



**1** July  
2004  
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**GENERAL  
READERS**

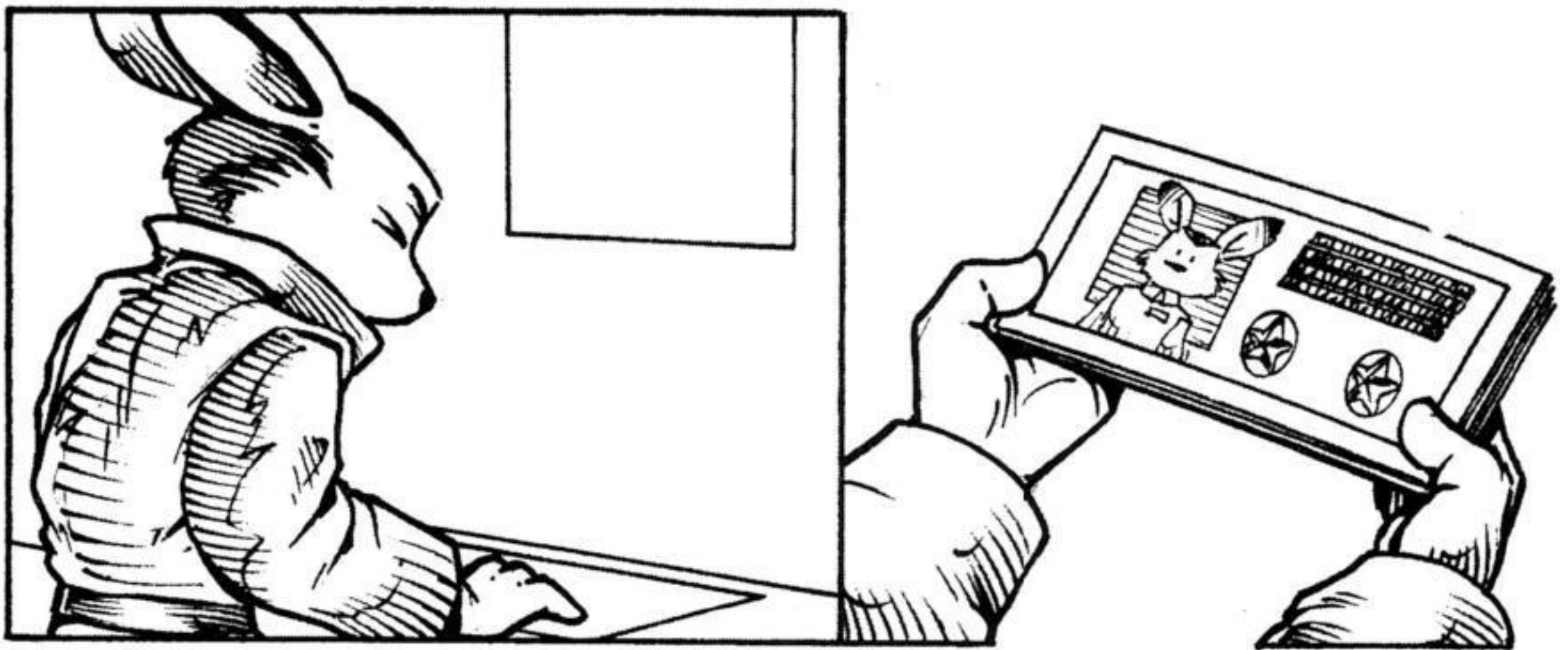
# ALBEDO

## ANTHROPOMORPHICS

**VOL. 5 NR. 1**







CAPTAIN?



LIEUTENANT...  
TO WHOM DO YOU PLACE  
YOUR LOYALTIES? WHAT  
CAUSE DO YOU CALL YOUR  
OWN?

UHHM...  
I'D LIKE TO THINK I'M A  
LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE  
REPUBLIC.



AS ARE WE ALL.

BUT WHAT DOES THAT  
MEAN? OBEDIENT SLAVES TO  
THE WHIM OF AUTHORITY?

OR ACTIVE AGENTS OF  
OUR NATIONAL INTEREST?  
COMPUTER!

WHAT DO YOU SEE  
AS OUR NATIONAL  
INTERESTS?

TRICKY QUESTION. THE GOAL OF  
THE CURRENT CONFLICT IS TO PRE-EMPT  
IMAGINED CONFED AGGRESSION AGAINST  
THE REPUBLIC.

THIS WOULD ALLOW THE DOMESTIC  
SOCIOECONOMIC PROCESS TO  
CONTINUE A WHILE LONGER WITH  
THE HOPE TO MAINTAIN CIVIL  
ORDER.

AND YOU  
DISAPPROVE?

I DON'T NEED PROFLIGATE MATERIAL  
CONSUMPTION. I UNDERSTAND YOUR  
DESIRE FOR 'THINGS' AND HOW THE  
STATE HAS ENCOURAGED THE CYCLE  
OF OBEDIENCE AND REWARD.

AND WHAT ELSE  
WOULD WE DO?

I DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF LIFE.  
BUT YOUR CURRENT LIFE STYLE SIMPLY  
CAN'T BE MAINTAINED INDEFINITELY.  
AND THE CITIZENRY IS INCREASINGLY  
BECOMING MERE CONSUMER DEPENDENTS  
OF THE STATE WHILE GIVING UP MORE  
ACTUAL PARTICIPATION AS CITIZENS.





I DO NOT LIKE WHERE THIS CONVERSATION IS LEADING.

YES.

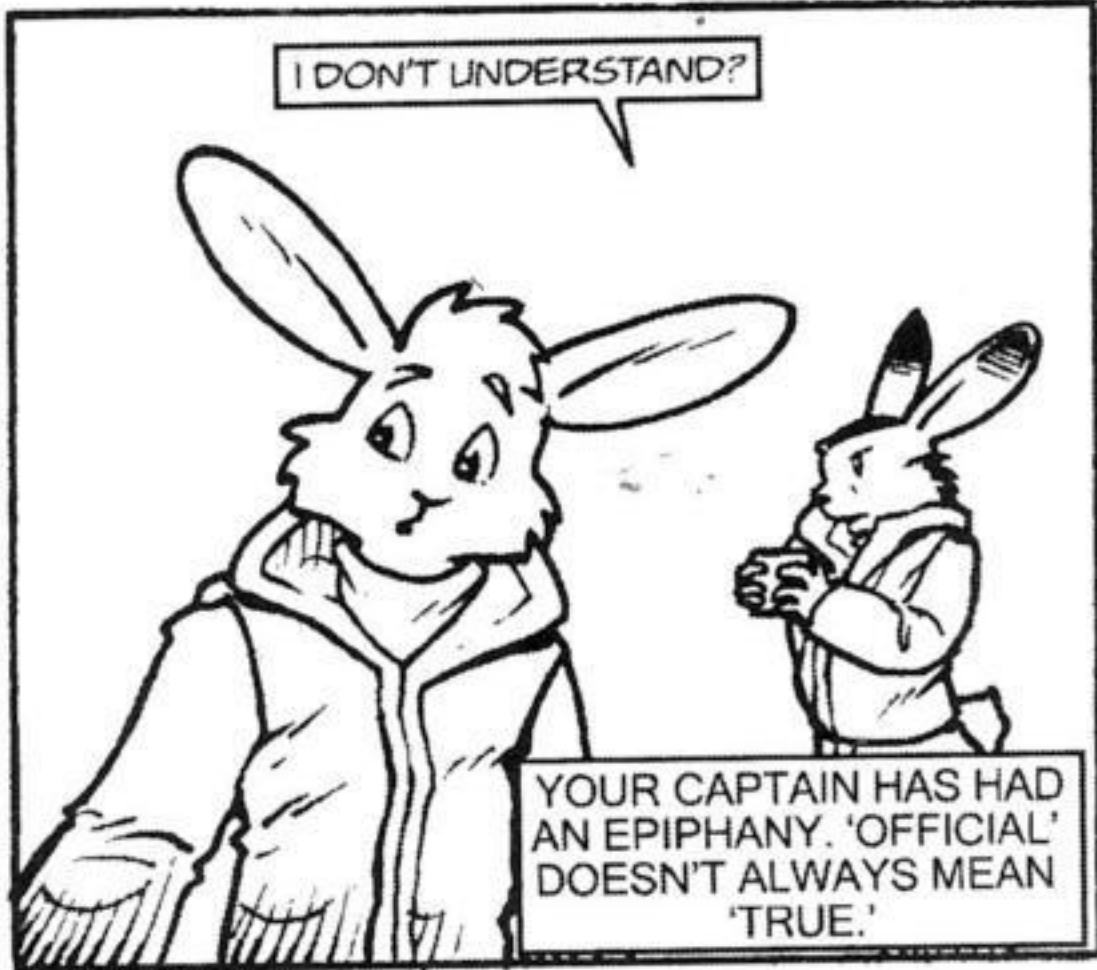
MAY I PRESUME THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO GRASP AT HOW TO BETTER SERVE THE REPUBLIC INSTEAD OF BLINDLY FOLLOWING ORDERS GIVEN YOU BY FLEET?



