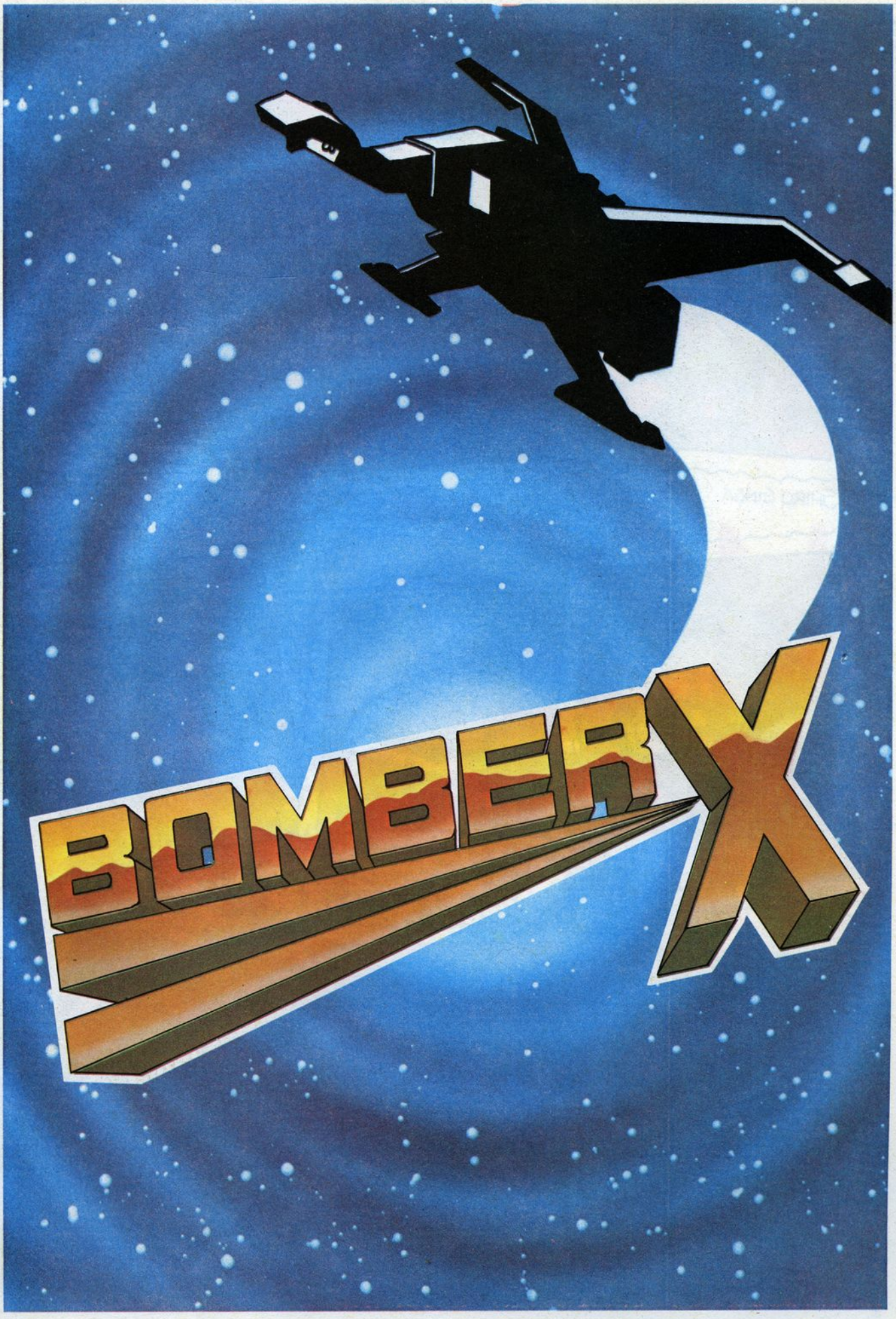
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BOMBER X



