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IRON MAN

A REAL AMERICAN HERO!

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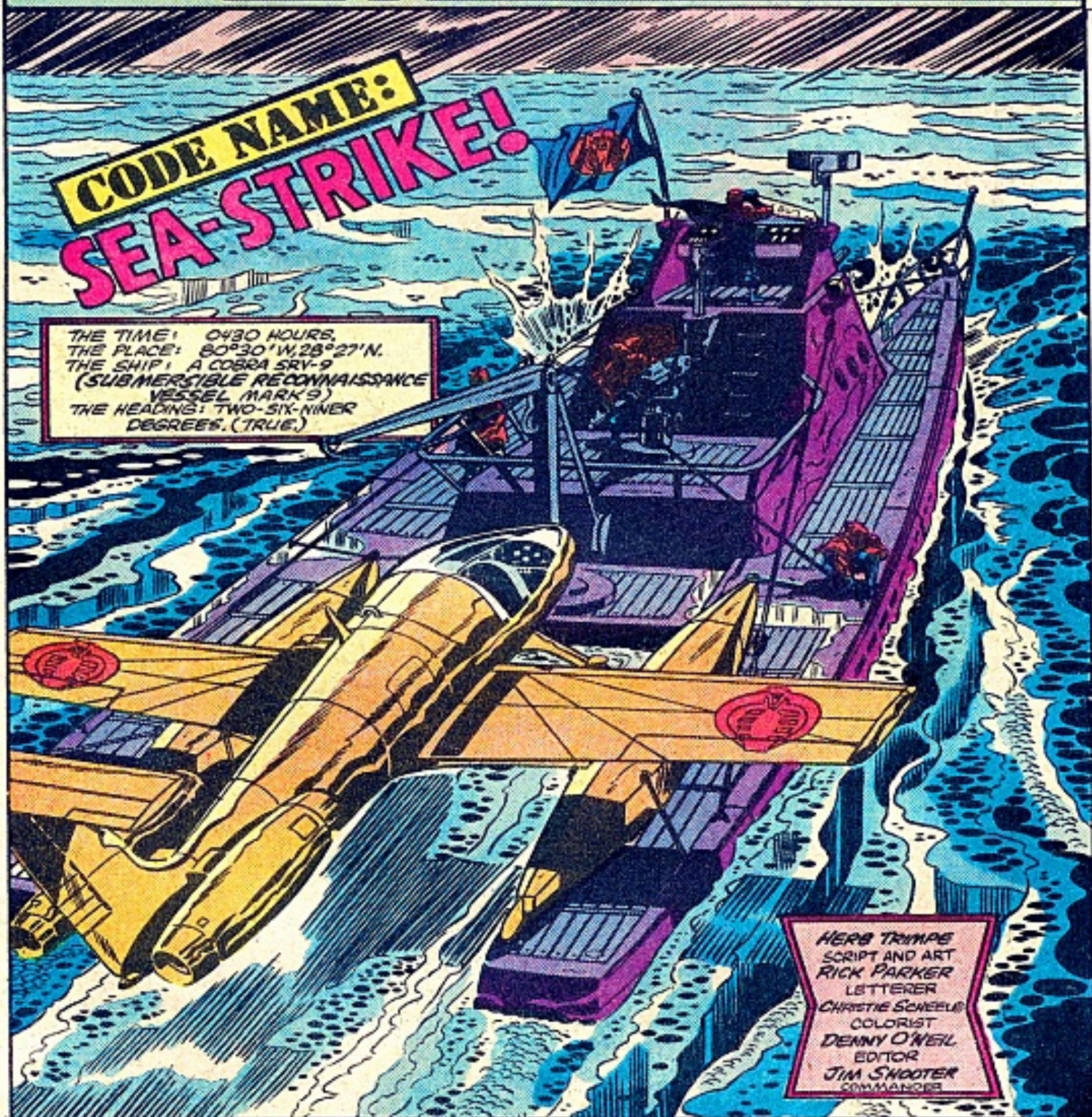
Quartered in top-secret armored underground bunkers, deep beneath the army chaplains assistant school at Fort Wadsworth, N. J., is the most fearsome rapid deployment team of all America's elite counter-terrorist strike force...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

G.I. JOE™ A REAL AMERICAN HERO™

**CODE NAME:
SEA-STRIKE!**

THE TIME: 0430 HOURS.
THE PLACE: 80°30'W, 28°27'N.
THE SHIP: A COBRA SRY-9
(SUBMERSIBLE RECONNAISSANCE
VESSEL MARK 9)
THE HEADING: TWO-SIX-NINER
DEGREES. (TRUE.)



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STEEL-HARD EYES STRAIN TO PENETRATE THE GRAYNESS OF THE WESTERN HORIZON...

ALL AHEAD, SLOW!



STEADY AS SHE GOES...



...STEADY...



...THERE!



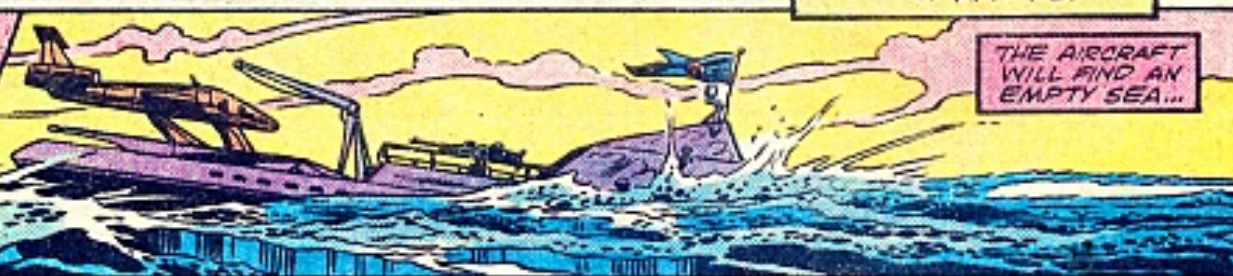
COMMANDER! HOSTILE AIRCRAFT, RANGE: FIVE MILES! E.T.A. *ONE MINUTE!

DIVE! DIVE!

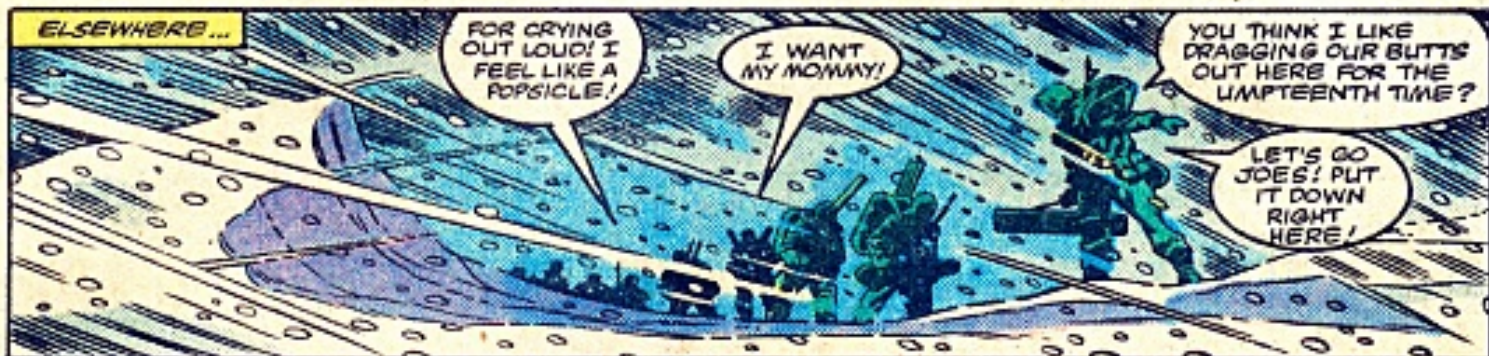
*E.T.A. = ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL.



