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# G.I. JOE

*A REAL AMERICAN HERO!*



Stan Lee  
PRESENTS:

# GI JOE™ A REAL AMERICAN HERO™

MISSION: VERIFICATION AND NEUTRALIZATION OF SUSPECTED COBRA STRONGHOLD IN MID-TOWN MANHATTAN

PERSONNEL BREAKDOWN  
NEUTRALIZATION TEAM: SNAKE-EYES, SCARLETT AND ZAP WILL SECURE ALL ROOF EXITS TO PREVENT ESCAPE AND/OR REINFORCEMENT OF COBRA PERSONNEL.

... THIS WHOLE ROOF-TOP IS LIKE A CLASS-ROOM DIAGRAM OF DEFENSIVE DOUBLE-THINK!

THOSE OBVIOUS VIDEO CAMERAS IN THE VENTS ARE FAZZES. THEY ALL HAVE BLIND SPOTS AND THOSE BLIND SPOTS ARE LOUSY WITH MINDS AND BOOBY-TRAPS--

a nice little town  
like ours...

LARRY HAMA, SCRIPTER  
MIKE STONE, INKER  
CHIC ROSEN, LETTERER  
CHRISTIE SHIBBLE, COLORIST  
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JIM SHOOTER, ASSISTANT EDITOR

NOT ANY MORE. YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD DEMOLITIONS EXPERT HAS DEACTIVATED ALL THE COBRA ORDNANCE AND RIGGED OUR OWN MINE IN ALL THEIR "SAFE" ZONES...

GOOD JOB, ZAP. NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS SIT TIGHT UNTIL THE ASSAULT TEAMS FLUSH OUT THE BAD-GUYS...

REMEMBER ZAP, IN TWO MINUTES...

\*MECHANICAL AMBUSH:  
USUALLY A CLAYMORE MINE WITH A TRIP-WIRE DETONATOR.

GI JOE™ A REAL AMERICAN HERO™ Vol. 1, No. 10, April, 1983. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018. Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. GI JOE, HAWK, SCARLETT, SNAKE-EYES, ZAP, BREAKER, STALKER, GRUNT, FLASH, ROCK 'N ROLL, CLUTCH, SHORT-FUSE, COBRA COMMANDER, COBRA TROOPER are trademarks of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. and the likenesses of the characters to which those names are applied are the property of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC., and the trademarks and likenesses are used with permission of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. GI JOE™ copyright © 1983 by HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. All rights reserved. The Incredible Hulk ® and copyright © 1983 Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10018.

WE HAVE TO CALL HAWK ON THE RADIO FOR A STATUS REPORT AND SECURITY CHECK.

PRIMARY ASSAULT TEAM: HAWK, CLUTCH, SHORT-FUSE, FLASH AND ROCK 'N ROLL WILL COVER THE STREET LEVEL FROM THE COVER OF AN ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE TRUCK AND USE THAT SPECIALLY ARMED AND REINFORCED VEHICLE TO INITIATE A COMBAT ASSAULT OF THE BUILDING...

I DON'T LIKE IT, HAWK. I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS OPERATION...

CUT ME SOME SLACK, CLUTCH. YOU HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT EVERY OPERATION.



YEAH, WELL MRS. STEINBERG DIDN'T RAISE HER SON TO BE CARELESS...



IN THE BACK OF THE VAN...

I SURE DON'T ENVY THE GUYS IN THE SECONDARY ASSAULT TEAM!

THEY SHOULD BE IN POSITION BY NOW...



BREAKER, STALKER AND GRUNT ARE DUE TO BREAK THROUGH INTO THE BASEMENT FROM THE SEWER SYSTEM IN FIVE MINUTES...



ALL I CAN SAY IS: THIS STINKS!

HEY! WHERE'S THE ROMANTIC IN YOU? REMEMBER THE CHASE THROUGH THE SEWERS OF PARIS IN LES MISERABLES?

PARISIAN SEWERS MAY BE ROMANTIC, BUT NEW YORK SEWERS PLAIN STINK!



IN THE UPPER FLOOR OF THE COBRA BUILDING...

BARONESS! THERE ARE INTR--

THE SALUTATION! NEVER FORGET THE SALUTATION!



F-FORGIVE ME, BARONESS!

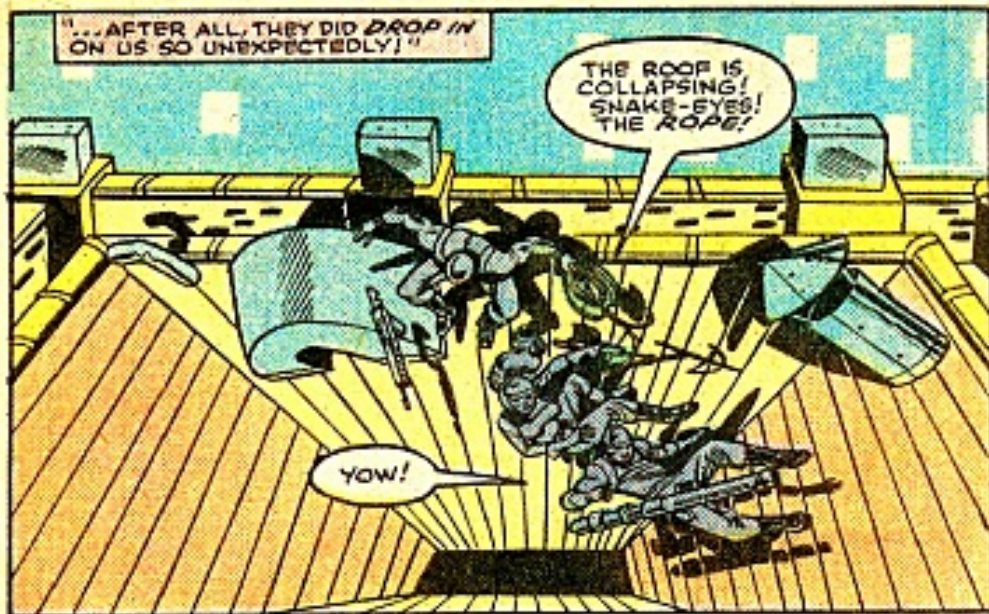
ALL HAIL MIGHTY COBRA!

