

GATEWAY GAZETTE

HERMES 6 SET TO LAUNCH

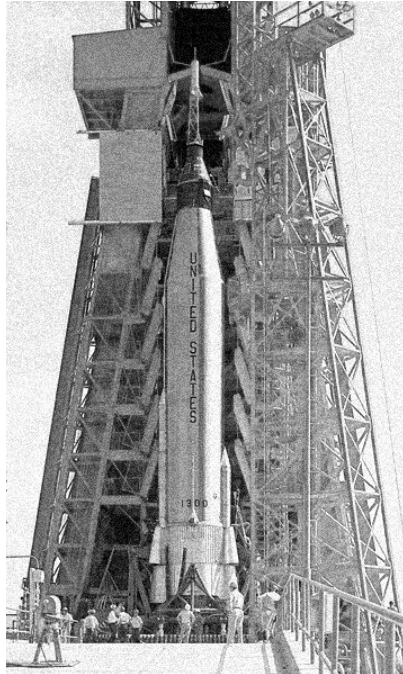
By Harold Moore

Presidential Science Advisor Alexander Luthor has announced that the launch of the Hermes 6 spacecraft has been rescheduled, after numerous delays caused by investigations into the communications problems experienced by the Hermes 5 upon re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere. "The US space program is a vital part of national defense, and an important symbol of American commitment to scientific progress," Dr Luthor announced at a press conference in the nation's capitol. "I have consulted with the leaders of the Space Agency, and we are confident that all the problems experienced by the Hermes 5 have been resolved." Dr Luthor also told reporters that Major Dirk Drake was not available for questions regarding the Hermes 5 mission, due to pressing duties aiding in the training of the possible pilots for the Hermes 6. The actual astronaut for the Hermes 6 launch has not yet been determined, intensive training of the astronaut pool is continuing and an announcement of the selection is expected soon.

CHARMING THIEF ROBS MENSWARE STORE

By Jack Kemp

In a bizarre theft, an unknown man entered one of the city's most exclusive menswear stores, became the central focus of the entire sales department for several hours, and departed with an expensive tailored suit without paying. Store clerks and managers alike are unable to account for their failure to realize the wardrobe had not been paid for until well after the thief's departure.



The Hermes 6 Readies for Launch

DRAKE RESIGNS DIRECTORSHIPS

By Prescott Price

One of Sunset City's most influential and highly respected businessmen, William Francis Drake, took the city's financial sector by surprise when he sent his resignation to the boards of directors of several of the city's most important corporations. Drake cited unspecified personal considerations as the reason for this unexpected move. He has remained unavailable for comment despite repeated calls by reporters to his residence.

PRESIDENT PARDONS SUPERVILLAIN

By Hubert Hubbersmith

President Farfield, in one of his first official acts after being sworn in as president, has issued a presidential pardon for the super-powered criminal known as Mountain Man. This convicted criminal was being held in the Diomedus Ultra Security Section during the recent successful breakout. Reports concerning Mountain Man's involvement in this breakout are contradictory, but Farfield was apparently swayed by statements by respected private investigator Dixie Hill that Mountain Man assisted authorities, and voluntarily remained in custody rather than taking advantage of the confusion to escape.

ARMY OUT OF DIOMEDUS

By Kendell Caperman

Corrections Department officials have announced that control over the UltraSecurity Section of Diomedus Penitentiary will be turned back over to the Department of Corrections. The military had taken over control of the unit due to concerns about national security posed by metahuman criminals. There was considerable criticism of this move, and questions regarding the constitutionality of military involvement in corrections. The recent failure of the military authorities to prevent a major breakout by the superpowered felons spurred increased calls for a reexamination of the decision, and President Farfield signed an executive order returning control to civilian authority.