IN SECONDS, THE WILD COASTAL WATERS ENGULF THE COBRA SPY SHIP.



THE AIRCRAFT WILL FIND AN EMPTY SEA...





YOU HEARD ME, WISE GUY! THAT SNOWBALL IS GOIN' TO COST YOU ONE HUNDRED BUCKS OUT OF NEXT MONTH'S PAY!

SHUT OFF THOSE BLOWERS UP THERE! I WANT YOU JOES TO LISTEN UP NOW!

OH, OH, HERE IT COMES! HAWK HAS A REAL MISSION FOR US!

TWO WEEKS OF THE ICEBOX—AND NOW I GET THE FEELING THAT THE OTHER SHOE IS ABOUT TO BE DROPPED!



WE'VE JUST HAD A HOT ONE HANDED TO US! WE'RE GOING TO THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER-- TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR A NEW SATELLITE THAT'S GOING TO BE PUT INTO ORBIT BY THE SPACE SHUTTLE!

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THIS THING WILL LOCATE-- AND DESTROY-- THE NETWORK OF UNDERWATER LAUNCH SITES-- THAT INTELLIGENCE TELLS US THAT COBRA IS BUILDING!



THE BAD NEWS IS THAT WE THINK COBRA KNOWS THAT WE KNOW! WE'VE SPOTTED ONE OF THEIR S.R.V.'S OFF CANAVERAL! THEY MAY HAVE SOMETHING UP THEIR SLEEVE!



HOW MANY OF US ARE IN ON THIS ONE, HAWK?

ALL OF US, SCARLETT! FULL GEAR, VEHICLES AND TOWED WEAPONS! DETAILED BRIEFING IN EXACTLY TEN MINUTES!



JUST LIKE THE ARMY! TRAIN US IN THE SNOW THEN SEND US TO FLORIDA!

CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY TO BE IN ON THIS ONE, ROCK N' ROLL! WE'RE GOING TO RUN COBRA'S TAILS RIGHT OFF THE BOARDS-- BEFORE THEY CAN GET ANY OF THEIR LAUNCH SITES COMPLETED!

HOWEVER, AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT...

FRIENDLY
VESSEL IN
QUADRANT
FOUR!

LASER SHIELD IS DOWN!
MAINTAIN DEPTH OF TWELVE
THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED
METERS!

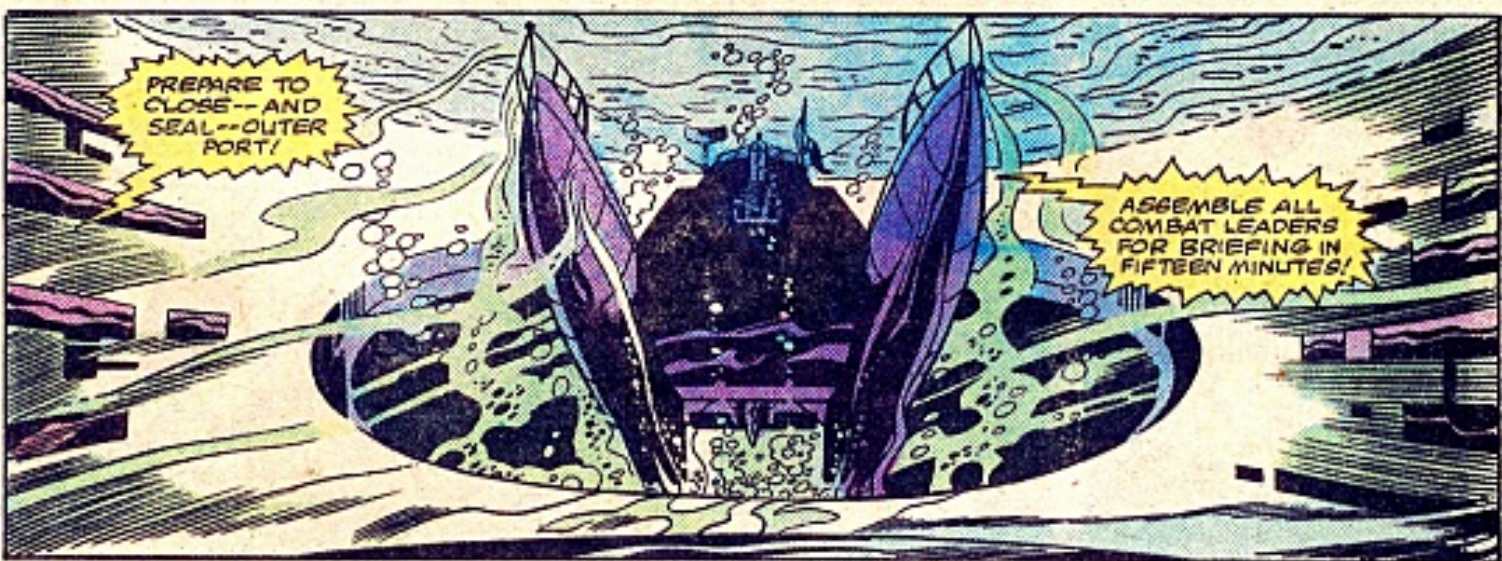
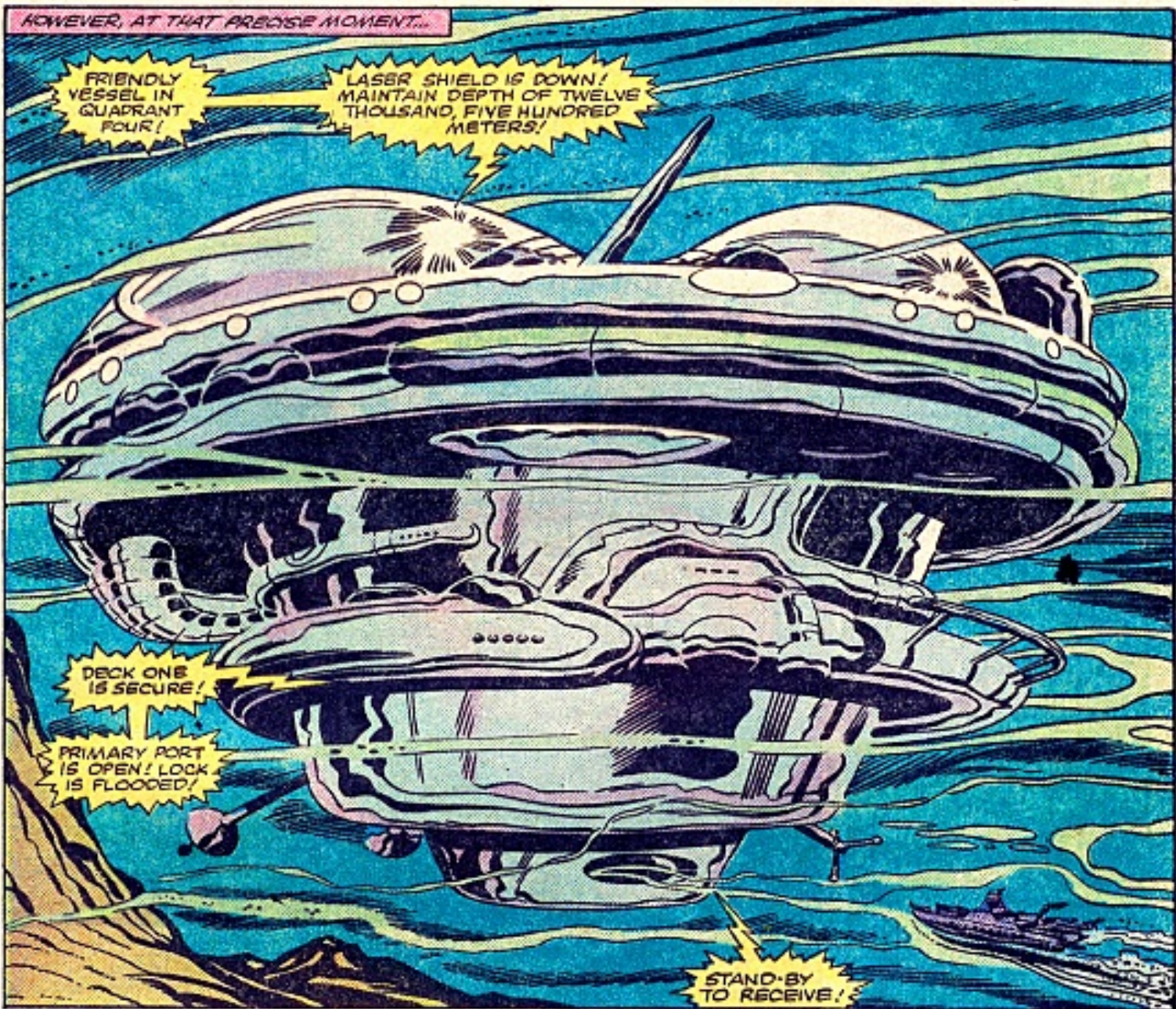
DECK ONE
IS SECURE!

