining agent integrity and professional welfare. The process of lobbying by corporations and the AMCB culminated in an agreement to issue 23 high-level agent licenses for positions in various empire hubs.

Julius Scarpacchio commented on the agreement, "It has been a long road and at times a hard battle but I am pleased to say that the needs of our agent members have been recognized and CONCORD has acted on them." Asked if a further name change would be forthcoming for the AMCB, Scarpacchio indicated that it was quite likely but would be a matter for the membership's consideration. CONCORD issued a statement through its public relations office stating that, "Agreement has been reached with the empires, corporations and professionals on further high-level agent licenses, to the number of 23, which we believe will benefit agents, their employers and pilot contractors."

01/06/2009

King Khanid II departs Tash-Murkon Prime, arrives in Amarr

Amarr - Following several days of closed door meetings with Lady Catiz Tash-Murkon, King Khanid II departed Tash-Murkon Prime along with the Khanid Royal 1st Fleet early this morning. The 1st Fleet immediately traveled the short distance to the Amarr system, where it proceeded to Amarr Prime.

After roughly three hours of maintaining an orbit around the planet, several atmospheric transports were observed departing the flagship of King Khanid II and descending to the planet below. The transports landed in the Imperial city of Dam-Torsad a short time later.

According to reports, the Khanid delegation is awaiting the arrival of an Imperial party before it disembarks.

02/06/2009

Empress Jamyl I meets with King Khanid II

Amarr - In a historic first, Empress Jamyl I met with King Khanid II in the Imperial city of Dam-Torsad today. Flanked by Imperial Paladins, the Empress greeted Khanid II and welcomed him back to Amarr Prime.

Mimicking what transpired several days ago on Tash-Murkon, the Empress swiftly retired to private council with Khanid II, where they have remained since. Once again, neither side has issued any comment about the meeting.

The meeting between the two heads of state is historic for several reasons. It marks the first face-to-face meeting between Khanid II and an Imperial ruler since early in the reign of Doriam II. Additionally, Khanid II has not set foot on Amarr Prime since the Kingdom split from the Amarr Empire over 300 years ago.

03/06/2009

Royal Heirs called to Amarr Prime; Privy Council to hold emergency session

Amarr - The five Royal Heirs of the Amarr Empire have been recalled to Amarr Prime for an emergency meeting of the Privy Council. The order comes after days of meetings between Empress Jamyl I and King Khanid II that have fueled rampant speculation throughout the cluster.

All five Heirs have already arrived at Dam-Torsad to attend the meeting. Catiz Tash-Murkon was the first to arrive, followed shortly after by Merimeth Sarum, then Aritcio Kor-Azor and Uriam Kador, with Yonis Ardishapur arriving several hours later from the Ammatar Mandate.

A full meeting of the extended Privy Council - which also includes representatives from the Civil Service, Theology Council, Ministry of Internal Order, Imperial Chancellery, Ministry of War, and Imperial Navy - last occurred prior to the coronation of Empress Jamyl I.

06/06/2009

Yonis Ardishapur departs Privy Council meeting

Amarr - Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur abruptly departed the emergency meeting of the Privy Council early today. The meeting, which has stretched over several days, was convened after extended meetings between Empress Jamyl I and King Khanid II.

In his place Lord Ardishapur left his nephew, Arim Ardishapur. According to an official statement by the Ardishapur Family, the Royal Heir left to attend to "vital matters inside his domains" that could not be delayed. The statement also declared that Arim Ardishapur "speaks with the full authority of the Ardishapur Family" and claimed that "the Empress has given full permission for Lord Ardishapur to leave the meeting."

07/06/2009

Khanid Kingdom granted Privy Council seat

Amarr - In a stunning move, Empress Jamyl I has announced that the Khanid Kingdom has been granted a full seat on the Privy Council. The announcement came after days of meetings between the current members of the Privy Council in the Imperial city of Dam-Torsad.

The entire Privy Council - including a returned Yonis Ardishapur - stood along with Jamyl I and Khanid II on the steps of the Imperial palace at Dam-Torsad as the Empress made the announcement.

"Faithful of Amarr, it has been our pleasure to welcome our noble brother Khanid home to Amarr Prime. It is now our pleasure to welcome his majesty and all the people of the Khanid Kingdom back into the embrace of Holy Amarr. Our noble brother has long stood sentinel over the outer marches of God's domain and we know that the requirements of his faith have oft-times made it a painful vigil. Now his patience is rewarded, and a true and faithful son of Amarr stands once more before the people.

"Our noble brother has acted according to God's will. He engineered the capture of the greatest traitor in our

Empire's history, the heretic Karsoth. He has affirmed his belief most firm in the Word of God and the holy burden of our Empire. It is God's divine command that we today confirm the status of Kingdom of the Empire on the territories our noble and majestic brother shall continue to rule in the name of Holy Amarr.

"In acknowledgment of our noble brother's service and with his glad acceptance, we today make of him a Privy Councilor and confirm that his seat in our council shall be House Khanid's in perpetuity. Let all subjects of the Holy Empire of Amarr know that this man has our trust and our faith, as he has given his trust and faith to us. Let it also be known, by the people, by our friends, and, yes, by our enemies, that today Holy Amarr stands united in our faith and our holy mission. In the name of God, we declare this and shall see it done."

While acknowledging the rightful reign of Jamyl I as Empress of Amarr, the Khanid Kingdom will remain an independent nation. It will continue to field its own navy, but will enjoy a pact of mutual protection with the Amarr Empire. Khanid II will officially hold the Privy Council seat but will be allowed to name a proxy when he is unable to attend.

15/06/2009

Tibus Heth Awards Caldari Militia with National Distinction

New Caldari - Following the fall of the last Federation stronghold in contestable Iosec space two weeks ago, Caldari State Executor Tibus Heth issued a nationwide address commending the State Protectorate Militia for their "momentous achievement" and promised to award each pilot with the Distinguished Blade, a national medal of recognition from the Caldari State. Heth noted that their achievement marked "an inflection point in history" that "established the legacy of the capsuleer for time immemorial," further adding that their challenge is to continue holding on to those conquered territories.

Meanwhile, the Federation government has given no official reply. Sources report that President Foiritan has held multiple high-level sessions with cabinet members and national security officials attempting to formulate a response to these events and lobby for additional support from capsuleers. According to unnamed insiders the beleaguered president is facing "arguably the most difficult period of his time in office."

A spokesperson from the Caldari Provide Directorate stated that pilots can expect to receive their State-issued Distinguished Blade medal on June 23rd.

The full transcript of Tibus Heth's address is below:

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Patriots of the Caldari State,

As a civilization, we have reached an inflection point in our history. Just as our forefathers struggled to liberate themselves from Gallentean tyranny, our immortal warriors today continue the fight for Caldari providence among these stars.

With their help, we have expanded the frontiers of our great nation, driving away a cruel and cowardly enemy attempting to force its will upon a peace-loving people. Mark my words, frontier settlements will benefit from the liberation of their worlds from Federation hands. Indeed, we will unlock the true potential of these regions by lifting those who earn the right to lead and prosper.

Honored patriots, we have achieved true greatness in such a short time. Our challenge now is to maintain this momentum. Our brave capsuleers will face a bitter enemy eager to enact reprisals against our liberated worlds. We must stay vigilant, for we know not when or where they will strike. Yet it serves us well to honor their momentous achievement-the complete dominance of Federation naval forces in the warzone systems of Essence, Verge Vendor, Placid, The Citadel, and Black Rise-for it has established the legacy of the capsuleer for time immemorial.

It is thus that I present our immortal warriors of the State Protectorate Militia with The Distinguished Blade, awarded for unity in bravery and valor towards the fulfillment of national military objectives. This distinction serves notice to all that there is no greater power in New Eden than combined empyrean might, and we are honored to have you with us.

Thank you, brave capsuleers, and long live the Caldari State!

11/08/2009

Heth Auctioning Development Rights of Conquered Federation Systems to Caldari Mega-corporations

New Caldari - SCOPE News has acquired a dated top secret memorandum issued from the Caldari Providence Directorate to all Caldari mega-corporations, stating that the "development and exploration rights" for all Federation systems occupied by Caldari militias are to be auctioned off to the highest bidders. Although issued

nearly a month ago, the auction-which has been ongoing in complete secrecy-ends on August 21st, YC111.

The memo specifies that winning bids are effectively entering a three-party agreement with the State and with all other mega-corporations; this agreement honors the rights of the bidder to hold title over all "resources, property, and opportunities" developed within the system. The deal is binding irrespective of sovereignty changes. However, the CPD makes it clear that no additional national resources are to be allocated to protect mega-corporate activities from Federation militia counterattacks "unless directed as part of strategic Caldari naval operations in the vicinity."

The language of the memo suggests that the winning mega-corporations, most of which own separate military security corporations, would be free to operate in contested Federation systems on their own accord, and more importantly, would be legally authorized to use as much force as they can bring to bear to secure their interests.

As of the time of this publication, all contestable Federation systems remain under strict Caldari control, which was unilaterally established in May and has remained virtually unchallenged ever since. The memo, entitled "Caldari Providence Appropriations and Development Rights Issue," states that money procured from the bidding process will be used to "support the Caldari Navy and repay national obligations."

The CPD and mega-corporations are not answering questions about the memo at this time. The Federation is expected to release a statement regarding this development within the next 24 hours.

12/08/2009

Foiritan to Invoke Wartime Powers Act to Nationalize Federation Arms Manufacturers; Senate Calls Emergency Session

Ladistier - In what is clearly a response to Tibus Heth's auction of captured Federation systems, President Foiritan has issued an executive mandate to seize control of the nation's arms manufacturers. For the first time since the Caldari-Gallente War, this extraordinary decree invokes the Hueromont Act, which grants the president sweeping emergency powers in the event of national crisis. The Senate has decried Foiritan's act, calling it an "impeachable offense," and a session is underway to formulate a response.

The nationalization of Federation arms manufacturers-which includes behemoths CreoDron and Duvolle Laboratories-would give the President's office the legal authority to direct manufacturing and production operations without corporate consent, and thus to bypass any Senate approval for the measure.

The decades-old Hueromont Act was passed to mobilize Federation resources in the event of an emergency. It states that "such authority may be invoked directly, without approval from the senate, in times of extreme national duress such as war or natural disaster, for the express purpose of galvanizing the nation's resources toward relieving the imminent threat as quickly as possible."

Foiritan's invocation of the act implies that the Federation is in an official state of emergency, as the Caldari militia has controlled several lowsec Federation systems since May. The Presidential Office issued a brief statement that, by its interpretation, Foiritan's action was legal, "reflect[ing] the actions of a president who is determined to protect the nation from further harm by relying less on uncontrollable factors and asserting more control for the better good of its citizens."

Federal Intelligence Office Director Mentas Blaque has been assigned to enforce the directive, meaning it will likely be executed by the Black Eagles, the paramilitary arm of the FIO that has grown substantially in scope under Blaque's direction. It is unclear exactly how much power the director can wield to enforce the presidential mandate. Meetings between corporations and FIO officials are already underway, although SCOPE has agreed to honor a temporary request to refrain from listing exactly which specific corporations are "engaged in dialogue."

This is a SCOPE breaking news story. More coverage will follow as details emerge.

13/08/2009

Breaking News: Roden Shipyards Refuses to Comply with Executive Order; Standoff between Federal Agents and Corporation Forces Underway

Alentene - A tense standoff between the security forces of Roden Shipyards and the Federation government is underway at the corporation's headquarters in Alentene. SCOPE has learned that the altercation began shortly after Federal Intelligence Office (FIO) agents arrived to enforce President Foiritan's executive mandate to nationalize arms manufacturers.

Government officials have closed access to the scene by reporters. Sources report that Jacus Roden, the retired founder of Roden Shipyards, personally refused to allow federal agents to enter the facility. A brief statement released by the corporation reads as follows:

"Our position is that the president has no legal authority to commandeer the operations of this firm. The Federation government is therefore trespassing on private property. We have no intentions of escalating this matter further, but we refuse to yield ground on the issue."

Momentum is gathering in the senate to proceed with an impeachment hearing-the first for a president in decades. Lawmakers worked through the night lobbying for votes, as fresh polls show that President Souro Foiritan's popularity has dropped to a record low, with just 26% of respondents viewing the president's performance favorably.

Jacus Roden, known to be a capsuleer, is the largest single shareholder of the corporation bearing his name. He retired more than twenty years ago, but not before installing his granddaughter Miloise Roden as CEO. She has since extended the company lines of business into "super-capital" ventures that include terraforming operations and the construction of advanced warships for the Federation Navy.

This is a SCOPE breaking news story. More coverage will follow as details emerge.

13/08/2009

Breaking News: Federation Corporations Refute Nationalization Mandate; Senate Approves Impeachment Hearings for President Foiritan

Villore - Following the defiant example of Roden Shipyards, Federation arms manufacturers have collectively refuted President Foiritan's nationalization mandate. A hastily arranged charter has been signed by twelve of the largest Gallentean corporations and delivered to the Presidential Office in Ladistier. According to sources, the charter states their explicit refusal to comply with the Hueromont Act and boldly demands that government troops leave corporate properties "with immediate effect."

In what many see as a surprising move, Federal Intelligence Office (FIO) Director Mentas Blaque has ordered federal agents to "belay prior enforcement directives and stand down." It is unknown if his actions represent direct insubordination, or if the order was issued by the president. The FIO refuses to comment.

In what many are calling the death throes of the Foiritan presidency, the Federation Senate voted by a two-to-one margin to begin impeachment hearings as early as next week. This is the latest in a series of national misfortunes for the beleaguered president, whose popularity since the outset of the Emyrean War has plummeted.

While confrontations between government and corporations have yet to turn violent, reports of civil unrest are trickling in from throughout the Gallente Federation. Populist groups are largely divided between the president's actions and the hawkish measures needed to rescue frontier Federation settlements from Caldari occupation. Libertarian groups decry the president's actions as a "totalitarian" attempt to take sovereign rights away from corporations, but have traditionally sided against pro-business causes.

As of now, the president has not officially responded to the corporation charter or the senate impeachment hearings.

This is a SCOPE breaking news story. More coverage will follow as details emerge.

15/08/2009

Breaking News: President Foiritan to Resign, Call for New Elections in November

Ladistier - SCOPE News has learned that Souro Foiritan, president of the Gallente Federation for the past six years, has tendered his resignation to the Senate. He is expected to address the nation later today, during which time he is expected to announce new elections to take place in November.

His resignation comes during a tumultuous period for the nation. Yesterday, the senate voted in favor of moving forward with wartime impeachment hearings, the first for a president in decades. A rapid succession of national misfortunes -- the loss of Federation systems to Caldari militias, Heth's brazen auction of these systems as spoils of war, and Foiritan's decision to nationalize the arms manufacturers in response -- proved to be too much adversity for the administration to overcome.

Once considered the most popular president in Federation history, Foiritan has fallen dramatically from political stardom. His descent is generally regarded to have been marked by two key betrayals: that of Admiral Alexander Noir, whose singular act of terrorism helped spark the Emyrean War, and Grand Admiral Advent Eturner, who was convicted of selling vital military secrets to the Caldari.

"That both betrayals came from within the Federation Navy seems fitting for the issues facing the nation today," said Vercoure Dilloux, professor of political science at the University of Caille. "The legacy of President Foiritan, despite his administration's grand accomplishments in economics, culture, and technology, will likely be shaped by the decline of its armed forces and his failure to enlist capsuleers more directly in the defense of the nation."

