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**WARREN**  
MAGAZINE

# EERIE

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WPS 37926

No. 139

FEB. 1983



**A.E. VAN VOGT'S  
"VOYAGE OF  
THE SPACE  
BEAGLE!"**

*Byron © 82*



**A MURDEROUS ALIEN &  
DESPERATE EARTHLINGS  
MATCH WITS IN A DEADLY  
DEEP-SPACE BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL!**

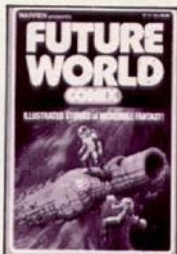




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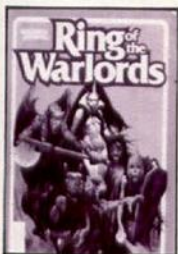
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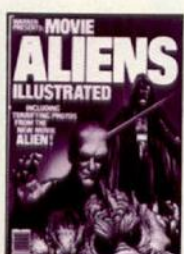
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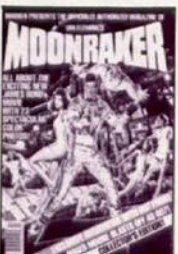
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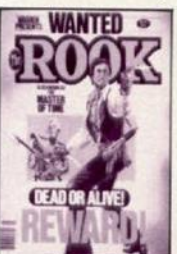
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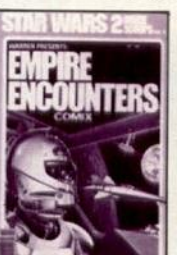
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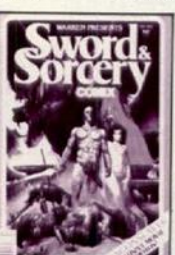
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# EERIE

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## NOXIOUS NEWSPAGE 4

Read it here first! (Where else would you read it?) Great scoops on three new series soon to debut in Warren magazines, "Jan & the Triad," "The Last Recess," & "Moonstone!" Plus a peek at our 100-page 25th Anniversary issue of FAMOUS MONSTERS, and a chance to tell us where we went wrong with CREEPY's Contents



## SPACE BEAGLE 5

Aeons ago on the ancient world of Glor, Ixtl's race was destroyed in a cataclysmic solar explosion! Only Ixtl survived... sustaining himself by feeding off the wan light energy that permeated the galaxy! Now he encountered another form of life—beings who could provide him with means to exist! They were called...humans!



## SPACE BEAGLE II 15

The crew of the starship Space Beagle had discovered the creature drifting in the ebony darkness of deep space! They reached out with trembling hands to this awesome alien life form, to bring it on board! That was a mistake they would live to regret, for Ixtl was determined to make Guuls of the best specimens! The rest would have to die!



## INFINITY FORCE 31

Grant Lewis, Rick James and Cindy Barrie...the Infinity Force...discover what may be the greatest archaeological find in the history of Mankind—a strange metal alloy, more than a hundred million years old! Together they journey back in time to the Jurassic Age! But what they find there could change the earth...drastically!



## SPACE BEAGLE III 44

Grosvenor descended into the bowels of the ship and looked into the face of nightmare! The gunnery crew was burned beyond recognition! Ixtl had attacked the men, that was obvious! But more horrible still, along the corridor in the path of the deadly Neutron Projector, were the still-twitching bodies of twenty more of the ship's crew!

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# THE NOXIOUS NEWSPAGE

We've got nothing but **good** news this time around, gang! Two new series upcoming in **VAMPIRELLA**, all about **FM's 25th Anniversary**, plus an invitation to all our readers to write in and let us know what types of stories are preferred in **CREEPY** magazine! Read on! Read on!



## LOTSAS LETTERS?

Reader response to the discontinuation of our letters page has been positively negative! So...in addition to the **Noxious Newspaper**, we pledge to bring back lettercols in **CREEPY**, **EERIE**, and **VAMPIRELLA**! Of course, you should know by now not to hold us to our word on this! And to open our mouth a little wider in order to accommodate more feet at a later date, we'll even go so far as to say that, any time we can make room, we'll run a **double-page spread** of letters! (Of course, that means you'll have to write us twice as often, but that's **your** problem!)

What would the world be like if it was run entirely by children? The possibilities are explored in a new **CREEPY** series written by **Carlos Trillo** entitled **The Last Recess**. In the first installment, a mysterious plague sweeps over the earth, killing off all the adults. Only the children survive! Perhaps inevitably, the youngsters who once were friends slip into two distinct groups: those who want to live in peace, and the leather-jacketed, knife-wielding gangs who prefer to savage the land in the name of "fun." **The Last Recess** features some of the most dramatic artwork ever to grace the pages of a **Warren** publication. The new series debuts in **CREEPY** #146.

**Moonstone** and **Jan** and the **Triad** are two new series upcoming in **VAMPIRELLA**. In the former, a voluptuous barbarian woman journeys across vast wastelands in search of the answer to a fantastic riddle. Her quest leads her into some perilous predicaments...battling sub-humans, monstrous beasts, and her own self-doubts (sounds like a day on the unemployment line, doesn't it?). **Rudy Nebres** is illustrating the series, which is scripted by **Bill DuBay**.

**Jan** and the **Triad** is currently being written by former **Warren** editor **David Allikas**. In this new series, a young woman uncorks a strange bottle and out pop not one...not two...but three genies—each with its own identity, its own powers, and its own motives! Poor **Jan** never knows beforehand which genie is going to answer her summons, setting the scene for some wild fun. You'll see this one some time after the New Year...if we can get **Pablo Marcos** to stop partying long enough to draw it!



## THANKS, J.R.!

Wow, were we blown away when reader **Jim Rhodes** mailed us a **VAMPIRELLA** magazine index, complete with interior cover illustrations and exponential notations highlighting the most important developments in the magazine's 14 year history! And to think he did it without us even asking...! **Jim's** pamphlet (actually almost a magazine in itself) lists all the stories, along with artists' and writers' credits, from every issue of **VAMPI**, from numbers 1-109. It's an invaluable research guide, and we'd like to take the time to officially compliment **Jim** on his excellent work. Thanks, **J.R.**! The **VAMPI** index sure will come in handy around here! (Gosh...now if we could only talk him into doing ones for **CREEPY**, **EERIE**, and 1994...!)



## THE GREAT DEBATE!

The **CREEPY** Controversy has raged for years: what kinds of stories really belong in **CREEPY**? Here's your chance to tell us what you think.

Should **CREEPY** run just short horror tales? Or is there room for science-fiction and fantasy? Should the stories be a fixed length? What about book-length epics? Would you like to see series introduced into **CREEPY**, or remain strictly in **EERIE**? Should we bring back "theme issues"?

Think about it. And after you've done think, send us your remarks. Address all suggestions to "The Great Debate," **CREEPY** Magazine, Warren Publishing Company, 145 East 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016. We'll listen, we promise!



## FM FACELIFT!

Readers keep asking us, with **Forry Ackerman** no longer editing **FM**, what will the "new" **FAMOUS MONSTERS** be like? Actually, it won't be that "new." We thought **Forry's FM** was a great magazine...we've only added new spice to the brew! Beginning with **FM 191**, each issue will contain a major filmbook in the classic **FM** tradition, plus a revised News Department filled to overflowing with in-depth looks at upcoming fright flicks and behind-the-scenes stories. Then there's our Video Section, Science Page, and honest-to-badness Movie Review feature! On the lighter side, **FM's** "Great Moments in Cinema" spotlights some of the biggest fiascos ever committed to celluloid! All in all, **FM** is badder than ever! We'd tell more, but we'd rather you pick up **FM 191** yourself and see the shocking surprises we have in store for our rabid readers!

An even bigger surprise awaits those sturdy souls who dare to pick up **FM 192**, our giant **25th Anniversary** package! Twenty-five years ago (as of February 8, 1983) **Jim Warren** published the first issue of **FAMOUS MONSTERS**, and we've been at the forefront of the monster movement ever since. **FM 192** will be a full 100 pages thick—shock-full of demonic delights and horrible highlights from 1958-1982! In addition to bringing you exciting insights into the greatest monsters and villains of the past 25 years, this special edition of **FAMOUS MONSTERS** will feature articles on special effects, Saturday matinees, subtlety and splatter in horror (with the "final word" on the subject by none other than the creator of the gore film, **Herschell Gordon Lewis**!), a brand new, updated **FM** Index and history of **FAMOUS MONSTERS**, and lots of other ghoulish goodies...including a surprise interview or two! It's all on sale this February. Watch (watch) for it!

# COMING WARREN MAGAZINES

**FM #191:** Get the incisive, penetrating details about the behind-the-scenes action on the set of the new movie, **The Dark Crystal**. Also, the second part of our **Time Machine** film book, plus this year's fantasy & sci-fi television shows, great movie reviews, and all-new departments!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 14!**

**VAMPI #112:** An issue you shouldn't miss—it's a double dose of the Drakulonian heroine! **Rich Margopoulos** teams up with **Jose Gonzalez** for **Walker of the Worlds** and combines with **Gonzalo Mayo** in **Feeding Frenzy**! Plus **The Fox**, **The Ransom**, and **Limbo by Maroto**!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**

**CREEPY #145:** A tale of the old West so gruesome your own blood will run cold! It's **Moral Blood** by **McGregor & Sanchez**! Plus **Michael Fleisher** and **Delando Nino's** **The Iceman Killeth** and **All of Them Must Die**! An issue we're sure will send chills up and down your spine!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**

**1994 #29:** Immorality runs rampant in our latest edition! **Farmed Out** by **John Ellis Sech** and **Delando Nino**! More **Warhawks** by **Dubay** and **Laxamana**! The return of **Frank Thorne's Ghita**! Plus **Goddess** by **Tim Moriarty** & **Peter Hsu**! You're going to love this issue to death!  
**ON SALE DECEMBER 21!**



A.E. VAN VOGT'S

# VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE

HIS LIMBS TUCKED AND *UNMOVING*, IXTL TUMBLED  
IN THE BOUNDLESS NIGHT! ACROSS THE  
FATHOMLESS *IMMENSITY*, SWIRLING GALAXIES  
COLDLY *BECKONED* TO HIM! *LIFE* WAS OUT THERE  
IN THAT ENDLESS EXPANSE, *MOCKING* HIM!

HE *LIVED!* THAT WAS HIS  
PERSONAL *CATASTROPHE!*



AEONS AGO, ANCIENT *GLOR*,  
HOMEWORLD OF HIS FEARSOME RACE,  
WAS *CONSUMED* IN A CATAclysmic  
SOLAR *EXPLOSION!* IXTL  
SURVIVED... ONLY TO FIND HIS  
INDESTRUCTIBLE FORM *FLUNG*  
SPINNING OUT INTO THE  
INTERGALACTIC DEEPS!

HE CONTINUED TO *SURVIVE*  
FOR MILLENIA BY MAINTAINING  
HIS ALMOST *UNKILLABLE* BODY  
IN A DELIBERATELY-*WEAKENED*  
STATE, FEEDING OFF THE WAN  
*LIGHT ENERGY* THAT  
PERMEATED THE VOID  
AROUND HIM!

THE *ODDS* WERE IN THE  
*DECILLIONS AGAINST* IXTL  
ENCOUNTERING ANOTHER  
*PLANET* OR *STAR*...AND  
EVEN MORE *INFINITESIMAL*  
HE WOULD EVER LOCATE  
LIVING ORGANISMS TO BE  
HIS *GUULS!*

Author: RICH MARGOPOULOS/Illustrator: LUIS BERMEJO

IN AGES PAST, THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD** SURROUNDING HIM HAD BEEN TRULY **VAST!** BUT NOW IT WAS **THIN**, **FEEBLE**...ALMOST NON-EXISTENT!

IT THEREFORE CAME AS A **SHOCK** TO HIS METABOLISM WHEN THE FIRST **STIMULUS** OF THE SHIP **BRUSHED** HIS SENSES...

...BRINGING WITH IT A LIVING PAIN TO HIS AWARENESS, LIKE A LONG-DISUSED MUSCLE BEING FORCED INTO SUDDEN ACTION!



IXTL'S EIGHT LIMBS CONVULSIVELY JACKKNIFED WITH BLIND, UNREASONING STRENGTH AS HE MARSHALLED HIS ENERGY FIELD AND CONCENTRATED IT INTO A TIGHTLY-HELD BEAM!

FEEDING HUNGRILY, GREEDILY, HE DREW TREMENDOUS BOLTS OF INCALCULABLE POWER FROM THE MASSIVE ARMORED VESSEL!

THE GLORIAN SIPHONED MORE THAN HE COULD ASSIMILATE, AND HAD TO DEFLECT MUCH OF IT FROM HIMSELF...DISCHARGING THE EXCESS ENERGY INTO THE SURROUNDING EMPTY DARKNESS!

LIKE SOME MONSTROUS LEECH, HE HAD REACHED OUT FOUR, FIVE, TEN LIGHT YEARS AND DRAINED THE BREACHED CRAFT OF ITS STARDRIVE PROPULSION!

AFTER HURRIEDLY GORGING HIMSELF, HE REALIZED THE FULL EXTENT OF HIS OPPORTUNITY!

IXTL ADJUSTED HIS ATOMIC STRUCTURE AND RODE UPON THE BEAM, FOLLOWING IT TO THE CRIPPLED SPACE BEAGLE!



WITHOUT WARNING, THE  
DAMAGED SHIP PROJECTED AN  
IMPENETRABLE **ENERGY**  
**SCREEN**, ONE THAT  
ENCAPSULATED AND **SHIELDED**  
ITS MAMMOTH GIRTH!

AUTONOMOUS  
**RELAYS** IN  
IXTL'S BODY REACTED  
IMMEDIATELY TO THE  
CONCENTRATED **FORCE!** IN  
NANOSECONDS, HE WAS  
**SPEWING FREE ELECTRONS**  
THAT SERVED TO **ARREST HIS**  
**HEAD-LONG FLIGHT!** IXTL **BRAKED**  
WITHIN METERS OF THE ALMOST  
INVISIBLE, RIPPING **BARRIER!**

AND THERE,  
SEPARATED FROM  
THE REALIZATION  
OF HIS **HOPES...** HE  
GAZED  
**RAVEN-  
OUSLY**  
AT THE  
DEEP-  
SPACE  
CRAFT!

A HUGE **HATCH** ON THE POLISHED HULL  
YAWNED **OPEN!** THERE WAS A **PAUSE...** THEN  
A DOZEN TWO-LEGGED BEINGS IN BULKY  
EXOVAC ARMOR CAME INTO VIEW, SOME  
GUIDING STRANGE HEAVY MACHINERY!

A THICK SECTION OF PLATE WAS  
QUICKLY **GRAFTED** INTO PLACE  
OVER THE **RUPTURED HULL!**

THE INCANDESCENT  
**GLARE** OF THE  
WELDERS SPUTTERED AND DIED!  
THEIR WORK DONE, THE MEN AND  
MACHINES **MARCHED** BACK TO THE  
GAPING AIRLOCK, AND  
DISAPPEARED **INSIDE!**





HIS ARMS **STRETCHED** OUT, AS IF HIS **NEED ALONE** COULD **HOLD** THE SHIP! HIS BODY **ACHED** WITH A DULL **HURT**, AND HIS MIND **SPUN** IN **ANGUISHED DESPAIR!**

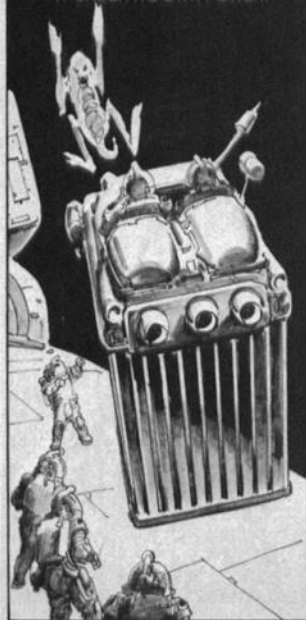
BUT ONE LAST MAN **TURNE**D IN THE AIRLOCK BEFORE SEALING THE HATCH SHUT AND **SAW** THE **GLORIAN!** HE **STOPPED** AS IF HE HAD BEEN **STRUCK!**



THE **REST** OF THE MEN RAPIDLY **REEMERGED** AND LOOKED AT **ITXL!** A **DISCUSSION** MUST HAVE FOLLOWED, FOR THEIR LIPS MOVED AT UNEVEN INTERVALS, FIRST **ONE** INDIVIDUAL'S, THEN **ANOTHER'S!**



PRESENTLY, A LARGE METAL-BARRIED CAGE **JETTED UP** FROM THE AIRLOCK! THERE WERE TWO PILOTS SITTING **ATOP** IT, AND THEY SEEMED TO BE **STEERING** IT UNDER ITS OWN POWER!