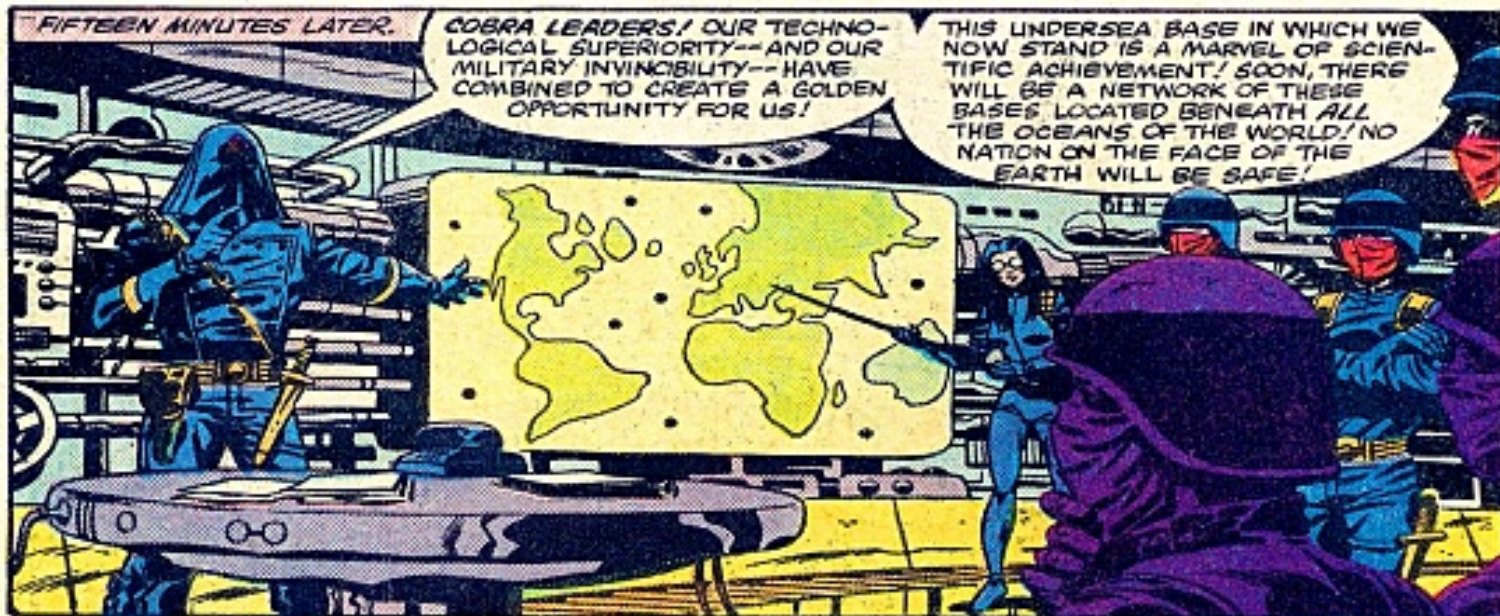
PRIMARY PORT
IS OPEN! LOCK
IS FLOODED!

STAND-BY
TO RECEIVE!

PREPARE TO
CLOSE-- AND
SEAL-- OUTER
PORT!

ASSEMBLE ALL
COMBAT LEADERS
FOR BRIEFING IN
FIFTEEN MINUTES!





FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER.

COBRA LEADERS! OUR TECHNOLOGICAL SUPERIORITY-- AND OUR MILITARY INVINCIBILITY-- HAVE COMBINED TO CREATE A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR US!

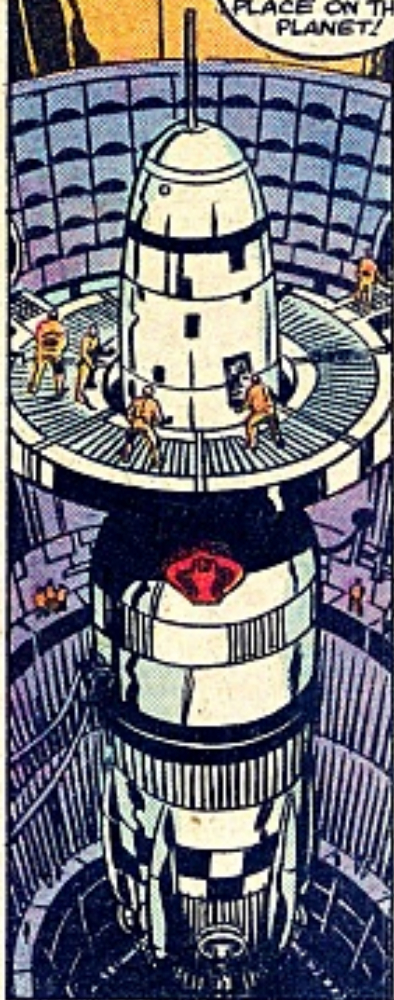
THIS UNDERSEA BASE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND IS A MARVEL OF SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT! SOON, THERE WILL BE A NETWORK OF THESE BASES LOCATED BENEATH ALL THE OCEANS OF THE WORLD! NO NATION ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH WILL BE SAFE!



IN TWO DAYS WE TEST FIRE OUR FIRST ORBITAL MISSILE! THEREAFTER, SATELLITES WILL BE LAUNCHED INTO ORBIT THE HUNDREDS!

WARHEADS WILL BE POISED TO STRIKE ANY PLACE ON THE PLANET!

WE WILL DOMINATE THE EARTH AND SKY! IT WILL BE OUR FIRST STEP IN RULING THE COSMOS ITSELF!



THE WORLD WILL SOON BE OURS.

OUR LASER SHIELDS ARE TOO SOPHISTICATED FOR US TO BE DETECTED BY CONVENTIONAL METHODS-- AND OUR SEABASE RIDES TOO DEEP TO BE ATTACKED FROM THE SURFACE!

BUT, DUE TO FIFTH COLUMNISTS AND CAPITALIST LACKEYS WITHIN OUR OWN RANKS, THE AMERICANS KNOW THAT WE ARE HERE!