ALL HAIL!

OUR SENSORS SHOW INTRUDERS ON THE ROOF, STREET LEVEL AND BASEMENT!



SPLENDID. WE SHALL DEAL FIRST WITH THE ONES ON THE ROOF...







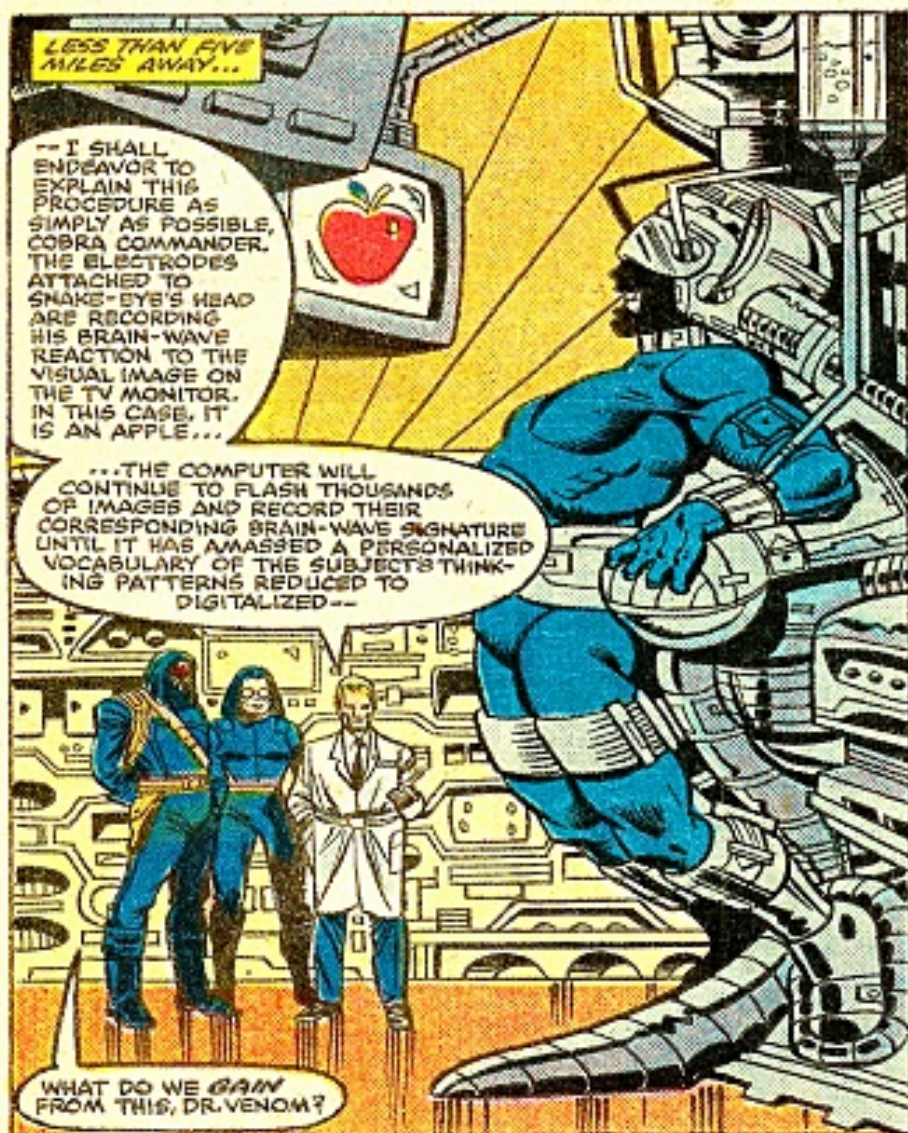




...SURE HAS BEEN A LOT EASIER TO MAINTAIN SECURITY AROUND HERE SINCE DR. VENOM STARTED DRUGGING THE PRISONERS WITH HALLUCINOGENS! THEY'RE SO BUSY STARING AT THINGS THAT AIN'T THERE THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TIME TO ESCAPE!

G-G-GARBOYLES...

I JUST HOPE DR. VENOM NEVER SEES FIT TO MESS WITH OUR WATER SUPPLY...



LESS THAN FIVE MILES AWAY...

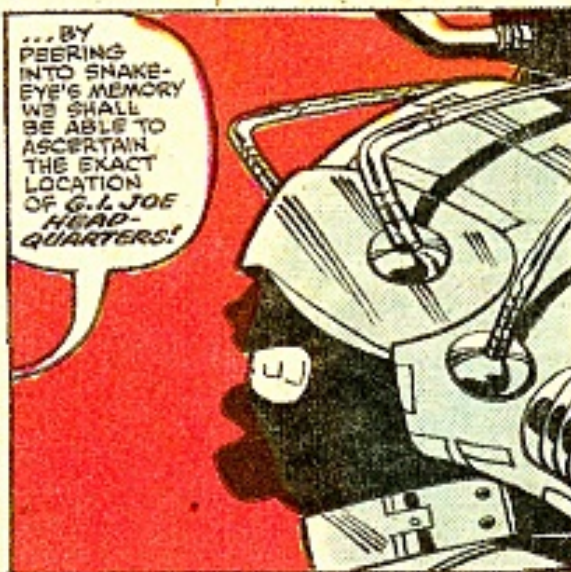
-- I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO EXPLAIN THIS PROCEDURE AS SIMPLY AS POSSIBLE, COBRA COMMANDER. THE ELECTRODES ATTACHED TO SNAKE-EYES HEAD ARE RECORDING HIS BRAIN-WAVE REACTION TO THE VISUAL IMAGE ON THE TV MONITOR. IN THIS CASE, IT IS AN APPLE...

