

Atlanta POST-HERALD

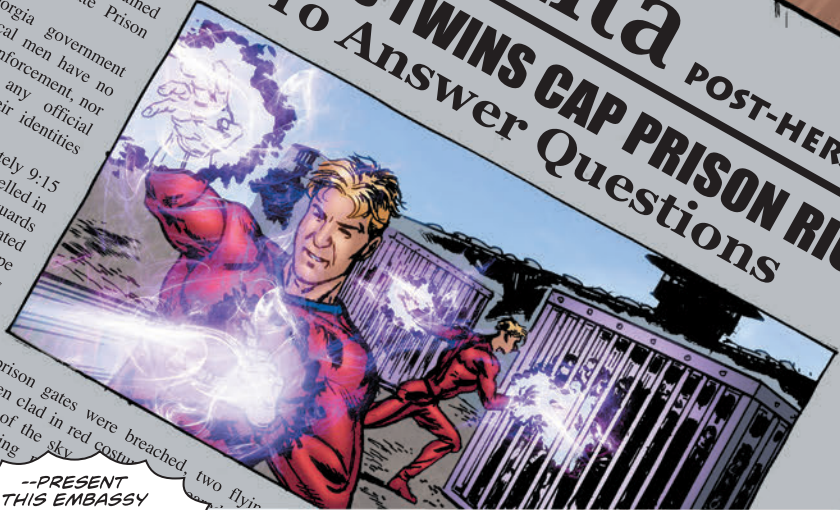
MYSTERIOUS TWINS CAP PRISON RIOT Refuse To Answer Questions

Constitution (UPA) — Two costumed beings wielding energy powers contained a breakout riot at Metro State Prison earlier today.

According to Georgia government sources, the two identical men have no connection to local law enforcement, nor are they recognized in any official capacity as law agents. Their identities remain unknown.

The riot began at approximately 9:15 a.m. when a group of prisoners rebelled in the facility cafeteria and took two guards hostage. The violence swiftly escalated as tear-gas and assault weapons were turned against the remaining guards and prisoners.

Witnesses report that just as the riot was breached, two flying men clad in red costumes appeared from the ceiling and began collecting prisoners with cages created out of thin air. No information was provided as to the source of the flying men.



--PRESENT THIS EMBASSY SECURITY FOOTAGE OF THE ODD MAN WHO FORCED HIS WAY IN AND DISASSEMBLED THE BOMB WITH--AS YOU CAN SEE HERE--A WAVE OF HIS HAND.

IDENTIFYING HIMSELF TO THE STYMIED BOMB SQUAD ONLY AS "QUBIT," HE THEN VANISHED AS SUDDENLY AS HE ARRIVED--



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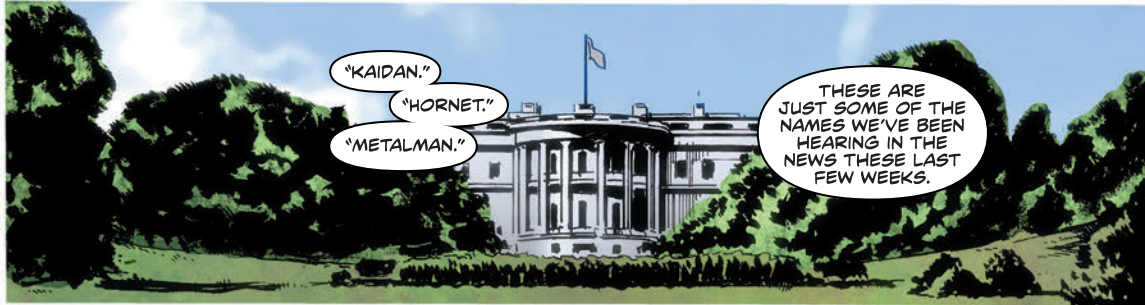
NATION TODAY

ARMED VIGILANTE CREATES CHAOS IN CAPITAL

Takes Out Assassins With Unique Firearms; Who Is 'Bette Noir'?

