

To Navigator Captain Bri'otollo, crow-killer, ratsbane, knife of the waves, the coral blade.

From his majesty Mansa Sino'otollo, the Shark-Binder, Voice of the Navigators, High King of the Three Fleets, Ruler of the Four Seas, Lord of the Eight Islands, Friend of the Cnidarians, the Starblessed, Binder of Men, Cleaner of Latrines, First Sword of the Surf, Brine-bound and Iron Willed. May the stars whisper his words to you this day, so that you may hear them and enact his will.

Bri'otollo, I revel in the news of your war against the perfidious Quorum, for the bloodshed hopefully means that your stench has been drowned in the blood of our enemies. But perhaps that's too optimistic, so to spare your husband further suffering I am sending you even further afield.

New opportunities have arisen to the north, as the Tauhan empire has collapsed into chaos. You are to withdraw in good order from the lands of Quorum, resupply in Keitan, and then take command of the Shark Fleet, Navigator Council and some supply ships from the Crab and Squid fleets. Sail this mighty force up the scar to the lands of Tauhan. In Keitan, visit the city of Roshan, where you are to collect the Pathway makers from Al'daric, and escort them north with you.

Your orders are to carve out territory on the northern shore of the Tauhan islands and establish outposts for our traders and raiders in Tauhan and the islands I have marked on the attached map. In this effort you will be aided considerably: I have requested the pathway makers you will be transporting to establish a pathway on the northern Tauhan shore to allow you to resupply, and the Rahasatan tribes of the gulf will provide you with food and a place to dock your ships. I have also offered mutual aid to Grovel in claiming these lands, but I do not know if they have accepted my offer. If they approach you in friendship, cooperate with them, but if they are hostile, return the favour. Dun Sancerre and Siberea have ignored our envoys and should be treated as fair game for raiding.

Once you have a beachhead, you are to act as Lokoth the First Navigator did in uniting the Kietan: bring friendship to those who will join us, and the sword to those who do not. Offer membership of the Keitan league to the Tauhan tribes that remain, and protect and feed those who accept the offer. To those tribes

that refuse you, raid them and take those who are useful as mind-slaves. Use your Navigators to enslave the great monsters they have devolved into, and make them into beasts of war. Disrupt and profit from the efforts of any interlopers (such as Dun Sancerre) who are in the area.

Take the resources allocated in the attached tablet (21 wealth worth of food, gold and mind-bound slaves) and use this to establish the outposts and recruit the Tauhan tribes. Any surplus should be spent hiring Al'daric mercenaries, arming Tauhan tribes and equipping bound beasts for war to enhance the strength of your forces when you are in position.

If you succeed in this, I will appoint you Salt Chief of these new lands, second only in authority and glory to myself. In this new position, you will need to delegate minor raids to a new subordinate. Promote one of an independent and clever mind who can be trusted to conduct raiding missions without constant supervision. I will issue them orders on the next moon-rise.

Your standing orders remain the same, expanded to our new lands (patrol and defend our expanded lands and waters, whilst your Navigators investigate magics and spies in our own lands and those nearby. The Crab fleet is to continue bringing us food).

Good luck my dear friend, you rotten reprobate

Mansa
Sino'otollo