The Scope will cover the presidential address later today.

15/08/2009

Breaking News: President Foiritan to End Term Early, Admits "Regrets"

Ladistier - President Foiritan addressed the nation earlier today, formally announcing his resignation and calling for new elections. Because Foiritan's term is ending prematurely, the elections must be held in November, and he himself is ineligible to be a candidate. The president's speech was personal and conciliatory, revealing a softer side to the man who infuriated the nation days ago with his bid to seize control of the nation's arms manufacturers. The president admitted that his decision to invoke executive powers on the matter was "wrong," but emphasized that it seemed like the best solution to quickly mobilize the nation's defenses against the Caldari onslaught in frontier systems.

The full transcript is below:

"Honored members of the Senate, fellow citizens of the Federation, friends and well-wishers throughout New Eden:

"The time has come for me to step down as president.

"I have served this great nation as best as I could. If I could somehow express what the Gallente Federation and its people mean to me, I would do so. But I can't. There are no words. Nor can I describe how difficult some of the decisions were that we've faced, not just in the last year, but every day since I took this office.

"Any leader who serves for any amount of time will admit regrets. Let it be known that I certainly have my own. I say that despite the great accomplishments of the past six years-the ones that we achieved together. We have become the wealthiest nation in New Eden. We are pioneers in the reformation of worlds. We have created a better life for billions of people. And yet I am burdened by what we did not achieve, and the goals that we fell short of.

"This November, you will elect someone to continue where I have left off. I will not endorse any candidate who runs for this office, but I will fully support whoever wins your final vote. I give you my word that our government will transition smoothly over to your next elected leader, and we will do everything in our power to ensure that the voting process is fair.

"I have learned much of myself these last years. Indeed, we have learned much from each other. The greatest advice I can offer to the next leader is to empathize with the nations of New Eden. Know that no matter how deep our convictions to liberty and prosperity, it is a sad truth that they are not universally cherished nor admired. We have become the envy and scorn of many. We became the victims of our own success. And we have paid dearly for our complacency.

"But despite all that has happened, we must never back down from who we are. No matter what happens, we can't lose faith in the Gallentean beliefs that have carried us so well for so long. The tragic events of the past year shocked us all, but they don't have to rob us of our soul.

"As a nation, we have strayed from the path. I bear the responsibility for allowing it to happen. And I know in my heart that the Federation's interests are best served by stepping aside, so that the next president can set us right once more.

"The senate has accepted my resignation, which is effective this November. Until then, I will continue to operate the government in its full capacity. In addition, I have retracted my executive invocation of the Hueromont Act. In light of the situation with our frontier worlds, I felt this to be the best course of action to help our citizens. I realize now this was wrong, and that I should have instead worked directly with the senate and corporations towards a solution.

"The urgency of these times cannot be overstated. No matter what our differences, we must work together to overcome the challenges we face. For united-even now, in the final days of this presidency-we can, and we must, persevere.

"Thank you."

17/08/2009

Jacus Roden to Announce Candidacy for President

Algogille - Jacus Roden, the founder of Roden Shipyards, has officially filed his candidacy for the Federation presidency. The news follows an explosive week in Gallente politics, during which Roden Shipyards openly defied a national decree, the latest in a string of failures that ultimately resulted in President Foiritan's resignation. Roden, who ranks amongst the Federations richest individuals, has been retired for years, and is the first candidate to file all the requisite paperwork with the Federation Administration.

While emerging as a folk hero in the face of last week's defiant standoff, some senators are already questioning the reclusive man's qualifications. Roden's early career was mired in scandal, as he was charged by Federal prosecutors with felony counts of theft and racketeering. Although the courts eventually dropped charges against him, the damage to his reputation remains.

Since handing the corporation to his granddaughter, Roden Shipyards has grown into an industrial giant, producing nearly all of the Federal Navy's warships. In addition, the corporation has long-standing strategic partnerships with Allotek Industries and Duvolle Laboratories. It is rumored that Jacus Roden is the man who founded these relationships, but went to great lengths to keep his name out of the public spotlight.

Although Mr. Roden has filed for candidacy, he has yet to make any public appearance or announcement. While not unusual considering the reclusiveness of the man himself, filings with the Federal Administration are usually followed by the fanfare of a presidential run and the launch of a national political campaign. Jacus Roden will have to emerge to address the public at some point, as the Gallente public is anxious to learn more about him.

20/08/2009

Breaking News: Ishukone Wins Development Rights to Intaki System

New Caldari - The SCOPE has learned that the Ishukone Corporation has bid for and won the rights to develop the Intaki System. It was revealed last week that Tibus Heth authorized an auction amongst the Caldari megacorporations for the development rights to recently conquered Federation systems. The terms of the Intaki acquisition are unknown.

The Caldari Providence Directorate released a brief statement officially acknowledging the auction and announced that they would disclose the winning bids and systems after bidding concludes this Friday.

A spokesperson for Ishukone confirmed that the Intaki System was the only acquisition for the mega-corporation in the auction.

This is a breaking news story. The SCOPE will continue to report any developments.

21/08/2009

Providence Directorate announces Gallente auction winners

New Caldari - The Caldari Providence Directorate has today announced the winning bids for their recent auction of Gallente space. Big winners include Kaalakiota and Sukuuvestaa, while Ishukone makes do with just a single solitary system. The winning corporations are now authorized to exploit these systems to the fullest for as long as they remain in Caldari hands.

As expected, the wealth and reach of the megacorporations has driven smaller corps entirely out of the running. The "blind auction" format seems to have made it difficult for even comparatively wealthy sub-megas - such as perennially successful Ytiri - to gain any kind of foothold. All eight megacorps had at least one successful bid, with Suvee leading the charge and claiming fourteen systems. Meanwhile, in a move many are describing as "baffling", Ishukone has laid claim to a single system - Intaki, generally considered to be the least promising prospect in the auction due to its comparative lack of mineral wealth and vast native population. Sources believe that this was the only bid Ishukone made, and several question where the financially struggling megacorp managed to find the money.

Political analysts are in agreement that a large degree of politicking has taken place behind the scenes, with many pointing out that the coherent clustering of both individual corporations and ideological blocs is not something that would occur without extensive horse-trading. There is much disagreement over what the long-term consequences of the auction will be, but there are signs that the megacorps are already moving assets into place to begin exploitation as soon as possible.

The full results follow :-

Sukuuvestaa Corporation [14 Systems]:

- Abune
- Costolle
- Deven
- Fliet
- Heydieles
- Indregulle
- Ladistier
- Loes
- Menmaniel
- Muetralle
- Murethand
- Old Man Star
- Ouelletta
- Vifrevaert

CBD Corporation [6 Systems]:

- Covryn
- Dastryns
- Harroule
- Hevrice
- Jovainnon
- Ostingele

Nugoeihuvi Corporation [2 Systems]:

- Iges
- Uphallant

Hyasyoda Corporation [4 Systems]:

- Agoze
- Annancale
- Brarel
- Vey

Ishukone Corporation [1 System]:

- Intaki

Kaalakiota Corporation [8 Systems]:

- Alamel
- Alparena
- Arderonne
- Athounon
- Mantenault
- Mercomesier
- Odamia
- Reschard

Lai Dai Corporation [4 Systems]:

- Aldranette
- Anchauttes
- Esesier
- Evaulon

Wiyrkomi Corporation [8 Systems]:

- Aslavoinon
- Aubenall
- Eugales
- Fraire
- Moclinamaud
- Oicx
- Renarelle
- Viillirier

Mandate recovery from elder invasion continues as shipyards are rebuilt reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 14.09.2009 16:28:23

Sasta, Derelik – In an announcement that further signals Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur's determination that the Ammatar Mandate be a major contributor to the strategic goals of the Amarr Empire, the Ammatar Fleet has declared five major shipyards in and around the Sasta system as once more fully operational, ready to supply and refit the ships of the combined Ammatar and Ardishapur fleet forces.

In remarks transmitted from Fleet HQ in Sasta, Grand Admiral Hastar Jibril of the Ammatar Fleet expressed his "deep satisfaction that the reconstruction of these essential shipyards has been carried out on time thanks to the unstinting work of the Ammatar people." Since his appointment, Grand Admiral Jibril has been overseeing the integration of the Ammatar Fleet and those units of the Ardishapur forces assigned to his command. The reconstruction of these shipyards, all heavily damaged by Minmatar-Thukker strike forces during the Elder Invasion, was a major priority for the Grand Admiral as they will allow the necessary refitting and retasking of the Fleet's disparate units to proceed quickly.

In a related development, the Ammatar Fleet has announced that it intends to refit a line of 'Yonis variant' Abaddons for use on extended patrols of the Minmatar border. Usually reserved for important garrisons or major taskforces, the Abaddon-class has not been favoured by Amarr commanders as a patrol vessel due to its high energy requirements and large crew complement. It is speculated by naval architecture experts that the 'Yonis variant' will feature additional power plants and possibly reduced crew and firepower requirements to make it practical for prestige patrol duties.

**Nefantar defector presses court case against urban management
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 18.09.2009 14:52:07**

Trytedald - The Vherokior tribal court has agreed to hear the case of Oguko Hagori, a former Mandate industrialist who fled to the Republic during the Elder War last year. Hagori is suing Urban Management for control of land his family once controlled on Trytedald III. His case is one of many being pursued by Nefantar immigrants in the wake of the Elder War, as most such lands were confiscated by the Republic government during the Minmatar Rebellion and made available for public use.

Hagori is the first such plaintiff that has managed to get his case seen by a high tribal court - a result of three previous appeals - and it is expected to set significant legal precedent in the Republic. His record in the Mandate, as a quiet supporter of stronger Mandate autonomy and a proponent of abolition, is believed to give him a better-than-average chance of winning his case with the Vherokior court. However, Urban Management is so far undefeated through the hundreds of court cases they have had on this very issue, and most legal analysts seem to agree that Hagori faces an uphill battle.

"Obviously, it's a difficult situation, because the land has not simply been left fallow - handing it over would displace homes and businesses that have been there for over a century, something that courts seem very unwilling to do," said Rian Elselfur, one such analyst, speaking on a recent Scope broadcast. "The point of view from the court in previous cases seems to be that the land was abandoned, for whatever reason, and therefore it became the property of the Republic negating all previous owners' claims. Revelations about the role of the Nefantar in the Rebellion notwithstanding, this would be a simple case, but that makes the issue considerably more muddled."

**Republic justice accepts thukker demand for krullefor
reported by ISD Sheliak Mesarthim 18.09.2009 11:27:10**

Pator - The Minmatar Republic will not ask the Thukker tribe to release the apprehended fugitive crime lord Baliggan Krullefor. This decision was reached in a special meeting yesterday between the Republic's most senior judges and several members of Sanmatar Shakor's government.

The emergency session was held in response to an announcement from Thukker Mix claiming their refusal to extradite Krullefor to Republic authorities. Following the conclusion of the meeting, representatives of this assembly declared that the Thukker demands for Krullefor would not be challenged by the Republic.

Public reaction to the announcement has been mixed. "It's a shame to see tribal relations deteriorate like this," says Yuce Velkhamme, a Vherokior merchant on Matar.

In Molden Heath, where the Krullefor Family was based, there are others eager to comment on the fate of Baliggan Krullefor. Magellek Fruterol, a miner in the Weld system, said, "It's an outrage. A man who has done so much evil in the Republic will not rot in our jail."

"I don't trust the Thukkers for a second, said Gothi Hurjafren, a clerk in the Skarkon system. "I wouldn't be surprised if the Thukkers organized the whole thing."

Thukker Mix stated that Krullefor will serve time for his offenses under Thukker tribal law, and that his 19 years in Republic prison will be taken into account in his sentencing.

**In the wake of jarek, religion continues to be contentious issue
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 20.09.2009 18:36:44**

Pator - The murder of Abel Jarek several weeks ago in what seems to be a religiously-motivated attack has highlighted growing tensions over the Amarr faith gaining a foothold in the Republic. According to a survey by the Republic University, most Nefantar and a significant portion of other recent immigrants from the Mandate and the Empire are choosing to keep their Amarrian religious beliefs. While this segment of the population remains a tiny minority, according to the survey such a minority was, just a few years ago, "so small as to be nearly nonexistent."

Nowhere is this clash of cultures more evident than on Matar. Though Jarek's Salvation township was the most obvious of the new Amarr religious communities, it was not the only one. In the low-rent districts where many immigrants have settled, makeshift "churches" have been established in backrooms and empty warehouses, often advertised only by word of mouth.

Even before Jarek's death, many within the immigrant communities feared similar attacks. "Many people do not understand that the word of God is universal," said Dovirch Brettirdur, pastor of one of these small churches. "They see our faith as brainwashing, or an attempt by the Amarr to infiltrate the Republic, when nothing could be further from the truth. We only want to make his light available to those who seek it."

Unfortunately, for many outside these communities, it is impossible to separate the Amarr faith from the Amarr Empire and its history with the Republic. Perhaps most ironically, some of the strongest critics of this minority

have been other recent immigrants, many of whom were enslaved until recently. The fact that many of these people often live in the same or nearby neighborhoods only intensifies the problem. While Republic government authorities as high as Sanmatar Shakor have said they are committed to ensuring the safety of all Minmatar citizens, regardless of tribe or religion, many of the people in these communities remain skeptical about the commitment of those charged with protecting those rights, noting that Jarek's murderers still remain at large.

Ammatar mandate food production restored to pre-invasion levels reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 23.09.2009 18:54:13

Tanoo, Derelik – Officials of the Amarr Trade Registry monitoring the Ammatar Mandate have declared that food production within the Derelik region has returned to pre-invasion levels with a consequent reduction in food imports from other regions of the Amarr Empire. Since the Elder Invasion, the Mandate has been highly dependent on food imports and has barely managed to stave off famine in some areas.

The Elder Invasion of YC110 caused widespread damage to many agricultural plantations within the Ammatar Mandate, despite the invasion forces limiting their strikes to military infrastructure and strategic installations which posed a threat to their primary goal of recovering slaves. As slaves were seized by the Minmatar-Thukker forces, the holdings on which they worked were often heavily damaged during the initial assaults. Further incidental damage, up to and including the burning of some plantations, is associated with rioting and sporadic clashes with Amarr troops during the invasion and in its immediate aftermath.

Adreyi Ezion, the Chief Financial Officer of the Ardishapur Family and the architect of much of the Mandate's reconstruction, welcomed the assessment of the Amarr Trade Registry and stated that the ultimate goal of the Ardishapur administration was to make the Ammatar Mandate self-sufficient in food staples and, eventually, an export partner with the rest of the Amarr Empire.

Ammatar fleet launches first 'yonis variant' abaddon from sasta shipyards reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 04.10.2009 10:58:58

Sasta, Derelik – The Ammatar Fleet has launched its first 'Yonis variant' Abaddon-class battleship from a military shipyard in Sasta, the Fleet HQ system. The launch is the first of an unspecified number of Abaddon-class battleships from the Ardishapur house fleet that are being refitted for duties with the Ammatar Fleet.

Designed for extended 'prestige patrol' duties on the Minmatar border, the 'Yonis variant,' named after Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur, is understood to have modified energy plants and does not carry the energy-hungry and crew-intensive tachyon beam batteries often seen on Imperial Navy Abaddon variants. The decision of the Ammatar Fleet to deploy the formidable Abaddon-class on the border with the Minmatar Republic is regarded by observers as yet another signal from Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur that he considers it vital that the Mandate be a major contributor to the strategic goals of the Amarr Empire.

