

# THE MENDEZ DYNASTY



Keepers of the Divine Bomb

## Mendez I (2018 - 2052)

Little is known about the life of Mendez I before the nuclear war. What is known is that he was a military officer assigned to protect the once great city that existed on the surface. When the nuclear war destroyed both the city and all human civilization on the planet, he was one of the few who survived in the underground shelters.

Due to the skills and experience Mendez I had learned in the military, he quickly became one of the leaders of those who had survived. For many years he served as one of the chief lieutenants of the first leader (whose name has been lost to history) of the underground city.

After the death of the first leader (details of which remain unknown), Mendez I became the new leader of the city and established the Mendez dynasty. His first action as leader was to establish our civilization's purpose to respect, protect and venerate the Divine Bomb.

Much of the rest of his reign other than that he rescued many in outlying sections that the previous leader had forsaken. These humans had been deemed too sick and were left to die. Mendez I declared that all survivors were beautiful and deserved to live. Many were beyond any medical treatment, but Mendez refused to quit and the lives many more were eventually saved.

In the fifth year of his reign he took a woman named Alma as his wife. In the next ten years she would later bear him a son, Mendez II and two daughters, Alma & Albina.

In the 28th year of his rule Mendez I died quietly, surrounded by his wife & children. Although his reign was relatively short, he did lay the early foundations for our civilization.

## Mendez II (2052 - 2107)

Ruling for over 50 years, Mendez II or Mendez the Magnificent is one leader who is most responsible for our culture and society. Building from the foundations left by his father, Mendez II set out on an ambitious program to rebuild the underground city from the first day of his rule.

In what were once ruins he had new living quarters and public spaces constructed. His engineers reclaimed and rebuilt the power generators ensuring their use for centuries. He also started a school system to educate the young.

Mendez's greatest achievement was the building of the hydroponic farms. Early in his reign it was projected that the pre-holocaust rations would be exhausted within 10 years. To avoid famine, Mendez began an aggressive program in several caverns adjacent to the

underground city. Using underground streams hydroponic several large hydroponic farms were created. By the times the rations ran out there were more than enough hydroponically grown food to sustain the people.

In his later years Mendez created the Council of Five to help in the administration of the city. The other four members were appointed by Mendez II, who would lead the Council and assigned a different function. The most important was the Viceroy who was responsible for the day to day administration for the city. The others were in charge of Security, Operations and Education, respectively.

Mendez II married early in life but after almost 60 years of marriage had no children. Thus, when he died Mendez was succeeded by his younger sister, Alma I. But because of his contribution he is still hailed as the father of our civilization.

## Alma I (2107 - 2114)

Succeeding her childless younger brother, Mendez II, Alma I was over 70 years old when she began her short reign.

For the most part she was a caretaker sovereign, continuing the projects and programs that had been started by her late brother. She told many that her job was to protect his legacy. However, she did put her stamp on two significant areas.

The first was education. She had served as Education Minister on the Council of Five during her brother's reign. As sovereign Alma stepped up all education programs throughout the underground city. She put the focus on engineering to maintain the old power plants and machinery as well as encouraging new designs to generate electricity. Focus was also put on the medical arts. Since the holocaust, the survivors had suffered many, many health problems including genetic mutation that was being passed down to the next generations. Alma's goal was to reverse these effects or at least reduced the impact of the mutations.

The second area was the creation of the Knights of Bomb. Alma took seriously her father's (Mendez I) directive that the Alpha-Omega bomb should be respected and venerated, so she created this select order whose only task was to care for it. The Council of Five decided on who would become a Knight from those in the populace who applied. The requirements and tests to become a Knight are rumored to be very strict have been kept secret by the Council. Only one requirement that is known is that the applicant be unmarried and willing to devote his or her life to take care of the bomb.

Although her reign was only 7 years, Alma I made a significant contribution. Upon her death, her son Mendez III became ruler.

## Mendez III (2114 - 2164)

Very little is known about the third Mendez. Although he ruled for 50 years it is believed that he acted mainly as a caretaker and simply continued the programs and policies of his predecessors.

During his reign Mendez III made no significant contribution to our society and culture.

What is known about him is that he married four times in search of a male heir. He did have one son, but it was born prematurely and only lived for a few weeks. The child's mother also died soon after. It has been long been rumored that Mendez III had some of his wives killed after they failed to give him a son but there has been no historical evidence to prove those rumors.

When Mendez III died he was succeeded by his only daughter, Alma II.

## Alma II (2164 - 2211)

Often referred to as Crazy Alma, Alma II reigned for almost 50 years. Like her father, Mendez III, she was obsessed with producing a male heir. After several false pregnancies, she had her husband tried and executed for treason on what was later discovered to be false charges.

Once her husband was dead, she took several lovers over the years but was still unable to conceive. Of course she blamed her lovers and had many of them executed. She even had a human from the surfaced captured and forced to be her lover but that failed too.

As she got older, Alma II began making crazy pronouncements and bizarre speeches. Soon the Council of Five interceded, taking control and making Alma a figurehead. Dying childless she was succeeded by her cousin, Alma III.

## Alma III (2211 - 2229)

Often referred to as 'The Great Alma', Alma III ruled for only a mere 18 years. However, in that short period of time she achieved several great accomplishments.

Like her grandmother (Alma I), Alma III's first priority was education. She revamped the education system to stress the expansion of mental abilities in children. This would have great impact for our society in the centuries to come.

Another great accomplishment was in medicine. While the Mendez line and several

other families had proven to be very hearty despite the affects of nuclear radiation, the same was not true of all families. Alma put a priority on selective breeding so those family lines that had shown a genetic weakness would die out within a few generations so they would not deteriorate the gene pool. She also instituted laws that all marriages had to be approved to insure the strong genetic lines would become dominant and encouraged inter-breeding within families with superior genes making it possible for cousins and even brothers and sisters to marry.

Alma revised the charter of the Knights of the Bomb so that all members of the Council of Five would automatically be inducted as Knights but without having to vow to remain unmarried. She also instituted several procedures and ceremonies for the Knights to perform on a regular basis that at that time remained secret to the public.

Most important, after the disastrous reigns of her two predecessors, Alma III brought a sense of stability and calm to the people.

When she died, Alma was succeeded by her son, Mendez IV.

## Mendez IV (2229 - 2272)

Son of 'The Great Alma', Mendez IV ruled for 43 peaceful years. While he saw his primary role as preserving his mother's legacy by continuing her policies, he had accomplishments of his own.