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BOMBER X

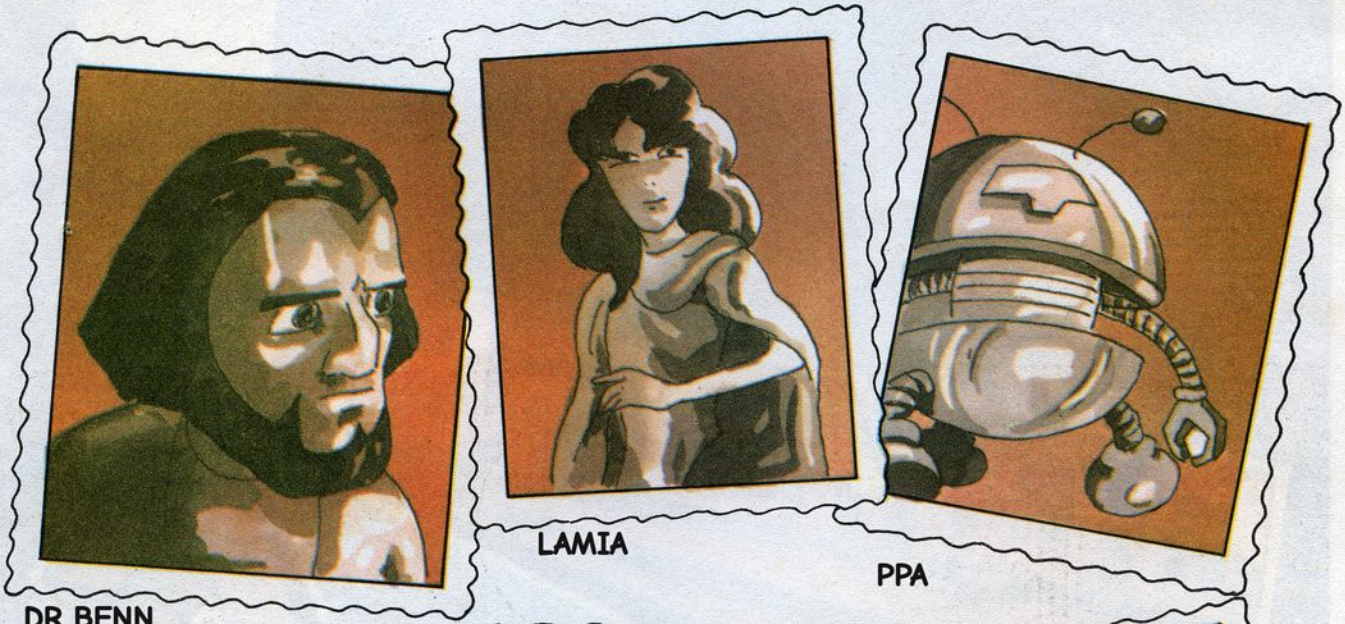
BOMBER·X



SHIRO HAGEN

JOHN LEE

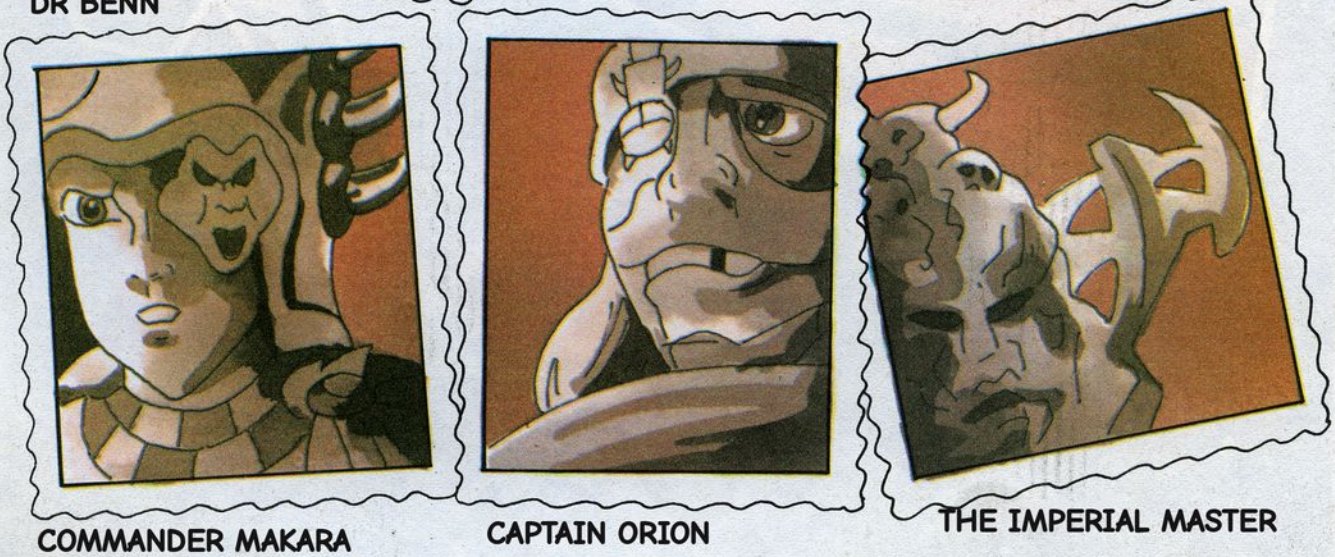
BARRY HERCULES



DR BENN

LAMIA

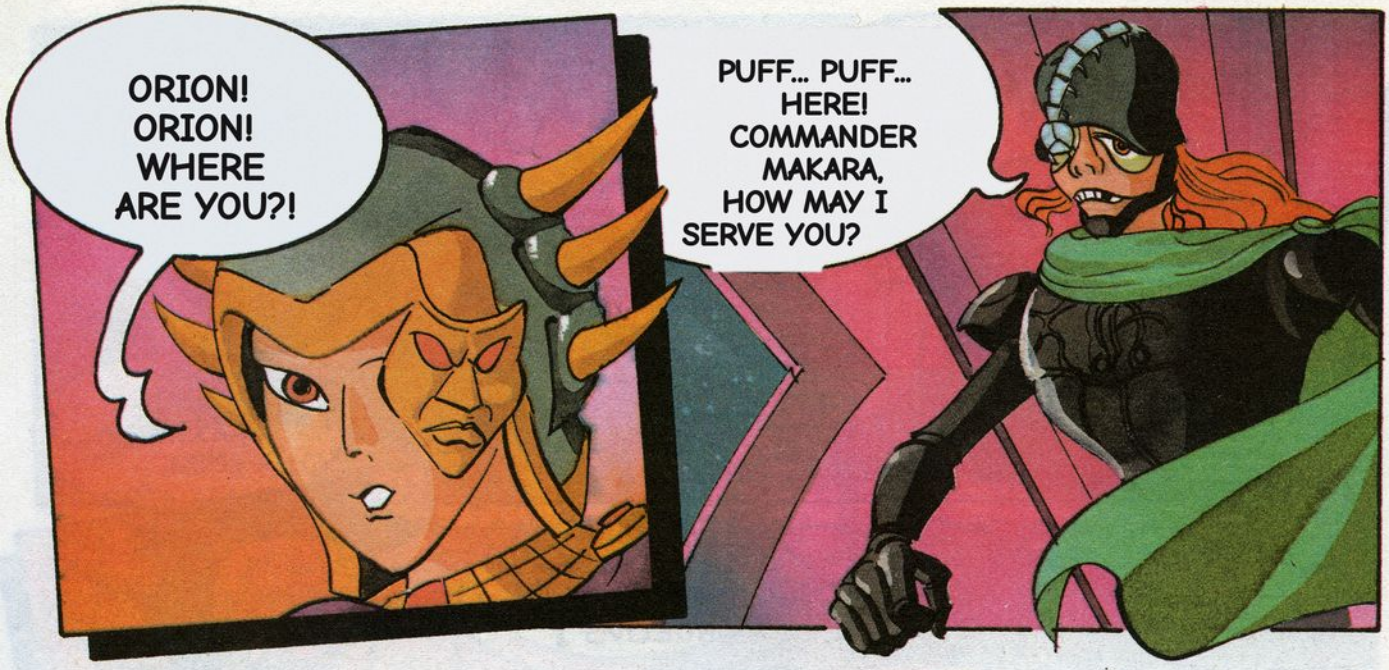
PPA



COMMANDER MAKARA

CAPTAIN ORION

THE IMPERIAL MASTER


ORION! ORION! WHERE ARE YOU?!
PUFF... PUFF... HERE! COMMANDER MAKARA, HOW MAY I SERVE YOU?

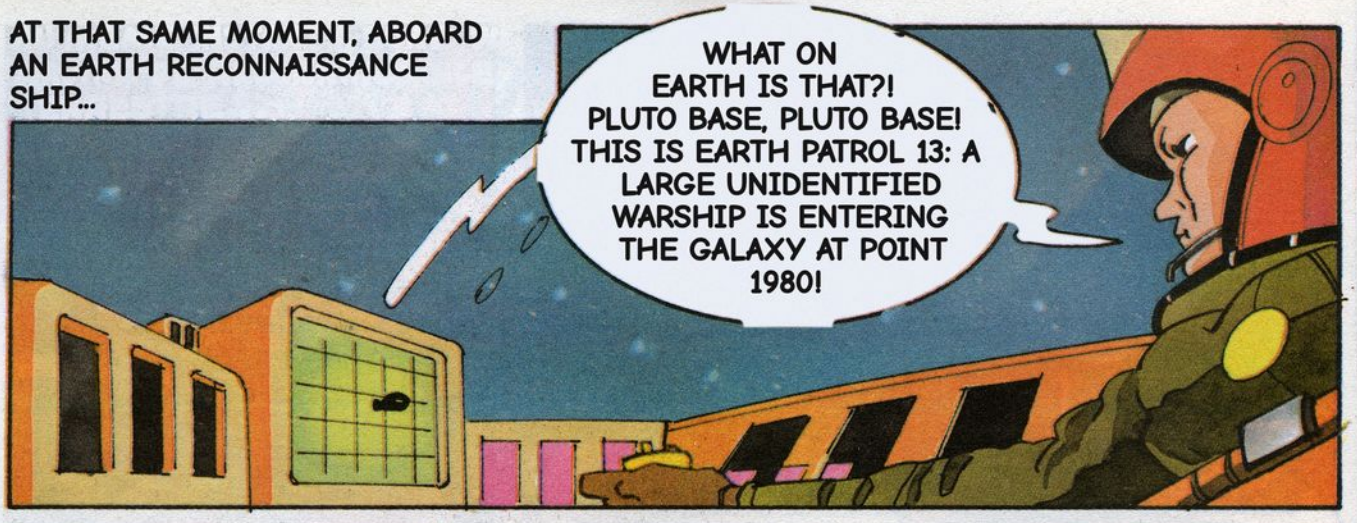
INVASION!


THE GALAXY LIES JUST AHEAD OF US, ORION! YOU SHALL HAVE THE HONOUR OF BEING THE FIRST OF US TO ENTER IT!!
OH HO! THE GREATEST HONOUR OF MY LIFE, COMMANDER! FULL SPEED AHEAD! STAY ON YOUR GUARD... MOVE IT!


FASTER!!
YES, SIR! UNDERSTOOD!
MAXIMUM SPEED...
EARTH PATROL SHIP DETECTED 15,000 KM DEAD AHEAD!!
SHE'S MAKING 35 SPACE-KNOTS!
BLAST IT!
AT THAT MOMENT, THE TERRIFYING IMAGE OF THE IMPERIAL MASTER APPEARED...
WAIT, MAKARA!
6


WE SHALL CERTAINLY WREAK HAVOC ON EARTH. BUT OUR TRUE OBJECTIVE IS QUITE DIFFERENT. NEVER FORGET THAT... I SHOULD NOT HAVE TO REMIND YOU!
(CAREFUL, MAKARA... THE IMPERIAL MASTER!)... YES, MASTER, I SHALL...
...EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO SATISFY YOUR WISHES... YOU WILL HAVE NOTHING TO REPROACH US FOR!
I AM COUNTING ON IT!
ORDERS TO ALL CREW: OUR GOAL WILL BE EASIER TO ACHIEVE IF OUR FIRST STRIKE AGAINST EARTH IS EFFECTIVE. SO HIT THEM WITH A TERRIBLE BLOW!

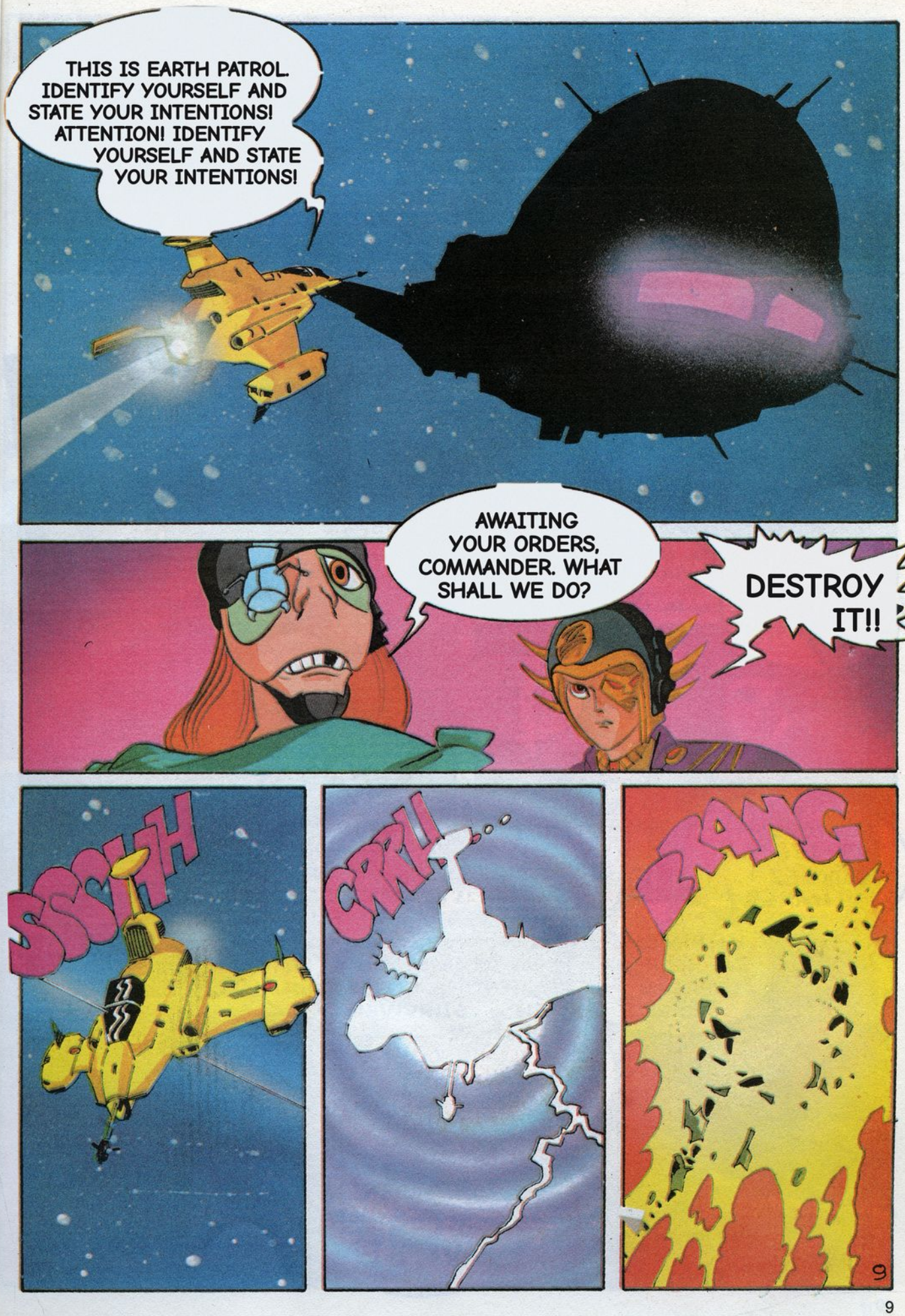
AT THAT SAME MOMENT, ABOARD AN EARTH RECONNAISSANCE SHIP...