Tribal court decides for urban management reported by ISD Katerina Markova 09.10.2009 12:52:04

Trytedald - Today, in a split decision, the Vherokior tribal court sided with Urban Management in the case of Hagori v. Urban Management, effectively ending Oguko Hagori's attempt to reclaim lands on Trytedald III. Previously owned by his family prior to the Minmatar Rebellion, the land had been confiscated by the Republic government and had been returned to public use.

As many had suspected, the decision in the case hinged on whether or not the the land was considered abandoned. The Vherokior court pointed to the lack of any claim by Hagori's family since the Rebellion, citing it as evidence that the family had relinquished their claims. While Hagori maintained that the de facto state of war between the Mandate and the Republic made such claims, even if they had been filed, unlikely to be acknowledged, the court decided that the fact there was not even an attempt to do so was in effect a relinquishment of the family's right to the land.

At the moment, what that means for the many other similar lawsuits is unclear; however, most legal scholars agree that the decision raises the bar for further attempts by Nefantar immigrants to reclaim previously held property in the Republic. Nefantar tribal leaders have so far been silent, a move seen by many parliamentary insiders as an attempt to avoid such a hot-button issue with the pending tribal assembly closing in.

Yonis ardishapur appoints ammatar civil servant as mandate governor reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 14.10.2009 15:03:42

Tanoo, Derelik – In a surprising move, Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur has appointed Ekroz Salaf, an ethnic Ammatar, as Governor of the Ammatar Mandate. Governor Salaf is a career imperial civil servant who most recently held the position of District Collector for the Ministry of Assessment in Parud constellation, Domain region.

The appointment of a new governor has been the subject of intense speculation since Yonis Ardishapur was given the Mandate to rule as a personal fief by Empress Janyl I. The policy of granting True Amarr Holders key

planetary and system fiefs, together with a purge of the Ammatar nobility, had raised fears that the Ammatar people were being relegated to an entirely subservient position in the new order. Political scientists at the Ammatar Consular University in Tanoo suggest that the appointment of Governor Salaf will do much to allay concerns among the Ammatar populace.

House Ardishapur officials have confirmed that Yonis Ardishapur took a critical role in overseeing the search for the new governor, requiring that the personal histories of all candidates be presented for his personal review. Ekroz Salaf has been an official in the imperial civil service for 37 years and began his career as a liaison between the Ministry of Assessment and the Nefantar Miner Association in Derelik. His official biographical notes state that his talent for logistical administration was recognized by a Ministry review board that appointed him System Assessor in Tanoo in YC80. In YC87, Salaf was promoted to the rank of District Collector for San Matar before transferring to his posting in Domain in YC98. Governor Salaf will officially take up his duties in the next few weeks.

New ammatar fleet security taskforce begins patrol of republic border reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius | 18.10.2009 17:06:35

Sasta, Derelik – The Ammatar Fleet has announced that the newly formed 5th Derelik Border Security Task Force is to begin a 6-month tour of duty patrolling the Ammatar Mandate border with the Minmatar Republic this week. Comprised of a core of three 'Yonis variant' Abaddon-class battleships and numerous Apocalypse- and Armageddon-class battleships, the task force is charged with "maintaining the integrity of the borders of the Amarr Empire and destroying all threats to the security of the Ammatar Mandate."

In other developments, it has emerged that several penal regiments are currently being raised within the Ammatar Mandate. Sources within the Ammatar Consulate indicate that dishonored men and officers of the Ammatar Fleet and Ammatar planetary defense forces are being offered the choice of service in penal regiments as an alternative to permanent slavery as punishment for their failings during the Elder Invasion.

It is also reported that failed defectors and the families of defectors who have come under suspicion are also being offered the chance to serve in penal units rather than being convicted of collusion with defectors and entering formal slavery. The appeal of these offers lies in the fact that formal enslavement would in most cases lead to the dependents and descendants of the enslaved joining them in slavery. Ardishapur authorities have declared their "hope that the mercy of Lord Ardishapur will lead to the redemption of these lost souls."

Many starkmanir refugees finding new life difficult reported by ISD Katerina Markova 20.10.2009 15:49:16

Rens - The transition to life as free citizens is proving to be difficult for many Starkmanir, despite the success of some individuals. Many Starkmanir tribesmen have emigrated to Rens, hoping to take advantage of the system's booming economy. However, Starkmanir immigrants have since found themselves homeless or herded into refugee camps.

"We've seen an inordinate amount of refugees suffering from substance abuse problems or mental illness," said Alusane Irhi, one of the many Sisters of EVE workers helping at the refugee camps. "The shift from slavery to freedom is always difficult; we have not seen troubles on this scale since the Rebellion."

Some Starkmanir are even questioning the worth of their move to the Republic, especially in the wake of Empress Jamyl I's Emancipation Decree. "Nearly everyone who was left behind was freed by the Empress," said Uidvard Eiren, a leading voice among Rens' Starkmanir population. "Many Starkmanir here are even considering going back to the Mandate. At least in the Mandate, social structures were largely intact, but the pace of the migration here has destroyed much of that support network."

Eiren notes that there is a danger that the Republic's leaders must not ignore. "If the Republic does not allow the Starkmanir the same opportunities as the other tribes, it will make the sacrifice of those who died in the Elder War meaningless. That cannot be allowed to happen."

Starkmanir, nefantar face uphill battle in minmatar politics reported by ISD Katerina Markova 05.10.2009 18:41:34

Pator - As the Starkmanir and Nefantar search for tribal leaders to represent them at the upcoming tribal assembly, many within the two tribes are expressing worry over whether the two tribes will be able to find an equal voice at the table. With much smaller populations in the Republic than the other five tribes, they worry that they will be simply drowned out.

"It isn't some sort of conspiracy or malice that we suspect," said Elettan Skias, a leader among the Starkmanir refugees in the Pator system. "It is only natural though, given our small population, that the concerns of the larger tribes will be addressed before ours. Unfortunately, that is making it very hard to raise the hopes of my tribe that real progress for us will come out of this."

Some among the Nefantar tribe, however, seem to suspect a more deliberate effort to shut them out of the

political process. Agrik Tolenni, a Nefantar trader who left a profitable business in the Mandate to return to the Republic during the Elder War, told us that he and many other leaders of the Nefantar community have been shut out of many parts of the assembly's planning process. "Those of us who came here, most of us gave up everything we owned to return to our homeland. Many within the other tribes seem to have forgotten that though, and still see us as traitors or worse."

Sanmatar Shakor has tried to allay such fears, declaring that all tribes should have equal say at the assembly. As preparations for the assembly continue, however, it remains to be seen whether other tribal leaders and members of the bureaucracy will follow his lead.

Penal brigade drawn from ammatar mandate sent to support 24th imperial crusade reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 23.10.2009 19:12:01

Sasta, Derelik – A freshly assembled penal brigade drawn from the Ammatar Mandate has been given orders sending it to support the efforts of the 24th Imperial Crusade. Grand Admiral Hastar Jibril of the Ammatar Fleet has posted orders transferring transport units of the Ammatar Fleet to temporary secondment with the 24th Imperial Crusade, and it is understood these will carry three full regiments of penal troopers to the Bleak Lands to serve as ground support for the 24th Imperial Crusade fleets.

The 1st Mandate Redemptionist Brigade is comprised of the 1st and 2nd Tanoo Redemptionist Regiments and the 1st Sasta Redemptionist Regiment. These regiments have been assembled using dishonored Ammatar Fleet personnel together with many civilians suspected or convicted of support for defectors and offered service in penal battalions in lieu of the harsher punishment of full slavery. The brigade is primarily a logistics and engineering formation. The 1st and 2nd Tanoo comprise logistical troops along with the 1st Sasta, which possesses a high proportion of former Ammatar Fleet personnel, providing combat experience.

Initial reaction to garioss's presidential campaign mixed reported by ISD Caleb Kang 27.10.2009 19:26:01

Reactions to Senator Vilard Garioss's Presidential bid have proven to be mixed, with supporters citing his positive reputation in the senate, commitment to peace, and background in economics, while detractors point to his low profile in Federation politics, opposition to the war, and inconsistent voting history on non-economic policies.

"Senator Garioss has long been popular with his constituents," said Kep Ekatemi, political analyst for the University of Caille. "He has been a stable hand in the government for over a decade. He is widely respected by his peers. He is known as an intelligent man, but one who is humble at the same time. And while he has not been at the center of any high-profile bills or movements, he has worked diligently behind the scenes to improve the well being of the Gallente people. He has chosen to make the war a central theme of his campaign, obviously focused on ending it. Anyone who knows the man would have predicted this; he is a great conciliator, wishing nothing more than for everyone to live in peace for the benefit of all. The Federation could use a man of his learning and compassion in these troubled times."

Stiff opposition to the Senator is rare, though political commentator Rourke L'feene has been among the most vocal in decrying his anti-war rhetoric. "The fact is, the Caldari State is run by a war mongering dictator who wants to see the Federation burned. They will not respond to peaceful overtures and putting someone as weak-willed as Vilard Garioss into power will be a death kneel for our great nation."

Many common people have responded with apathy to Senator Garioss's campaign, however. "I've never heard of him before now," said Lamia Ire, a student at the Center for Advanced Studies. "I know he's against the war, which I agree with, but I think he may be a little extreme in it. I'd really need to know more."

Governor celes aguard confirms rumors of presidential candidacy reported by ISD Sheliak Mesarthim 27.10.2009 19:51:14

Mies - A new candidate confirmed her bid for the upcoming Federation presidential elections. Celes Aguard, Governor of the Mies system, announced her candidacy, promising to turn the tide of the war, Aguard pledged to "empower and strengthen outlying systems" and to "eradicate the factors that have turned our great Navy into a slow, lumbering beast."

The announcement was made at a press conference held at Aguard's residence, confirming a rumor that had been circulating Gallente political circles for the better part of the year. Governor Aguard is recognized as a driving force in the development of the Mies system. and her work in infrastructure development has can be felt throughout the Essence region. This candidacy comes in the middle of her second term as governor, having triumphed in the last election through a landslide victory.

Republic university amarr research grant under scrutiny reported by ISD Katerina Markova 27.10.2009 19:00:17

Hulm - Senior faculty members at Republic University have asked the school's Board of Trustees to reconsider a

grant awarded to Velys Gorra, an associate professor of history and anthropology. The request, signed by over 100 faculty members, raises objections to Gorra's work, which deals with the influence of the Amarr on Minmatar culture, and other controversial papers from her academic career.

Prof. Lillaka Uithmil, the organizer of the protest, views the research grant as particularly insensitive to the true needs of the Republic. "For a public university, our job is to pursue research that is in the public interest," she said. "Prof. Gorra is a known supporter of pro-Amarr studies in public education. This is not something that needs to be funded at this sensitive time for our Republic."

Prof. Gorra defended her work, saying that she is not "pro-Amarr" as her detractors claim. "My research is conducted in order to uncover facts, not push an agenda. I have never argued for a 'pro-Amarr' curriculum, merely one that acknowledges such a big part of our history. Ignoring our past will not make it go away."

The Board of Trustees has so far declined to comment.

Ardishapur orders reconstruction funds and redemptionist brigade to ezzara reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 29.10.2009 19:01:33

Ardishapur Prime – Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur has personally ordered a massive injection of funds to be made available to the 24th Imperial Crusade for the purposes of reconstruction in the war-torn Ezzara system. Ezzara has been the scene of bitter fighting between the 24th Imperial Crusade and the Tribal Liberation Force since the beginning of the conflict in YC110. The system has changed hands several times and its infrastructure is significantly degraded.

In addition to the funds, the Ammatar Fleet has confirmed that at the order of the Heir, the 1st Mandate Redemptionist Brigade is to take up duties assisting in the reconstruction of vital infrastructure in Ezzara. Primarily a logistical and engineering brigade, the 1st Redemptionist is composed of three regiments of penal troopers drawn from the ranks of dishonored Ammatar Mandate forces and civilians convicted of aid or sympathy for defectors.

Political pressure intensifies on republic university trustees reported by ISD Katerina Markova 30.10.2009 18:59:17

Hulm - Fenn Khuhurit, a prominent Sebiestor MP, added his voice to those questioning a research grant awarded to Prof. Velys Gorra by Republic University. Khuhurit remarked on this issue during an interview with Sebiestor Tribal Broadcasting.

"There's quite clearly a disconnect between the University's charter and this kind of apologist nonsense. How is this kind of spending at all in the public interest? Research money should be going towards progressing Minmatar achievements, not extolling Amarr ones."

Though he is the first MP to comment on the issue since the controversy began last week, several other officials have come out in support of his position. Some have threatened to conduct parliamentary hearings on the issue.

The Board of Trustees released a statement today, saying that research grants were given "on the recommendation of University administration and faculty representatives," and claimed that the grant had seen "almost unanimous" approval. Prof. Lillaka Uithmil, leading the opposition to the grant, called the statement a "dodge." "Research grants should not be based on popularity contests, but on the social benefits they provide to the Minmatar Republic," she said. "Clearly there was a lack of consideration for the wider impact of such a grant on the trustees' part."

New governor takes up duties in ammatar mandate reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 04.11.2009 18:40:07

Tanoo, Derelik – Governor Ekroz Salaf arrived in Tanoo system yesterday to take up his duties as plenipotentiary of Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur in the Ammatar Mandate. Ammatar Consulate officials have stated that Governor Salaf will spend a few days familiarizing himself with the latest Mandate developments before embarking on a tour of inspection across Derelik region.

As head of the Ammatar Consulate, Governor Salaf will run the civil administration of the Mandate on behalf of House Ardishapur. The Ammatar Fleet, under Grand Admiral Hastar Jibril, will continue to report directly to Heir Ardishapur although the Governor will have the authority to directly request Ammatar Fleet deployments as necessary. The Ardishapur reorganization of the civil and military branches of the Mandate recasts each as separate centers of power answering to Yonis Ardishapur as Holder of Derelik region.

Morale among the Ammatar populace has risen considerably in the weeks since the announcement of Governor Salaf's appointment. As an ethnic Ammatar, his selection has allayed rising fears that the Ardishapur regime intended to permanently relegate the Ammatar people to a subservient role in the region. His years spent as a senior official at the Ministry of Assessment in Domain region have also attracted comment. Observers of imperial politics agree that the choice of Ekroz Salaf was a shrewd move by Yonis Ardishapur, given that the

Governor represents an Ammatar figurehead untainted by the failings of the previous regime and of proven loyalty to the Amarr Empire.

**Life after emancipation: the road home
reported by ISD Ria Nicaea 08.11.2009 17:12:23**

Bittanshal – In the months following Empress Jaml's emancipation announcement, millions of released slaves have made their way to the welcoming arms of the Minmatar Republic. Millions more still remain within the Amarr Empire, however, hindered by the fear of leaving behind everything that they have ever known.

Onyeka Djekatro was a twelfth-generation slave maintaining production line equipment for the Inherent Implants factory in Bittanshal. When the emancipation order was issued, the corporation released Onyeka's entire family, forcing them to fend for themselves. "It was before the Sisters [of EVE] started their work. We couldn't afford to leave," Inevne Djekatro, her mother, explains. "We were told to leave the workers' housing, but where are we going to go if there's nowhere else?" With nowhere to go, the family was forced to take menial service jobs on the station in order to pay for lodging and food.

"We thought life would get better at first," says Onyeka, "But it only got worse. We saved what we could, but it was months before we had enough for a place on a shuttle." At the expense of reduced power to the family of eight's single room apartment, they saved enough to send Onyeka to the Republic to begin a new life.

