

Connecting Jackpoint VPN ...
... Matrix Access ID Spoofed.
... Encryption Keys Generated.
... Connected to Onion Routers.
> Login

> Enter Passcode

... Biometric Scan Confirmed.
Connected to <ERROR: NODE UNKNOWN>
"Today's discovery is tomorrow's old news."

JackPoint Stats

14 users currently active in the network

Latest News
There's a lot going on around the world today. You need to pay attention to survive and profit. -FastJack

Personal Alerts
*Knight Errant has tagged your current SIN and travel authorization as falsified and issued an arrest warrant for you.
*Your flight to Seattle is scheduled to depart in two hours, five minutes.
*You have 7 new responses to your JackPoint posts.
*Your latest purchase from Hello Puma Kids has been delivered to your Hong Kong address.

First Degree
No Members are online and in your area.

Your Current Rep Score:
924 (28% Positive)

Current Time: 14 Dec 2073, 1756 hrs

PREFERENCES

FEEDS

TASKS

LINKS

HISTORY

Welcome back to JackPoint, chummer; your last connection was severed: 4 days, 5 hours, 43 minutes ago



Today's Heads Up

* Here's a data dump that could come in handy for all of you. The bleeding edge is always moving forward and you need to know where that edge is unless you want to bleed the other way. -FastJack

Incoming

- * There are times you need someplace to lay low for a while. Here's how and where you find them [Tag: [Safehouses](#)]
- * Want to learn about the wiz gear all those European veterans are claiming is better than today's bleeding edge? [Tag: [Euro War Antiques](#)]
- * Stories from the decadent cites of Asia don't always involve drunk tourists and sex parlors in dark alleys. [Tag: [99 Bottles](#)]

Top News Items

- * Tensions increase as private security forces detain a troll family for taking more than their allotted space during a family picnic. [Link](#)
- * Newspaper editor fired after anti-Brackhaven article is published. The official announcement was "failure to exercise proper judgment." [Link](#)
- * The cargo submarine Underdog is declared late by Seattle Port Authority. Location and rescue operations have been unsuccessful thus far. [Link](#)
- * Terrorist attack compromises the customer data of all Stuffer Shack customers in Seattle. Authorities promise an investigation. [Link](#)
- * Troll rights group slays the human kind of troll parents. [Link](#)

Today's Message

The state of the world changes constantly, with today's paydata becoming yesterday's news. I've consolidated a number of recent posts, data grabs and articles to help you keep apprised of what is going on today. While not all of you will be interested on every post, there should be enough variety that everyone can find something of interest.

We start with Dr. Spin's transcript of Hestaby's speech to the United Nations and an analysis of its importance. When a great dragon speaks, everyone should listen, if only to figure out where to hide. After that, we see that Glitch has hit Ares' sales database again and managed to lift December's Security catalog update (even arms dealers appear to want something new for the holidays). We then get a dossier on one of the cops we need to keep an eye on. Col. Roth is no joke, and she's intent on making our lives more difficult in the long run. I downloaded the Aetherpedia entry for Thailand, so we can all expand our knowledge about the world. Then, while we're thinking about traveling, Clockwork and Turbo Bunny provide the low down on a number of vehicles that you might or might not see every day. The collection ends with a selection of plants from Chicago and the surrounding environs; just like animals, the plants are changing too. And getting meaner -FastJack

CHAT

MESSAGES

FILES

POSTS

NEXUS

SEARCH

Active
ComStar Firewall

Active
Jack-in-the-Box Antivirus

Active
SpamWitch Filter

On/Receiving
Commcode

Excellent
Signal

Active
Hidden Mode

Local Map

SOTA 2073

Invited Guests
None

Posts/Files tagged with "State of the Art 2073":
* Hestaby Addresses the U.N.
* Ares Supplemental
* Character Corner
* Aetherpedia: Thailand
[More]

CONTINUE

ADVANCED SEARCH

SAVE

HESTABY ADDRESSES THE U.N.

