

MOURNWOLD SPY NETWORK, SUMMER SOLSTICE 379YE

The fortified garrison in the Mournwold settlement of Overton allows military units to be assigned to the Overton garrison to both protect the town and its environs, and gather information about Jotun operations in the Mournwold in a manner similar to a spy network. During the Spring season, enough troops were assigned to gather the maximum amount of information.

Protection from Jotun raids

The Jotun make few attempts to raid Overton during the Spring season - and what minor raids do take place are quickly repulsed by the garrisoned defenders. After the second raid, the defenders spot small groups of orcs perched atop hills in Southmoor and the Ore Hills, on several occasions just observing the town.

Your troops are able to confirm that all regions of Mournwold are in Jotun hands apart from the Greensward around Overton. This includes the Imperial Bourse resource known as the Singing Caves.

Armies and military forces

There are two Jotun armies in Mournwold. Scouts report that they are called *Shield of the Mountain* and the *Tower of the North*.

The Shield of the Mountain is at full strength, and represents a significant force of hard bitten troops who are particularly concerned about defending those regions that border still-Imperial territories to the north and east. They have constructed a network of armed camps across the Mourn - in many places, they have occupied and partially fortified previously Marcher settlements. They are likely to prove difficult to dislodge - the Empire had best be prepared to pay with blood for each such camp they try to uproot. The commander of this force is called Torrfyr Blood-drunk, son of the Jarl of Hardjel. Their banners are replete with images evoking mountains as well as the skulls of dire lions and the wings of great eagles.

The Tower of the North are likewise at full strength, and appear to be preparing for a siege. They have amassed a stock of siege towers and catapults, and are building several more in various positions around the Mournwold. They employ the labour of captured Mourn citizens to do most of the heavy work. Several contingents are overseeing the fortification work (see below), or supplementing the garrisons of the existing fortification. Unlike many Jotun, they wear a lot more dark colours - even the traditional red is the hue of old blood rather than the more common scarlet or crimson. Their commander appears to be in charge not only of the army but of the entire Mournwold campaign. She is called Jarl Derun Stonefist, and is by repute a powerful Jotun warrior and cunning tactician.

The Shield of the Mountain are coordinating and supporting a significant number of companies of Jotun raiders who strike into the surrounding territories. They are gathered in force, and preparing to launch heavy raids against Imperial resources in Upwold, Bregasland and Tassato. Smaller companies are engaged in less-significant, probing raids south into Kahraman and north into Mitwold.

Trading Partners, navies and trade routes

There are no trade routes as such, but there are supply lines. Jotun baggage trains enter the Mournwold at regular intervals at least once a month, emerging from Liathaven to the west. They carry supplies, new soldiers ... and wagon loads of white granite which are clearly being used to construct fortifications.

These caravans are extremely well guarded – although not by the Jotun themselves. Such duties are reserved for other orcs who serve the Jotun. Still it is clear that the Jotun take the security of their convoys extremely seriously.

Fortifications

There is a single fortification in the South Moor region. It occupies the ruins of Sarcombe, but the Jotun call it Hillstop. It is placed to over strategic control of the approach into Mournwold from Kahraman to the south, keeping a close watch on both Fort Braydon and Overton. The fortification is at full strength, of a similar size to the recently completed Forte Fidelis in Mitwold.

Scouts also report construction work in the western Ore Hills not far from the Tassatan border. The castle is not yet complete - at the current rate of construction it will be finished some time after the Autumn Equinox this year. Construction work is being undertaken by a combination of human and orc thralls, and overseen by Jotun associated with the Tower of the North armies.

There is also evidence that the Jotun are scouting the Chalk Downs for a position to construct a third fortification. Work has not yet begun on this fortification, but it appears there are long-term plans to fortify the bridge and control the river crossing.

Additional Information: Dolmens and Stonework

The Jotun have largely left the various dolmens and stonework alone. Only those stone features near the fortifications have been damaged. All such sites, however, are marked by Jotun totems - a pole or post driven into the ground, usually with an animal skull on top and painted with runes such as Tykonus or Verys. In some cases, the runes are painted onto the stones themselves, or the dolmens are adorned with Jotun fetishes. They possess no obvious magical qualities. The Jotun tend to give these sites a wide berth.

Additional Information: Populace

For the most part, everyone over the age of thirty supports the Imperial scouts, and offers them whatever support they may. The remaining Marchers who have not fled to other Imperial territories are waiting for the Empire to liberate them. In the meantime they live as thralls - glorified slaves. They are not usually mistreated, but they are expected to support the Jotun, farming and building. The Jotun regularly take nearly all of all crops produced in these Marcher farms. Those who refused to work are simply executed.

This is also a matter of some delicacy. It seems that a number of the humans dwelling in the Mournwold no longer consider themselves Marchers. It has been thirty years since the territory fell to the Jotun. An entire generation has grown up knowing nothing but Jotun domination. While Imperial scouts are able to find succour and aid in many settlements, it is by no means a given. Some younger folk appear to have sought the favour of the Jotun by training to become Yegarra, warriors in the service of the Jotun. In some of the western regions, entire villages appear to be collaborating willingly with the conquerors.

It is impossible to tell how many people are collaborating out of necessity, and how many have genuinely severed their ties with the Empire and embraced the way of life presented by the Jotun.

Game Information

You are welcome to use this information as you see fit – but this document is out-of-character and should not be shown to other characters during the event. Instead please use it as the basis of your roleplaying regarding the events described.