For the nineteen-year-old woman, the prospect was both exciting and terrifying. Her family served Inherent Implants since the installation's inception. Onyeka was born on the station, and though some family members were sold to other Holders, she has never left the station's vicinity. "I sometimes didn't want to go," she admits. "But [my family] decided I would have the best chance. I have good skills and some training. Maybe it won't be so bad."

**Orthodox amarr faith increasingly supplanting ammatar church
reported by ISD Nestor Pelagius 2009.10.11 20:08:59**

Tanoo, Derelik – Officials of the Theology Council working in the Ammatar Mandate have released details of a formal 'Survey of Faith' carried out in Derelik during the last three months, the main finding of which is that the Ammatar Church is being steadily supplanted by the orthodox Imperial codification of the Amarr faith. While the Ardishapur regime in the Mandate has taken no steps against the Ammatar Church, and indeed has expressly reaffirmed it as a valid sect of the Amarrian faith, the Imperial rite of faith was declared the official religious doctrine of the Mandate by Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur on receipt of the Mandate as his personal fief.

Iris Selantar, a former lay preacher of the Ammatar Church now observing the Imperial rite, explained her decision to leave the traditional Ammatar sect for the orthodox church. "The invasion taught us many things – the incompetence of our nobles, the failures of our fleet and the spiritual poverty of so many Ammatar. I believe the destiny of the Ammatar people, and all Minmatar, lies in the holy embrace of Amarr and I feel that worshipping with the mother church of the Empire brings me closer to Amarr."

Subdeacon Ottoko Razirshz of the Theology Council mission in the Mandate confirmed that such feelings were typical of those Ammatar surveyed by his officials. "The Ammatar Church is a loyal and faithful branch of the great Amarr holy family," stated Subdeacon Razirshz. "However, it is clear that observance of the Imperial rite is growing in the Mandate. The Theology Council views this as in line with the goal of transforming the Mandate into a core domain of the Amarr Empire."

**Life after emancipation: refuge and resettlement
reported by ISD Ria Nicaea 13.11.2009 17:05:23**

Rens - While known primarily as Heimatar's largest market hub, Rens also serves as home to the Republic's main immigration facility. The system's close proximity to the Minmatar-Amarr border and its location along the main hisec routes make Rens an ideal harboring point for refugees. As a result, some stations throughout the solar system have difficulties in supporting the influx of immigrants. "One of the problems we encountered early on was that Holders who opted to send their former slaves to the Republic were reluctant to pay for passage further than was absolutely necessary," stated Immigration and Resettlement Officer Rais Ephrintak. "Oftentimes, ships would simply leave entire families there without any support. The stations in Rens simply weren't designed to handle such a mass influx of people."

Eventually, the Sisters of EVE offered offices and temporary housing space in their stations orbiting the moons of Rens VII. "It really was the best windfall we could have hoped for, under the circumstances," Ephrintak enthused. "Just having the stations to work from has made integrating the refugees much easier."

For the former slaves, the assistance is gratefully accepted. Onyeka Djekatro found herself welcomed like a "long-lost sister," and has received more help than she had expected. "There were many tests," she says. "They wanted to see where my skills are, and there's so much to write! They want to know everything and more." In addition to basic aptitude examinations, all arrivals are given a basic medical scan and inoculations. Interviews are conducted in order to arrange suitable work placement and provide emotional support, if necessary.

**Retired naval officer daren fasio announces candidacy
reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 14.11.2009 15:56:03**

Dodixie - At a press conference outside his home, retired Federation Navy Rear Admiral Daren Fasio announced his entry into the upcoming Gallente presidential election. The 61 year old retiree, an ethnic Mannar and an unabashed hawk, was openly critical of the previous administration's conduct in the ongoing militia war with the Caldari. "By failing to fully and immediately mobilize the substantial economic and industrial power of this great Federation, President Foiritan has led our nation into a fool's war." Fasio elaborated, stating that "It's not that we can't beat the Caldari, it's that we refuse to try to our fullest potential. "

Fasio was equally critical of several of the other candidates, particularly Senator Vilard Garioss, whose pro-reconciliation agenda Fasio labeled a "platform of surrender." Fasio also criticized industrialist candidate Jacus Roden for refusing to comply with President Foiritan's invocation of the Heuromont Act. "If Roden cared less about his quarterly profits and more about the good of the nation, he'd have been eager to comply with the act. How can we ask our ordinary citizens to make sacrifices for the good of the Federation if our prominent leaders will not?"

If elected, Mr. Fasio has pledged to take a number of steps designed to put the Gallente Federation in a more aggressive stance. His plans include a renewal of the invocation of the Heuromont Act, the institution of a national draft, increased conversion of civilian manufacturing to military production, and a program of civilian rationing for critical war materiel. "War is hard, and if we mean to fight it, we should all be doing our part. It's not too late to reverse the course, but if we continue to fight with one hand tied behind our backs, we will surely suffer further defeats."

**Senate debates issue of voting in occupied territories
reported by ISD Caleb Kang 15.11.2009 12:23:23**

Villore - As the Federation presidential elections draw closer, the issue of voting rights for citizens of occupied systems has been raised by the Senate. Debate over the issue consumed much of the Senate's deliberations today.

Senators from occupied space, led by a coalition of senators from the Placid region, have strongly pressed that elections still be held as normal in the occupied systems, despite the logistical difficulties. According to the senators, their constituents are highly invested in the upcoming election, which will dictate the future face of Federation politics and its stance toward the ongoing war with the Caldari State. The senators proposed several methods of holding the elections in the occupied systems, such as requesting the neutral assistance of the Servant Sisters of EVE, holding secret balloting, and other covert methods.

Political experts, invited to the Senate assembly to weigh in on the subject, raised numerous issues with the prospect, leading to the formation of a strong opposition to any plans. "The task of collecting, tallying, and verifying votes would be nigh-impossible with the continued communications blockade enforced by the Caldari State on occupied systems," noted veteran election organizer Fitale Jean. "That is to say nothing of ensuring that voters are aware of who they're voting for and the high possibility of fraud."

Despite the experts' recommendations, the legality of an election where a portion of the populace was denied the right to vote remains murky. The Senate broke session without coming to a conclusion, but the debate is expected to resume in the following days.

**Off-duty military personnel hold pro-fasio rally
reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 15.11.2009 14:50:45**

Duripant - Hundreds of off-duty Naval personnel and Federal Navy Academy cadets turned out for a rally to support Mannar presidential candidate Daren Fasio. A retired Rear Admiral, Fasio has received the enthusiastic endorsement of a large segment of military personnel from all of the armed services.

Commander Kevet Rivasse, an Academy astrogation instructor who served as an ensign under Fasio, said, "I have the utmost respect for the man and all he stands for. I know from personal experience that he is capable of making the difficult command decisions, and he isn't afraid to tell it like it is."

An equally ringing endorsement was given by Cadet Calvine Fouchard. "Politicians got us into this war. It's going to take someone with real military experience to get us out of it. "

Cadet Whelan Jao, president of one of the academy's several pro-Fasio student organizations, has been active in getting the Fasio message heard. "Any time we have leave or downtime between classes, we're out there spreading the word. Be it GalNet or good old-fashioned door-to-door interactions, we want people to understand the threats facing the Federation and that Admiral Fasio's plan is the best way to use our chief strengths as a nation: our dynamic economy and our strong tradition of public service."

Concerns have arisen that public endorsements on the part of Academy faculty amount to the political indoctrination of the cadets. Academy spokesman Gerart Oulallen sought to address that issue directly, saying,

"While the Academy itself does not officially endorse any particular candidate, our faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate in the political process. Everyone here has sworn an oath to protect our nation's free, democratic ideals. To forbid the teachers or cadets to voice their views would be counter to everything the Federation stands for."

**Life after emancipation: adaptation and adjustment
reported by ISD Ria Nicaea 16.11.2009 13:42:19**

Dumkirinur - The immigration facilities in Rens serve only as a filter to assist former slaves toward integration with Minmatar society. Unless complications arise, such as medical issues or an extreme unwillingness to incorporate, the new arrivals are moved within the first week to housing programs, where they receive further support and work placements or education.

"The numbers of trained and educated refugees we've been seeing are surprisingly high," reports Tjaard Mtaki, one of the career advisors employed by the integration facilities. "All of those immigrants who served on stations and ships have a high level of education in fields such as mathematics and physics. We've seen expert mechanics and engineers who can't read or write a word, but they can accurately explain the finer points of essential systems maintenance. We're finding the gaps in their education and helping to fill them."

For younger refugees like Onyeka Djekatro, the changes can be intimidating. She has been offered a place at the Republic Military School, helping to maintain the station's vast essential systems. "It's so different. I have no one to tell me what I should be doing. I go to classes every day. They tell us what we can expect from living here, but sometimes it doesn't seem real."

Onyeka is far from being the only former slave who has reported difficulty in adapting to their new liberty. Many freed slaves have admitted to feelings of apprehension when venturing beyond the confines of their quarters, and groups residing in the same housing clusters have begun to band together in small pseudo-family units. "We look out for our own," said one woman, who refused to be named.

**Senate votes to deny votes to occupied systems
reported by ISD Caleb Kang 17.11.2009 08:19:24**

Villore - The Federation Senate passed special legislation today to deny occupied systems the right to vote in Federation elections. The bill, which is expected to be signed into law by President Souro Foiritan later in the week, passed with little opposition, the only dissenting votes coming from senators from Placid and Solitude.

The bill applies to any Federation territory occupied by a foreign power, which currently includes much of Placid, including population centers such as Intaki Prime.

Presidential candidate Senator Vilard Garioss, who voted for the bill, said, "[This bill] cleared up a potentially messy legal issue [that could have] potentially invalidated the results of the upcoming election." Other candidates have yet to comment publicly on the issue.

Senator Jolie Maurice of Reschard denounced the bill, saying, "The people who must suffer under Caldari occupation are the ones who will be affected the most by the election. We should have looked for solutions to their inability to vote, rather than passing a law that essentially tells them they don't count."

**Life after emancipation: citizenship
reported by ISD Ria Nicaea 20.11.2009 10:12:28**

Dumkirinur - For emancipated slaves, entering the Minmatar Republic and integrating with its culture is a long and slow process. Entire families have been uprooted as a result of Empress Jamyli's emancipation proclamation last year, and many former slaves have been split apart by the difficulties of leaving the Amarr Empire. Millions of refugees now struggle to find each other again and reclaim an identity they barely knew before their emancipation.

"Sometimes I just can't deal with it," says Onyeka Djekatro, recently freed slave who returned to the Republic. "There are so many people and so much to take in. Your mind just closes."

Counselors attending to the new citizens' needs have noted a high percentage of depression and various anxiety disorders in the former slaves. "We've made a concerted effort to reduce the levels of stress [the returning Minmatar] may experience," one counselor explained, describing the support network which has been made available. "The hardest part is to get them to take advantage of it. They're so accustomed to being ordered around by their Holders."

In the two months since her entry to the Republic, Onyeka has settled into the routine of her work at the Republic Military School, including supplemental education and cultural introduction sessions and visits to the station's Amarr worship center. She has made a few friends, and together they have adjusted to a more relaxed social life. "I still live on a schedule," she smiles. "It's not easy to simply break habits." Now that her family has benefited from the free transportation provided by the Sisters of EVE, Onyeka says they feel whole again,

despite the new surroundings, and each family member looks forward to their new life as citizens of the Minmatar Republic.

Governor aguard draws record numbers to broadcast debate reported by ISD Sheliak Mesarthim 24.11.2009 17:44:56

Olide - In an event hosted by the Center for Advanced Studies last week, presidential candidate Celes Aguard attracted the eyes and ears of nearly 19% of the Gallente Federation's estimated daily total audience. In the Everyshore region, the percentage was even higher, with almost 35% of the regional audience having followed the show. The percentages exceed most other programming within the Federation, where it's rare even for the most popular entertainment channels to attract such numbers.

The show, "CAS Profile of Influence," is produced and administrated by students of the Center of Advanced Studies, The program has been known to hold interviews of many high profile people, from corporate directors and CEOs to famous scientists and politicians. The Aguard interview was not the first time a presidential candidate appeared on the show, but Aguard's rising popularity in the region, together with the show's recent syndication over the Egonics network, contributed to the show's success. In addition to having broken the regional viewer record, the show also set a new record for audience for a student program.

In the interview, Aguard spoke about her mixed Gallente/Jin-Mei heritage and career in Mies, as well as her plans to support fringe economies, as well as her controversial criticism of CONCORD. Post-show polls at the CAS show an increase in support for Aguard and her policies, placing her behind Jacus Roden, but ahead of Vilard Garioss in the race for the presidency.

Political analysts question aguard's chances following no-vote bill reported by ISD Sheliak Mesarthim 27.11.2009 18:13:17

Following the passing of the bill to deny votes in occupied Federal systems, several political analysts in the cluster agree that presidential candidate Celes Aguard may have lost one of her largest voter blocs.

"Aguard's pledge of support for frontier settlements and low-security regions, as well as her wish for a total military effort to reclaim the lost systems gave her a strong base of support in Placid and Verge Vendor," says Arroch Dermanni, an expert at Gallente politics working for Amarr Certified News. "The disenfranchisement of those territories has denied the Aguard camp one of its strongest cards."

"This has strengthened Jacus Roden position as a top candidate, followed by Garioss. Aguard still places high in Everyshore polls, but with the loss of these potential votes her chances of winning the presidency are slim," comments Felisenne Olvenari, Professor of Political Sciences at the University of Caille in Aporulie.

The Scope's own Remi Eyeleranne said in his news segment Eye on the Election: "Celes [Aguard] now has to fight an uphill battle where most of her opponents have the higher ground." And the passing of the bill prompted him to move Aguard down from her position in his "Election Prognosis" after having been one of the front runners for many weeks.

Aguard herself was an outspoken opponent of the bill, and called Senator Vilard Garioss - supporter of the bill and one of her opponents in the race for president - "a villain who ravages our constitution with no thought of the implications for the people of the Federation."

Presidential candidate aguard holds political rally for jin-mei reported by ISD Sheliak Mesarthim 30.11.2009 19:00:55

Lirsautton - Celes Aguard, Governor of the Mies system and candidate in the upcoming Gallente Federation presidential election, attracted a crowd numbering in the thousands for a political rally at the planet Chakaux in the Lirsautton system yesterday. Aguard spoke at length of her Jin-Mei heritage and the promise to sponsor the development of "fringe worlds and minority communities," gaining positive reactions from those assembled.

"When frontier settlements starve under Caldari blockades, and riots and panic spreads among those who feel they are voiceless, all our leaders can say is 'toughen up,'" said Aguard in her speech. "Fear is a powerful motivator, but it has failed to quell the governmental apathy toward the minorities of the Federation."

Many of Aguard's supporters agreed with this sentiment. "I am a strong supporter for maintaining the independent cultures of groups such as the Jin-Mei, Mannar and Intaki," says Cephon Langlier, a civil rights lawyer in Lirsautton who attended the rally. "I would be ecstatic to see a president who gives more than token support to the minority cultures of the Federation."

Governor Aguard is expected to follow her tour of the Everyshore region with several rallies and debates in the Essence region next month.