**ITXL**, WITH GREAT **JOY**, GUESSED THAT HE WAS TO BE **CAPTURED!**



THE STRAINED VOICE OF ONE OF THE CREWMEN **CRACKLED** OVER THE COMMUNICATOR IN **GROSVENOR'S** HELMET! HE WAS **NEXIALIST** ABOARD THE **SPACE BEAGLE**, WHOSE MISSION WAS TO **EXPLORE** UNCHARTED REGIONS OF SPACE! BUT EVEN **HE** HAD NO ANSWER TO THE WORRISOME **QUESTION!**



AS THE SHIP'S  
NEXIALIST,  
IT WAS  
GROSVENOR'S  
FUNCTION TO BRIDGE  
AND JOIN  
THE OTHER  
SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENTS,  
HIS BROAD  
OVERVIEW OFTEN  
ENSURING  
THE SHIP'S  
SURVIVAL!

WHILE HE WATCHED,  
FASCINATED...  
MORE COMMENTS  
CAME FROM HIS  
SUIT-COM!



WE OUGHT TO  
TRAIN A MOBILE WEAP-UNIT  
ON ANYTHING LOOKS  
LIKE THAT...!

WHEN DIRECTOR MORTON, HEAD OF  
THE SPACE BEAGLE PROJECT,  
FINALLY SPOKE, HE HOPED THE  
AUTHORITY IN HIS VOICE WOULD  
ALLAY SOME OF THE FEAR!

A REGULAR BLOODY  
DEVIL STRAIGHT FROM A NIGHT-  
MARE! SMITH, WHAT DO  
YOU THINK?



THE EXOBIOLOGIST, SMITH,  
OFFERED HIS TENTATIVE ANALYSIS!

IT IS HIGHLY EVOLVED!  
IT MAY BE A VENERABLE  
OLD SAGE, MEDITATING  
ON THE WHIMS OF THE  
UNIVERSE...

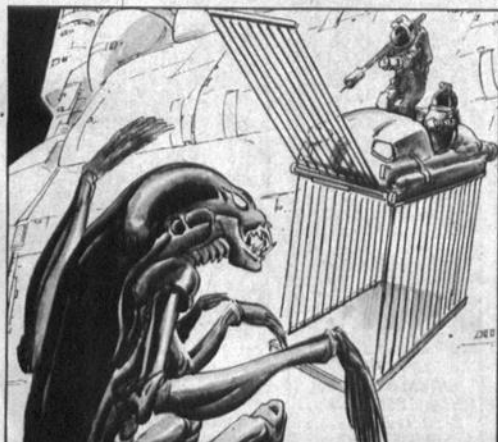
...OR IT  
MAY BE A MURDERER,  
FOREVER, EXILED LITERALLY,  
IN THE MIDDLE OF  
NOWHERE!



PRECAUTIONS ARE IN  
ORDER, DIRECTOR! LET'S AVOID  
KILLING AND BEING KILLED! OPEN  
THE SCREEN WIDE ENOUGH FOR THE  
CAGE TO SLIP THROUGH...

...AND  
WE'LL STUDY  
THE THING  
BEFORE BRINGING  
IT ABOARD FOR  
FURTHER TESTS!

NOW THAT,  
NEXIALIST, MAKES  
SENSE!



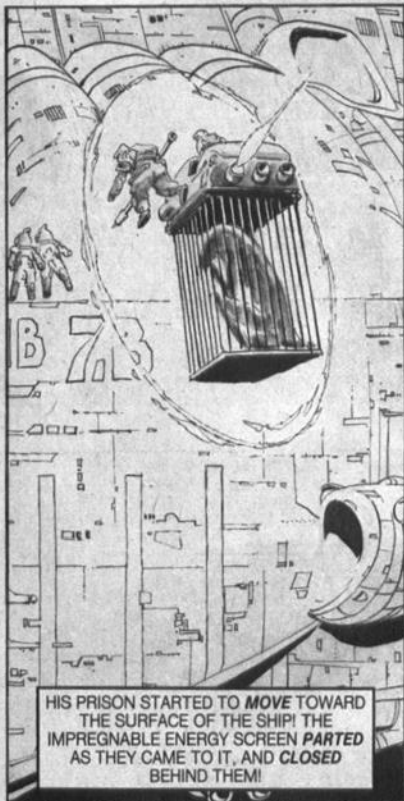
IXTL WAITED AS THE CAGE WAS DRIVEN TOWARDS HIM!  
THOUGH HE LONGED TO DO SO, HE KNEW HE MUST NOT  
MAKE A HOSTILE MOVE UNTIL HE WAS INSIDE THE  
STARCRAFT!

ONE OF THE  
OPERATORS HELD  
A WEAPON! IXTL  
SENSED THAT IT  
WOULD  
DISCHARGE A  
NEUTRON  
MISSILE!

IT MADE THE  
GLORIAN  
RESPECTFUL, BUT  
HE REALIZED ITS  
LIMITATIONS! IT  
COULD BE  
EMPLOYED  
AGAINST HIM OUT  
HERE...  
BUT THE TWO-  
LEGGERS WOULD  
NOT DARE  
UNLEASH SUCH  
VIOLENT  
RADIATION WITHIN  
THE CONFINES OF  
THEIR VALUABLE  
SHIP!



THE CAGE DOOR SOUNDLESSLY BANGED **SHUT** BEHIND HIM! IXTL GRABBED FOR THE NEAREST BAR, CAUGHT IT, AND **CLUNG** THERE! WILD **EXCITEMENT** COURSED THROUGH HIM! IT WOULD NOT BE **LONG NOW...**!



HIS PRISON STARTED TO **MOVE** TOWARD THE SURFACE OF THE SHIP! THE IMPREGNABLE ENERGY SCREEN **PARTED** AS THEY CAME TO IT, AND **CLOSED** BEHIND THEM!



**CLOSE UP**, THE MEN APPEARED **PUNY**! THEIR USE OF EXOSUITS PROVED THEIR INABILITY TO **ADAPT** TO RADICALLY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS FROM THEIR **OWN**, WHICH MEANT THEY WERE ON A **LOW PLANE** OF PHYSICAL EVOLUTION!

AS THE CAGE **HOVERED** BY THE HASTILY ARRANGED LAB, IXTL KNEW HE HAD TO **ACT** AT ONCE!



IF THE HUMANS **SURMISED** THE **TRUE NATURE** OF HIS UNSTABLE **ATOMIC STRUCTURE**, THEY WOULD ATTEMPT TO **SLAY** HIM WITH THEIR NEUTRON WEAPONS!

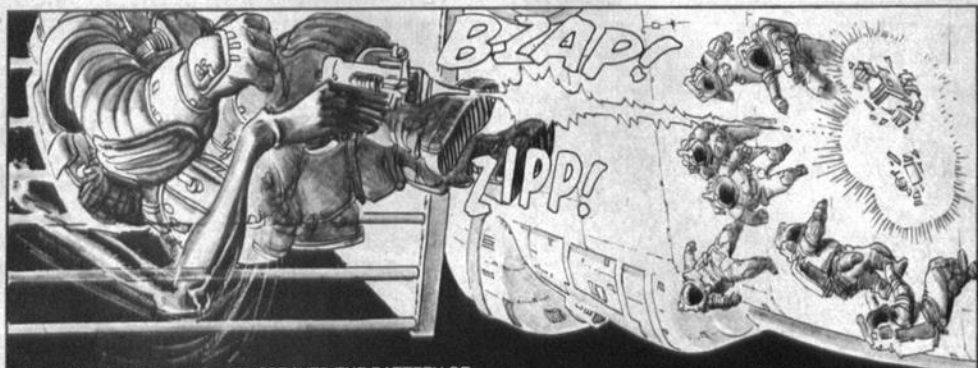


HIS VISION **INTENSIFIED** AND BECAME SENSITIVE TO VERY SHORT FREQUENCIES! A **BRIGHT SPOT** CAUGHT HIS ATTENTION...WELL WITHIN HIS **GRASP**, THE **POWERCORE** OF A **VIBRO-GUN**!



ONE ARM WITH ITS EIGHT WIRELIKE FINGERS **LASHED OUT** WITH INDESCRIBABLE SWIFTNESS **THROUGH** THE METAL BARS, AND **SEIZED** THE VIBROGUN FROM THE CREWMAN'S **HOLSTER**!





LIKE LIVING LIGHTNING, **IXTL** SPRAYED THE BATTERY OF PROBE-SCANNERS, **FOILING** THEIR COMPLEX BUT DELICATE MECHANISMS!



THEN, IN ONE CONTINUOUS MOVEMENT, HE **RELEASED** THE POWERFUL HAND-WEAP...AND **WITHDREW** HIS EXTENDED ARM BACK THROUGH THE BARS OF HIS CELL! IT HAD ALL HAPPENED IN AN **INSTANT!**



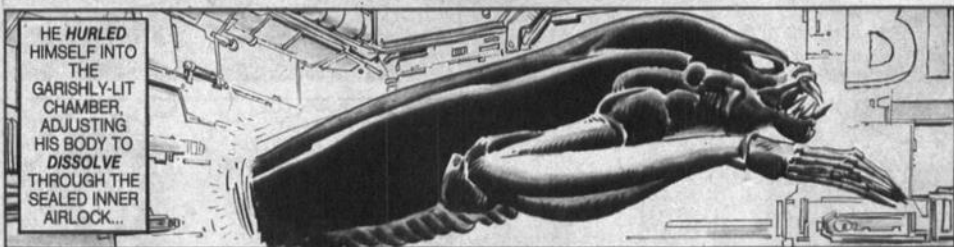
**IXTL** SUDDENLY FOUND HIMSELF **SINKING** THROUGH THE FLOOR OF HIS HOVERING PRISON! HE **BERATED** HIMSELF FOR HIS **THOUGHTLESSNESS** AS HE REALIZED THE **TRUTH...**



...HE HAD NEGLIGENTLY **FORGOTTEN** TO **RESTORE** HIS SWIRLING ATOMS TO THEIR FORMER **SOLIDNESS** AFTER **DESTROYING** THE RING OF PROBES!



ITXL, AN ELONGATED STREAK OF SCARLET, DARTED ACROSS THE EXPANSE OF POLISHED HULL TO THE OPEN HATCH!



HE HURLED HIMSELF INTO THE GARISHLY-LIT CHAMBER, ADJUSTING HIS BODY TO DISSOLVE THROUGH THE SEALED INNER AIRLOCK...

...AND FOUND HIMSELF AT ONE END OF A LONG CORRIDOR! ALL ABOUT HIM, THE SHIP THROBBED WITH POWER, WITH LIFE!



ONE FACT STOOD OUT AS HE STALKED PURPOSEFULLY FORWARD! IN THE IMMINENT STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF THE STARVESSEL, HE WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE...ASIDE FROM HIS INDIVIDUAL SUPERIORITY!

HIS OPPONENTS DID NOT YET KNOW THE DEADLINESS OF HIS INTENT! AND BY THE TIME THEY DID, IT WOULD ALREADY BE FAR TOO LATE!



# RECORD EXTRAVAGANZA

## LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



**LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE:** The original radio broadcasts of "The Oyster Diving" and "Black Jacket" episodes that made Annie a star! #2327—\$6.95

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**SUPERMAN:** Up, up and away! Here the Man of Steel's complete story, from Krypton to the Daily Planet! Buy it: It's the American way! #2328—\$6.95

## SUPERMAN



**SUPERMAN:** Listen as the Man of Steel goes up against his most dangerous adversary, the evil Lex Luthor! Who will be the victor? #2397—\$2.98

## SUPERMAN



**SUPERMAN:** This album contains four "super" adventure tales starring everybody's favorite hero, the mighty Man of Steel! #2396—\$2.98

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**BUCK ROGERS:** Listen to plenty of thrills on this original radio broadcast of Buck and his gal Wilma fighting crime in the 25th Century! #2329—\$6.95

## MALTESE FALCON



**MALTESE FALCON:** One of the most famous detective dramas ever! Hear Bogart at his best, solving the case of the jinxed statuette! #2334—\$6.95

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**COMIC BOOK HEROES:** They're all here, from Tracy to the Man of Steel! A rare comedy record you're sure to enjoy! A must! #2337—\$5.98

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**SOUNDS TO MAKE YOU SHIVER:** A record perfect for Halloween parties! Includes howling wind, rattling chains, & much more! #2341—\$3.98

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**FLASH GORDON:** The most fabulous space hero of all time in an original broadcast filled with suspense and adventure for all! #2344—\$6.98

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**WHEN RADIO WAS KING:** Collection of early radio hits includes "The Traveling Man" (#2349) and "Terry & the Pirates" (#2350). Each \$4.98!

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**20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA:** The SEA: Voyage with Captain Nemo and the crew of the Nautilus in Jules Verne's timeless tale! #2357—\$2.98

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**SAM SPADE:** Howard Duff stars as Dashiell Hammett's great investigator in these exciting, original broadcasts. The chase is on! #2364—\$6.98

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**SPACE 1999:** Scripted from the TV show, 3 great stories enliven one super LP. All sci-fi fans must get this record for themselves! #2379—\$2.98

## SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN



**SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN:** It's everyone's favorite bionic hunk, Major Steve Austin, in another of his exciting adventure stories! #2380—\$2.98

## JAWS OF THE SHARK



**JAWS:** The Great White lives in these 3 pulse-pounding tales of young scientists in combat with the most famous predators of the deep! #2384—\$2.98

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**THEMES FROM CLASSIC FILMS:** Some of Hollywood's greatest tunes are on this album! For movie fans who love good music! #2392—\$2.98

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**I, ROBOT:** Something to think about! Alan Parson's songs warn that man's rule will end in futuristic "human" robots! Mind-boggling! #2395—\$7.98

## THE STORY OF STAR WARS



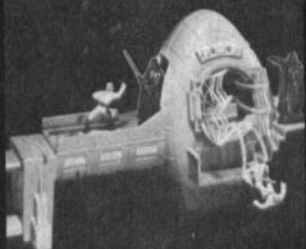
**STORY OF STAR WARS:** Along time ago in a galaxy far, far away! You'll hear it all on this stereo record which includes a photo book! #2389—\$9.95



# STAR WARS™

## MICRO COLLECTION

### BESPIN CONTROL ROOM



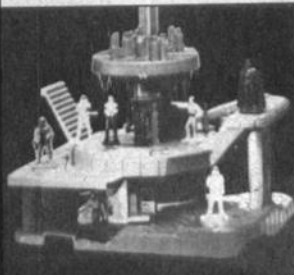
The duel continues! Four die cast metal figures of Luke and Darth Vader in action poses! Features 'break a-way' windows with remote lever and special platform! Connects to other Bespin playsets. #26345—\$11.90

### BESPIN GANTRY



Site of Luke's famed lightsaber duel with Vader! Remote operated gantry door opens and leads to rotating platform! Includes four unique die cast figures! Also connects to other Bespin playsets. #26346—\$11.90

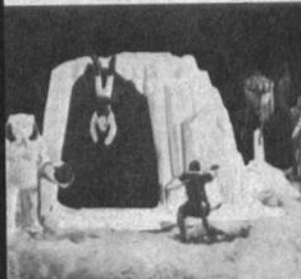
### BESPIN FREEZE CHAMBER



A special platform lowers Han Solo into chamber—then turn the action lever to raise a 'frozen' figure out with the lifting claw! Movable ramp, stairs, elevator, escape hatch! Eight metal figures! #26347—\$29.90

**Special Offer! All three interlocking Bespin World playsets for only \$49.95!**

### HOTH WAMPA CAVE



Recreates Luke's capture by Hoth Wampa, the snow monster, plus Han and Chewbacca destroying the probot! Contains an 'action launcher' and 4 metal figures! Connects with other Hoth playsets. #26349—\$11.90

### HOTH GENERATOR ATTACK



Features exploding generator and Scout Walker that stands unassisted and also explodes by remote control when positioned on snow base! Six die cast metal figures! Connects to all Hoth playsets. #26350—\$19.90

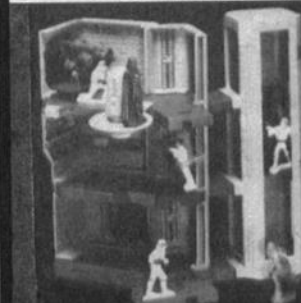
### HOTH ION CANNON



Operated by remote lever and clicks to simulate firing! Includes observation tower with blast doors, a command post with two computer terminals and a battle damage feature! Eight metal figures! #26351—\$29.90

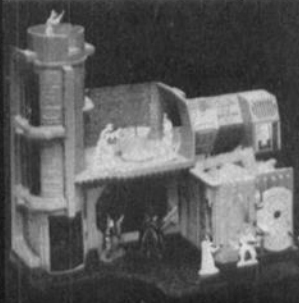
**Special Offer! All three interlocking Hoth World playsets for only \$55.95!**

### DEATH STAR ESCAPE



Features exploding cannon that clicks and holds a stormtrooper, manually operated bridge, removable elevator assembly and even a rope to swing Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia Organa from one side to the other! Includes six unique die cast metal figures set in action poses! Interlocks with the Death Star Compactor playset. #26353—\$19.90

### DEATH STAR COMPACTOR



Manually operated trash compactor with escape hatch that opens at the last second, remote operated blast door that springs shut, elevator, plus blast hatch to let figures jump to the trash compactor! Contains 8 die cast figures including Han Solo and Luke Skywalker in Stormtrooper outfits! Connects to Death Star Escape playset. #26354—\$25.90

### DEATH STAR ESCAPE & COMPACTOR



**Special Offer!**  
**Both Death Star interlocking sets for only \$39.95!**

GROSVENOR STOOD AMONG THE REST OF THE ASSEMBLED CREW ON THE *SPACE BEAGLE'S* BRIDGE! CAPTAIN LEETH, COMMANDER OF THE STAR-VESSEL, AND SCIENCE DIRECTOR MORTON APPEARED EQUALLY TENSE! A BELL SOON CHIMED INDICATING SILENCE...AND THE CAPTAIN ADDRESS HIS MEN!