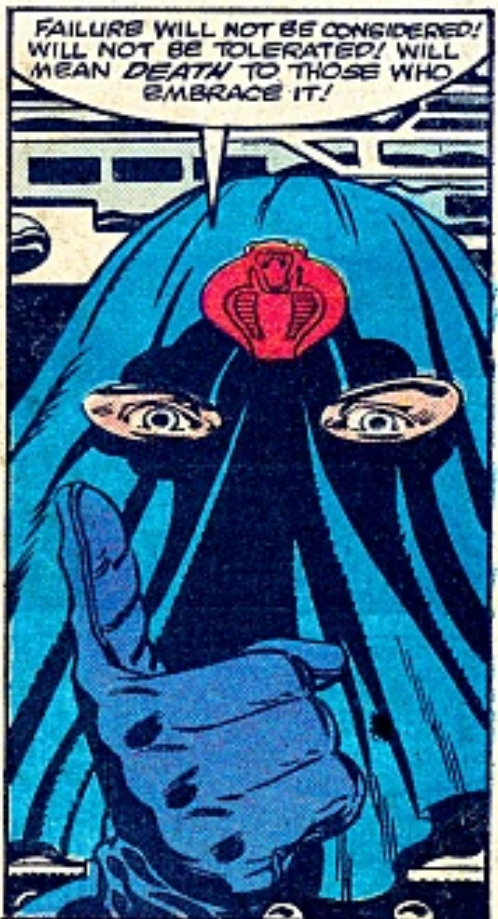


DON'T WORRY, MY DEAR *BARONESS!* THEY STILL DON'T KNOW OUR PRE-CISE LOCATION!

EVEN NOW, THEY ARE PREPARING TO LAUNCH A SPECIAL SATELLITE! ONE WHICH WILL BE ABLE TO LOCATE-- AND DESTROY-- OUR SEABASES FROM ORBIT!



BUT, *COBRA*, IN ONE MAGNIFICENT MOVE, WILL ATTACK AND DESTROY-- NOT ONLY THEIR SPACE SHUTTLE AND THE SATELLITE IT WILL CARRY-- BUT THEIR ENTIRE SPACE COMPLEX AS WELL!



FAILURE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED! WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! WILL MEAN DEATH TO THOSE WHO EMBRACE IT!



FATE HAS PLACED THE SWORD IN OUR HAND! WE WILL STRIKE WITH IT TOMORROW AT DAWN AND WE WILL BE VICTORIOUS!



MEANWHILE, AT THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER...



WELL, HAWK, WE MADE IT! A PIECE OF CAKE SO FAR!

DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS, SOLDIER! WE'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO!

A PAID VACATION TO FLORIDA IN AUGUST! HEY, WHICH WAY TO THE BEACH?

LET'S GO, STEELER! LAST ONE OFF EMPTIES THE ASH TRAYS!

LATER, AT THE FINAL BRIEFING...

THERE WILL BE TWO RINGS OF DEFENSE AROUND THE SHUTTLE AT ALL TIMES--AN INNER RING AND AN OUTER RING!



THE INNER RING WILL MAINTAIN A DISTANCE OF NOT MORE THAN 100 YARDS FROM THE SHUTTLE!

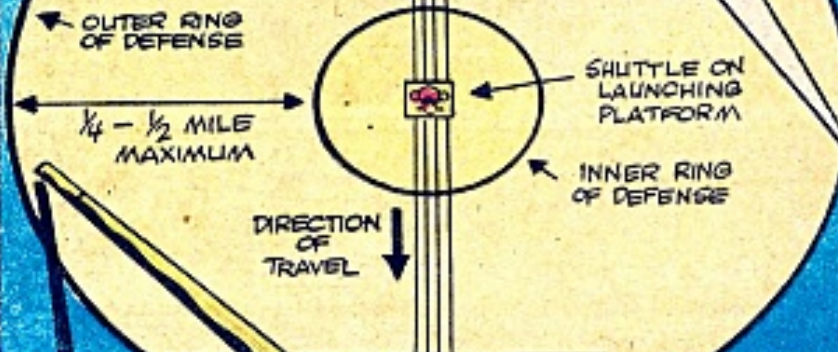
THOSE IN THE INNER RING ARE ZAP, SHORT FUSE, SCARLETT, SNAKE EYES, AND MYSELF.



THE OUTER RING WILL BE A MOBILE DEFENSE OPERATING AT A DISTANCE OF NOT MORE THAN ONE QUARTER TO ONE HALF MILE FROM THE SHUTTLE AT ALL TIMES!

MAPS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED--SO THAT YOU CAN BEST WORK OUT YOUR COURSE OF MOVEMENT--AS THE SHUTTLE IS MOVED FROM THE VEHICLE ASSEMBLY BUILDING TO THE LAUNCH SITE!

THOSE IN THE OUTER RING WILL BE STEELER AND GRUNT IN THE MOBAT! THEY WILL TOW THE MISSILE LAUNCHER! ROCK'N ROLL WILL BE ON HIS BIKE! CLUTCH AND RANGER WILL BE IN THE VAMP, TOWING THE LASER CANNON WITH GRAND SLAM ABOARD!



MOBAT - MULTI-ORDNANCE BATTLE TANK.
VAMP - VEHICLE: ATTACK/MULTI-PURPOSE.

STALKER WILL BE IN COMMAND OF THE OUTER RING!

RIGHT, HAWK!



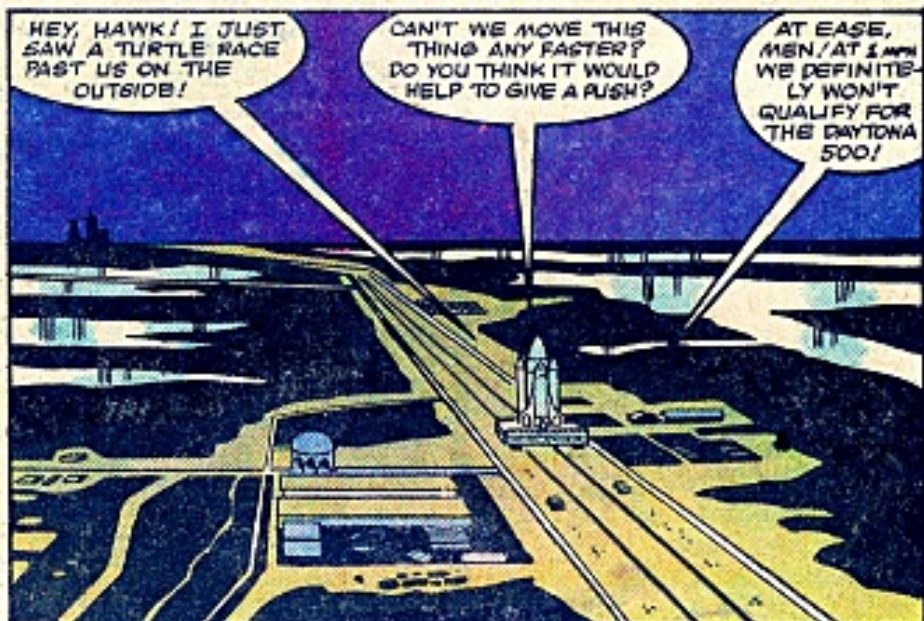
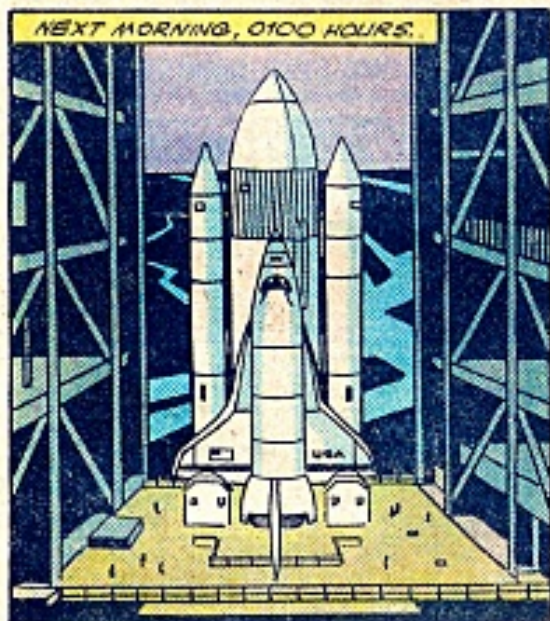
FLASH AND BREAKER WILL REPORT TO THE SHUTTLE ORBITER MANAGER!

