



Q A T O R
I T R Ì N S

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ELEZIUN SPECIAL:
The PSD Manifesto for the Second
Chamber Election

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- Dieter Vercária's Report on Foreign Affairs
- Point / Counterpoint on Provincial Reassignment
- and more!

Where are all the immigrants?

Although this may be a surprise to some of you - and I'd like to at this point give a hearty "Azul!" to the Royalist operatives monitoring us - *Qator Itrins* is not a propaganda sheet for the Government of the Republic. It is our job as the foremost journal in free Talossa to ask the hard questions, especially at election time. And here's the hardest question we can think of. *Where are all the immigrants?*

I'm sure we all like to think we've built ourselves a nice, if a bit ragged, working model of "what free Talossa should be". We have a truly accountable and democratic system of government which encourages participation, and a vibrant culture where we can disagree with one another without breaking out into near fatal duels. In general, we have managed to recreate many of the features of pre-Revolutionary Talossa which attracted us in the first place - and through this, we've encouraged a fair number of the "Talossan Diaspora" back.

But I think we can all agree that it's not quite enough. Certainly, we planned for growth - and quite major growth - when we wrote up our constitution. The Senäts and provincial sections of our government will remain a dead letter until we're about double the size we are now. The problem is that I don't think we planned a means by which this growth will come about.

It's not something that's needed much thought in Talossan history. Our former head of state, for all his well-publicised and sickening faults, is devoted to the survival of Talossa and is quite fanatical about marketing it. (The fact that he doesn't have to work a day job like lesser mortals and can concentrate on Talossa nearly full-time no doubt also helps.) There will never be a shortage of prospective citizens for North Talossa - although no doubt most of them will run screaming within a matter of months.

To some extent, I think that we've sat back and expected our Republic's undoubted charms to attract newcomers by the dozen. It hasn't happened, and if it continues not to happen I predict dire things for our future. As a veteran of Penguinea, let me tell you what happens when the new citizens dry up - the old citizens get bored, cynical and turn on one another. And in the absence of a central figure who really doesn't have anything to do but keep the Republic going, our beloved revolutionary state could very well die of boredom.



Miestrâ Schivâ

*PSD candidate for
Seneschäl dal Repüblicâ*

süstém da governamáintsch vrätsmînt rëspunçivál és democrätic qi encoraxha la partiçipaziun dels citaxhiëns, és 'n cùlturâ dove si pût ráisnar sânc començar 'n duél fatál. Xhenerálmînt, noi tiennent chelchelat recreatarë plüers dals acostramaintschen dal Talossa anáintsch-revoluzionál qi noi atractevent urixhinálmînt - és, pë r a cest, plüers dal "Diasporâ Talossán" sînt reinvândrats.

Más eu créu që noi toct povent agrear që non c'è ben a bëi. Për certán, noi planevent pë r grandëça - és grandëça ben sigñhificând - quând noi scrivevent ár constituziun. El Senäts és las secziuns provinciáis d'ár governamáintsch restarhent nonfunziunînds txuscâ noi serent abüëc'ht douâ fäts schi grült come nun. El problüm, c'è që non créu që noi tiennet planat 'n aválitâ pë r qët aceastâ grandëça se pa ßarha.

Non c'è qualsecosâ qi fostevent tirë belacop da pensaziun dîn la tgistoriâ Talossán. Ár çäps d'estát viestîmpmînt, zëspäts toct sieu cupäs ben-säpescüns és nauseaváis, isch zivoteu à l sÛrvivonça dal Talossa, és a bëi fänaticál övër la cumertschar. (Ocsâ atxuta që o non fost ërbhëtar ziuescmînt come els mortadéis müsen és aghlôrc pût cuncentrar à l Talossa prescâ toctziuálmînt.) Non hi sera 'n scurzniátx dels prospectatiux pë r Talossa Northesc - ivënthö sânc dubitaziun el püpärts da lhor scaparhent dîn viensäs mesen.

Qualsevej, créu që noi tiennent a ßetat és expectat që las caupräs ünzi spütaváis d'ár Repüblicâ dulcëscharhent dals dudëscháinäs dels athvaintoürs. A cest non se tent pa ßat, és schi a cest continua non se pa ßar eu prainunçëu dals cosäs peremptorxhäs dîn ár fütür. Come 'n veterán dal Penguineíâ, që eu zirarhéu qët se pa ßa quând els noveus citaxhiëns zeviennent sc'hiárs - els citaxhiëns vells zeviennent enuxhats és ciünici, és començent kämpfar starp se. És meñcînd 'n formadoür centrál qi vrätsmînt non tent nitgil façarë salvâ dirixhar la Repüblicâ, ár estát revoluzionál zilëct pût pouvicálmînt moartarë dal enuxhitâ.