POSTED BY: DR. SPIN

This trideo recording of Hestaby's United Nations speech, which took place only a few minutes ago in Geneva, contains news that many of you will be (or should be) interested in, particularly if you or your teammates ever do the unthinkable and actually make deals with dragons or agree to work for them. If you are into that line of work, you may want to keep this speech of Hestaby's in mind, and remember that when dealing with your scaly Mr. (or Ms.) Johnson, your employer's opinions of you and your team may just have taken a significant turn for the worse since you last worked for them. The worst part of it is that it may not even be your fault or performance; rather, it could be the result of dragon politics. From the tone of this speech, things could have deteriorated within the dragon ranks to the point where after your job is done, your employer may be sorely tempted to lose interest in your well being and could easily turn on you.

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, GENEVA, JULY 23, 2073. TRIDEO RECORDING OF DISTINGUISHED DIGNITARY FROM TÍR TAIRNGIRE, HESTABY.

(At 1630 hours, member nations of the United Nations begin to assemble for Hestaby's address to the United Nations. At 1655 Hours, Hestaby enters the chamber in her female, metahuman form and is seated next to the Tir Tairngire Ambassador to the UN as a recognized Prince from the Tir government. At 1656 hours, ambassadors and dignitaries from the Allied German States remove themselves from the United Nations chamber, followed by the visiting Saeder-Krupp representative. At 1658 hours, Hestaby is introduced to the General Assembly by the Secretary General and greeted by a round of polite applause. Hestaby approaches the dais in metahuman form. Her speech begins at 1700 hours).

Honored representatives and dignitaries from around the world, both from the member nations of this body as well as dignitaries from the corporations that make up the esteemed Corporate Court; I come here today not as a Tír Tairngire Prince, but rather as an envoy of my kind, seeking to address an alarming trend that threatens the long-term stability in relations between dragon kind and metahumans on a global scale. This particular matter has become so troublesome in recent months that it threatens to completely unravel the hard work that I and others before me have accomplished to improve understanding, to overcome prejudices and preconceptions that were once deeply held by both sides, and work that was meant to promote a mutually beneficial and enduring relationship between our two races in this new and wondrous age. If this matter is not addressed promptly and decisively by this institution, we risk being led down the path of extremism to a destination where

from which neither of us can easily come back; a destination where steel once again meets scale, and the world is once again consumed by bloodshed the likes of which we have not seen since another age. It is an age that I have experienced first-hand before, and one that I do not wish to see repeated in this enlightened era. This is an era that has the potential for great beauty and profound wisdom, as well as the potential for unspeakable horrors. Ladies and gentlemen of the United Nations, we must act now to prevent what I most fear from coming to pass; a wide-scale conflict between your kind and my own, that will forever alter the course of world events.

Many in your respective delegations may even now be desperately searching for convincing talking points and sound bites that can help you explain to your citizens why your nations do not need to heed my warnings. These closed-minded individuals do not see the threat as clearly as I do, but they also do not possess the same sources of information that I have. In their ignorance, they may wish to convince your citizens that there is no such threat to the global community, putting your kind in grave danger. Or these naysayers may wish to simply believe that I am over-stating the actual threat for some personal gain or other self-interest in some sort of "draconic chess game," leading them to downplay the seriousness of this threat rather than addressing it directly. You may also encounter those who choose to naively believe that this current situation will "simply blow over, given time." Time, in this instance, may be your greatest enemy. While your kind thinks in terms of days, months, or years, my kind thinks in terms that can span several of your generations. Do you really want to wait in your inaction to see a world where my kind has decades to prepare for a surgical retaliation for crimes committed against our blood in the present day? Especially when steps can be taken now to dampen that searing rage and prevent events from unfolding in the same manner as they did so long ago, when there were uprisings, wars and massive bloodshed on both sides? Would you prefer to wait for and be forced to live in an era where my kind knows nothing but the rage and contempt that they once held for all of metahumanity, and to once again live under their animosity, as slaves instead of trusted partners?

There is significant precedent in the history of this international body for not taking immediate action, and for avoiding controversial matters. I am here to tell you today that you do not have the luxury of waiting. This body must act decisively, now, in the present day, to make certain that mistakes of the past do not come back to revisit this world and leave lasting ramifications for future generations of people of all metatypes. We, ladies and gentlemen of this revered institution, must work together to prevent tragedy from revisiting this world as it has so many times before.

