

Lords of the Earth

Campaign Nineteen

Turn 74

Anno Domini 1266 - 1270

TURN 75 ORDERS DUE BY: SATURDAY OCTOBER 6TH AT MIDNIGHT PST.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hi, I'm Kas, your new GM. I am still working through Colin's system of working the game. In fact a portion of this newsfax has been done by Colin, though I have read though and edited it.

I may change some things in the coming months. Let me know if there is anything you'd especially like to see changed, and I will consider it.

Build Chart (Important): This campaign is currently using the 5.10 build charts. But really soon now, like **turn 75**, we will switch to the V6 build charts and well as the rest of the V6 rulebook.

Your turn costs... \$7.00.

Some advice that will (hopefully) speed up processing time):

- 1) Remember that units may have YARD costs now!
- 2) When players are increasing a city, please indicate what the new size will be.
- 3) For ships to be built for conversion to MSP, you can also put what route they're going into in the Builds section. Projects may also be put in the Builds section.
- 4) When building a road link, indicate which region it starts in and which region it's going to. Please don't give me city names.
- 5) For players who are not using the standard **Excel** format, please put the information in the following order: Revenue; Maintenance, Investments, Builds, Transfers, Projects, Trade Routes, Intel Ops, Religious Ops, Leader Actions. When indicating an expense, please list gps first then nfp.

CONTACTING & PAYING THE REFEREE

Players sending funds by mail should make all paper style checks payable to Thomas Harlan and send them to his address, which is:

Thomas Harlan
1270 Fir Street South
Salem, OR 97302

Below is my Email address. All snail mail correspondence should go through Thomas' address above.

lords19gm@throneworld.com

Payment: When paying via Paypal, please send all funds to this account:

lords19pmts@throneworld.com

ZERO AND NEGATIVE CREDIT: CONSEQUENCES

If you haven't paid for your turn, you don't get your stat sheet.

RULE CHANGES AND CLARIFICATIONS

Map Stuff: the maps have been updated. A lot of annoying stuff has been deleted and many roads have been redrawn. Cities within a country's HBZ are now indicated by their names in color (either white or red) and capital cities have their names enclosed in a box.

Horde Blocks: the following horde blocks are available for play if anyone wants to start up there: Khirgiz, Betpak, Mongol, Hsia-Hsia, Liao and Harbin

Fractional NFP: You may now save fractional NFP. Any spending of NFP must be in whole units however. At some point, when the updated rules are completely implemented, you will be able to spend fractional nfp on things like ship crews.

The New Field Fort Formula: after talking with Thomas, the new field fort regional limit is:

$GPv+1 * Siege/2$ (at least a 1) * Tax Rate

If your control level/tax rate > 0%, then you get at least one fort.

Missionaries: from this point, any player who sends missionaries to a region or city area that is of a **hostile** organized religion and controlled by another player will get no conversion result and a bunch of dead missionaries. **Note:** I really badly worded the old iteration of this rule, my apologies...).

Leaders & Espionage Actions (Battle Assistance): In order for a leader to perform this action he must remain with the army he is aiding. APs spent in moving around with the army do not count towards the action itself. The maximum bonus a leader may make using this action is +1. So make sure you've got leaders with high CHA scores on this.

More on Leaders & Espionage Actions: I am beginning to get the feeling that this rule is being abused and I may excise it entirely in the near future.

The Cause Mutiny Operation (CM): players attempting this operation must produce a valid reason as to why the mutiny would occur or it will automatically fail. And no, "Because I think it should succeed." is not a valid reason.

The HC Operation: from this point forward, all HC operations must be done in the Capital (if the nation has one) or the Homeland region. If the monarch is female and the HC die roll is successful, she may do nothing but HC for a full year (measured in AP) and undergoes a leader mortality check at the conclusion of that period. If the HC check is unsuccessful, she may do any other activity that you've put in her orders.

Interactions between the Hemispheres: at this point only the Seafaring cultures may sail between the Hemispheres. Once people hit Renaissance, then they may attempt to do so as well. So

the New World players should stop trying to get to Europe and Non Seafaring Old World players should do likewise.

Building units: The vast majority of units must be built in a city within your HBZ. The exceptions are as follows:

- 1) Ships may be built in a port outside the HBZ if it is the only one available.
- 2) Field forts may be built in any region at NT status or higher.
- 3) Inexperienced infantry may be built in a F region within your HBZ.
- 4) Nomad/Barbarian cultures may build units at a Trade Center within their HBZ.

In all these instances please be aware of the yard capacity for all ships and all heavy class units.

The complete list of rules changes (including Smallpox) can be found on the Lords 19 page on the Throneworld website. If you haven't read them, please do so. Reading them will save you a lot of grief.

JAPAN & THE PACIFIC RIM

THE EMPIRE OF NIPPON

Taira Fujita, Daimyo of Kwanto, Shogun of Japan.

DIPLOMACY None

An expedition to the icy northern waters off of Takama was a success, with much Vulcanism in evidence. Closer to home, the usual passel of cites expanded, with Heian reaching max!

In Kyushu in the Saga Province, a volcanic eruption took place. Some farms were destroyed, and fields burned. Fortuitously, very few people were injured or killed.

THE MOLUCCAS SEAHOLD

Tekalameme, Lord of the Spice Islands

DIPLOMACY None

The inter-island arrow to the Marshall Islands was successfully explored.

THE MAREE KINGDOM OF AUSTRALIA

Doongara, Prince of Maree

DIPLOMACY None

Admiral Aroona and Princess Hanya died during this period.

CHINA

THE KINGDOM OF SHAN'SI

Xoing Feng, King of Shan'si, Watcher of the Northern Marches

DIPLOMACY Lang Shan (ea)

Missionary activity continues among the Turks and Manchus with both Mancou and Ch'in being completely converted and inroads being made elsewhere. A new city, Lupeh, was built in Wudan and a road link hence from Tumet as well. Other cities continue to grow.

In the city of Huhehot, in Tumet, there was a vicious cholera epidemic. The city was depopulated.

THE KINGDOM OF HONAN

Cao Dao Wang, King of Honan

DIPLOMACY None

Expecting an attack on their heartland, the King and General Tong Fu stayed in Honan province, ready to defend the homeland. But no Hupei armies attacked them directly. The elderly Fu

begged the King to allow him to lead the Royal army out against the damnable Hupei – but was steadfastly refused. Further, the Emperor had ordered all of the river-capable warships disbanded, and twenty-five enormous war-junks built in their stead. This made the shipbuilders in Pienching happy, but those familiar with the waterways looked upon them with great concern.

This insanity (as Fu viewed it) was too much for the elderly general, who retired to his apartments and died – a broken man – soon after.