GENTLEMEN, YOU'RE PROBABLY *NOT* WONDERING WHY I'VE CALLED YOU HERE! AS YOU NO DOUBT *KNOW*, THERE'S A MONSTER ABOARD THE SHIP! THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE! I TRUST YOU'LL RECOGNIZE IT IMMEDIATELY!

FROM THIS MOMENT ON, EVERYONE SHALL GO ARMED AND TRAVEL ONLY IN PAIRS OR GROUPS! *SHOULD* ANYONE CONTACT THIS LURKING CREATURE, DEFEND YOURSELF WITHOUT HESITATION! GET IT BEFORE IT GETS YOU!

A.E. VAN VOGT'S

# VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE

PART TWO

THAT'S RIGHT!  
TRY TO TAKE IT WITH  
YOU! DON'T ALLOW YOUR-  
SELF TO SUFFER OR  
DIE IN VAIN!

NOW, I'D LIKE  
TO SOLICIT MORE  
OPINIONS ON EXACTLY  
WHAT IT IS WE'RE  
UP AGAINST!



ONE BY ONE, THE SCI-DEPARTMENT HEADS WERE  
CALLED UPON TO *SPEAK*...SIEDEL, THE *EXOPSYCH*  
...SMITH, THE *EXOBIOLOGIST*...AND KORITA, THE  
*HISTECH*!



WHAT THEY HAD TO OFFER WAS *USEFUL*...BUT  
STILL RELEGATED TO THE FIELD OF *SPECULATION*  
AND *CONJECTURE*!

UNTIL FINALLY, IT WAS THE *NEXIALIST*'S TURN! GROSVENOR SHARED HIS BROAD, WHOLISTIC VIEWPOINT!

AS EVERYONE  
KNOWS, OUR *STAR-  
DRIVE* WAS DRAINED OF  
POWER BEFORE WE MADE  
CONTACT WITH THE  
ALIEN FLOATING  
IN SPACE!

I BELIEVE  
THERE MUST BE  
SOME *CONNECTION*  
BETWEEN THE TWO  
EVENTS!



...BUT HARDLY  
*INVINCIBLE*! AS  
TO WAYS TO KILL THE  
THING, I'D THINK  
THAT-I

SORRY FOR THE  
*INTERRUPTION*,  
CAPTAIN!

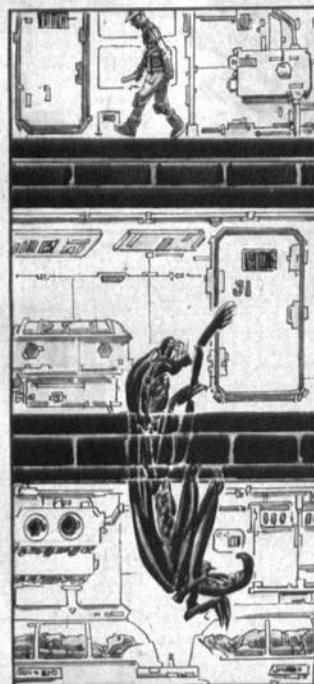
EH?  
WHAT IS IT,  
ENGINEER  
PENNONS?



"AFTER WE CAPTURED IT, IT CARELESSLY SLIPPED OUT  
OF OUR CAGE...PASSING THROUGH THE METAL...A  
MISTAKE ON ITS PART, I BELIEVE...THEN DOVE INTO AN  
OPEN AIRLOCK!"

"SO, WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE? IT'S A *SOLID ENERGY*  
CREATURE THAT FEEDS ON POWER AND MAKES  
MISTAKES! IT'S LETHAL, TO BE SURE..."





...THE NEXT, HE WAS CAUGHT AMID THE CORUSCATING FURY OF AN ENERGY SCREEN!

HIS MIND WENT BLANK WITH PAIN! CLOUDS OF ELECTRONS BROKE FREE INSIDE HIM! THEY FLASHED FROM SYSTEM TO SYSTEM, SEEKING UNION...BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, WERE VIOLENTLY REPELLED BY ATOM ORBITS FIGHTING TO REMAIN STABLE!



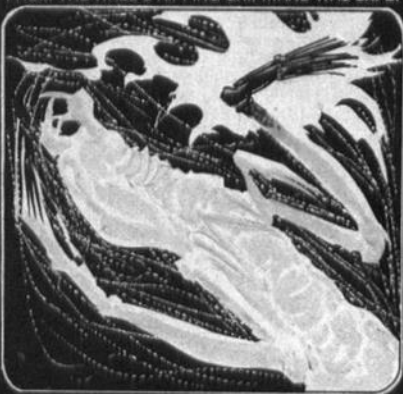
DURING THE PROLONGED AGONY, THE INTRICATELY BALANCED FLEXIBILITY OF HIS BODY NEARLY DISINTEGRATED INTO WHIRLING CHAOS AND NOTHINGNESS!

TO KTL, THE SHOCK WAS DEVASTATING! ONE MOMENT HE WAS THINKING COMPLACENTLY OF THE HOLD'S ISOLATED COMPARTMENTS WHERE HE WOULD SECRETE HIS GUILTS...

QUICKLY, HIS FORM **ADJUSTED**, EACH NEW-BUILT  
STRUCTURE CARRYING THE INTOLERABLE **LOAD** FOR  
A FRACTION OF A MICROSECOND BEFORE  
**COLLAPSING...**



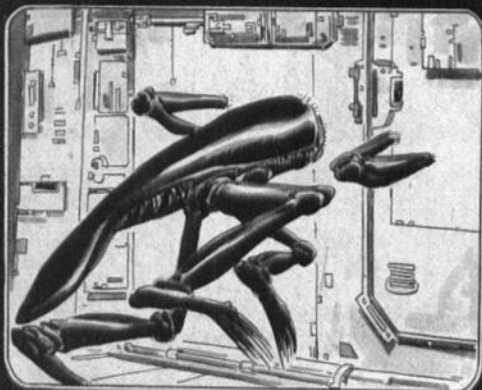
PARTIALLY SUSTAINING HIMSELF, HE **MARSHALLED**  
HIS **STRENGTH** AND **WRENCHED** HIMSELF FREE  
FROM THE WALL'S **RIPPING GRIP...** AND WAS **SAFE!**



...ONLY TO ARISE  
PHOENIX-LIKE, **RENEWED**  
AGAIN AND AGAIN WITH EACH  
PASSING **INSTANT!**

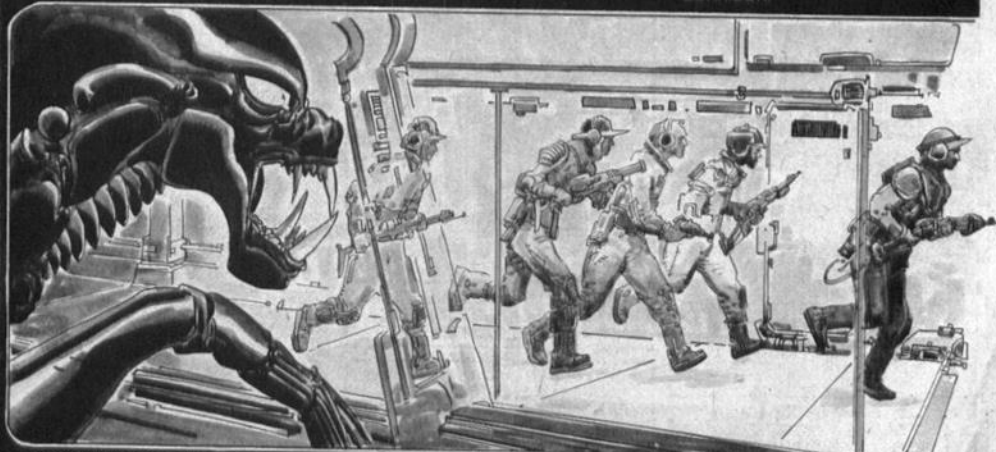


THE DEFENSIVE **SHIELD OF FORCE** WOULD  
UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONNECTED TO AN **ALARM SYSTEM!**  
SOON, **MEN** WOULD BE BEARING DOWN ON HIM!



**IXTL'S** EYES WERE GLARING POOLS OF **FIRE** AS HE  
REALIZED HIS **OPPORTUNITY!** HE WOULD **SNARE** ONE OF  
THE **BIPEDS** AND EXAMINE HIM FOR **GUUL** PROPERTIES!

THERE WAS NO TIME TO **WASTE!** HE **DARTED** INTO AN  
UNENERGIZED COMPARTMENT PARALLEL TO THE MAIN  
CORRIDOR!



FROM HIS VANTAGE POINT, HIS RADIATION-SENSITIVE EYES **TRACKED** THE BLURRED IMAGES OF HIS **PREY** AS THEY **RACED**  
**BY!** ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE!

THE FIFTH AND LAST MAN WAS HIS! LIKE A **WRAITH**, IXTL GLIDED BACK OUT INTO THE CORRIDOR...



...AND **POUNCED!**



THE MAN **SQUIRMED** AND **JERKED** AND **CONTORTED** HIMSELF IN A MAD EFFORT TO GET **FREE**...AND THEN WAS **OVERWHELMED**, **FLUNG** TO THE FLOOR WITH **SMASHING FORCE!**



THE BIPED'S MOUTH **OPENED** AND **SHUT** IN AN UNEVEN SERIES OF MOVEMENTS! IT WAS NOT HARD TO SURMISE THAT THE VICTIM WAS **SUMMONING HELP** FROM HIS OWN KIND!

WITH A **SNARL**, ONE HAND **ARCHED** DOWN AND **SHATTERED** THE JAW, **DISLOCATING** IT!



THE MAMMAL WAS STILL **ALIVE** AND **CONSCIOUS**, BUT RENDERED **INCAPABLE** OF **CRYING ALOUD** FOR ASSISTANCE!



WITHOUT **HESITATION**, IXTL **EAGERLY PLUNGED** TWO HANDS **INTO** HIM!



EYES GAPING, THE PETRIFIED TERRAN WATCHED AS THE LONG LIMBS VANISHED INTO HIS SHIRT AND STIRRED AROUND WITHIN!



IN HIS ANXIETY, IXTL MADE THE MISTAKE OF SPEEDING HIS EXAMINATION! HIS PROBING FINGERS BRIEFLY ATTAINED A STATE OF **SEMI-SOLIDITY!**



IN THAT MOMENT, THEY BRUSHED THROUGH THE BEATING HEART!

THE HUMAN SPECIMEN HEAVED CONVULSIVELY, **SHUDDERED**, AND...**DIED!**

HASTILY, THE ALIEN'S DIGITS CONTINUED TO **EXAMINE** THE WARM **STOMACH** AND **INTESTINES!**



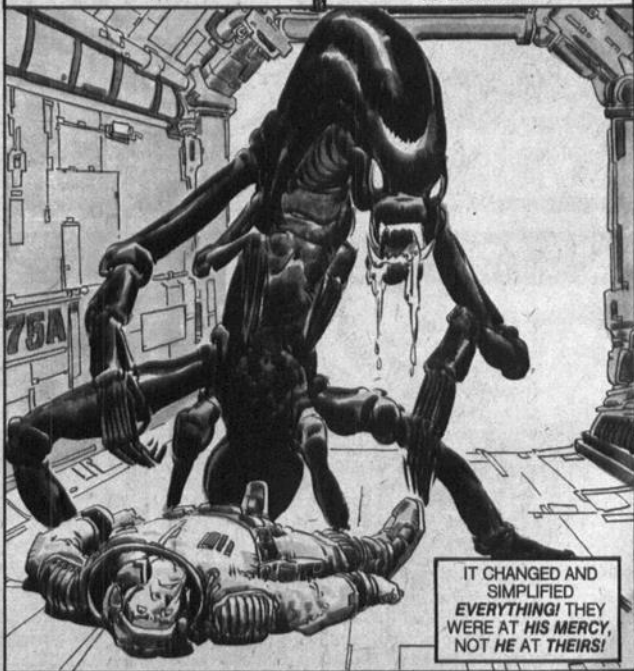
A WARNING DRUMMED INSIDE HIM...**HURRY, HURRY!** THE **GLORIAN'S** FOUR PEDAL EXTREMITIES REGISTERED THE VIBRATIONS OF APPROACHING **FOOTSTEPS!**

THEY CAME FROM **ONE DIRECTION ONLY**, BUT THEY CAME **SWIFTLY!**



IXTL DREW BACK IN A RAGE OF **SELF-CRITICISM!** HERE WAS **EXACTLY** WHAT HE **WANTED**, WHAT HE **NEEDED**...AND HE HAD INADVERTENTLY **DESTROYED** IT!

HE STRAIGHTENED SLOWLY, HIS **ANGER** AND **DISMAY** DIMINISHING! FOR HE HAD NOT ANTICIPATED THAT THESE INTELLIGENT BEINGS COULD SO EASILY **DIE!**



IT CHANGED AND SIMPLIFIED **EVERYTHING!** THEY WERE AT **HIS** MERCY, NOT HE AT **THEIRS!**

TWO MEN WITH DRAWN **VIBRO-GUNS** WHIPPED **AROUND** A CORNER AND SLID TO A **HALT** AT THE SIGHT OF THE **HELLISH** APPARITION THAT **SNARLED** AT THEM ACROSS THE BODY OF THEIR **FALLEN COMPANION!**



WHILE THEY WERE IN **SHOCK**, **IXTL** STEPPED INTO THE NEAREST **WALL!** ONE INSTANT HE WAS A **BLUR** OF **SCARLET** IN THAT HALLWAY...

...A **SECOND LATER**, HE WAS **GONE** AS IF HE HAD **NEVER BEEN!**

THE ALIEN **FELT** THE TRANSMITTED **VIBRATIONS** FROM THE WEAPONS AS THE TWIN **VIBRO-BEAMS** FUTILELY **TORE** AT THE **BULKHEAD** HE **HID** BEHIND!



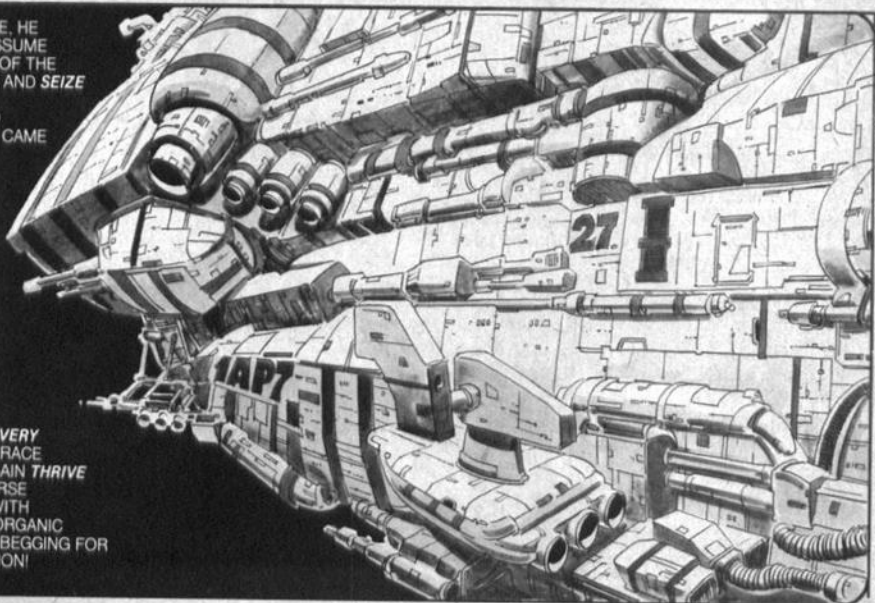
HIS **PLAN** WAS **QUITE CLEAR** NOW! HE WOULD **CAPTURE** HALF A DOZEN **MANGLINGS** AND MAKE **GUULS** OF THEM!