**Fasio withdraws candidacy, endorses aguard
reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 30.11.2009 18:45:58**

Dodixie - Amid slipping poll numbers, presidential contender and retired Rear-Admiral Daren Fasio has announced his withdrawal from the race. Addressing a disappointed but supportive crowd at a press conference this morning, Mr. Fasio took the opportunity to endorse Governor Celes Aguard's candidacy, saying, "though Governor Aguard and I have disagreed on several issues, I feel strongly that she is an able candidate for the presidency. Further, she has the best interests of the Federation at heart, and I believe she has the political will to do what is necessary to preserve and defend this great nation."

While extremely popular among both serving and retired military personnel, Fasio's candidacy has been plagued since the beginning by a message that many have viewed as extreme. Fasio's stated intention of instituting a draft and putting the Federation's economy on a war-footing has won him few friends in the business community.

Fasio's campaign was also hurt by his own demeanor, described by many as "overly impersonal." Zalawi Marguva, a political analyst for The Scope contrasted candidates Aguard and Fasio after a recent debate, saying, "The way these two address crowds publicly is very different. Governor Aguard delivers rousing political speeches designed to fire peoples' ardor. Admiral Fasio delivers dry, fact-filled briefings designed to inform peoples' decisions."

Given the similarities between their platforms, Fasio's withdrawal would naturally lend to a bump in Governor Aguard's numbers. His endorsement was symbolic however, and Governor Aguard thanked Mr. Fasio graciously, saying "Admiral Fasio's spirit of service, both in and out of uniform, should be an example for us all. He has been an honorable and worthy adversary."

**03/12/2009
Caldari Leaders Wary of New Federation President**

New Caldari - State Executor Tibus Heth took time today to speak to the press on the recent Gallente elections. He said that "any attempt to intrude upon the sovereign territory of the Caldari State will be met with an immediate and overwhelming response" by Caldari forces. His statement was seen as a warning to the new Federation administration against attempts to retake Caldari Prime and the Gallente border systems occupied by the State, something which Jacus Roden mentioned several times during his campaign. Caldari Navy forces in the occupied territories have been at an elevated state of alert since Tuesday's elections.

Elsewhere in the State, public reaction has been muted. Most corporations have followed the lead of Ishukone, which released a statement saying that the company hoped that the new Federation administration would "recognize the need to stabilize the cluster-wide economic and political situation," avoiding any comment on specific Federation policy.

Such caution is not unexpected, according to political analyst Ylle Audre, due to the business interests that many of the megacorporations and their subsidiaries still maintain in the Federation despite the ongoing border hostilities.

"Roden is probably the closest you can come to a Caldari CEO outside of the State itself, and despite his Caldari Prime comments during the campaign, I think many Caldari CEOs see him as someone they may be able to deal with," says Audre. "Whether or not they can -- or if Heth and the Provists will allow them to do so -- remains to be seen, of course."

**03/12/2009
Roden Wins Gallente Presidential Election with Convincing Majority**

Having secured a convincing majority of 58.7% of all votes cast in the December 1st election and easily gaining the required number of districts, Jacus Roden is now President-elect of the Gallente Federation. With votes from all participating districts checked and tallied by the morning after polling day, the Federal Elections Commission was able to declare Roden the outright winner in its formal communication of results to the Gallente Senate.

President-elect Roden ran on a broad-based and relatively simple platform that included pledges to root out corruption in government, improve strained relations with the Minmatar Republic, reform the Gallente Navy, and include capsuleers more closely in the war effort. His most pointed campaign pledge, however, was his promise to recover Caldari Prime and restore Federation control throughout the Luminaire system. Polling evidence suggests that many citizens consider the Luminaire situation to be an "open wound," citing corrupt and incompetent political and military leadership. His comfortable majority indicates the success of his campaign in playing to these concerns among the electorate.

Roden's closest challenger for the presidency was Governor Celes Aguard of the Mies system, who polled 31.2% of the vote. Governor Aguard personally transmitted her concession to Jacus Roden this morning and pledged her support for "all policies of the Presidency that uphold the interests of the entire Federation." Some analysts believe that the votes of many frontier worlds excluded from the election process due to the "No Vote" law may have significantly increased Aguard's share of the vote and denied Roden an outright majority. Others have

noted that the endorsement of her campaign by Admiral Darien Fasio appears to have had a negative effect on Governor Aguard's poll ratings, suggesting that Fasio's hardline militarist image resonated poorly with some sections of the governor's electoral base.

The other significant challenger, after Fasio's withdrawal from the race, was Senator Vilard Garioss of the Nexus constellation. Senator Garioss polled 8.8% of the vote. According to polls and focus groups, Garioss's campaign never quite recovered from what many citizens perceived as a confused and "overly academic" platform. Senator Garioss issued a brief statement conceding defeat shortly after Governor Aguard made her concession.

The remaining 1.3% of votes cast were accounted for by votes for protest candidates and spoiled ballots.

President-elect Roden will assume office at his inauguration before the Gallente Senate, following the formal relinquishment of power by President Souro Foiritan.

03/12/2009

Republic Greets Roden Election With Optimism

Pator - The Minmatar government and its people welcomed news of Jacus Roden's election as the new Federation president, with Sanmatar Maleatu Shakor being one of the first to congratulate the president-elect on his victory. Shakor announced that he was looking forward to a "productive relationship" with the new Federation administration. "President-elect Roden and I agree that our nations must cooperate in order to survive and prosper in these trying times. A threat to either nation is a threat to both -- and we must treat them as such. "

Other Minmatar leaders echoed Shakor's statements, but public response has been largely indifferent. "Foiritan, Roden, whoever...it doesn't make a difference to me," said Jandh Rehsmerold, a factory worker on Kulheim. "Their candidates are basically complete strangers. How are you supposed to make a good decision who to vote for? At least here in the Republic, they are members of our tribe."

Still, many in the Republic echoed the Sanmatar's hope for the future. "I don't know that much about Roden," admitted Ranniko Viftuin, a farmhand on Pator. "I do know that I have a lot of family that still lives in the Federation, though, and I want them to be safe. If Roden is the man that can do that, then I'm all for him."

04/12/2009

Amarr Empire Formally Congratulates Roden, Rebukes Outgoing President

Amarr – In a statement released through the Amarr Certified News agency, the Amarr Court Chamberlain Pomik Haromi formally congratulated President-elect Jacus Roden on his impending "assumption of power" and expressed the hope that the new Federation government will "respect the sovereignty of the Amarr Empire". The chamberlain's statement also welcomed the "fall from grace of the arrogant Souro Foiritan" and rebuked the government of the outgoing Gallente president for what he described as its "peerless record of meddling in matters that did not concern it. "

Experienced analysts of Amarrian diplomacy have interpreted the court chamberlain's statement as a remarkably positive welcome for President-elect Roden. For the statement to be issued by the chamberlain himself, rather than his office or a lesser ministry, would typically indicate that Empress Jamyl I was speaking to Jacus Roden through the chamberlain. The reference to the Empire's sovereignty can be considered a coded sign that the Amarr Empire would be prepared to respect the sovereignty of the Gallente Federation.

Of particular note, according to Professor Ifor Sellay of the Caille University Center for International and Diplomatic Studies, is the care with which the strident criticisms of the Gallente government are focused very precisely on the outgoing Foiritan regime. Professor Sellay suggests that this reference indicates the Amarr Empire is adopting a cautious policy of assessing the new President before reaching any firm conclusions.

The Office of the President has issued a brief statement welcoming "the recognition by the Amarr Empire of another demonstration of the Gallente Federation's long tradition of peaceful transfer of power."

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18/01/2010

President Roden Assumes Office

President Jacus Roden formally assumed office earlier today at his inauguration before the Gallente Senate. Shortly beforehand, incumbent President Souro Foiritan made a brief, formal statement to the Senate. Executive power rested briefly with the Senate before Chief Justice Broyal Alserette of the Federation Supreme Court swore in Jacus Roden as the new President of the Federation.

To a standing ovation, President Roden then took the rostrum and stood quietly for a moment before motioning for silence and giving a speech in which he reaffirmed his election pledges. President Roden stated that it was the policy of his government to "restore Federation control over the space and planets of the Luminaire system and to all Federation systems and worlds occupied by Caldari State naval and militia forces," and noted that capsuleer forces of the Federal Defence Union had liberated several Gallente systems since the election. His wide-ranging speech took in aspects of policy such as corruption - another theme of Roden's campaign - industrial policy, and the importance of the capsuleer class to the economy and security of the Federation. President Roden is himself a capsuleer.

President Roden finished his speech with a pledge "to return the Gallente Federation to the greatness that has been its undoubted destiny from the moment our peoples united to realize the historic project of universal freedom." As he stepped back from the podium, the Senate once more erupted in a standing ovation, which the President acknowledged before leaving.

04/03/2010

Intaki Assembly Requests FDU Ceasefire

Intaki - In a brief press conference directed primarily at FDU and independent capsuleers, the Intaki Assembly today requested that all loyalist captains cease hostilities against Ishukone and Mordu's Legion vessels in Intaki space.

The Intaki spokesman stated that vessels belonging to the Ishukone Corporation and Mordu's Legion are "present in Intaki at the specific and un-coerced request of the Assembly," adding that "any captains detaining or destroying such vessels are acting directly against the interests of the Intaki people as determined by this Assembly, and further are viewed as committing acts of piracy."

She did clarify that, "Ishukone corporation is permitted to operate only civilian vessels in the system, and Ishukone Watch is explicitly excluded from entry under the terms of the Agreement." Mordu's Legion, however, has been afforded complete military access, subject to command oversight from the civilian Assembly.

04/03/2010

Federal Navy Turned Back at Intaki Stargate

Intaki - The Federation Navy relief force assigned to re-establish control of the Intaki system was denied access to the Intaki stargate in Agoze earlier today. Representatives of the Intaki System Command reportedly informed Admiral Gouenette, who is commanding the force, that the Navy had no jurisdiction in Intaki, and that their presence was "neither required nor welcomed."

After the liberation of Intaki and other systems by Federal Defence Union pilots last week, the Federation Navy rapidly mobilized units to systematically restore military command to the affected areas. However, Intaki leadership has rejected the protection that the navy offered to provide, preferring instead to rely on their newfound Caldari associates.

The future of Intaki has been a subject of much speculation since the arrival of Ishukone and Mordu's Legion vessels several months ago. While many citizens have assumed that the liberation of the system would see a return to the previous status quo, signatories to the Federal Charter retain the legal right to determine various aspects of the Assembly of their original territories. This includes the "Shipping and Security" franchise, which regulates commercial shipping and which is traditionally assigned to FedMart and the Federation Navy and Customs.

Sources within the Intaki Assembly assert that the deal with Ishukone and Mordu's Legion was made in good faith and in the interests of the Intaki people. On condition of anonymity, a senior official said, "The Ishukone Agreement represented, and continues to represent, the best option for the long-term safety and security of our society." Federal officials have refused to comment on what they describe as "an internal Intaki matter."

11/03/2010

Caldari Analysts Predict Economic Upheaval

Jita - The consensus among analysts at an economics conference this week is that the Caldari State has a rough ride ahead, with recent gains by the Gallente militia forces throwing a wrench in the works for many

megacorporations.

Soon after the Caldari militia completed its conquest of the systems making up the Federal Defense Cordon last year, the Caldari Providence Directorate auctioned off development rights to the affected constellations. The megacorporations involved in the bidding believed the high prices were justified by the acquisition of highly valuable assets, but the recent push by the Federal Defense Union and allied capsuleer corporations has driven them out of many systems.

This week's Economic Sustainability and Co-operation Conference was hastily reorganized to focus on this issue, with most delegates agreeing that the impact will likely be significant. Yarin Mesla, an analyst for Expert Housing, said, "The megas are keeping their numbers very close to their chest, but it's hard to see how this can be good for any of them. We all know the rough magnitude of the winning bids, and they can't possibly have made back their investments already." Others were quick to point out the political implications. Mercantile Club analyst Ridd Gerin said, "It's hard not to look at the list of six remaining auctioned systems and notice that five of them belong to SuVee. Sure, they've probably taken a hit, but if they can hold onto what they have left, it will still shift power in the State slightly in favor of the Practical faction."

Others were a little more guarded in their comments. An anonymous delegate from Lai Dai would only say that, "[The Gallente militia] have taken back some systems, sure, but it remains to be seen if they can hold onto them."

Zero-g appoints third coo in 18 months reported by ISD Katerina Markova 23.03.2010 16:26:54

Aunenen - The Zero-G Research Firm board voted today to replace the company's COO for the second time in a year and a half after the company posted multi-billion ISK losses for the fourth quarter in a row. The Kaalakiota subsidiary has been dogged by production problems over the last year, despite a promising showing at last fall's Black Rise Development Conference.

The next-generation habitat presented at that conference, initially expected to go into production this summer, has been pushed off until at least early YC 113 due to continuing delays at component factories.

Many business analysts expected the change, citing not only Zero-G's business troubles but also rumors that outgoing COO Ishuhara Kappunen was regularly butting heads with Zero-G's suppliers and business partners. "Zero-G's stock has taken a pummeling since the announcement of the production delays," said Taimo Poraila, an analyst at Modern Finances, on today's "Games of State." "The board had to do something to reassure investors, and Kappunen was an obvious target."

Both Kappunen and his predecessor, Hetsen Appas, were previously high-ranking members of the Caldari Providence Directorate prior to being appointed COO, and Zero-G CEO Nanata Yansen is a prominent ally of Tibus Heth. This relationship has given some ammunition to the Directorate's critics, who have pointed to the problems at Zero-G as a case for Provist mismanagement. So far, however, the general public seems to be taking this as an isolated case, and confidence in Directorate leadership remains high.

25/03/2010 BREAKING: Ministry of War office in Pashanai rocked by massive blast

Pashanai - Pandemonium has erupted at the Ministry of War's Bureau Offices in the Pashanai system in the past hour. Conflicting reports are still coming in, but several Scope sources have confirmed that a powerful explosion has torn through a number of the station's levels, taking lives and destroying crucial infrastructure. It is unknown at this point what the death toll is, though it is believed to number in the thousands. The Amarr Navy has been placed on high alert and is deploying relief vessels at this time.

More on the situation as it develops.

25/03/2010 BREAKING: Explosion cause unclear, Amarr Navy redeployment

Pashanai - The Scope is still attempting to get news on the explosion that apparently ripped through the Ministry of War's Bureau Offices in the Pashanai system. Reports are coming in, but the explosion's cause and the extent of damage remain unclear.

What is clear is that the Amarr Navy has begun a massive re-deployment along its border with the Minmatar Republic. We have no comment from the Navy at this time.

25/03/2010 BREAKING: Theology Council Head potentially among Pashanai dead

Pashanai - The first casualties from the site of the Pashanai incident have been confirmed in excess of 4300, according to numbers just released by Amarr Navy High Command. Containment and relief operations are

underway at the scene, with several station sectors still either on fire or suffering dangerous gas leaks.

It has also been reported that Mervan Moritok, the head of the Theology Council, may have been among those on the station at the time the explosion took place. Attempts to confirm this with the Empire are underway.

We will have more on the situation as it develops.

25/03/2010

President Roden Sends Condolences to Empress; Urges Caution

Villore - President Jacus Roden has officially transmitted condolences to Empress Janyl I following the deaths of several thousand people - including Theology Council head Mervan Moritok - in a devastating explosion at the Amarr Ministry of War station in Pashanai system. Although the explosion was initially believed to be an accident, the Amarr Ministry of Internal Order are now investigating it as an act of terrorism.

In a statement on behalf of the Gallente Federation government, the President's office said, "The explosion and the thousands of deaths and injuries are a tragedy for the entire New Eden cluster. We note with regret the death of High Deacon Mervan Moritok and offer the condolences of the Gallente Federation for his and other deaths resulting from this terrible event."