THE KINGDOM OF HUPEI

Cao Wen Kai, King of Hupei

DIPLOMACY None

In the city of Chang'An in the Shensi province, there was a huge fire that destroyed more than half of the urban area.

The civil war between Hupei and Honan continued (though this is the last turn for Civil War status). Emperor Cao Wen Li started his campaign in Tanchou, marched through Anhui, and then attacked into Tsainan province. As the Honan did not happen to be defending Tsainan, the region was captured without a fight. The Emperor then observed the walls of Jinan – found them to be mighty – and retired from the field and returned to Tangchou to await further developments.

This proved wise, as the Kwangsi had decided to invade the southern reaches of Hupei lands...

Various Hupei generals who had ferried newly raised levies to join Cao Wen Li fell victim to a variety of ills – bad eels, falling into a river while wearing a tutu – which led to their untimely deaths.

Admiral Tau Saou Son did *not* fall victim to such indignities – for he was active on the Yellow River, preparing to attack Honan-held provinces. Unfortunately, his attempt to set sail was held back by an odd occurrence. The shipwrights had constructed fifty enormous war-junks at Chang'an (which sits at the last river-boat navigable section of the Yellow River) and these behemoths immediately ran aground in the shallows when they set sail.

"Fools!" Raged Admiral Tau, watching the huge ships sit, stuck in the mud-flats, "I-I-I-DIOTS!"

A number of the shipwrights were dragged out into the street and beheaded. This made Tau feel better, but did not rescue the ships. Finally, after ordering a few more beheadings, he set sail down the river with all of the ships which *could* manage those waters. Leaving the fifty war-junks behind, to "protect" the city.

Tau did not encounter any Honan warships on the river (strangely, the Honan had also fallen victim to the same unscrupulous contractors and *their* fleet of giant war-junks was stuck in the mud at Pienching) and made it all the way to the sea with very little incident.

As Tau had traveled however, he had observed each of the river cities – found them all fortified and crowded with angry Honan militia – and pressed onwards. After reaching the Bo Hai, he turned south and sailed down the coast – still looking for easy pickin's... he found some at Shanghai, which was not fortified (and which he gladly seized) and then the province of Chekiang, where he ended the turn – victorious!

General Cao Man Kai, meantime, had led an army of some 75,000 men to "mop" up the pitiful Honan (who were covering in Pienching city). Their spears shining and bright, Kai's cavalry mached out of Chang'an (past the doleful war-junks mouldering in the river) and east into Houma. The province, as it happened, was undefended by the Hupei – and the citizens cheered Kai and his troops as they marched past, waving Hupei flags and showing fine large portraits of the Emperor Cao Wen Li. The army then approached the city of Yanling (which the fleet under Tau had

been tasked with seizing) and found it filled with angry, pro-Honan militia.

“Hmmm... looks nasty,” Kai thought, and marched onward to the east. As soon as his army had left Houma and entered Hopei (where, as it happens, they were greeted with open arms) the citizens of Houma ran out and hurried to change over the flags and portraits to those of Emperor Cao Dao Wang and the region reverted to Honan control.

Kai knew nothing of this however, and continued his victorious march to the sea along roads lined with cheering throngs, paved with flowers and garlanded with virgins hanging from the windows. Eventually he reached Fujian in the very far south – and then turned around and wended his way home to Hupei province. When he arrived home, it was to startling news – the Kwangsi had invaded in the south, his older brother had led the main army to give battle – and had fallen at Chang’sa.

Kai was suddenly Emperor. And though the whole situation seemed rather chaotic, he found it a pleasing prospect, all in all.

The only possessions that *actually* changed hands between Hupei and Honan were Chekiang, where Admiral Tau’s fleet wound up at the end of the turn, and Shanghai, which did not happen to have any walls.

THE KINGDOM OF KWANGSI

Wu Juan II, Prince of Kwangsi

DIPLOMACY None

King Wu Juan II ordered a bunch of infantry to build, and marched north across the country picking them up, eventually attacking Hunan. Amid much fanfare Wu Juan III was promoted as the official heir.

His father’s campaign against the hated Honan led off with Lin Yao the Bold and a force of 62,000 light cavalry and mountaineers attacking into Ghang’de – which was ravaged... the garrisons along the Great Wall did their best, but were too few and too scattered to prevent the southern barbarians from spilling over into the province, raiding to their hearts content and then scampering off into the mountains of Kweichou for more fun...

Just to the east, Wu Juan II and his main army plowed into Hunan province with 189,000 men (and an enormous siege train). They needed all of those engineers, too, as Hunan was protected by a massive series of earthworks (a Great Wall) and countless fortresses. The local garrison commander had been alert, hearing from traveling merchants of the Kwangsi muster in the south, so the Hunan garrisons were prepared for an attack.

Unfortunately, one of those same merchants sought audience with the governor – and then murdered him upon attendance. In the ensuing confusion, battalions of Kwangsi engineers attacked the Wall at critical points and forced entry. The Kwangsi army poured through the breaches and slaughtered the confused and demoralized garrisons.

Wu Juan had hoped the raid into Ghang’de would draw off the Hupei main army – but they had been delayed in the north, marching about in Tsainan, and now poured across the river with full strength under Cao Wen Li himself.

The resulting brawl, at **Chang’sa** between the 190,000 Kwangsi and 177,000 Hopei shook the earth, tarnished the heavens and made the clouds rain blood... well, yeah, it was big. In fact the two (very evenly matched) armies hammered at each other, in the mud, for three days before the Hupei Emperor Cao Wen Li was struck by an arrow while rallying his left wing and fell from his horse. The Kwangsi heavy infantry that then overran his position finished him off, much to their glory, and the Hupei army disintegrated on the field. The Emperor’s Guard did manage to retire, along with the baggage train and the contingent of engineers

which had been defending the camp. 107,000 dead or captured or wounded were left behind ... a crippling blow to the Hopei nation.

Wu Juan’s army was battered, too, and the city of Chang’sa still stood defiant... and well fortified it was, too. Sadly for Hupei’s fortunes at war – no able general had fallen back into the city – and the remains of the Royal army had scattered north into Hupei province itself. Too, the new King Cao Man Kai was still marching stoutly around the east, overawing Honan provinces... thus Wu Juan had a free hand to deal with Chang’sa. An embassy was dispatched to demand a surrender, which was duly refused. The Kwangsi then laid siege, with their swarm of siege engineers quick to the trenches and arbalests. Though the citizens of the city were brave, they were no match for the southern professionals, and without a competent leader, they had no recourse to stratagems or trickery.

Chang’sa fell within the month.

With the province captured, Wu Juan dug in on the southern side of the Yang’tse, hoping the battered Hupei would try their luck against him again. But they did not, for Cao Man Kai had still to return and claim his crown and secure the allegiance of the army.