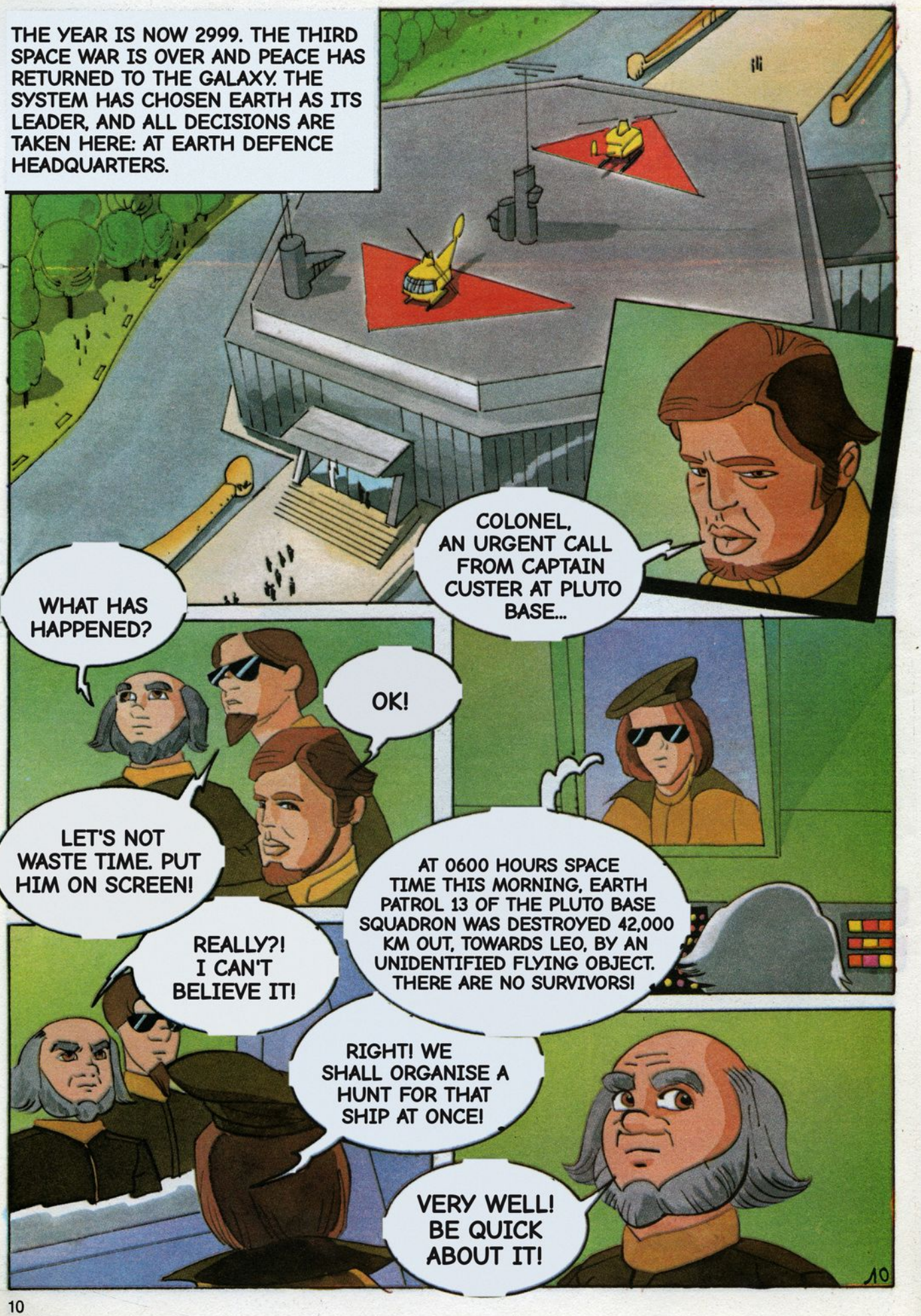




THE EARTH PILOT RAPIDLY CLOSES IN ON THE GREAT ALLIANCE STARSHIP...

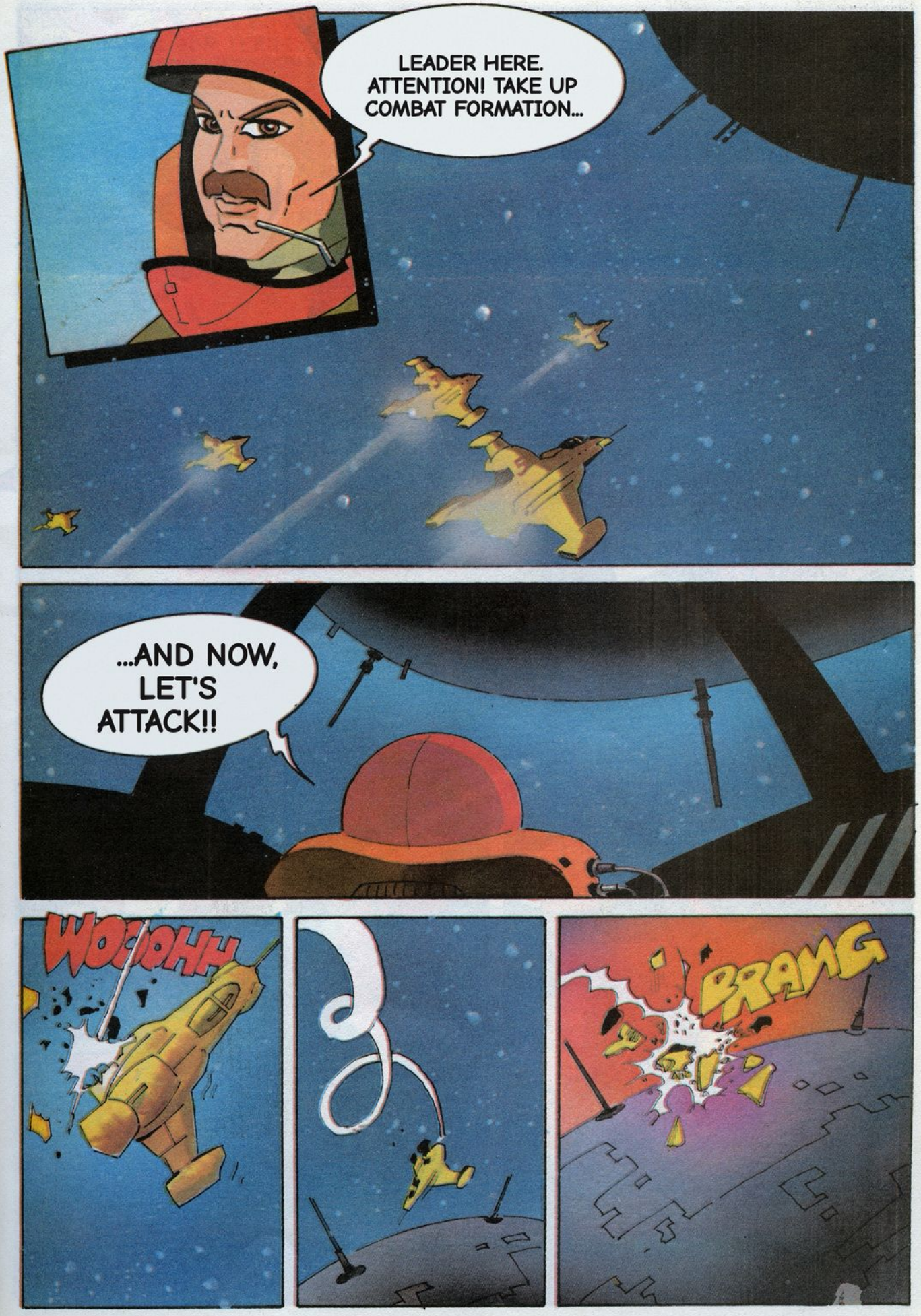



THIS IS EARTH PATROL. IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND STATE YOUR INTENTIONS! ATTENTION! IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND STATE YOUR INTENTIONS!
AWAITING YOUR ORDERS, COMMANDER. WHAT SHALL WE DO?
DESTROY IT!!
SSSSHH
CRRU...
BANG
9


THE YEAR IS NOW 2999. THE THIRD SPACE WAR IS OVER AND PEACE HAS RETURNED TO THE GALAXY. THE SYSTEM HAS CHOSEN EARTH AS ITS LEADER, AND ALL DECISIONS ARE TAKEN HERE: AT EARTH DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS.
COLONEL, AN URGENT CALL FROM CAPTAIN CUSTER AT PLUTO BASE...
WHAT HAS HAPPENED?
OK!
LET'S NOT WASTE TIME. PUT HIM ON SCREEN!
AT 0600 HOURS SPACE TIME THIS MORNING, EARTH PATROL 13 OF THE PLUTO BASE SQUADRON WAS DESTROYED 42,000 KM OUT, TOWARDS LEO, BY AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT. THERE ARE NO SURVIVORS!
REALLY?! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
RIGHT! WE SHALL ORGANISE A HUNT FOR THAT SHIP AT ONCE!
VERY WELL! BE QUICK ABOUT IT!
10


PLUTO FORWARD BASE IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FRONT-LINE STRATEGIC BASES IN THE DEFENCE OF EARTH...
COLONEL CUSTER HERE! SPACE FIGHTERS, STAND BY FOR TAKE-OFF!!
SPACE FIGHTER NUMBER 1... READY FOR TAKE-OFF.
WE MUST NOT LET THAT WARSHIP ENTER THE SOLAR SYSTEM. EVERY PATROL CRAFT IS TO BLOCK ITS PATH!


