12 Million Hostages



Conan, with his friends and with police officer Sato, visits a cafe and is told that the cafe they were heading to was investigated by the police as there was a bomb threat and all the customers had to be evacuated. The two police who searched the cafe, Shiratori and Takagi said there were no bombs found, Takagi stays while Shiratori says he will go somewhere and enter the car, but he immediately opens the door, only for the car to explode. Shiratori said he is fine but Conan observes paralysis in one half of his body and bleeding from his head and assumes its acute epidural hematoma, and immediately calls an ambulance. Conan deduces this case to be specifically targeting police officers. Conan reasons that the bomb was set when the two police officers were investigating the cafe as that is when they will leave the car empty and it's the only time that it's possible as a bomb set in the car before would likely be discovered. Conan assumes the criminal did this in secrecy by hiding in the crowd as a large crowd will form once the cafe's customers are emptied out. Conan further infers that the trick likely involved the safety pin of the bomb releasing once the door of the car is opened and ignited once the door is opened once more, which explains why Shiratori was able to get in the car by opening the door but the car exploded right after. From this line of reasoning Conan knows that 1. Its targeting police officers as the main bluff of the cafe bomb was a bluff made to target the police, and 2. Shiratori had some reason that immediately incentivised him to leave the car.

His second inference immediately is met with an answer when Shiratori pulls out a paper he said he found in the car, after Shiratori loses consciousness. The note read :

“I’m a Major Leaguer with a blazing fastball and a powerful swing. Now, the extra innings begin. The signal to start the game is tomorrow at noon. It ends at 3 PM. It’s useless to bring a top-tier closer. In the end, I’ll turn the game around. If you want to call off the game, come to me— To the bloodstained mound, I’ll be waiting in the steel batter’s box, For you cops to step up.”

Conan assumes this clue is likely a trap by the criminal as the criminals often write clues to lure others in. Conan also reasons following this lead may be dangerous but the clues may not 100% be wrong as these types of criminals driven by hate and revenge often intentionally leave behind clues to prove incompetence of police, and the criminals' hate for police can be seen in the tone of the message.

With this Conan also observes Sato getting panicked and emotional once seeing the note. Conan also hears Shiratori’s words to Sato that “it's her chance to get over her imminently haunting memory”. Conan assumes Sato has a much deeper emotional connection to the case as well as inferring she has a relationship to another case that is likely related to this, causing her emotional attachment to this new case. Conan hides in the back of her car and asks her some questions once she is driving full speed so she can’t just make him leave.

Sato explains that 7 years ago there was a bombing case that had two bombs in two apartment buildings, the criminals demanded money but one of the bombs were successfully diffused, the other however struggled to be so the police complied, giving them money and timer stopped, however the culprits called again saying “why hasn't the timer stopped”, Sato reasons this is likely because the TV that was broadcasting the case had a time delay, the police used this opportunity to make a prolonged call with the culprit to trace their signal and caught the criminal. However once they caught the culprit, he escaped only to be run over by a car and killed. After the bomb re-started its timer and blew up. From this Sato reasons there were two culprits and one thought his partner in crime was deceived by the police to be caught and killed, so exacted his revenge by re-starting the timer. After investigation they found out the now deceased criminal had a roommate further strengthening her hypothesis.

Conan further draws connections to the case 3 years prior in which a police officer died during a bomb diffusion, Conan assumes this as the police officer who died was a person in the same sector as Sato which explains her emotional connection to this case and also because bombing and killing police have common motives between the current criminal.

After hearing this Conan assumes the case runs much deeper which is why he decides to fully invest his time in it. Conan asks professor Agasa, a good friend, to tell his host family that he will be staying with Agasa so he can have as much free time as possible.

