

VENKESS INVASION FORCES ROUTED, HER MAJESTY COMMANDS A "MARCH TO THE SPINE"

The latest reports from the front in war-ravaged Acria have conveyed that the morale of the savage Venkess has been broken, and their marauding armies are now in retreat. Her Majesty Queen Lira VII has ordered a full-scale pursuit, spurring speculation that Lirian forces may be ordered to cross over the Spine into the Venkess territories. No foreign military force has forayed into Venkestra since the Lirian army withdrew in 2778. The concept of a "reconquest" is immensely popular in Her Majesty's court, where many members are veterans of the failed invasion of Venkesra under Queen Lira VI in 2776.

News of the victory arrived on the eve of Her Majesty's 24th birthday. Dignitaries from Argel, Krieg, Acria and Yoban have begun arriving in the capital in preparation for the ceremonial offering of gifts. A full military parade is also expected to be held in Her honor.

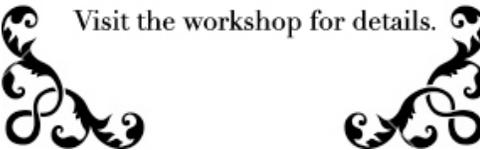
LIRIAN OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON THE OGWE TERRITORIES

Acknowledging for the first time the threat of Luen in the region of Iron City, the Lirian military, in conjunction with the

Minister of Public Safety, have announced severe travel restrictions for all persons moving into and out of the Ogwe territories. Khenti and Jhandihari diplomats have registered a complaint regarding the announcement, claiming it is politically motivated to stall negotiations.



Mr. Janus Barrow and Mrs. Sanura Kaniik would like to invite you to join the Iron City Alchemists Guild. Assistance with research, government backing, and use of the Iron City workshop could be yours! All you need to do is volunteer a little of your time.



TEXTILE LOOMS, OTHER INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT SABOTAGED

Incidents of hooliganism and industrial sabotage have spiked noticeably in the past several months. Automated looms, presses and other machinery have been smashed by vandals or otherwise destroyed through malevolent intent in at least half a dozen episodes across the Ogwehoweh territories. The equipment has largely been Lirian-owned, having been imported for local use. Officials investigating the matter have not been able to positively identify a culprit and speculation has ranged from unemployed Ogwe drunkards to a mysterious cult. Much of the machinery has already been replaced or repaired. Observers have noted that the vio-

lence will likely increase the already considerable costs of insuring commercial property in the Ogwe territories.

AUSPICIOUS BOOK SALES FUEL SUSPICION

The discovery of a new cache of books signed and authored by the late writer and famed ethnologist Malaki Tapprio has been a substantial windfall for Tapprio's publisher. Signed copies of the controversial figure's works have been selling for exorbitant sums on the open market, prices being driven up by a ravenous demand on the part of collectors. Some skeptics, including Greta Schneider, a contemporary ethnologist and rival of the late Tapprio, have speculated that reports of Tapprio's death were falsified so as to sensationalize his work and artificially inflate demand. "Public deception for the purpose of personal enrichment" itself is considered an instance of non-criminal misconduct, punishable only when damages can be proven, but if it could be shown that Tapprio's editors bore false witness on government documents, judicial action would surely be levied against the publisher.

Exchange Rates	
All prices in Queen's Oz.	
Alder (LA)	0.289
Emir (JE)	1.157
Emperor (XE)	0.024
Kaiser (DK)	0.063

Obituaries

Edmund Aubry Archibald Cragswagger IV, Lirian Citizen

Died, Month of August, Year of our Lady 2789

Sir Cragswagger passed away in his home 8th of August, year of our Lady 2789. He is survived by one brother, two sisters, his wife and two sons. Lieutenant Colonel Cragswagger, Ret, had a distinguished military career spanning five decades in various capacities in Her Majesty's Armed Forces, including service in 387th Mayfly Light Foot Brigade, 211th Dragoon Flies and the now famous, HRM's 81st Dirigible Para-Calvary, as well as distinguished service in the Yoban including accepting the surrender of the Honorable Mehelevi Talhim Kuru.



Castal Galbeau, of Tasso origin

Died, Month of August, Year of our Lady 2789

Not much is known about this strange youth who was mysteriously murdered last month. His personal effects indicated a solitary life, with no apparent family ties. It is sad to have a life snuffed out with such abruptness, one can only hope his spirit has found some rest. Let us simply remember Castal the amusing boy who provided some brief amusement to our lives. A humble marker will be erected in his honor, as his body was committed to the swamp in the proper Tasso fashion.



Iron City Threat Index,

a comprehensive and scientific measure of the city's hazard. Scaled 0 to 10.

This month's Threat Rating:

7.31

The threat rating has been reduced slightly since from its previously elevated levels, primarily due to the elimination of the Venkestra as an active threat in the demesne of Iron City. The official quarantine has restricted the flow of goods into and out of the Ogwehoweh territories, but sufficient vital materials are making their way into the territory.



