

NEWS AND VIEWS

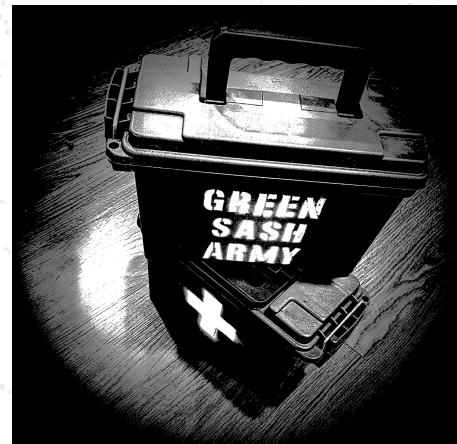
STOLEN SUPPLIES RETRIEVED!

by Esperanza Greenview
Freelance Writer

A few weeks ago, a battle broke out between a branch of the Green Sash Army and the settlement of Convergence. A chest of supplies was apprehended by the Convergence folk. The Green Sash Army makes great steps towards eliminating corruption. As someone new to the Fracture, I was shocked to find myself in the midst of a struggle upon my first few nights here. I stumbled into a situation in progress that I am here to report upon as best as possible. Prior to my arrival, a diplomat, Baron Claudius Von Traum had been tipped off to a small sect of the Green Sash Army that was corrupt and attempting to cover tracks. To my understanding, this corrupt group had non-consensually administered a concoction that would result

in a fatal plague into one Lt. Commander Ann Marie Bastine. After being tipped off, Baron Traum decided to find the evidence to prove this had occurred as he had suspected. This resulted in him leading the settlement of Convergence in seizing chests from suspected Green Sash Army members. The only chest I had the chance to learn about the seizing of was the one that I was directly involved in...but not without a separate scandal tipping me off to the entire debacle first.

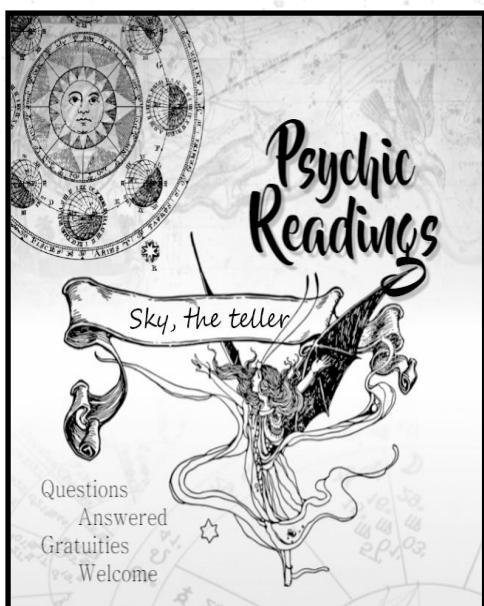
The afternoon of the day the most recent chest was seized, I was sitting in Convergence's tavern, attempting to gain some bearings. I had only arrived in the Fracture the night previous, and I will admit that, inwardly, I was panicking a bit. I ended up speaking with one Ms. Nyssa, whose full name I failed to catch. She informed me that she had discovered a Green Sash soldier, assassinated, in the woods nearby. The body had been posed respectfully, bound by thorns and vines like one laid into a casket. The eyes had been gouged as well. The piece de resistance was that the corpse was holding a black rose in hand, which she then showed me. From what further research provided, it was an assassin calling card. This wasn't just a killing; it was an assassination. On the note of assassinations, a



separate attempt was made on Baron Traum on the same day the Green Sash body was discovered. Baron Traum had been alone behind the tavern when he was struck down.

Luckily, an anonymous witness was able to report to those inside the tavern that he had seen the individual who had done it...and that the guilty one had a Green Sash belt sticking out of his bag as he did the deed. Upon regaining consciousness, Baron Traum confirmed that the person reported on had been the attacker, though did not seem to comment on the alleged green sash in the assailant's bag. That evening, Baron Traum led the people of Convergence in taking the chest from the Green Sash encampment. After many injuries sustained on both sides from what I witnessed, Baron Traum settled into the Tavern and opened the chest with an audience...reporting that he had found the evidence that was needed. After the fact, when I asked him about his thoughts on the whole incident, he told

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HATE GROUP ATTEMPTS TO 'RISE AGAIN'

By I.M. Wright
Staff Writer

Multiple eyewitnesses have claimed that a roaming band of marauders has been attacking small groups and caravans. Witnesses and survivors of the attacks claim the group appears to target non-humans and what the group calls "non-human sympathizers." Though the group rarely identifies itself by name, it seems quite obvious that this is the work of the Circle of Purity, an extremist group that blames non-humans for their problems and vows to rid society of non-humans' parasitic influence.

Members of the Circle have been seen parading down caravan roads proclaiming victory in having brought the demise of the Burning Pit and

all of its inhabitants.

The group was thought to have been driven underground by the Monarchies and the influence of Convergence, but their presence seems to be growing with recruitment and support from other would-be extremists. Friends and family claim they are appalled that their loved ones could follow such a hateful and divisive vision.

Though small in size, this group of traveling racists has left horror and mourning in their wake. Survivors of their attacks recall being made to watch as the non-human members of the group (men, women, and children) were beaten and tortured before being executed. One survivor fought through the tears to describe in detail the feeling of helplessness he felt as his wife

was killed before his eyes, her screams and agonized faces seared in his memory.

We have been warned by extremist expert, Clara Finnegan, that such a group can quickly gain followers, particularly from the uneducated and downtrodden. "The uneducated, suffering masses need someone to blame, a group like the Circle of Purity tells them their circumstances are not their own making, that it is the non-humans that have put them in that situation, and if only they get rid of them, they'll prosper as they are supposed to." We can only hope our readers are able to avoid this group as they sow their path of destruction and that this group of hatemongers will eventually meet justice at the end of a sword.