>> MORE





"KIDAN."
 "HORNET."
 "METALMAN."

THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE NAMES WE'VE BEEN HEARING IN THE NEWS THESE LAST FEW WEEKS.

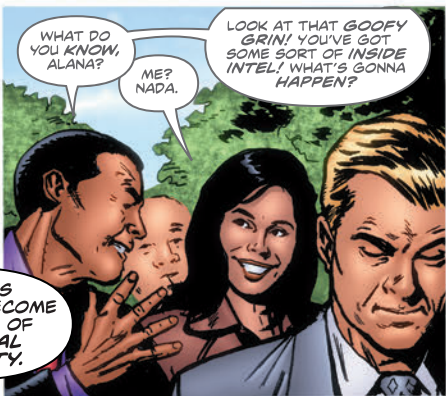


COSTUMED MYSTERY MEN AND WOMEN SHOWING UP AT MOMENTS OF CRISIS, DEMONSTRATING SUPERHUMAN POWERS AND ABILITIES--



--AND CREATING AN UNDERSTANDABLE AND GROWING SENSE OF LINEASE AND PARANOIA BECAUSE OF THEIR ANONYMITY AND THEIR CLANDESTINE METHODS.

THIS HAS QUICKLY BECOME A MATTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY.



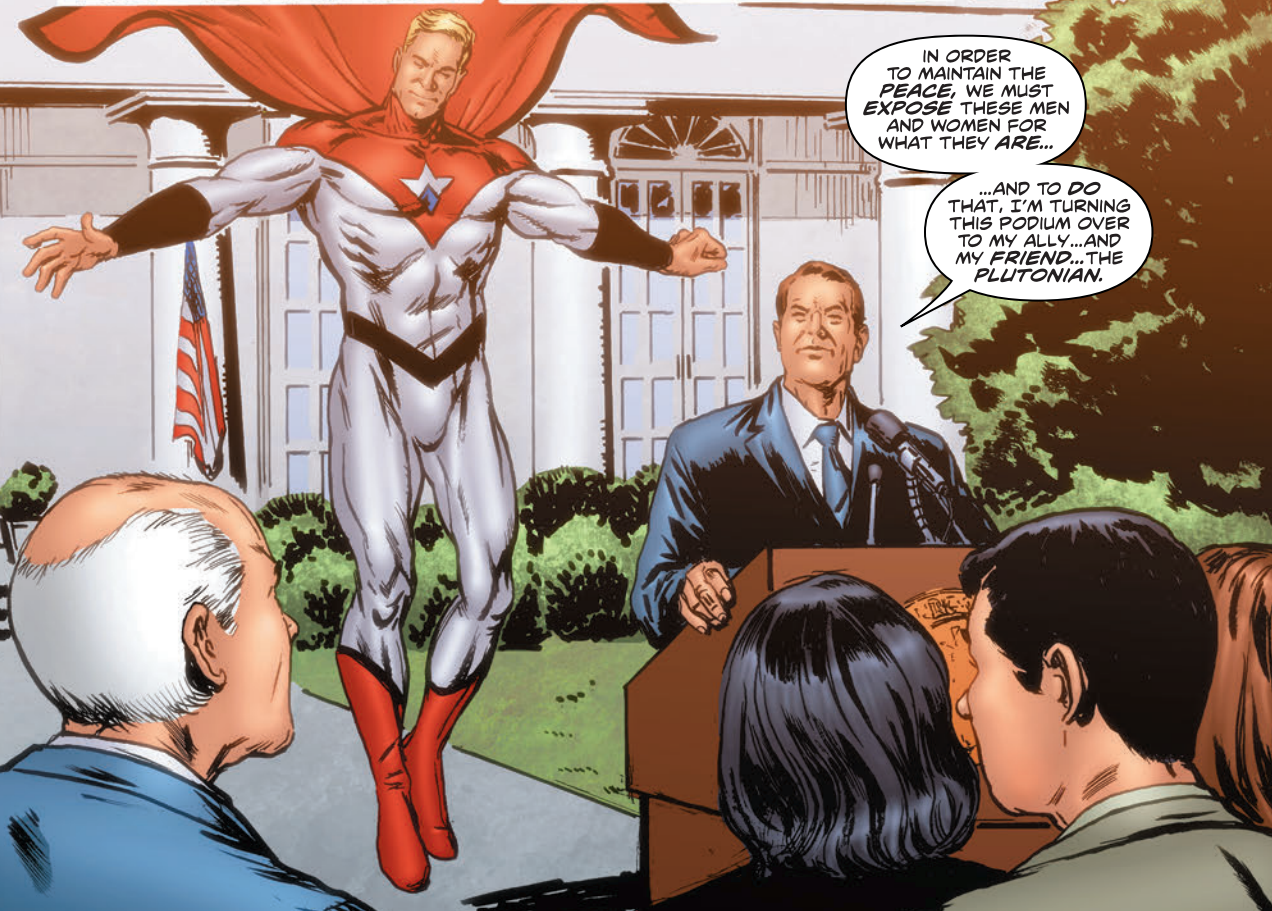
WHAT DO YOU KNOW, ALANA?