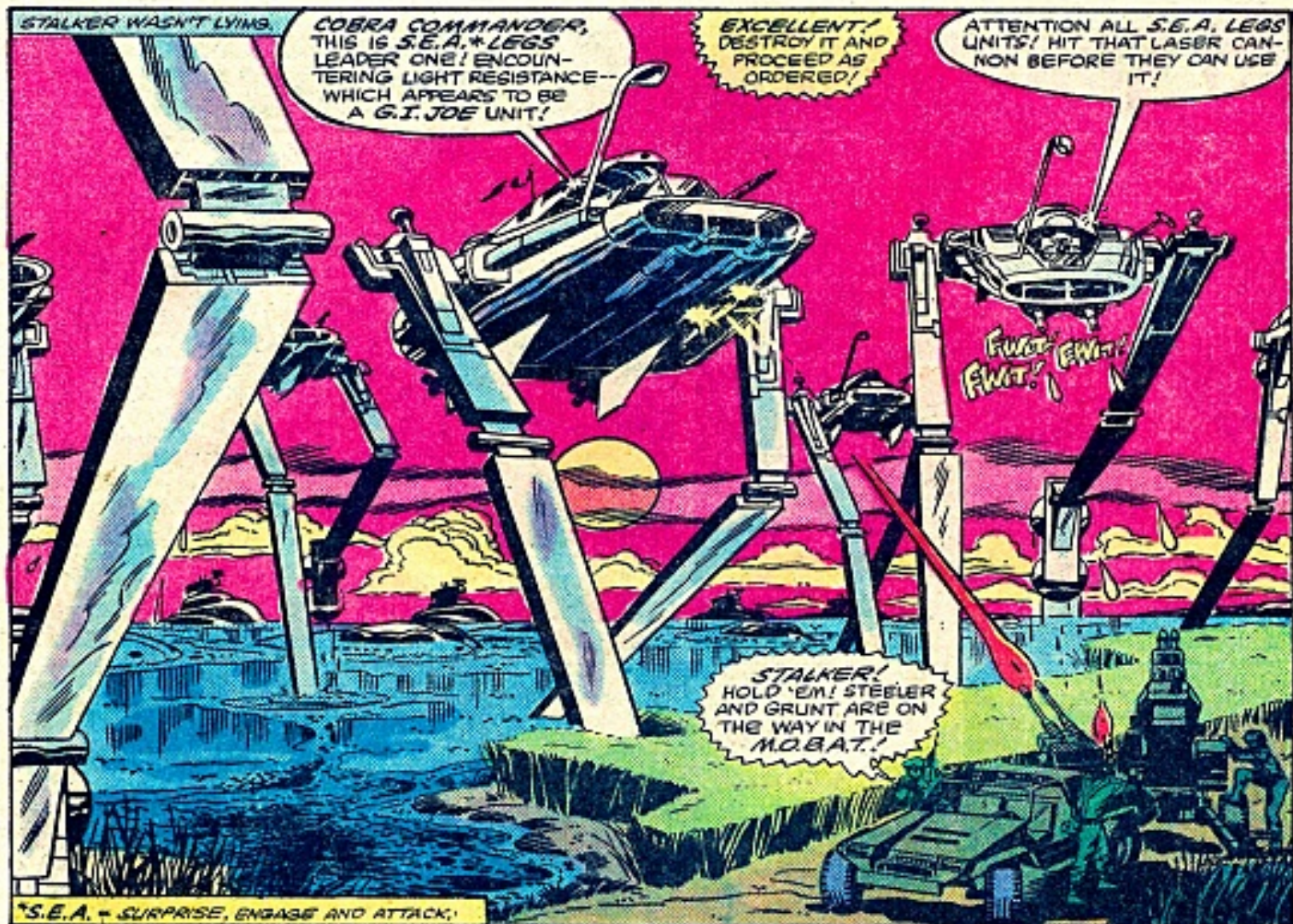


YOU WILL BE WITH THE SHUTTLE AT ALL TIMES, INCLUDING LAUNCH, ORBIT, RE-ENTRY AND LANDING!

UH-OH, STOCK UP ON THE AIR SICK BAGS! BREAKER'S TURNING GREEN!







STALKER WASN'T LYING.

COBRA COMMANDER,
THIS IS S.E.A. *LEGS
LEADER ONE! ENCOUN-
TERING LIGHT RESISTANCE--
WHICH APPEARS TO BE
A G.I. JOE UNIT!

EXCELLENT!
DESTROY IT AND
PROCEED AS
ORDERED!

ATTENTION ALL S.E.A. LEGS
UNITS! HIT THAT LASER CAN-
NON BEFORE THEY CAN USE
IT!

FURT FURT!
FURT FURT!

STALKER!
HOLD 'EM! STEELER
AND GRUNT ARE ON
THE WAY IN THE
MO.B.A.T.!

*S.E.A. = SURPRISE, ENGAGE AND ATTACK!

LISTEN, HAWK! WE'RE
CAUGHT IN THE OPEN--
AND THEY'RE ALL
AROUND US! AS ONE
GENERAL PUT IT, WE'VE
GOT TO ADVANCE...
TO THE REAR!



TIME, COLONEL!
WE NEED TIME!
LIFT-OFF IS ONE
HOUR AND COUNT-
ING! THERE'S NO
WAY WE CAN
SPEED IT UP!



YOU HEAR
THAT, STALKER!
HOLD 'EM!
THAT'S AN
ORDER!



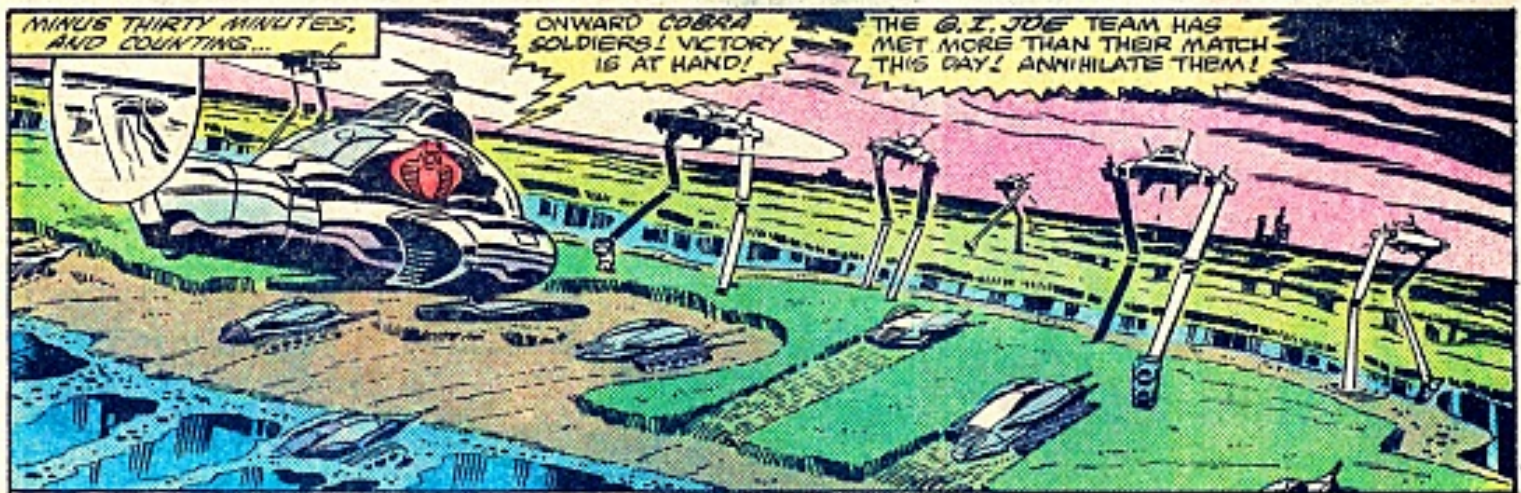
FRANK!