¿Dove sînt toct els ïnvändréirs?

Ivëntho c'è pût-estarë 'n supriçâ à qualsevois da vhoi - és strax vëladréu zirarë 'n "Azul!" çjartaloür à l s operatëirs rexhalistàns noi monitorînds - *Qator Itrins* non c'è 'n xhurnalátsch da propagandâ pë r el Governamáintsch dal Repüblicâ. C'è ár posteu come el xhurnál dûciapúnt dîn Talossa liveradâ zemandar las fragâs ïnfátgils, ïnprimis à l tîmp dals eleziuns. És veïçi la fragâ pü ïnfatgil da qët noi possent cunceptar. ¿Dove sînt toct els ïnvändréirs?

Eu sînt sigür që noi toct vëladrent credarë që noi tiennent fraicat per üns 'n exempliár funziunînd prietán, schi 'n pô piecetoür, da "come fost estarë Talossa liveradâ". Noi tiennent 'n

Progress and Success? Delivered!

The PSD Manifesto for the Second Chamber of Deputies Election

Introduction

The Social Democratic Party of Talossa (PSD) is without doubt the most significant political force in the Talossan Republic.

The PSD was founded with the conscious intention of not just being a political party, but to build a sort of "brains trust" - a team of the most creative and active Talossans who would work together to achieve their goals. Too often the old Kingdom was torn apart by battles between titanic egos which could not co-operate. We like to think that our agreement to work as a team has been a major factor in the pleasant, harmonious atmosphere which has (mostly!) prevailed in the Republic to date.

PSD members were at the forefront of the Revolution which founded the Republic; the Convention which designed our Constitution; and have been driving the first elected Government in the Republic's history in the capacity of Deputies, Ministers, and as the President of the Republic. On the cultural front, too, PSD members have taken the lead - whether it's been a matter of promoting our unique language, researching our history, or designing our websites.

We've done a lot. But there's still a lot that needs doing. And we need your vote in the election for the second Chamber to make it happen.

Our Record

When the PSD stood as part of a Popular Front list for the first Chamber election, we gave the people of Talossa a list of promises. How have we lived up to them?

We promised to:

- establish friendly relationships with large, stable and serious micronations;

Our Foreign Minister has kept in contact with the broader micronational community, and established cordial (informal) relations with the Empire of Septempontia, one of the longest-established and most creative micronations. Septempontians regularly visit our internet forums as Friends of the Republic.

- make talossa.net the best, brightest and most welcoming webportal possible for the Republic

talossa.com has been registered for nine years, and in that time - mainly due to monarchical suspicions of anything outside royal control - it has languished. Under the Schivâ government, however, our internet presence has burst into vigorous life. Our Minister of Information has published draft official webpages

PSD

PARTI SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC



for the Republic, to universal acclaim for their style and succinctness. Talossa.com is well on its way to becoming a national treasure.

- establish Ministers for Women and Linguistic Minorities, who will make sure that the Republic is welcoming and attractive to the most diverse group of new citizens;

Rischâ Cavéir and Ián Anglatzarâ have filled these roles quietly, but admirably. Mrs Cavéir will be sadly retiring at this election - however, we are sure that an adequate replacement can be found.

- commission an Official Report into incorporating the Republic as a non-profit corporation, as the first step to being legally able to own our own web-presence and intellectual property.

The report has been commissioned, and our Minister of Information will deliver his conclusions sometime in the life of the next Chamber.

In addition, all the following legislation has been passed by the Chamber of Deputies and assented to by the President of the Republic:

- an Immigration Act which will establish a secret-ballot referendum vote for all new citizens

- a National Webspaces act which will vest responsibility for the content of Wittenberg in the Secretary of State, and the official Republic websites in a new Information Minister;

- a Language Act to establish a Republican CÚG. This will make "teach yourself" material for the Talossan language more available, and work closely with all Talossan-speakers everywhere.

The only part of our original manifesto which we have not put into action was the idea for a "lower court", which has been shelved due to a consensus in the wider community that it's unnecessary.

One final note: the PSD has also kept its promise to lead a broad, consensus-style government. We have included Peculiarists and Independents in our Government, and have brought through a programme of legislation with (in most cases) the support of our political opponents. We intend to behave in exactly this fashion in future.

Where do we go from here?