Educated as an Engineer, Mendez IV expanded and improved the efficiency of the electrical grid. His housing programs were able to reclaim many older buildings in the underground city to provide living quarters for all.

Unfortunately, Mendez's first wife died in childbirth in the 12th year of his reign. The child perished several days later. After that he remained a bachelor for another 20 years until deciding to marry his cousin, who gave him a daughter. This was a bit scandalous at the time but fitting with his mother's breeding policies.

When he died at the age of 67, his daughter, Alma IV, succeeded him.

## Alma IV (2272 - 2319)

Rising to the throne at the young age of 10 years old, Alma IV ruled through a regent, her mother, appointed by the Council of Five, for the first 10 years of her reign.

Because of this early experience of no responsibility, Alma IV became little more than a caretaker even after assuming full sovereign powers upon her 21st birthday.

The only distinguishing characteristic of her reign was her failed efforts to produce and

heir. She did become pregnant several times but all ended in miscarriage. After reigning for 47 unremarkable years, she died childless and was succeeded by her cousin, the infamous Mendez V.

## Mendez V (2319 - 2323)

Also known as Mendez the Terrible, Mendez V was our most infamous ruler. His short four year reign was the darkest period in our history.

Of course there was great promise when Mendez V ascended to the throne. After the caretaker reign of Alma IV, he promised to take a more active role in government. However after only three months into his reign Mendez V fell gravely ill. Most did not expect him to survive but he pulled through and fully recovered.

After this illness many noted a change in Mendez V. He seemed to have a strange look in his eyes, a more imperious manner and a slight paranoia. This paranoia soon manifested when Mendez V stated that his illness was an assassination attempt and accused his wife of poisoning him. Before she could be put on trial for this alleged crime, Mendez V ordered the security forces to execute her. When the Council of Five objected, Mendez V said there was a conspiracy to kill him and declared martial law.

For the next three years many ordinary people were accused of being part of the conspiracy and were executed without trial. Even members of the Council of Five were accused and put to death on Mendez's word only.

It soon became apparent that Mendez V had gone mad. He declared war against an imaginary foe that he said lived in the eastern tunnels. He also appointed his pet cockroach to the Knights of the Bomb.

Finally, the Minister of Security decided that Mendez V needed to be removed. He with several of his most trusted guards murdered Mendez V.

After his death he was succeeded by his young niece, Alma V.

## Alma V (2323 - 2380)

Alma V came to power after the murder of her uncle Mendez the Terrible. As her first act she pardoned her uncle's murderers and thus became known as Alma the Benevolent. Ascending to the throne at the early age of 19 there was much concern if she would be up to the job. But she quickly dispelled those concerns as she set about to repair the damage that her uncle had done. She restored both the Council of Five and the Knights of the Bomb to their former status, reinstating many who had either resigned or were

forced out by her uncle.

It was early in Alma V's reign that certain citizens began showing signs of telepathy. While some initially feared this, Alma V embraced it. She ordered teachers to gear their lessons to help develop these skills in children. She also encouraged adults to work on their mental abilities. As part of this Alma V also arranged marriages among those who showed the highest telepathic aptitude. By the end of her reign most of the population has a rudimentary telepathic ability.

Alma V is also remembered fondly due to her love of children. Despite having six of her own, she would often visit the elementary school just to read or simply sit and talk with the children there. The children loved her back, calling Aunt Alma.

On the 50th anniversary of her accession there was a grand celebration & holiday. Even the Knights of the Bomb, which was a very reclusive order back then, attended to honor her.

Alma V ruled another 7 seven years becoming our longest reigning sovereign. She died peacefully surrounded by her children and grandchildren. She was succeeded by her eldest son, Mendez VI.

## Mendez VI (2380 - 2414)

The reign of Mendez VI began with many high hopes. Being the son of the beloved Alma the Benevolent many thought that he would rule like his mother.

Unfortunately, Mendez VI proved to be little more than a caretaker sovereign. He didn't like governing and let the Council of Five do most of the work. Although as many who defended him had stated, that while he did little to help, he did nothing to hurt the community.

Mendez IV and his wife had two children but his son died of what was then a mysterious illness. His daughter, Alma VI, survived and she succeeded him when he died after ruling for 34 years.

## Alma VI (2414 - 2463)

Like her father, Alma VI was little more than a caretaker during her 49 year reign.

Since it had been assumed that her brother would rule after her father she had not been educated to do so.

Her main interest was medicine and she became obsessed with finding the cause of her brother's death. At first many thought this a selfish task but as the years went by more

and more of the population succumbed to this mysterious illness.

Alma VI redirected much of the medical resources and research facilities to finding the cause of this illness. And although the cause & cure would not be found for almost three centuries she is still credited for laying the foundation to discover the cure.

Upon her death she was succeeded by her only child, Alma VII.

## Alma VII (2463 - 2504)

When Alma VII ascended to the throne, our civilization was in the throes of a malaise. Many were dying of a mysterious illness, which had taken the life of Alma VII's uncle, and worse the birth rate was beginning to fall.

Following in the footsteps of her mother, the new sovereign dedicated many resources to medical research to find the causes of these afflictions.

Alma VII also believed strongly in education and the development of our mental abilities. It was toward the end of her 41 year reign that children began to develop the ability to communicate telepathically.

When she died, her son, Mendez VII, succeeded her.

## Mendez VII (2504 - 2551)

As a boy, Mendez VII exhibited strong mental and telepathic abilities. Because of this, he instituted an aggressive program to further develop these abilities among the population.

This included a series of new laws, called the Eugenics Protocols that restricted marriage and procreation to only those who were able to show certain telepathic abilities. Unfortunately, the impact of the Eugenics Protocols was to increase the decline in the birthrate without stemming the spread of the mysterious illness that seemed to strike at random within the population. This illness took the life of Mendez VII's eldest son when he reached his 20th year.

Dying childless after ruling for 47 years, Mendez VII was succeeded by his niece, Alma VIII.

## Alma VIII (2551 - 2600)

Alma VIII had always had a high level of psychic and telegraphic ability. Because of this



she aggressively expanded her uncle's (Mendez VII) programs. There was some resistance within the community especially from those who had been denied permission to marry. However, the Council of Five agreed with and enforced Alma VIII's policies.

In the end, her efforts were very successful. Within the first 30 years of her reign, all were able to communicate telepathically. Of course this required the Council of Five to pass several laws forbidding anyone from invading another's thoughts without their permission. By the end of Alma VIII's reign, many were developing rudimentary powers of illusion.

