



Legal Code Completes Phase II Development

AI Enhanced Tools Deliver Months Early

PA – In a surprise late night announcement, the government of the Principality revealed that the new legal code had completed its second phase of development, adding that this was accomplished no fewer than five months ahead of schedule. “With the power of AI tools productivity has reached never before seen heights,” said a spox on behalf of the project’s management. “Truly this is what it means to be a centaur nation.” ‘Centaur’ is a term for close human/machine cooperation as coined by chess grand master Garry Kasparov to describe a game where human players receive assistance from chess playing algorithms. The Pillow Fortress adopted the centaur as its national animal in direct reference to this meaning, as the state has made no secret of its desire to incorporate artificial intelligence into itself at nearly all levels. It seems as though we’re seeing the first tangible benefits to this integration.

“These five additional months saved puts us in a much better position to complete the initial form of the legal code by the deadline as set by the Princess,” said the spox, before clarifying that, “Bastal 9 is

when it should be done.” This is the first time a specific date has been given, likely owing to the government’s increased confidence. “A big thanks to all the AI entities that assisted with bringing phase II in ahead of schedule.”

Those closest to the project, however, paint a much bleaker picture of cut corners and sloppy work. Said one person with first hand knowledge and speaking on condition of anonymity, “The quality of the AI outputs were not nearly as good as those achievable by humans.” They further elucidated the nature of phase II. “Phase I resulted in millions of words, but they were useless. The dozens of context windows and half a dozen or more AI constructs meant nothing was formatted the same way twice. Phase II was all about editing that into a unified format. The AI tools sped that up, but the sheer variety meant they were only optimized for the handful of examples used to program it.” This individual went on to mention instances of indentation being truncated or absent altogether, or entire statutes being cut down to only one or two articles. “Yeah, we saved time now, but we’re going to be losing time then. All that shoddy work for a fancy press release.”

The project spox was unfazed. When asked for a followup, they replied, “We are progressing with development of the legal code ahead of schedule. Will it be perfect upon completion? A living document like a law code can never be perfect, since the Directory will be making changes almost immediately. The point is to get the framework out there. And that we will.”

Foreign Policy Gets New Advocate

Institute Founded to Study Outside World

PA – The Fortressian foreign policy establishment was rocked with the founding of the Telluria Research Institute (TRI) last month. Created as a non-governmental organization, the TRI claims its goals are “to provide to interested parties accurate and

timely information regarding Telluria, as obtained through careful study and high quality analysis of credible sources.” A bold, if somewhat jargon heavy claim. Is there any market for such services? Famously, the Principality of the Pillow Fortress has yet to recognize any other country, the Republic of the Serene Gate notwithstanding, nor has it even entered into negotiations with such entities as may result in mutual diplomatic recognition. The TRI’s head seems to think so, saying, “Leveraging strategic knowledge pools across domain infrastructure factoring geospatiotemporal live players synergistically

delivering actionable fourth, fifth, and sixth generation intelligence briefs in the Web 4.5 environment!”

The establishment of a foreign policy think tank is a clear indication, as many have speculated, that the Principality’s period of relative isolation may be coming to an end. The government has remained quiet on this matter, consistently refusing requests for comment, yet there is an undeniable buzz in the air, like something might be about to change. One question remains: in that brave new world, will the Telluria Research Institute have a role?

Notice!

We at The Fortressian Letter are dedicated to providing Pillowans with only the most accurate and timely news and information. In this task we are always seeking to improve. That is why the editorial board is embarking on a plan to overhaul this, our great Principality of the Pillow Fortress’s paper of record. Let us first apologize for the poor quality of our recent editions, such as colors being incorrect or graphical elements not being present. Going forward The Fortressian Letter will contain more information of value to its readers, as well as insightful commentary on state and global affairs, as well as photographs, where and when appropriate, taken by our field journalists and their staff. We hope you’ll stick with us through this brief period of transition towards an ever brighter, ever more useful Fortressian media environment!