...THE COMPUTER WILL CONTINUE TO FLASH THOUSANDS OF IMAGES AND RECORD THEIR CORRESPONDING BRAIN-WAVE SIGNATURE UNTIL IT HAS AMASSED A PERSONALIZED VOCABULARY OF THE SUBJECT'S THINKING PATTERNS REDUCED TO DIGITALIZED--

WHAT DO WE GAIN FROM THIS, DR. VENOM?



VERY SOON, OUR IMAGE VOCABULARY WILL BE COMPLETE. THEN WE CAN REVERSE THE PROCESS! THE COMPUTER WILL BE ABLE TO "READ" THE SUBJECT'S THOUGHTS, ENHANCE THEM AND PROJECT THEM AS A VISUAL IMAGE ON THE TV MONITOR...



...BY PEERING INTO SNAKE-EYES MEMORY WE SHALL BE ABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT LOCATION OF G.I. JOE HEAD-QUARTERS!



I SHALL RESERVE JUDGEMENT UNTIL I SEE RESULTS. YOU WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO REMEMBER THAT YOUR "SUBJECT" SNAKE-EYES IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS IN ANY CONDITION. I SHALL BE IN MY BUNKER. INFORM ME WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING POSITIVE.

AS YOU WISH, COBRA COMMANDER...



BACK IN SCARLETT AND ZAP'S CELL, THE HALLUCINATIONS GROW WORSE...

MMMMFF...

ANYBODY THIRSTY IN HERE?

...THE SUN...BEATING DOWN SO HOT... SOMEBODY HELP ME... TURN ME OVER...

TURN YOU OVER? HA HA HA! YOU'LL FEEL A LOT BETTER AFTER YOU HAVE SOME NICE COOL WATER!

WATER?

... AND SOME TASTY STALE BREAD TOO! BUT THE WATER IS ESPECIALLY NICE! HA HA HA HA...

THIRSTY! WATER! THE SUN-- TOO HOT-- WATER!

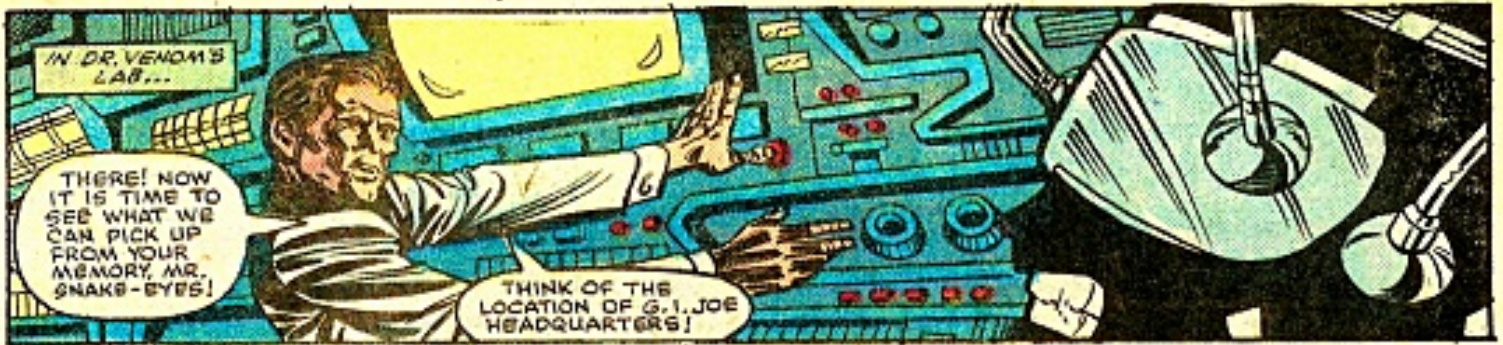
NO! DON'T DRINK IT!

WHY?

THE BAD DREAMS ARE IN THE WATER!

BUT I'M SO THIRSTY...

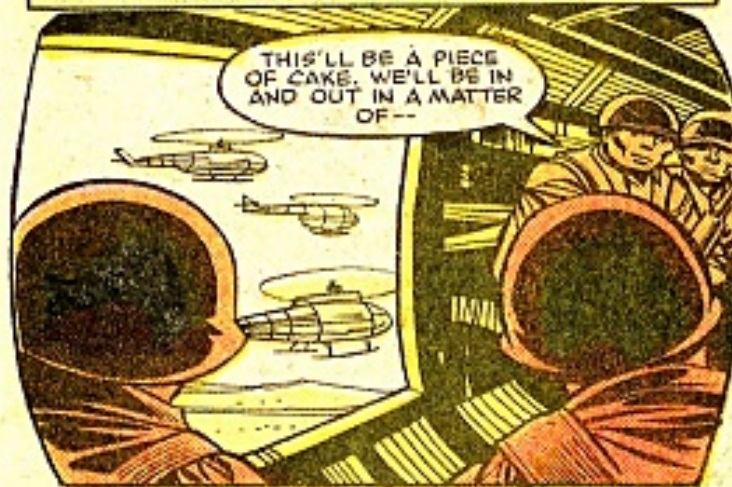
HEAT. HEAT WILL MAKE THE WATER SAFE... THE LIGHT BULB...



"AHHH... YOU ARE MAKING A PATHETIC ATTEMPT TO 'JAM' THE COMPUTER BY CONCENTRATING ON TRIVIAL MEMORIES FROM YOUR YOUTH! THE GAS STATION YOU WORKED IN AS A TEENAGER?"



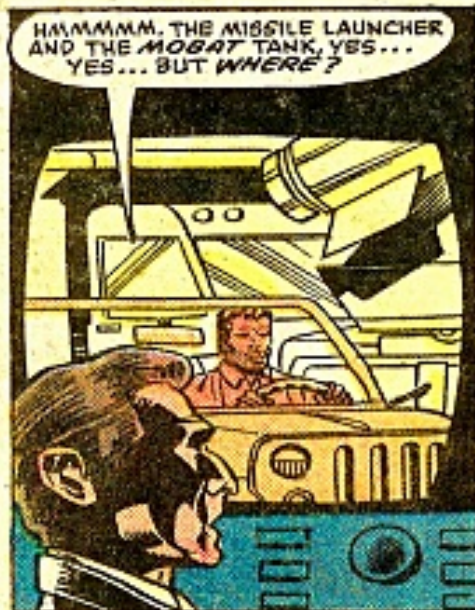
"YOU CAN'T SUPPRESS THE INFORMATION FOR LONG... WHAT'S THIS? A MILITARY MISSION... IS THAT A MIDDLE EASTERN DESERT IN THE BACKGROUND?"