Commenting on public statements of Amarr security officials suggesting the station explosion was a deliberate act of terrorism rather than a tragic accident, the release urged caution: "The Gallente Federation stands ready to offer any and all assistance that may be required both for rescue workers and investigators. If this tragic event is confirmed to be an act of terrorism we respectfully urge caution so that the true perpetrators may be punished without any further unnecessary loss of life to innocents."

The President's office confirmed that Federation Navy units have been put on stand-by along the border with the Amarr Empire to serve as an aid and security task-force should any assistance be requested.

25/03/2010

Trade on Ammatar-Minmatar Border Halts as Authorities Impose Order

Pashanai - In response to heightened terror alerts across the Amarr Empire following the Pashanai attack, Amarr Customs has mobilized to lock down civilian travel on many heavily trafficked transit routes. At checkpoints along the Ammatar-Minmatar border, the sudden density of traffic and limited customs presence has resulted in complete curtailment of trade and transit vessels.

Jaikhan Dhomn, a Thukker merchant employed at the Trust Partners Trading Post in Tanoo, was planning to cross the border with his family when he learned of the security lockdown. "Everyone is afraid and angry after this [attack]. The Amarr fear us for what the Bloody Hand did, and we fear the Amarr for what they will do in return," he said.

Capsuleer traffic remains unimpeded across the Empire. Amarr Customs Commander Bachain Zhaide commented, "Everything that happens to a capsuleer ship, every ounce of goods moved on or off it, is logged in meticulous detail by CONCORD. Amarr Customs has directives not to interrupt capsuleer traffic beyond standard procedure. We barely have enough manpower as it is, so if CONCORD keeps track of the capsuleers, we have more resources to dedicate to keeping everyone else safe."

Amarr Customs has given no indication of when it expects the lockdown to end.

25/03/2010

BREAKING: Bloody Hands of Matar claims responsibility for Pashanai explosion

Pashanai - The Bloody Hands of Matar, one of the most notorious terrorist organizations in New Eden, has come forward to claim responsibility for the massive explosion on a Ministry of War station at Pashanai III earlier today which claimed the lives of just under 5600 people and destroyed several billion ISK's worth of infrastructure.

In a prepared video statement released to several media outlets simultaneously, an unidentified man with a black cloth across his face speaks in a distorted voice, explaining intricate technical details of the operation that experts have now confirmed indicate a reliable level of involvement. The man then proceeds to direct scathing political rhetoric toward the Empire and the Ammatar Mandate, starkly berating them for their "centuries of unlawful subjugation and violence."

The Minmatar Republic has moved swiftly to denounce the attack. In a nationally broadcast statement just minutes ago, Sanmatar Maleatu Shakor expressed his condolences to the innocent people of Amarr, caught up in this brutal attack unawares, and pledged to assist with relief efforts in any measure the Empire requested.

The attack represents by orders of magnitude the biggest act of terrorism ever perpetrated by the Bloody Hands of Matar. The organization has kept largely out of the limelight since assassinating an Ammatar consulate ambassador just under three years ago. Their numbers, resources and the extent of their operational capacity

are unknown at this point.

25/03/2010

Slave rescue corps first responders

Pashanai - Following the massive explosion that tore through the Ministry of War station, dozens of first response teams have been deployed to search for survivors. These teams, each numbering nine slaves strong and commanded by an Amarrian overseer, are typical rescue corps employed by the Empire during times of possible danger.

"The rescue teams shall enter through several points," explained Captain Jamar Dinn, the Ministry official commanding the effort. "Most will enter through hull breaches and continue from there, while others will begin from docking points and move toward the most damaged areas."

On the use of slave labor, Captain Dinn said, "These teams are used to working orderly and efficiently even under extreme stress. In addition, individual members are employed under a special merit system whereby their performance and rescue numbers directly influence the personal liberties of themselves and their families. As such, they are ideal for these circumstances, as they are unlikely to be discouraged by any amount of death and destruction. Their efforts allow the Navy and other vital forces to remain on high alert for the duration of the rescue."

Officials anticipate that once the areas have been swept by the slave teams and the risk of further detonations or structural collapses has been mitigated, Naval teams shall move in as a compliment.

25/03/2010

Amarr Construction sends specialists to ailing station.

Nererut - At a hastily-organized press conference today, Amarr Construction Assembly Manager Terma Tesh declared that a team comprised of their best structural engineers, site workers and nanite technicians had already departed for Pashanai. The team will work to stabilize the station structurally and attempt to keep essential services running in support of rescue and evacuation efforts. When pressed on the matter of security, Tesh revealed no Minmatar workers were selected for the specialist team.

25/03/2010

BREAKING: Mervan Moritok confirmed casualty,

Pashanai - Mervan Moritok, head of the Theology Council, has been confirmed as one of the roughly six thousand casualties of the Pashanai explosion. Habi Ghamri, Commander of Security at the Amarrian Ministry of Internal Order, has furthermore gone on record to state the explosion was not, as previously believed, caused by an accidental gas leak, but rather represented an orchestrated act of terrorism.

"This was no accident. It is an empire-wide criminal investigation at this point and will continue as such until we have apprehended those responsible," he said. "A clearer picture is emerging of the details on the site. We're confident we'll have some solid leads in the very near future."

When asked if the Empire believed the attack to have been politically motivated, Ghamri said, "At this stage the most we can do is speculate, but we aren't ruling out the possibility."

25/03/2010

Yonis Ardishapur addresses badly shaken Empire, sends personal fleet to assist with relief efforts

Ardishapur Prime - Royal Heir Yonis Ardishapur has just addressed the Amarr Empire in a widely telecast speech. Speaking from the steps of his palace on Ardishapur Prime, the heir outlined several strategies for dealing with the aftermath, offered words of comfort to those affected, and pledged to use his personal resources to ensure the tragedy was dealt with as completely as possible.

"You can never prepare for a day like this," he said, "when the cruelty and evil of the world for one terrible moment reveal themselves in the heart of your home. A great blow has been dealt us this day, but to the brave and loyal souls of the Empire I say: you have faced worse before, and you have prevailed. You now stand faced with this, and now too will you prevail. As God is my witness, we shall weather this storm."

"And make no mistake either that a great man has fallen today. His decades of contribution to the well-being of our nation will pass safe into the realm of history. But let us not forget the other thousands who rejoined our Lord today. Let their sacrifice, and all the pain it's caused us, be the bedrock from which we launch our retribution against those who would harm us. And let no man, woman or child in New Eden think that the Empire will ever let itself be cowed by brutality. Not now, not forever. Amarr Victor."

Several detachments from Ardishapur's personal fleet have been scrambled and are en route to Pashanai bearing medical supplies and personnel. The casualty figures appear to have leveled off by this point, with the latest reported total standing at 5563.

**Senior caldari funds unlimited personnel resign
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 26.03.2010 12:05:30**

Litiura - Four highly placed members of Caldari Funds Unlimited's executive staff resigned today, as reports continue to trickle out of the Caldari Business Tribunal regarding its ongoing investigation of the State's largest independent bank. The Tribunal has now confirmed that it has opened an investigation into the corporation's finances, and details are emerging as to the exact nature of the irregularities being looked into.

The four CFU executives, Sirotova Fukikaga, Tsurkuma Siainki, Orpakku Konken and Tatkashin Pukuwakai, were all junior vice-presidents in the corporation's investment banking and retirement account divisions. No reason has yet been given by either the executives or Caldari Funds Unlimited for the resignations, but there are reports that at least two of the four have been taken into custody by the Home Guard.

Meanwhile, sources within the Tribunal have told the Scope that investigators believe Caldari Funds Unlimited may have misreported thousands of financial transactions to the House of Records, a violation of Caldari banking regulations. As a result, CBT officials believe CFU may have far less ISK reserves than it was reporting to the House of Records and Tribunal, possibly even below the minimum demanded to secure its deposits and maintain its other operations. If this is true, it would constitute a major violation of Caldari law.

In addition, Caldari Funds Unlimited CEO Jaan Omura is apparently under personal investigation, due to alleged contact with individuals linked to the Gallente Federal Intelligence Office. Though the Tribunal has officially denied that this is the case, the Scope has it from reliable sources that both the Caldari Navy and Corporate Police Force have been contacted for assistance with the investigation. Neither CFU nor Omura herself have been available for comment.

26/03/2010

Jamyl Sarum meant to have been on Pashanai station at time of explosion, cancelled briefly before incident

Pashanai - New information has come to light on the explosion that occurred yesterday at a Ministry of War station in Pashanai. According to station manifests, Empress Jamyl Sarum was scheduled to make a short stop at the station at the time the explosion happened.

Sarum was making a diplomatic tour of the outlying areas in commemoration of St. Kuria's Day, a little-known Amarr religious holiday observed annually by the Holders and the religious establishment, though it is generally not celebrated outside of these circles. By tradition, the emperor spends this day meeting with religious figureheads and observing rites with them.

Approximately twenty minutes before the explosion took place, Empress Sarum's office cancelled her meeting at the station. She was to have met with Theology Council Arch Deacon Mervan Moritok, who was present at the station and died in the blast. Representatives of her office could not be reached for official comment, but a highly-placed source within the Empire has gone on record saying, "Diplomatic tours [such as the St. Kuria's Day one] are very difficult logistical undertakings, and scheduling conflicts often arise with very little warning."

The explosion at Pashanai, an act of the Minmatar revolutionary organization the Bloody Hands of Matar, claimed the lives of 5,563 people.

**Khanid innovation, modern finances buy stake in samarkand financial
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 28.03.2010 12:51:57**

Khanid Prime - Khanid Innovation and Modern Finances have announced that they now own a controlling stake in the Khanid Kingdom's largest investment bank, Samarkand Financial. The move, which is the culmination of two months of negotiations, gives Modern Finances an even stronger presence in the Khanid Kingdom and secures a strong financial partner for Khanid Innovation, one of today's most powerful Khanid corporations.

Samarkand Financial has been a large player in the Khanid financial sector for over three decades now, but until recently has had little presence outside the Kingdom. Last year marked its biggest departure from that strategy when the company helped to finance the stock purchase that propelled Mens Reppola to the CEO position at Ishukone in April. It was that purchase that brought the company to the attention of Modern Finances.

"Modern Finances has always looked to the Khanid Kingdom as a growth market," said CEO Alasunda Yeki. "This partnership with Khanid Innovation and Samarkand Financial ensures that we will have a strong presence in the Kingdom for the long term."

Khanid Innovation CEO Ganortchar Asabona said that the deal is part of a larger strategy for the company. "Khanid Innovation has been a leader in the technology sector since our founding, but our goals have always been to become a leader in innovation cluster-wise. This partnership is another step toward that goal."

The two CEOs made it clear they had no intention to upset the current leadership of Samarkand Financial, saying that they would be keeping the executive board intact. "We bought the company because of its success and we

see no reason to change up a winning team," explained Yeki.

29/03/2010

Station Vacancies on the Rise at Pashanai Blast Site

Pashanai - Commercial and residential station vacancies have risen sharply since the Bloody Hands of Matar attack on the Ministry of War Bureau Offices station at Pashani III. Businesses across the system continue to cancel rental agreements, while some homes have simply been abandoned.

Kadeyn Osirani, a rental agent at the local Amarr Certified News Development Studio, said several reasons, from changing plans to "unsafe conditions," have been given for the termination. The development studio orbits less than 550 kilometers from the site of the attack and has been the location hardest hit by the exodus of tenants thus far.

"People are frightened," Kadeyn explained. "They feel this kind of thing shouldn't have been allowed to happen, not again. The attack was a harsh reminder of Malkalen and Yulai."

One renter, who refused to identify himself to The Scope, said he was born on the station and had never considered leaving it until now. "You don't know where or when the next attack might be," he said.

Analysts across Pashanai agree that this trend will reverse itself in due course and noted that the majority of residents are staying put, though stations will experience the effects of lost rental revenue for some time.

Kaalakiota corporate bank may devalue scrip reported by ISD Katerina Markova 30.03.2010 12:55:06

Nonni - As Kaalakiota's corporate currency board meets for the third straight day, rumors continue to circulate that the company is considering a significant devaluation of their corporate scrip. Sources within the company's central bank say that the board is considering this step due to a sudden spike in Kaalakiota scrip-to-ISK transfers, which corporate economists are blaming on black market currency exchanges in the Intaki Syndicate.

No megacorporation has considered such a step in nearly two decades, since Ishukone took a similar step in YC 93 to mediate an ISK shortage. The rumors have only compounded the problem, as many Kaalakiota citizens have begun exchanging their scrip for ISK at the bank limit in anticipation of the move, further sapping the company's reserves.

Serge LaFleur, an economist at the University of Caille, says the move could have far-reaching implications for Kaalakiota and the rest of the Caldari economy. "This is usually seen as a sign of desperation, due to the panic it can set off in the general populace," he explained. "If Kaalakiota is short enough on ISK that it's considering such a move, the worry is always there that it won't be enough, and the company may have to turn to Caldari Funds Unlimited for a loan to keep the company from defaulting on financial obligations."

CBT investigating caldari funds unlimited, according to reports reported by ISD Katerina Markova 31.03.2010 12:51:50

Maurasi - Sources within the Caldari Business Tribunal tell the Scope that the CBT has opened an investigation into financial malfeasance at Caldari Funds Unlimited, the largest independent financial institution in the State. While the exact nature of the investigation was not disclosed, the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, claimed that the investigation was looking at decisions made "at the highest level."

The repercussions of such an investigation could be enormous, according to Meungette Dosille, professor of Caldari Studies at the University of Caille. "Caldari Funds Unlimited isn't just any financial institution," she explained. "CFU is the largest retirement fund manager in the State, as well as the closest thing the Caldari have to a national central bank. If something is rotten there, it could damage every one of the Big Eight and cripple the entire State."

Even if the allegations prove false, according to Dosille, the fallout could end up causing significant turmoil within the State. The last time anything like this happened was in the Seaguard Financial Incident more than 80 years ago. The Tribunal investigation found that a CFU competitor had engineered a propaganda and corporate espionage campaign to throw doubt on its stability. The worries triggered riots all over the State, and the end result was that the CEP approved "extreme sanction" against Seaguard Financial. Within a year, the megacorporations had dismantled the company, financially and militarily.

Caldari stock markets have already begun to feel the effects of the rumors, as financial stocks have fallen nearly 10% over the last three days. Analysts with the Garoun Investment Bank tell the Scope that if speculation is allowed to continue, they could see as much as a 50% drop from last year's highs.

**Tibus heth creates state loyalty tribunal
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 02.04.2010 15:53:26**

Nonni - State Executor Tibus Heth has ordered the creation of the "State Loyalty Tribunal," an independent committee tasked with investigating national security threats within the highest ranks of Caldari corporate and political power. "Recent events have made it clear that our enemies seek to subvert the State at every level," said Heth. "The State Loyalty Tribunal will bring an end to this and prevent further infiltration."

Asiaineras Isuki, commander of the Home Guard's Surveillance Division, has been appointed to fill the chairman's seat for the new Tribunal. The other members of the committee have not yet been announced, but insiders tell the Scope that they will likely be selected from the ranks of the Caldari Providence Directorate and Patriot-bloc megacorporate security forces.