It could be said that perhaps the PSD have done almost too much in our first term of government, and not left enough for the second term! That's far from the truth, though. We've done the hard legislative work, and left a foundation of law and of practice in government that we hope will set the benchmark by which future governments will be judged. But the job's only half done.

A PSD-led government for the next six months will have three priorities:

1. Increase Immigration

Immigrants are and always have been the lifeblood of Talossa. A layoff in new blood leads to boredom, stagnation and petty backbiting. We will create a strategy to market the Republic to the kinds of people who can do the most to promote our future. This may include "the cream of the crop" of the micronational world; but we also intend to look further afield than that. This will require us to be forward thinking, and just a bit daring - qualities that the PSD has in abundance.

The other two planks in the platform also have the aim of increasing the exposure and attractiveness of the Republic, and thus (we hope) lead to an increase in citizenship:

2. Take our rightful place in the micronational world

In the micronational world, "Talossa" has long since been a byword for cranky, North Korea-style isolationism and rudeness. The Re-

public of Talossa under a PSD-led government will take a giant step out of those dark days and take our rightful place as a micronational superpower. We would found an Ephemeral States Treaty Organisation, as a foreign aid organization to peaceful and well intentioned micronations. It is our duty to give other micronations the benefit of twenty-seven years of Talossan history and of our experience in building a democratic Republic.

3. Anauçar l'Aprenzaziun és l'Utzil del Gihetg Talossán

Despite attempts to sabotage us, the Republic has done more to use and publicise el gihetg Talossán in the last year or so than ever before. Now it's time to take the next step forward. We have legally established la Icastolá (the Talossan Language School). Now is the

time for the Government to encourage la Icastolá to encourage more Ladintsch writing and culture - and, to make this possible, to produce "Teach Yourself Talossan" material so non-linguists can learn to take delight in el gihetg. The Talossan language (in its currently available form) is a real treasure of the world's culture and is loved by many more than just we Talossan citizens - it is our duty to make it available to the world.

Six months from now, when you once more have to choose a Chamber of Deputies, we want you to be living in a Republic which is bigger; more enriched with international cultural exchanges; and more Talossan-speaking. If you want that too, the choice is clear.

Vote PSD - for more Progress and Success to be Delivered.

Your PSD team for the Second Chamber Election:

1. Miestrà Schivâ

2. Marti-Páir Furxhéir

3. Gjermund Higráff

The micronational world - the Foreign Minister reports

by D. N. VERCÁRIÁ

I think it's unspoken consent amongst the citizens of the Republic of Talossa that we want to stay in contact with the world that surrounds us, especially with people that are as interested in "micronationalism" as we are. Some of our forerunners cut these connections. The Kingdom of Talossa, the first micronation that I ever saw in the internet, once founded the League of Secessionist States (L.O.S.S.), but apparently the King lost his sense of humour in this, once too many "bugs" were seeking his approval, aka "diplomatic recognition".

While the Kingdom slowly drifted into an era of a North-Korean-style isolation in the field of „micronationalism“, the Free Commonwealth of Penguinea found a friendlier approach to the issue of an endless number of one-man-bathtub-monarchies seeking recognition: „If you exist, you exist“, Protector E.P. Gallagher used to reply diplomatically. Nonetheless he and a group of fellow Penguineans got tired of „micronationalism“, thus they cut all connections to

this game and founded the Polyphony Community, an ultra-democratic almost-no-purpose endeavour that died in the dry deserts of an unpopulated void, running short of common sense and personnel.

So if the Kingdom of Talossa and Penguinea/Polyphony where the parents that rocked the cradle of our Republic, then we, like all good children of the world, declared that we want to avoid a repetition of the mistakes of our elders. This is what we know, so far; yet there are some question marks that have to attached to some of the related terms, as well as we haven't discussed where to go from here. You may have noticed, that I'm writing „micronationalism“ in quotes, since it is possibly quite an undefined term. Same goes for „diplomatic relations“ - what are „diplomatic relations“ supposed to be like in the field of this obscure „micronationalism“? Food for thought.

As your Foreign Minister I virtually travelled to a place, where some active micronations and micronationalists used to hang out, to the now van-

ished forums of www.micronations.org and tried to find out, what other micronationalists think about the issue. I proudly uncoiled my Penguinian „if you exist, you exist“ statement to have it inspected, along with the anticipation that mutual diplomatic recognition amongst micronations is good for nothing, since for instance withholding said recognition, unlike amongst „macronations“, wouldn't have any impact on the well-being of a villain-micronation, or some such. And having uttered my message, I waited for replies.