HE WOULD THEN **KILL** ALL THE **OTHERS!**



**THAT DONE**, HE WOULD ASSUME **CONTROL** OF THE VAST **SHIP** AND **SEIZE** THE FIRST **INHABITED** PLANET IT CAME UPON!

SOON, SO **VERY SOON**, HIS RACE WOULD AGAIN **THRIVE** IN A UNIVERSE **TEEMING** WITH **INFERIOR** ORGANIC **LIFE**...LIFE BEGGING FOR **SUBJUGATION!**



GROSVENOR WATCHED, ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHERS, AS THE VESSEL'S STAR-SURGEON BENT OVER THE RICTUS-GRINNING CORPSE!

THE NEXIALIST DRANK IN EVERY WORD, INTERRELATING AND SYNTHESIZING IT WITH EVERY OTHER SCRAP OF DATA TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW!



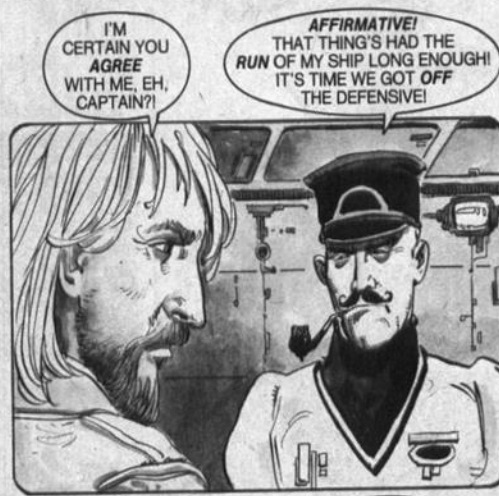
YOU'RE **NOT** GOING TO BELIEVE IT, DIRECTOR! HEART FAILURE!



YOU HEARD ME...HEART FAILURE! SURE, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS MAN'S JAW WAS HALF RIPPED FROM HIS SKULL...BUT MY DIAGNOSIS STANDS!



WE'VE GOT THE BEST DAMNED BUNCH OF BRAINS EVER TO COLLABORATE, SO LET'S COUNTER-ATTACK!



AFFIRMATIVE! THAT THING'S HAD THE RUN OF MY SHIP LONG ENOUGH! IT'S TIME WE GOT OFF THE DEFENSIVE!



IMPOSSIBLE, SIR! A CHARGE OF THAT MAGNITUDE RIGHT AWAY WOULD MELT THE BULK-HEADS AND SLAY EVERY CREWMAN ABOARD!



SIR... WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME! THIS THING IS FORMIDABLE AND AGGRESSIVE!



THE NEXIALIST QUICKLY JUMPED INTO THE CONVERSATION!

BUT IT **BLUNDERS**, IT  
MAKES **MISTAKES**! OTHERWISE,  
IT WOULDN'T HAVE **STUMBLLED**  
INTO THE DORM'S **SCREEN-  
SHIELD**! IT'S NOT **INFALLIBLE**,  
SO WE'VE GOT TO—



BUT THE MEN WERE **NOT LISTENING** TO GROSVENOR! IN  
THE SPAN OF A SINGLE  
BREATH HE **SENSED**,  
RATHER THAN  
SAW, **WHY!**



FULL INTO THE CENTER  
OF THE CORRIDOR  
STEPPED IXTL!

HE **STOOD** THERE, A FORBIDDING **SPECTER**! HIS EYES WERE **BRIGHT** AND **ALERT**, THOUGH  
HE WAS NO LONGER **ALARMED**! HE KNEW, **CONTEMPTUOUSLY**, THAT THERE WAS **NOTHING**  
THESE **FEEBLE BEINGS** COULD DO TO **THWART** HIS WILL!



HE HAD COME FOR HIS  
FIRST **GUUL**!

IT WAS CAPTAIN LEETH WHO FINALLY BROKE THE SILENCE! DELIBERATELY, HE HELD HIS HAND AWAY FROM HIS HOLSTERED **VIBROGUN!**

**PENNONS!** DON'T TRY TO DRAW ON HIM! HE CAN MOVE LIKE A FLASH!

BESIDES, HE WOULDN'T BE HERE IF HE THOUGHT WE COULD BLAST HIM!



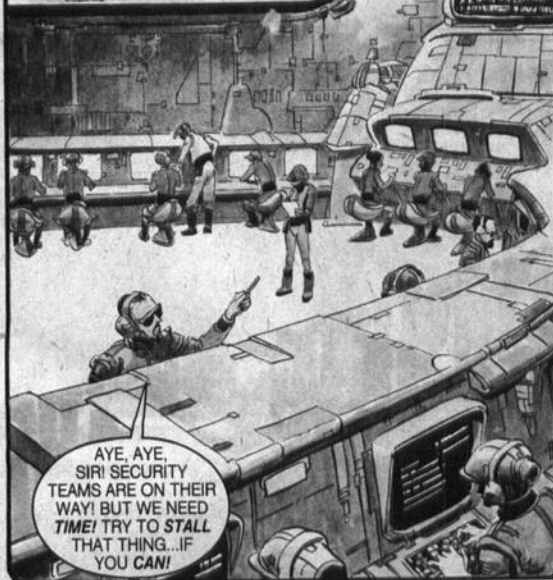
REPRESSING AN INSTINCTIVE URGE TO **OPEN FIRE** ON THE THING HIMSELF, CAPTAIN LEETH PRODUCED AN **OMNI-MIKE** FROM HIS UNIFORM AND TERSELY SPOKE INTO IT!

**ATTENTION, ALL SECURITY TEAMS!** POSITION YOURSELVES ABOVE AND BELOW THIS LEVEL...AND AT BOTH ENDS OF THE PASSAGWAY!

BRING UP THE HEAVIEST **PORTABLES** IN THE ARMORY! SET THE BEAM-SWEEP AT **NARROW FOCUS!** **MOVE!**



ON THE **BRIDGE** OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, LT. CLAY **ACKNOWLEDGED** THE CAPTAIN'S ORDERS!



AYE, AYE, SIR! SECURITY TEAMS ARE ON THEIR WAY! BUT WE NEED **TIME!** TRY TO STALL THAT THING...IF YOU CAN!

MEANWHILE, **VON GROSSEN**, THE **ASTROPHYSICIST**, REMOVED A SLATE FROM ONE POCKET AND RAPIDLY BEGAN **SKETCHING!**

I CAN KEEP IT **OCCUPIED!** WAIT TILL IT SEES **THIS!**



GROSVENOR WAS FILLED WITH **MISGIVINGS** AS HE WATCHED THE **BALDING SCIENTIST** BOLDLY STEP **FORWARD** AND OFFER THE **DRAWING** TO THE **GLOWERING GOLEM!**

**VON GROSSEN!**

WE NEED **TIME**, AND I'M **BUYING** US THAT!



THE CREATURE AT FIRST **HESITATED**, THEN ACCEPTED IT! HE TOOK **ONE GLANCE** AT THE NOTEPAD, AND A FURIOUS **SNARL** SPLIT HIS HIDEOUS FEATURES!



DIRECTOR MORTON REALIZED WHAT WAS ABOUT TO HAPPEN! HE **SPRANG FORWARD**, INTERPOSING HIMSELF BETWEEN THE STARTLED SCIENTIST AND THE GLARING ALIEN!



MORTON, RECOVERING EVEN AS HE FELL, REACHED FOR HIS **WEAPON**... AND THEN **FROZE** WITH IT IN HIS HAND! THE **NEXIALIST**, GETTING TO HIS FEET NEXT TO HIM, IMMEDIATELY KNEW **WHY!**



THE ALIEN HAD **SEIZED** VON GROSSEN, HOLDING HIM IN TWO **SCARLET-COLORED ARMS!**



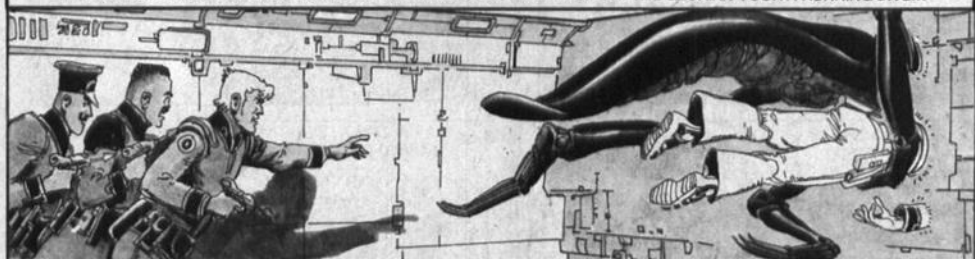


BUT IT WAS  
UTTERLY  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR  
THE MEN TO  
FIRE WITHOUT  
HITTING VON  
GROSSEN!  
GROSVENOR  
DARED NOT  
WASTE ANOTHER  
SECOND! IT WAS  
IMPERATIVE THAT  
HE DISCOVER  
THE CREATURE'S  
VULNERABLE  
POINT!



FOR  
GOD'S SAKE,  
VON GROSSEN!  
WHAT'S ITS  
SECRET? HOW  
CAN WE DEFEAT  
IT?

THE ASTROPHYSICIST TURNED HIS HEAD! THAT WAS ALL HE HAD TIME FOR! THE GLORIAN TOOK A RUNNING DIVE...



...AND VANISHED INTO A WALL!



BUT THERE WAS ONLY THE SMOOTH, GLEAMING WALL TO  
MARK THE SPOT OF THE ALIEN'S ESCAPE!



THE PERSPIRING MEN, CURSING SILENTLY TO THEMSELVES,  
FINGERED THEIR DRAWN PISTOLS HELPLESSLY!



IF HE CAN ADJUST  
OUR ATOMIC STRUCTURE  
AND TAKE US THROUGH  
SOLID MATTER, WE CAN'T  
BEAT HIM! WE'RE LOST  
...DOOMED!

PERHAPS, CREWMAN!  
BUT WHILE WE'RE ALIVE,  
WE CAN PUT UP ONE HELL  
OF A FIGHT!

SECURITY! WHAT  
IS YOUR  
STATUS?

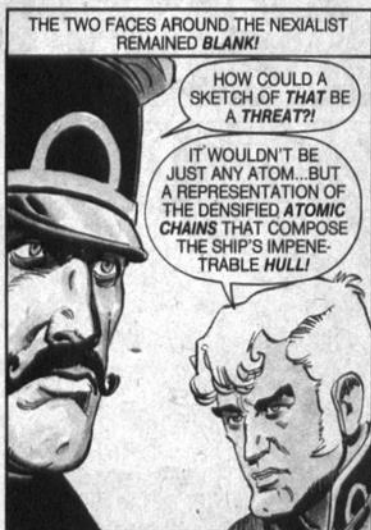


SITUATION  
UNCHANGED! WE WERE  
STILL LINING UP OUR  
UNITS, CAPTAIN, WHEN  
THE THING TORE  
PAST US!

SORRY  
ABOUT THE  
DELAY SIR!  
IT WON'T  
HAPPEN  
AGAIN!



GROSVENOR WAS *ALREADY* THINKING DEEPLY ALONG *SIMILAR* LINES! ANY PICTURE THE ASTROPHYSICIST HAD RENDERED WOULD BE LIMITED TO THE SPECIALTY OF THE MAN'S *GIVEN* FIELD!



WHEN GROSVENOR FIRST ARRIVED IN THE ENGINE ROOM, HE WAS **UNEASY** IN THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY CREWMEMBERS...**STRANGERS** TO HIM! HE WAS ALWAYS MORE COMFORTABLE WITH **THEORY** THAN WITH **PEOPLE!**

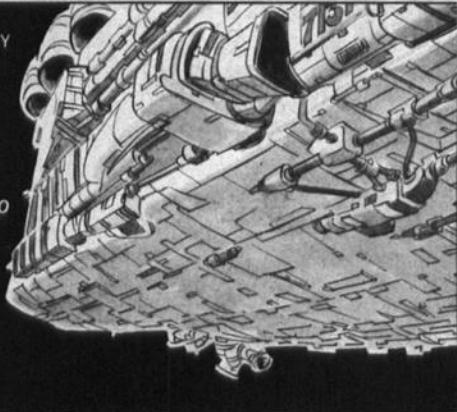
BUT GRADUALLY, HE FOUND HIMSELF TAKING **COMFORT** IN THE **CLOSE PROXIMITY** OF SO MANY FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS! **HERE**, HE FELT **SAFE** FROM THE **ALIEN TERROR** THAT HAD INFILTRATED THE **SPACE BEAGLE!** SURELY, BY **SHEER FORCE OF NUMBERS**, THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO **DEFEAT** THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL!



BUT JUST AS THE AWESOME ENGINE ROOM MACHINERY **DWARFED** THE FRAGILE CREWMEMBERS...



...SO DID THE EXTRAORDINARY POWERS OF THE **ALIEN** **DEFY** THE **ANALYSIS** OF THE **PRIMITIVE TERRAN SCIENCE!** THERE WERE **NO GUARANTEES**, GROSVENOR KNEW. **NO SPECIAL FAVORS** TO BE **DISPENSED** FROM THE **INKY INFINITY** OF **SPACE!**



CAPTAIN LEETH AND DIRECTOR MORTON **ADDRESSED** THE **852** MEN AND WOMEN OF THE STARVESSEL!

I **TRULY** HOPE THIS GATHERING PROVES **MORE FRUITFUL** THAN THE ONE I JUST HELD ON THE BRIDGE WITH MILITARY AND SCI-DEPARTMENT HEADS!

YOU'VE ALL BEEN **BRIEFED!** ANY IDEAS ON HOW WE CAN **CORNER** THE CREATURE?!



SGT. ANN ZELLER ANSWERED BRISKLY! SHE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE **METALLURGY** SECTION!

YES SIR! IT'S CLAIMED THE INTRUDER CAN'T **PENETRATE** RESISTANCE METALS! MY ASSISTANTS ARE DESIGNING AN **ARMORED SUIT** OF THAT ALLOY!

WITH IT, WE CAN **HUNT** THE **ALIEN** WITH **IMPUNITY!**



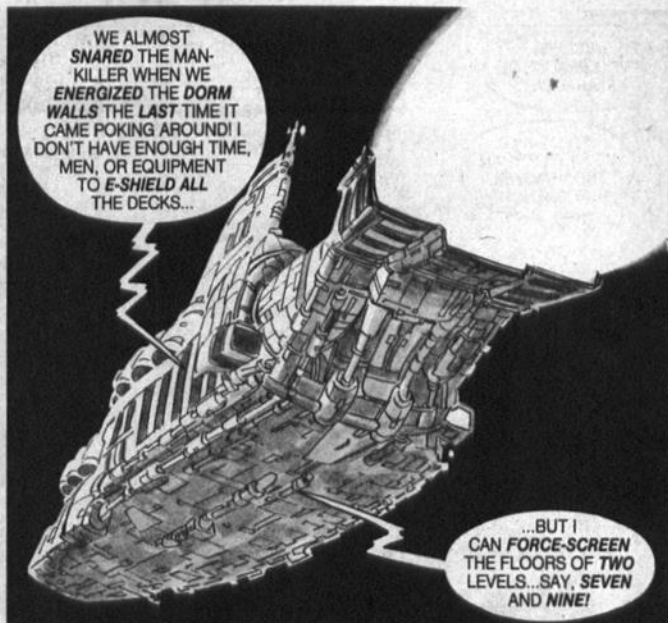




EXCELLENT PROPOSAL, SERGEANT! GIVE THAT SUIT TOP PRIORITY! THAT'S FOR OFFENSE! NOW...HOW ABOUT DEFENSE?!

ENGINEER PENNONS! HAVE YOU A SUGGESTION?

I SURE DO!



WE ALMOST SNARED THE MAN-KILLER WHEN WE ENERGIZED THE DORM WALLS THE LAST TIME IT CAME POKING AROUND! I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, MEN, OR EQUIPMENT TO E-SHIELD ALL THE DECKS...

...BUT I CAN FORCE-SCREEN THE FLOORS OF TWO LEVELS...SAY, SEVEN AND NINE!