AND HOW TO BEST DEAL WITH YOUR OFFICER.

OH OH...

REST ASSURED, IPCHA, HE IS YOUR BEST ALLY.



I DON'T UNDERSTAND?

YOUR CAPTAIN HAS HAD AN EPIPHANY. 'OFFICIAL' DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN 'TRUE.'



YES, THANK YOU.

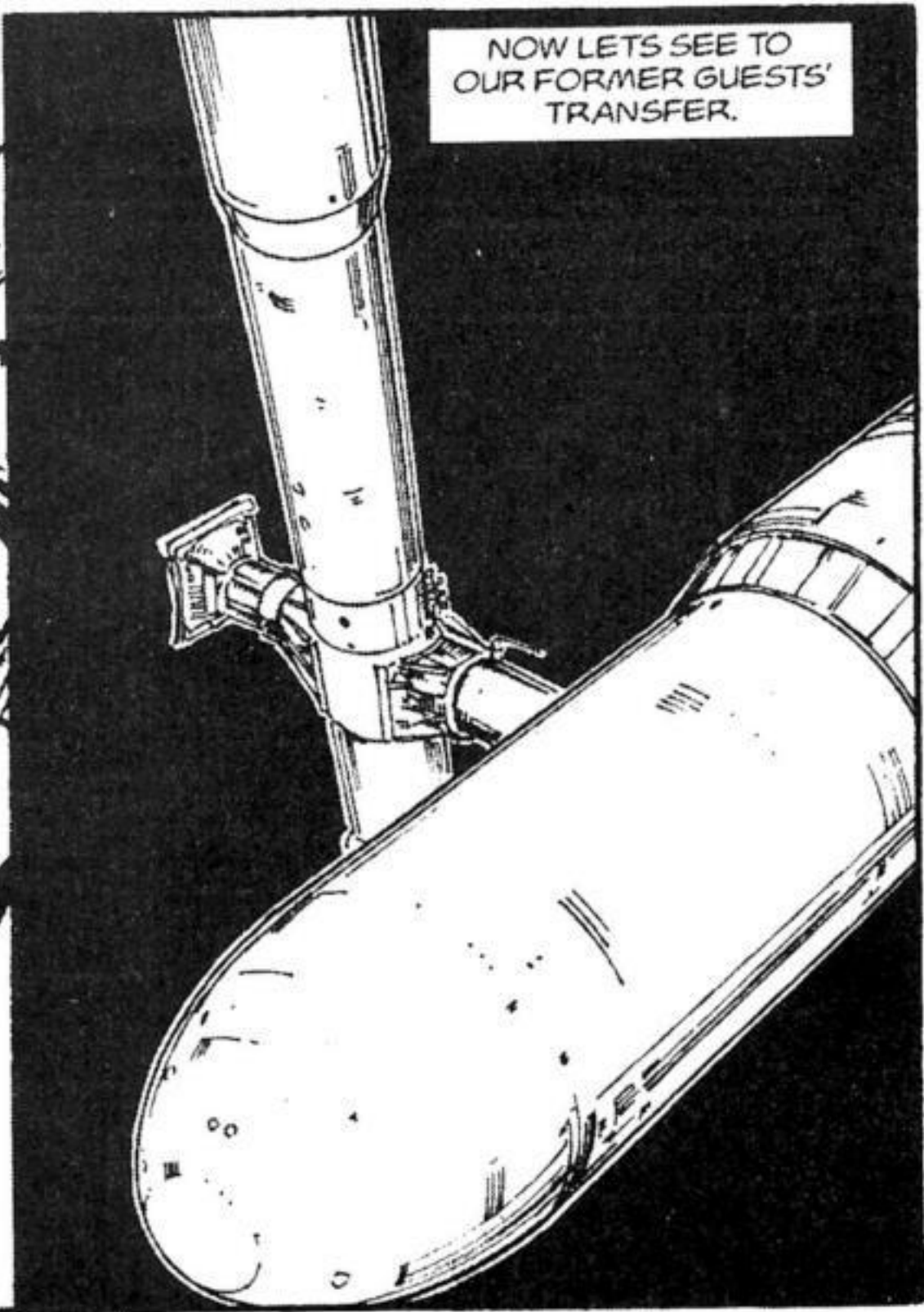
NOW, LT. TANKANNAHAI. WHAT ARE YOU ABOUT?

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN KEEN TO SERVE THE SHIP.



OF COURSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT NOW, AND LET ME APOLOGIZE FOR MY BLINDNESS. YOU HAVE SERVED WELL BEYOND THE NOW CLEARLY DUBIOUS EXPECTATIONS WE WERE DRIVEN TO.

I NOW DESIRE, THAT WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN RISE TO OUR FULL POTENTIAL AND STRIKE A MORE TELLING BLOW AGAINST OUR ENEMIES AND DEFEND THE IDEALS OF THE REPUBLIC.



NOW LETS SEE TO OUR FORMER GUESTS' TRANSFER.



SD 201-04-28 THE ENCHAWA CORPORATE  
STARSHIP ECHUNNAH

SO- WHAT'S UP?

OH-? NOT MUCH.

AHH- YOU HAVE  
SOMETHING  
IN MIND?

WE'VE GOT NEW ORDERS.

YOU'LL FIND ROUTE DATA  
ON FILE. I'D LIKE A FASTEST  
PROFILE WORKED UP.

CAPTAIN, I'VE GOT IT.  
WE'RE GOING TO THE  
RIM?

EVENTUALLY.  
BUT FOR NOW, WE'RE  
GOING TO BE VERY BUSY.

PEOPLE.

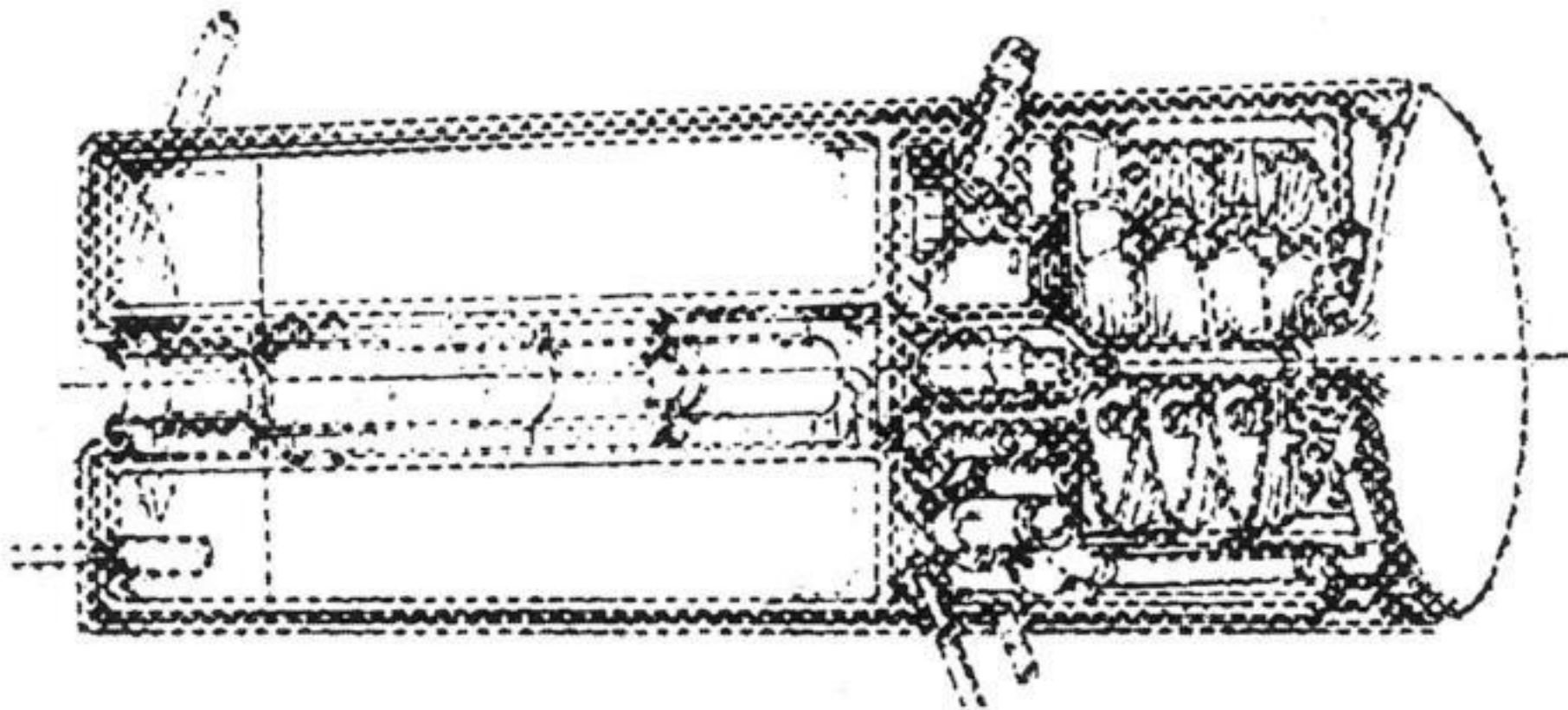
DEFENSE IS THE GREAT  
WEAKNESS IN SPACE WAR.