There were two. One guy, Cesidio T., immediately tried to offer me webspace for rent, because, as he stated, an internet-based micronation without webspace is in a miserable position. That's most certainly true, but has not been our problem at any time.

And then there was Ciaron Broeck from the Kingdom of Breudwydd, a friend of our Republic, who explained that mutual diplomatic recognition amongst micronations might be something like a network of reputation, as far as I remember

his reply. I think he's making a point there; maintaining diplomatic relationships of this sort might eventually prove that a micronation is in good company. Although as proud citizens of our Republic we might feel inclined to think that our reputation is able to stand on its own feet and walk.

I found it surprising, that there wasn't much discussion of the topic of intermicronational diplomacy ensuing my statement, that this might be good for nothing. Apparently many micronationalists either believe in diplomacy or they don't, but it's nothing that they would want to talk about.

So I visited the forum of the Empire of Semptemontia, home of several friends of the Republic, as well as the home of former Penguinians, Corvinians etc, and I started a thread:

*„Hello,
I'm Dieter N. Vercáriá,
presently Foreign Minister of
the Republic of Talossa. I'm
feeling inclined to continue
this beginning message with
an interjection like *cough*
or *wink*, but this is prob-*

ably not the appropriate approach to what I'm supposed to say.

Actually the Republic of Talossa is trying to find out whether diplomatic relations to other micronations are something worthwhile; more precisely put, we are trying to explore forms of intermicronational cooperation, e.g., in the field of cultural or governmental issues.

Historically, there have been connections between forerunners of the Empire of Septempontia and forerunners of the Republic of Talossa, as well as there have been and there are friendships between citizens of our two (micro-) nations.

So the current government of the Republic of Talossa is interested in starting a discussion about possible forms of intermicronational cooperation, preferably with people whom we know already."

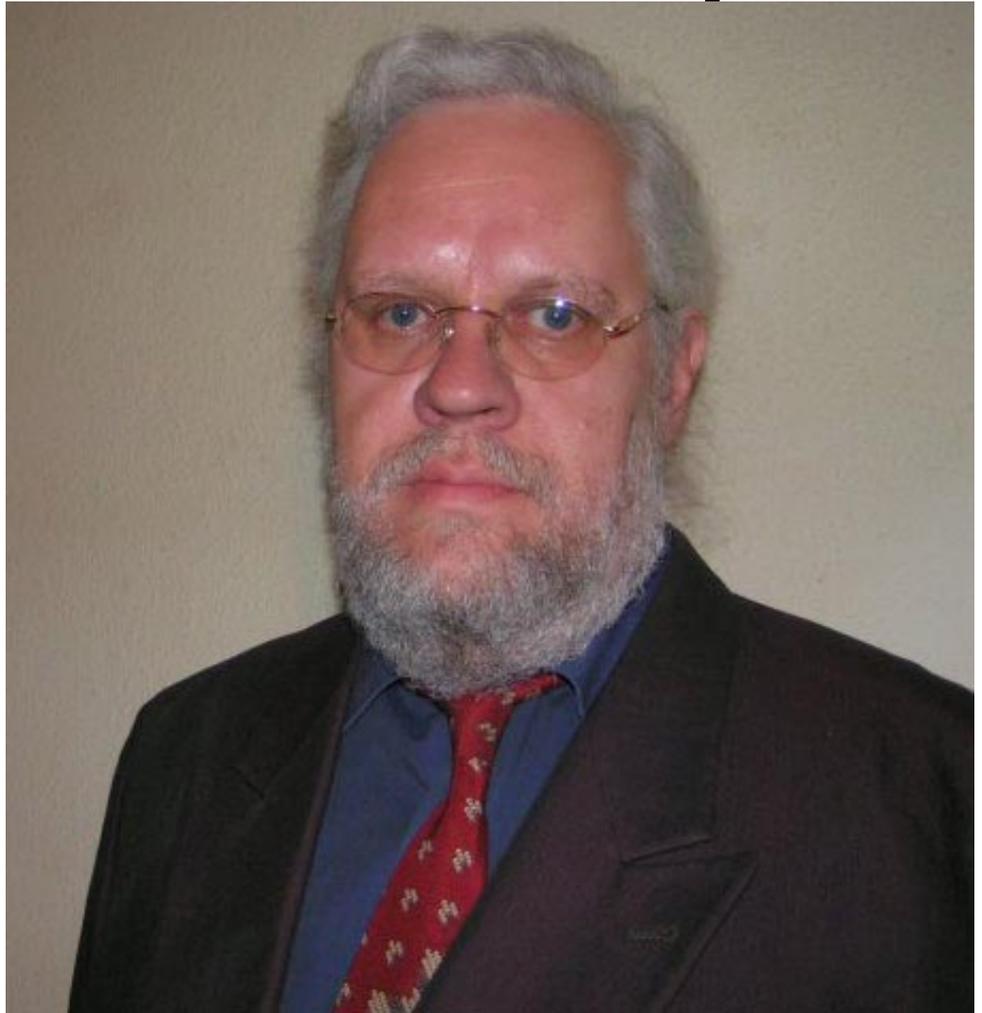
There was a warm welcome, two Septempontians stated that they would welcome more micronational diplomacy and think, that intermicronational relationships are worthwhile. So I asked, „how will micronational diplomacy be something worthwhile? Some other fellow micronationalists (at www.micronations.net) suggested, that recognising each other might somehow sharpen the profile of the micronations involved, by saying something like ‚these are our nearest next of kin‘, as well as this would be like advertising each other."

