

GATEWAY GAZETTE

SUPERVILLAINS ESCAPE!

By Hubert Hubbersmith

Despite repeated assurances from government and military officials that the Ultra-Security Section of Diomedus Penitentiary was completely escape-proof, a group of inmates were able to seize control of the section, and then to maintain control of it for over a week before anyone even noticed. Sources say that there are indications that they may have been going to and fro from the prison, using it as a sort of Secret Headquarters for their nefarious deeds, without anyone being any the wiser. It was only due to the suspicions of Sunset City private detective Dr Dixie Hill that the takeover was eventually discovered, and in the ensuing firefight the most dangerous of the super-powered criminals were able to make good their escape, leaving only relatively weak minions to be captured by prison officials. Among the escapees was the long-time scourge of Sunset City, Ironclad.

The takeover and escape has led to renewed calls for a full review of the decision to grant military control of the unit, and to a complete investigation of the failures that allowed this takeover to take place. Both presidential candidates have called for an immediate investigation of all security procedures currently in place. Military spokesmen refused comment, saying that the situation was currently being investigated by an internal military review, and that it would not be appropriate to comment upon an investigation in progress. Warden Kelley welcomed the calls for an independent review, saying that he had grave doubts about the leadership of the Ultra-Security unit since the handover of the section from civilian to military control.

DRYWATER PROPOSES SUPERPOWERS REGISTRATION

By Harold Moore

General David Drywater has pledged that one of his first acts as president will be to urge Congress to pass immediate legislation mandating the registration of all meta-human abilities. "Superpowers are deadly weapons," Drywater said during the presidential debates, "And they should only be used with government authorization. Everyone with such powers must make them known to the proper authorities, so that they can be properly guided to use these abilities for the national welfare and defense. Only criminals have something to hide, and anyone using unhuman abilities against the common good must be aware that they will be pursued and prosecuted with the full force of the law."

SUPERHEROES (AND VILLAIN) BABYSIT FOR SENATOR FARFIELD

By Jack Kemp

While Farfield is known to be a supporter of masked vigilantes, the audience at the debate was still surprised to see that these self-proclaimed heroes can take time out from wandering the streets looking for fights to act as babysitters to their political patron. Near the end of the debate a group of them entered the studio with Senator Farfield's infant son in tow. The baby seemed delighted to be the center of attention, apparently having inherited his father's love of the spotlight. In an odd twist, one of the members of the Nanny Squad was later identified as the criminal "Mountain Man," who is supposed to be in federal custody. Apparently taking care of the Senator's son is some sort of work-release program for metahuman criminals.

DRYWATER ADDRESSES ISSUES, FARFIELD MAKES SPEECHES

An Editorial by Calvin Coolidge Cairne

The televised presidential debates were an excellent opportunity for the American people to have a good look at the two men vying for the most powerful position on the planet, and they both did what they do best. General Drywater, a war hero and patriot, laid out his vision for this country's future, while warning of the difficult choices that we face and the catastrophic dangers that will almost certainly result from the wrong choices. Senator Farfield, on the other hand, used the opportunity to make more speeches, offering nothing but vague generalities and feel-good homilies in response to the questions regarding his

policies. As the debates came to a close it was clear that General Drywater has a dynamic vision of America's rightful place in the war, and some tough but necessary plans on how to face a variety of menaces to our way of life. The Senator, on the other hand, seemed focussed on the vision of himself in the Oval Office. No doubt he and his charming family would look lovely there, but the United States is a country founded on the sweat and blood of people who actually do things, not people whose inherited wealth and good looks lead them to believe they have a natural right to be out leaders. The Gazette stands firmly behind our decision to support General Drywater in his bid to become the Leader of the Free World.