THE ATTACKER ALWAYS HAS THE  
ADVANTAGE, CHOOSING WHEN AND  
WHERE TO STRIKE, WHILE THE  
DEFENDER HAS TO COVER EVERY  
POSSIBLE APPROACH.

AND IN THE SCALE OF INTERPLANETARY  
SPACE, IT IS ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO  
PRODUCE ENOUGH DEFENSIVE WEAPONS TO  
COVER ALL THE VAST VOLUMES, WHILE THE  
ATTACKER CAN MASS HIS FORCES AND  
OVERWHELM ANY SINGLE POINT IN THE  
DEFENDERS COVER.



THE DRIVE HAS A CONTAINED SERIES OF PHASE FIELDS WITH A STREAM OF MATTER GOING THROUGH THEM, UP TO A TRANSITION POINT THAT CHANGES THE MATTER'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSE. THAT CHANGE IN RELATIONSHIP, INSTEAD OF GOING ON TO JUMP OR SOME NASTY SUB-ATOMIC TRANSMUTATION IS THE DIRECT CONVERSION OF MATTER INTO PHOTONS. IN OUR CASE, WHITE LIGHT. IN THEORY, THE EFFECT CAN BE TUNED TO BE FREQUENCY-SPECIFIC, BUT FOR NOW, IT HAS BEEN A MAJOR TECHNICAL LEAP JUST TO MAKE IT WORK AT ALL. THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY IS ENORMOUS. THE CONVERSION OF EVEN WHOLE GRAMS OF MATTER. THE DRIVE PRODUCT, UNFOCUSED, IS THE ACV'S PROPULSION, IN THE HUNDREDS OF TONS OF THRUST. THE SAME LIGHT, AS A FOCUSED BEAM, IS THE WEAPON. TEST DATA AVAILABLE TO US SUGGESTS IT CAN VAPORIZE EVEN HARDENED TARGETS AT 10,000 KILOMETERS OUT.

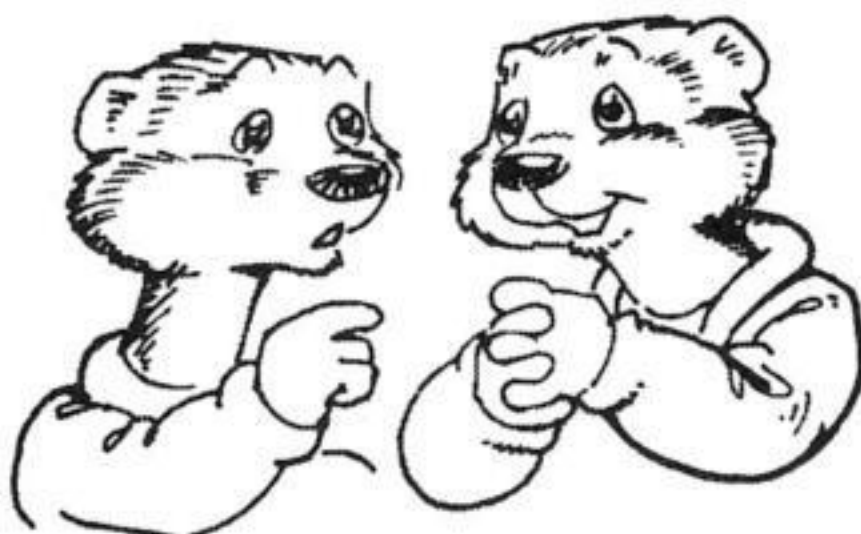


SO WITH THAT KIND OF POWER, A DEFENDER NEED ONLY HAVE A FEW OF THESE MATTER-ENERGY BEAM WEAPONS TO EFFECTIVELY COUNTER EVEN A MASSIVE BARRAGE OF INCOMING THREATS. AND WE INTEND TO TRY TO GET AS MANY OF THESE THINGS OUT TO AS MANY SYSTEMS AS FAST AS WE CAN. WHICH MEANS WE NEED TO MAKE COPIES OF BOTH THE PURPOSE BUILT SPECIAL ACVs AND CONVERT OUR STANDARD ACVs. OBVIOUSLY, WE CAN'T ACTUALLY MAKE MORE ACVs THAN WE CURRENTLY CARRY, BUT WE CAN ASSEMBLE THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF THE CONVERTER AND THOSE SPECIALIZED PARTS WE NEED FOR STANDARD ACV MODIFICATION, SO WE CAN BE READY TO QUICKLY MODIFY MORE ACVs AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

WE ALSO NEED TO MAKE PATTERN SETS FOR EACH SYSTEM'S PRODUCTION OF MORE UNITS.

PATTERNS?

PATTERNS!



THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO REVERSE-ENGINEER A SAMPLE AND THEN TOOL-UP FROM SCRATCH THE NECESSARY MASTERS.

AHM, ISN'T THIS A RATHER VALUABLE BIT OF TECHNOLOGY WE'RE SIMPLY PASSING OUT?

YES. IT IS. BUT GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WHAT ELSE ARE WE GOING TO DO?





SD201-04-11 Erma Felna prepares to return to Confed space to receive new orders, her status and that of her crew complicated by the appearance of a computer program that intends to assert its own authority through out known space.  
Inks by Steve Gallacci

READY FOR JUMP?

LOOKING GOOD  
HERE

ALL GO HERE.

CONFIRMING-  
STATUS SUMMERIES  
ARE GO.

REMEMBER, WE'RE NOT ENTIRELY  
SURE WHAT WE'RE GOING TO FIND  
WHEN WE JUMP IN.

YOU HAVE ALL AGREED TO SUBMIT  
TO HONEST EDF AND CONFED AUTHORITY.  
LET'S HOPE THAT'S WHAT WE'LL FIND WHEN  
WE GET THERE.

JUMP IN FOUR, THREE, TWO,

-WHUMP-

JUMP CLEARED. STATUS LOOKING  
GOOD. LET'S SEE WHAT KIND OF  
WELCOME AWAITS.



WE'RE GETTING AN INITIAL MESSAGE.  
EDF IFF CONFIRMS. SHIP'S COMPUTER  
IS WORKING ON THE DATA STREAM.



EVERYTHING LOOKS  
FRIENDLY ENOUGH.

WE'VE GOT ROUTINE  
ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS.

AND THERE ARE A BATCH  
OF INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT  
ORDERS COMING.