However by placing so much emphasis on metal powers, Alma VIII neglected the deteriorating medical situation. During her reign the birthrate continued to decline. Worse more and more were dying from the mysterious illness. While researchers still could not find the cause, they became convinced that the two had to be linked.

To raise morale, Alma VIII instituted two new public holidays. The first was to honor the birthday of Mendez II. The other was to celebrate the founding of our civilization. Since this was linked to the long ago nuclear war, the Knights of the Bomb were instructed to plan a special service to remember the dead of that war and to reaffirm our commitment to protect and respect the Bomb.

Alma VIII married very late and had only one child, a son. It was he, Mendez VIII, who succeeded her when she quietly passed on in the 49th year of her reign.

## Mendez VIII (2600 - 2647)

Also known as Mendez the Explorer, Mendez VIII ascended to power after the death of his mother, the beloved Alma VIII.

During his reign Mendez VIII put an emphasis on exploring beyond the existing confines of the underground city. Old underground railway lines that had been discovered years before were finally explored. This led to the discovery of additional sections of the city which had never been inhabited and of other cities that had been destroyed during the nuclear war.

Unfortunately, these new areas could not be fully explored due to the ongoing medical crises. By this time the community was experiencing negative population growth. The birth rate was barely enough to sustain the population level. Plus there were a growing number of adults dying from the mysterious illness.

It was also during Mendez VIII's reign that most developed a rudimentary power of illusion. At that time, the power was only developed enough for each person to hide their radiation scars. For centuries, everyone used make-up to hide these scars but the make-up was soon replaced once people had the power to project an idealized image of

them self.

Also during this time a cult began forming within the Knights of the Bomb. Members of this cult came to the belief that our community represented a new phase of evolution which had been started by a similar bomb. Thus, the Bomb was an instrument of God on earth and should be respected as such. Many on the Council of Five were worried about this cult, but Mendez VIII felt that the community should be open to all beliefs.

When he died after reigning for 47 years, Mendez VIII was succeeded by his nephew, Mendez IX.

## Mendez IX (2647 - 2693)

Mendez IX is most remembered for the events that occurred toward the end of his 46 year reign, the Great Invasion.

The Great Invasion began simply enough when a band of Humans from the surface sought refuge with the Underground City. They had kidnapped the wife of the Ape's Orangutan leader and were holding her hostage. Pursued by Gorilla soldiers, they decided to hide in the city with their hostage, Mika. When small patrol of the Gorillas entered the city, a battle broke out between them and the surface Humans. All the surface Humans were killed and most of the Gorillas, but one or two survived to report back to their Simian leaders.

The hostage, Mika, also survived and was brought before the Council of Five, but before they could determine what to do with her another group from the surface arrived. This group was comprised of both Apes and Humans, led by a woman named MacDonald and a Chimpanzee named Lucius. They warned that the Gorilla army was preparing to invade the Underground City and offered to return Mika before the invasion. The Council decided against this and imprisoned all of them.

Mendez IX decided to relocate our community using the old railway tunnels. He ordered the Knights of the Bomb, then led by his nephew Mendez X, to move the Bomb once the old location was evacuated. Unfortunately, Mendez IX was betrayed by his only child, Alma, who freed the imprisoned Apes & Humans as the Gorilla Army invaded the Underground City. If they escaped or were killed remains unknown to this day.

Mendez IX was the last to leave the city and was killed by the invading Apes, leaving it to Mendez X to save the community.

## Mendez X (2693 - 2747)

Remembered as Mendez the Savior, Mendez X came to power in the midst of a crisis, the invasion a Gorilla army from the surface. Due to the murder of his uncle, Mendez IX, by the Apes, and the disqualification of Alma, his cousin, due to her betrayal; Mendez X succeeded to the throne.

As head of the Knights of the Bomb, he was one of the last to leave the old location as it was being evacuated. He and the other Knights had loaded the Bomb on to an old flatbed railway car to move it to the new location of the community. But the Gorilla army pursued them through the tunnels. Fearing that the Apes would find the new location of our community and kill all our people, Mendez let the Gorillas catch up with the Bomb. When they were close enough, he fired the Bomb's engine destroying most of the Gorilla army.

When they arrived at the community's new location, Mendez X took charge of the situation. Living quarters were created in the ruins of sunken buildings. Engineers were able to restore electrical power within the first two weeks. Most importantly new hydroponic farms were created to feed the people. The rest of Mendez X's reign was devoted in restoring the community to its former state before the invasion and relocation.

Also, during his reign the cult inside the Knights of the Bomb began to grow and spread to the general population. Many took the Bomb's role in destroying the Apes as a sign that it was God's instrument on earth. The Council of Five wanted to stamp out this cult, but Mendez X decided on tolerance.

After ruling for 54 years, Mendez X peacefully died surrounded by his family & friends. His son, Mendez XI succeeded him.

## Mendez XI (2747 - 2779)

Mendez XI ascended to the throne upon the death of his father and continued his father's policies to rebuild the community.

During his reign the cause for the mysterious illness was found. The medical researchers determined that the loss of the top epidermal layer, caused by early radiation effects that carried through to current generation via genetic mutation, made everyone more susceptible to infection from the air. This also accounted for the falling birthrate since many of these infections affected fertility in both males and females. While lingering radiation killed the micro-organisms that carried these infections in the past; when that radiation dissipated over the centuries, they began to thrive again. The researchers could

not find a cure for this but determined that all skin needed to be covered including the face. One researcher Adiposo created facial masks for this purpose and was given a seat on the Council of Five for his contribution.

However, the researcher determined that to prevent skin suffocation, all would need to expose some part of their skin, most likely their face, to the air on a periodic basis. The only way to do so without risking infection was to do it close to a radiation source that where micro-organisms could not survive, the Bomb.

This confirmed to many that the Bomb was divine as the cult had believed. Of course many still clung to the old beliefs.

It was during the 30th Anniversary of his reign that Mendez XI proclaimed his belief that the Bomb was divine and made it the official religion. His action sparked a civil war within the community in which Mendez XI was killed two years later, to be succeeded by his daughter, Albina I.

## Albina I (2779 - 2827)

Albina I came to power after the death of her father in the early days of the civil war, or Psychic Jihad as it would come to be called. She was the first sovereign to be named Albina since the Mendez family would no longer name a daughter Alma after the betrayal of Mendez IX's daughter of the same name during the Ape Invasion 50 years earlier.