The raiding force still active in the east spent the remainder of the turn burning farms, looting temples and generally raising hell in Kweichou, Chiennan and Szechwan. The fortified cities in those regions escaped harm, and the provincial forts on every hill-top reduced the damage – but could not prevent Lin Bao’s Raiders from wreaking great havoc on those peaceful lands.

SOUTHEAST ASIA & INDIA

THE EMPIRE OF SRI VIJAYA

Khanirban III, Maharaja of the Khemer People, Prince of Champa, Lord Protector of Java

DIPLOMACY None

Amaravati, in Dai Viet grew to size 6 and a royal road was built between Khemer and Phan Rang. Missionary activity in southern Sumatra continues at a slow rate.

THE KINGDOM OF MAGHADA

Gunaratna, Rajah of Bengal

DIPLOMACY Punjab (a)

The *Raj* ordered the construction of a slew of new city walls and field forts throughout his Empire in order to avoid being “smacked around by some punk horde” as Gunaratna put it. Navlakhi in Jats grew to a size two.

THE KINGDOM OF CHOLA

Jagrav, King of Chola, Lord of Tanjore

DIPLOMACY Jihjhoti (ea), Avanti (fa)

Jagrav shuffled some troops around and built some ships. Not as many as he would have liked because we’re using the 5.10 build chart, but some. Some cities also continued to grow.

CENTRAL ASIA

THE KINGDOM OF JUNGARIA

Al Harrat, Lord of Karakocho.

DIPLOMACY None

The home region was colonized to a (3/6). Colin allowed Sean to do this because his country is so poor. It’s normally not allowed.

THE EMIRATE OF SAMARKHAND

Al Abdi ibn Abdi, Emir of Samarkhand

DIPLOMACY None

Al Abdi paused in his re-conquest of the southern rebels. A new city, Iranshahr was built amidst the Allah-forsaken wastes of Shadad.

THE KHAZAR KHANATE

Bulan, Kagan of Khazar and Saksiny

DIPLOMACY Turki (nt)

Deciding to expand his horizons a bit, Bulan ordered waves of settlers to colonize the eastern wilderness. Pelym was settled to a (-/6) and Rezh to a (1/6). Urbanization closer to home also continued with Khazaria growing to size three and Taganrog, Yelsk and Tamatarha to size five.

THE NEAR EAST

THE BUWAYID EMIRATES

Alik, The Sword of the Faith (Sayf al-Din) Protector of the Caliph.

DIPLOMACY None

Emir Momoud ibn Azzam ibn Hassim (Momo), reached the divinely decreed age of 15 years, within which he must marry. His trusted advisor and regent, Alik, who considered him a son, made their ties more concrete, by accepting Momo as a son-in-law through marriage to Alik's granddaughter, Fatima.

In deepest gratitude, Sultan Momo decreed his "grandfather" Alik Vizier, the The Sword of the Faith (*Sayf al-Din*). A very special title, indeed.

(Ahhh, the love).

Soon after all of this came to pass, however, the Romans invaded Buyid lands from the north, causing complete panic in Baghdad... Alik attempted to convince Momo that the 'invaders' were allies, on their way to attack the perfidious Syrians, but when news came that the Romans were pillaging and looting on their way south, Momo summoned his generals and ordered a defense of Baghdad prepared.

"We fight, for the honor of the *Dar-al-Harb* and all Islam!"

THE HAMADID SULTANATE

Faruq al-Motresh, Sultan of Damascus and Protector of the Holy Places

DIPLOMACY None

Faced with incipient disaster, the Hamadids threw all of their resources into replacing the lancers slaughtered by the Greeks, as well as bolstering the garrisons of their cities. And even despite the gloom pervading the councils of Faruq and his generals, work continued in the countryside of Palmyra and Circis, building new *qanats* and planting olive groves.

Despite his failure against the damnable Greeks, Lord Azeddin was rewarded by the Sultan with the hand of his daughter Zarina, a lissome 18-year old who well pleased the general. Pleased, too, were the Cappadocians (Kurds mostly) who had grown rich on the profits of raiding the lands of the Greeks. Many of them now became Sunni, seeing as how they could afford more than one wife!

Faruq also summoned Selahadine home from the sea, entrusted him with the remainder of Azeddin's army (plus whatever else they could scrape up) and sent him north... Gemayl, who had been Selahadine's second in the piracy campaigns off Sicily, now became *amir-al-bahr* and he sailed west.

THE EMIRATE OF ADEN

Ishaq ibn Mansoor, Emir of Aden and S'ana.

DIPLOMACY Adulis (nt), Oman (no effect)

Diplomatic endeavors among the Omani failed but were more successful among the Copts (hmmmm...). The city of Abha grew to size 5 and trade was opened up with the Maghadans.

EASTERN EUROPE

ROMAN TREBIZOND

Basil I, Proconsul of the East.

DIPLOMACY None

"I am Alexander reborn," Basil declared before his (truly) mighty army. "We have already given the Syrian dogs a good whipping, now we will clean up the rest of their nest of vipers, destroy Damascus and reclaim Jerusalem!"

A mighty cheer greeted this declaration, for there was not a Greek alive who held any good feeling for the Saracens, particularly the puling, cowardly lot hiding in Damascus. Basil wasted no time in hiring a huge mob of Turkish light horse and setting out on the road for ... Babylon?

Indeed. Secret arrangements had been made (or so Basil was informed by his new wife, Thea – the daughter of old Emperor Ion of the Eastern Empire) to allow a combined army of Byzantines (the stub of the Eastern Empire now ruled by Theophanos), Khazars and Romans (that would be Basil's own wrecking crew) to march through Buyid lands to attack the Syrians. Thus Basil and his huge army tramped east through Armenia and Georgia and then down into Shirvan and Azerbaijan and onto the Buyid road network.

There they received something of a surprise, for the Buyid border guards fled screaming at the sight of them, and no one greeted them with flowers, and things were (in fact) downright hostile. More irritating to the Proconsul where the failure of the Khazars to arrive at the agreed-upon meeting place, and the cowardice of the Byzantine cataphracts who were lagging far behind the main body (Leitrius being delayed four months behind Basil's troops due to mustering difficulties).

The Romans thus advanced through hostile territory and were forced to forage for supplies wherever they could find them. This caused great hostility amongst an already hostile land – and not a word issued forth from Baghdad, indicating any kind of arrangement had been made. During this passage, General Trojicus took ill and died, making Basil wish he'd brought along those two notorious loungers, Maniakes and Narcissus, who were cooling their heels back in Nicomedia.