This is, what Septempontia's Emperor gently replied:

„Here's my moderately-stuffy-and-formal reply. Please read between the lines for the friendly viewpoint.

You and your fellow citizens are always welcome in our forums. I'm very happy for the micronational community on the whole, and for you all as individuals, that the Republic has taken root and flourished so admirably.

*Sadly, many of our friends from what I consider the „Golden Age of Micronationalism“ have become largely inactive; but I am proud and honored to number former Triparians, Triselenes, and even Penguineans and Corvinians among my subjects, and our good friends the Molossians are still with us (*waves to President*



D. N. Vercarià is Foreign Minister of the Talossan Republic and leader of the Movement for Republican Peculiarism (MRP).

Baugh!)*

It's a delight to interact with you, Iàn, President Cavéir, and Prime Minister Schivâ in social mediums like LiveJournal. We have largely internalized the old Penguinean view of ‚If you exist, you exist.‘

That said, I can say that we are definitely open to more formalized diplomatic relations with nations like the Republic, and my Foreign Minister, Señora Cuilendio (Jenn Strobel) is empowered to engage with you on such relations. I leave it in your (plural) capable hands and will be happy to give the Imperial imprimatur to the results.“

So I guess what I'm bringing home in the end of my term as Foreign Minister is a bagful of question marks. Before we go any further, we'll have to discuss where to go from here. I began my report talking about an unspoken consent of the citizens of our land, that we shall be seeking relations to other micronations and/ or their citizens.

But I'm afraid that presently there is no consent about the nature of these relations. There is Jonathan Kelley, who wrote on Wittenberg, that he's perfectly happy with what we've got: A politic that allows all people of good will to join our discussions as Friends of the Republic. On the other side there is Üc Tärfa, who sent me a full scale draft of a Diplomacy Law, which includes a Foreign Office and Ambassadors and what not. He asked me to submit this law to the Chamber of Deputies, and I replied that we'll first have to outline something like a doctrine that would describe the goals of our foreign politics.

Coming to think of it, there are many topics that will have to be discussed. While, possibly for the first time in the Talossan history, no citizens will be called traitors should they want to meet citizens of other micronations, talk to them on their forums and what not, as far as I know we still haven't officially decided on whether we shall allow multiple micronational citizenships or not.

So, let the discussions begin.

Should province-shifting be allowed?

"YES" - J. K. Kelley

Some years back, during my abortive prospectivehood in the Kingdom of Talossa, I asked Ián Anglatzarâ why anyone cared about provinces. I don't have his precise answer to hand, but it had something to do with local patriotism.

'Local patriotism?' I'd never heard that usage before.

Why, indeed, would someone care about a weirdly named region scattered over a wide portion of the world? It can't be simply because one could hang out in person with one's provincial mates. The Rt. Hon. Ms. Miestrâ Schivâ and I are currently in Maricopa, where it would be rather a long swim between New Zealand and the Pacific Northwestern US. I was never asked whether I would like to be assigned to Maricopa; it just happened, and to hold up a structuring Act for reasons of personal preference didn't seem right. I hoped to remedy matters later, taking it on faith that if I could demonstrate good reasons for reassignment, our government would permit it.

But back to the question that yet dangles above. There are a number of reasons one would care about said 'weirdly named regions,' and they sum up into the 'local patriotism' Ián referred to. My own case is an example. Ián was in Cézembre, as were most of my first Talossan friends and strongest supporters. During those days of old, I learned that if I were naturalized, I too would be in Cézembre. I grew to think of myself as a Cézembrian. Not until I found myself assigned to a foreign province in a different Talossa, years later, did I understand Ián's words.