Conan now starts to analyze the message, he assumes the code is an analogy and he considers the possibility of the message not directly meaning a baseball stadium. Extra innings in Japanese is written as “延長戦 (En-Chou-Sen)” but the word extended line is also wrote as “延長線 (En-Chou-Sen)”, Conan realizes by tracing the road where the last two bombing cases happened, the 7 year old one and the 3 year old one, it intersects at Haito train station. Train stations further meet the code as the stopper in the message could be referring to the railroad cross over’s stopper. Then the bloody mound will mean a red train cart. Knowing the red colored trains go to Tokyo, Conan tells Sato to send bomb searching teams to the trains heading from Haito station to Tokyo station.

After police search the train they find a fake bomb. From this Coan creates a psychological profile of the criminal. He or she likes to mislead the police investigation, has a past of having his partner killed by the police, and has taken revenge against one of the police members before. With this Conan assumes the culprit is after revenge not money and can not be negotiated with. Conan also assumes their nature to play with people's hearts and create nasty tricks. The criminal in the past has made orders about killing citizens if they made them evacuate so Conan understands that all of Tokyo's citizens are basically hostages, forcing the police to play the criminals game.

Conan later learns several more details of the case 3 years ago from a fellow police friend and now is currently sent home by officer Takagi to his home. Conan finds it suspicious that the code could still have some interpretation left as referring to trains as red metal boxes is very general and vague. Conan from the case 3 years ago knows the culprit has tendencies to evoke the police's interest by creating an obvious incident to lure them to a deeper rabbit hole and assumes the code can be interpreted in more straightforward ways. He considers things that are red, made of metal and something to climb on (go on the mound in Japanese can be written as climb on the mound). Conan finds the Tokyo tower suspicious as it is red, a tower made of steel and as they head there they find an explosion going off confirming Conan's suspicions and makes him assume there is more going on in Tokyo tower.

Once Takagi and his friends make it to the bottom of Tokyo tower they wait for the police higher ups to give a go signal. But all of a sudden Takagi suddenly decides to go to the tower which makes Conan assume he has found higher priorities than waiting for back up. Conan assumes someones lives are at stake and decides to go to the tower, Conan knows the culprit likes to give important hints to larger explosions so Conan always knew he had to go but because some other casualties may happen he decides to go earlier. His friends say they want to follow him but say they need to stay, to convince them to stay he tells them "make sure to look out for anyone who might plant a bomb in this car, you guys are capable of that right?" to appeal to their sense of adventure as well as their responsibility.

Conan also considers the possibility that the stoppage of the elevator is a accident and not actually caused by the bomb as the explosion was never visible, but Conan rules this possibility out as this method is similar to the case 3 year prior caused by the same culprit in which they first disable a transportation method to cause the police to the edge forced to play the culprits game with no way out.

Conan after following Takagi finds that the elevator has a little girl stuck in it but the gap is too small for any adult to crawl through, the girl is also very frightened by the situation and is hiding behind her teddy bear not even answering to her mother. Conan, seeing this, goes through the gap and tries to convince the girl to move.

He first lowers her guard by telling her he is going to come towards her. He then starts small talk with her by saying her teddy bear is cute, Conan realizes she sees the teddy bear as her friend so he asks her if he can introduce himself to her teddy bear. After having a conversation with her he shifts the topic to who bought her the teddy bear to which she replied to her mother, then Conan says "then let's go back to your mother" naturally introducing her mother into the picture which makes her comfortable enough to move and get out. As Conan was about to get out though, the elevator's hinge explodes and the elevator Conan is in falls down further, Takagi also jumps in the elevator to help Conan only for him to fall with him too.

After falling to the bottom, Conan and Takagi search the elevator for bombs, they find a bomb on the roof of the elevator by making Conan climb up Takagi's shoulder. Now Conan tells Takagi to not

make any moves as Conan found a mercury switch on the bomb and he knows it will be active if vibration is detected. Conan also observes two compartments of the bomb and realizes those two chemicals being mixed will create a massive explosion, he assumes the impact will be enough to blow the whole tower. Conan assumes the mercury lever initially started the bomb countdown and still detonates the bomb once it detects another vibration which is really similar to the mechanisms that happened with Shitaroti in his car, as the bomb activated with the first trigger and exploded with the second. Conan knows this bombing is also from the same culprit and assumes there are more traps. Conan considers escaping but finds a listening device on the bomb so knows the culprit will likely detonate the bomb once they try to leave. This is because the culprit wants the police to suffer, not to casually escape.