So large was the Roman army, however, that no one dared raise a hand against them. In this way, Basil reached Baghdad in September of 1267 and found his way back west blocked by an enraged populace, a slew of field forts and the Buyid army – now commanded by the youthful and impetuous Sultan Momo.

Faced with 116,000 Buyid troops Basil laughed, stunned at their stupidity. He did, briefly, wish that Leitrius' cataphracts had ever caught up with him – but the Byzantine general had taken sick in Kurdistan and died. His successor, Stephanicus, was still months behind the main body. Nonetheless, the Roman army numbered nearly 300,000 men!

Basil forced a crossing of the Tigris at **Kut** and was immediately attacked by Momo's army on the plains behind the town. At this time, the Romans were nearly two years of hard marching from their nearest controlled province, isolated in a hostile land, and fighting the Buyids on their home ground. Despite all this, Basil trusted to his legionnaires to win through. And he was nearly right... but the second day ended with his heavy horse breaking on the bulwark of the Sultan's Guard, who

held a ridge against them and the Romans splintered. Basil and most of his men fell back across the river on the pontoon bridges, where the Proconsul managed to rally his men.¹

Back on the Baghdad side, Sultan Momo was carried from the field on a litter of spears – he had fallen in the last burst of fighting. Now Alik found himself ruler of the Buyid realm in truth, as protector for his daughter Fatima. The emirs and *beyliks* demanded that the Romans be pursued and destroyed, but Alik was quite certain they'd only found victory because of this strong defensive position. Too, that following army of Byzantines would soon reach Basil's forces...

Basil resolved Alik's immediate problems by marching north into Arbiliq after being reinforced (finally) by Stefanicus' heavy horse. The Roman army was now truly isolated, however, and ravaged most of the province to provide supplies. Basil and Stefanicus then invaded Syrian-held Carhae (seeking the shortest route to friendly territory) while Alik and his army closed up behind them, restoring order in Arbiliq.

Between them the Roman armies now numbered 290,000 men – tired, hungry, facing enemies on every side. Against them the Syrians had fielded 93,000 horse – much of it light lancers. But Selahadine was a general of the age, and he showed no fear. Instead his cavalry swirled around the fringes of the massive Roman host (much of which was heavy infantry), attacking and withdrawing, nipping at their heels... and as Basil and Stefanicus advanced, they found the land bare before them – wells poisoned or filled with sand, nothing but carrion to eat.

At **Jozera** Selahadine suddenly attacked the right wing of the Roman force while Azeddin's horse-archers were raising an enormous dust cloud some miles away to the left. Basil's heavy infantry took the brunt of the attack and shattered. Stefanicus panicked, seeing the Romans flee past his cataphracts and fled the field. With the right collapsing, Basil turned the van and was attacked while in motion by Azeddin's wing. Luckily for the Romans, the Syrian general was almost immediately wounded and withdrew. Basil was able to rally his men and punch out to the north. Three months later, his battered force reached Armenia. The next year, after a hellish winter in the mountains, Basil and his army stumbled into Pontus, a bare shadow of their former selves.

Though complete disaster had been averted, Basil's far-flung campaign had left the Asian provinces of his kingdom undefended – and while he had been away, Syrian and Cappadocian raiders had ravaged the provinces of Vaspurakan, Psidia, Galatia, Cilicia, Isauria, Lydia and Phrygia.

THE EASTERN ROMAN EMPIRE

Theophanos Konstantinos, Emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire.

DIPLOMACY None effect

Theophanos bought peace with the rebels across the Bosphorus by selling them Ion's daughter Thea and 49,000 cataphracts for Basil's ill-starred campaign into Mesopotamia. Orthodox missionaries had better success (save in Cappadocia) than the Greek armies did, converting Torki and Kul'sary to Eastern Orthodox, and making sure the Armenians didn't get any fancy ideas. About anything.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF MUSCOVY

Olga, Boyarress of Muscovy

¹ We ran this battle three times. The first two times the Romans were annihilated in disasters of [Carrhae](#)-like proportions, but we felt sorry for Ben since all of his allies had abandoned him in some way and his bold plan wound up being absolutely the worst thing he could have done. So finally we took out all of the distance/isolation modifiers and just let the two armies fight it straight up.

DIPLOMACY None

A national campaign to convince the nobility in Goryn, Rivne, Pinsk, and Torov that being Eastern Orthodox is the-cool-thing-to-do was somewhat effective. Prince Egor turned 15 and became official heir amidst weeks and weeks of celebrations. Olgaville (yes, Olgaville) was christened a new town.

THE KINGDOM OF POLAND

Dansk I, King of Poland

DIPLOMACY No effect

Not much happened. Two leaders died due to hard drinking and pining for the battlefield.

THE DUCHY OF ESTONIA

Jaak Vükberg, Duke of Estonia

DIPLOMACY None

A quiet time for the Estonians, who polished their shiny ships, and built roads and universities. There was happiness across the land for the birth of the Czar's 4th daughter.

WESTERN EUROPE

THE DUCHY OF BOHEMIA

Kurnik Govner, Duke of Bohemia

DIPLOMACY None

Efforts by the Duke to construct a grand new fleet fell afoul of the simple matter that the shipyards in Saarbrücken, Trier and Freiburg could not build more than the smallest of warships (xw). In comparison, the constant urban grown of the realm continued – Brno, Retion, Brehmen, Munich and Lubeck all expanded.

A peculiar series of accidents cut a wide swath through the Ducal ranks – Goldbull, governor of Carinthia, fell from his horse; Dirken, mayor of Munich, slipped on an icy patch outside a beer-hall – and Sumava XV died in his sleep, leading to a new round of appointments by the Duke.

Govner also exercised his Christian duty by dispatching that new fleet, and the existing forces at Trieste, to Sicily in an attempt to liberate that island from the cruel yoke of the Saracens.

Cardinal de Morra, dispatched by the Holy See to deal with the advent of the Adepts in Germany, drove the free-thinking heretics from Saxony rather easily. His efforts in Brunswick, however, led him to a sudden and unexpected end. Someone – who can say who? – poisoned his bedtime milk, sending him directly to the Savior.

Further south, Rainalducci (another Papal emissary) failed entirely to dislodge the Adepts at large in Bavaria and Munich (where they indeed seemed to have the support of the city fathers and night watch as well...)

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lucius IV, Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Christ

DIPLOMACY See below...

A new Church was founded in chilly Reykjavik in Iceland. Attempts to found a new monastery in Edinburgh failed however.