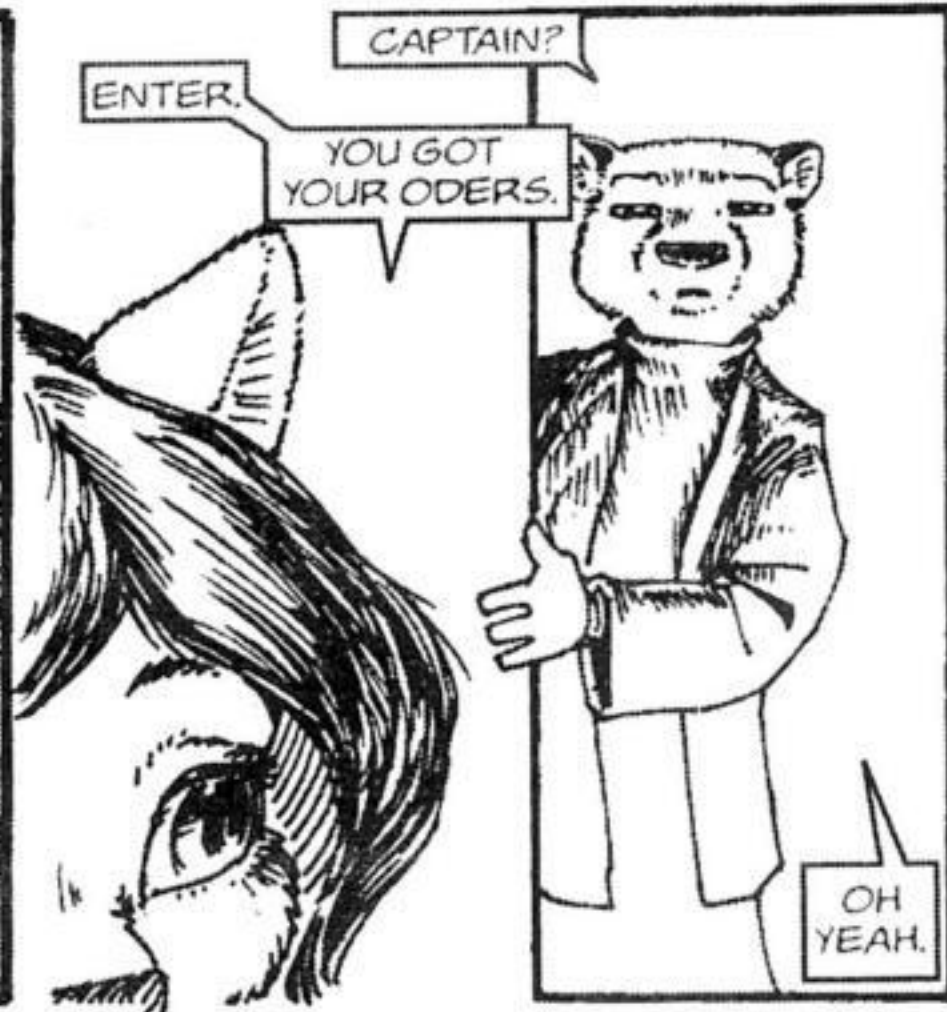
YOU'VE BEEN REASSIGNED TO THE STRIKE SHIP H2701. YOU ARE  
STILL ON PROBATION FOR YOUR CONDUCT ON DORNTHANT.  
HOWEVER, HIGHER HEADQUARTERS HAS RECOGNIZED YOUR  
ERSTWHILE DEDICATION TO DUTY AND HAS RE-INSTATED YOUR  
FULL COMMAND AUTHORITY.



ENTER.

CAPTAIN?

YOU GOT  
YOUR OODERS.



OH  
YEAH.

NEW POSTING.  
EXEC ON A SUPPORT  
SHIP. AND YOU?

COMMANDING A  
STRIKE SHIP.

REALLY?

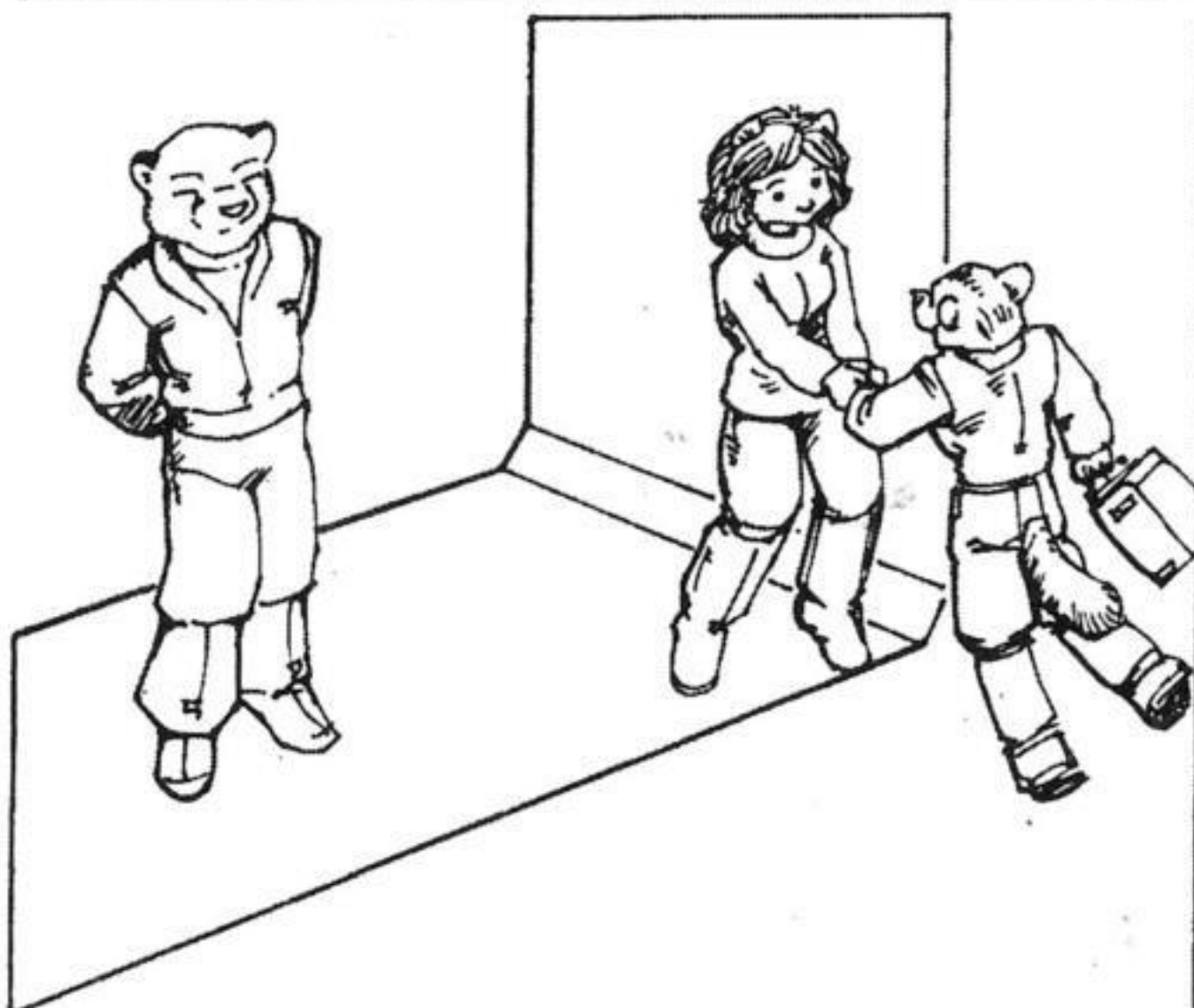
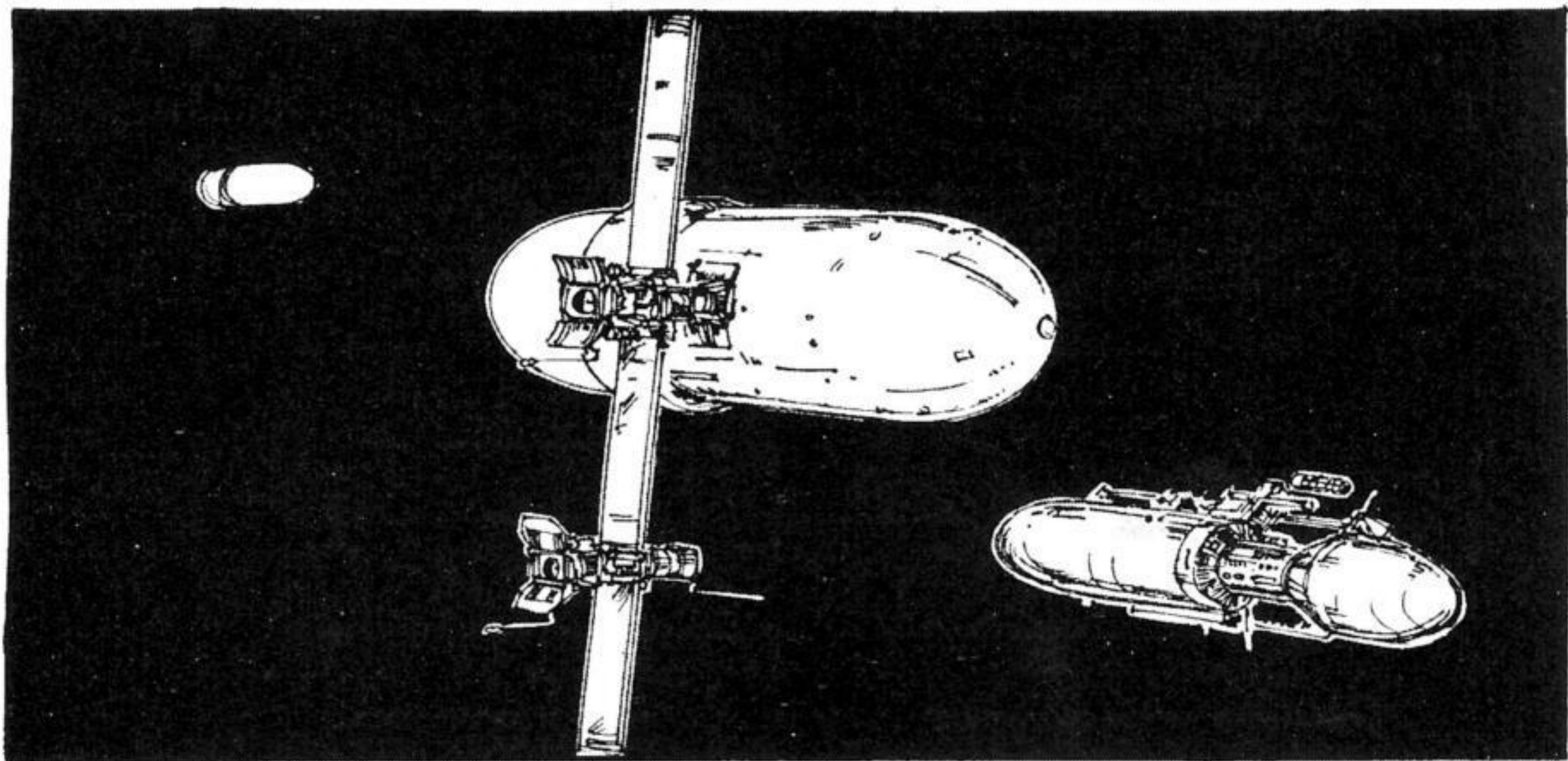
I'M FULLY RE-INSTATED.