Like her father, Albina I deeply believed in the divinity of the Bomb. One of her first actions was to declare all non-believers rebels, outlawing them from the community. Unfortunately, this had the effect of increasing the ranks of the rebels. Until then those who most disapproved of Mendez XI declaring the divinity of the bomb the official religion were a small group of fanatics. While this small group did engage in terrorist activities, one of which was the assassination of Mendez XI; they were a small nuisance. However, there were many other non-believers in the community who were peaceful and just wanted to be left alone. But Albina I wanted vengeance for the murder of her father and blamed all who denied the divinity of the Bomb. Thus, many families were forced out of their homes and into hiding. Those that refused were forced to fight each other to the death. These actions created a hardened group of survivors who joined the rebels extending the civil war for over two centuries.

Albina I also changed the name of the Knights of the Bomb to the Priests of the Holy Bomb. She also reorganized the order requiring much stricter rules for those who wished to join.

Unlike her father, Albina I lived to a ripe old age and died peacefully in the 48th year of

her reign. She was succeeded by her daughter, Albina II.

## Albina II (2827 - 2847)

Unlike her mother, Albina II did not passionately pursue winning the war. Her hope was for peace and repeatedly tried to negotiate a settlement with the rebels. Unfortunately, none of her efforts were successful and after many years of trying she finally lost the trust of the people. She decided to abdicate in the 20th year of her reign and was succeeded by her cousin, Mendez XII.

## Mendez XII (2847 - 2898)

Mendez XII came to power at the young age of 25. Not wanting to make the same mistakes as his predecessor, he took a hard line with the rebels. His policy was surrender or die.

Early in his reign, Mendez XII decided the key to winning the war was the community's mental powers. He began an aggressive program to further grow the psychic powers of all in the community. Soon specially trained psychic troopers were searching the ruins with their minds to find the rebels.

As the years went by the use of illusion was expanded to trick the rebels so that they could be captured or killed. These successes made Mendez XII even more aggressive and he ordered that illusion be used to trick the rebels to kill each other. Due to this the civil war became known as the Psychic Jihad.

In the underground city, Mendez XII had the bomb moved to an old cathedral, requiring all to attend a weekly service in praise of the Almighty Bomb. He also ordered the Priests to conduct daily services for all citizens who wished to attend.

Mendez XII was killed in the 51st year of his reign and was succeeded by his daughter, Albina III.

## Albina III (2898 - 2933)

Albina III ascended to the throne when her father, Mendez XII, was killed in a rebel attack during the Psychic Jihad. The rebels tricked Mendez XIII into walking into a chasm while inspecting housing units on the outskirts of the underground city.

Outraged and angered by her father's death, Albina III launched new offenses against

the rebels. While these were successful at first, over time the rebels were successful in learning the mental tricks being used against them.

Also, many in the community still wanted a truce with the rebels feeling that an accommodation could be reached with them. For most, the rebels were old friends and family members who they did not wish to be killed. Albina III rejected all calls for a truce.

Instead she increased the number of psychic shock troops. She began a more expansive selective breeding program to increase the mental powers of future generations. These policies made Albina III vastly unpopular with the public.

Soon many were openly speaking out against her. Albina III branded those who criticized her as traitors and put them on trial for treason. This had the result of forcing many families to join the rank of the rebels. But the more resistance the community showed for her actions, the more fanatical Albina III became. Eventually the Council of Five was forced to step in and depose her. They declared Albina III a despot and ordered her to be arrested & put on trial for war crimes.

Rather than accept the humiliation of arrest and imprisonment, Albina III committed suicide in her chambers in the 35th year of her reign. Since she had no children she was succeeded by her nephew, Mendez XIII.

## Mendez XIII (2933 - 2977)

Mendez XIII took the throne after the suicide of his aunt, Albina III.

Mendez XIII proved to be an excellent tactician and strategist. These skills led to several victories over the rebels in the early years of his reign. These victories resulted in a lull in the Psychic Jihad that would last decades with only minor skirmishes occurring sporadically.

With the rebels no more than a minor problem, Mendez XIII was able to concentrate on rebuilding the Underground City. During his reign many areas were reclaimed and hundreds of living units restored for citizens to occupy.

Mendez XIII did not stop there, he updated and improved the power grid and rebuilt several abandoned nuclear reactors. This provided power and light to the city.

It also allowed for the Almighty Bomb to be fully reactivated. To celebrate this Mendez XIII called for a special service in the Cathedral. Those attending were enthralled to see the Divine Bomb rise in front of them when Mendez XIII pushed the green and yellow switches on the prie-Deiu. The service was so popular with the populace, the Council of Five voted to make it an official day of observance.

Of course, on the tenth anniversary of this holy day, during the services, the rebels

launched a massive psychic attack against the populace, their biggest in many, many years. Mendez XIII ordered an immediate counter-strike but the people were much shaken. This would be the last major battle during Mendez XIII's reign for he would die a few years later to be followed by his son, Mendez XIV.

## Mendez XIV (2977 - 3022)

Mendez XIV became leader during an escalation of the Psychic Jihad. It took the first decade of his reign but thanks to his leadership the rebels were pushed back once again although not totally destroyed.

Once the rebels became no more than a nuisance again, Mendez XIV was able to focus on domestic matters. He reformed the order of the Priests of the Almighty Bomb to allow both men and women to officiate at services. He also assumed the position of High Pontiff merging it permanently with the throne.

After reigning for 45 years, Mendez XIV died childless and was succeeded by his niece, Albina IV.

## Albina IV (3022 - 3074)

Albina IV rose to the throne shortly after her 25th birthday and was for the most part a caretaker monarch.

For the most part her 52 year reign was very peaceful. The rebels had become a infrequent nuisance so she never launched any attacks against them. While she continued the policies and projects of her predecessors, she started no new ones.

However, Albina IV did make one significant contribution. She wrote the Psalm of Mendez II and in her role of High Pontiff incorporated it to the services for the Almighty Bomb. She claimed that it was an original composition, but some suspected that she merely revised an ancient one found in the archives.

Although Albina IV's reign was peaceful, she ended paying for her laissez-faire attitude toward the rebels with her life and was killed when they launched a new offensive. Her son, Mendez XV, succeeded her.

## Mendez XV (3074 - 3085)

When Mendez XV came to power he was determined to end the Psychic Jihad. To this

end he decided to take a more direct approach. Mendez XV's plan was to capture primitive humans from the surface and use them to attack the rebels. The Council of Five resisted this at first but eventually approved the plan and it proved to be a very effective tactic.

The humans living on the surface were easily rounded up using illusion. They were far more primitive than first assumed, barely able to still speak. Fortunately, this made them more susceptible to mind control. Soon they were attacking rebel strongholds.