And then the ref decided to really give the Pope something to do. To whit, a heresy! *The Adepts of the Free Spirit*, were active in Europe roughly from the thirteenth through fifteenth centuries. In VERY simplistic terms, this was a millenarian movement that was found among the both high ecclesiastics as well as the poor itinerant laity. The Adepts essentially viewed the Papacy as the Beast / Antichrist, etc.² So the bad

² Those who wish to read up on the Adepts can start with Norman Cohn's *The Pursuit of the Millennium* which was the first major work to examine the group in any detail.

news is, The Pope has a heresy to deal with, the good news is that this is NOT the Reformation! So how this will work is as follows:

1) Regions/Cities experiencing Adept activity will be marked on the map with a red cross. Papal holdings in those regions and cities will garner income at one level less than their normal one. Cathedrals will generate income as if they were Monasteries; Monasteries as Abbeys; Abbeys as Churches; and Churches won't give squat. The control web will be intact and the actual holding will not be affected (**see below for an important exception to this**) they will just generate income at the lower level. The Holy City of Rome will never have Adept activity and therefore, will be unaffected.

2) Papal actions (and secular actions in support of the Papacy) in areas or cities affected by heresy will have a sharply decreased chance of success. It's hard to raise money to build that new monastery when some gits are screaming that you're the Whore of Babylon and the new structure is just another sign of the Mark of the Beast.

3) The heresy will spread on its own accord at an irregular rate. Some turns it will spread one region/city in all directions, some turns it won't spread at all. All-non RC regions will be unaffected by any of this.

4) Each city or region where the adepts are active will have a secret Charisma value that will be determined anew every time a leader attempts to suppress it. To attempt to suppress the Adepts in a given region or city a *Papal* leader must attempt an opposed CHA check (using the Preach action) against the CHA value of the Adept infested region or city. If the leader gets a higher success effect than the region/city, the heresy in that place is successfully suppressed (N.B. it can return however). If the leader gains a critical success against the Adepts, the heresy has been decisively crushed in that region or city and it will not recur there except under very rare circumstances. In the event of a tie, there is no effect. If the Adept gains a higher success effect than the leader, the heresy either spreads or gains a bonus against all subsequent attempts to suppress it, (depending on where it is). If the Adepts get a critical success, the heresy spreads two regions instead of one (and in this case a region or city that was decisively suppressed can be re-infested).

5) In most cases, secular leaders can also attempt to rid a given area of the adepts in the same way as Papal leaders. However (and read this well), if the Adepts get a critical success in the CHA check, the local heresy then explodes into a revolt against the secular and Papal authority, all church holdings in the region or city are destroyed, the ref generates a player position for the rebels and you all have a major headache on your hands as new religion is born.

Heeding the call of his faithful, the pontiff also dispatched Cardinal Pantel on with a small Papal fleet to harry the Saracens in Egypt.

THE VERNONIAN EMPIRE

Valdemar IV, Emperor of Italy

DIPLOMACY None

Unwilling to garrison worthless desert, the Emperor ordered Ad'Diffah and Lybian abandoned. His generals in Africa were also ordered to allow the French to land new armies there with impunity. Unfortunately, the French had neglected to *send* any armies to Africa this turn. Ce la vie!

Valdemar, though still quite young, did his manly work begetting – but was rewarded only with daughters. “My sons, where are my sons?” He lamented, ignoring the one boy already born to him.

In the east, Titus Minimus – newly dispatched to command the defenses of Verona – fell into a canal and drowned.

LE ROYAUME DE FRANCE

Antoine I, King of the Franks

DIPLOMACY None

Le Franais s'est assis sur leurs piles  normes d'or et n'a fait rien. And, Chevalier Etienne died. Tienne, Etienne.

The rise to prominence of the Adepts led to an immediate response by the Church – no less than Il Papa Honorius III betook himself to the French countryside, accompanied by only a few clerks and guardsmen, to preach against the heresy of the Adepts and to show (by his own, perhaps foolish, example) that

the Church had not lost touch with the common people. This humility was well received in Vermandois, where the locals then drove out the Adepts. The reception in Reims was much colder. The pontiff left hastily, fearing for his life.

“Perhaps,” he thought as the carriage rattled away from the city gates, “I should have brought all those guardsmen after all...”

Cardinal Allucingolli found an equally cold reception in Flanders, though his life did not seem to be in danger.

THE EL REINO DE NAVARRE

Marco Aroca II, King of Navarre

DIPLOMACY None

King Marco, concerned with his own mortality, proclaimed his young son Rodrigo heir and elevated the boy to the principate. Missionaries were dispatched to Morroco (where they found a bit of a foothold due to the general chaos of the war) and the Azores.

NORTHERN EUROPE

THE KINGDOM OF WESSEX

Sebbi Cearlson, King of the Angles and Saxons

DIPLOMACY: None

Lord Woald died at the somewhat young age of 32. The news was sad, but somewhat lost amidst the many public improvements taking place around the cities of the kingdom. There was a spate of road building, improvement of sewers, making of distilleries, and the building of pretty shops in London, Edinburgh, Port De Saxon, and Cadair Mor.

THE KINGDOM OF THE SVEAR

Erik IV, King of the Swedes

DIPLOMACY None

Swedish development of the north and in the Baltic continued. Gotland was settled to a (1/7) and a new port, Visby, was built there. A road link was built between Vasterbotten and Norbotten; as well as one between Smaland and Skane. City growth continued as well:

THE NORSE KINGDOM OF ICELAND

Erik Ottarson, King of the Norse, Dragon King of the Isles

DIPLOMACY None

Norse colonization in the west continued apace. Naskapi was put under cultivation and Malecite colonized to a (1/9). An expedition to explore the Florida Straits was unsuccessful, although a small force was dropped off in Lucayo and the Islands claimed for the Kingdom. Finally, Reykjavik grew to a size 7.

NORTH AFRICA

THE MAGHREB EMIRATE

Umhad ibn Aslar, Emir of Morroco

DIPLOMACY None

The emir took steps to ensure the succession – *Aaraez* Savash was wed to princess Sishin, becoming an emir-ite. Prince Zafar (the emir's uncle) was made his heir, and was then twice-blessed with a son of his own. Many generals were dispatched to patrol the coastline, as Umhad expected a fresh Christian invasion. His fears would be realized, first by assassination attempts on his own life, and that of General Mahmut, and then by a veritable flood of Catholic missionaries into Morroco. As fast as they could be hunted down and killed, more kept coming... like rats in the granary.

AL FATAMID CALIPHATE AL QAIRA

Fayed ibn Mutadi, Fatamid Caliph of Egypt

DIPLOMACY None

In the midst of the war, the Caliph Muhtadi fell ill during the summer of 1267 and then died of some ague which paralyzed his limbs and stopped his breathing. His son, Fayed, then became Caliph without opposition – as he was well loved and well spoken and promised to be (if not wise) then an astute ruler.

Merchants crossing the great sand sea brought news that the isolated inhabitants of Siwa oasis had begun to convert to Catholicism.