BULLS-
EYE!
I GOT
ONE OF
THEM!

JUMP
GRAND
SLAM!
JUMP!



WAAAYUUMP!





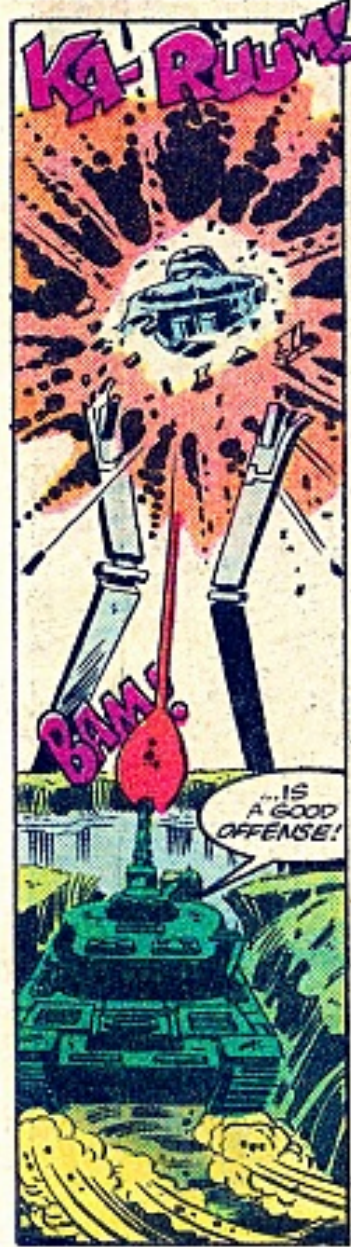
FORGET THE LAUNCHER, GRUNT!
LOOKS LIKE COBRA'S UNNITCHED
IT FOR US!



AND ON SECOND THOUGHT, BUTT
HER UP, GRUNT! I NEVER WAS
MUCH FOR WAITING!



BESIDES, THE
BEST DEFENSE...



KA-ROUM!

...IS
A GOOD
OFFENSE!



FAW-LMP!

BOOM!



LET'S TRY
A GRENADE
UP THE TAIL
PIPE!



BA-WHAM!

HE'LL
NEVER
WALK
AGAIN!



HEY, LOOK
WHO'S HERE!

SORRY I'M
LATE, BOYS!



... BUT I MADE A WRONG TURN AT
THE LAST ALLIGATOR!

SPALOOOSH!



COMMANDER! THE S.E.A. LEGS HAVE FAILED! THEY'RE FALLING BACK!

I HAVE EYES, BARONESS! THEY WERE EXPENDABLE! AS IS EVERYTHING IN ATTAINING OUR GOAL!



AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT GUNS! MOVE FORWARD! YOU KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE!

YES, EXCELLENCY! WE SHALL CRUSH THE ENEMY!

HERE COMES THE HEAVY STUFF!



WE'VE STOPPED THEM, *HAWK*, BUT NOT FOR LONG! THERE'S A WALL OF STEEL MOVING OUR WAY! WE NEED REINFORCEMENTS-- AND WE NEED THEM NOW!



I'M WAY AHEAD OF YOU, STALKER! I'VE GOT A BIRD'S-EYE-VIEW OF THE ACTION FROM HERE-- AND I SENT OUT THE REST OF THE TEAM FIVE MINUTES AGO!



MINUS TEN MINUTES, AND COUNTING...



SOUNDS LIKE THE PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH COBRAS-- BUT I CAN'T SEE A THING!

HEY! WHAT'S THAT MOVING IN THE GRASS OVER THERE?



LAND TORPEDO!

NO TIME TO RUN, GRUNT! GET YOUR HEAD DOWN!



KRABOOM!



THAT SHOT MAY HAVE KNOCKED OUT OUR ELECTRONICS-- BUT WE STILL HAVE OUR PUNCH! FIRE!

GOOD SHOT, GRUNT! SWING FIFTEEN DEGREES RIGHT-- AND FIRE AGAIN! WE'VE GOT TO HOLD 'EM 'TIL THE OTHER JOES SHOW!

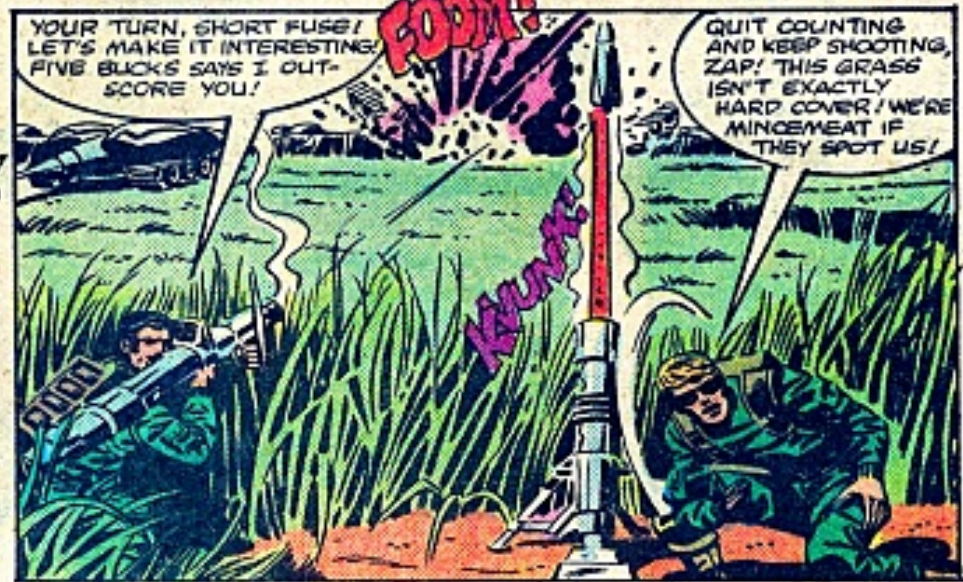
WROOOM!

POW!



WE'RE HERE, STEELER! BUT WE'D RATHER BE HEARD AND NOT SEEN!

FOOOOSH!



YOUR TURN, SHORT FUSE! LET'S MAKE IT INTERESTING! FIVE BUCKS SAYS I OUT-SCORE YOU!

BOOM!

QUIT COUNTING AND KEEP SHOOTING, ZAP! THIS GRASS ISN'T EXACTLY HARD COVER! WE'RE MINCEMEAT IF THEY SPOT US!

KRUNK!



I ABSOLUTELY HATE CARRYING HANDBAGS! I'LL LET YOU GUYS HAVE IT!



FANNOOM!



COBRA COMMANDER! WE HAVE EVADED THEM! THE SHUTTLE IS IN RANGE! WE ARE--



FWOOSH!

SPROOSH!



THEY HAVE WON, COMMANDER!

NONSENSE, MY DEAR BARONESS! OBSERVE THAT THE SHUTTLE IS UNPROTECTED!

WHILE MY PAWNS KEEP G. I. JOE BUSY, I WILL STRIKE OUR TARGET-- WITH A WIRE-GUIDED COBALT MISSILE!



GOOD GOSH! THAT MISSILE'S COMING RIGHT AT US!