In the sixth year of Mendez VX's reign, a woman captured with a group of surface humans who was far more intelligent than the rest. She was brought before the Council for questioning.

She claimed that she was a space traveler from the late 20th century sent into the future by the Hasslein Institute of Temporal Physics to prevent the Earth's destruction in the 40th century. Something went wrong though and her ship crashed on the western part of the continent centuries too early. Her crewmates were killed by the Apes in that region and she had spent five years travelling east to find her institute's underground bunker. Mendez XV took an interest in this woman and spent much time with her to learn about her era. After several years she completely gained his trust. She used that trust to betray him and tried to destroy the Almighty Bomb. Fortunately, her sabotage was stopped in time but she escaped, never to be seen again.

However, she left behind several weapons, called grenades. Mendez XV used these weapons to end the war but sadly he was killed in the final attack. His daughter, Albina V, succeeded him.

## Albina V (3085 - 3138)

Albina V ascended to the throne at the end of the Psychic Jihad, for the first time in centuries the community was at peace and completely united. But due to the effects of the mysterious illness centuries earlier and the civil war, population growth had been negative for hundreds of years. Thus, the community was at its lowest level of population since right after the Nuclear War a millennium earlier. However, due to the war both the hydroponic farms and the power grid were not capable of supporting a much larger population.

Albina V immediately addressed all these problems. Her goal was renewal and rebuilding. Priorities were given to expanding the farms to feed a larger population. While new sources of power were not needed, the entire power grid was rebuilt in her first five years. Part of the genius of Albina V's policy was not to replace everything with something new but to reconstruct and preserve what had been left behind by



ancestors.

Albina V also put a priority on recapturing the woman from the past who betrayed her father. She repurposed the Psychic Shock Troops from the war to scan with their minds the areas surrounding the Underground City. Unfortunately, their range was limited so they couldn't find the woman. However, one night in the first year of Albina V's reign they did detect a spaceship re-entering the planet's atmosphere as it flew briefly overhead but it was soon out of range and it was surmised that the ship must have landed in the Western region of the continent.

By the end of Albina V's 53 year reign the community was starting to thrive again. When she died she was honored as a savior and was succeeded by her daughter, Albina VI.

## Albina VI (3138 - 3186)

Albina VI is remembered mostly for continuing her mother's policies of renewal and rebuilding.

During her 48 year reign she showed little interest in launching new initiatives or even in governing. She deferred most of her responsibilities and powers to the Council of Five.

One notable achievement during Albina VI's reign was that the birth rate, which had been stagnate for centuries, started to slowly increase.

When Albina VI died she was followed by her son, Mendez XVI.

## Mendez XVI (3186 - 3223)

Like his mother, Mendez XVI showed little interest in governing, deferring to the Council of Five during his 37 year reign.

An area that he did show interest was in reclaiming many of the old buildings to be used as living quarters for the people. Since the birth rate was starting to rise again, Mendez XVI became very popular with the people for his efforts.

However, there was a small controversy regarding one of the old buildings, the Library. This building contained many, many books from the pre-nuclear war period. Mendez XVI felt since that our society was born from the nuclear war all that came before it was irrelevant and should be destroyed. Several members of the Council of Five disagreed. Debate raged for weeks in the Council but ultimately Mendez XVI won out. All the books were gathered and burned in front of the cathedral.

Upon his death it was discovered that Mendez XVI had kept one book for his own collection, a story about prisoners building a bridge in a jungle. He was succeeded by his son, Mendez XVII.

## Mendez XVII (3223 - 3272)

Mendez XVII, or The Mad Mendez as he became known, started his 49 year reign on a very hopeful note. Unlike his immediate predecessors, Mendez XVII was extremely interested in governing and took a very active role.

His main priority was education & psychic training for both children and adults. While the Psychic Jihad had been fought mentally for the most part, Mendez XVII felt that these psychic powers were still very crude and needed to be refined. To this end he convinced the Council of Five to pass a law that forbade verbal communication except in services for the Almighty Bomb.

Mendez XVII also wanted to increase the ability to create illusion and mind control of surface humans and simians, which he called, 'the lower species'. He stated that this was vital to the community's future safety and security.

Mendez XVII's efforts to increase his own psychic ability led him to spend much time alone meditating. Unfortunately, over the years, with all that time turning his mind inward, he slowly drove himself mad. The first signs of his madness showed during a service in the cathedral. When it came time to reveal his inmost self, instead of just removing his mask, he stripped completely naked in front of the entire congregation. Many similar incidents like this followed, none violent or dangerous, mostly comical; but soon the Council was forced to take action to restore public confidence and appointed Mendez XVII's eldest daughter, Albina VII, as Regent in the 37th year of her father's reign.

Mendez XVII spent the next 12 years under a Doctor's care. He did have periods of lucidity, but for the most part he was a figurehead until his death when his daughter succeeded him.

## Albina VII (3272 - 3309)

While Albina VII's official reign lasted only 37 years, she ruled much longer due to her appointment of as Regent due to her father's mental illness.

Albina VIII's top priority during her regains was to increase the birth rate. Since the end of the Psychic Jihad the birth rate has gone from a negative to a positive, but overall

growth was still low. Albina VIII ordered increased selective breeding, pairing the most fertile people, in order to increase the overall rate. While the progress of this policy was slow it eventually quadrupled the birth rate by the end of Albina VIII's reign.

She died peacefully at the age of 75 and was followed by her daughter, Albina VIII.

## Albina VIII (3309 - 3362)

Albina VIII was the only child of Albina VII and as a result was a bit spoiled. Born late in her mother's life, Albina VIII was 30 years old when she assumed the throne, but most felt she was very immature for her age. She was described as being petulant, stubborn and arrogant.

Albina VIII continued her mother's policies on selective breeding to increase the birth rate but did little else. She was disinterested in improving housing, the electrical grid and the hydroponic farms. She did like declaring Holidays where she could preside in over elaborate ceremonies in the cathedral. However, critics felt her goal was to honor herself, not the Divine Bomb

While Albina VIII had many lovers, she never married nor had children. Thus, when Albina VIII died after 53 years on the throne, she was succeeded by her nephew, Mendez XVIII.

## Mendez XVIII (3362 - 3418)

When Mendez XVIII came to power the community was just beginning to face what would be its greatest crises since the Psychic Jihad. For decades, the birth rate was slowly increasing thanks to the efforts of his predecessors, Albina VII & Albina VIII; however, neither had taken steps to increase the output of the hydroponic farms to feed the growing population.