THAT MEANS THEY'RE  
DESPERATE. AND  
DON'T EXPECT ME TO  
SURVIVE THE OPERATION.







WELL, THIS IS IT. LOOKS LIKE ALL OF US CIVIL TYPES ARE GOING TO BE DISPERSED. MOSTLY FAR RIM STUFF.



AND ALL US EDF TYPES ARE GOING INTO HIGH RISK COMBAT.

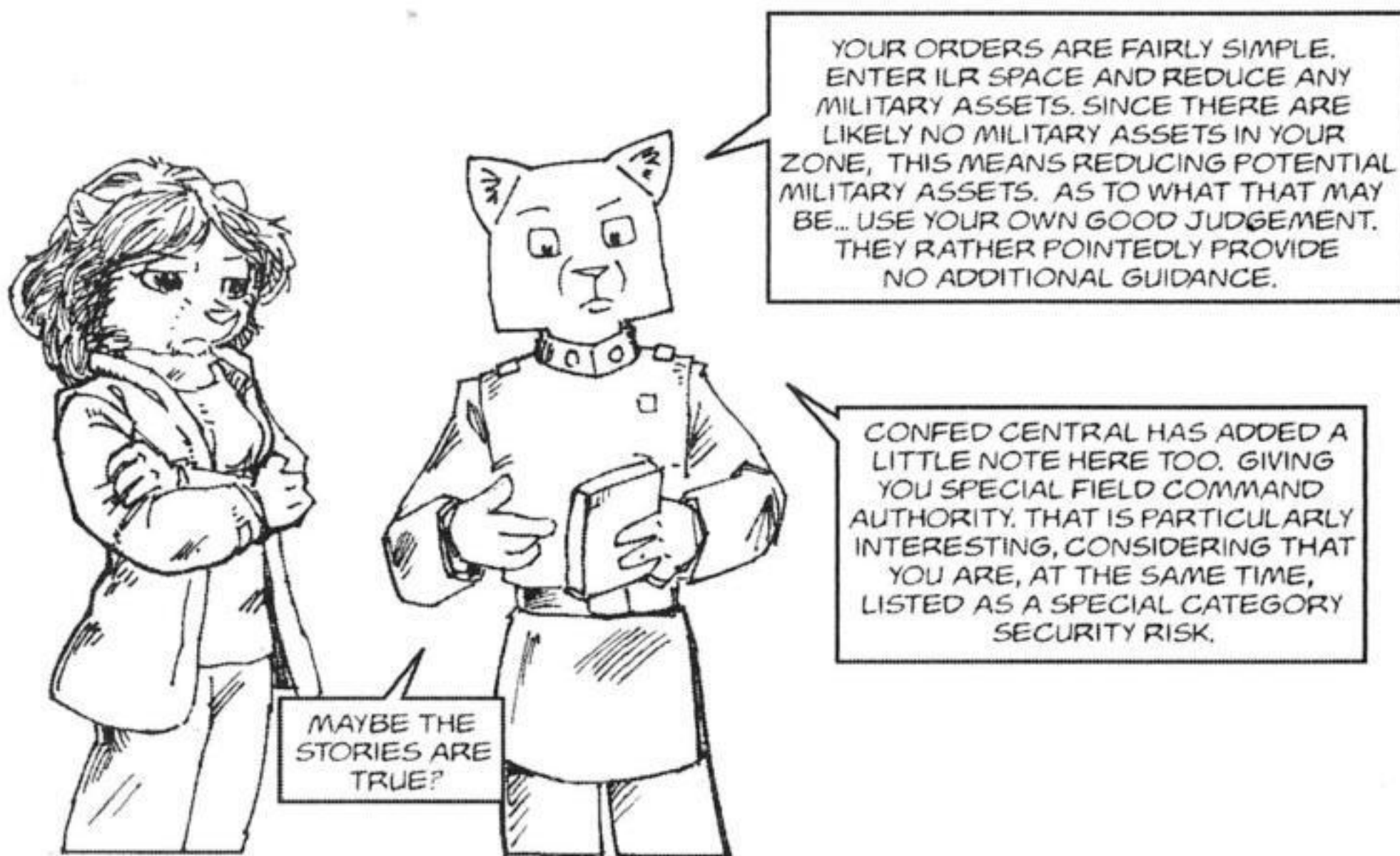


THEY WANT YOU AND YOUR VERSION OF DORNTHANT KEPT QUIET.

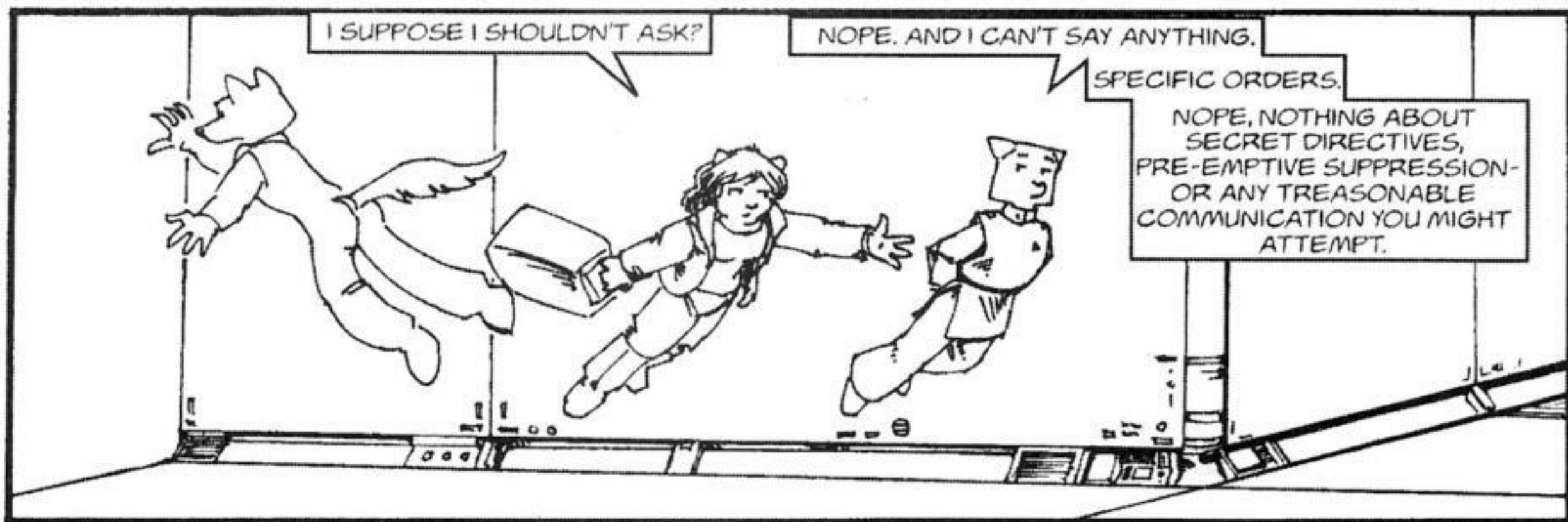


THE SHIP GAVE ALL OF US A GIFT. A COPY OF EVERYTHING.









I SUPPOSE I SHOULDN'T ASK?

NOPE. AND I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING.

SPECIFIC ORDERS.

NOPE, NOTHING ABOUT  
SECRET DIRECTIVES,  
PRE-EMPTIVE SUPPRESSION-  
OR ANY TREASONABLE  
COMMUNICATION YOU MIGHT  
ATTEMPT.



WELL CAPTAIN, I  
CAN SAY, GOOD  
LUCK.

THANK YOU.