--THE FUEL LINE IS LEAKING! GAS IS SPRAYING ON THE MANIFOLD! IT'S GONNA--









HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE? HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DRAG A LITTLE KID OUT OF A CELL AND--



--OH, THERE YOU ARE. GET HIM TO DR. VENOM'S RIGHT AWAY. THE GOOD DOCTOR IS STILL WORKING ON THAT MASKED ONE!



AND DON'T FORGET TO STOP AT THE LOCKER ROOM AND CHANGE INTO "CIVVIES" BEFORE YOU GO "ABOVEGROUND"!



S PHEWE HE'S RIGHT -- WE HAVE TO FIND SOME CIVILIAN CLOTHES FOR YOU. COBRA UNIFORMS ARE TABOO IN THE STREETS OF SPRINGFIELD!



YOU'D HAVE TO HOT-WIRE ONE...



I'M IN A REAL HURRY TO GET TO DR. VENOM'S PLACE IF THAT'S WHERE THEY'VE GOT SNAKE-EYES. CAN YOU GET US A CAR?

NO PROBLEM.

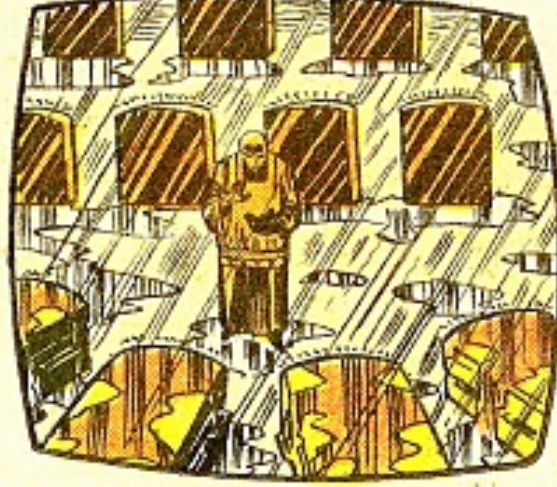
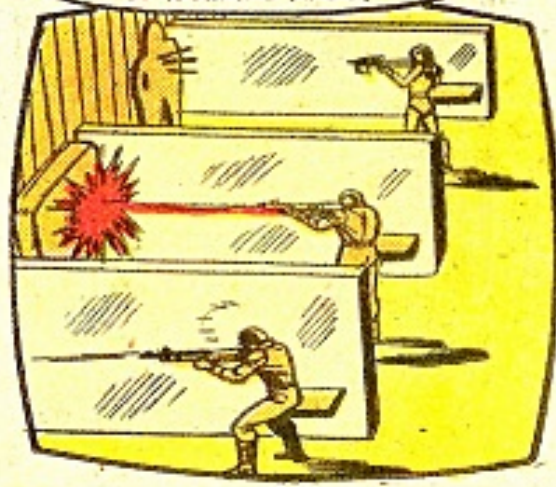


YOU HURT YOURSELF NEEDLESSLY, MR. SNAKE-EYES...

... YOU MUST, OF NECESSITY, USE A MORE EXCRUCIATING MEMORY EACH TIME YOU WISH TO BLOCK OUT THE IMAGES I WISH TO SEE. AH! THERE! A FLEETING GLIMPSE OF THE INTERIOR OF G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS! A TRAINING AREA?

HOW QUICKLY YOU BLOCK THE IMAGE WITH PAINFUL MEMORIES! SOON, THE PAIN AND EMOTIONAL TORMENT WILL BECOME TOTALLY UNBEARABLE...

... THEN YOU SHALL HAVE YOUR RELEASE... BY TELLING ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!





I DON'T BELIEVE IT, THIS WHOLE TOWN IS A COBRA FRONT? IT LOOKS SO--ORDINARY!

THAT'S THE WAY IT USED TO BE AROUND HERE... REAL ORDINARY. UNTIL THE SOAP PEOPLE CAME TO TOWN.

SOAP PEOPLE?



YEAH. IT WAS ONE OF THOSE PYRAMID SCHEMES... THEY GOT YOU TO SELL HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS FOR EXTRA MONEY, AND ENCOURAGED YOU TO GET OTHERS INVOLVED.



WEEKLY "SALES MEETINGS" SOON ESCALATED INTO "LEADERSHIP INDOCTRINATION," AND PRETTY SOON THE BALL WAS ROLLING BEYOND CONTROL.



THEY WERE VERY CONVINCING. THEY MADE IT SEEM "UN-AMERICAN" NOT TO WANT TO GET INVOLVED.



"ANYBODY WHO RESISTED WAS BOYCOTTED BY THE REST, AND BY THAT TIME THE 'REST' WAS THE MAJORITY..."



"PERSISTENT RESISTERS SIMPLY DISAPPEARED AND KIDS STARTED TURNING IN THEIR PARENTS!"



"THEY STARTED BUILDING SECRET BACK-ROOMS INTO ALL THE BUILDINGS AND LOTS OF UNDERGROUND COMPLEXES..."