A citizen is most likely to be active in a province he or she cares about. As we discuss contracting the size of our Chamber from seven to five members for reasons of activity, can anyone argue that we don't need more actively interested citizens? Talossa is a phenomenon of human interaction, as well as a geographic place and a micronational concept. Greater interaction produces political and intellectual ferment that makes this stuff interesting and fun, not stagnant and dull.

Sure, we can choose to remain hung up on purely arbitrary geography. And arbitrary it was: as arbitrary as the Treaty of Tordesillas, in which Spain and Portugal calmly carved up the New World into spheres of influence. How many different provincial maps were proposed before the committee persons reached ac-



cord? As I recall, the major worry was getting the most populous US states well divided up. I don't disparage the committee's work; it was positive and necessary, and all of us should thank them for their service. A request for reassignment should not be construed as a criticism of that service, and I would hope no one takes it so.

I do not oppose the concept of provincial regions, and I don't want an Act that relocates my physical bedroom (or house, or county) to another province. I do feel that there must be a means for citizens to petition for reassignment. It should not be a casual thing. The petitioner should have to meet some conditions:

- 1) The citizen must have been a citizen for some length of time. A year, perhaps, time to develop Talossan friendships and community. Time enough to know.
- 2) The citizen must present some compelling reason for reassignment besides 'because I want it.'
- 3) The citizen must have the gumption to find a Deputy to propose the petition in Chamber.
- 4) The Chamber should decide on the petition, and if the petition is absolutely counter to the nation's best interests, Hon. Deputies should vote it down.
- 5) The President should, as always, have the option to refuse Assent, letting the political machinery work as designed.
- 6) If reassigned, a citizen

should not be able to petition for another reassignment for some significant period.

A citizen who can present solid grounds for reassignment is a citizen who truly cares about Talossa. Blow that citizen off in the name of arbitrary boundaries and you have a disappointed citizen, one less likely to be active. Will we remain so tied to these arbitrary boundaries that we let them work to the detriment of our Republic? I hope not.

I have developed the 'local patriotism' Ián once spoke of. I like to think that I have contributed to our Republic, even though I am a member of no party and do not seek political office. Cézembrians are calling for my reassignment, sometimes in raucously heartening tones. I am calling for my reassignment—or at least a means by which I may seek it. It is a small thing to ask, with no meaningful downside and several certain upsides. Someday another citizen may bring such a request, and our law should allow its consideration.

The only Talossan province I ever considered home was Cézembre. With every warm wish to Maricopa, I have a simple request.

I'd like to go home.

"NO" - Chris Gruber

Why not simply choose your province? Hey, it's an attractive proposition, sure, but what merit does it hold? "Well," say the proponents, "you can associate with the people you get along with," as if to say they don't get along with the rest of the Republic. Is there an inherent problem with your assigned province? No? Then what is the issue exactly?

Mr Kelley, the young man with whom I agree on a great many issues, but, on this issue I in fact disagree, says that Cézembre is his "home," where he belongs. Maricopa, he implies, simply doesn't hold any personal value for him. Well, let me tell you a story.

Pórt Maxhestic is my home in Talossa. I have identified myself with that area since I was granted Talossan citizenship in early 1998. In fact, I ran a newspaper briefly, the Pórt Maxhestic Observer. I fought to make sure that whatever happened with the provincial assignments bill that was deliberated by the provincial government, I would end up in Pórt Maxhestic. In short, I have fought for PM in every way imaginable. But, at the same time, I have a strong desire to move myself physically to New York City. Doing that would instantly force my provincial assignment to Maritiimi. Just like that. All of my identity and hard work associated with Pórt Maxhestic, undone, just like that. But I am willing to accept that, be-

cause that's part of the price we pay for where we choose to live. Why should my personal preference override the law and tradition?

My distinguished opponent on this matter, with whom I have nothing but respect but with whom I firmly disagree, says our provincial borders are "arbitrary". Arbitrary? For one, those provincial boundaries are a part of Talossan tradition, part of the tradition that we as citizens of the Republic chose to take with us after the Great Leap Over the Wall. And the borders around our provinces are no more arbitrary than the borders of the Republic itself. When you state that the borders are simply "arbitrary," then you disparage the Republic as a whole.