7
3
1
5
THEY HAVE SENT THEIR FIGHTER PATROL AGAINST US, COMMANDER!
DESTROY THE PATROL!
THE ENEMY WARSHIP IS DEAD AHEAD OF US...
12


LEADER HERE. ATTENTION! TAKE UP COMBAT FORMATION...
...AND NOW, LET'S ATTACK!!
WOOOHH
BRANG

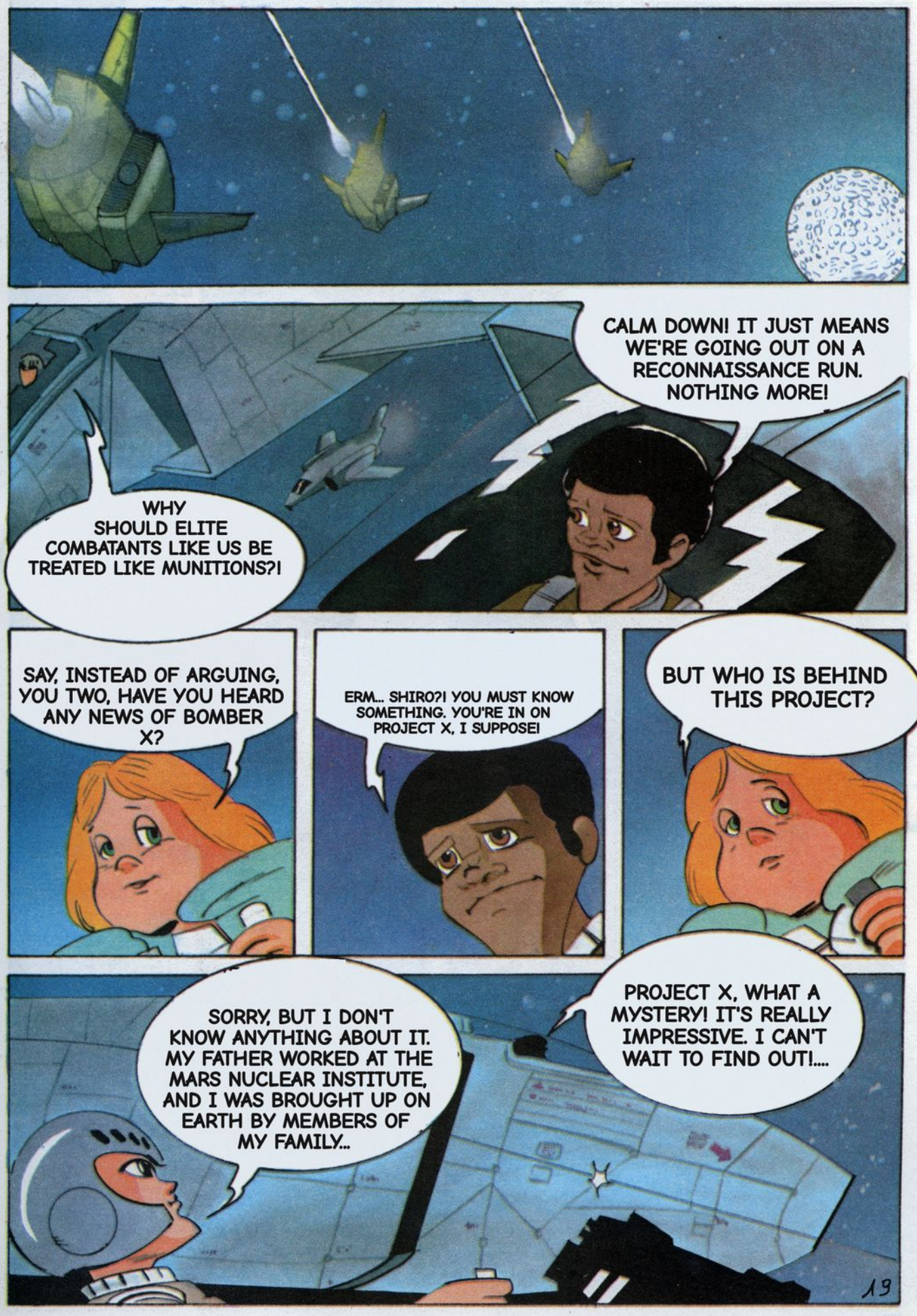

BLONG
BLONG
BRANG
BUT THE HEROIC PATROL COULD DO NOTHING AGAINST THE IMMENSE WARSHIP AND WAS SWIFTLY DESTROYED ....
BRRANG
BROL
BRANG
14


MEANWHILE, AT GENERAL HEADQUARTERS ON EARTH....
HOW IS THE BATTLE GOING? HAS THE PLUTO PATROL'S ATTACK SUCCEEDED?
GENERAL....
I ASKED YOU WHAT THE RESULT OF THE ATTACK IS!
ERM... UNFORTUNATELY, IT FAILED, GENERAL.
FAILED?!
THE SPACE FIGHTERS FROM PLUTO BASE HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT. THERE ARE NO SURVIVORS...
THIS MUST BE A NEW INVASION.
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO ASSEMBLE THE EARTH FLEET....
OUR ONLY HOPE NOW IS PROJECT X! CALL MOON BASE.

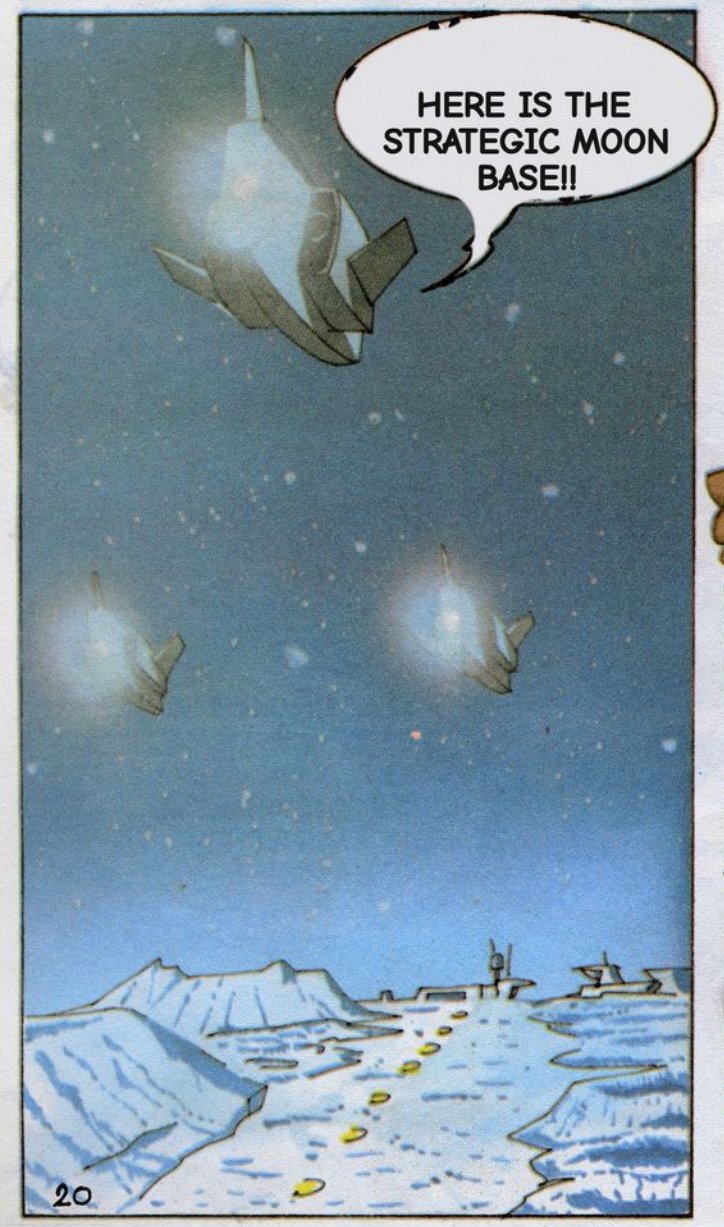

RIGHT AWAY!!
YES, GENERAL! QUICK, CALL DOCTOR BENN.
GENERAL, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!
DOCTOR, WE ARE IN TROUBLE....
I HAVE ALREADY GATHERED THE INFORMATION!
DOCTOR BENN, I WANT YOU TO HELP US: AS YOU KNOW... THERE IS NO ACTIVE FORCE LEFT ON EARTH. I AM CALLING ON BOMBER X. HAS PROJECT X MOVED ON SINCE YOUR LAST WORK?
BY ABOUT 90 PER CENT, ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, BUT....
SO.... WE CAN CONSIDER IT AS GOOD AS FINISHED!
NO! EVEN IF IT WERE 100 PER CENT COMPLETE, WE MUST NOT PUT IT INTO SERVICE UNTIL THE TESTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT
WE HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRED YOUR CAUTION, DOCTOR, BUT WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE.
VERY WELL! THEN I ASK YOU TO SELECT YOUNG SOLDIERS FOR BOMBER X AT ONCE!

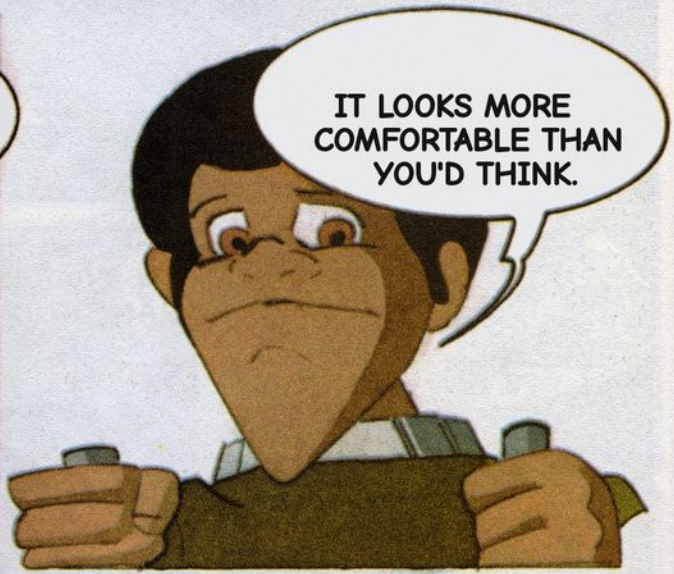

BUT OF COURSE. I SHALL CONTACT THE SPACE COMBATANTS' TRAINING SCHOOL STRAIGHT AWAY...
GOOD IDEA. FOR MY PART, I SHALL DO MY BEST TO HELP YOU!
THE UNIDENTIFIED WARSHIP IS 1,500 KM FROM PLUTO!!
MAJOR! SEND SHIRO HAGEN, JOHN LEE AND BARRY HERCULES TO MY MOON BASE!
RIGHT AWAY, GENERAL!

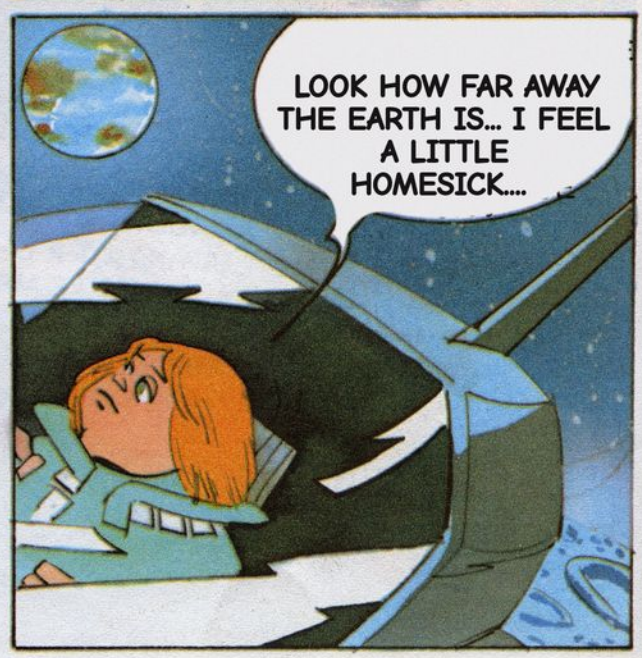

THE THREE YOUNG SPACE COMBATANTS SET OFF AT ONCE FOR MOON BASE....
WWUUUUSSHH
WOOOAHH
SHIRO, LEE AND BARRY TAKE OFF FOR THE MOON.