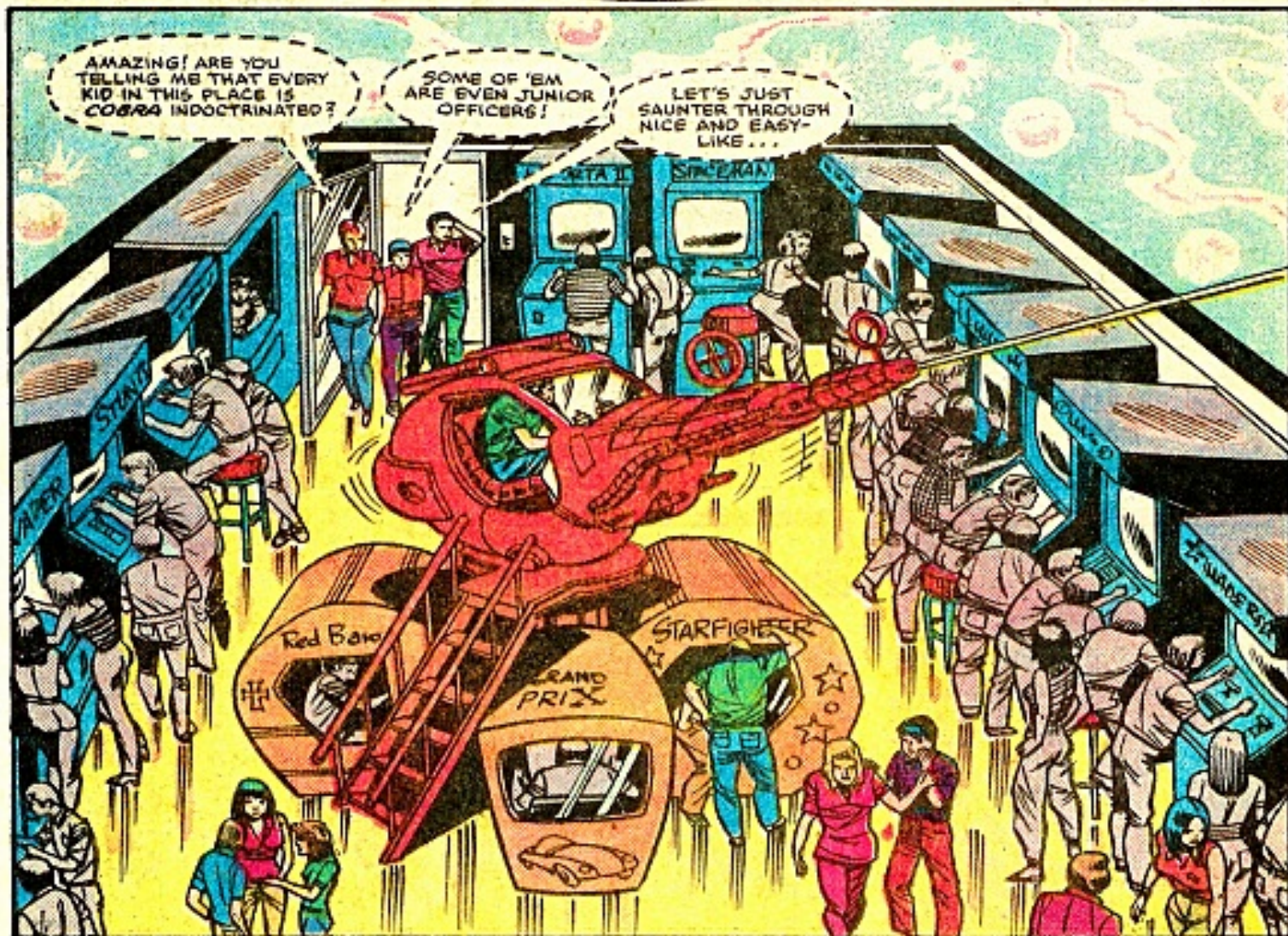
"MOST OF THE BIG REVOLVING SIGNS HAVE RADAR DISHES BUILT INTO THEM..."



"... THE GARAGES BECAME DEPOTS FOR COBRA TANKS."