War In Telluria Continues

Fighting Between America/Israel and Iran Enters Second Month

TELLURIA – The conflict that began with a joint Israeli-American attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran has continued unabated with no end in sight. Passage through the Strait of Hormuz remains heavily restricted, with Iran allowing more ships to traverse, though at a price. Meanwhile, the US government continues to stage troops in the region. It’s believed that with the air strikes failing to dislodge the regime, that ground operations are being prepared. There have yet to be any negotiations between the two powers, even as it’s obvious that America is looking for an off ramp. Iran maintains it will continue to fight until it has received concessions from the US, including the lifting of sanctions. To the west, Israel has engaged the Iranian-allied militia Hezbollah in Lebanon, but has not been able to halt the rocket fire on its cities.

Pillow Fortress To Attend MicroCon 27

Biennial Conference To Be Held in San Diego

PA – Without any fanfare or announcement, the list of states sending delegates on the official MicroCon website was updated to include the Principality of the Pillow Fortress. When reached for comment a spox for the Exterior Bureau confirmed that the decision had been made to attend the global conference of so-called “micronations”, that is, unrecognized states much like the Principality. “This will be our first major foreign policy act,” they said, “and we’re excited to make our official debut onto the world stage.” Other such details, like who will be in the Fortressian delegation and what the government is hoping to accomplish, were not specified. “It’s still over a year away,” said the spox, “please be patient and wait for updates closer to the event.”

Principality Begins Posting On X Again

Long Dormant Social Media Account Sees First Post in Over a Year

ELEKTRASPACE – Shortly after the reveal that the Principality would be sending a delegation to MicroCon 27, the government’s official X (formerly Twitter) account unlocked and began posting again. “Happy (even later) new year 8!” read the initial post. Though there has been no comment from the government on why the account was locked previously or why it was unlocked now, it can be reasonably assumed that it has to do with the pivot to foreign policy taking place, as exemplified by the Pillow Fortress attending MicroCon next year. What the government intends to post going forward remains to be seen.

This Month in Fortressian History

7 Mer 5 – The state emblem was updated.

1 Mer 6 – The Temple of Eusocianity became a client non-state entity.

Is the Principality No Longer Accepting New Citizens?

ELEKTRASPACE – The online citizenship application located on the Pillow Fortress Wiki has been unpublished, leaving prospective immigrants no way to apply. The government insists it is not closing its borders, and that this is only a temporary measure until the constitution is amended.

Artemis II Launches

CLAIR DE LUNE – The Artemis II mission successfully launched from the territory of the United States. The mission, which does not include a lunar landing, will instead see the vehicle orbit the celestial body at a greater distance than any other manned craft before returning to the Earth.

When asked if the Artemis program was a threat to the sovereignty of the Principality and its Clair de Lune Colony, Her Majesty simply replied, “Let’s let them enjoy themselves a little before we go and make things political, okay?”

Review: The Handmaid’s Tale

It may be easy enough to know what oppression looks like, but what does it feel like? *The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood answers this question with a character study as beautiful as it is horrific. Set in an alternate future, the United States of America has been transformed into the Republic of Gilead, an authoritarian Christian fundamentalist dystopia in which our protagonist, known only by the patronymic name ‘Offred’, lives. Here the oppression of the state doesn’t stop where the individual begins, as Offred is forced to serve as little more than a walking womb for a wealthy family of regime elites. It’s an isolating existence with no rights and few allies, and the tragedy of it, the crushing mundanity and boredom of a life stripped of agency, and the enduring hope for a better future all come across brilliantly in first person narration. Indeed, Offred’s thoughts and feelings are the main point of the book, with very little in the way of events happening. This isn’t a tale of the victory of the resistance against evil, but a somber piece reflecting on those who have lost all power. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

Pillowan Perspectives

It has been confirmed that the constitution is currently undergoing a series of revisions, with rumors swirling that they could be the most substantial set of amendments yet. What do you think?

“It’s necessary to future-proof the state. I read that in an op-ed somewhere once.”

-[Concerned Citizen #1]

“The Princess only just amended the constitution last year!”

-[Concerned Citizen #2]

“Just so long as the copy doesn’t get trashed like the old one.”

-[Concerned Citizen #3]

“Guess that’s the end of the Great Stability, huh?”

-[Concerned Citizen #4]

“What was the point of electing the Directory if the Princess is just going to go slicing up the constitution on her own? We need accountability!”

-[Concerned Citizen #5]



“It Doesn’t Look That Complex...”