WHEN THE ALIEN COMES UP FROM BELOW WHERE IT'S BEEN LURKING, WE CAN TRAP IT BETWEEN DECKS AND USE THE HEAVY PORTABLES TO FINISH IT OFF!

GOOD, PENNONS! THAT'S THE KIND OF TALK I WANT TO HEAR! BY GOD, WE'LL DO IT!



GROSVENOR HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE SCHEME! WHOLISTICALLY, HE COULD SEE MANY POTENTIAL GLITCHES, AND BLUNTLY SAID SO!

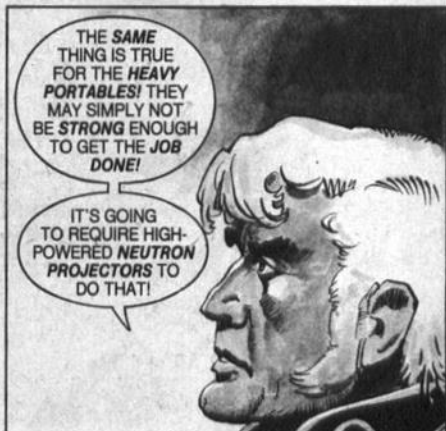
EXCUSE ME, CAPTAIN! I HAVE TO POINT OUT THE THING WASN'T STOPPED BY THE FORCE SHIELDS!

IT WAS DETERRED...BUT NOT CAPTURED OR KILLED!



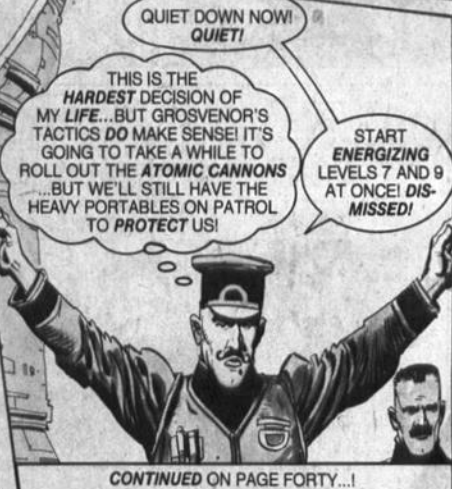
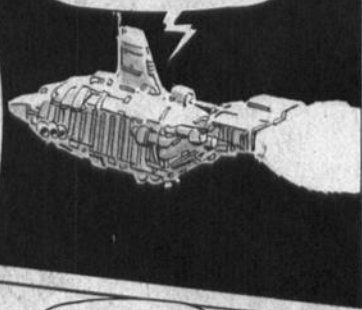
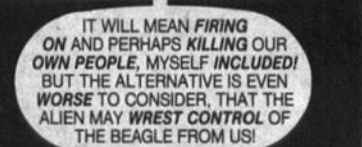
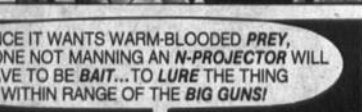
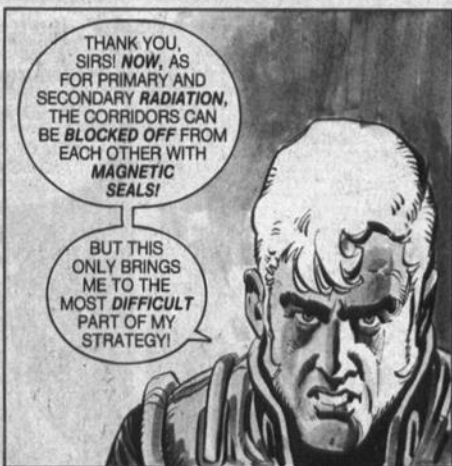
WHAT ARE YOU HINTING AT, NEXIALIST? THAT OUR SCREENS ARE NEXT TO USELESS?!

NOT ENTIRELY! ENERGIZING TWO LEVELS MAY SLOW IT DOWN...BUT THERE'S A CHANCE, A GOOD CHANCE, IT WILL STILL MANAGE TO PIERCE OUR SHIELDS!



THE SAME THING IS TRUE FOR THE HEAVY PORTABLES! THEY MAY SIMPLY NOT BE STRONG ENOUGH TO GET THE JOB DONE!

IT'S GOING TO REQUIRE HIGH-POWERED NEUTRON PROJECTORS TO DO THAT!



CONTINUED ON PAGE FORTY...



THEY JOURNEY INTO THE DEEP,  
FORGOTTEN PAST...HURTLING BEYOND  
THE ENDLESS LIMITS OF TIME ITSELF  
INTO THE AWESOME, MYSTERIOUS  
FUTURE!

THEY DELVE INTO THE MOST PRESSING MYSTERIES  
OF EARTH...THREE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT MINDS  
WHO EVER LIVED! THEY ARE GRANT LEWIS, RICK  
JAMES AND CINDY BARRIE...OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS...THE INFINITY FORCE!

EERIE SHOWCASE

THE

# INFINITY FORCE





MWANZA, TANZANIA, OFF THE SOUTHERN-MOST TIP OF LAKE VICTORIA IN CENTRAL AFRICA...!

JEOP COMING, GRANT! COULD BE TROUBLE!

HOLD IT, RICK! THAT LOOKS LIKE CINDY!



OH, RICK... GRANT! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU BOTH!

CINDY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?



I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG NEAR LAKE TANGANYIKA!

I WAS... UNTIL I UNEARTHED THIS...



...THE GREATEST ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY EVER DREDGED UP BY MAN!

LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY PIECE OF METAL TO ME! WHAT IS IT... SOME SORT OF ALUMINUM ALLOY?



THAT'S JUST IT! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS! IT'S LIKE NO METAL KNOWN TO MAN!

YOU'RE KIDDING!

WAIT'LL YOU HEAR THE CLINCHER!



IT'S MORE THAN A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS OLD!



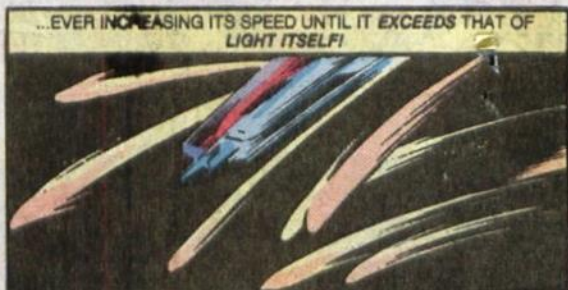
SO I THOUGHT...

...CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG... BUT YOU THOUGHT A TIME TRIP WAS CALLED FOR!

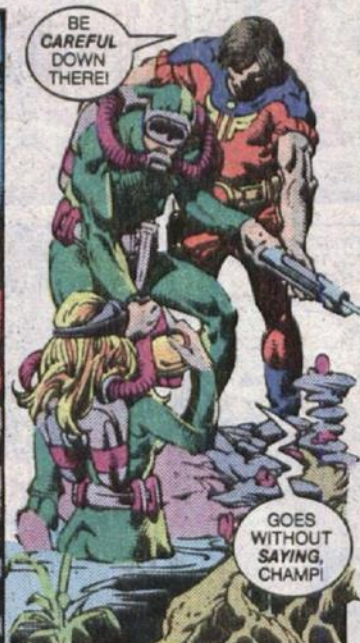
















IT'S AS  
DARK AS PITCH!  
BUT...WHAT ARE  
THOSE LITTLE  
GOLDEN BUB-  
BLES?



YES, I SEE  
THEM, TOO! THEY LOOK  
ALMOST LIKE SOME SORT  
OF FISH'S EGGS! MAYBE  
WE SHOULD—!



SUDDENLY...THE UNDERWATER LANTERN ATTRACTS  
THE ATTENTION OF A MONSTROUS SERPENT...!

CINDY!  
WATCH OUT!



LET  
HER GO,  
YOU OVERGROWN,  
SLUDGE-SUCKING  
WORM!

KKSHSH!



THE MAMMOTH REPTILE **TWISTS** AND  
**HEAVES**...STRUGGLING TO **BUCK** THE HUMAN  
PREDATOR FROM ITS BACK!

CINDY'S  
LOST CONSCIOUS-  
NESS! SHE'LL  
DROWN!



I MIGHT HAVE  
TO KILL THIS SEA  
SNAKE...JUST SO I  
CAN GET FREE AND  
SAVE HER!





NO! IT'S  
BREAKING AWAY!  
RUNNING FROM  
ME...!

HANG ON,  
CINDY! I'M  
COMING!



HER DIVING  
MASK! BUT...SHE'S  
NOT HERE! CINDY!  
OH GOD, CINDY!



THERE!  
SHE'S CONSCIOUS!  
ALIVE!

BUT WHAT'S  
THAT SHE FOUND?

IT LOOKS LIKE A SPACE  
PROBE OF SOME SORT! BUT DOWN  
HERE? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



THOSE 'GOLDEN  
BUBBLES' WE SAW...  
COMING OUT OF THAT  
SHIP! WHAT IF THEY'RE  
A FORM OF ALIEN LIFE?  
OR AN EXTRATERRESTIAL  
DISEASE CAPABLE OF  
WIPING OUT ALL  
LIFE ON EARTH?



WE'VE GOT  
TO PLAY SAFE...  
TAKE SAMPLES OF  
THESE 'FISH EGGS'  
TO ANALYZE BACK  
AT THE LAB!

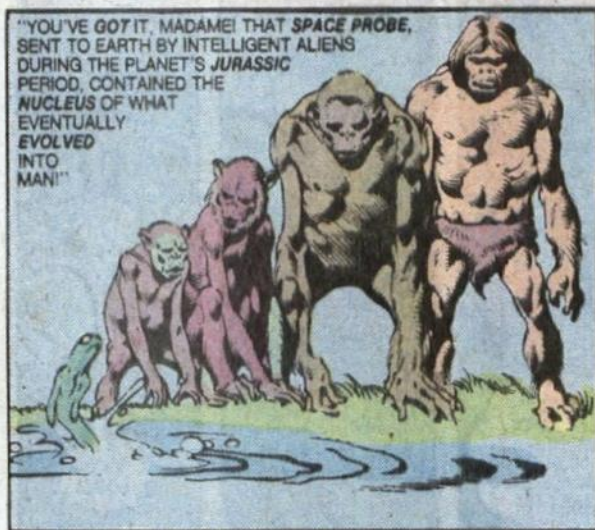


THE TIME-  
TRAVERSING  
DIVERS BREAK THE  
CALM SWAMP  
WATERS  
TOGETHER...BOTH  
INSTANTLY  
HORRIFIED AT THE  
NIGHTMARE  
WAITING FOR THEM  
ON THE SURFACE!



RICK!  
LOOK!





# ALIEN ATTACK

## GALACTIC WARS ACTION PLAY SET

COMPLETE WITH OVER 50 EXCITING PLAY PIECES, INCLUDING:

- Space Station with retractable ladder & removable dome
- 8 Commandos
- 2 Alien Space Cruisers
- 6 Giant Robots
- 2 Space Command Ships
- Action Diorama
- 10 Aliens
- Plastic Terrain

There's no limit to the adventures you can have with this bargain-priced playset...except your imagination itself! The colorful diorama background and plastic mountains will make you think you're actually on the surface of another planet as you stage thrilling land and air battles between the aliens and your space commandos! Huge domed space station, easily assembled! Many action figures and flying vehicles with working wheels! Many hours of fun! #26147/\$6.75



# DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

## MODEL KITS!

**ORC WAR ACTION SCENE** A team of adventurers assault the evil Warlock's castle! Almost 30 figures including dwarf warriors, witch, Orcs, monsters! Preformed 12 x 18" base includes castle foundation, moat, mountains, battlefield! Combine with Dungeon Invaders to form huge scene! #24261/\$10.75

**DUNGEON INVADERS ACTION SCENE** Adventurers seek to steal the wizard's treasure chests! They're guarded by a dragon and a zombie...not to mention the shrieker and the carrion worm! The 12 x 15" pre-formed base simulates an actual gaming situation! #24262/\$10.75



# OUT OF THIS WORLD!

## NEW SUPER-8 FILMS!



**ALIEN!** The most frightening monster ever to stalk across the cinema screens comes to life in this 200-foot condensation of the 1979 sci-fi classic! In chest-bursting sound & color! #22128/\$22.95



**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK #1**—Devilish Darth Vader vs. Luke Skywalker, Han Solo & Princess Leia in an exciting array of scenes from the original movie! 200 feet in color and sound! #22129/\$22.95



You'll gasp with delight at the breathtaking visuals in this selection of scenes from **STAR WARS!** See the rebel attack on the Death Star & more in this 360-foot color/sound film! #22130/\$59.95



**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK #2**—Luke befriends the Jedi Master Yoda, then sets out to confront Darth Vader himself in this 360-foot version of the original film! Dazzling color & sound! #22131/\$59.95

# THE FILMS OF CHRISTOPHER LEE

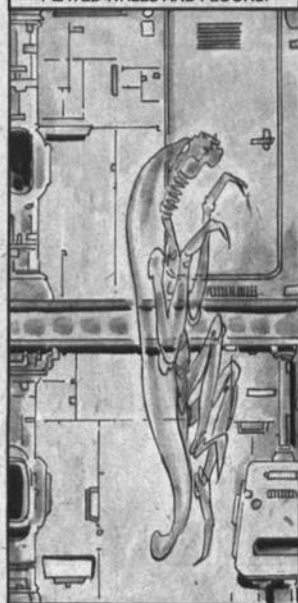


**THE FILMS OF CHRISTOPHER LEE** is a must for all fans of the horror genre. It expertly traces the career of one of the masters of the macabre, from 1948's **CORRIDOR OF MIRRORS** to 1980's **THE SERIAL** and, in so doing, superbly captures the style and grace of one of the most popular screen actors in the business. This large-format, lavishly illustrated volume is a film buff's treasure, and includes full cast and production credits, release information, and reviews about all of Lee's films. Diversified appendices enhance this monumental portrait of one of fear-dom's greatest giants. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! #21451/\$29.50

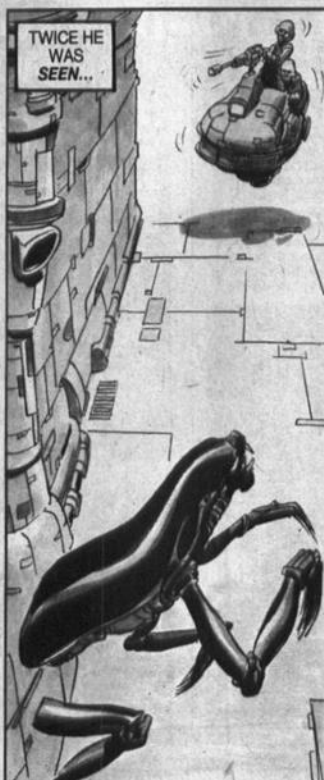


THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE CREW BROUGHT IXTL UP TO THE SPACE BEAGLE'S MIDDLE LEVELS WITH A RUSH!

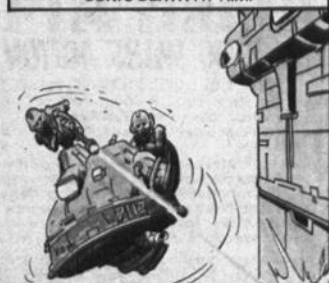
HE WAS A NEBULOUS SHAPE, A GHOSTLY, EIGHT-LIMBED SPECTER, THAT FLITTED THROUGH STEEL-PLATED WALLS AND FLOORS!



TWICE HE WAS SEEN...



...AND GIANT VIBROGUNS FLASHED SONIC DEATH AT HIM!



DRZZKT!



THEY WERE FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE FEEBLE HAND WEAPONS HE HAD FACED UP TO NOW!

THESE VIBRO-SHOTS SHATTERED THE BULKHEADS THROUGH WHICH HE LEAPED TO FLEE THEIR LETHAL FORCE!



ONCE, THE BEAM TOUCHED A PEDAL EXTREMITY! THE HOT SHOCK OF THE MOLECULAR VIOLENCE ALMOST MADE HIM STUMBLE!

HIS ATOM SYSTEMS SWIRLED...



...AND THE FOOT WAS BACK TO NORMAL IN LESS THAN A SECOND!