AND YOU  
ARE?

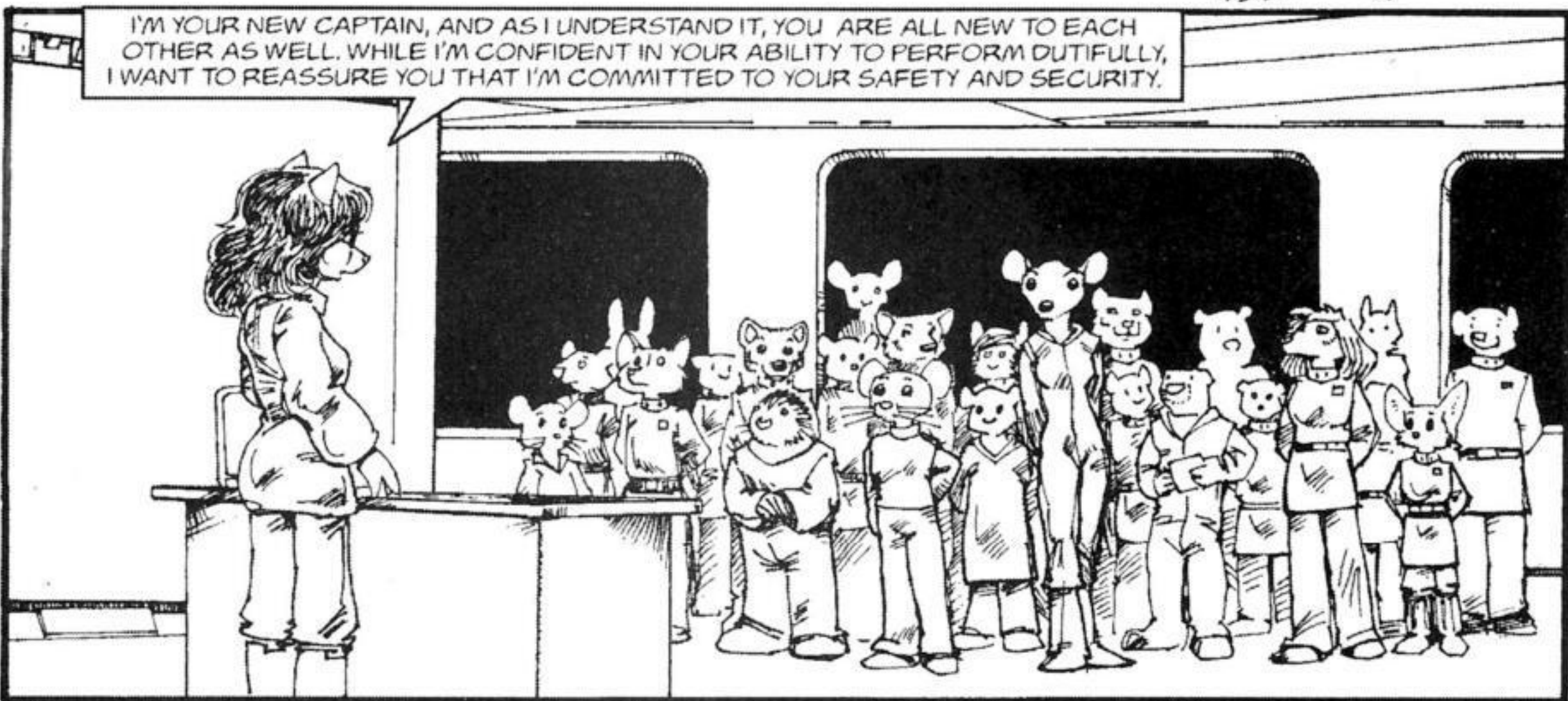
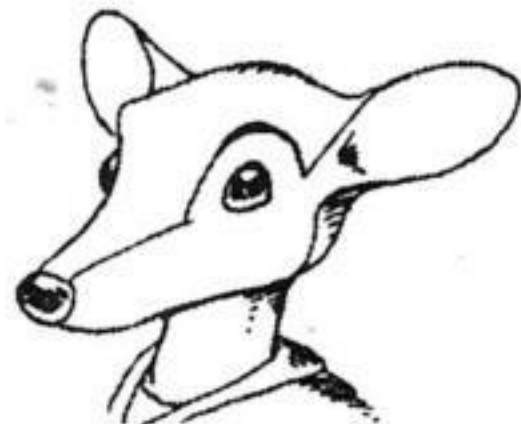
LT. SANDAL, LOGISTICS  
OFFICER. DH4437.

YOUR EXEC IS XANTONA  
AN OLD VETERAN  
HOMEGUARD COMMANDER.

CHAKACHA IS SENIOR  
PILOT AND TACTICAL  
OFFICER.

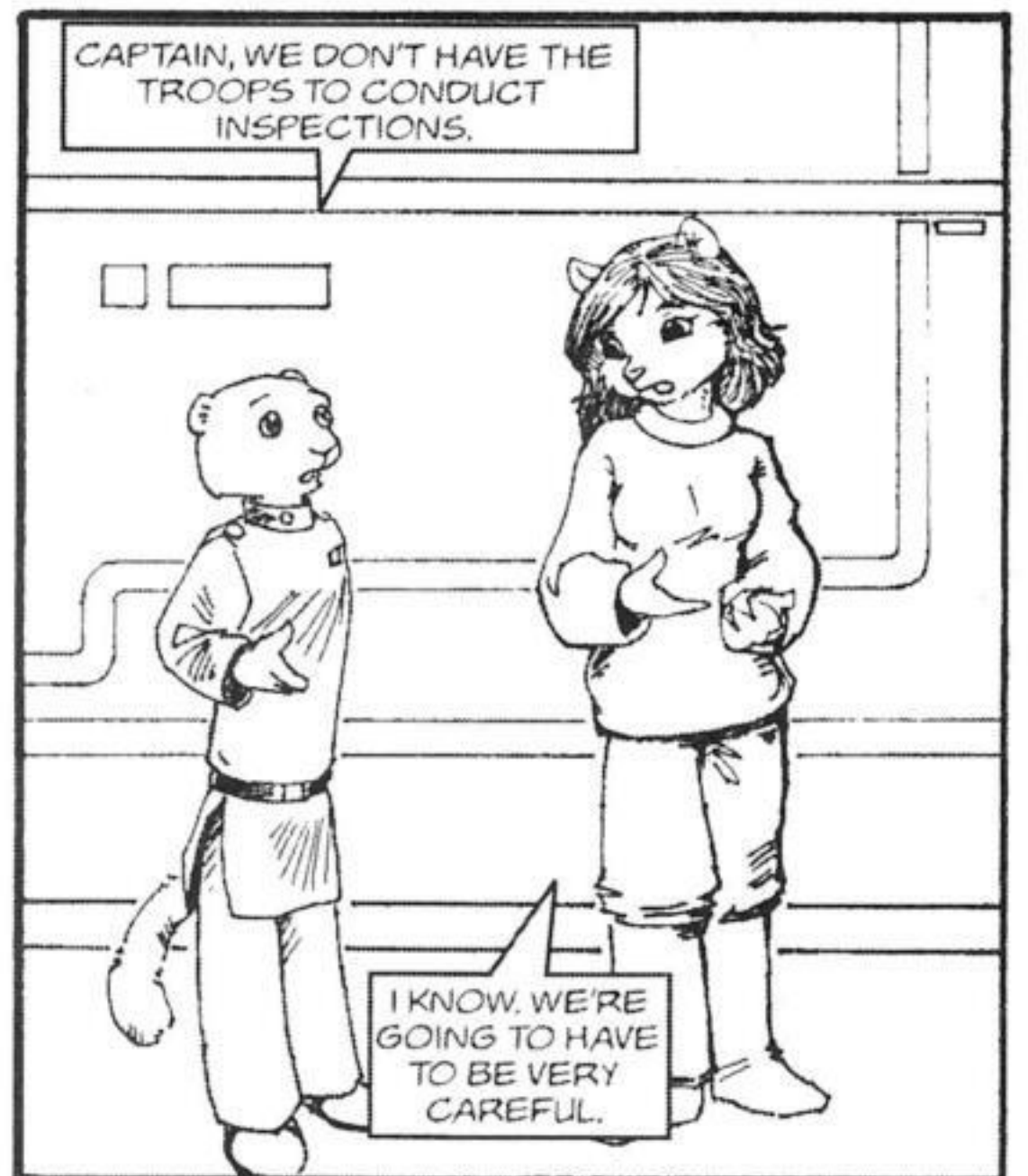
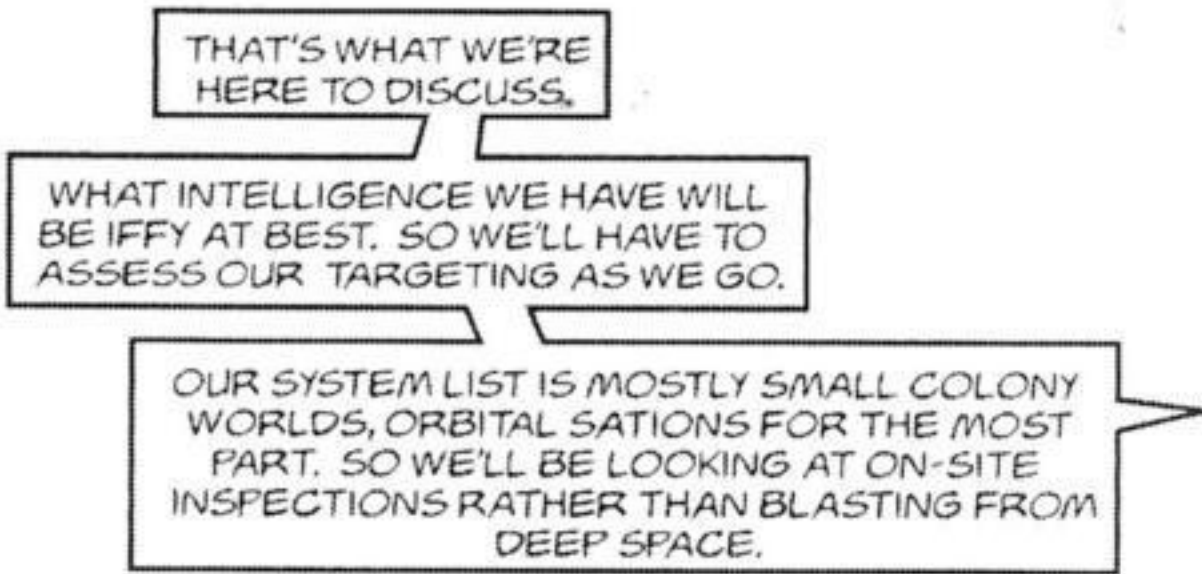
ERRON IS ANOTHER  
LONG-TIMER, ENGINEER.