In Remembrance of the Voice of the Wolf

Being a memorial in words for Sachem Mahanguin, of the Aninoquisi Tribe of the Aniyonema Peoples, as written by William Ashley Cole.

I will be honest – I am unsure how best to tell the tale of Mahanguin’s life and death. It is tradition to speak of his birth, his upbringing, his family, but I have only known him for a small portion of his life (our time together in Iron City). So I lean on my own experience of this last year. Please consider these small portraits, written tintypes, that I might show the essence of the man by his own actions.

opportunity again, and it fills me with great sadness.

I met him my first day in Iron City. In the beginning, I knew him only as “Wolf”, unable to wrap my tongue around his true name. Those first few months I grew to respect the keeper of the Fire Circle, and found in him a colleague of great wisdom, honor, and integrity. He often took the time to teach me the ways of his people; the names of the Spirits and their domains, the language of the stars, the meaning of Kawe.

Last Autumn, a small war band of Venkestra arrived at the Fire Circle and demanded food and drink. Hospitality at the circle is the norm – and when Mahanguin offered them a place, to sit in peace and partake of a gift, not something forced, the group refused. I heard him say a number of times that he was not skilled at diplo-

Stock Listings	
Latest quotes provided courtesy of Dawkins & Emberwell Brokerage. All prices listed in Qoz.	
Equity Market	
D&E Composite Index	17.6
Dornham Royal Teas (DRT)	12.1
Lirian Steamship & Foundry (LSF)	43.2
Amalgamated Coal & Galvacite (ACG)	19.3
Yoban Agricultural (YA)	15.7
Farthingham Tool & Leather (FTL)	8.5
National Bank of Liria (NBL)	24.8
Royal Tonics & Distilling (RTS)	11.6
Northern Railway & Locomotive (NRL)	14.7
United Lirian Textile (ULT)	4.8
First Galvanic & Semaphore (FGS)	18.1
Bosswink and Bosswink Assay & Mining (BBM)	12.9
Fourth Age Shipyards (FAS)	11.1
Bond Market	
30 Day Royal Exchequer Bond (100 Qoz).....	99
60 Day Royal Exchequer Bond (100 Qoz).....	97
90 Day Royal Exchequer Bond (100 Qoz).....	95
One Year Royal Exchequer Bond (100 Qoz).....	88

the town before the Lirian government took control. As I waited in the woods, poisoned, surrounded by his loyal followers, I watched Wolf lead the charge of townsfolk sent to retrieve me. He and Ulenahida Waya carried me back to civilization. Later, after I’d recovered from my ordeal, we sat on a bench outside the Cog and Sprocket. I thanked him for what he had done. He said, “I just wanted to make sure you were safe.”

One night, perhaps four months ago, I woke from a deep sleep to hear a mighty howl and the sounds of an epic battle a few hundred yards from the Fire Circle. I recognized The Voice of the Wolf, and debated whether to get dressed and go to his aid. By the time I had rummaged through my clothes, I heard him return to camp. Only

later did I find out that he and a few other townsfolk had faced not one, but *two* carrion wolves. In the end, limbs broken and bleeding, his compatriots had supported the warrior, nearly thrown him, at his opponents – and through sheer force of will fought on till the monsters were dispatched. I wish to someday have that kind of courage.

And then, a month ago

almost to the day, he faced the Great Warlord of the Venkess Horde and perished taking Caithnus Huroc’s head – something he promised to Commander Welles. I can think of no better way for him to pass into the afterlife – he faced his foe in mortal combat and smiled the whole time. Remember this dear reader: he died not only for his tribe but for the inhabitants of Iron City. He fought to protect those he loved; to make this world a better place.

I hope my clumsy attempt at words will paint an accurate portrait of the man I called a dear friend. Someone I eventually came to call a brother.

Mahanguin is survived by his sister, Tokalaquene, and his brother Ulenahida Waya.

Memorial contributions, whether financial, or in the form of moral and political support, can be given to Stone Horse in Iron City, overseer of “Mahanguin’s Wish”, a not for profit organization working to make his desire for peaceful co-existence come true.

The opinions of the authors presented herein do not represent the attitudes and opinions of the Iron City Post-Intelligencer or its staff.



Mahanguin and I used to share tobacco in front of the Tavern – when we weren’t being assailed by the near constant threats common to our home. We’d talk about local politics, concerns to be addressed, and sometimes he’d tell me of his visions – portents of the future, or a unique view on current events, full of insight. As I sit down to write this obituary, I realize I will never have this

macy – especially the Aniyonema style that requires the twist of a word the way some twist a knife, but that night he did everything to avoid violence. The encounter ended in bloodshed – but he chose to parley first, fight last, and this pattern he repeated over and over. The Berserker was a man of words.

Half a year ago, I was abducted by Rashid, the Jhandihari in charge of

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