THIRTY YEARS IN UNIFORM... ... AND IT'S DOWN TO ONE BULLET, ONE CHANCE!

TEN!
NINE!
EIGHT!
SEVEN!
SIX!
FIVE!
FOUR!
THREE!
TWO!

CAN'T LET IT GET TOO CLOSE... NOW!

ROOOOM!



THEY HAVE LIFT-OFF, COMMANDER. SOMEONE DESTROYED THE MISSILE AT THE LAST POSSIBLE SECOND!

DO NOT DESPAIR, BARONESS! WE HAVE MORE CARDS YET TO PLAY!

ZERO!

KRAK! PROOOOOMMM!



AND THERE IS SOME SMALL SATISFACTION IN KNOWING THAT AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE G.I. JOE TEAM HAS BEEN BURNED TO A CINDER.



WHWEE! I MANAGED TO DUCK INTO THIS BLAST SHELTER WITH SECONDS TO SPARE!

THIS IS HAWK! STAND BY FOR PICK UP BY AQUA-CHOPPER!



MEANWHILE...

HEY, BREAKER! SOME RIDE, HUH?

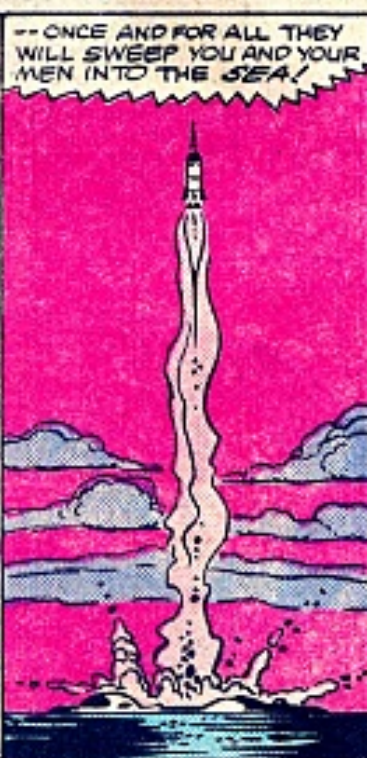
OH, YEAH, FLASH... AH... SURPÉ SOME... UH... RIDE!



COMMANDER, WE MUST RETURN TO OUR SEA BASE -- AND PREPARE OUR DEFENSES! G.I. JOE WILL CERTAINLY FOLLOW US!

YES, BARONESS, WE WILL RETURN, BUT NOT TO PREPARE OUR DEFENSES! BELIEVE IT OR NOT, BARONESS, WE'RE STILL...

...ON THE ATTACK!



MEANWHILE, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILES UP.

BREAKER!
FLASH!
HOUSTON'S ON
THE HORN!

COBRA HAS FIRED A MISSILE AT
US. THERE'S NOT A DAMN THING
WE CAN DO ABOUT THE SATELLITE
AT THIS POINT-- BUT WE'RE
GOING TO TRY A ONE-SECOND
BURN-- TO SEE IF WE CAN'T
MOVE THIS FLYING STEAM
IRON OUT OF THE WAY!

IT'LL TAKE A
COUPLE OF
MINUTES TO
GET THIS
SHUTTLE
MOVING!



NO TIME, COMMANDER!
I CAN SEE THE MISSILE
NOW! IF YOU'VE GOT A
CEMENT SUIT IN THERE,
YOU'D BETTER PUT IT ON!

SORRY WE'RE OUTTA LUCK IN THAT DEPARTMENT!
NICE KNOWING YOU GUYS, THOUGH! BE SEEING YOU
IN THAT GREAT BRIEFING ROOM IN THE SKY!

C'MON, FLASH! YOU'RE THE GEN-
IUG AROUND HERE! THINK OF
SOMETHING!

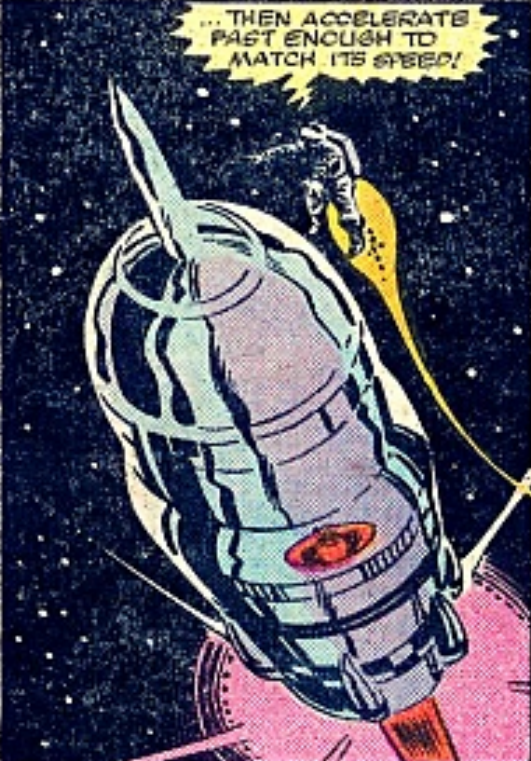
I'M THINKING!
I'M THINKING!

HEY! I THINK
I'VE GOT AN
IDEA! IT'S CRA-
ZY, BUT IT JUST
MIGHT WORK!

HOPE I CAN
SLOW DOWN AT
JUST THE RIGHT
MOMENT...



... THEN ACCELERATE PAST ENOUGH TO MATCH ITS SPEED!



NOW, IN A VACUUM, THE FULL POWER OF MY BACK-PACK SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO ALTER THIS MONGER'S TRAJECTORY!

THIS SUCKER'S INTERNAL GYROS ARE FIGHTING TO MAINTAIN COURSE!



C'MON, BABY, MOVE JUST A LITTLE!



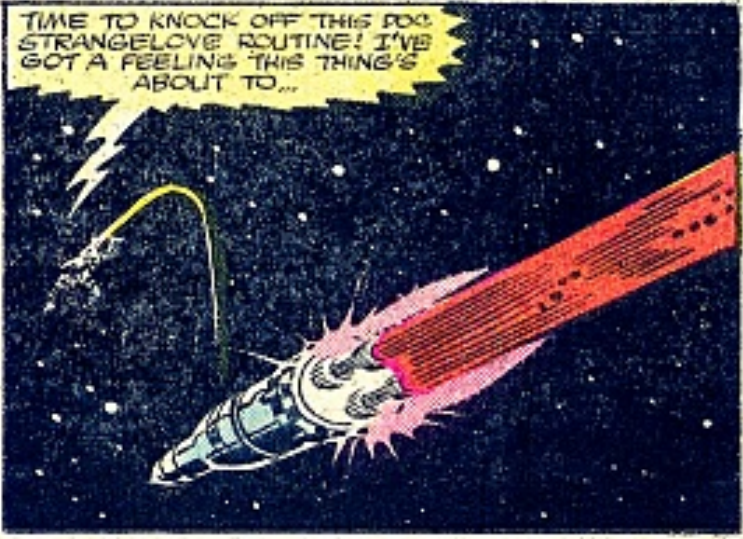
CUTTING IT KIND OF CLOSE, AREN'T WE, FELLA?