Instead of logic, Mr Kelley provides more emotion with remarks like "[b]low that citizen [ostensibly referring to himself] off in the name of arbitrary boundaries and you have a disappointed citizen, one less likely

to be active," which smacks somewhat of a threat. If you don't get permission to jump over those "arbitrary" borders, Mr Kelley, are you threatening to withdraw your activity levels? Or doesn't that just seem a bit absurd? It certainly seems so. I'm sure Cézembre is very nice and its citizens are all peaches and honeys, but that is a lousy argument.

I feel that Mr Kelley's affection for the province of Cézembre stems from the fact that most of his few supporters back in 2000 or so when he first ventured into Talossan circles happened to be assigned to Cézembre. He's assigned a magical value to that place that is no more arbitrary than our borders.

What Mr Kelley's over-enthusiastic supporters have chosen to do is attempt to pass a law that would apply solely to him. Have we not been over this before? Did not an attempt to pass a law that would apply solely to a single person help spark our own Revolution? What



place does the rule of law have in a society that feels free to grant privilege to the few based on emotional attachment and want?

This argument he's presented is based solely on emotion. No facts

at all. Don't appeal to my emotions, Mr Kelley. Give me logic and reason, or don't bother. Obey the law or change the law. You'll just have to suffer in Maricopa until you move. Just like everyone else.

SPECIAL BONUS PREVIEW HISTORY FEATURE!

QATOR ITRÏNS is pleased to present the following SNEAK PREVIEW from a soon-to-be published Talossan History Project interview. Here JONATHAN KELLEY speaks to Speaker of the Chamber MARTÏ-PÁIR FURXHÉIR...

JK: If knighthoods were so difficult to receive, and you did everything imaginable to get one but never did, then why would Chris Gruber receive one? Wouldn't that say that Gruber did whatever wonderful thing was necessary to get such an honour?

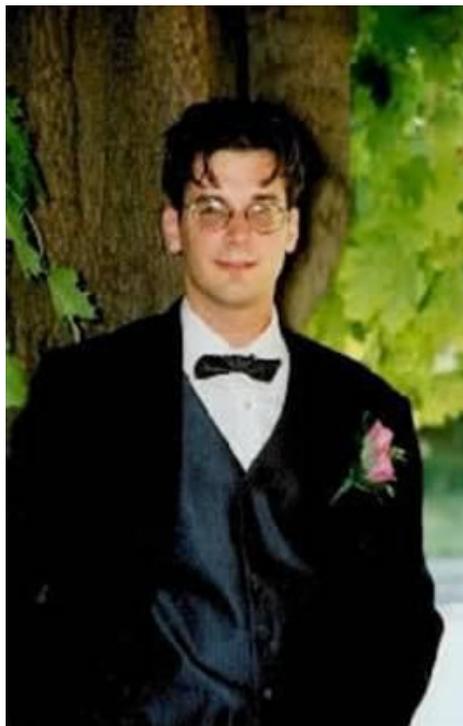
MP: Definitely. And Ben had GREAT words for Grubi all that time. He was an all time hero! Before the GCP was founded, I don't believe I saw Ben criticize Grubi even once.

JK: Give me some examples of the praise, if you can.

MP: Well, I didn't really search my e-mails for this specific line of questioning, but my memory is clear on the subject: Ben had high regards for several of the PC members whom I called "Super member" in my mind. That included Michael Pope, Ián Metáiriâ, Art Verbotten and Chris Gruber.

JK: So Chris was Ben's fair-haired boy? The same person he later condemned as being equal to Osama bin Laden?

MP: And I am Timothy McVeigh,



best SoS ever according to Ben, the one new man Talossa is the most indebted to. What hurts me the most, is not so much that Ben is saying that we did an awful thing by going to the Republic. It is the

fact he is rewriting history to make us look like demons even when we were still in the former Kingdom.

JK: Interesting that now you, Pope, Art Verbotten and Chris have now all left the Kingdom. And Ian Metáiriâ is often critical of Ben, though he remains in the Kingdom. Don't you find that interesting?

MP: It is interesting, because it is typical of Ben. Ben likes his friends to be independent of thought, to be intelligent, to be active. But he also demands absolute loyalty. Odds are that when you act like an asshole, your more independent of thought friends will first criticize you, and only the most blind or stupid will still unconditionally follow you forever.

JK: So is it your opinion that the most important rule for anyone with aspirations to success in the Kingdom is to suck up to Ben? Assholes are okay, long as they're allies?

MP: Pretty much, unless you could find a niche no one else would be willing to take, such as the SoS job when Ián or Daviu had the post.