I hope you will believe me when I say that in addressing this body on this particular matter, I am breaking with traditions and customs of my race that have stood for several millennia, and that under different circumstances, I would not even dare contemplate breaking with these very solemn customs. I only do so because the unseen threat of which I speak warrants it. As far as any personal gain that I may stand to gain from this speech, you can be assured that the words I utter here today will curry no favor among many of my own kind, and that this speech will all but guarantee that they will take great pains to see that I lose much for my perceived betrayal. Despite the serious ramifications that may befall me, I am saying these things to you today to impress upon you the urgency of this matter, and to urge you to take action.

As many of you have come to anticipate, I have come here to address SIRRURG's recent activities in Aztlan. This international body has established laws that deem what SIRRURG has done in Cali and elsewhere in Aztlan as egregious crimes against metahumanity and demand that SIRRURG be judged and held accountable for those crimes by this body's War Crimes Tribunal. It has also become public knowledge that this venerable, international institution has been deadlocked over the last several months over the question of how best to resolve this volatile situation, as well as deadlocked over the logistics of how to bring SIRRURG, a great dragon, to justice. These facts are not in dispute. But to be able to pass judgment on SIRRURG that can be considered impartial and bearing a dragon's wisdom, you must first fully comprehend where a vast amount of SIRRURG's rage is originating. It does not all come from a past age; it does not all come from past crimes that metahumans, your ancestors, have inflicted upon our kind throughout the ages. It does not all come from the abuses your kind have inflicted on the ecosystem, which in some cases have been extreme and long lasting in their consequences. Rather, SIRRURG's abundant fury is fueled now in this present day in great part by an event of recent memory; the execution of one of our own in 2064; the dragon that was known in your metahuman tongue as Dzitbalché.

(1707 hours—The Aztlan Ambassador to the UN and the visiting Aztechnology representative immediately rise and walk out of the assembly hall).

For those in this international body who have already forgotten that incident, let me offer you an accounting of what transpired in the nation of Aztlan on June 5, 2064. An incident that, even nine years later, remains fresh in our memories. The Aztlan government, the corporation known as Aztechnology, and a member of my kind, Pobre, were set to sign an important peace agreement meant to end the violence that had plagued the Yucatan region for well over a decade. At the signing

ceremony a bomb detonated, a bomb that would take the life of the CEO of Aztechnology. An investigation, supported by one of my kind, led back to the workings of the feathered serpent, Dzitbalché. As a result of the investigation, this proud and eloquent feathered serpent would later be executed for the crimes he was accused in an undignified quest for vengeance at the hands of one of your member nations. I do not exaggerate when I say every one of my kind, myself included, was outraged by that bloodletting ceremony. Our numbers are far too thin for our liking, and the loss of even one of our own is considered a tragedy of such magnitude that your kind cannot even begin to fathom.

This travesty was publicly broadcast throughout the nation of Aztlan, and then rebroadcast throughout the world, turning what was nominally an act of justice into a sideshow spectacle displayed in an effort to gain profit. To compound an already egregious outrage against our dragon blood, members of the Aztlan nation had the remains of Dzitbalché dissected and analyzed, treating him as if he was nothing more than a subject for medical experimentation. This detestable medical experiment, or autopsy, if that word is more palpable to your metahuman sensibilities, was recorded for alleged research purposes and has since found its way onto the Matrix. It remains readily available to anyone who would search for it.

Rest assured, honored members of the United Nations and members of the Corporate Court who are present here today, that those acts of depravity have not gone unnoticed by my kind. To put these troubling acts into perspective for this international body, the broadcast of the butchery of Dzitbalché's remains was tantamount to you watching your closest blood or marital relations being dissected on the world stage by all too eager of Aztlan scientists. To further agitate this perilous situation, the remains of Dzitbalché continue to be held in the custody of those who had originally defiled him and his memory. The Aztlan government refuses to enter into good-faith negotiations with either myself or with the Draco Foundation for the return of those remains for proper interment. It is because of acts like these, as well as many other insensitive acts toward the Earth's ecosystem, that SIRRURG is acting out, allowing this war to be his release for the savagery that encompasses much more than what this institution considers to be "valid and justifiable military targets." He lashes out in order to reach an end goal that only he knows.