IXTL WAS NOT **ALARMED** BY THE SONIC DEVICE! HIS DEADLY **SPEED** AND RUTHLESS **CUNNING** COULD EASILY OFFSET THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NEW **WEAPONS!**

THE **IMPORTANT** THING WAS...**WHAT** WERE THE TWO-LEGGERS **DOING?** WITHOUT A DOUBT, WHEN THEY HAD **SHUT** THEMSELVES **UP** IN THE IMPREGNABLE DRIVE ROOM, THEY HAD DEVISED A **PLAN!**

WITH GLITTERING, UNWINKING EYES, IXTL WATCHED THE PLAN TAKE **FORM!**



IN EVERY CORRIDOR AND COMPARTMENT ON **TWO** LEVELS, THE MEN WERE LAYING THE LINES OF A **TRANSFORMER GRID!** THE GLORIAN NOTED THAT EVERY INCH OF FLOOR WAS BEING **COVERED** BY THE THICK NETWORK OF **CABLES**, AND THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE MALADAPTIVE MANLINGS TO WEAR BULKY **SPACE ARMOR** WHILE WORKING ON THE ENERGIZED PROJECT!

JUST **WHEN** THE FORCE SCREEN WOULD BE **DANGEROUS** TO HIM, IXTL WAS NOT **CERTAIN**, NOR WAS HE **CONCERNED!**



IT WAS **SIMPLE** ENOUGH TO REACH THROUGH THE WALLS WHEN THERE WERE NO GUARDS AROUND AND **RIP LOOSE** THE HIGH-VOLTAGED CONNECTIONS!

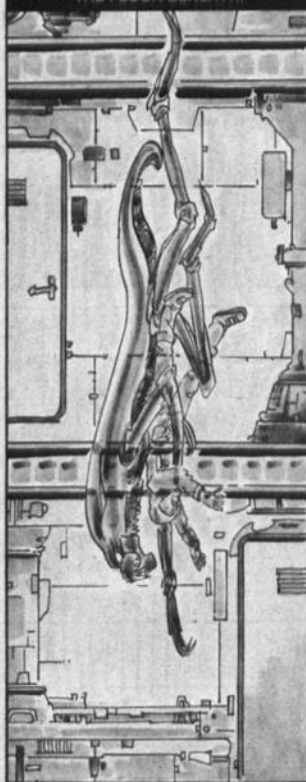
**CONTEMPTUOUSLY**, IXTL **DISMISSED** THE INTENDED **TRAP** FROM HIS MIND! AFTER A PRELIMINARY **SURVEY**, HE **SELECTED** HIS NEXT **VICTIM...**

...AND LAUNCHED HIMSELF!

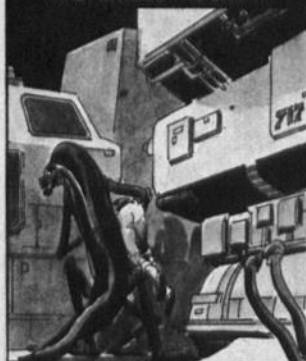


BEFORE A SINGLE PORTABLE COULD BE **TRAINED** ON HIM. HE WAS **GONE** WITH HIS **PREY!**

IT WAS NO FEAT TO **ADJUST** HIS ELECTRON STRUCTURE THE MOMENT HE WAS THROUGH A CEILING, AND SO **BREAK** HIS **FALL** TO THE FLOOR BENEATH!



THE HOLD WAS NOW FAMILIAR TERRITORY! HE HAD **EXPLORED** IT BRIEFLY BUT **THOROUGHLY** AFTER HE FIRST **INVAD**ED THIS CRAFT!



UNERRINGLY, IXTL **STALKED** ACROSS THE DIMLY LIT INTERIOR TOWARDS A FAR WALL! GREAT PACKING CASES WERE **PILED HIGH!** HE WENT **THROUGH** THEM OR **AROUND** THEM, AS IT **SUITED** HIM...

QUICKLY, HE LET HIMSELF **DISSOLVE** THROUGH THE FLOOR! DOWN AND **DOWN**, HE WENT! IN THAT **GIGANTIC** BELLY OF THE SHIP, HE **HALF FELL**, **HALF LOWERED** HIMSELF!

HE COULD HAVE MOVED **FASTER**, BUT HE HAD TO BE **CAREFUL** NOT TO **DAMAGE** THE **HUMAN** HE CARRIED!



AND PRESENTLY FOUND HIMSELF WITHIN A **LARGE DUCT!** THE BIG, WINDING PIPE WAS PART OF THE BEAGLE'S **LABYRINTHINE AIR RECYCLING SYSTEM!**

HIS HIDING PLACE WOULD BE **DARK** BY **ORDINARY** LIGHT! BUT TO HIS **INFRA-RED SENSITIVE VISION**, A **FAINT TWILIGHT GLOW** SUFFUSED HIS SURROUNDINGS!



HOLDING HIS CAPTIVE *STEADY*, IXTL CAREFULLY INSERTED TWO OF HIS WIRE-FINGERED HANDS INTO HIS OWN BREAST, REMOVED A GELATINOUS EGG...



...AND DEPOSITED IT INTO THE BIPED'S WARM STOMACH! THE MANLING STRUGGLED!



SLOWLY, THE MUSCLES GREW PROGRESSIVELY RIGID... AND THE ENTIRE BODY BEGAN TO STIFFEN, PARALYZED, A LIVING DEATH!



IN THE END, THE *HOST* LAY MOTIONLESS! HIS EYES WERE OPEN AND STARING, AND THERE WAS SWEAT ON HIS FACE! WITHIN HOURS, THE EGGS WOULD BE HATCHING WITHIN EACH OF THE BODIES!



SOON, TINY REPLICAS OF HIMSELF WOULD EAT THEMSELVES TO FULL SIZE!

SATISFIED, IXTL STARTED UP OUT OF THE HOLD, HISSING AND DROOLING!



HE NEEDED MORE ORGANIC HATCHING PLACES...

...MORE MEN AND WOMEN...



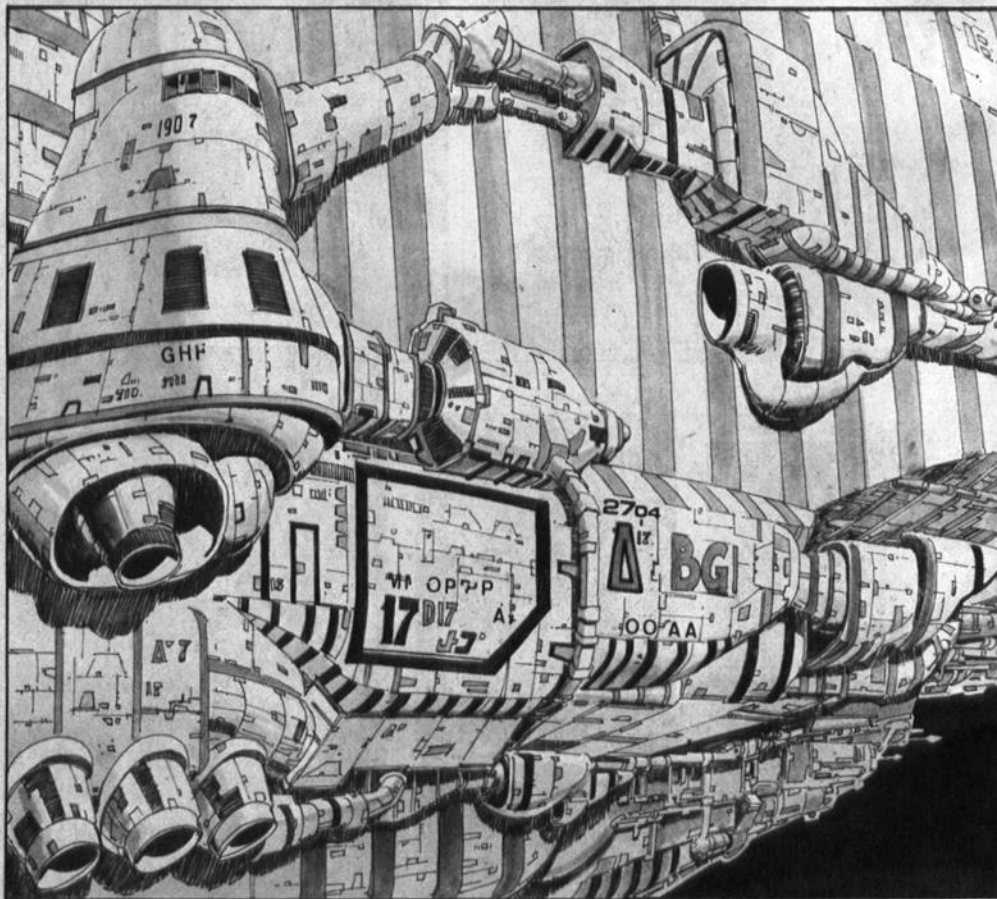
...TO BE HIS *GUULS*!

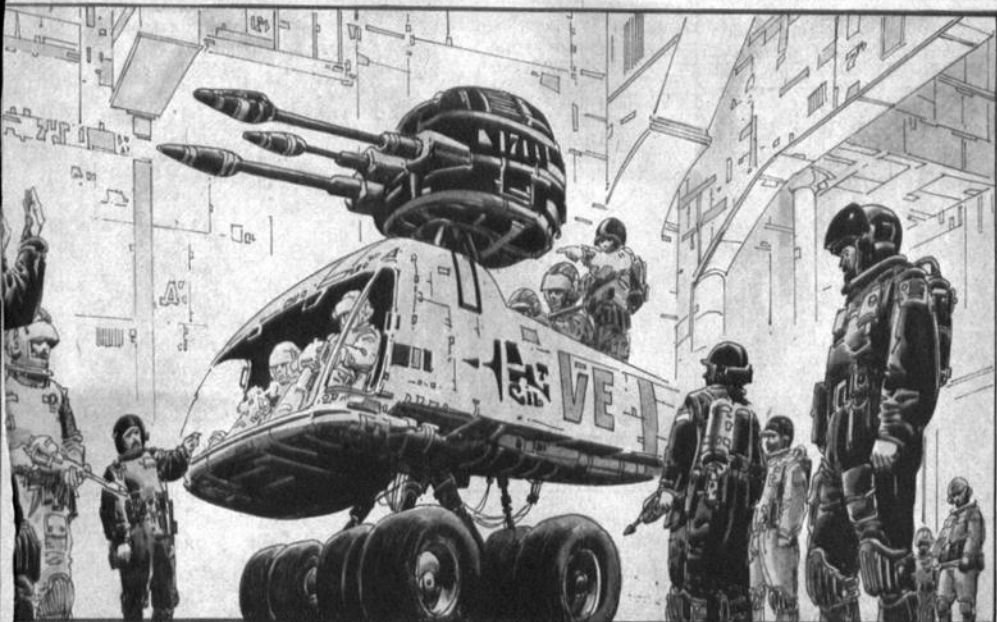




ON THE NINTH LEVEL OF THE SPACE  
BEAGLE, GROSVENOR, TIGHT-LIPPED,  
WATCHED HIS DESPERATE PLAN TAKE  
FORM...AS ONE OF SEVERAL NEUTRON  
PROJECTORS SLOWLY LUMBERED DOWN  
THE CORRIDOR! ITS VAST BULK, TOO  
MASSIVE TO LEVIGRAV, NECESSITATED  
THAT OLD-FASHIONED WHEELS BE  
EMPLOYED FOR LOCOMOTION! THERE HAD  
BEEN AN ACCIDENT WITH THE SHIP'S  
STELLAR DRIVE-UNIT WHILE WARPING  
BETWEEN GALAXIES...AN ACCIDENT  
EXPLOITED BY AN ALIEN NAMED IXTL TO  
GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE MAMMOTH  
STARVESSEL!

SOME PLAN  
YOU'VE EVOLVED,  
GROSVENOR! USING YOUR  
OWN CREWMEN AS BAIT TO  
TRAP THE ALIEN! SOME  
OF THESE PEOPLE  
ARE SURE TO  
DIE!





GROSVENOR LOOKED WITHIN HIMSELF, AND SAW A MAN WHO HAD COLDLY WORKED OUT AN *EQUATION*...SOME *FEW* MUST DIE TO SAVE THE *MANY*! HE WAS MOST COMFORTABLE IN SEEING IT AS THE ONLY *LOGICAL* SOLUTION!

MEN HAD DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED A HUGE SPACESHIP OF AWESOME *COMPLEXITY* AND *DURABILITY*, THEN WRAPPED THEMSELVES INSIDE IT LIKE A *COCOON* AND VENTURED FORTH INTO THE *UNKNOWN*! BUT ALL THE MEGATON ALLOYS AND WEAPONS AND COMPUTER CIRCUITRY IN THE WORLD COULD *NOT PREVENT* A LIVING *HORROR* FROM INVADING THEIR *COCOON*!

AND ALL THE *RATIONALIZING* IN THE WORLD COULD NOT *DISTRACT* THE LOGICAL GROSVENOR FROM THIS *ONE FACT*, ONE *HORROR*...HE WAS PLAYING GOD WITH *HUMAN LIVES*!

# THE VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE

## PART THREE

AS THE ATOMIC CANNON ROLLED INTO PLACE, A YOUNG *ENSGIN*, FEARING POSSIBLE DEATH, TOOK OUT HER RAGE AND FRUSTRATION ON THE *NEXIALIST*!



YOU!

EH...?

THIS SCHEME'S *YOUR* DOING, GROSVENOR! IF I'M GOING TO DIE FROM RADIATION BURNS...AT LEAST TELL ME I'LL HAVE THE SATISFACTION THAT YOU'LL BAKE WITH ME!

NO MATTER HOW SICK AT HEART HE FELT *INSIDE*, HE *KNEW* THAT *OUTWARDLY*, HE MUST BE AS HARD AND COLD AS THE BEAGLE'S HULL!



THERE'S NO NEED TO WAIT FOR THAT SITUATION TO ARISE, ENSGN! THERE'S *ANOTHER* ALTERNATIVE. SHOULD YOU WISH TO PURSUE IT!

AND THAT IS...?!

COMMIT SUICIDE!

BEFORE THE STARTLED YOUNG OFFICER COULD RESPOND, CAPTAIN LEETH'S VOICE CRACKLED OVER GROSVENOR'S WRIST-COM!



CAN YOU REPORT TO LEVEL SEVEN AT ONCE? CENTRAL CORRIDOR! URGENT PRIORITY!

YESSIR! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE...!

THE *NEXIALIST* DESCENDED THE TWO LEVELS WITH A SENSE OF *DREAD*! THE CAPTAIN'S OVERLY-CALM VOICE HINTED AT RESTRAINED TENSION, EVEN *TERROR*!



SOMETHING, HE INSTANTLY SURMISED, WAS *WRONG*!

WITHIN SECONDS, THE AUTO-LIFT DOORS HISSED OPEN...



OH...

...MY...

...GOD!



...AND HE FOUND A NIGHTMARE! ONE OF THE NEUTRON PROJECTORS WAS LYING ON ITS SIDE! BESIDE IT, DEAD, BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION, LAY WHAT REMAINED OF THE GUNNERY CREW!



AND MORE HORRIBLE STILL, ALONG THE CORRIDOR IN THE PATH OF THAT DEADLY WEAPON, WRITHED AND TWITCHED SOME TWENTY MEN AND WOMEN!



IT HAD BEEN THEIR DUTY TO ACT AS HUMAN DECOYS, TO ATTRACT THE BLOOD-COLORED ALIEN WITHIN THE LINE OF FIRE!

BUT SOMETHING HAD GONE HELLISHLY AWRY! MEDICS SOON ARRIVED AND OFFERED WHAT AID THEY COULD...



...BEFORE CARRYING THE SCORCHED PERSONNEL EITHER TO SICK BAY OR THE SHIP'S MORGUE!

GOOD LORD, CAPTAIN! WHAT HAPPENED HERE?!



ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? WE WERE ATTACKED!

N-NOOOO!

KIAK!

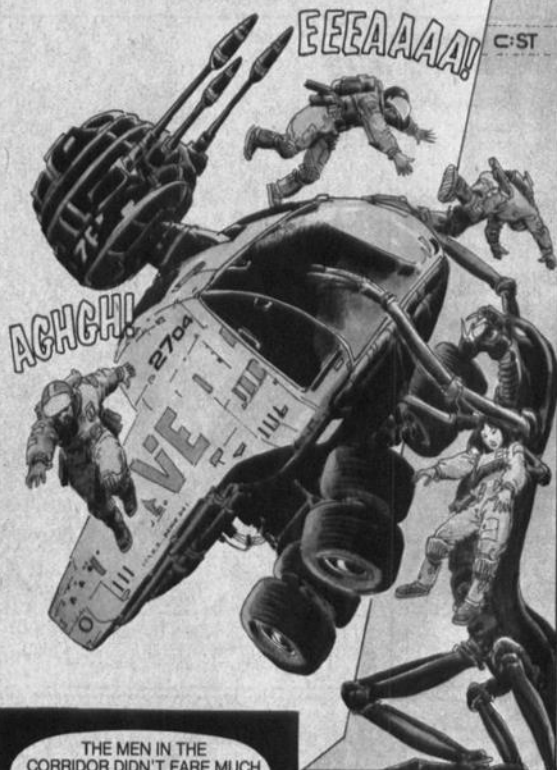


"THE MONSTER WASN'T FOOLED BY OUR DECEPTION IN THE SLIGHTEST!"