THE FOURTH EGYPTIAN WAR

Trebizond, Bohemia, Papacy, Navarre and Verona

vs

Egypt, Syria and Tunisia

March 1266	Prince Anwar ibn Abdul, the <i>bashar</i> of the Egyptian armies on Sicily is wounded by an Italian bravo who attacks him on a Palermo street. The <i>bashar's</i> guards struck the young man down, by he died with martyr's hymn on his lips. Kashif al'Kashif then assumed command of the Fatamid garrison.
April	Syrian fleet under Durhaz Gemayl leaves Beirut, enters the <i>Gulf of Cyprus</i> . A Catholic uprising in Palermo , on Sicily, was brutally suppressed by the "beast" Kashif, who had thousands of citizens rounded up and sold into slavery (far south in Africa) after they attempted to dislodge his army with stones and homemade spears and swords.
May	The wounded Fatamid general Anwar ibn Abdul (convalescing in a villa outside of Palermo) was attacked by a maid, who stabbed the gravely ill <i>bashar</i> sixteen times with a carving knife before being struck down by the guards. Bohemian invasion fleet under Admiral Sumava sorties from Trieste into the <i>Adriatic</i> . Syrian fleet enters the <i>Ionian Sea</i> and begins piracy operations. Fatamid main fleet under Hamrid al'Bashir sweeps out into the <i>Gulf of Cyprus</i> , looking for any and all Christian fleets to kill. Cardinal Pantaleon's Italian corsairs attack the coast of Algeria . Unfortunately the garrison of the Maghreb province was wary and alert and drove off the Italians, setting many of their ships afire on the beaches. The Italian army in Africa, commanded by Duke Severis, having marched out of Lybia crosses through Tripolitania and attacks into Gefara . The invasion is resisted by the Gefaran tribesmen (who had only paid lip service to the Maghreb in the past). Severis' men were hardened to the desert by now, however, and crushed the local tribesmen. They then proceeded to loot everything they could find to loot, and to slaughter the inhabitants of the villages.
June	Sumava's Bohemian invasion fleet – seeking to reach Reggio on the Calabrian coast – sails directly into the Syrian patrolled waters of the <i>Ionian Sea</i> . Blessed with good luck, they slip past the Syrian patrols and reach Reggio, where the Italian general Decimus Naso is waiting with a large army of his own. The northern Bohemian fleet, commanded by Arnim, finishes muster at Amsterdam in Holland and takes on supplies for their journey south. The Fatamid army on Sicily became uneasy, hearing all manner of worrisome rumors. None of the men really liked Kashif al'Kashif, the new commander – and now word came that the fleet would not be arriving with fresh supplies, news from home or to protect them from Christian attacks by sea. The uneasiness soon swelled into open mutiny – which Kashif failed to suppress. Indeed, he was seized by his own men and thrown into a pit – to be dealt with later. In his place, the

	Fatamid army elected Beni al'Sadr their commander. Pantaleon's Italian corsairs raided Kabilya and looted several mosques before withdrawing in the face of the local garrison. Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.
July	Arnim's Bohemians sail down the <i>English Channel</i> . Pantaleon's corsairs attempt to raid the coast of Tunisia , but find it bristling with forts and local coastal defense galleys, which intercept and sink several more of the Cardinal's corsairs. In Africa, the Fatamid main army (having regrouped from its previous defeat) under the command of Muhammad al'Muhammad attacks into Ad'diffah seeking to pin and destroy the Christian Crusaders there. But they have already left. Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara. In Calabria , the Germans and Italian generals consult. The Syrian fleet has now noticed Sumava's ships in harbor at Reggio and has begun a blockade. At the same time, the Fatamid army on Sicily is in disarray. But without a fleet – anyone's fleet! – they cannot attack the island. So, they wait, sweltering in the hot southern Italian sun...
August	Arnim's Bohemians brave the <i>Bay of Biscay</i> . Claudia Drusilla and her Italian halberdiers finally tramp back into Tripolitania , having slogged along the coast from Ad'Diffah for months. The Fatamid army is pursuing them, but still months of hard travel away. Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.
September	Arnim's Bohemians pass through the <i>Sea of Portugal</i> . The Fatamid main army crosses Libya , following the trail of discarded boots, empty pasta containers and lurid tabloid covers left by Drusilla's infantry. Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara. A force of Spanish caravels raids the coast of Idjil , where they find the local garrison on guard for them, and backed up by a ready force of Emirade troops. Though some damage is done, the Spaniards are unwilling to get into a serious fight. They sail off south.
October	Arnim's Bohemians transit the <i>Straits of Gibraltar</i> .
March 1267	Arnim's Bohemians enter <i>Gades</i> . The Spaniard raiders attack Arguin, but fall afoul of the local garrison who surprises them while they are putting ashore (by accident, really) and in the fight on the beach, Captain Guadalcazar is killed. His squadron then flees north.
April	Arnim's Bohemians sail into the <i>Bay of Tunis</i> with a wary eye out for Saracen fleets. Pantaleon's Italian corsairs attempt to slip through the <i>Gulf of Cyprus</i> to raid the coast of golden Mansura itself – but are intercepted by Hamrid al'Bashit's Fatamid main fleet and destroyed in a very lopsided battle. Pantaleon was dragged away in chains to await the mercy of the Caliph. Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.
May	The Bohemian Northern Fleet, under Arnim, raids the coast of Sicily . Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara. Guadalcazar's Spanish raiders return to Andalusia, carrying his body with them (packed in salt) which is then interred in the cathedral at Seville.
June	The Bohemian Northern Fleet, under Arnim, raids the coast of Sicily . They find the island very well defended by a large Fatamid army, which is now rather disgruntled, though led by a very poor general. The Germans manage to loot several villas and then betake themselves back to sea. The Fatamid main army under Muhammad al'Muhammad attacks the Italian defenses of Tripolitania . Claudia Drusilla and her halberdiers had had the winter to rest up and repair the defenses along