ME? NADA.

LOOK AT THAT GOOFY GRIN! YOU'VE GOT SOME SORT OF INSIDE INTEL! WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN?



... SOMETHING AMAZING.



IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE, WE MUST EXPOSE THESE MEN AND WOMEN FOR WHAT THEY ARE...

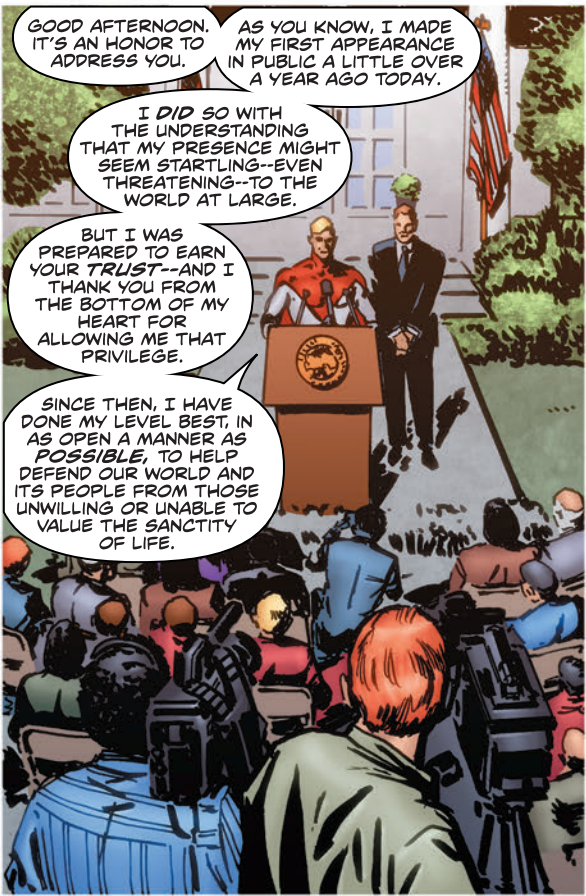
...AND TO DO THAT, I'M TURNING THIS PODIUM OVER TO MY ALLY...AND MY FRIEND...THE PLUTONIAN.



THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

I THINK IT'S BEST IF THIS COMES FROM YOU.

DON'T BE NERVOUS. JUST TELL THEM WHAT YOU TOLD ME.



GOOD AFTERNOON. IT'S AN HONOR TO ADDRESS YOU.

AS YOU KNOW, I MADE MY FIRST APPEARANCE IN PUBLIC A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO TODAY.

I DID SO WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT MY PRESENCE MIGHT SEEM STARTLING--EVEN THREATENING--TO THE WORLD AT LARGE.