"IT FLASHED OUT OF A WALL LIKE A GHOST, SEIZED THE GUN'S TRIGGER OFFICER..."

"...TOPPLED THE CANNON WITH A TREMENDOUS  
DISPLAY OF STRENGTH AND THEN MELTED BACK INTO  
THE WALL, VANISHING WITHOUT A TRACE!"

"DAMAGED BY THE FALL, THE REACTOR-MOUNT  
BEGAN BLASTING WILDLY...UNTIL AUTO-RELAYS  
TRIPPED IT OFF!"



THE MEN IN THE  
CORRIDOR DIDN'T FARE MUCH  
BETTER! HALF OF 'EM CAUGHT  
PRIMARY BURNS!

BUT...  
WHAT ABOUT  
OUR CONTINGENCY  
PLAN?!

IF WE  
COULDN'T KILL  
IT OUTRIGHT, LEVELS  
SEVEN AND NINE WERE  
TO BE ENERGIZED,  
TRAPPING IT!

WE DON'T EXPECT  
A LOT OF THE SECONDARIES  
TO PULL THROUGH, EITHER!  
TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE,  
DIRECTOR MORTON WAS WITH  
THAT GROUP! I'M AFRAID  
HE'S DEAD!

THAT  
WAS YOUR  
DEPARTMENT,  
PENNSON! WHAT  
THE HELL WAS  
THE FOUL-  
UP?

LIKE THE CAPTAIN SAID, THE THING  
IS SMARTER THAN WE THOUGHT! WHEN I  
TRIED TO ACTIVATE THE DECK'S E-SCREEN,  
THE WHOLE SYSTEM SHORTED-OUT!

THE  
ALIEN  
MUST HAVE  
DISCONNECTED  
KEY TERMINAL  
WIRES AS WE  
WERE LAYING  
DOWN THE  
POWER  
GRID!



DOWN IN THE BELLY OF THE SHIP, **IXTL** RETURNED WITH HIS LATEST **GUUL!**



HIS ONLY **ANNOYANCE** WAS THAT, SINCE THE TWO-LEGGERS WERE MORE **WARY**, IT WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO CAPTURE HIS HUMAN HOSTS **ALIVE** AND **UNHARMED!**

HE DIPPED ONE HAND INTO HIS BREAST...AND **REMOVED** A MOIST, JELLY-LIKE **OVOID**, ONE THAT **SQUIRMED** WITH CONTAINED LIFE!



MANIPULATING **ELECTRONS**, HE **DEPOSITED** HIS EGG INTO THE WOMAN'S **STOMACH...**



WHERE IT WOULD **HATCH** WITHIN HOURS, **EATING** ITS WAY OUT OF HER PARALYZED BODY, ITS **WOMB!**



SHORTLY, HE AND HIS  
BROOD WOULD TAKE  
COMMAND OF THIS  
VESSEL...

...AND JOURNEY TO A  
POPULATED PLANET, WHERE  
HIS KIND WOULD ONCE  
AGAIN CONQUER AND  
FLOURISH!

LEAVING HIS *HOSTS* BEHIND IN THE DARK SAFETY OF THE VESSEL'S AIR  
RECYCLING DUCT, HE *AROSE* FROM THE HOLD, WRAITH-LIKE TO SEEK  
MORE *GUULS*!

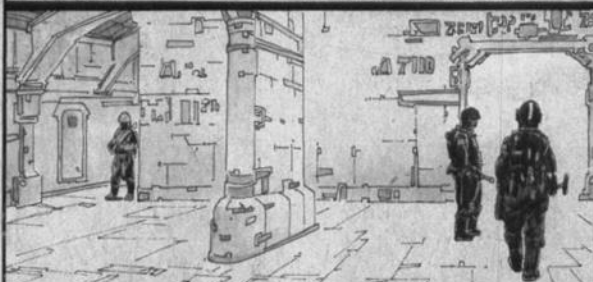


IXTL LEAPED FROM A BULKHEAD AND  
CLAIMED WHAT WAS HIS BY BIRTHRIGHT...A  
LOWER FORM OF MATERIAL LIFE!



HELP!  
SOMEONE...  
PLEASE! IT'S  
GOT ME!

CAPTAIN!  
THIS IS LEVEL  
EIGHT!



HE'S  
HEADING  
DOWN! SCREEN  
THE FLOORS!  
NOW...!

POWER'S ON,  
SIR! SYSTEM'S  
GREEN AND  
OPERATING!

PENNONS!



ALL ALONG LEVEL SEVEN, THE DECK PLATES SUDDENLY *GLOWED* WITH A DIFFUSED *BLUE HAZE*, AS THE BLANKETING *FORCE FIELD* HUMMED INTO EXISTENCE! THE SAME WAS OCCURRING *SIMULTANEOUSLY* ON LEVEL NINE!

WE'VE  
GOT HIM THIS  
TIME!

GOOD! NOW THE  
N-PROJECTORS CAN CORNER  
THE THING AND BLAST IT TO  
KINGDOM COME!

CAPTAIN LEETH **DEMAGNETIZED** HIS OMNI-MIKE FROM ITS WRIST-MOUNT, AND SPAT **ORDERS** INTO IT!

**SECURITY! FAN OUT SEARCH TEAMS ON LEVELS 7, 8 AND 9! I WANT THAT MONSTER'S HEAD SERVED TO ME ON A STAKE!**



IT DID NOT TAKE **LONG**, LESS THAN A **MINUTE**, BEFORE ONE OF THE SECURITY TEAMS **REPORTED BACK!**

WE **FOUND** THE ABDUCTED GUNNER, CAPTAIN-**DEAD!** AT THE END OF SERVICE CORRIDOR DELTA!

WE'LL BE **DIRECTLY THERE!** LEETH...**OUT!**



IT WAS **NOT** A PRETTY SIGHT! THE CORPSE LAY **SPRAWLED** UPON THE FIELD OF AZURE FORCE, SMALL TENDRILS OF ENERGY **LICKING** AT THE BODY!

**WHAT? YOU JUST LEFT HIM LIKE THAT?!** PULL HIM **LOOSE...!**

TWO SECURITY MEN GINGERLY STEPPED **FORWARD!** BLUE FLAME LEAPED AND **DANCED**, AS IF THE ENERGIZED SCREEN WERE **RELUCTANT** TO **YIELD** THE LIFELESS HUSK IN ITS **CRACKLING POSSESSION!**



I'M STILL WAITING FOR **REPORTS!** WE'VE FOUND ITS **VICTIM!** SO WHERE THE HELL'S THE **CREATURE?**

IT...IT'S NOT ON OR BETWEEN THE **SCREENED LEVELS**, CAPTAIN LEETH! THE FORCE FIELD COULDN'T **STOP IT**, SIR!



**WHAT? IT ESCAPED AGAIN?!** IMPOSSIBLE!

**NOW WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO...?**



THERE WAS A LONG, SULLEN **SILENCE!** NOT EVEN **GROSVENOR** HAD AN **ANSWER!** THEY **KNEW** THAT THEY WERE **DOOMED!**

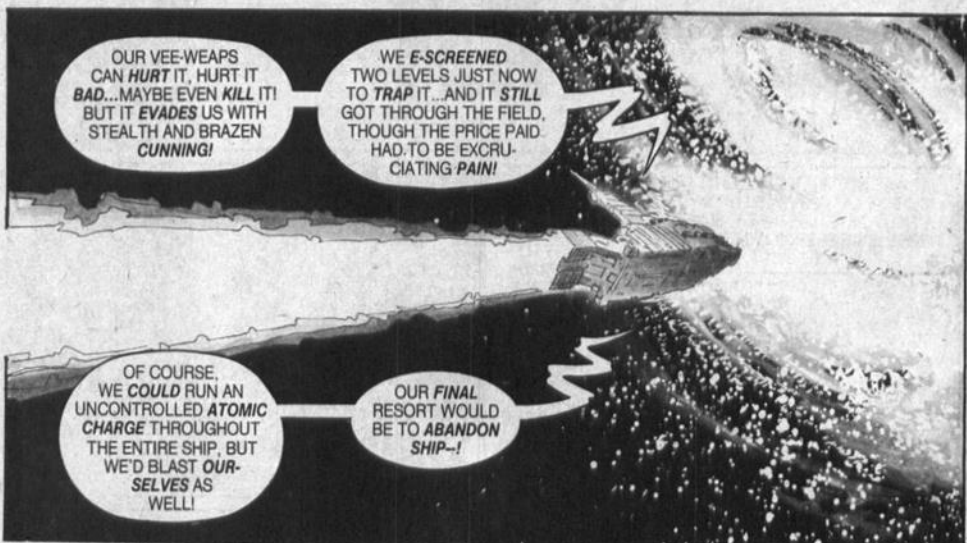
SIR, I WASN'T **SURE** ABOUT-! WE THOUGHT THAT MAYBE YOU-!

**YES, SIR!**



GENTLEMEN  
YOU KNOW THAT I  
AM NOT ONE TO GIVE  
UP WITHOUT A FIGHT  
OR TO MAKE STATE-  
MENTS PURELY FOR  
THEIR SHOCK  
VALUE!

BUT LET'S EXAMINE OUR  
OPTIONS, SHALL WE? IT WON'T TAKE  
LONG...FOR WE HAVEN'T MANY!



OUR VEE-WEAPS  
CAN HURT IT, HURT IT  
BAD...MAYBE EVEN KILL IT!  
BUT IT EVADES US WITH  
STEALTH AND BRAZEN  
CUNNING!

WE E-SCREENED  
TWO LEVELS JUST NOW  
TO TRAP IT...AND IT STILL  
GOT THROUGH THE FIELD.  
THOUGH THE PRICE PAID  
HAD TO BE EXCRU-  
CIATING PAIN!

OF COURSE,  
WE COULD RUN AN  
UNCONTROLLED ATOMIC  
CHARGE THROUGHOUT  
THE ENTIRE SHIP, BUT  
WE'D BLAST OUR-  
SELVES AS  
WELL!

OUR FINAL  
RESORT WOULD  
BE TO ABANDON  
SHIP--!



ABANDON SHIP?!  
THAT WOULD BE A SLOWER  
DEATH THAN IF WE REMAINED  
BEHIND TO FACE THE  
MONSTER!

EXACTLY!

SUDDENLY, THE VOICE OF  
SGT. ANN ZELLER, THE  
BEAGLE'S METALLURGIST,  
CRACKLED OVER LEETH'S  
WRIST-COM!

ZELLER TO  
LEETH! SGT. ZELLER  
REPORTING! CAPTAIN?  
DIRECTOR? ANYBODY  
READ ME? OVER!



LEETH TO  
ZELLER! WHAT'S  
THE STATUS ON YOUR  
RESISTANCE SUIT? IF  
IT'S MORE BAD NEWS  
BREAK IT TO US  
GENTLY!





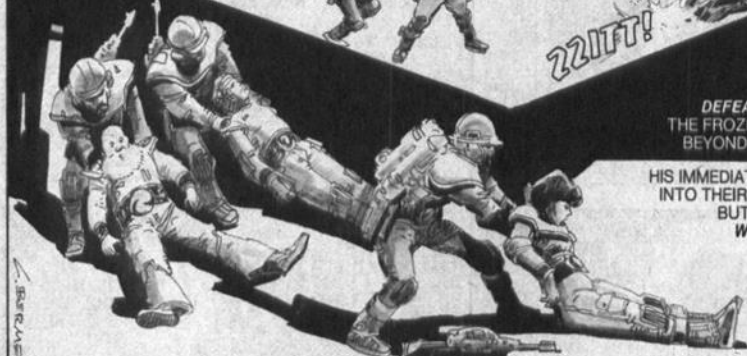


IXTL *WITHDREW* RELUCTANTLY AS ADDITIONAL FORCES *ARRIVED*, CARRYING OFF HIS *GUULS!*



THE FIRST SHRINKING FEAR OF DEFEAT CLOSED OVER HIM LIKE THE FROZEN NIGHT THAT BROODED BEYOND THE WALLS OF THE *SHIP!*

HIS IMMEDIATE *IMPULSE* WAS TO DASH INTO THEIR MIDST AND *SMASH* THEM! BUT THEIR UGLY, GLITTERING WEAPONS RESTRAINED THE DESPERATE URGE...!



THE TWO-LEGGERS WOULD SOON DISCOVER THE *EGGS* INCUBATING IN THE HUMANS' STOMACHS...AND *DESTROY* THEM!



HE *RETREATED* WITH A SENSE OF DISASTER! HE HAD LOST THE VITAL *INITIATIVE!*

IXTL TOOK HIMSELF TO TASK FOR NOT SLAUGHTERING *MORE* OF THEIR NUMBERS! THE BLINDING DRIVE TO *REPRODUCE* HAD NUMBED HIS SENSE OF LOGIC! INSTANTLY, THE GLORIAN BEGAN TO SEEK OUT ANOTHER *HATCHING SPOT* IN THE BOWELS OF THE VESSEL...AS A *MAD STRATEGY* DANCED IN HIS BRAIN!



*SPEED* IMPLIED SUCCESS! HE MUST QUICKLY *CAPTURE* MORE GUULS, THEN *SLAY* EVERY REMAINING FLESHSKIN BEFORE THEY COULD REACT IN UNISON *AGAINST* HIM!

AS HE **SEARCHED** THE BLEAK CONFINES OF A MAINTENANCE SHAFT FOR A SUITABLE **REPLICATION ZONE**...

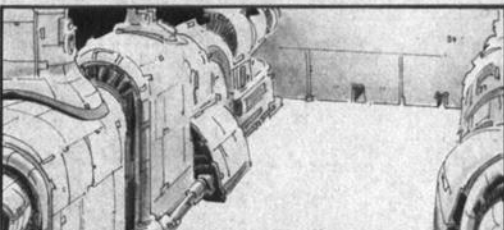


...HIS SENSITIVE EXTREMITIES GREW AWARE OF A SUBTLE **CHANGE** IN THE SYMPATHY OF VIBRATIONS THAT **THROBBED** CONSTANTLY THROUGH THE **SPACE BEAGLE**!



HE **PAUSED** AND STRAIGHTENED, HEAD TILTED SLIGHTLY IN **BEMUSED PUZZLEMENT**! SUDDENLY, HE REALIZED WHAT IT **WAS**!

THE DRIVE ENGINES WERE **SILENT**!



BUT THE **DYNAMOS**, THE VAST STAR-DRIVE GENERATORS THAT **POWERED** THOSE SAME AWESOME ENGINES, WERE **NOT**! THEIR MUTED, KEENING **WHINE** BEGAN TO SLOWLY BUT STEADILY CLIMB IN RISING PITCH! AN INDEFINABLE FEELING OF **DREAD** SEIZED IXTL!

WHILE HE STOOD THERE, TREMBLING...THE SHIP **SHUDDERED** A SCORE OF TIMES, AND AS MANY **LIFEBOATS** WERE LAUNCHED!



THE HUMANS HAD **LEFT** THEIR PRECIOUS CRAFT... **ABANDONING** IT TO HIM, AND HIM TO IT!

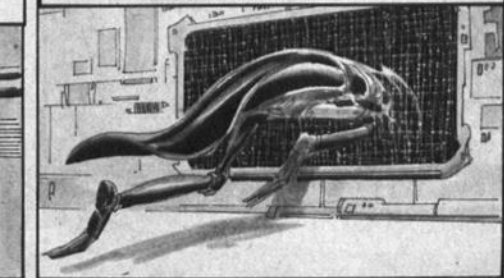
AT ONCE, HE SURMISED THEIR LETHAL **INTENTIONS**! THE EIGHT-LIMBED HORROR **WHIRLED** AND, MOVING LIKE A **BLUR**, PLUNGED INTO THE NEAREST WALL...KNOWING THAT HIS ONLY **HOPE** LAY IN THE MIDNIGHT EMPTINESS OF **SPACE**!



DOWN DESERTED CORRIDORS, SLAVERING **HATE**, WENT THE SCARLET MONSTER FROM ANCIENT **GLORY**! THE GREAT SHIP, WHICH HAD **PROMISED** SO MUCH, WAS NOW **HEMMING** HIM IN, PREGNANT WITH **DEATH**!