CALM DOWN! IT JUST MEANS WE'RE GOING OUT ON A RECONNAISSANCE RUN. NOTHING MORE!
WHY SHOULD ELITE COMBATANTS LIKE US BE TREATED LIKE MUNITIONS?!
SAY, INSTEAD OF ARGUING, YOU TWO, HAVE YOU HEARD ANY NEWS OF BOMBER X?
ERM... SHIRO?! YOU MUST KNOW SOMETHING. YOU'RE IN ON PROJECT X, I SUPPOSE!
BUT WHO IS BEHIND THIS PROJECT?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT. MY FATHER WORKED AT THE MARS NUCLEAR INSTITUTE, AND I WAS BROUGHT UP ON EARTH BY MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY...
PROJECT X, WHAT A MYSTERY! IT'S REALLY IMPRESSIVE. I CAN'T WAIT TO FIND OUT!....
19


LISTEN! OUR NEW WORLD IS RIGHT THERE! MOON BASE... MOON BASE, THREE TRAINEES REQUEST PERMISSION TO LAND!


HERE IS THE STRATEGIC MOON BASE!!
20


IT LOOKS MORE COMFORTABLE THAN YOU'D THINK.

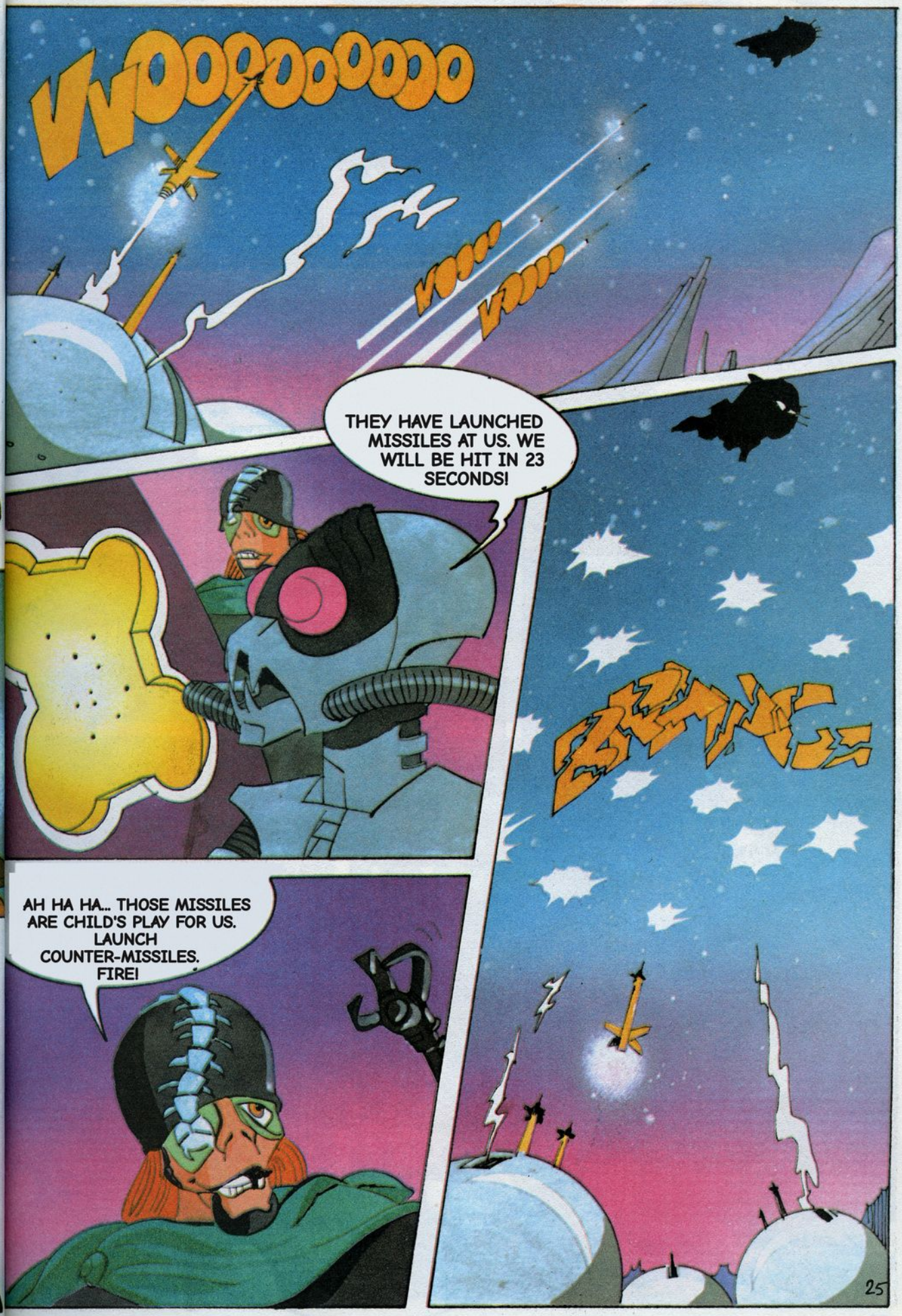

LOOK HOW FAR AWAY THE EARTH IS... I FEEL A LITTLE HOMESICK....


SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, INSIDE THE BASE....
DOCTOR, THE TRAINEES HAVE ARRIVED!
I AM DOCTOR BENN, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE STRATEGIC MOON BASE. YOU WILL BE UNDER MY ORDERS. INTRODUCE YOURSELVES. WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES?
I'M SHIRO HAGEN!
AND I'M... JOHN LEE!
BARRY HERCULES
GOOD. SIT DOWN!
YES, SIR!


A VERY GOOD DAY TO YOU, I AM PPA. REMEMBER MY NAME WELL, IT MAY COME IN USEFUL!
HE HAS WORKED AT THE BASE FOR A VERY LONG TIME, AND YOU CAN ASK HIM ABOUT ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. AND NOW, LAMIA...
OHH!..
...WHAT A BEAUTY!..
YES!
OHH...
MAY I INTRODUCE LAMIA, MY SECRETARY. SHE ALSO RUNS THE BASE RADAR!
HELLO, GENTLEMEN. DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU!
22

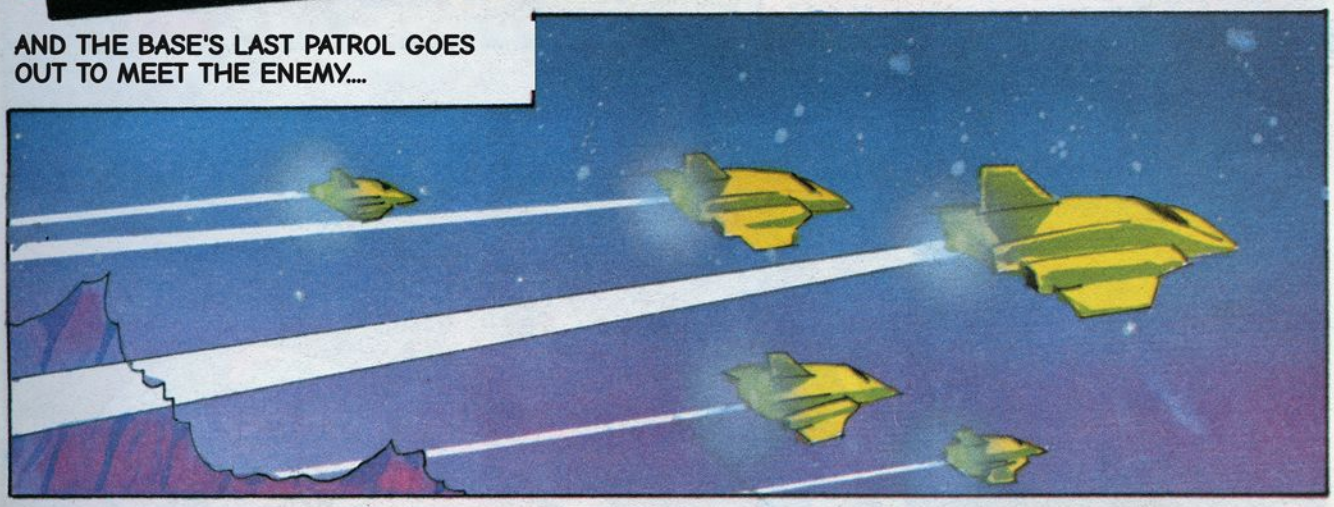

THAT'S LAMIA'S BODYGUARD. HE'S VERY TOUCHY. WE CALL HIM KIRARA....
I AM VERY HONOURED TO... AH!... WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT?
NOW, DOCTOR, WE WOULD LIKE SOME DETAILS ABOUT PROJECT X, WHICH WE ARE GOING TO TAKE PART IN.
FIRST, YOU MUST REST!
ALL RIGHT, LATER THEN!
23

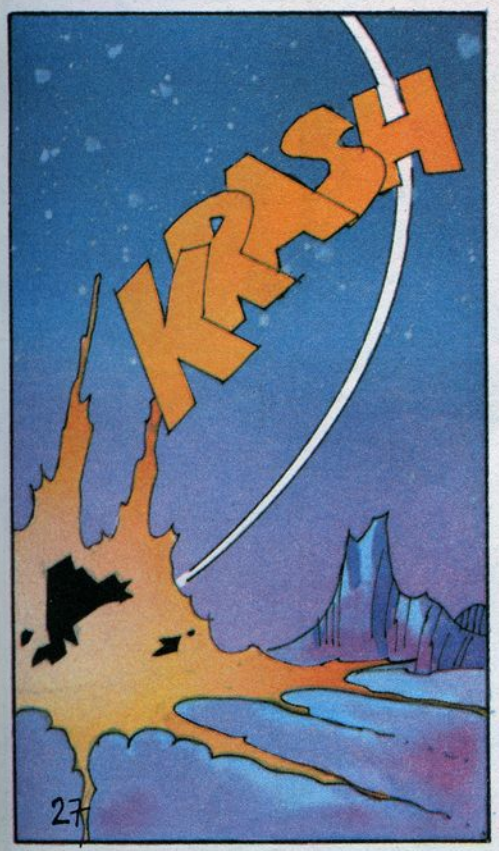

SO MANY MORE KILOMETRES WITHOUT REST....
FIGHTERS OF THE IMPERIAL FLEET, WE ARE READY! OUR TARGET IS PLUTO BASE OF THE EARTH DEFENCE FORCES. ORION, TAKE COMMAND!
YES, COMMANDER!!! ALL HANDS TO BATTLE STATIONS! FORWARD!
CUSTER HERE, CUSTER HERE... RED ALERT!
MISSILES READY! FIRE!