So far, Lai Dai and Wiyrkomi have pledged to cooperate with the new body, but the other megacorporations have so far declined to comment publicly. Privately, sources at Hyasyoda and Nugoeihuvi have told the Scope that they perceive this as yet another attempt by Heth to encroach upon corporate sovereignty, and that they are preparing legal challenges should the State Loyalty Tribunal target their employees.'

**Republic university scholar causes controversy over pashanai attack
reported by ISD Gaspard Sorelo 02.04.2010 09:18:31**

Hulm - A senior scholar at the Republic University upset many Amarr citizens today over his comments regarding the attack in the Pashanai system a week ago. Erglan Vros, a Krusual professor of social studies at the Republic University, made the controversial remarks during an interview to The Wider Social Review, a respected Gallente-based political analysis journal.

When asked by TWSR on last week's events in the Amarr Empire and their effects on the Minmatar Republic's future, Vros stated that he foresees little to no impact on the current political situation as the seven Minmatar tribes work toward a common government. "The loss of life may be tragic," said Vros, "but I don't see how the bombing in Amarr will disrupt the reunification process. We are forging ahead with creating a new future for the Minmatar people. Our focus is on our new government, not the problems of the Empire."

When asked to expand upon this comment, Vros continued with the controversial statement, "Given the social factors at play between the Amarr and the Minmatar, it is clear how violent organizations such as the Bloody Hand will continue to spawn. If the Amarr want to look at who brought about such actions, then they should look to themselves."

Since their publication earlier today, Erglan Vros's remarks have been met with outrage among many in the Amarr Empire, including prominent Holders and theological scholars. The Republic University has yet to issue comment on the situation.

**Kaalakiota currency board devalues scrip by 2%
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 03.04.2010 12:52:26**

Nonni - The Kaalakiota corporate bank's currency board voted to devalue Kaalakiota corporate scrip by 2% today, causing panic in several major Kaalakiota enclaves and making clear the ongoing troubles in the Caldari State. While the company's stock has declined nearly 10% in the last week, the board's action appears to have halted the decline for now.

The currency board stated that the change was made to rebalance the corporation's ISK holdings, blaming illegal currency exchanges in the Intaki Syndicate for destabilizing the amount of Kaalakiota scrip in circulation. Despite the financial turmoil, however, the currency board assured the company's investors that no further measures would need to be taken in order to secure the company's ISK holdings. This action has reduced fears that Kaalakiota would need to take significant ISK loans from one of the major independent banks in order to shore up its reserves, which has become a larger worry in light of Caldari Funds Unlimited's ongoing troubles with the CBT.

While the 2% devaluation was significant, many analysts had expected it to be larger, as much as 6% by some estimates. As a result, many investors breathed a sigh of relief even as the other megacorporations expressed concern that Kaalakiota was overextended and urged the company to take a more conservative posture.

Meanwhile, the mood in many of Kaalakiota's major enclaves has been extremely tense, as Home Guard troops have been deployed in force. This troop movement came after at least twelve clashes between corporate police and citizens trying to exchange their Kaalakiota scrip for ISK on various colonies throughout the State, including New Caldari Prime. No serious injuries have been reported, however, and Home Guard commanders have told the Scope that the situation is expected to return to normal within the week.

**Crielere inquiry announced by the caldari providence directorate
reported by ISD Kohm Akino 06.04.2010 13:47:58**

New Caldari -The Caldari Providence Directorate announced an inquiry into the Crielere project today, amid rumors that evidence of "anti-Caldari" activities has been unearthed.

Nugoeihuvi recently began research for a documentary about the Crielere Project, and it is understood that the CPD became interested in the project after a researcher leaked information concerning a private deal between Jacus Roden and an unconfirmed Caldari megacorporation.

The Crielere Project was a joint Caldari and Gallente research project that ended in YC 106 following significant scientific breakthroughs, including the potential of morphite in manufacturing processes. The project ended in controversy after numerous thefts, espionage scandals, and the deaths of the head scientists.

**Reppola, osmon meeting with suvee leadership
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 07.04.2010 13:36:03**

Saisio - Sukuuvestaa news networks are reporting that the company's executive board met with Ishukone CEO Mens Reppola and Hyasyoda CEO Ahtonen Osmon today at the company's Saisio headquarters. The meeting appears to have been planned in secret, or at least called on short notice, as Saisio traffic control was alerted of the two CEOs' arrival only minutes before Reppola's Chimera-class carrier jumped into the system.

Such a high level meeting between the leader of the State's Liberal political bloc and the leader of the Practical bloc's largest megacorporation has set off a torrent of rumors throughout the newsnets. The fact that all three corporations are downplaying the meeting, saying only that the summit was convened to discuss "broad-based collaborations involving a wide range of corporate ventures" has only fueled the fire.

On today's "Games of State," host Shiomiken Savalenta suggested that this was a deliberate attempt on the part of the Liberal bloc to flex its muscle. "Mens Reppola has been CEO of Ishukone for almost a year now, and the company has made great strides toward recovering from the death of [Otro] Gariushi."

Her guest, political analyst Taya Otnen, suggested that the move was more showmanship than substance. "It's important not to make more of this than it really is. Ishukone has recovered somewhat but I can't see SuVee or even the Liberal bloc openly opposing Tibus Heth right now. Reppola and Osmon are playing a dangerous game here, and I can't see [Sukuuvesta CEO] Onita wanting to rock the boat too much."

**Ishukone negotiates terms with federation regulators
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 12.04.2010 16:23:18**

Algogille - Trade negotiators from Ishukone Corporation arrived in Algogille today, where they plan to meet with Federal Administration representatives in order to discuss a relaxation of Federation restrictions put in place shortly after the invasion of Caldari Prime. According to Ishukone, the corporation was invited to meet with the Federal Administration by the president's office last month.

While President Roden has taken a hard line against the Caldari occupation of Caldari Prime, he has made some indications since his election that he would be open to a reconciliation with Caldari business interests, in contrast to his predecessor. This stance has caused some concern among hawks in the Senate, but the reluctance of most Caldari interests to open negotiations with the Federation has seemingly made the point moot until now.

Ishukone's move has caused a wide range of reactions on both sides of the border. According to highly placed sources at the Caldari Providence Directorate, both Executor Tibus Heth and Provist director Suvasemi Aikinen were furious at the news, while the Federal Defense Union released a statement calling any relaxation of the Foiritan administration restrictions "inadvisable" and "a significant threat to national security." Meanwhile, the Federal Chamber of Commerce released a statement saying that a more welcoming business environment in the Federation would "be beneficial to both consumers and the Federation." In the State, several other megacorporations are said to be watching the results of Ishukone's negotiations carefully in order to determine whether they will follow suit.

Negotiations are expected to take several weeks, and both Ishukone and the Federal Administration are playing down the summit, saying that these talks are the opening step of a longer negotiating process. Both parties, however, emphasized that they are optimistic about the results.

**13/04/2010
Ardishapur to begin empire-wide speaking tour**

The Ardishapur Family announced that Yonis Ardishapur will tour the Empire over the coming weeks. The royal heir, whose recent success within the Ammatar Mandate has led to high popularity in that domain, is planning on speaking engagements in a variety of venues and locations.

Coming on the heels of his actions following the terrorist bombing that claimed the life of High Deacon Mervan

Moritok, the heir expressed a desire to "connect with the true people of Amarr and revitalize their faith and loyalty." After discussion with his advisers, it was decided that the speaking tour will allow the Heir to reach the broadest audience.

Over thirty dates have already been announced, with Ardishapur making up to three appearances on the same day in some cases. Demand is likely to be high, as admission is to be free of charge.

The heir has dismissed worries that the extensive tour will affect his governance of House Ardishapur's domains, including the extensive Ammatar Mandate. "I have many capable administrators and governors ruling the family lands. [Heir-Designate] Arim Ardishapur will be overseeing things in my stead."

**Mentas blaque announces senate resignation
reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 14.04.2010 17:22:02**

Villore - After a long and distinguished career, Senator Mentas Blaque announced today that he would be stepping down from his elected position in the Gallente Senate effective immediately. With over two years remaining in his current term, Senator Blaque's early departure will trigger a special election within his home district to name a successor.

Of greater importance is the loss of Blaque's leadership role as the Head of Senate. For years, Mentas Blaque has had a direct hand in shaping Gallente policy, and has used this influence in advancing his political agenda. An internal election will be held over the next few days, in which the Senate will promote one of its current members to the vacant position.

In his surprise announcement made from the Senate floor at the conclusion of this afternoon's session, Senator Blaque stated that this move is far from a total departure from public life. Indeed, Mentas Blaque will continue to serve as head of the Federal Intelligence Office, an appointment that was re-confirmed by President Jacus Roden. Given the recent acrimony caused by Blaque's unique position in both the legislative and executive branches of government, this move is seen as a way to appease his harshest critics. Some political experts have suggested that this was a back-room deal brokered by President Roden. If true, this move could indicate that Roden has been able to deliver what several attempts at internal Senate censure could not.

More jaded political commentators continue to criticize Blaque however, going so far as to imply that this move allows him to concentrate his energies in the FIO, where he can act without the intervention of the Federation Senate.

**CPD press conference: 'nothing to hide, nothing to fear'
reported by ISD Kohm Akino 15.04.2010 12:56:56**

New Caldari - The Caldari Providence Directorate held a press conference today in an effort to allay fears about its inquiry into the Crielere Project. The inquiry has drawn criticism from members of the public following the detainment of several individuals.

The total number of citizens questioned in the inquiry is unknown thus far, although a CPD spokesman described the inquiry as "comprehensive, concentrated and complete." Former employees on the project, including scientists, laboratory technicians, engineers, and administration staff have been called on to provide witness statements.

According to Metsama Ovai, the CPD spokesperson for this project, "These citizens are not interned. In a few cases, we have given accommodation to some citizens while we conclude our enquiries. A few key witnesses have volunteered to stay on station."

Playing down allegations that this investigation was an inquisition to root out opponents of Heth, the spokesman concluded, "The inquiry is not about who is pro-Heth and who is anti-Heth. It is about finding out the truth about the Crielere Project. If you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear."

**Provists call for quafe to lose state corporation status
reported by ISD Sharae Kalani 16.04.2010 20:53:35**

New Caldari - Quafe Company shares dropped today on the major Caldari exchanges following a petition to the Chief Executive Panel by the Caldari Providence Directorate to revoke the Gallente firm's State-granted corporate status.

Citing Quafe's ties to the Federation and its government, the Directorate's petition states Quafe's unique status as the only non-Caldari corporation with domestic corporate sovereignty and its attendant rights pose an "insidious economic and political threat to the stability of the Caldari State."

The CEP tabled consideration of the petition after initial discussions failed to reach a consensus. Sukuuvestaa Corporation in particular seemed opposed. "Quafe is an integral part of the State's economy," said Sirotova Uesi, CFO for the megacorporation. "Gallente or not, suddenly revoking their status could have undesirable

consequences."

Agencourt Ambrulle, Chief Coordinator of Public Relations for Quafe, disagrees with Ms. Uesi's comments. "We currently employ millions of hard-working Caldari citizens [in the State], none of whom would be pleased with, for example, wage loss due to State injunction."

In regards to the CPD's position that Quafe is a liability, Ambrulle stated, "Quafe is not an organ of the Federal government, nor do we act on its behalf."

Nominations begin for head of senate reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 16.04.2010 12:54:11

Villore - Today's lively Senate session was given over entirely to the internal process of naming and winnowing down candidates for the vacant Head of Senate position. Early debate has identified three potential front-runners for the position.

Vance Opheron, who currently serves as chairman of the Senate Defense Committee, was quickly nominated and seconded by a large contingent of senators who feel his experience on military matters would serve the nation well. In light of the ongoing armed conflict with the Caldari State, this sentiment appears popular. Remnants of the earlier Naval Review scandal surround Opheron, but his position in that matter has since been largely vindicated.

Also nominated was Aulmont Meis, head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. A career diplomat, Meis is seen as a moderate voice within the government. Though some charge that she was too closely associated with former President Souro Foiritan's policies, Meis herself categorically denies this claim. Her voting record shows several key issues in which she did not back Foiritan initiatives, but her harshest critics remain dubious of her legislative independence.

Rounding out the leading candidates is Suvio Bellaron. Viewed as something of an "elder statesman," the conservative Bellaron was one of Mentas Blaque's most stern critics during Blaque's tenure as the Head of Senate. Bellaron was a co-sponsor of the unsuccessful bill that would have forced Blaque to resign one of his two positions.

Several other candidates have been nominated and seconded, but as yet none of them have the backing enjoyed by the three front-runners. The final vote for Head of Senate will take place in three days.

16/04/2010

Ardishapur focuses on "roots of the faith" and "embracing new races into the traditional fold"

Amarr Prime – The first of Yonis Ardishapur's speaking engagements was held today in Dam-Torsad on Amarr Prime. Speaking before a crowd of just under a thousand for little over an hour, the heir has focused mainly on his views on religion, the Empire, and the roles of all peoples in its future.

Ardishapur called on all those attending the event to "remember where you came from. Be you a freed slave, a descendant of slaves, a merchant, a Navy officer, a Holder, or even royalty, it is paramount to remember the roots of the faith. All men are created to serve God and do His will. It is not merely time served that shall be rewarded, but the conviction and faith with which you serve."

Additionally, Ardishapur made clear his views on the other races of the cluster. "All people must one day be brought into God's embrace, through their own choice or through our guiding hand. Embrace those who would learn, defeat those who would make mockery of God's way. Through the penance of deeds, the sins of forefathers may eventually be washed away. This is the Amarr way and it is the future, if the Empire is to thrive."

The heir closed his speech thanking those for attending and promising that he would "never forget the sacrifices made by the true faithful in times of falsehood."

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**Aulmont meis named head of senate
reported by ISD Haruziel Tormau 19.04.2010 10:02:38**

Villore - In a close vote, Senator Aulmont Meis was named as Mentas Blaque's successor to the coveted position of the Head of Senate. Formerly head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Meis has nearly four decades of experience within the assembly.

A graduate of the University of Caille, Meis went on to graduate studies in international relations at the prestigious Hedion University in the Amarr Empire. Mr Meis returned to Caille to pursue his doctorate in diplomatic studies. After serving in the Administration's diplomatic corps for 12 years, during which his experience in negotiating with the Amarr was particularly useful, Meis served a term as one of the Gallente Federation's special envoys to the CONCORD Assembly. This distinguished diplomatic career led to an easy election to an open Senate seat in his home district of Dodenvale, as well as a junior position within the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee.

Since that time, Meis has continued to be an active voice in the Senate. Though some critics allege that he is too willing to negotiate, his voting record indicates his capabilities with taking a hard line against other nations when the situation warrants. Very much a consensus-builder, Meis exhibits none of Mentas Blaque's contentiousness.

With Meis taking on his new role as the Head of Senate, his old position as head of the Foreign Relations Committee will be filled by Renvieve Jolousse, the next most senior member of that committee.

Aulmont Meis will be sworn in during a special ceremony tomorrow morning. President Jacus Roden and a number of other key government officials are expected to be in attendance.

**Crielere project scientist detained by provists
reported by ISD Kohm Akino 21.04.2010 12:54:08**

Kaaputinen - Dr. Tamo Kintonnen, one of the leading research project managers for the Hyasyoda Corporation, has been detained for questioning by Provists at a CBD Sell Division station in Kaaputinen. It is understood that Kintonnen had prepaid for passage on an unidentified ship to Penirgman system in the Domain region.