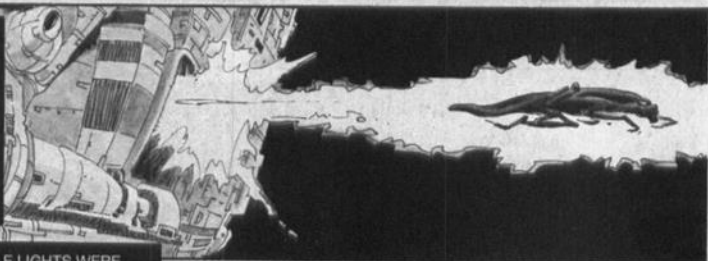


WITH OBVIOUS RELIEF, IXTL SPOTTED AN **AIRLOCK**! HE ADJUSTED HIS SWIRLING ELECTRON STRUCTURE AS HE **DOVE** FOR THE HATCH...

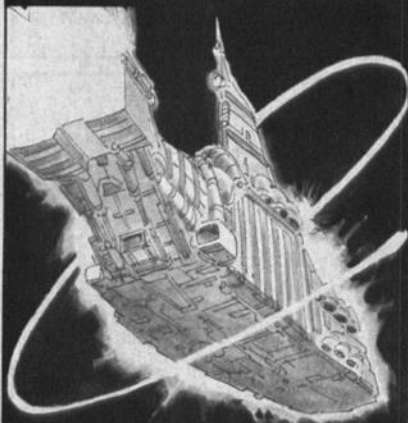




...AND WAS SUDDENLY  
**OUT IN SPACE!** HE  
ANTICIPATED THE MEN  
WOULD BE **WATCHING**,  
WAITING FOR HIM TO  
**APPEAR**; SO HE  
POLARIZED A VIOLENT  
**REPULSION** BETWEEN  
HIMSELF AND THE  
STARCRAFT, FLASHING  
**FAR AND AWAY!**



BEHIND HIM, THE PORTHOLE LIGHTS WERE  
EXTINGUISHED BY A **BLUE GLOW**...A RAMPANT  
ATOMIC GLARE THAT **GREW AND SPREAD**,  
UNTIL IT **ENVELOPED** THE VESSEL INSIDE AND OUT!



THE **BEAGLE**, BRIEFLY, **BURNED** LIKE A  
MINIATURE **SUN!**

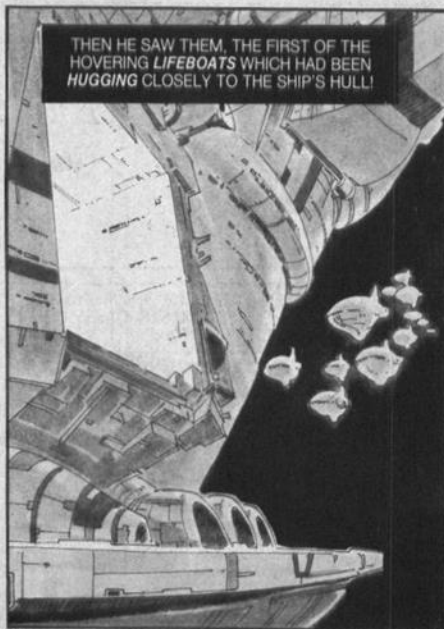
AS THE **AZURE**  
**INFERNO** SLOWLY  
**FADED**, THE  
IMPENETRABLE  
**FORCE SHIELD**  
AROUND THE  
**BEAGLE** SNAPPED  
AUTOMATICALLY  
**ON**, A HUNDRED  
TIMES **STRONGER**  
THAN THE SHIP'S  
OWN INTERNAL  
**E-SCREENS!**



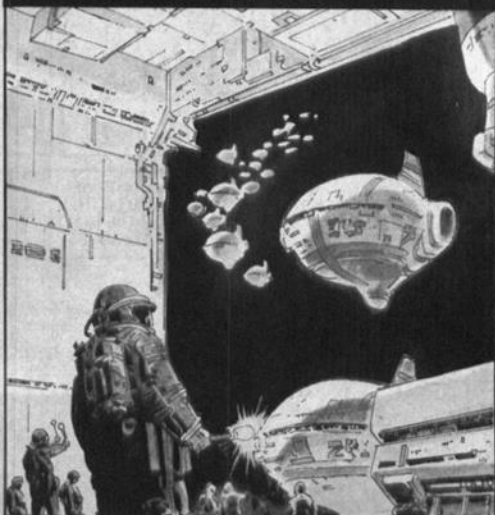
**IXTL**, EVER  
MINDFUL OF THE  
**NEUTRON ARTILLERY**,  
CAREFULLY DROVE  
HIMSELF **NEARER**,  
APPROACHING THE  
OUTER EDGE OF THE  
RIPPLING FIELD OF  
FLICKERING **FORCE!**



THEN HE SAW THEM, THE FIRST OF THE  
HOVERING **LIFEBOATS** WHICH HAD BEEN  
**HUGGING** CLOSELY TO THE SHIP'S **HULL!**



RAPIDLY, THE JETTISONED OFF-SPRING **REENTERED** THE  
**MOTHER SHIP!** THE HUMANS WERE **SAFE** WITHIN THEIR  
**PROTECTIVE SCREEN**, SAFE INSIDE THEIR SHIP, **SAFE** FROM  
**HIM!**



THE DOCKING BAY HATCHES LOCKED TIGHTLY SHUT,  
AND WITHOUT WARNING...



...THE SPACE BEAGLE **VANISHED!** ONE MOMENT, IT  
WAS **THERE!** THE NEXT, **GONE...** REDUCED TO  
**MEMORY!**



TIME DRAGGED A WEARY MARCH  
TOWARDS **ETERNITY** AS IXTL  
**TUMBLED** HELPLESSLY IN THE  
BOUNDLESS **NOTHINGNESS!**



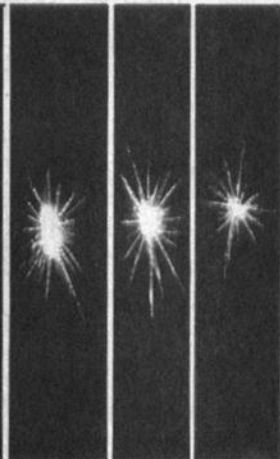
HIS **MISTAKES** HAD  
COST HIM THE  
**UNIVERSE**, A  
UNIVERSE THAT  
COULD HAVE BEEN  
**HIS**, **DOMINATED**  
BY HIS KIND!



HE **DWINDLED** AS  
HE SPUN, A  
**SPECK**  
**DEVOURED** BY  
THE YAWNING,  
OBSIDIAN  
EXPANSE...



...THAT SO  
PERFECTLY  
**MIRRORED** HIS  
OWN BLEAK  
**DESPAIR!**

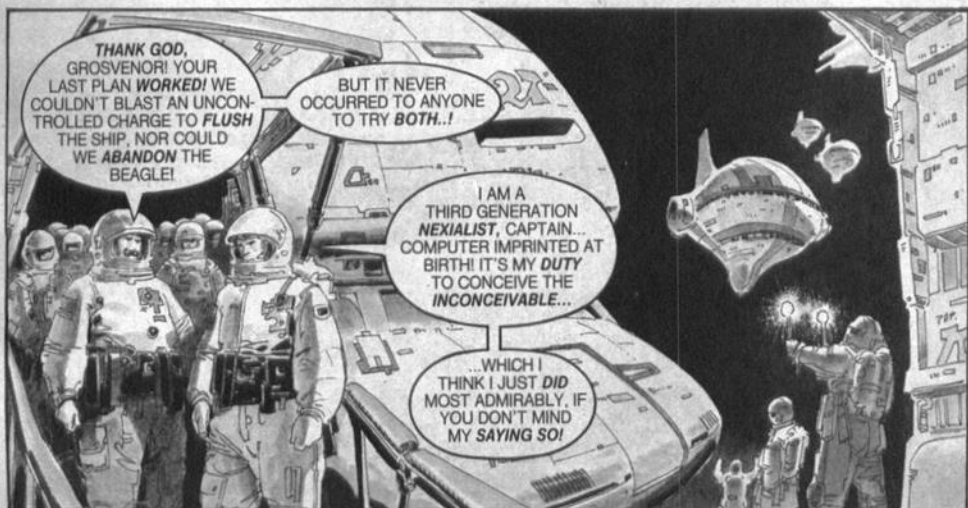


THANK GOD,  
GROSVENOR! YOUR  
LAST PLAN **WORKED!** WE  
COULDN'T BLAST AN UNCON-  
TROLLED CHARGE TO **FLUSH**  
THE SHIP, NOR COULD  
WE **ABANDON** THE  
BEAGLE!

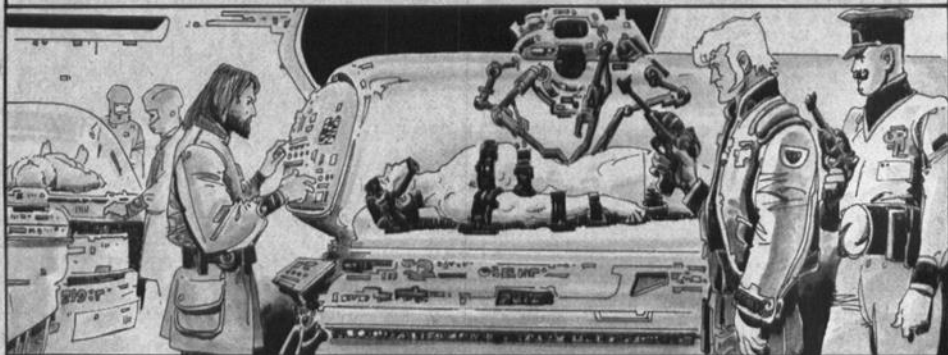
BUT IT NEVER  
OCCURRED TO ANYONE  
TO TRY **BOTH...**

I AM A  
THIRD GENERATION  
**NEXIALIST**, CAPTAIN...  
COMPUTER IMPRINTED AT  
BIRTH! IT'S MY **DUTY**  
TO CONCEIVE THE  
**INCONCEIVABLE...**

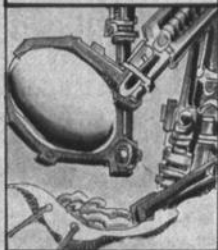
...WHICH I  
THINK I JUST **DID**  
MOST ADMIRABLY. IF  
YOU DON'T MIND  
MY SAYING SO!



**EPILOG: THE ALIEN'S VICTIMS, IXTL'S GUULS, WERE OFF-LOADED FROM A LIFEBOAT AND RUSHED TO ROBOTIC SURGERY! GROSVENOR LOOKED ON WHILE DOCTOR EGGERT, MANIPULATING A LASER SCALPEL, MADE SEVERAL DEFT INCISIONS...**



...AND REMOVED THREE GELATINOUS EGGS, QUIVERING WITH LIVING DEATH, FROM THEIR GASTRIC WOMBS...



...PLACING THEM IN A VAT FORGED OF DENSIFIED RESISTANCE METAL, JUST AS THE SQUIRMING OVOIDS, BULGING WITH UNEARTHLY LIFE...



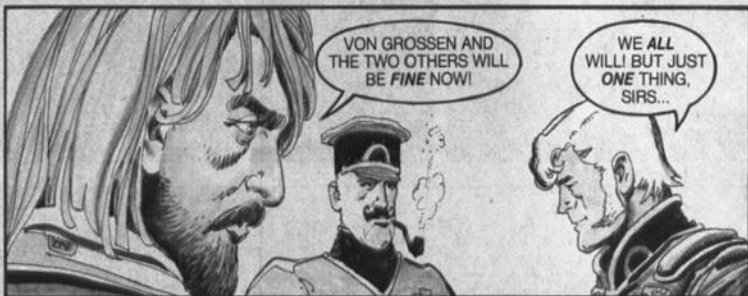
...HATCHED!



WITH SUDDEN SWIFTNESS, THE CREATURES REARED UP AND ATTEMPTED TO LEAP CLEAR OF THE IMPREGNABLE CONTAINER!



BUT THE CONCENTRATED FIRE OF TWO VIBROGUNS DISSOLVED THE DEVILISH INFANTS!



VON GROSSEN AND THE TWO OTHERS WILL BE FINE NOW!

WE ALL WILL! BUT JUST ONE THING, SIR...

...SUPPOSE A HATCHLING DID MANAGE TO ESCAPE? WHAT THEN?

NO ONE ANSWERED THAT, DARED NOT EVEN THINK IT... AS THE SPACE BEAGLE CONTINUED ITS VOYAGE INTO THE UNKNOWN!

end



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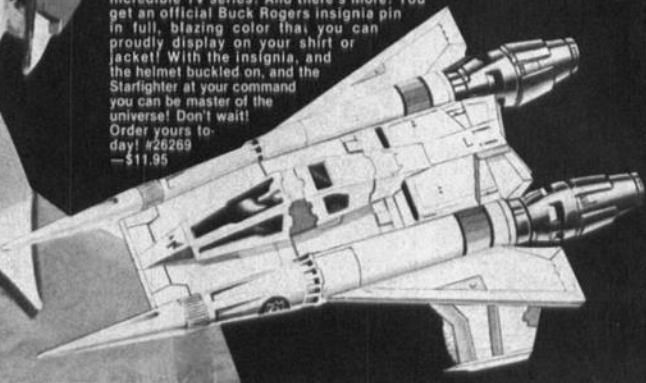
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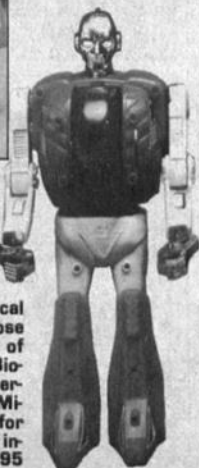
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by the Bros. Hildebrandt  
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SHE OF THE SWORD  
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EEIE#29 \$4.00	EEIE#30 \$4.00	EEIE#31 \$4.00	EEIE#32 \$4.00	EEIE#33 \$4.00	EEIE#34 \$4.00	EEIE#35 \$4.00	EEIE#36 \$4.00	EEIE#37 \$3.75	EEIE#38 \$3.75
									
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EEIE#59 \$3.00	EEIE#60 \$2.75	EEIE#61 \$2.75	EEIE#62 \$2.75	EEIE#63 \$3.00	EEIE#64 \$2.75	EEIE#65 \$2.50	EEIE#66 \$2.50	EEIE#67 \$2.50	EEIE#68 \$2.75
									
EEIE#69 \$2.50	EEIE#70 \$2.50	EEIE#71 \$2.50	EEIE#72 \$2.75	EEIE#73 \$2.50	EEIE#74 \$2.50	EEIE#75 \$2.50	EEIE#76 \$2.50	EEIE#77 \$2.75	EEIE#78 \$2.75
									
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# EERIE BACK ISSUES



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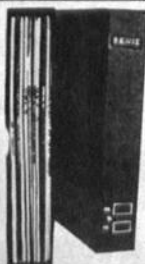
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#140, ON SALE FEB. 1



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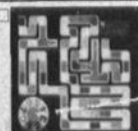
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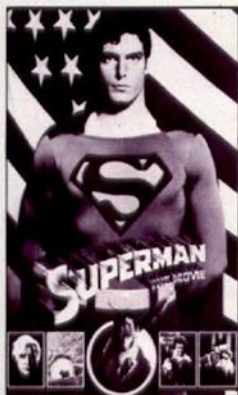
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# SUPERMAN

UP, UP and  
AWAY with SOME  
of SUPERMAN'S  
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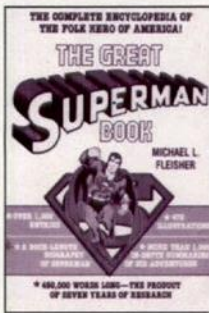
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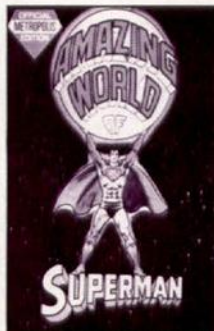
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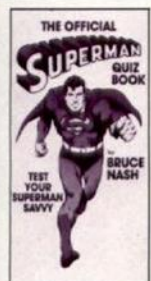
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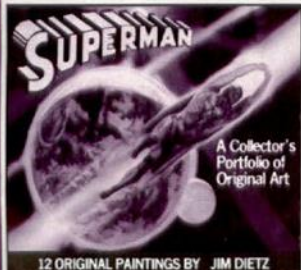
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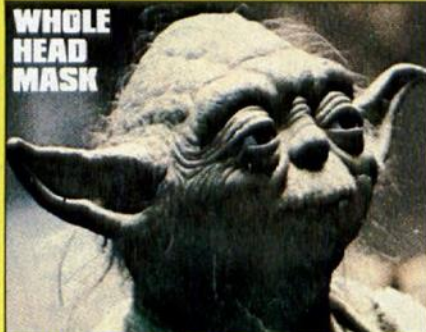
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# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

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