VVOOOOOOOOO
VOOO
VOOO
THEY HAVE LAUNCHED MISSILES AT US. WE WILL BE HIT IN 23 SECONDS!
BZZZZ...
AH HA HA... THOSE MISSILES ARE CHILD'S PLAY FOR US. LAUNCH COUNTER-MISSILES. FIRE!
25

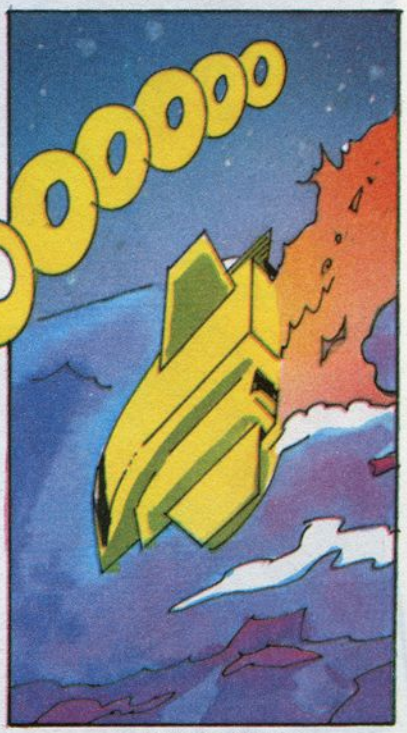

ALL OUR MISSILES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED!
ZOOM
ZOOM
ZOOM
FIRE! USE THE LASER CANNON!
OH! THE ENEMY SHIP IS DEAD CENTRE IN THE SIGHTS! NOW.
THE SPACE ARTILLERY NEVER STOPS FIRING NOW...
AAHH
90 PER CENT OF OUR GUNS ARE ALREADY OUT OF ACTION. OUR DEFENCES ARE MINIMAL.
THE LAST PATROL IS PREPARING TO LAUNCH. TARGET: THE ENEMY SHIP!
THE PATROL IS NOW READY. IT IS JUST WAITING FOR THE ORDER TO TAKE OFF. WELL??
26











...AND IT WAS

WIPED OUT!!


ORION, I AM TIRED OF THESE LITTLE GAMES.. DESTROY THEM!!
WITH PLEASURE, COMMANDER MAKARA.... CONCENTRATE FIRE ON THE BASE!
YES, SIR!
CRR
PLUTO BASE CALLING GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, EAR...
ONLY THE GUNNERS STAY AT THEIR POSTS.. ALL OTHER PERSONNEL INTO THE BUNKER!!
28


A FINE SPECTACLE, ORION! THAT IS HOW WE SHALL CONQUER EARTH TOO! MY COMPLIMENTS ON THE OPERATION!
HA HA! THESE EARTHLINGS ARE SO STUPID!
AN ENEMY LASER CANNON THAT'S STILL WORKING HAS HIT ONE OF OUR SHIELDS....
BOAAW
AH.... WHAT'S THAT?
IDIOTS! INCOMPETENTS! DESTROY IT!!


VSHHHHHH
AND SO THE LAST RESISTANCE OF PLUTO BASE HAS BEEN SILENCED. EARTH IS NOW TRULY IN GREAT
DANGER...
PAT-ANG
GOOD! WE SHALL HEAD STRAIGHT FOR EARTH.
BROUM


WHILE THE TRAGEDY UNFOLDS ON PLUTO, PROFESSOR BENN EXPLAINS THE SITUATION TO SHIRO, LEE AND BARRY...
BOMBER X WAS CONCEIVED AND DESIGNED BY DOCTOR HAGEN TO KEEP THE PEACE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM. WE MUST PURSUE HIS GOAL AND SEE PROJECT X THROUGH!
ANY ENEMY WOULD BE TERRIFIED JUST TO SEE IT....
DOCTOR BENN, AN URGENT CALL FROM EARTH. PLEASE ANSWER!...
DOCTOR, TERRIBLE NEWS: PLUTO BASE HAS BEEN DESTROYED!
DESTROYED?! THEN CAPTAIN CUSTER MAY...
31


PROJECT X IS OUR ONLY HOPE. HOW FAR HAVE YOU GOT?!
IT'S 92 PER CENT COMPLETE!


TIME IS NO LONGER AN ISSUE WHEN EARTH IS IN DANGER. BESIDES, WE HAVE HAD NO NEWS OF THE FIGHTING. HURRY, DOCTOR BENN!!

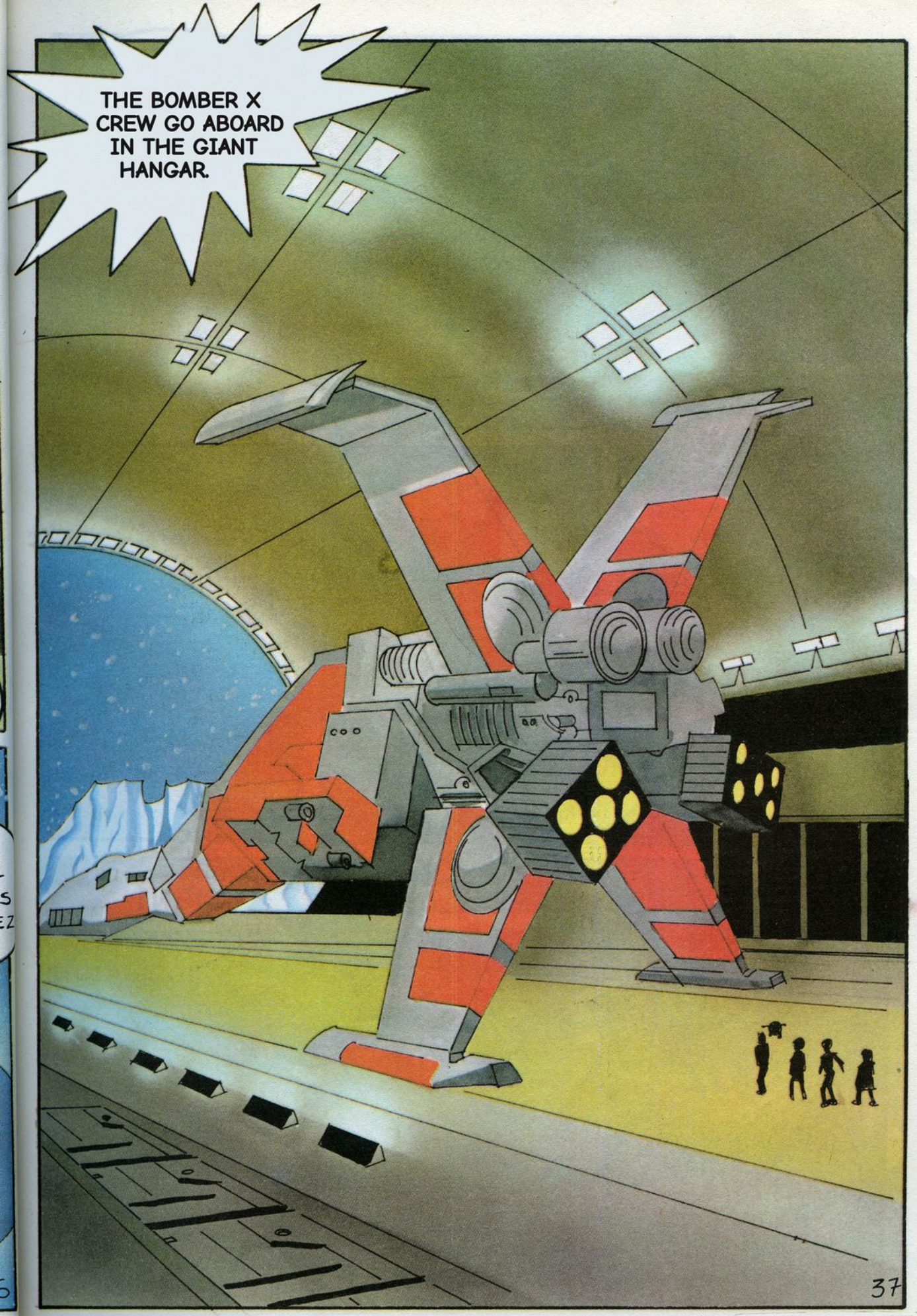

AT SPACE TIME 0003 THE ENEMY DESTROYED PLUTO BASE IN A SURPRISE ATTACK AND IS NOW HEADING FOR POINT 6.354. EARTH DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS ORDERS LEVEL-10 PREPARATIONS!
I SHALL DO MY BEST, GENERAL!