A Talossan Ode To Joy

words by C.C. Cavéir, after a melody by L. Beethoven

*In our hearts we are Talossan
Guided by community
Tyrants torn down as we rise up
As we dare something worthy
Stand for justice, peace, and freedom,*

*Every person hear our cry
Let us stand together as one
Triumph no man can deny!*

*Stand for justice, peace, and freedom,
Every person hear our cry
Let us stand together as one
Triumph no man can deny!*

*Welcome, welcome to Talossa
Borne imagination
Now we live free in our homeland
Righteous is our station
Stand for freedom, stand for triumph
Tyranny will stand no more
Free community forever
Greater than what came before*

*Stand for justice, peace, and freedom,
Every person hear our cry
Let us stand together as one
Triumph no man can deny!*

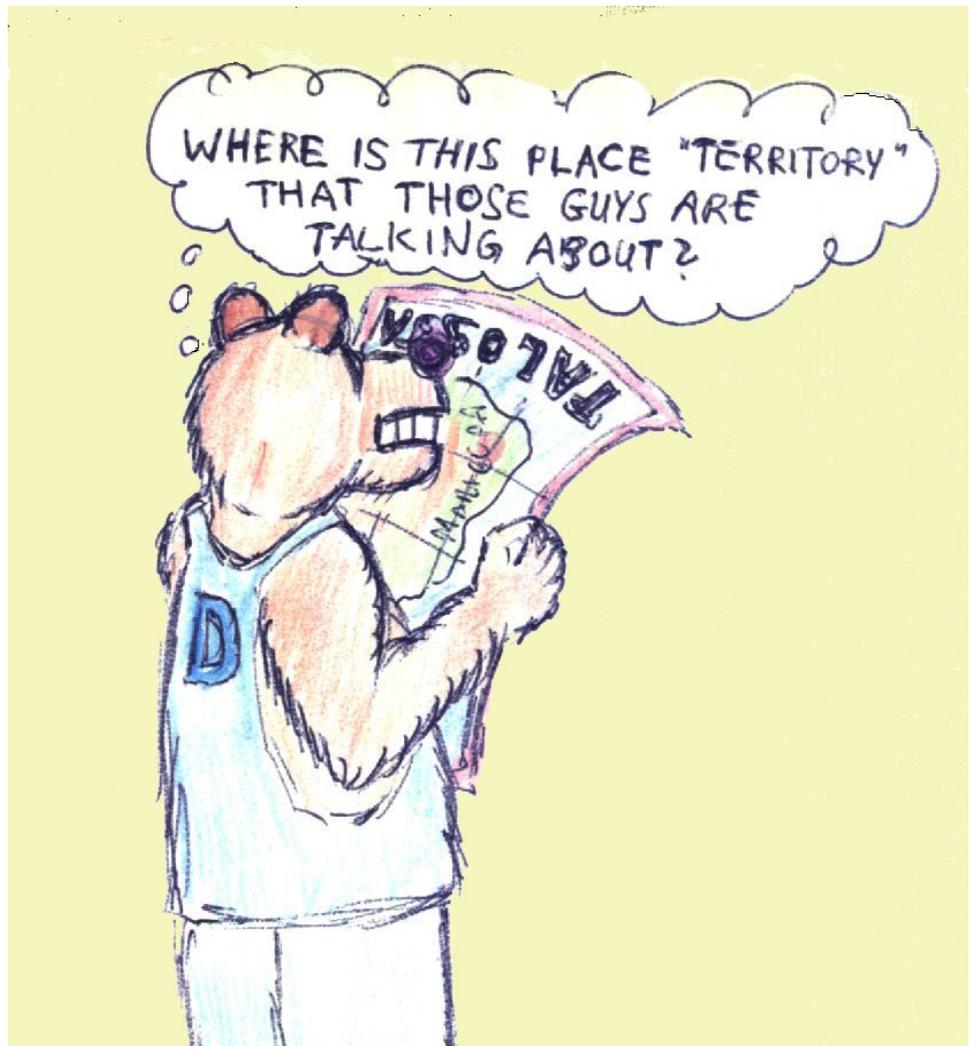
*Freedom, freedom is our purpose
Principled in liberty
Marching forward, all together
Steel-hard firm in unity
Stand for ideals, stand forever
Bastion of democracy
Let us stand together as one*

Talossan in our hearts are we

*Stand for justice, peace, and freedom,
Every person hear our cry
Let us stand together as one
Triumph no man can deny!*

one bear's view...

by D. Nanöc'hfiglheu Vercáriâ



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