Conan proposes for him to diffuse the bomb and asks for tools to do that. Conan says the police will send him tools but decides to do it himself as he realizes the police is overconfident to the point where they trust a 6th grader to diffuse a bomb likely implying that they assume its similar structure to the previous bombs, Conan knows the culprit is smart and cunning and assumes more traps to be prevalent. Once he gets the tools he ignores all of Takagi's orders and diffuses the bomb himself.

Conan knows the culprit before had set a trap in a similar situation where a hint to a bigger bombing will be sent only 3 seconds before the bomb goes off. Conan plans to counter this trap by getting the bomb ready for diffusal with one move, wait for the hint but to cuff off the hint mid way and diffuse the bomb, but this solution will require Conan to solve a puzzle with half the clues.

Conan starts to diffuse the bomb and first assumes there will be a photocell sensor to detect if the bomb is getting diffused or not, so once the police turn off all the lights he takes apart that section. Conan further diffuses the bomb checking which section has electricity and skillfully blocking electricity in certain paths to continue diffusing. But that's when Conan realizes the insulator he is using to diffuse the bomb is also called a stopper, just like in the code.

Now Conan starts to think there is more to the code. Why did the code say major leaguer when most people in Japan hear major leaguers associate US baseball and not Japan. It may be a hint to use english as word play for the code. The word 延長戦 in English is EXTRA, and Top tier closer (in Japanese written as good defense rate stopper)'s word defense rate is ERA in English. It says that bringing a good stopper is meaningless so it likely implies to remove the ERA. Iif we remove the letters ERA from EXTRA we are left with X and T. The parts of the code that are left is the sentence "turn the game around", if we write X and T on top of each other and flip it, it resembles the kanji 文 which is a map symbol for school. Conan assumes the culprit is going to bomb a school and so with enough hints decide to go for his half code read plan.

He tells Takagi in silence so the listening device can't hear him to play along to his act, which was to pretend like Conan was going to hear the code only for him to diffuse it last second. This will lower the criminal's guard and align with his plan. Conan defuses the bomb up until it's time to disconnect the monitor to which it stops so he can see the message. Once the timer reaches below 3 seconds, Conan reads out the remaining code "EVIT" and Conan diffuses the rest of the bomb. Now Conan says he cowarded out in a large voice to convince the culprit of his surrender. Now Conan deduces which school it is. Conan from multiple school names he knows tries to find patterns with the EVIT word, he first knows the code is incomplete so its likely other characters follow it but no school is associated with words that start with EVIT so Conan now assumes the reverse to which he finds DETECTIVE, which when reversed will for EVIT as its first characters. This message likely implies

to flip the word detective, there is a chain of schools from elementary to college that is named TeiTan which when written in Japanese is the Kanji for detective flipped so Conan assumes it's one of the TeiTan schools. He knows that at this time only highschool has a large number of crowds gathering. Conan also realizes why there were no bombs in baseball fields around the place even though the code involved a lot of baseball terms, and he assumes it is because the criminal wanted to avoid police investigating schools with baseball fields, which explains why they discouraged searching baseball fields. TeiTan highschool is the only school in the TeiTan scheel that has a baseball field further affirming his hypothesis.

Now Conan tells the police to secretly diffuse the bomb at Teitan highschool while he goes on the news acting like he defused the bomb and all the police are calmed down. He also tells the police to be on the lookout for suspicious people in places where there is a good view of TeiTan highschool as the culprit from his psychoanalysis is egotistical and provocative, and predicts he will want to see the explosion.

Conan predicts everything perfectly and the culprit is caught.