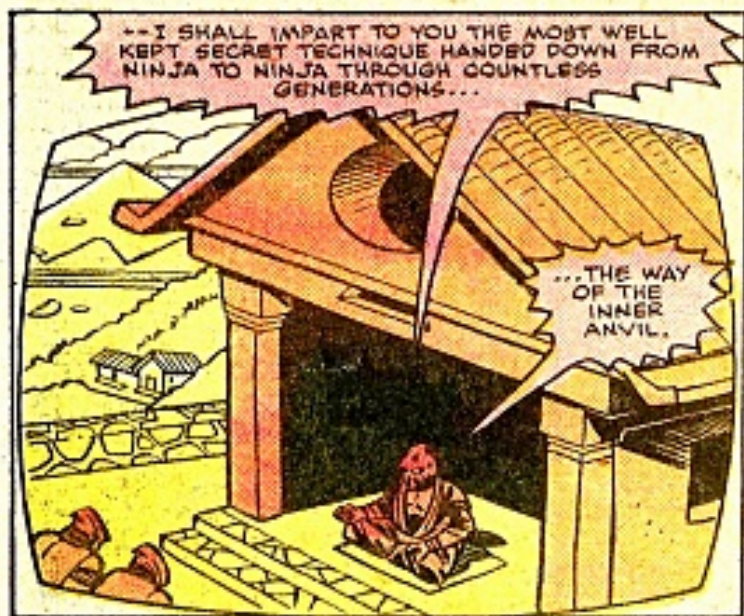
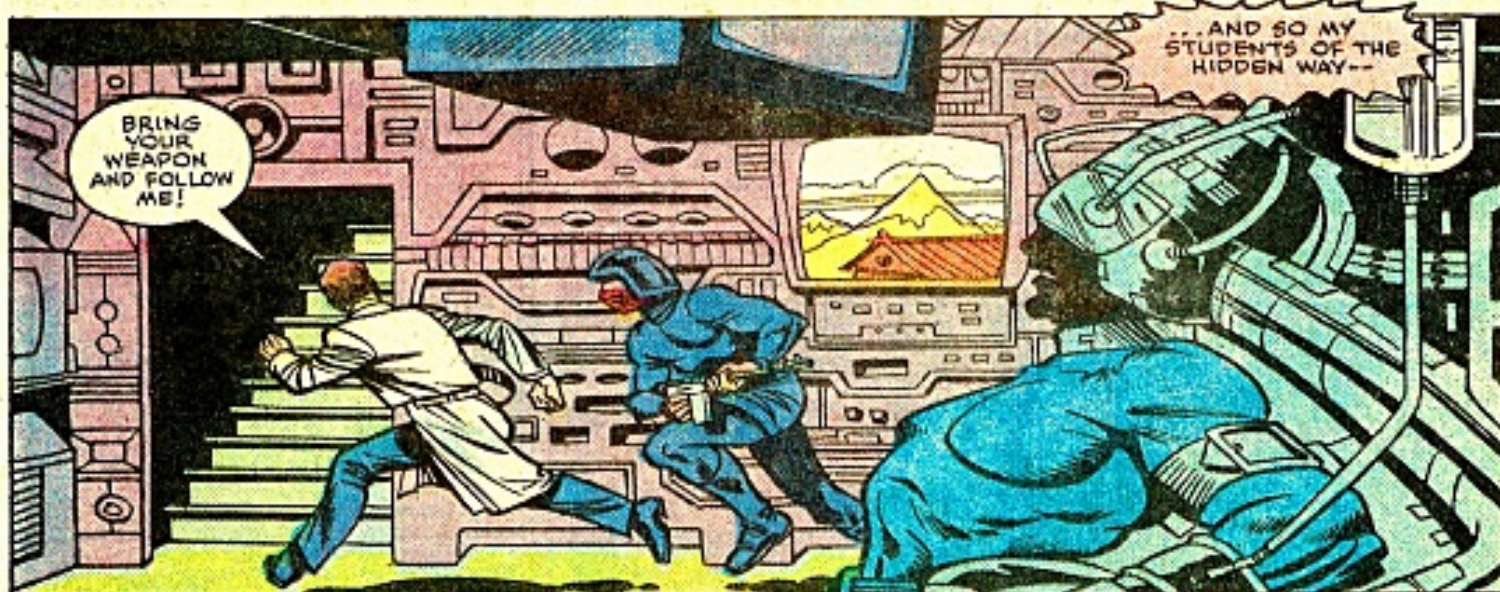
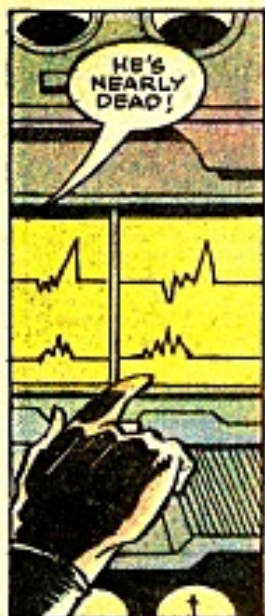


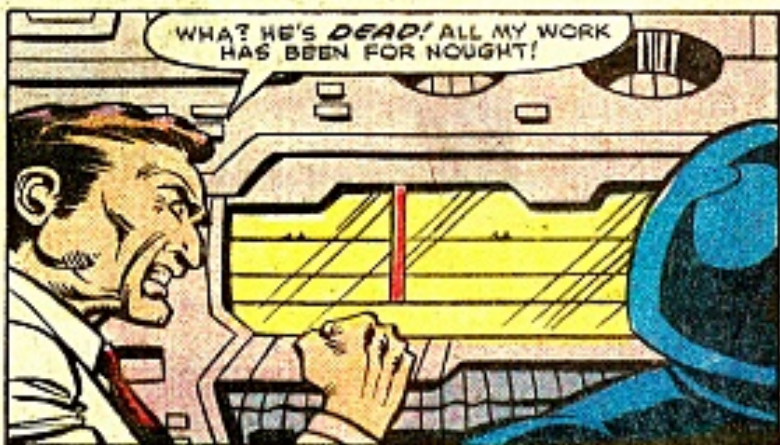
"THE PIZZA PARLOR IS A STOREROOM FOR POISON GAS!"