DOCTOR, WHAT ABOUT CAPTAIN CUSTER?
MY GOD! WHY DID HE GIVE UP THAT QUIET POST AT CENTRAL OFFICE TO GO TO THE FRONT LINE AT THIS FORWARD BASE?
I'M AFRAID HE MAY NO LONGER BE ALIVE...
....CAPTAIN CUSTER...
HE LOOKED AFTER US LIKE A FRIEND WHEN WE WERE IN TRAINING!
IT MEANT GOING TO CERTAIN DEATH
SHIRO, BARRY, LEE.... TO THE CONTROLS!!
33

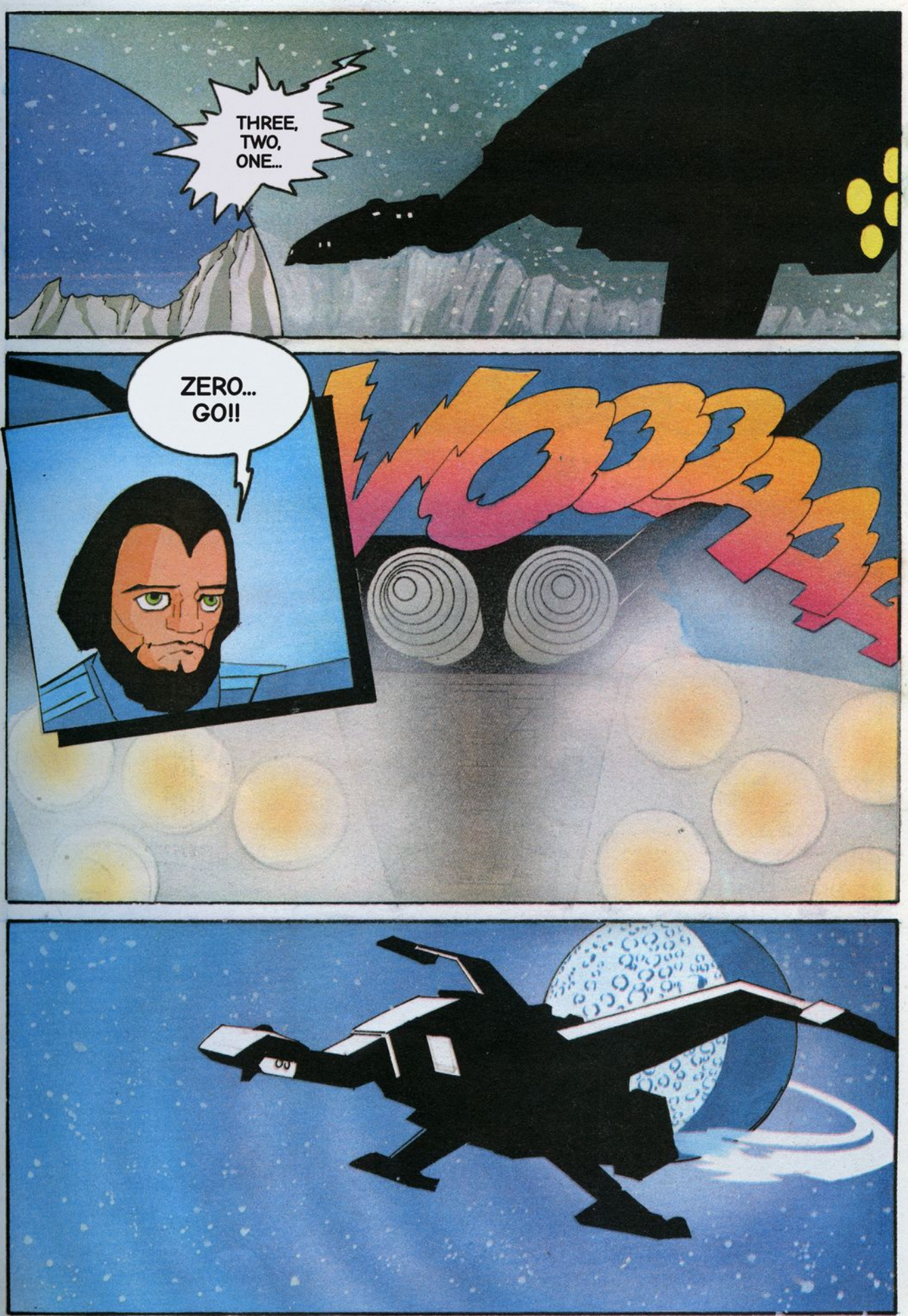

WHAT? COME ON, DOCTOR BENN, BOMBER X ISN'T FINISHED YET. WHAT'S THE POINT OF USING SUCH A WEAPON IF IT ISN'T OPERATIONAL?!
EXACTLY! BESIDES, WE'VE ONLY SEEN BOMBER X ONCE, AND WE'VE HAD NO TRAINING AT ALL....
ARE YOU AFRAID?! WHAT DID THEY TEACH YOU AT TRAINING SCHOOL? ONLY YOUR OWN STRENGTH AND WILL CAN TURN EIGHT INTO TEN! BUT IF YOU'RE AFRAID, YOU CAN STAY HERE!
STAY HERE! STAY HERE! SCAREDY SOLDIERS!


I'LL GO! I'M GOING. I WANT TO AVENGE CAPTAIN CUSTER!
SHIRO.... CHANGES HIS MIND FAST, I SEE....
LEE! COME ON.... QUICK...
MMM.... YES...
THEN HURRY UP! START THE COUNTDOWN.
BOMBER X LAUNCH IN 5 MINUTES.. STAND BY!
DOCTOR, WE'RE COMING WITH YOU!
35


THE ENEMY SHIP HAS ENTERED SATURN SPACE. ITS SPEED IS ESTIMATED AT 2660 SPACE KNOTS...
IS PROJECT X READY? GENERAL, WHAT DO WE DO?
STAY CALM, MAJOR. I TRUST DOCTOR BENN!
OPEN THE AIRLOCK!! FINAL CHECKS ON ALL CIRCUITS. PREPARE FOR TAKE-OFF!

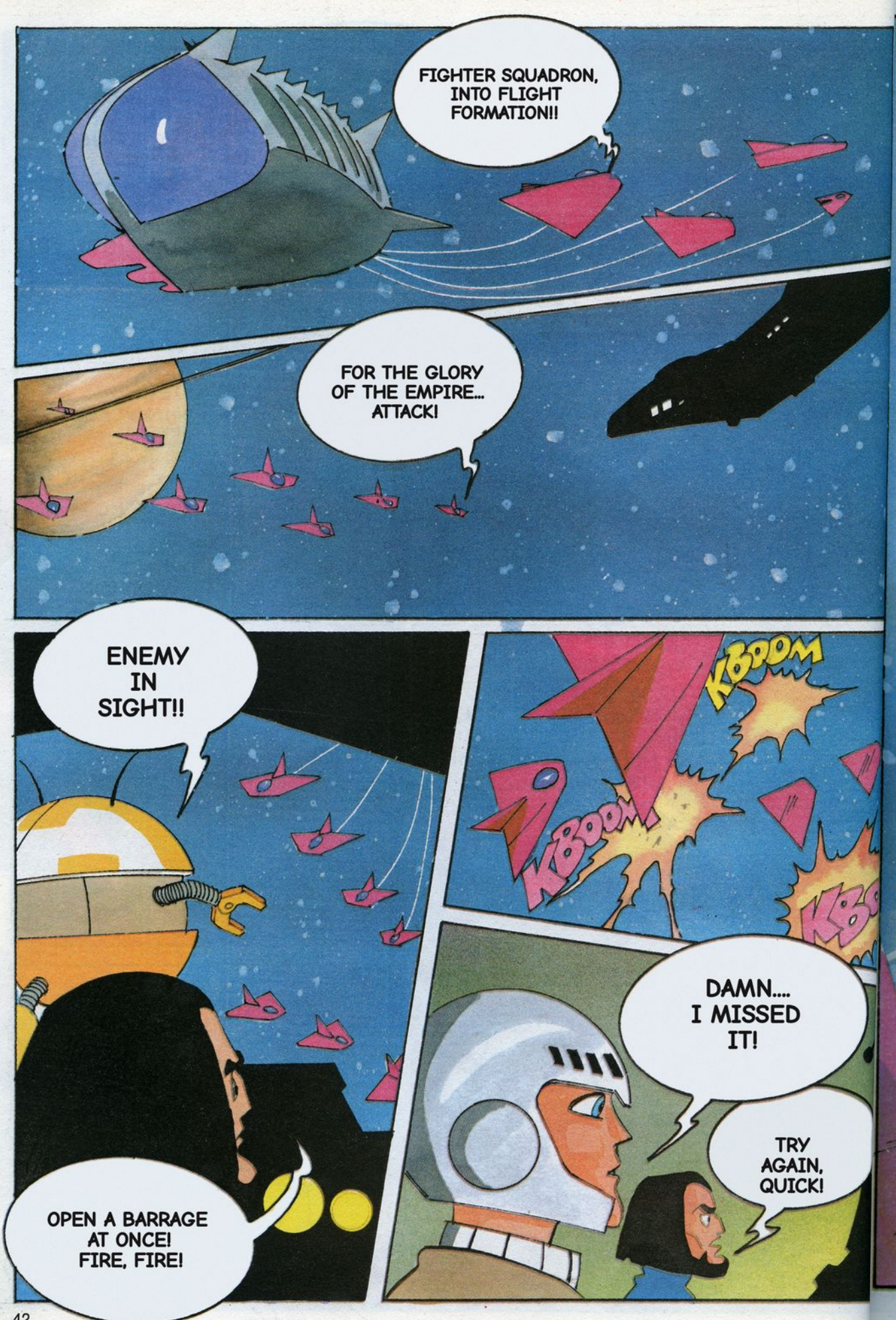

THE BOMBER X CREW GO ABOARD IN THE GIANT HANGAR.
37


ONCE ON BOARD, EVERYONE TAKES A SHARE OF THE WORK....
QUICK, TAKE YOUR STATIONS! NO TIME TO LOSE!
THRUSTERS CHECKED. PROPULSION CIRCUIT NORMAL..
IGNITION SYSTEM NORMAL...
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM O.K.
TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE NORMAL...
COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUIT NORMAL...
GOOD! IGNITE THE MAIN ENGINE!


THREE, TWO, ONE...
ZERO... GO!!
WOOSH


A CRAFT THAT LOOKS LIKE A WARSHIP HAS JUST LEFT MOON BASE...
WHAT?!! ORION!! ACT AT ONCE!
QUICK, PREPARE AN ATTACK SHIP...
I'LL PILOT IT MYSELF!
AND AN ATTACK SHIP BROKE AWAY FROM THE GIGANTIC IMPERIAL WAR FLEET..