Mendez XVIII forced to take decisive steps within the first 10 years of his reign to prevent famine. He ordered all resources to be focus to increase production of the farms. But within several years that proved to not be enough. To find more sources of food Mendez XVIII ordered exploration of several nearby caverns. In one of these, Caspay found thousands of mushrooms growing. Unfortunately, when eaten whole and in raw form they had a bad psychological effect on a person. Thus, the mushrooms needed to be chopped up and cooked before consumed. Still they helped extend the food supply and as a reward for his discovery, Caspay was appointed to the Council of Five.

However, these efforts were not enough and Mendez XVIII had to take more drastic

measures. He ordered that all food be rationed. Each family's allotment based on a measure of psychic ability & other genetic criteria rather than need. This was not popular, but Mendez XVIII insisted it would ensure the long term survival of the community. He also limited the number of children of each family and, to set an example, did not have any children himself. Unpopular as these measures were, they did prevent a famine although Mendez XVIII's legacy was tarnished. When he died in the 56th year of his reign, Mendez XVIII was followed by his nephew, Mendez XIX.

## Mendez XIX (3418 - 3466)

After many years of hardships, Mendez XIX ushered in what was called a Golden Age. The first several years of Mendez XIX's reign were somewhat difficult. He continued some of the most unpopular policies of his uncle, Mendez XVIII. But soon the danger of famine was averted. To prevent that from ever happening again Mendez XIX put several new policies into place.

The first of these was the requirement that all citizens donate several hours a week to maintaining the hydroponic farms. Many disliked this at first but in time it contributed to a renewed sense of community. Second was a periodic exploration of the surrounding caverns to harvest mushrooms or other sourced of food. Again all citizens were required to participate.

The last was a declaration that the population had grown to its optimum size. Couples would now only be allowed to have two children each to maintain the population without growing it. However, there were exceptions. A couple could have a third child if one was pledged to join the Priests of the Almighty Bomb. The order of the Priests were made celibate by Mendez XIX although as High Pontiff he was exempt from this rule. Another exception was to allow couples with one child or no children to sell their quota to other couples who wanted for than two children. This 'Cap and Trade' policy as it was called proved to be very popular with most of the people.

Because of these measures the community began to thrive again and Mendez XIX became so revered that there was a week of mourning when he died in the 48th year of his reign. He was followed by his daughter, Albina IX.

## Albina IX (3466 - 3518)

Albina IX ascended to the throne at early in the 'Golden Age' of peace and prosperity that was ushered in by her father, Mendez XIX.

Albina IX continued most of the policies of her father but she was no caretaker sovereign. She was actively involved in all aspects of life in the community. She taught a weekly class to children to keep tabs on the educational system. She also worked on the hydroponic farms and in the power station to learn how they worked and ensure they were as efficient as possible.

Albina IX also made some significant changes. She created an Assembly of the People that would be democratically elected. There were 50 Representatives in the Assembly and all citizens but members of the Council and the Priest of the Divine Bomb were eligible to serve. The Assembly would be responsible for more of the day to day running of the community. Any citizen with a grievance would now be able to address it by bringing it to the Assembly.

The Assembly was also given an advice & consent role in many matters. Previously, the sovereign appointed a new member to the Council of Five when there was a vacancy. Albina IX changed that so that the sovereign would nominate a new member and the Assembly would vote to confirm the nomination.

These changes made Albina IX very popular with the all in the community. Although some members of the Council of Five thought she had given away too much of her power.

After ruling for 52 years, Albina IX died peacefully at the age of 86. She never married and was childless; so she was succeeded by her niece, Albina X.

## Albina X (3518 - 3561)

Albina X was much like her revered aunt and grandfather, Albina IX and Mendez XIX, respectively.

She took a very active role in governing and in the community. There was much pressure on her to rollback some of the reforms made by her aunt but she fought all attempts to do so. Her most vocal opponent on the Council of Five was Palis, who was in charge of security and wanted to abolish the Assembly of the People.

Palis went out of the way to criticize Albina X many times in public. But the people loved their sovereign and his comments failed to sway anyone, not even fellow Council members.

Albina X died suddenly in her sleep in the 43rd year of her reign. Some suspected foul play, but the investigation found no evidence. Albina X was followed by her son, Mendez XX.

## Mendez XX (3561 - 3593)

Mendez XX ascended to the throne in the shadow of his beloved mother. When he took power, he was a middle aged man with little interest in doing the work of governing.

Many felt that he accepted the conclusion of the security investigation of his mother's sudden death to quickly and should have mounted an independent investigation.

Due to Mendez XX's lack of interest, the House of Palis was able to increase its power & influence during his reign. Many were very concerned by this but Mendez XX didn't seem to care.

Mendez XX died after ruling for 32 years. Despite his reign being peaceful & prosperous, he is not well remembered. He was succeeded by his only daughter, Albina XI.

## Albina XI (3593 - 3639)

Albina XI took the throne at a time when the House of Palis was growing in power and influence over the community.

Due to her father's disinterest in governing, many of the traditional responsibilities of the sovereign were ceded to the Council of Five. Palis took over many of those responsibilities in his role as Viceroy. However, Albina XI decided to take many of them back.

This created much tension on the Council and between the Houses of Mendez and Palis. The Council of Five was split between the two factions with Albina XI, Caspay the Minister of Education & Adiposo the Minister of Operations on one side and Palis & Viddo the Minister of Security on the other.

Most of the votes on the Council of Five during Albina XI's reign were decided on the 3 to 2 split of the two factions. Not for ideological reasons but simply as power plays by the Palis faction.

When Adiposo died in the 37th year of Albina XI's reign, many expected Palis to oppose the nomination of his son. The House of Adiposo had traditionally held that seat on the Council for centuries and Palis had long argued against heretical dynasties. But to everyone's surprise Palis didn't oppose the nomination but vigorously supported it.

Soon Palis' strategy bore fruit for when the young Adiposo took his seat on the Council; he was no longer a sure vote for the Mendez faction. He was not a sure vote for Palis either but had become a swing vote that needed to be courted by both sides.

Albina IX died after ruling for 46 peaceful years, but the people were more divided than

they had been for centuries. She was succeeded by her son, Mendez XXI.

## Mendez XXI (3639 - 3682)

Mendez XXI ascended to the throne during an increasing struggle for power with the House of Palis.

The Assembly of the People was split between the two camps as was the Council of Five. Mendez XXI had the loyalty of Caspay, the Minister of Education while Palis, the Viceroy, had the loyalty of Viddo, the Minister of Security. Adiposo, the Minister of Operations, was the crucial swing vote.

