To Lord Karol Varayevskij

Felicitations and greetings.

I did not expect any incursion so early, if at all. But as I'm sure you agree, better now than later.

War may be upon us, Lord Karol. I have received concerning tidings, too vague to relate if not for the feeling, that make me feel as if that it is a matter of picking a side and when.

From this I come to a related matter of alliance with a distant neighbor: the Al'Daric mages assure to me that they've a means of reliable translocation and would share it with me, if only I committed us to their defense. How we shall proceed is not a question I shall answer lightly. But for the moment I wish you to arrange to alter and improve drills to accommodate unfamiliar terrain.

Then, I wish you to consider defenses against sudden appearances of forces from within. The limits are not yet made clear to me, and thus no measures are to be taken quite yet, but the viability of using architecture as mazes and ready-made traps in likely arrival points, perhaps?

Lastly, keep an eye on the ratlings. If you can arrange opportunities to bait or tempt them into useless targets for skulduggery, so much the better.

Saints and Angels guide you.

Mikhail Wladislaw Prince of the Pass High Chancellor of the Congress of Lords As dictated to his personal scribe, Stefan Bozar