BUT I WAS PREPARED TO EARN YOUR TRUST--AND I THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR ALLOWING ME THAT PRIVILEGE.

SINCE THEN, I HAVE DONE MY LEVEL BEST, IN AS OPEN A MANNER AS POSSIBLE, TO HELP DEFEND OUR WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE FROM THOSE UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO VALUE THE SANCTITY OF LIFE.



NOW, IN MY WAKE, OTHERS LIKE ME HAVE BEGUN POPPING UP...SOME OF THEM MASKED, MANY OF THEM SECRETIVE...

...AND I CAN CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND WHY THEIR SHADOWY PRESENCE WOULD CREATE ANXIETY IN A 21ST CENTURY WORLD.



SO I'VE DECIDED TO MAKE YOUR FEAR A THING OF THE PAST.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS...



...ALLOW ME
TO MAKE A PROPER
INTRODUCTION
TO ALL OF EARTH'S
SUPER-POWERED
PROTECTORS.



SOME OF THEIR FACES, YOU'VE SEEN. OTHERS ARE NEW TO YOU.

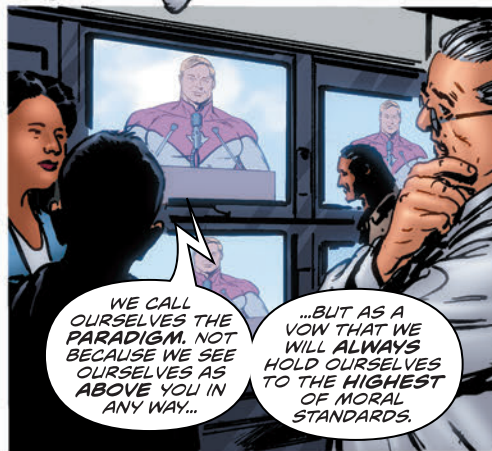
BUT THEY... WE... COME BEFORE YOU TODAY IN HOPES THAT YOU WILL EMBRACE EACH OF THEM AS YOU HAVE WELCOMED ME.

NO MORE OPERATING IN SECRET. NO HIDING. WE ARE HERE ONLY TO HELP.



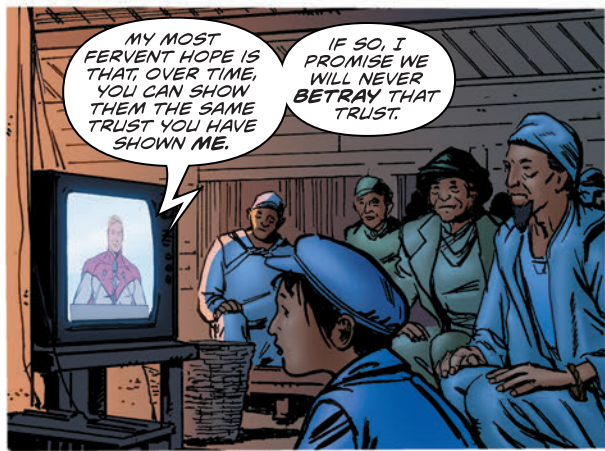
WOW. YOU'VE ALREADY FILED THE STORY, HAVEN'T YOU?

LIKE YOU SAID... I HAD A LITTLE INSIDE INFO.



WE CALL OURSELVES THE PARADIGM. NOT BECAUSE WE SEE OURSELVES AS ABOVE YOU IN ANY WAY...

...BUT AS A VOW THAT WE WILL ALWAYS HOLD OURSELVES TO THE HIGHEST OF MORAL STANDARDS.



MY MOST FERVENT HOPE IS THAT OVER TIME, YOU CAN SHOW THEM THE SAME TRUST YOU HAVE SHOWN ME.

IF SO, I PROMISE WE WILL NEVER BETRAY THAT TRUST.



WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN.



YOU HAVE MY WORD.