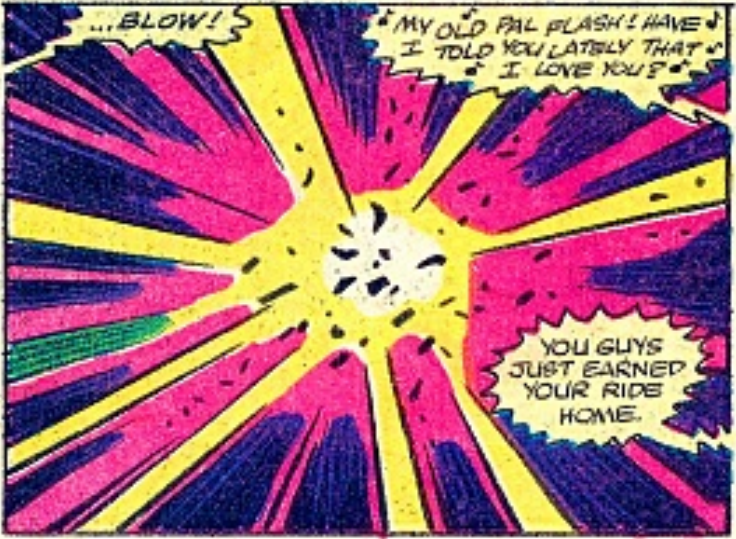
HE DID IT!

I DID IT!

YOU DID IT!



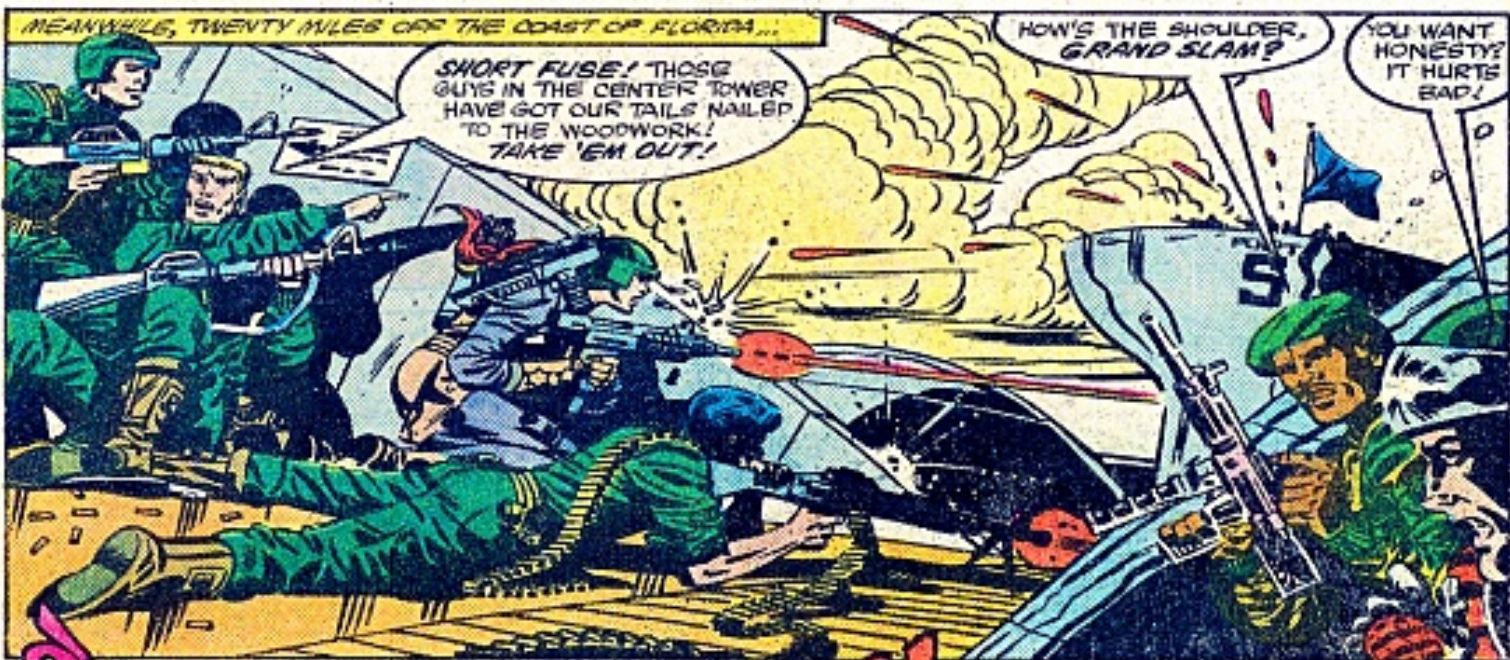
TIME TO KNOCK OFF THIS DOO-STRANGELOVE ROUTINE! I'VE GOT A FEELING THIS THING'S ABOUT TO...



...BLOW!

MY OLD PAL FLASH! HAVE I TOLD YOU LATELY THAT I LOVE YOU?

YOU GUYS JUST EARNED YOUR RIDE HOME.





ROUND THEM UP, JOES!
THEN, WE'VE GOT TO GET
INSIDE-- AND FERRET OUT
THE MAIN FERRET!

CORRECTION! YOU HAD BETTER
EXTRICATE YOURSELVES FROM THE
COBRA SEA-BASE! ALTHOUGH YOUR
DAMNABLE LUCK HAS BOUGHT YOU
MORE TIME IN THIS LITTLE DRAMA--

-- I AM PLEASED TO INFORM
YOU HOW PRECIOUS **LITTLE**
YOU HAVE LEFT-- AND THAT
THE DRAMA IS ABOUT TO
BE PLAYED OUT!



-- WHILE THE BARONESS AND I
ESCAPE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY!
YOU AND YOURS WILL BE ATOMIZED
BY A FAIL-SAFE DEVICE SET TO
DETONATE IN FIVE MINUTES!

DISARMING THIS
DEVICE WILL BE QUITE
IMPOSSIBLE GIVEN THE
AMOUNT OF TIME LEFT!
FAREWELL!



YOU HEARD THE MAN!
CHECK THE SEA-SURVIVAL
KITS-- AND HUSTLE
EVERYBODY INTO THE
CHOPPER! GET THOSE
PRISONERS MOVING!



BAD NEWS, HAWK! THEY GOT THE
CHOPPER EARLY IN THE GAME!
ONLY THINGS WE SAVED WERE
THE SURVIVAL KITS!



WELL, HANG IT ALL! OPEN THOSE
KITS AND INFLATE THE RAFTS!

GET THEM OVER THE
SIDE AND HERD THESE
COBRA CUTIES INTO
THEM ON THE
DOUBLE!

YOU
HEARD
THE
MAN!



YOU CAN SHOOT US-- BUT WE
WILL NOT LEAVE! WE SERVE
COBRA COMMANDER TO THE
END! WE HAVE FAILED AND
WILL STAY TO MEET OUR
FATE!



SUIT YOURSELF!
WE'RE ONLY ASK-
ING ONCE!

STALKER, LEAVE
SOME SURVIVAL-
KITS BEHIND JUST
IN CASE THEY CHANGE
THEIR MINDS!





NICE SHOT, ZAP! YOU DID IT!

BURP BURPLE BURP!

I KNOW, MAN! YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WET POWDER WITH THESE ROCKET PROJECTILES OF MINE!

DO YOU THINK THE COBRA COMMANDER'S FINALLY DOWN?



I'LL TELL YOU, HAWK, THIS'D BE ALMOST HILARIOUS IF THERE WEREN'T SO MANY PEOPLE HURT—AND DYING!

WHAT A WAY TO MAKE A LIVING!

STALKER, THIS IS ONE OLD WAR-HORSE THAT'S STARTING TO BELIEVE THAT CREEP WILL ALWAYS BE JUST ONE STEP AHEAD OF US!

THAT GUY'S GOT MORE ESCAPE ROUTES THAN HOLIDAY!

WHA--?

NO!



WELL, TEAM, WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE THE POWERS-THAT-BE WILL SEND US NEXT?

RIGHT! THEN, THEY'LL PROBABLY SEND US TO THE SAHARA!

FIRST, IT WILL BE TWO WEEKS TRAINING IN THE SEA TANKS, RIGHT?

AMEN.

FINIS?

NEXT ISSUE: THE DIPLOMAT



DARTH_SCANNER
DARTH_SCANNER



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