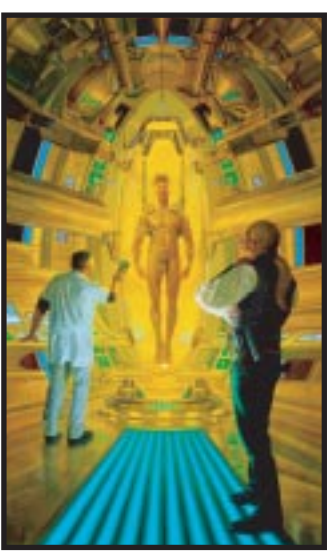


Terror Off Triumph!



'Help is on the way'

By Rudy Hanson

William Scorn, chairman and CEO of mega conglomerate Antares Corp. reported at a press conference Wednesday that his corporation was stepping up its timetable on the controversial A.T.O.M. Project (Advanced Techno-Organic Machines) in light of the streak of recent criminal activity and paranormal events.

"The recent proliferation of dissidents and the violence they create in our great city," Scorn said, "has stressed our law enforcement to their absolute limit. Too often our men in black find themselves outnumbered and outgunned when they respond to the needs of innocents. Antares Corp. is aware of the situation and has pledged to bend our considerable resources toward finding a solution for the people of Epic City."

Chairman Scorn's words were bolstered by the recent devastation caused south of Epic City's 6th district near the area commonly referred to as the New Orient.

Officials at Antares Corp. estimate their first production model will be ready for field testing by the middle of next month. From there it is only a matter of time before Antares Corp. is able to provide Epic City with its first privatized policing unit.

Tentatively labeled **Stellar Force** the Antares Corp. tactical team will be comprised of several enhanced humans, each trained and able to work in unison or independently as first response detachments.

Scorn and the other Antares Corp. board members remain

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Hell erupts south of Triumph Parkway

By Hank Dugan III - Epic City's #1 Investigative Action Reporter

You'd think that ole Hank Dugan III would be hob-knobbing with the rich and famous. Perhaps attending the gala at the Fifth Pier Galleria or in an honor box at the City Hall's 1st District Historical Celebration. You'd think... But you'd be wrong! Once again, drawn to the location by his amazing nose for news Hank Dugan III was on the spot as Hell erupted from below the streets of Epic City!

As always, with an ear attuned to the underbelly of Epic City and the mind of an ace detective, Hank Dugan III was able to be on hand as the socio-terrorist organization calling themselves The New Reich struck with extreme prejudice against a local Tong organization known as the Coral Serpents. Putting his life on the line Hank Dugan III was able to get close enough to the war zone to discover the truth behind both the Neo-Nazi attacks and the covert operations of the Coral Serpents. What seemed like a turf war was actually a bloody battle over slaves. But not

just any slaves; children, kept bound and shackled for who-knows-what horrible uses.

The New Reich's precise violence caught the unprepared Coral Serpents by surprise. Left and right, Asian street thugs writhed in pain and death throes. Without regard for the lives of the children the New Reich soldiers fired indiscriminantly and repeatedly into buildings that the Coral Serpents had been using to house their underaged slaves.

Within minutes, a team of vigilantes showed on the scene to stop the bloody attack. They engaged the New Reich in combat but were hardly effective.

Then it happened; in a flash of fire and brimstone Cardinal Street literally exploded into a million pieces. The blast formed a crater leading to the nether worlds big enough to fly a luxury Peregrine Zeppelin into. Only a true hero like Hank Dugan III could maintain his composure when he saw what arose from the

Children found murdered

By Chelsea Cross

Reports confirm that during the attack on 627 and 629 Cardinal Street south of the 6th district of Epic City that, of the 134 children suspected held captive by the Coral Serpent Tong:

14 were slaughtered by gunfire (while allegedly remaining shackled to their bunks - all of these children were allegedly of Asian descent)

12 were killed in the battle between the subterranean monster and a group of unidentified vigilantes. Six of these victims were critically injured and died en route to, or in the care of, Carnegie Hope Hospital)

32 suffered injuries of varying degrees. Though many of said injuries were severe all 32 children are expected to recover.

58 were allegedly suffering from malnutrition, dehydrated and traumatized but otherwise uninjured.

Calculated by statements taken from the children themselves 18 white youths were abducted by "men in red" suspected to be operatives of

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Ryan McDougall asks "How long will it last?"
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