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# GADEN GAZETTE

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Premier Issue

April 1509

## The Slaying of the Mist Beast

*Roskarians breath easier*

**William Fallow**

*Scribe and servant of the king.*

It is hard to imagine that anyone has not heard of the great mist beast that until so recently has terrorized the near-by country and ally of Roskaria. Describe as a giant beast made entirely of mist, this lion shaped creature stalked the lands of Roskaria for the past few months, since late July of 1508. For months the citizens of complained of the strange noises, the new glow along the wall of the mists, until the noble Lightfoot family stepped forward to ensure peace was restored.

### One Man would Lead them

His name is Gerran Stormrage, or Sergeant Gerran to those who know him. A stern but disciplined man just by meeting the Sergeant I was sure the Lightfoots had picked the right man for the job. His no-nonsense approaches to hunting this creature was hard on his men, but ultimately lead to their success.

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## AT A GLANCE!

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- 5 Lightfoots defend the Gaden support initiative
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## Local Happenings In Gaden

*New Cheeses and brave soldiers*

**Billy Fallow**

*Apprentice Scribe*

### New Cheese blends meat and fruit!

If you've had a snack in the past month, you've probably already tried this new confection sweeping the country. Cured meat is rolled up into the cheese wheels, often spruced up with cut outs added to hold all sorts of tasty fruits and even occasionally nuts. The inventor of this snack is unknown as world spread many merchants started producing their own versions.

### Soldier Rezzes for the 11<sup>th</sup> time!

*Refuses preferential reposting*

When private Keith Myhre feel in battle late last week, few expected to see his body reform within the nearest earth circle. Having fallen in battle ten times before, few men would have the strength of spirit to return to the land of the living once again. As is tradition in cases such as these, private Myhre was offered his choice of safer assignments, but refused, as he has done in the past, quoting his previous refusals to abandon the other men in his unit.

### Prince Talon Visits outlying posts.

Crown Prince Talon has been seen recently visiting a variety of outlying posts, while its by no means a rare sight to see Talon on the border, some have found it odd that he seems to be touring all the outlying sites in a very deliberate manner. This has added fuel to the speculations that the Gaden military might be pulling out of some outlying areas to reduce ongoing losses and costs.

Asked about the battle with the mist beast Gerran obviously held it in contempt, 'Despite its size and strength the beast was cowardly and failed to harm a single one of my men, despite numerous opportunities to do so, instead taking to flight at the earliest opportunity. Still it is good to be certain that this ghastly creature will no longer be threatening our good citizens, nor my employer's lands.'

### **The Stormrage name.**

Not loved by history the Stormrage name has long been seen as a curse, Gerran however has taken his unfortunate name and is working hard to once again restore its honor. When asked about it he had only this to say 'You can let something like a name, or a title hold you back in life, sure I could have let it hold me back and been satisfied to live in obscurity but I have a greater duty to the citizens of Roskaria, and a desire to help my country that is too great to allow myself to be held back by a name'

### **Not Everyone is Pleased**

As with any great achievement, this one has its naysayers and critics. Some believe that the mist beast meant no harm, and point to the fact that despite its fearsome and powerful nature no one has been found to have suffered serious harm from encountering the beast. Indeed this scribe has heard stories of children who were allowed to approach the beast quite closely without it taking any negative action. Others suggest that the beast played some greater role in the natural lands, perhaps even hunting other creatures that stalk the night.

There is one small group of people who have taken this to extreme levels, going so far as to call the noble Sergeant a criminal and warn of dire reprisals due the lands for slaying the beast. Happily such ignorant people are few and far between and generally given little if any head by responsible folks.

One thing is for certain, what ever the mist beast was, and what ever it was doing with its time, it had no place within the ordered and peaceful lands of Roskaria, and even those parents who think perhaps the beast served some good purpose can now breath a little easier and watch their children play with a little less concern, and that by itself is a great reason to applaud this achievement and give the Sergeant his due.

We'll follow up with this story in future articles, learning perhaps why some people fear this creatures passing, and why the Lightfoots decided to take action.

## **A brief History between Roskaria and Gaden**

Roskaria and Gaden have not always had such good relationships. Long time neighbors the two great nations ignored each other for a long time, neither fearing the other due to the great pass being the only access for either group to invade the other. This long time acknowledgement and respect finally turned into something more solid in the year of 1467, only a mere 42 years ago. The great flooding that year threatened Gaden's citizens with disease and starvation. Roskaria responded to Gaden's need by sending a flood of food and supplies across the pass. In a short five years an official agreement is reached in which Gaden agreed to protect Roskaria from all harm in return for food and supplies.

### **The Effect of the Corrupt**

The constant and slowly growing pressure has increased Gaden's need for supplies, both military and civilian. Roskaria for her part has been willing and able to slowly increase the deliver supplies, but many wonder just how far this resource can be stretched without breaking. Recent rumors suggest that military planners are looking into options from restricting the front lines to reduce losses and overall exposure. These rumors are of course dismissed, but if such a change were to be coming it would be unwise to create panic by allowing so many of the border outposts to be concerned about having their protection removed.

### **An Ally Lost**

At times like these many think back fondly to the time when Gaden had an ally to stand staunchly beside it. The lost nation of Pratorak offered much in muscle and mystic power. The orcs and stone elves, while disturbing in their mannerisms to some, were undoubtedly a great asset in battle. Since the fall of Kalmoke's Anvil the nation has been virtually unheard from, the only known path to them crossing through the corrupt infested Valley of Solace.

Little is known of the fate of Pratorak, although most military advisors and scholars agree it is unlikely the country has succumbed in the short time they've been cut off from Gaden. Whatever their fate might be it is unlikely be found out in the near future with the defensive lines moving back from the corrupt.

Despite all of these set backs the Gaden military is still the pride of our land, full of brave men and women who man the front lines and keep the corrupt at bay, and this scribe believes a time will come when the corrupt are no more.