

APOGEE UNDER ATTACK!

WHAT IS KNOWN

Council Report

By VALENCIA GALVAN

Two days ago, during the yearly Fish Festival, Apogee and surrounding areas witnessed an assault of a magnitude unseen in many lifetimes. An army was brought under the thrall of a long-exiled mage and walked up the Gressia River. The assault was to seek revenge on Apogee for being punished for his past crimes, as per his mystical conjuration over the city.

The Apogee Council has confirmed a number of details:

- The warlord was Chilmorn the Necromancer, exiled from Apogee and executed 200 years ago.
- The army consisted of the living dead, mostly sailors and other lost seafarers.
- Chilmorn assaulted the Apogee Council directly.
- The threat posed by Chilmorn has been eliminated.

Chilmorn's army movements have been blamed for the recent limited fish stocks.

Representatives from Norðurhross, the Everglades and the Jade Sea empire have offered their condolences and aid.

Public notice

Citizens are warned not to touch any corpses from the attack, seafarer or otherwise.

CASUALTIES

Horrendous fatalities have been reported across the Protectorate: Apogee, Penumbra, and Nadir. The devastation extends even to the farms of Kithmeril.

Records Office's estimates of deaths (vs injuries):

- **Apogee:** 600 (2,500)
- **Nadir:** 900 (9,000)
- **Kithmeril:** 10 (35)

The Keepers of Manuscripts will compile more accurate figures over the coming weeks.

Apogee Council attack thwarted

Members safe
By SINIA WONG

Ground zero for Chilmorn's assault on the city was the jewel of the city, Apogee Tower. The council had been

in a meeting when it was rumoured that the necromancer himself materialized in the chambers. His attack was sudden and vicious, but was quickly contained and dispatched, officials say.

Philo Summerquartz spoke for the Council: *"It is no hubris that the Apogee Council has a great deal of martial and magic power. Some, like Lord Haldan, are war veterans who have fought Chilmorn's ilk, or worse. The Council did not need any help dispatching this old, forgotten foe."*

"We are glad to report that the Council suffered few injuries. Dominic Salfor sustained a nasty blow, but his guild members are already supplying expertise and product to bring their guildmaster back on deck as soon as possible."

Lord Haldan himself warned that anyone memorializing the necromancer or taking advantage of the attack will be met with the greatest of force.

Etan Lightspar offered condolences on behalf of the Council. *"The Council were lucky to have survived the attack, although in these days of rebuilding our fair city, we may need to share that luck around to those not as fortunate the first time around."* It is rumoured that Lightspar has donated a significant amount for a community fund for Apogee and Nadir, and has encouraged other Apogee high families to contribute.

The Council recommended all citizens return to a normal life as soon as possible, to preserve Apogee's prosperity.

Fraternity bridge massacre

Festival-goers caught in crossfire
By VALENCIA GALVAN

Expectant travellers to the Fish Festival were caught on the Bridge of Fraternity during Chilmorn's assault. A threat of violence had been made against the festival earlier in the day, so authorities had maintained a security checkpoint Apogee-side. The backlog of festival-goers had packed the bridge which came under a blitz attack from undead shock troops.

While many were evacuated, the sudden violence caught many in the crossfire. "It was carnage," said senior officer, Hustler Kane. "People were torn to pieces by those monsters. We did our best, but unfortunately our protective resources were elsewhere."

Festival destroyed

A further casualty to the attack was the Apogee yearly Fish Festival. Fisheries master Salvator Genya reported total losses for the festival. "We've had a tough time... Low fish stocks... Pirate raids... Now this..." Sources say this has hit the usually-optimistic Genya quite hard.

The festival location was destroyed by fleeing or rallying citizens, and undead invaders. Thousands of gold pieces worth of prepared fish was discarded in fear of contamination.

There are no plans to have another festival this Spring.

Public notice

Please report all missing,
injured or deceased citizens.

Heroic boat rescue

Lieutenant Kujawa's *Apogee Elite Guard* staged a heroic rescue during

the attack. Students and faculty from Goldmoss University were caught on a river cruise when the undead assaulted Apogee.

Many citizens were spared from almost certain death by the team's heroism, although the boat was severely damaged. Owners of the boat, The Magouilles family, have not made plans for the venerable leisure craft.

Eyewitness Bilba Numminous of the University student council said that the Apogee Elite Guard rowed themselves out to the ship when they saw it was under attack, only moments after rescuing numerous students at the docks. If The Long Walk celebrations go ahead next year, Numminous is planning to incorporate the heroic battle in the festivities.

Lord Haldan, commander of the *Apogee Elite Guard*, declined to mention if these heroics will be added to their upcoming awards citation.

Menagerie runs amok!

Tourists and scientists the world over travel to Apogee to visit the famous menagerie of rare and exotic creatures. Visits may be curtailed for the near future as many exhibits were injured, killed or missing after the assault on Apogee.

Head keeper Stevros wept: "So many great lil fellas... and big ones... It breaks ya heart to see it. And all the townsfolk, too."

Citizens were applauded for their attempts to help guide animals back to the zoo. "Fantastic heart to this city! They brought back all sorts of animals fleeing from the devastation," reported Stevros. "Not so sure about the guard though... They've been help but also chopped up our prime dinosaur exhibit."

The menagerie decline to provide precise numbers of dead or missing animals, at this point.

History: Who is Chilmorn?

200 years ago, Chilmorn was found performing horrific experiments

on corpses. After a short trial, he was exiled many leagues east to pay for his heinous crimes against society. Unfortunately technicalities in sentencing drove Chilmorn the Necromancer deep into the ocean, and was presumed to have drowned.

Necromancy continues to be outlawed in Apogee and all fair societies. If you see any suggestion of a neighbour practicing necromancy, please report it to the University and Apogee guard.

Criminals escape

Several criminals have been reported killed or escaped during the assault. A recent swell in criminal prosecutions has placed high demand on Apogee's prison system. A number of prisoners were undergoing transport to other regional jails or work camps when Chilmorn's army attacked.

Among the dead or missing criminals: Luo Fang, Lei Zheng, Yalmar An Crait, Severino Olmo, Azzurra Pasquale, and Captain Amarant and a number of his crew. The Apogee guard have confirmed the death of at least three of Amarant's crew, but added that the prisoners died attempting to save others.

Citizens are encouraged to report any sightings of these criminals.

Quick-witted carers protect orphans

Rumours from Nadir suggest that carers of the destroyed Dawnbreak Orphanage protected their children from the undead onslaught with a clever array of fire walls and heavy furniture. No casualties were reported, despite the makeshift orphanage being at the center of the massacre in Nadir.

"I'm not taking credit myself," said head carer, Litzan Freol, "But my staff went above and beyond. When we heard trouble was coming, it seemed like time slowed down and everyone just sprang into action. Before I knew it, the carers had set up protective fire walls and we waited out the invasion."

"I'm just glad the children were protected."