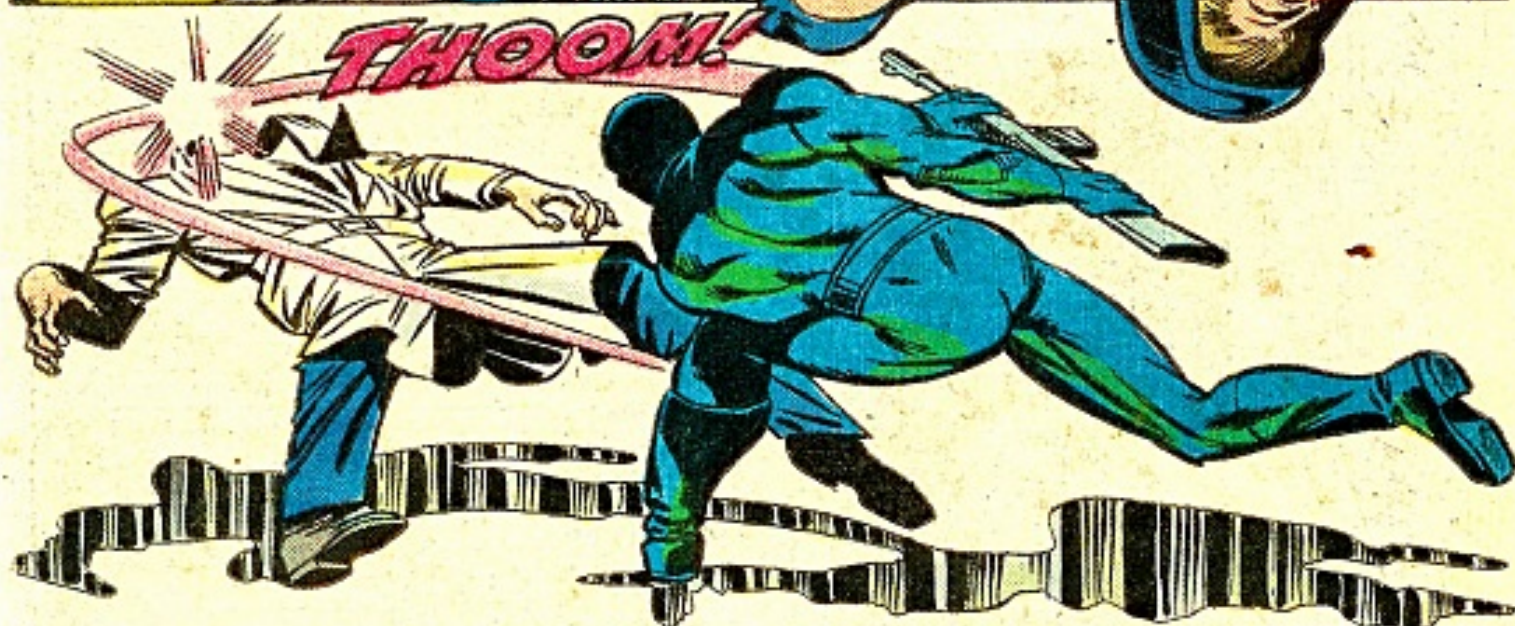


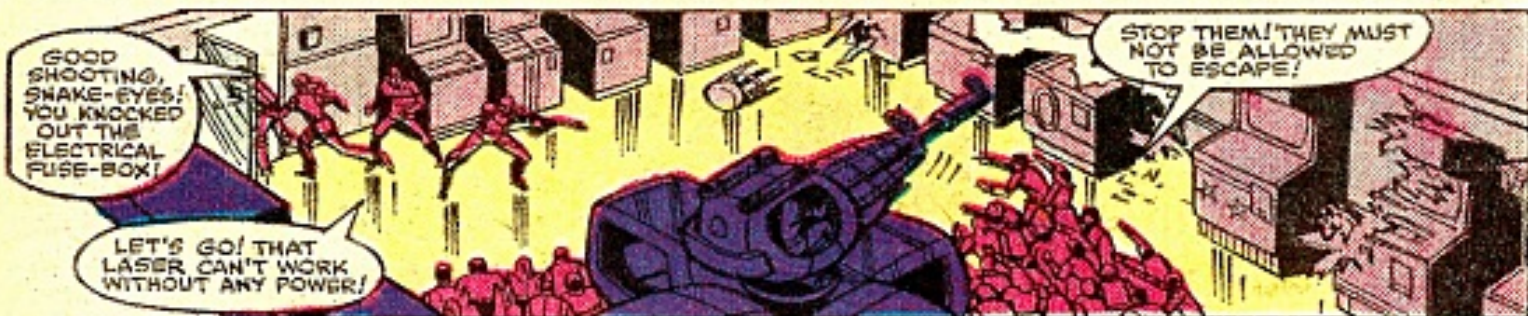
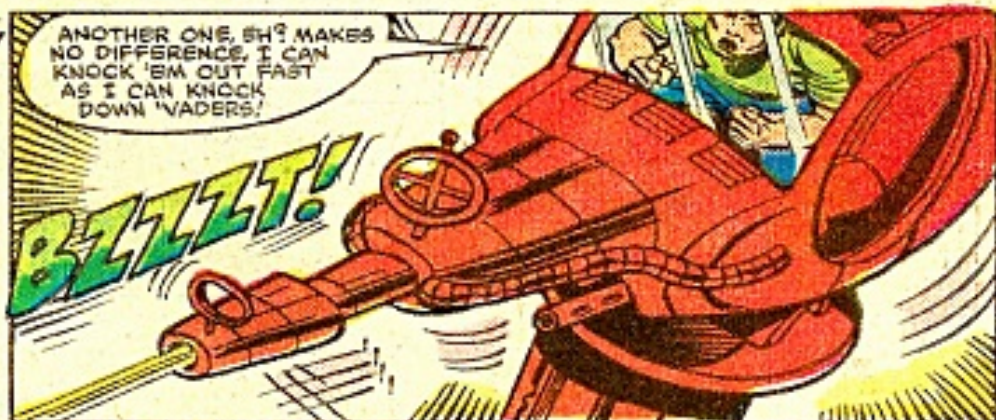
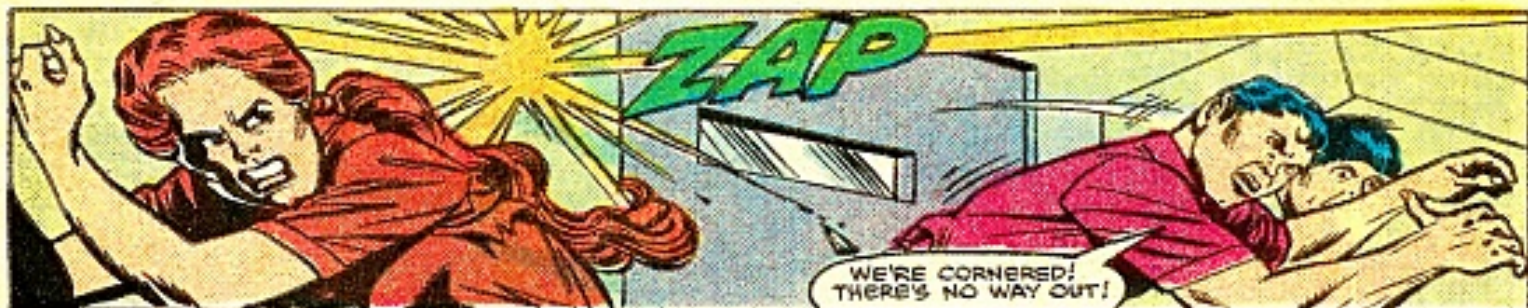