ZANOWAH IS THE SHIPS  
DOCTOR, NOT JUST A  
MED-TECH.



I'M YOUR NEW CAPTAIN, AND AS I UNDERSTAND IT, YOU ARE ALL NEW TO EACH OTHER AS WELL. WHILE I'M CONFIDENT IN YOUR ABILITY TO PERFORM DUTIFULLY, I WANT TO REASSURE YOU THAT I'M COMMITTED TO YOUR SAFETY AND SECURITY.









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CHIPMUNK MASSUSE

# The INNER CIRCLE

Hi everyone,

Let's chat for a minute about two new books we've got coming out.

YENNY is an online comics strip by David Alvarez. Alvarez is best known for his work on DC's LOONEY TOONS comics, but Yenny showcases the life of a teenage girl with a sarcastic iguana for a pet. She wants to be a model but her enormous feet are a drawback. Sexy art and a hilarious storyline shine in this strip. Have a look at it online at <http://www.yennycomics.com/> and look for it in comic book form with new art and stories this November.

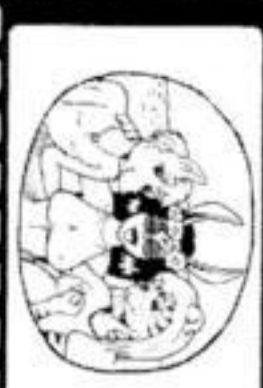
SHANDA THE PANDA. That's where it all started for us. The early issues have been long out of print, and we've had requests for a reprint for years. This September, look for SHANDA THE PANDA: INVITATION TO THE DANCE. Artists who did these early issues include Michele Light, Pat Dolan, Joe Rosales, and the original Shanda artist Mike Sagara, who returns to contribute a new cover. The book includes the Christmas story (first story produced), MU #1, and AP issues 1-4.

We urge you to get a copy, not just if you like Shanda, but we'll also be using the sales to gauge whether trade paperback reprints of early issues of KATMANDU and EXTINCTIONERS might be viable as well.

*Mike and Carole*

[www.shandafantasyarts.net](http://www.shandafantasyarts.net)

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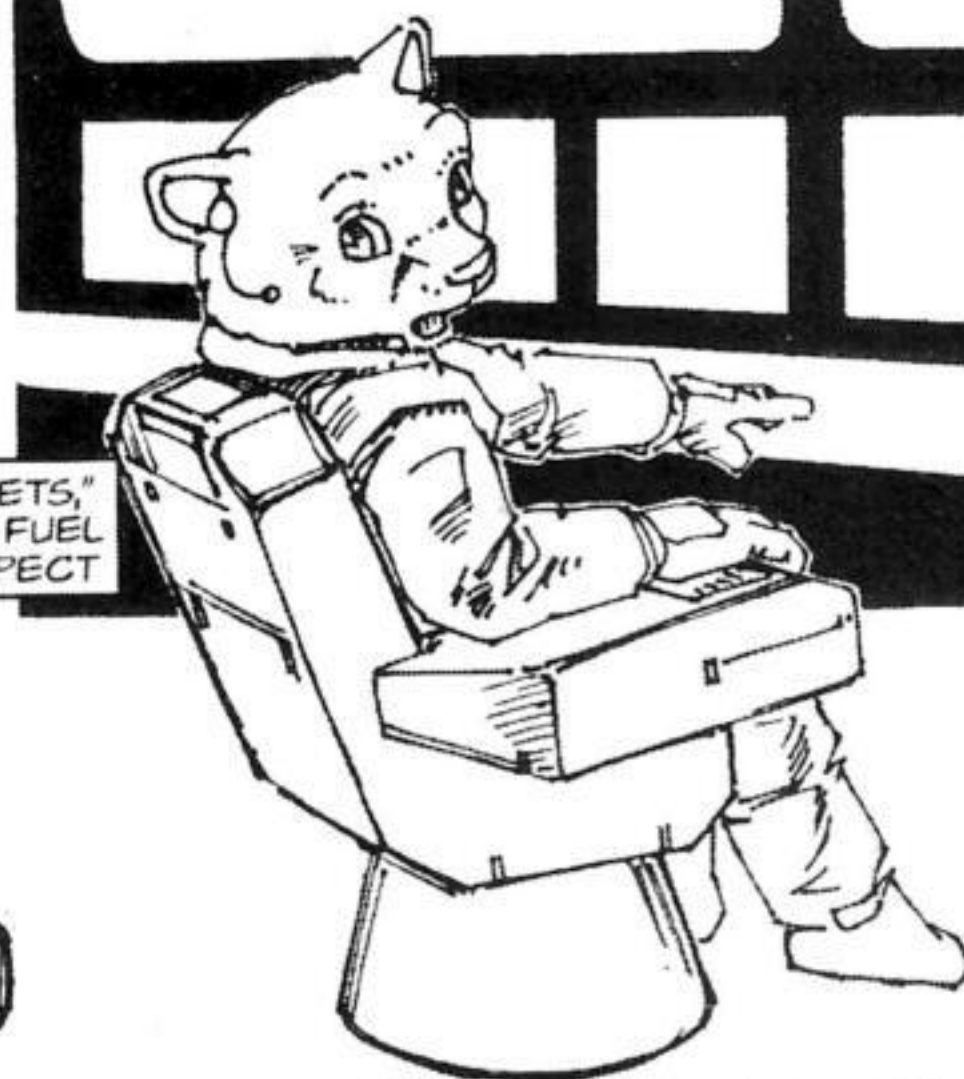


HOW'S OUR TACTICAL  
SHAPING UP?



THE LAST SHIP IS RUNNING.

NOTHING TO INDICATE IT IS  
ANYTHING BUT A FREIGHTER.  
STILL NO SIGN OF ANY DEFENSES.



CAPTAIN, BY YOUR CRITERIA OF "OFFENSIVE ASSETS,"  
IT LOOKS LIKE ALL THEY MIGHT HAVE IS EXCESS FUEL  
AND WATER. PRETTY MUCH WHAT WE WOULD EXPECT  
FROM A TRANSIT STATION.

THE ONLY OTHER THING  
WE'RE LIKELY TO FIND ARE  
MAJOR REPAIR PARTS AND,  
MAYBE, EXTRA TORPEDOES.



OKAY THEN.  
LAUNCH A SET OF ATTACK  
TORPEDOES TO COVER THE  
OTHER STATIONS AND LET'S  
KNOCK ON SOME DOORS.

I'M BARRLEMAHN,  
STATION ADMINISTRATOR.