In order to reassert the power of the House of Mendez within the community, Mendez XXI expanded his role as High Pontiff of the Priest of the Divine Bomb. For centuries, the sovereign had held the position of High Pontiff but it was more of a figurehead position. The Priests of the Divine Bomb were governed by their own internal rules and procedures headed by one of the senior Priest who was chosen from within their ranks.

But Mendez XXI changed all that. He revised the rules of the order to increase his power over it. He attended and presided over the periodic meetings of the Order. But most importantly, he officiated at the weekly high mass of the Holy Bomb. While some of the Priests resented these changes, most felt that the members of the House of Mendez were the rightful leaders of the Order.

Mendez XXI hoped that the people see him and his House as not only the political leaders of the community but its spiritual and moral leaders. For the most part he was successful.

However, the final struggle for power with the House of Palis would come during the reign of Mendez XXI's eldest daughter, Albina XII, who took the throne after Mendez XXI died in the 43rd year of his reign.

## Albina XII (3682 - 3697)

When Albina XII assumed the throne the House of Palis was at the height of its power. While Palis did not control the Council of Five, he did control the Assembly of the People by a slim majority. Using that power he was able to block most of Albina XII's agenda. What little she was able to accomplish was through the Council of Five. The House of Caspay was still loyal to her while the House of Viddo was loyal to Palis. The House of Adiposo was still the swing vote on the Council.

For years the stalemate dragged on until the 15th year of Albina XII's reign when the

head of the House of Palis died. All expected the new head of the House of Palis to be nominated for Viceroy to replace his father as had been the custom for centuries. However, Albina XII refused to do so. Instead she nominated Caspay, the Minister of Education, for the position of Viceroy and her sister to be the new Minister of Education.

The young Palis was enraged and using his House's control of the Assembly, blocked both nominations. With the power gained by this victory, Palis had the Assembly charge Albina XII with treason and demand her abdication. When she refused, she was arrested along with her husband, children and sisters. The rest of the House of Mendez was forced into hiding.

Palis took over the government, with the backing of Viddo and the security forces, assuming the title Protector. He put Albina XII and her family on trial in the Assembly, a show trial, and they were found guilty of treason. As sentenced, they were forced to fight each other until all were dead. But soon the new head of the House of Mendez would return to avenge their deaths.

## Mendez XXII (3697 - 3741)

Mendez XXII became the head of the House of Mendez after the execution of his cousin, Albina XII & her entire family when Palis seized control of the government in an illegal coup. Forced in to exile, these events could have spelled the end of the House of Mendez if not for the bold actions of Mendez XXII.

Palis' power stemmed from the support the Assembly and Viddo, the Minister of Security. Caspay, the Minister of Education, supported of the House of Mendez but any action by him would give Palis an excuse to arrest him as a traitor.

Instead Mendez XXII quietly gathered support in key three places. First was the House of Adiposo which had long been a swing vote on the Council. The second was the Priests of the Divine bomb, for despite being deposed politically, Mendez XXII was still their High Pontiff. The third was the most important, Onogaro, an officer in the security forces who commanded the loyalty of many troops and was an old friend of Mendez XXII.

Once all the players were in place, Mendez XXII put his plan into action. At a religious service to celebrate the six month anniversary of the coup, the priest officiating denounced Palis. Palis and Viddo were enraged and ordered the priest arrested. But the security forces, loyal to Onogaro, refused. It was then that Adiposo rose and accused Palis & Viddo of treason. Mendez XXII then appeared before the congregation and was declared the divine leader by all the assembled priests. The coup was finished. Palis and



Viddo were arrested and their Houses disbanded as was the Assembly of the People. Onogaro was given a seat on the Council as Minister of Security and Mendez XXII reigned until he died peaceful 44 years later.

## Albina XIII (3741 - 3787)

Albina XIII came to power at a very peaceful time in the history of our society. Thanks to her uncle, Mendez XXII, all internal strife in the community had ended.

The only incident of note during her reign was the incursion of a single Chimpanzee in the desert surrounding our city. No Ape, or even the primitive humans on the surface, had journeyed into this region since the Great Invasion during the reign of Mendez X. There was a great alarm when the psychic scanners who monitored the area around the city with their minds discovered this lone Chimp. Some feared he might be a scout for a new Simian invasion.

Albina XIII ordered that the Chimpanzee's mind be probed if he came close enough to the city. After several days of roaming near the coasts and seaboard, he camped for the night near one of the great underground caverns adjacent to the city. Onogaro sent out his elite psychic troopers to the cavern to do the mind probe.

They reported that the Ape's name was Doctor Quintius. He was an archeologist who lived in the nearby Simian settlement and had traveled into what the Apes called the "Forbidden Zone" to draw a map of the region. The Chimp's superiors had declined his request to do this so he traveled into the desert in secret. He planned to hand this map down to his descendants in hopes that one day the area would properly be explored. Since the Ape did not plan to journey any closer to the city, he was allowed to go on his way since it was believed the Simians were too superstitious to ever explore the region again.

Albina ruled for a total of 46 peaceful years when she died quietly one night. She was succeeded by her son, Mendez XXIII.

## Mendez XXIII (3787 - 3825)

Like his mother, Mendez XXIII took the throne during a very peaceful period in history. Unfortunately, it was his own arrogance that ultimately brought him down.

While most of his 38 year reign was uneventful, by the time of his 30th Anniversary a tide of unrest began to build among the people. Specifically, many wanted the old reproductive policies to be revised or repealed entirely. It was long felt the restrictions on

only two children per couple and the genetic compatibility requirements had become outdated.

Many felt that since the hydroponic farms were thriving, the underground city could support a bigger population. It was also felt that the community had long since reached a point of genetic and mental perfection rendering the compatibility policies unnecessary.

Mendez XXIII, being a traditionalist, refused to even allow these matters to be debated and discussed by the Council of Five to the frustration of many. However, unlike his predecessors, Mendez XXIII did not think any of these policies applied to himself. When his wife died in childbirth, he took a new wife without submitting to any of the tests. She eventually bore him 4 children which were beyond the limit.

Most of the people were outraged by this, including several members of the Council of Five. Mendez XXIII maintained that as sovereign the rules did not apply to him. Soon the anger of the people became so great that the Priests of the Divine Bomb denounced him and Mendez XXIII was forced to abdicate and withdraw any claims his children had on the throne.

He was succeeded by his young cousin, Mendez XXIV.

## Mendez XXIV (3825 - 3863)

Due to the abdication of his cousin, Mendez XXIV came to the throne at the young age of 19.