Many have cast SIRRURG's actions in the context of the ongoing Aztlan-Amazonia war, which pushes us to ask the following questions: If this war should end, will it also bring an end to SIRRURG's reign of violence? And will the violence remain limited to only Aztlan? From the length of time I have known him and the experience I have gained from interacting with him, I am

saddened to say that I have no reason to believe that an end to this war will bring an end to his violence. Sirurg has reached a point in his reasoning where only one of two things can happen; he can either fully achieve his agenda, which will mean that further violence is no longer necessary, or he has to be physically stopped by an outside force. At the moment, Sirurg's attention is focused solely on Aztlan. But should this war end, there is no telling where his attention will turn next, or how far he will go to continue his crusade. It is very likely he will seek the entire eradication of the Aztlan nation, innocent citizens and guilty political figures alike. I very much doubt, in the state that he is in now, that even the thought of encroaching on another dragon's territory will be enough to halt Sirurg's reign of violence. It would seem that this war is an opportunity that Sirurg has been anticipating for a very long time to get the retribution he seeks against those who are guilty of crimes against dragon blood and crimes against the environment.

I also know enough about Sirurg's character to know that he will never willingly agree to be held accountable to the laws and standards that this international community has established for the world. For it was Aztlan's actions back in 2064 that set a dangerous precedent for my kind. What they did in 2064 reaffirmed amongst my brethren what they have felt for millennia; that dragonkind as a whole cannot trust in and must refuse to be held accountable to metahuman laws and limited concepts of justice, for those laws and the corrupt application of those laws would seem to lead to our extinction. And for many dragons in the world today, there is still yet another prevalent thought in our culture that tells us that metahumans must be punished in their proper places from time to time, in order to remind you of your subservient natures.

I am saddened to say that these archaic notions are beginning to be promoted by certain dragons and are reasserting themselves in secret amongst my kind during this tumultuous time. These sentiments, I believe, are what have driven my friend Ghostwalker to perform a highly dangerous ritual inside the highly populated city of Washington DeeCee only a few days ago; a ritual that is believed to have contributed to the deaths of over six hundred UCAS citizens, injured nearly two thousand more metahuman citizens, and resulted in nearly three hundred and fifty people being reported as still missing, believed to have been pulled into the Rift before it finally was closed. These archaic sentiments that are taking root amongst my dragon brethren have poisoned my friend's views on metahumanity, and on his views of the value metahumans possess for dragonkind. It is this loss of value for metahumanity that drove Ghostwalker to ignore the perils of his ritual to service his own cause. For the loss of life in the UCAS capital, I tell the people of the UCAS government, I am deeply sorry. You have my sympathies and I

have made my personal resources available to you for rescue and clean-up operations. I also pledge three million nuyen worth of aid to the UCAS government, if they so desire.

But even as I speak, others of my kind are being poisoned in their perceptions of metahumans as they react to Sirurg's crimes, and this is rapidly eroding away any other notions they may have had of cooperation, equality, and mutual respect, ideas that both sides have been striving so hard to build together over the past few decades. If nothing is done soon, Sirurg will not be looked upon by my dragon brethren as a dangerous outcast; rather, he will be looked upon as a champion for dragon causes, dragon virtues, and dragon superiority. He will become a hero to my kind. We cannot allow this ideology to take hold.