DOCTOR, DOCTOR, AN UNIDENTIFIED SHIP IS HEADING OUR WAY...
ORION, THE EARTH SHIP IS ONLY MINUTES AWAY...
VERY GOOD! LAUNCH THE FIGHTERS AND THE ATTACK WEB. QUICKLY!
FIRST SQUADRON READY!!
ANYTHING THAT GETS IN OUR WAY MUST BE DESTROYED. THE MISSION WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED. UNDERSTOOD?!
SECOND SQUADRON READY!
41

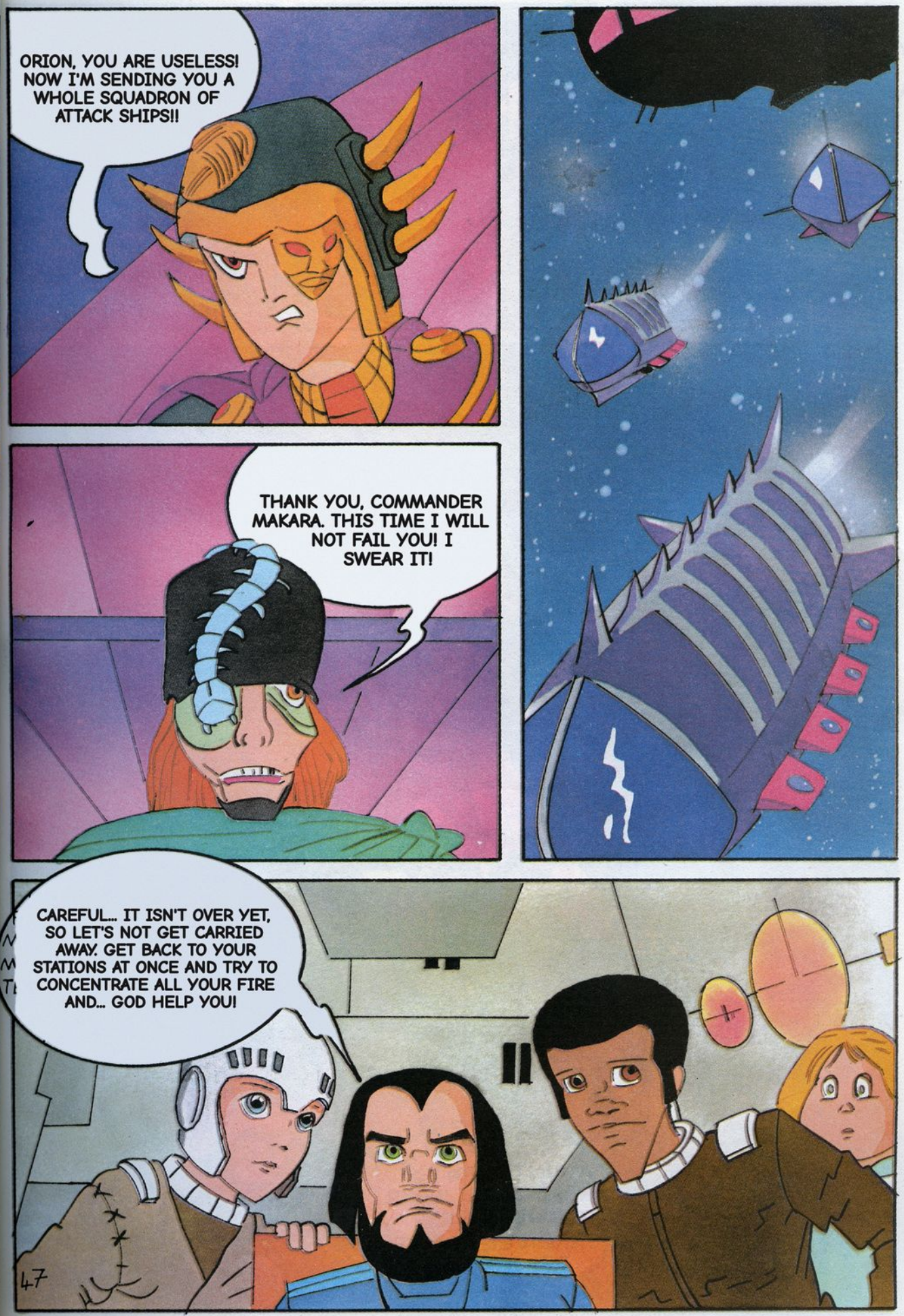

FIGHTER SQUADRON, INTO FLIGHT FORMATION!!
FOR THE GLORY OF THE EMPIRE... ATTACK!
ENEMY IN SIGHT!!
KBOOM
KBOOM
DAMN.... I MISSED IT!
TRY AGAIN, QUICK!
OPEN A BARRAGE AT ONCE! FIRE, FIRE!


KPOW
BLANG
KPOW
BRANG
BRANG
THE BATTLE IS FIERCE. SHIRO, LEE AND BARRY COULD NOT HAVE HAD A FIERCER BAPTISM OF FIRE!


CONFOUND IT! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? DESTROY IT! COME ON, COURAGE!
CAPTAIN, THIS SHIP IS MUCH STRONGER THAN THE OTHERS. PERHAPS...
ENOUGH! I WILL HEAR NO EXCUSES!
KBOOM
HURRAH! I HIT ONE...
...AND ANOTHER!
DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY BY YOUR ENTHUSIASM. THERE ARE NOT MANY OF US, AND WE HAVEN'T WON YET...
BRANG
44

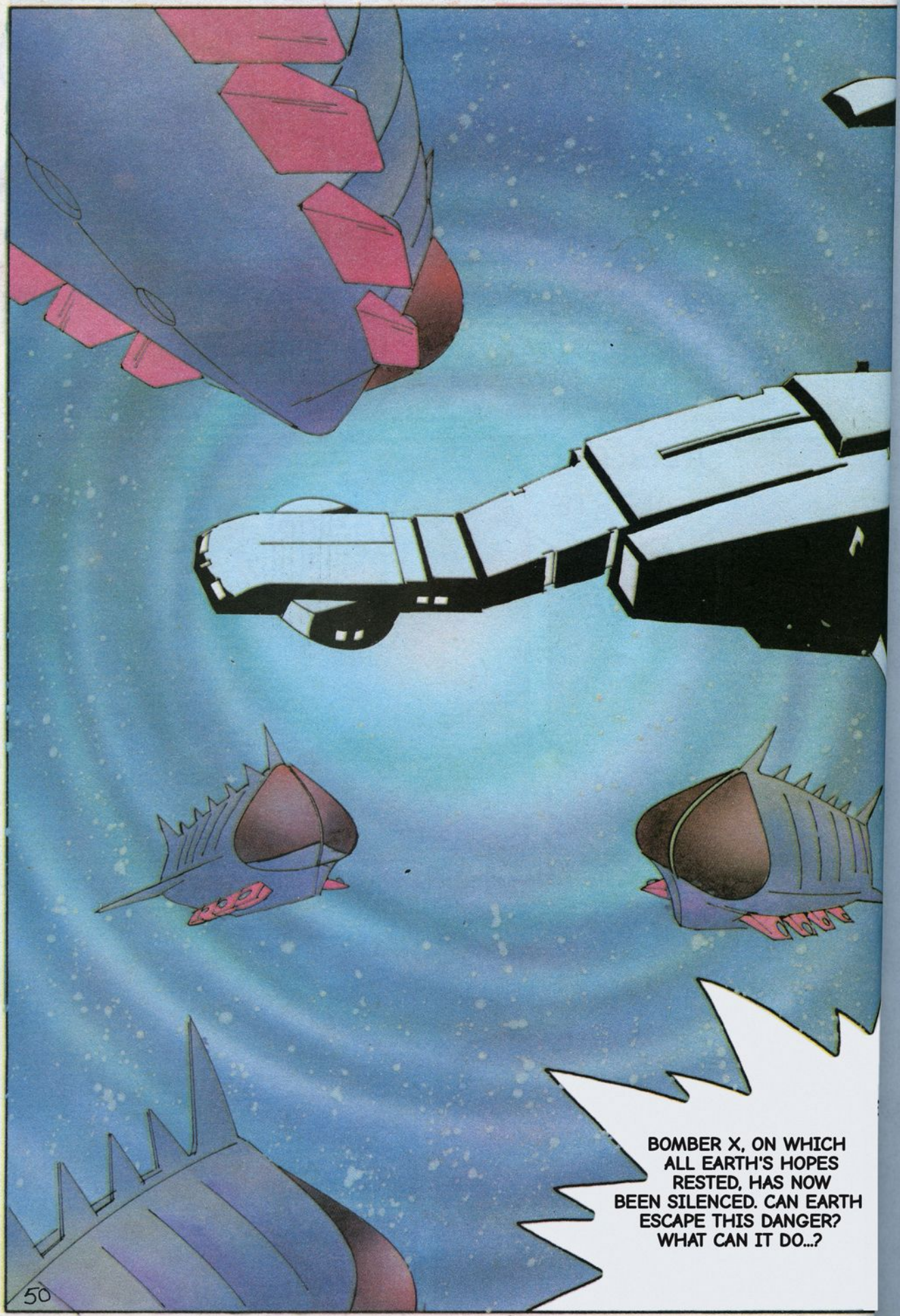

ORION, WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU PLAYING AT?!
THERE'S NOT A MINUTE TO LOSE... CALL IN ANOTHER FIGHTER SQUADRON!
VERY WELL... DID YOU HEAR?! ANOTHER SQUADRON, QUICK!
LOOK OUT! HERE COMES ANOTHER WAVE OF FIGHTERS!!
45


FIRE WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT. FIRE!!
BOOM
RROOOM
WRETCHES, IDIOTS, INCOMPETENTS! THROW YOURSELVES AT THAT SHIP WITH THE FIGHTERS AND STRIKE IT, EVEN AT THE COST OF YOUR LIVES!
HURRAH! TWO MORE, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE!


ORION, YOU ARE USELESS! NOW I'M SENDING YOU A WHOLE SQUADRON OF ATTACK SHIPS!!
THANK YOU, COMMANDER MAKARA. THIS TIME I WILL NOT FAIL YOU! I SWEAR IT!
CAREFUL... IT ISN'T OVER YET, SO LET'S NOT GET CARRIED AWAY. GET BACK TO YOUR STATIONS AT ONCE AND TRY TO CONCENTRATE ALL YOUR FIRE AND... GOD HELP YOU!
47


POWER CHECK: ALL NORMAL!
LASER TARGETING CHECK O.K.
ENGINE IGNITION O.K.
HA HA HA! NOW THE GAME IS OVER. YOUR HOUR HAS COME, AND AFTER YOU... EARTH....


WOOAH
WOOAH
WOOAH
FIRE!!
ALL TOGETHER,
FIRE!!
ALERT..
ALERT...
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?!!
WARNING! A FAULT IN
THE ENGINE ROOM...
THE ENERGY... WE'RE
LOSING POWER....



END OF EPISODE 50