FOLKSY WISDOM

By Uncle Thibodeaux
Freelance Writer

"People say you can't see the forest for the trees, but how else do you look at forests?"

"You say you don't do combat? Where I'm from, that's just a weird way to say you lost a fight."

"If you're squeamish, don't kick the swamp rubble."

"Booze is the second-worst drug. The worst is sobriety."

"There are more ways to be evil than good. If you think evil is just one thing, it's 'cause you're one of the other evils and you think we don't notice."

"I don't have a girlfriend, but I do know a lady who would get real mad if she heard me say that."

"If all you do is talk about yourself, who are you trying to convince that you're interesting?"



*A placard reads,
"Only one who is Pure of
Heart with the Strength of
Titans may rouse this Blade
from its Slumber."*

IF THE CAP FITS YOU



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DOES CONVERGENCE HARBOR A BABY KILLER?

by Lance Velmut
Lead Writer

While information can be difficult to track, sources say that Convergence may indeed harbor a baby killer. One, Izumi Harikata, is said to be a leader among the faction of the Shogunate members known for killing Bakemono, the Ghost Collector Caste. "His faction kills Bakemono to return their souls to the wheel," says one of his countrymen, but when asked if their souls can return to the wheel within the Fracture, his response was lacking. "Oh, no. Probably not."

Bakemono are fun-loving, innocent creatures that occasionally wreak havoc, but can they truly be held accountable for their actions if they know-not what they do?

"They are simply fighting back against those trying to murder them. Killing them is practically the same thing as killing babies!" cried a member of Convergence in the face those defending the actions of the man leading the cause.

Is Izumi acting with malicious intent? Is there a chance for reform? There are rumors of a being wandering the Fracture

INVICTUS, SWORD IN THE TREE

By JJ Schedel
Staff Writer

An enormous great sword has appeared lodged in a tree near the township, Convergence. Few members of the town seemed to know where this sword came from, but it appears to be a very uncanny object. A placard reads, "Only one who is Pure of Heart with the Strength of Titans may rouse this Blade from its Slumber." After much searching, Convergence member, Karis, came forward and talked of former resident, Beaugez, who was the former wielder of the blade. "Beaugez, a Pagan man who

defended this town from terrible evils and always stood for what is right, has ascended to become a guardian of the heavens. Before departure, he left his greatsword of power and might, Invictus, in an old tree. A plaque appeared under it saying that Invictus can only be freed by one who is titanically strong and pure of heart."

None have tried their strength of arms and purity of heart against the sword thus far, but there may come a day when a new wielder shall come forward.



killing any Bakemono it comes across, proclaiming to do so in Izumi's name.

An eye-witness, Freddie Sue Jim-Bob, describes the being thusly, "It was glowing like someone poured a rainbow on it, carrying a giant can-opener that could open a giant can of beans! It was goin' on 'bout this 'Zumi character, but I runned away when it started swingin'!"

LEAGUE OF FREE TOWNSHIPS: ROSENKRANZ TRIBUNAL

By Sue Deauxnim
Crime Reporter

Things came to a head as a general of the Green Sash Army was accused, tried, convicted of theft and embezzlement of Green Sash supplies. Convergence members, Claudio von Traum and 2nd Lt. Ann Marie Bastine, were crucial to bringing evidence before the LFT.

Von Traum attended the military tribunal and brought forward four recovered caches as evidence that were recently recovered with assistance from Convergence.

The catches were presented to Gen. Milo McCormick which were brought forward as evidence to condemn Gen. Klara Rosencrantz's actions. Lt. Bastine arrived as an undercover agent with the accused Gen. Rosencrantz as her right hand and bodyguard. She kept her role hidden until the end of the week. After many testimonials and evidence, Lt. Bastine testified to her whereabouts for the past several weeks. She presented detailed logs and descriptions of Gen. Rosencrantz, her cronies, and their activities.

The Lt. provided maps, names, dates, and locations of each one of the four caches, having witnessed their placement for unlawful exchange. Gen. Rosencrantz was in pure shock. The General had believed the Lieutenant was completely loyal and became crazed when confronted with the truth of this apparent betrayal. She attempted a physical coup, but the forward-thinking Gen. McCormick had clearly expected this, and the uprising was put down swiftly.

LIGHTS IN THE SKY: FRIEND OR FOE?

by Richie Lowtax
Staff Writer

Strange lights appeared in the sky and there has been much speculation, but few hard facts. When the AERF was questioned about the possibility of some rite or ritual taking place, Prefect Norman said this: "Yeah it wasn't a ritual going on because we would have known about it."

Is it a representative of a new world descended to the Fracture? Is it friend or foe? No one knows as yet, but this reporter is sure that we will find out.

Further information on this strange event can be submitted to the News and Views for review.

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STOLEN SUPPLIES RETRIEVED (CONT.)

me quite magnanimously, "This would not have been possible were it not for the indomitable will of leaders like General McCormick and the reliable informants of the LFT." He also made sure to make clear that this corruption is from a small sect within the Green Sash Army. The Green Sashes as a whole are aware of the problem, and are working to handle it promptly and definitively as best as they can.

For now, we all will have to wait and see what other consequences these actions may have. Will the assassins with the black rose calling card be discovered? Will the corrupt member who made an attempt on Baron Traum's life be apprehended? What lies in store for all of us here in the Fracture? Only time will tell, and may said time treat you well.

Puzzle of the Season

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S	V	Q	Z	S	R	G	W	P	A	C	U
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