We now must face the actions that are taking place on the other end of the spectrum and see how metahumanity is responding to Sirurg's violence. There have been reports in recent months of dragon eggs having been stolen from their secured locations around the world. Many of these eggs are later found to have been maliciously shattered, which threatens our population. Additionally, drakes, especially those that are known to be aligned with great dragons, are being hunted down by various hate-filled metahuman groups. Following these drakes' deaths, which are usually carried out in the most heinous and gruesome of fashions, vile messages are left at those locations, written in the drakes' own blood; messages referring to the attacks of Sirurg, and describing how these murders are retaliation for his acts. The last incident in this string of hate crimes occurred last Thursday, in Neo-Tokyo, where the bodies of two drakes belonging to Ryumyo were found mutilated. These innocent drakes had nothing to do with Sirurg or his activities in South America, and yet these groups felt it necessary to punish them for those crimes. Even by your standards, this is not justice.

These cruel actions from metahumans as well as callous disregard for metahuman life from my kind will only ensure an escalation in the hostilities, and ensure that Sirurg will be but the first of my kind to unleash their pent-up rage against metahumanity. I have talked with other members of my kind in recent months and have found growing sympathy and support for Sirurg, his cause, and the desire to see retribution carried out for all atrocities committed against dragon blood throughout our history. These, on top of the crimes that metahumanity have already committed against us millennia ago and that our kind have yet to forgive. Again, I plead with you now that we need to act now, united, to preserve what both sides have worked so hard to achieve in the present before elements on both sides erases our progress and force us to return to the old ways.

Many of you witnessed what Ghostwalker did to the city of Denver during the Year of the Comet and have witnessed what Sirurg and his followers are capable of doing in Aztlan. Now,



imagine the widespread destruction and chaos that would be inflicted on the world should a majority of my kind choose to follow Sirurg's example and spread this violence to the ends of the earth. This must not happen. We must act now to address this perilous situation that many of my brethren still refuse to address openly, whether because they see public discourse as a sign of weakness or because they currently desire no peaceful remedy for their fury. Even helping to change the mindset of a few dragons by what this institution does in the near future can make a significant difference in the outcome of this crisis. But make no mistake about this: this crisis will not diffuse itself; and this problem will only get worse over time if left unaddressed.

In order to have a chance of avoiding catastrophe, there must be good faith efforts on both sides to resolve this crisis. For my part, I have chosen to add my voice and support to the international community's condemnation of what Sirurg is doing in Aztlan. He is of the opinion that each and every metahuman who supports Aztlan is a valid target of his wrath. The last time I spoke with Sirurg, when I pleaded with him to stop his irrational and indiscriminatory rampages for the sake of repairing relations between our two species, this is what he had to say. "There is no innocence left in Aztlan for me to stay my talons. The citizens of this nation live their lives aware of the crimes and atrocities that Aztlan commits against us and against nature on a daily basis, and yet they choose to be complacent with their government's crimes. Or they choose to live in ignorance without bothering to learn the truth about their cruel and evil government. In either case, they are making an active choice to not exercise their power to overthrow the regime that controls them and commits crimes in their names. Their complacency makes them all guilty and just as deserving of my wrath as those that are actively fighting this war against Amazonia. It is a time of reckoning for the people of Aztlan, and I hope that the rest of the people of the world take notice. I will make Aztlan an example. If the rest of the metahuman world learns from what will be left of Aztlan and begins to make reparations for the crimes that they are guilty of, then and only then, can there be peace."

It should be clear to those gathered here that I do not share the same views as my dear friend. I believe the way he is going about accomplishing his goals is inappropriate and misguided. I believe that there must be restraint when it comes to the battles our kind wages in this modern day. There must always be a distinction between true enemy forces that are advancing a particular agenda and innocent civilian populations who are only looking to survive in this dangerous world. The willful and indiscriminatory killings of metahumans, especially on a massive scale such as that of the city of Cali, is a practice that must end. It is a concept that is outmoded at best; and in an era of smart bombs and non-lethal weapons, the genocide of a people based

solely on their government's crimes is best left to a previous, uncivilized age. For dragonkind to flourish in this new era, we must work in unison with our metahuman compatriots for the betterment of all.