	<p>the Eastern Wall. Muhammad al Muhammad has come prepared, however, and far outnumbers the Italians.</p> <p>280,000 Egyptians stormed the Italian defenses, attacking along the entire length of the Eastern Wall in wave after wave of troops. Drusilla's 140,000 veterans answered with a great shout of "Deus Vult!" and rained arrows, burning oil and massive stones onto the Saracens. Unfortunately the frontal assault had been a feint. While the Italians were engaged in repelling the attacks, the Fatamid cameleers had swung far south into the desert and then swept in behind the Europeans.</p> <p>Drusilla was forced to abandon the Wall and fall back in a fighting retreat to Tripoli. There Muhammad besieged her.</p> <p>Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.</p>
July	<p>The Bohemian Northern Fleet, under Arnim, raids the coast of Sicily. Again they withdraw before the Fatamid army can catch them. The Syrian fleet is now patrolling, seeking to intercept them – but fails to do so.</p> <p>Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.</p> <p>Muhammad al Muhammad's Fatamids besiege Tripoli in earnest. Drusilla's army, battered by the loss during the desert campaign, is unable to fend of the Saracen attacks and the city (and fortress) fall after only a few weeks of siege. Drusilla is wounded, and then killed while trying to escape the port on an Italian raider. Muhammad is also killed, struck by a stray arrow during the fighting at the last Italian bastion. Lord Fawad assumes command of the Fatamid army.</p>
August	<p>The Bohemian Northern Fleet, under Arnim, raids the coast of Sicily yet again. And this time the Syrian fleet pounces, finally having caught sight of the wily Germans. Massively outnumbered, the Bohemians fight bravely – but their fleet is destroyed and many ships captured. Arnim himself escaped capture, but was forced to wander alone in Sicily for some weeks, hiding from Fatamid patrols, until taken in by a Catholic farmer and his family. By that time the noble German had been reduced to a pitiful wretch hiding in the bushes.</p> <p>Back at the straits of Messina the Italian and German armies poised to invade Sicily have their chance – the Syrian fleet had withdrawn to chase the Bohemian raiders. They attack, using Sumava's ships to cross the dangerous strait. The Fatamid army under Al Sadr – 94,000 men strong -- is waiting, however...</p> <p>Naso and Govner's armies mass 175,000 veteran knights, men-at-arms and well-drilled levies... still, they must land on a hostile shore and fight their way inland through Moslem fortifications... the initial attack was repulsed with moderate casualties. Naso, fearing he would be trapped between the staunch Moslem defenses and the strait when the Syrian fleet returned broke off the attack. Thanks to the nimble seamanship of Countess Govner and the German fleet the Christians were able to withdraw across the strait in good order.</p> <p>Severis' Italian knights still slaughtering peasants in Gefara.</p> <p>The Fatamid general Fawad begins marching towards Gefara, having learned of a Christian army on the loose in that land.</p>
September	<p>Severis' Italian butchers suddenly find themselves cut in desolated Gefara and an enormous Fatamid army is fast approaching... his only chance (and a slim one at that) is to flee west along the Maghreb highway to the Straits of Gibraltar, where an Italian garrison holds the Rock on the far shore. With all haste the Italians ride west into Tunisia.</p>
October	<p>Fawad's Fatamids reach Gefara – find the land desolate and in ruins with Severis' army fled – and rest.</p>
March 1268	<p>Too cold to fight.</p>
April	<p>Severis' Italians continue west through Kabilia. So far they have not encountered any Maghrebi armies – garrisons yes, which they have avoided, and the Saracens have avoided them.</p>

	<p>In Gefara, Fawad decides to turn back to Egypt. His army is too unwieldy to pursue the small Italian cavalry force. Tripoli is garrisoned, as is Tripolitania and then the long march back east begins.</p>
May	<p>Severis' Italians ride into Algeria with a wary eye out for... the entire Maghreb army! 78,000 Moslems charge out of the olive groves, catching Severis and his knights on flat ground. The Italians did not despair, however, and counter-charged the more lightly-armored Saracen horse. The first day ended in a draw, as the 29,000 Christians fought twice their number to a standstill. The second day, <i>bashar</i> Mahmut took direct charge of his lancers and launched a strong attack on the Italian left – then the Europeans broke, falling back from the field in disarray. Complete disaster was avoided when Severis cut down Mahmut in the thick of the fray (though neither man realized they were crossing blades with the opposing general), and the Maghrebi were forced to regroup and determine who would lead them.</p>
June	<p>Severis' Italians now (much reduced) attempted to circle around the pursuing Maghrebi by taking to the hills – still trying to work their way west. <i>Aaraez</i> Bahis brought them to battle again, however, on the border of Kabilia. The Christian knights (now only the most battle-hardened core remained) retreated into a narrow defile and there made their stand. Three times the Maghrebi lancers stormed down the <i>wadi</i> against the Italians. Three times they fell back, leaving their dead heaped against the Christian line. On the third attack, Prince Zafar was killed and the Moslems fell into disarray.</p> <p>At that moment, Severis and his knights charged, crashing into the disordered Saracens and breaking through their ranks. Leaving confusion in their wake, the Christians escaped into the countryside again.</p>
July	<p>Severis' Italians, now disguised as Arabs, rode west into Algeria. Behind them, the Maghrebi army was forced to spend time regrouping their scattered contingents and rallying the demoralized soldiers. "They are demons!" Wailed the Arguinite horsemen. "Djinn! Efrits! They cannot be defeated!" So it seemed, but Bahis (now secure in his command with the inept Prince Zafar out of the way) was determined to hunt down the wretched infidel dogs and hang every last one of them...</p>
August	<p>Bahis' Maghrebi pursued Severis into Cheliff, but failed to intercept the Italians.</p>
September	<p>Severis and his men managed to slip past the Maghrebi patrols into Zird where they are successful in leaving a false trail south into the high Atlas mountains. Bahis spends precious weeks following the false lead, allowing Severis to reach the mountains on the border with Morocco.</p>
October	<p>Everyone went home for the harvest.</p>
March 1269	<p>Severis' African Legion strikes boldly out of the mountainous border with Zird, dashing across Morocco to reach the ferry at the Gates of Hercules. They ride hard, making one last throw of the dice, hoping to reach Christian Spain and safety... but Bahis has finally caught up to them, and the Maghrebi general knows there is only one way home for the infidels...</p> <p>A desperate battle erupts at Tangiers as the Italians try and fight their way through to the crossing. Severis has taken the measure of his enemy, however, and his knights just charge pell-mell into the midst of the Maghrebi lancers. They do not even attempt to fight, just crash through... the Moslems swirl away, attempting to dart in behind the heavily armored Europeans – but Severis' men are already at the docks³. The ferries had been withdrawn from passage in the strait years before, and now many are seized. Before Bahis can bring his army to bear, Severis and his men had escaped.</p>
April	<p>The African Legion lands in Gibraltar and finds safety at last, having lost more than three-quarters of their number, but having won a hundred victories against the</p>

³ Severis threw a Critical Success on this battle roll. The previous times, he was just thumping the Maghreb on ordinary rolls...

	hated Moslems. Across the straits, Bahis and the Maghrebi are glad to see the devils go ... but at the same time are furious for having failed so many times to defeat them.
May	Nada
June	Nada
July	Nada
August	Nada
September	Nada
October	Nada
March 1270	Admiral Sumava suffers a heart-attack and dies. Princess Joanne assumes direct command of the Bohemian army in Calabria.
April	Nada
May	Nada
June	Nada
July	Nada
August	Nada
September	Nada
October	Nada

WEST AFRICA

THE KINGDOM OF GHANA

Kwazi III, Lord of Kumbi-Saleh

DIPLOMACY Tamarasset Oasis (nt)

Deciding that a land trade route with the Maghreb was preferable to a Sea route, Kwazi ordered 34,000 troops into Mauritania. This was done and the region was pacified. Kwazi himself died in 1268 and was succeeded by his son and namesake.