Kintonnen worked on the Crielere Project as part of a Hyasyoda team concerned with cloaking technology. Although divorced now, he was married at the time to Dr. Sycia Tillbeaux, a Gallente scientist, and they appeared in a joint Federation- and State-funded advertisement promoting the project's diversity. A former colleague of Kintonnen's commented, "Tamo told me how upset he was about the inquiry [into the Crielere Project]. He felt that it was reopening old wounds on both a personal and professional level. I'm not surprised he tried to leave the State before the inquiry reached him."

Hyasyoda Corporation released the following statement about Kintonnen's detainment: "Dr. Kintonnen was on leave when he was abducted by the Provists. There are no restrictions on Hyasyoda employees travelling to the Amarr Empire, and we are content that Dr. Kintonnen was not in possession of any scientific documents. We object most strongly to his incarceration and demand that he is released immediately."

**Senate proposes easing restrictions on quafe corporation
reported by ISD Sharae Kalani 23.04.2010 09:52:58**

Villore - Citing economic concerns, Senator Faron Shu confirmed to the Scope today his intention to introduce legislation that eases restrictions against Quafe Corporation trading and other operations in the Federation.

This announcement comes in the wake of rumors concerning meetings between Quafe Company officials and representatives of both the Federation Senate and the Minmatar Parliament. Sources indicate a similar motion has been brought forward in the Republic.

Speaking outside his office, Senator Shu described a desire to encourage the Gallente firm to increase focus on its business dealings in the Federation and associated territories. "Support for our largest domestic firm during times of economic instability will benefit all Federation citizens," he said. The new legislation, which will be introduced early next week, also includes similar concessions for a number of other Gallente corporations.

Quafe officials could not be reached for comment.

**CEP approves stricter controls on quafe holdings
reported by ISD Sharae Kalani 27.04.2010 11:20:15**

New Caldari - The Chief Executive Panel met again today to discuss the Caldari Providence Directorate's petition to revoke Quafe Company's corporate status. The panel concluded to postpone further consideration until a future, as yet unspecified, date, but a motion was approved to implement stricter auditing of Quafe operations within State borders.

Quafe Company is one of the largest corporations in New Eden and is allowed to operate in the State as a domestic company, subject to the same laws, regulations, and protections as Caldari corporations. The company has a history of cooperating with Caldari business regulations, and thus far no evidence of criminal intent has been presented.

Ikane Hadonei, a member of Wyrkomi Corporation's CEP delegation, said, "Approving the petition's motion at this time seems like a misappropriation of resources. However, if Quafe does pose a problem, these additional audit measures will ensure we'll have adequate time to respond."

The House of Records has already begun implementing the new controls, but a spokesperson indicated the additional data would not "immediately paint a clearer picture" of the Gallente firm. Quafe officials, meanwhile, appear content with the decision. "We have no objections and would be happy to assist the State," Agencourt Ambrulle said, adding, "There is no question the audit will have a favorable outcome for Quafe."

**Crielere project scientist released
reported by ISD Kohm Akino 28.04.2010 15:33:26**

New Caldari - Dr. Tamo Kintonnen, research scientist for Hyasyoda, has been released by Provist investigators after a week of what has been described as "intensive interviews."

The Press Office of Hyasyoda released the following statement about the scientist's detainment:

"We have made a formal complaint to the CPD over this matter. Hyasyoda employees and their professional intellectual property belong to the Corporation. It is against the founding principles of the State for an outside agency to interfere with individual corporations' employees, and we question the legality of this inquiry."

The Caldari Providence Directorate refused to comment on the ongoing Crielere inquiry.

**CBT investigators arrest caldari funds unlimited ceo
reported by ISD Katerina Markova 05.04.2010 19:52:06**

Litiura - Caldari Funds Unlimited CEO Jaan Omura was taken into custody this morning by investigators from the Caldari Business Tribunal on charges of treason, espionage, fraud, and embezzlement. The arrests accompanied a continuing investigation into financial malfeasance at the State's largest independent bank.

A Tribunal release laid out the charges against Omura, which stem from a series of "unusual financial transactions" between accounts registered to Omura at Caldari Funds Unlimited, the State and Region Bank, the Garoun Investment Bank, and a number of other smaller financial institutions in the State, Federation, and the Intaki Syndicate. In addition, the Tribunal also stated that Omura had been documented meeting with known Gallente agents on at least four separate occasions, and that her personal clearances had been used to access a number of low-level House of Records databases.

Reaction from the Caldari megacorporations has generally been in the form of shock. Indications appear to be that few people outside the CBT saw this investigation and the subsequent arrests coming before rumors began to leak out earlier this month. Both Kaalakiota and the Directorate have declined to comment, but Wyrkomi CEO Kuruta Irio demanded that the Tribunal hand over their initial findings to the Chief Executive Panel immediately. Nugoeihuvi CEO Morimo Yagala released a statement saying that the charges were "extremely troubling" and demanded a "thorough and expedient" investigation in order to allay the fears of the market.

Omura released a statement through her lawyer denying all charges, saying that she was not involved in any criminal acts at the financial giant, nor was she aware that any of the people she had met with were connected to Gallente intelligence. She blamed the charges on "political pressure to create a scapegoat" and called for an internal review of the Tribunal investigation.

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Sansha invasion underway reported by ISD Zachary Zain 13.05.2010 03:09:55

New Eden – Over the last two days, Sansha incursions have been reported in multiple systems across New Eden. On 12.05.112, four more raids took place, with True Slave transports apparently abducting people from the planets below.

Niarja, Balle, Tama and Kamela systems were attacked by Sansha's Nation today. Sansha's Nation fielded an estimated 50 vessels in Niarja, mostly of Sansha custom design, but brought in carriers similar to the Amarr Archon in Tama and Kamela. The fleets appear to have entered the target systems through extremely unstable wormholes that seem to be under Nation control; capsuleers report that they are blocked to non-Sansha ships and seem to close if the Sansha forces are destroyed, or when they achieve their goal and depart.

Sansha Nightmare engages capsuleer resistance Niarja VII was the first of the attacks where it was confirmed that the Sansha had abducted approximately 50,000 citizens from the planet's surface. Imiarr Timshae, one of the many capsuleers who came to the system's defence, said "...The speed at which capsuleers arrived was admirable, but being on the scene there were simply not enough. Too many pilots were concerned with destroying the battleship-class attackers and the transports slipped through." The Sansha fleets abducted an estimated 100,000 in Tama and another 50,000 in Kamela, bringing the total count of people taken to at least 200,000. Sansha have been alleged to implant captives to create more True Slaves, but their intentions for these captives are as yet unknown.

Tama appears to be the first verified system in the current set of raids where an Archon-class carrier was deployed by Nation forces with a full support fleet of battleships, battlecruisers, cruisers and frigates. Again capsuleers of all races banded together to defend the system from the common enemy. Pilots on the scene report that a Scorpion pilot from the Caldari Navy successfully hacked into at least one of the Nightmare battleships, causing it and some of its fellows to turn on the carrier. Gallente pilots in the fleet then allegedly turned on the Scorpion pilot, possibly trying to obtain the unknown technology he used to accomplish this feat.

Another Nation Archon and support fleet were deployed in Kamela, but beaten back swiftly by a combined defence. Once the Sansha fleet had been routed, an Imperial Navy commander gave orders for all allied pilots to open fire on the Minmatar who only moments before they had considered fleet mates. "This is Admiral Ihsam Dasirel of the Amarr Navy High Command elite taskforce. All faithful squadrons are hereby instructed to engage all Minmatar Republic ships."

Julianus Soter, founder of the Synenose Accord, whose channel SYNEpublic has become an unofficial central point of coordination for the capsuleer defence fleets, believes he may have some insight into the Sansha. "We have suspicions that these attacks are somehow related to the system the Ducia Foundry attack reported several days ago... The system with the locus signature of J235456" and is asking all pilots to be on the lookout for a wormhole that may lead to this system.

Mr Soter is also believed to be in possession of a series of leaked DED documents. These documents, known as the ISHAEKA Leaks, were published with the message "CONCORD is hiding something from you. Look further. Spread the truth." and contain information on a CONCORD investigation into directed transmissions from Stain into Gallente Federation space. Following public statements from the Synenose Accord on the Inter-galactic Summit, further ISHAEKA documents were leaked that seemed to indicate that the Synenose Accord has been placed under CONCORD surveillance. Further, a statement in ISHAEKA-0018 alleging the agreement of a media blackout with CONCORD's news outlets has been denied by the Interstellar Correspondents' Vice Admiral, Serathu Ashke.

One message has appeared at least twice in communications with the Sansha. Slave 32152 has twice referred to "a mistake" that is being corrected. "Capsuleers are the heirs to a mistake, and we are the correction." While the

most obvious reference would seem to refer to the four Empires attacking and nearly exterminating the Nation years ago, capsuleers have postulated that capsule technology itself might be the error to which the Sansha refer.

Pilots deployed in systems around the Minmatar Republic after the attack in Kamela, attempting to anticipate the next target, but no further attacks have occurred at the time of writing. Six systems - Kaaputenen, Frarn, Renyn, Ashab, Eystur and Urlen - were reported by capsuleers as having been attacked on the 11th, with another four systems - Niarja, Balle, Tama and Kamela - being invaded on the 12th, when over 200,000 people were abducted in a continuing series of apparently unprovoked attacks by the Sansha. A possible seventh attack on the 11.05.112 in the 3-CE1R of the Jovian Empire, remains unconfirmed.

Sansha incursions on the increase reported by ISD Zachary Zain | 2010.05.16 07:57:57

Intaki, Placid - In the latest (at the time of writing, 15.05.112) of the incursions by the Sansha "Harvest Fleet," two Chimera-class vessels and support fleet were destroyed with the help of a Nyx and Aeon from Cry Havoc.

11.05.112 Kaaputenen – First recorded incursion into capsuleer space. This was followed by incursions in Frarn, Renyn, Ashab, Eystur and Urlen.

12.05.112 Balle - No information currently held.

Niarja - Approximately 50,000 citizens abducted.

Tama – Archon-class carrier deployed by Nation forces – Estimated 100,000 citizens abducted.

Kamela - Imperial Navy commander gave orders for all allied pilots to open fire on the Minmatar who only moments before they had considered fleet mates.

13.05.112 Incursions took place in Auga, Penirgman, Gyng, Abudhan and:

Umokka – Evidence of Sansha communications scrambling technology. Colony on planet 2 in the system totally wiped out – Estimated 150,000 citizens abducted.

Sansha's Nation forces are engaged 14.05.112 Intaki – Confirmed deployment of 2 carriers by Nation forces.

Penirgman - No dropships, believed by many capsuleers to be a diversionary attack whilst Nation forces prepared to invade Teonsude system.

Teonsude – Estimated 150,000 citizens abducted.

Arnon – CONCORD pilot had ship destroyed by capsuleers after the vessel's commanding officer Sutola Endoma who told the pilots "Any conversation regarding the situation that may or may not have happened in Arnon is strictly forbidden." Endoma also refused to vacate the system when ordered to by the Federal Navy.

Hek – Estimated 25,000 citizens abducted with no CONCORD presence recorded at the scene.

Vevelonel – Two capital class vessels in hostile fleet.

15.05.11 Odatrik – Estimated 25,000 citizens abducted.

Tama – Slave Tama01 appeared for the first time, piloting a Wyvern-class supercarrier that was destroyed by forces from Cry Havoc, Rote Kapelle and Advocated Destruction amongst others. Many have pointed out the correlation between the Nation's first use of a Caldari-originating capitals and supercapitals and extraordinarily rapid elevation of the slaves from Tama to capsuleer status. Taken from the planet raided in Tama only a few days previously, the True Slave capsuleer Tama Slave01 returned to the system and talked to capsuleers in local, stating "Master has allowed me to return, to speak. We plan to uplift humanity. To correct the mistake that is the capsuleers."

Melichor Duraldi asked Tama Slave01 "...By what means do you create your wormholes?" to which Slave Tama01 replied "That is not for you to know" , which makes many capsuleers believe that they do indeed have the technology to either create or control wormholes.

Intaki – The latest incursion (at the time of writing which included two capital vessels was repelled various capsuleers, including a Nyx and Aeon from Cry Havoc.

The Intaki incursion happened in the small hours of the morning of the 15th. While capsuleers have many theories on means to predict the time and place of the next incursion, no-one has yet publically announced any successful insight, save that target planets to date have all been temperate in climate.

When the next raid is due, if there is a next one, no-one knows, but capsuleers and naval forces remain vigilant.

Umokka raided by sansha's nation, abductions escalate reported by ISD Najax Lergazin | 2010.05.16 07:25:40

Umokka, Lonetrek - In the evening of 112.05.13, a Sansha's Nation raiding fleet attacked Umokka II and VIII simultaneously. During the raid, which lasted no more than thirty minutes, an estimated 50,000 citizens were abducted from planet VIII, while the Sansha claimed that Ummokka II was "completely harvested," and some 100,000 people have been reported missing.

Sansha Vessel Orbiting Umokka VIII According to Yoshitaka Moromuo, who was leading Ishuk-Raata Enforcement Division's response fleet, the Nation vessels entered Umokka through a wormhole that opened in close proximity to Umokka VIII. After few minutes hostile battleships were also reported orbiting Umokka II.

Capsuleer defence forces made it to the scene fairly swiftly and were called to the defence of planet VIII by Sutola Endoma of CONCORD, while Koja Tsutariba of the Caldari Navy worked with forces defending planet II.

After defenders moved to reinforce Umokka VIII, an unknown vessel ambushed Koja Tsutariba and outgoing transmissions from his vessel were jammed. The remnants of the so-called "Harvest Fleet" were reinforced by further Nation battleships and an Archon-class carrier. Yoshitaka Moromuo said "How they managed to enter high-security space with it is beyond me."

While numerous pilots present at the fray confirmed that they had both seen and fired upon Sansha vessels, CONCORD official Sutoma Endoma (speaking in apparent defiance of a CONCORD media blackout) dismissed the event as just a capsuleer engagement and declined to confirm any reports of abductions from Umokka. "Reports of landing parties and the abduction of citizens cannot be confirmed at this time."

Capsuleer conference to address sansha harvests reported by ISD Clarity Brown | 2010.05.17 19:11:00

Yulai, Genesis - At 04:30 on 18.05.112, a conference will begin in "The Summit" virtual reality channel. The conference, formally titled "The Strategic Accord on Re-Emerging Powers" aims to formulate a united strategic posture for capsuleers of all Empires that can be deployed against both the current Sansha raids and possible future Sleeper threats.

The conference will be hosted by Abbess Ashar KorAzor of the Order of the Blessed Sisters of Amarr, in partnership with Julianus Soter (founder of the Synenose Accord [SYNE] and current CEO of Moira. corporation) and Justin Vallar, the current CEO of SYNE.

The conference currently has 4 chairpersons chosen to represent each of the four main cultural blocs of New Eden: Graelyn, former Admiral of Aegis Militia for the Amarr; Dex Nederland of Lai Dai Infinity Systems for the Caldari; Kaleigh Doyle of Murder Dolls for the Gallente and Evanda Char of Re-Awakened Technologies Inc for the Minmatar.

Abbess KorAzor has invited any and all capsuleers involved in fighting the recent Sansha raids to attend, along with military and scientific personnel from the Empires of New Eden, members of the press and other enemies of Sansha's Nation. Sansha representatives are not expected to be permitted to speak at the conference.

The Strategic Accord on Re-Emerging Powers conference, which starts at 04:30 on 18.05.112, will run in The Summit channel for the coming week, with topic announcements and summaries being published on the Intergalactic Summit periodically.