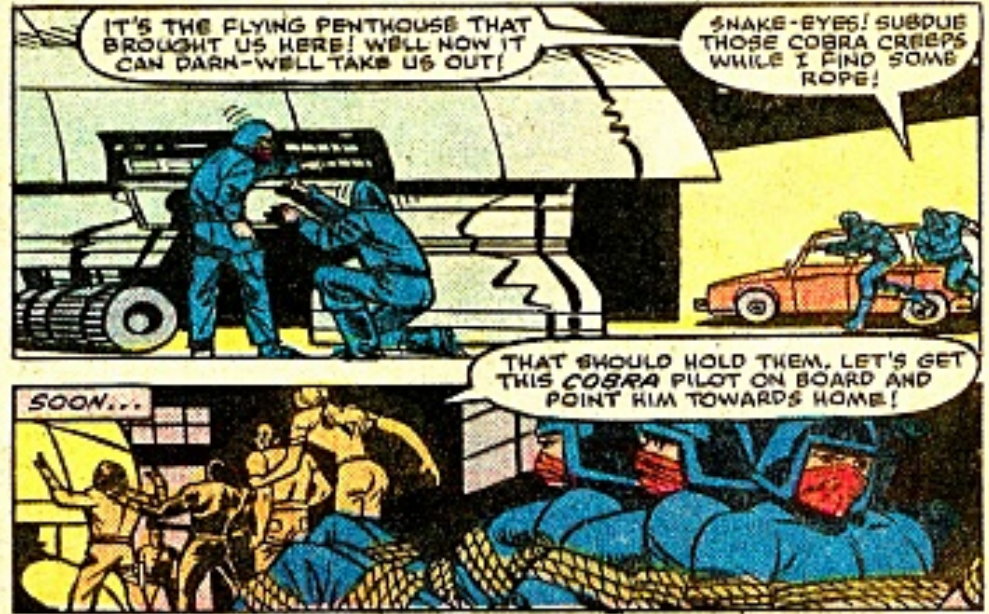


MINUTES LATER, AT SPRINGFIELD MUNICIPAL AIRPORT...

WOULDN'T THEY CLAMP A SECURITY LID ON THE AIRPORT ALSO?

NO. THEY ALWAYS PLAY IT SAFE -- CLOSE OFF THE PERIMETERS AT THE OUT-SKIRTS OF TOWN AND SWEEP INWARDS. THEY DON'T WANT TO ALARM ANY CASUAL TRAVELLERS JUST PASSING THROUGH.

PULL OVER BY THAT HANGAR, ZAP! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



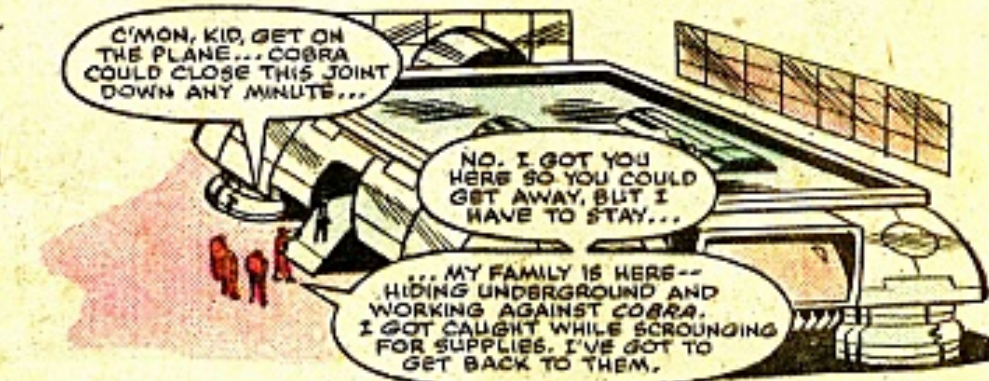
IT'S THE FLYING PENTHOUSE THAT BROUGHT US HERE! WELL NOW IT CAN DARN-WELL TAKE US OUT!

SNAKE-EYES! SUBDUE THOSE COBRA CREEPS WHILE I FIND SOME ROPE!

THAT SHOULD HOLD THEM. LET'S GET THIS COBRA PILOT ON BOARD AND POINT HIM TOWARDS HOME!



SOON...



C'MON, KID, GET ON THE PLANE... COBRA COULD CLOSE THIS JOINT DOWN ANY MINUTE...

NO. I GOT YOU HERE SO YOU COULD GET AWAY, BUT I HAVE TO STAY...

... MY FAMILY IS HERE -- HIDING UNDERGROUND AND WORKING AGAINST COBRA. I GOT CAUGHT WHILE SCROUNGING FOR SUPPLIES. I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THEM.



BESIDES, THIS IS MY HOME... I JUST CAN'T RUN AWAY... WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

YEAH, WE KNOW. LOOK, WE'LL COME BACK WITH HELP FOR YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. JUST HANG IN THERE, HUH?



ALL RIGHT, MR. COBRA PILOT, POINT THIS RIG TOWARDS NEW YORK CITY, AND LET'S GET MOVING!

NEW YORK? YOU'RE JOKING! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE YOU ARE? YOU'RE IN--

-- WHY, OF COURSE, YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE! YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS WHEN YOU WERE FLOWN IN! WELL, YOU AIN'T GETTIN' ANYTHING OUT O' ME!

SHAKE-EYES, KEEP AN EYE ON THIS CREEP. ME AND SCARLETT NEED A QUICK CONFERENCE IN THE AFT CABIN...

HE'S RIGHT! WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE WE ARE, AND WE'RE FLYING BLIND IN A STORM WITH AN UNCOOPERATIVE PILOT!

WE'VE GOT TO FLY TO A PLACE WE'RE SURE OF! ANY PLACE COULD BE ANOTHER COBRA FRONT!

**BLAM!**

**PUNCH! PUNCH! PUNCH! PUNCH!**

ZAP! CAN YOU TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS?

-- NOT WITH THE COMPASS AND NAVIGATION GEAR SHOT FULL OF HOLES!

I KNOW JUST ABOUT ENOUGH TO KEEP US FLYING LEVEL, BUT WE SURE WON'T KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING OR WHERE WE'VE BEEN FOR THAT MATTER--

ALL WE CAN DO IS FOLLOW THE PRESENT COURSE AND RIDE OUT THE STORM...



**Next: "THE PIPELINE PLOY"**  
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