THE KINGDOM OF TOGO

Tseke, King of Togo and Akan

DIPLOMACY Whydah, in Benin (ea), Kongo (a), Gurma (f)

Yet another port, Baluba, was built, this one in Douala. A road link was built between Yoruba and Oyo and Accra continued to grow, this time to size 5.

THE KINGDOM OF KANEM-BORNU

Ju I, King of Kanem and Bornu

DIPLOMACY None

A new road link was built between Kano and Ikego. Other than this, Ju maintained an ever-suspicious eye on his neighbors.

SOUTH AFRICA

THE KINGDOM OF NYASA

Shaka II, Chief of the Nyasa

DIPLOMACY Luba (f)

Shaka died in mid 1267 and was succeeded without incident. Maniamba, Ibo and Zoma all grew in size (to 3, 5, and 5 respectively).

THE KINGDOM OF ROZWI

Shaka III, King of Rozwi, Lord of Zimbabwe

DIPLOMACY None

A spate of lion attacks troubled the Lords of Zimbabwe; carrying off old Queen Nande brought great peace to Shaka's palace and even the gruesome deaths of lords Umbutu and Munika were only cause for great feasting.

THE KINGDOM OF VAAL

Shaka II, King of Vaal and Mapungubwe

DIPLOMACY Betisimarsaka (nt)

Port Zulu grew to a size 5 port while the capital, Bulawayo grew to size 6.

NORTH AMERICA

CAV COUNT: 50

Pox Reminder:

You CAN repopulate regions at the reduced 10nfp/10gps per level. The reduced rate ONLY applies to repopulating old levels. New levels (for those regions hit by pox before they had reached their full colonization potential have to be colonized at the regular rate. Cities destroyed by the pox must be rebuilt as new cities.

THE TLINGIT PEOPLE

Aak'wtaatseen, Chief of the Tlingit, Lord of the Far North.

DIPLOMACY None

The Tlingit hunted in the arboreal forests, fished in the rich, cold waters and sang the songs of their fathers. Old Ka Seen passed away in his sleep, beneath a blanket of cave-bear fur – and despite his very young age, his son Aak'wtaatseen was acclaimed as the chief of the Northern People.

CALIFORNIA

Obsidian Coyote V, Ruler of California

DIPLOMACY None

A new road link was built between Panamint and Gosiute and a new city, Pekunim, was raised in the former region. Bohogue was settled to a (1/7) and of course, many cities grew in size.

THE ANASAZI NATION

Desert Fox, Chief of the Anasazi, Lord of the Chaco

DIPLOMACY None

Desert Wind died in 1268. All of the king's lieutenants also perished at one point or another during the turn. Despite this, things continued to hum right along with the rebuilding and so on and so forth and etc, etc.

Food was sent to the Natchez in exchange for a comely woman for the new King to marry.

THE MISSISSIPPIAN EMPIRE

Kabailo, the Great Beaver of the Snake

DIPLOMACY None

A quiet turn among the Mississippi, money was invested a various public works and that was about it.

THE NATCHEZ CONFEDERACY

Red Bird, Great Sun of the Natchez

DIPLOMACY None

Things were pretty quiet here as well, although the Miskito Sea was successfully explored and a Census was conducted at home.

MESOAMERICA

CAV COUNT: 100

THE TOLTEC HEGEMONY OF CHICHEN ITZA

Quatayilla II, Grand Hegemon of the Maya

DIPLOMACY None

Desiring to increase his trade revenues, Quatayilla ordered construction to begin on a great canal linking Chichen Itza with the Sea. Various Toltec squadrons crisscrossed the Caribbean bringing material to cultivate various places. Ciboney and Calusa all were put into cultivation and similar projects were also begun in

Arawak and Timuca. On the mainland, the jungles of Ulva were also cleared away. Finally, urbanization continued as well:

SOUTH AMERICA

THE MIGHTY INCAN EMPIRE

Jiqamo, Emperor of the Incas

DIPLOMACY None

It was a good five years for the harvest, but a very bad time to be a leader of the mighty Incan Empire. Both King Ataxalpa and his son Jaqyll, died of a mysterious illness within days of each other. Other leaders soon followed suit: Melixa, of some kind of *chocolatl* overdose, and Qit and Syxalta, of an embarrassing lovers quarrel.

Amid so many noble deaths, the resettlement of Huanco, Moche, Moquequa, Nazca and Wairajikira went almost unnoticed by the common people. All attention was upon the postal runner's flag, as every town, village and city awaited the latest *qipu* carrying news from the capital... was it a conspiracy, a new plague, the wrath of the sun god?

General Zit – one of the few remaining commanders within the Empire – believed conspiracy, and all signs and portents pointed towards *anqui* Jiqamo, the foremost of the royals to survive this latest calamity. Zit dispatched a wing of eagle knights to arrest the prince, but those stalwarts – once they had come upon the noble son of Ataxalpa and beheld his calm certainty – refused to lay hands upon him. Indeed, Jiqamo bestowed presents and excellent words upon them, and won them to his side as friends.

Now Cuzco was suddenly the domain of two armed camps, now at odds with one another... Zit could not abide the thought of Jiqamo (the murderer!) ascending the throne of the Sun King. Street fighting broke out within days, and quickly escalated to full-fledged riot and war between the two parties. Sadly for the loyal Zit, Jiqamo's bright countenance outshone his, and the *anqui's* military prowess was also more than his match.

Zit and his adherents were defeated, and many of their supporters driven into exile. Jiqamo secure the royal precincts, took his brother Jaqyll's daughter Anta-Anella as his wife and assumed the throne. This was not enough to assuage his enemies, however, for the exiled princes found refuge with the clans and principalities of their wives – leading to the secession of Ataura (and Huari), Chimu (and Pusharo), Choco (but not Paykikin), Huanco (but not Cuatico), Moquequa (and Arequipa), Nazca (but not Ica), and Pucara (but not Abancay).

THE KINGDOM OF SHOKLENG

Trunka, King of Shokleng

DIPLOMACY None

No one knew what happened, but we're pretty sure something did.

THE MAPUCHE EMPIRE

Peltuish, Emperor of the Mapuche

DIPLOMACY None

Chono, Huilliche, and Neuquen were re-settled to (1/#) each.