Many here will say, "It is admirable that you are adding your voice to the United Nation's desire to indict one of your own on war crimes. But pragmatically, it does nothing to provide a real solution the problem." In addition to adding my voice of support to the United Nations to its efforts to bringing SIRRURG to justice, I am offering what resources I have to aid in this effort. To that end, in an effort to quash this irrational violence, I am providing to you what my sources have confirmed to me will be the next target of SIRRURG's terrorism in Aztlan: Teotihuacan. Given its proximity to the Aztlan capital and given its magical potency, my sources strongly believe that this will be an attack on the same scale as that of Cali. This attack, if unaltered by these new circumstances, is set to take place in a few more weeks' time. I am hoping that with this advanced warning, SIRRURG will be discouraged from attacking Teotihuacan, a decision that will preserve the lives of thousands of innocent metahumans. I hope my action will convince many of you that not all dragons desires to see the entire eradication of your civilizations.

This information that I have provided does not come without a price. As I have made good-faith efforts here today to stop SIRRURG and his terrorist acts, it will be necessary for this body to make similar gestures toward my kind. First, it would be necessary for improving relations between our two kinds if this body would put significant political pressure on Aztlan to make genuine efforts to use non-lethal force to subdue SIRRURG and his followers, and to capture, and not kill, as many of them as they can. Despite what he and his followers have done, SIRRURG and his followers are still important members of my kind, and I, like my brethren, would like to see efforts made to preserve their lives. This significant gesture from metahumanity would go a long way to resolving the rage that is currently gripping my species. Aztlan will not be willing to make this gesture on its own without proper encouragement. The international community must impress upon Aztlan its international obligation to do what is right for the global community, and not just what is right for its own self interests, just as I am trying to do here today with my kind. In addition, putting pressure on Aztlan to return the remains of Dzitbalchén, as well as helping to remove the recordings of Dzitbalchén's mutilation from the Matrix will also be necessary steps in the restoring and normalizing our relations by showing dragons that metahumanity can be understanding and respectful to sensitive matters for my kind. And those that have harmed our drakes, both aligned and not, your nations and corporations need to make a sincere and concerted effort to bring the individuals responsible for those deaths to justice.

You must made a stand that says that type of depravity will not be tolerated from your kind; just as SIRRURG's acts of terror must not be tolerated by mine.

Secondly, should SIRRURG be captured alive, I will offer my aid to help imprison SIRRURG until he is brought up for trial. Imprisoning a living great dragon is by no means an easy feat, even for my kind. Metahumans will need my cooperation should this eventuality become a reality. Third, when it comes time to selecting the individuals who would sit as judges on the tribunal, I would ask that this body select a willing great dragon to also sit in judgment of SIRRURG, along with your other metahuman judges. This gesture would be significant for my fellow dragons. It would be a gesture that shows that metahumanity welcomes and values the input and the perspective of my people, especially in a matter as egregious as this. By allowing a great dragon to sit in judgment of SIRRURG, you also minimize the criticisms that could be launched against any verdict from your War Crimes Tribunal by other dragons for being utterly biased and without merit.

In this age, in the short years that our two species have interacted with one another, our two kinds have already accomplished more in creating lasting bonds between our two cultures than in any previous time in our shared history. In North America, the people of the UCAS expressed a truly enlightened perspective when they freely elected the venerable Dunkelzahn as their president. Before that time, no other dragon in our history has ever been elected into a position of power by a metahuman populace. In this day and age, there are metahumans that voluntarily seek out the knowledge and wisdom of my dear friend, Schwartzkopf. They are willing to put aside instinctual fears in order to gain wisdom, and in return, are teaching Schwartzkopf about your kind's culture and unique magical techniques. Many of the Tír Tairgire population are willing to accept me as one of their Princes and are willing to work with me to restore and preserve the environment and rebuild the great nation. Great things for both our species are being accomplished through mutual cooperation. And even in the business sector, cooperation with Celedyr is allowing one of your largest corporations to thrive and gain great profits. It is in everyone's best interests to maintain the momentum of building relationships between our kinds, and establishing trust amongst us. SIRRURG threatens that stability, and threatens our mutual futures. Let us take action now before it becomes too late. We must find another way to deal with the dark histories of our pasts that will benefit both of us now and in the future.

(At 1725 hours, Hestaby ended her speech to a round of applause for the assembled dignitaries. The great dragon retired from the assembly hall at 1730 hours).