

GATEWAY GAZETTE

BRIDGE SAVED!

By Calvin Coolidge Cairne

The landmark Gateway Bridge, one of the nation's historic treasures, was narrowly saved from destruction at the hands of a murderous madman thanks to a joint effort between civilian and military authorities. The criminal, a crazed costumed villain calling himself "The Chess Master," escaped capture and is still at large.

The insidious scheme began with the kidnapping of chess player Vladimir Victorov, one of the many Soviet defectors who has settled in Sunset City. Mr Victorov is considered to be one of the leading chess players in the world, and from statements made by The Chess Master it appears that this mad plot was all in furtherance of a desire to prove himself a better player than the Russian. From such insane motives spring the dastardly crimes of those unstable enough to don masks and costumes before carrying out their outrages against Society.

Victorov was kidnapped by a gang of costumed thugs using high-tech weapons during a staged chessmatch between himself and 20 schoolchildren. Police were unable to prevent the kidnapping, and the presence of Miss Dixie Hill and several of her masked associates did not provide the authorities any noticeable assistance during the commission of the crime. Miss Hill did seek to follow the criminals with their victim, but was forced to cut short her pursuit in order to render assistance to a motorist injured in an accident caused by the fleeing costumed villain.

The true extent of The Chess Master's villainy became evident when he cut into television and radio broadcasts to announce that he had mined the Gateway Bridge, and would destroy it if anyone attempted to remove the mines. In an insane effort to prove himself the greatest chess player in the world, he challenged Victorov to a match, with the Gateway Bridge itself as the stakes.

Police and military instantly mobilized and began efforts to locate and neutralize the criminal. Through closely coordinated efforts, and with the assistance of Miss Hill, they were able to locate the criminal's hideout. Using equipment obtained from the television industry, the signal to the bombs was blocked, and an all out assault made upon the criminal. Navy frogmen removed the bombs while the kidnapped Mr Victorov was being rescued. Using some form of advanced rocket propulsion system The Chess Master made good his escape while the rest of the gang was rounded up and arrested.

Concerned citizens have called for an immediate investigation of where this criminal could have obtained the explosives and high-tech weapons he and his gang were using in this mad scheme, and for legislation and law enforcement efforts to seek to stop the growing tide of costumed lawlessness which threatens to overwhelm our nation, before it is too late to save our great country from anarchy.

Metropolis Leads the League

By Lefty Lewis

As the baseball season gets underway the Metropolis Heroes have once again pulled ahead, taking an early lead. The Gotham City Angels, their constant rivals, are a close second, having lost only one game so far, against the Mountain City Eagles. The Heroes and Angels will shortly meet, and the outcome is eagerly anticipated by baseball fans across the country. In related news, the Sunset City Seals are set to challenge the Capital City Patriots in Capital City.

LexCorp Towers Construction

By Prescott Price

LexCorp Vice President Paul Pollard reports that construction of the Sunset City headquarters for LexCorp West is proceeding more quickly than originally estimated, and the building will be ready within the next couple of months.

Hermes 6 to be Delayed

By Harold Moore

The National Space Agency has announced that the launch of the Hermes 6 will be delayed while investigations into the cause of the communications failure that interfered with the Hermes 5 mission continue. Agency officials emphasize that this is merely a precaution, and that the delay is expected to be brief.