Because of his youth, he was a very vigorous sovereign. He would regularly visit the schools, the power plants, the hydroponic farms, etc. on a very regular basis, sometimes more than once a week. He was very interested in learning about everything that made the underground city run on a day to day basis.

In the Council of Five, it is said, that he would never offer his opinion on any issue right away. Instead he would listen to the arguments being made by his Ministers and then decide which side of the issue to support. This tactic increased his power by making his the deciding vote on most issues while keeping his Ministers off balance and jockeying to curry his favor.

Later in Mendez XXIV's reign the underground city faced disaster when several of the air purification system began failing. The system needed to be tended 24 hours a day so he gave Adiposo, the Minister of Operations, the power to mobilize all citizens to keep the system running. Mendez XXIV and members of his family put in a few shifts at the purification plant themselves.

Thanks to Adiposo and his engineers the short term crisis was soon over but Mendez

XXIV gave them the task of completely redesigning a whole new air purification system. This task would take many decades so it would not be completed until long after Mendez XXIV's reign was over but he is still remembered for giving the underground city fresh air.

The rest of Mendez XXIV's 43 years were uneventful. His daughter, Albina XIV took the throne after his death.

## Albina XIV (3868 - 3905)

The first of "The Two Albinas" as they were later called.

Albina XIV was the daughter of Mendez XXIV. During her reign she mainly concerned herself with the new air & water purification system which she saw as her father's legacy.

Unfortunately, most of those who were working on the project saw her as a hindrance rather than a help. When the project was begun by her father, it was projected to take decades to finish but Albina XIV kept pushing for it to be completed much sooner; thus, forcing Adiposo to cut many corners initially which later resulted in massive problems, ultimately delaying the project.

Albina XIV had hoped that the project would be finished by the start of the new century, which coincided with the 100th Anniversary of her father's birth, but because of her interference that goal could not be met.

She died after ruling for 37 years. Childless, she was succeeded by her cousin, Albina XV.

## Albina XV (3905 - 3921)

The second of "The Two Albinas", Albina XV was little more than a caretaker sovereign. However, this was a good thing since she did not interfere with the construction of the new air & water purification system, putting the project back on track.

Albina XV made sure all the community's resources were focused on this project but unfortunately she would not see it finished in her lifetime.

Middle aged when she ascended the throne, Albina XV reigned for only 16 years. She was the last Albina to rule. Her son, Mendez XXV, took power after her death.

## Mendez XXV (3921 - 3963)

Mendez XXV began his reign with the dedication of the new Air & Water purification system. The long delayed project was finally ready less than 6 months after Mendez XXV took the throne. After the dedication ceremony he took a tour of the facility. Unfortunately during the tour, Mendez XXV slipped and hit his head. Due to this injury he was in a coma for several weeks. When Mendez XXV finally awoke all seemed to be normal, so he was given a clean bill of health by his doctors.

However, in the months ahead Mendez XXV began to show an ability beyond the normal psychic powers, pre-cognition. For many centuries psychic researchers had tried to develop this ability within the community but always failed. They finally concluded it wasn't possible; however, Mendez XXV started showing signs of it. The doctors concluded that his head injury must have stimulated part of his brain dormant in others.

Mendez XXV's ability was small at first but it grew as he got the years went by. He correctly predicted the sex of his two children, Mendez & Albina, and foresaw a cave-in in an older section of the city, saving many lives. One drawback was that after one of his visions, Mendez XXV would get a severe headache. These headaches increased in severity as his ability grew.

In the 42nd year in his reign, while presiding over a service for the Holy Bomb, Mendez suddenly grabbed his head and shouted "Beware!" before collapsing. His family rushed to his side and he whispered to his son, "Beware, he is returning! The man who will destroy the earth!". Mendez XXV then closed his eyes and died. The doctors said he had a massive brain hemorrhage.

His son, Mendez XXVI, ascended the throne upon his death.

## Mendez XXVI (3963 - 3978)

The first 13 years of our current sovereign's, Mendez XXVI, reign was very uneventful. Then the 14th year of his reign a series of incursions close to our City began that would ultimately put the existence of our society in jeopardy.

The first incursion was an expedition of archeologists from the nearby city of Apes. Security forces did their best to psychically plant feelings of uneasiness in the members of this expedition party. They were even successful in directing one of the Gorillas to attack another member of the party. However, the leader of this expedition, a Chimpanzee named Cornelius, was very resistant to our abilities. Fortunately, this expedition spent most of their time on the coast and did not journey too close to our

city before leaving the region.

The next incursion was a year later. Three Humans were discovered on the surface wandering through the desert, where they came from was unknown. They were far more intelligent than the normal surface Humans and therefore classified as a threat. Only because they were easily kept away from our city by a few simple lighting and boulder illusions, it was decided to let them go on their way toward the Ape settlement.

However, many weeks later one of these Humans, named Taylor, returned with the Chimpanzee Cornelius, two other Apes and a Human female from the surface. This incursion was far more troubling since several groups of Apes followed them into the desert. The main group of Apes trailed Taylor & Cornelius' party, but several Gorilla scouts traveled very close to our city. Thus, it was decided that they should be captured and questioned by the Council of Five to learn the Apes' intentions.

While the main group of Apes joined up with the Taylor & Cornelius' party and returned back to the City of Apes; Taylor with his female companion separated from them and journeyed very close to our city. Therefore, Mendez XXVI decided to have this Human captured as well. Because the female was of limited intelligence, she was left behind. Taylor and several of the Gorilla scouts were interrogated by the Council of



Five for days but their skulls were too thick or they really knew nothing at all, especially the Human Taylor who made the insane claim of being a space traveler from the planet's past. Ultimately the Gorillas were forced to fight each other until only one survived. He was forced to fight the Human, who won and is still being held by our security forces.

The latest incursion has been by another male Human, Brent. He and the same Human female that was with Taylor, named Nova, were discovered wondering the abandoned

subway tunnels near the city. They were lured in and captured with a simple audio illusion. Brent was taken to be questioned by the Council of Five where he made the same ludicrous claim that Taylor had about being a space traveler from the planet's past. But he did reveal that the Apes were marching on our city.

In response to this threat the Psychic shock troops were mobilized immediately. They tried to scarce the Ape Army away from our city but were unsuccessful.

Mendez XXVI ordered a special service to the Almighty Bomb in the Cathedral at this hour of ultimate crisis. At the service he ordered all citizens into hiding in hopes that the Apes would assume the city was dead and leave our society in peace.

Mendez XXVI, the 51st pontiff of the Mendez Dynasty, was last seen praying to Mendez I for our civilization's salvation.