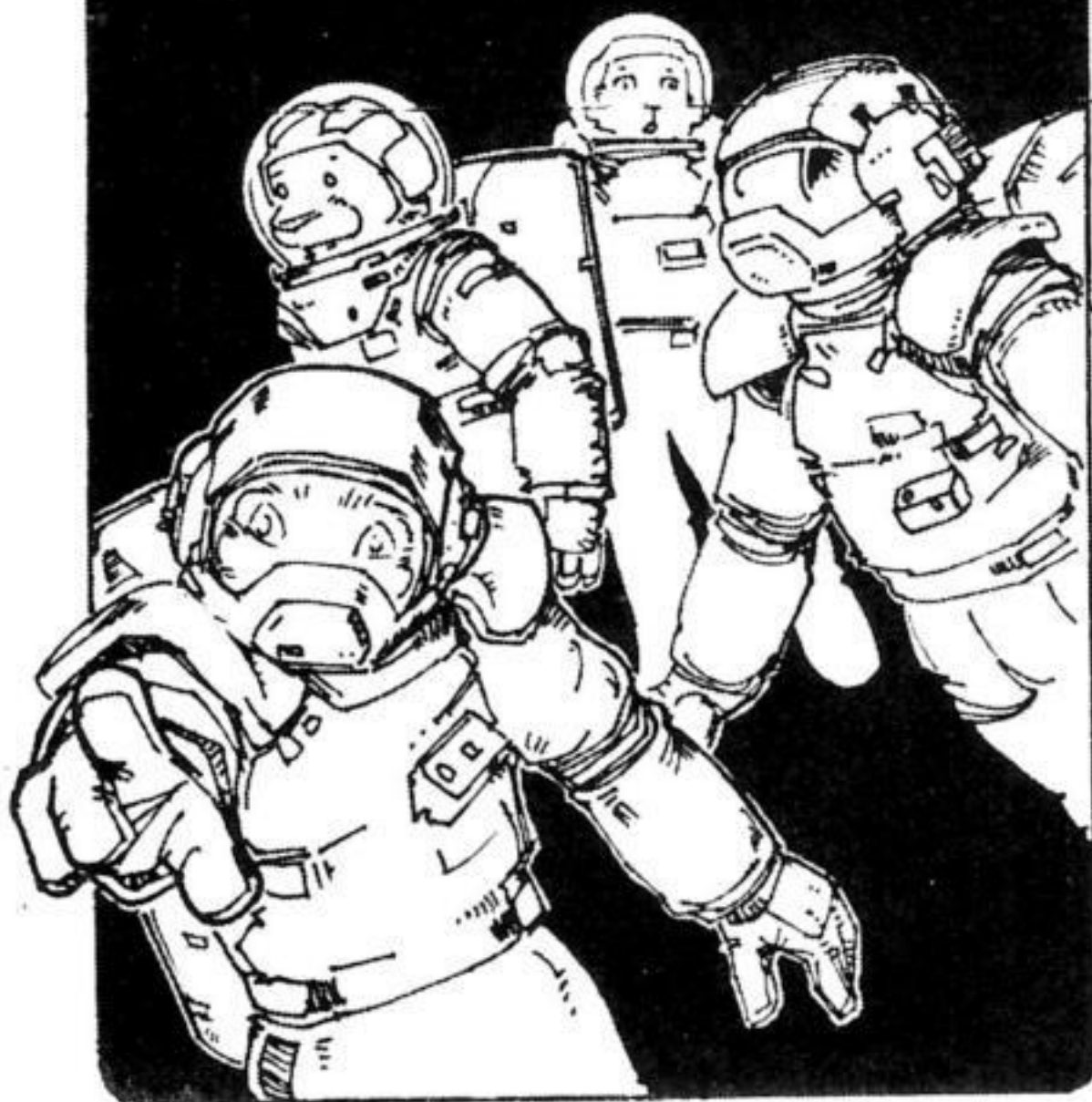


CAPTAIN FELNA, EDF.

PER EARLIER  
COMMUNICATIONS,  
WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
WAR MATERIALS.

IS IT LOCKED?  
HELLOOOO?  
ANYONE HOME?

YA KNOW,  
WE COULD  
SIMPLY BLOW  
THE DOOR.





AND PER OUR EARLIER COMMUNICATION,  
WE MOST STRENUOUSLY PROTEST THIS  
ILLEGAL INVASION.

I UNDERSTAND, BUT GIVEN THE DEFACTO STATE  
OF WAR, WE COULD HAVE SIMPLY DESTROYED  
YOUR STATION OUTRIGHT.

IF THAT WAS SUPPOSE TO BE A JOKE,  
IT WAS IN PARTICULARLY POOR TASTE.

SIR, MY FAMILY WAS LOST,  
ALONG WITH A FEW MILLION OTHERS,  
WHEN MY HOME PLANET WAS BOMBARDED.

WHAT? THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE!

WE'VE HEARD NOTHING OF THIS -  
AND HAVE NO INSTRUCTIONS.

SORRY, SIR, BUT  
I WAS THERE.

WELL, WE'RE HERE NOW AND WE HAVE A JOB TO DO.

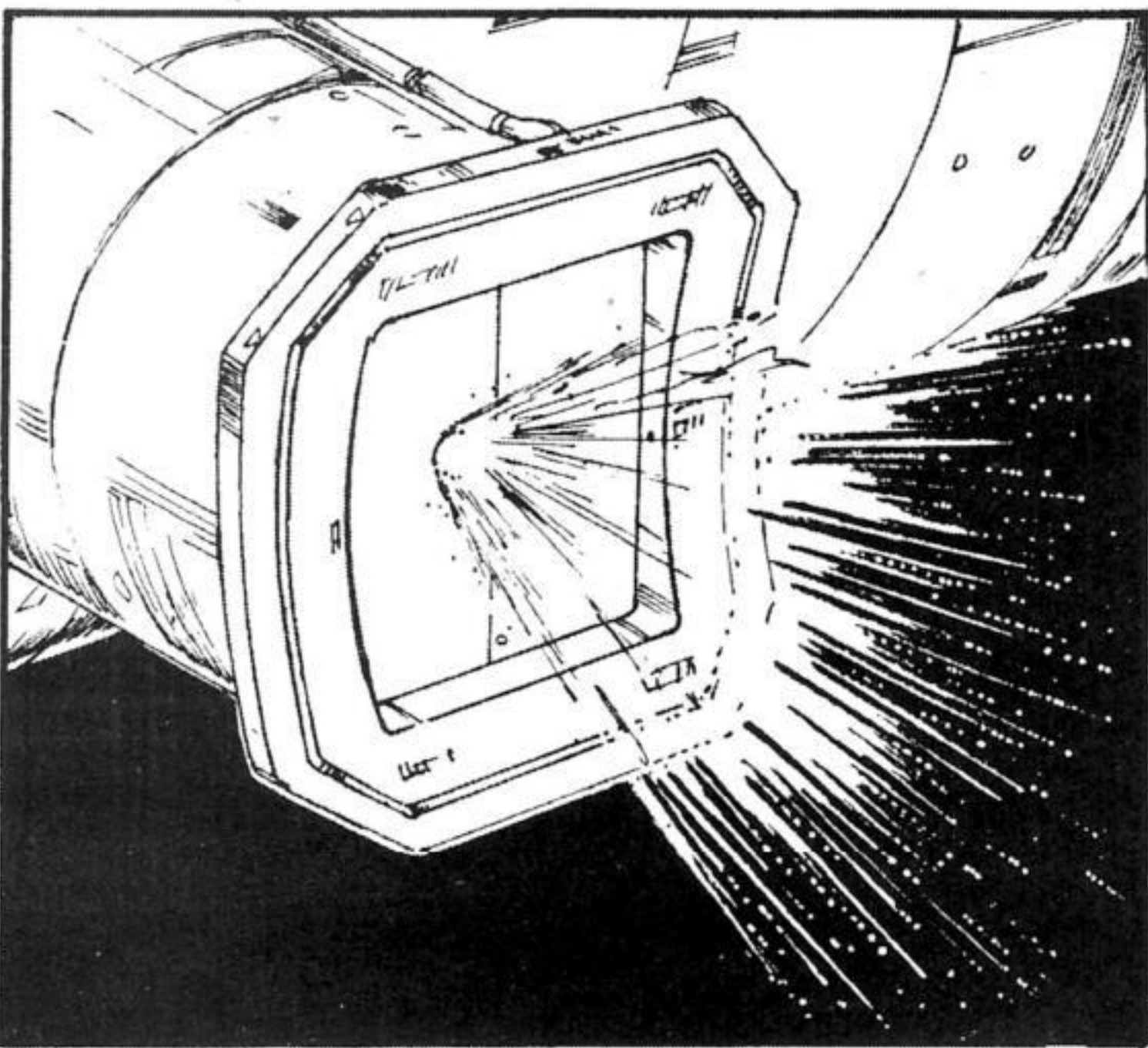
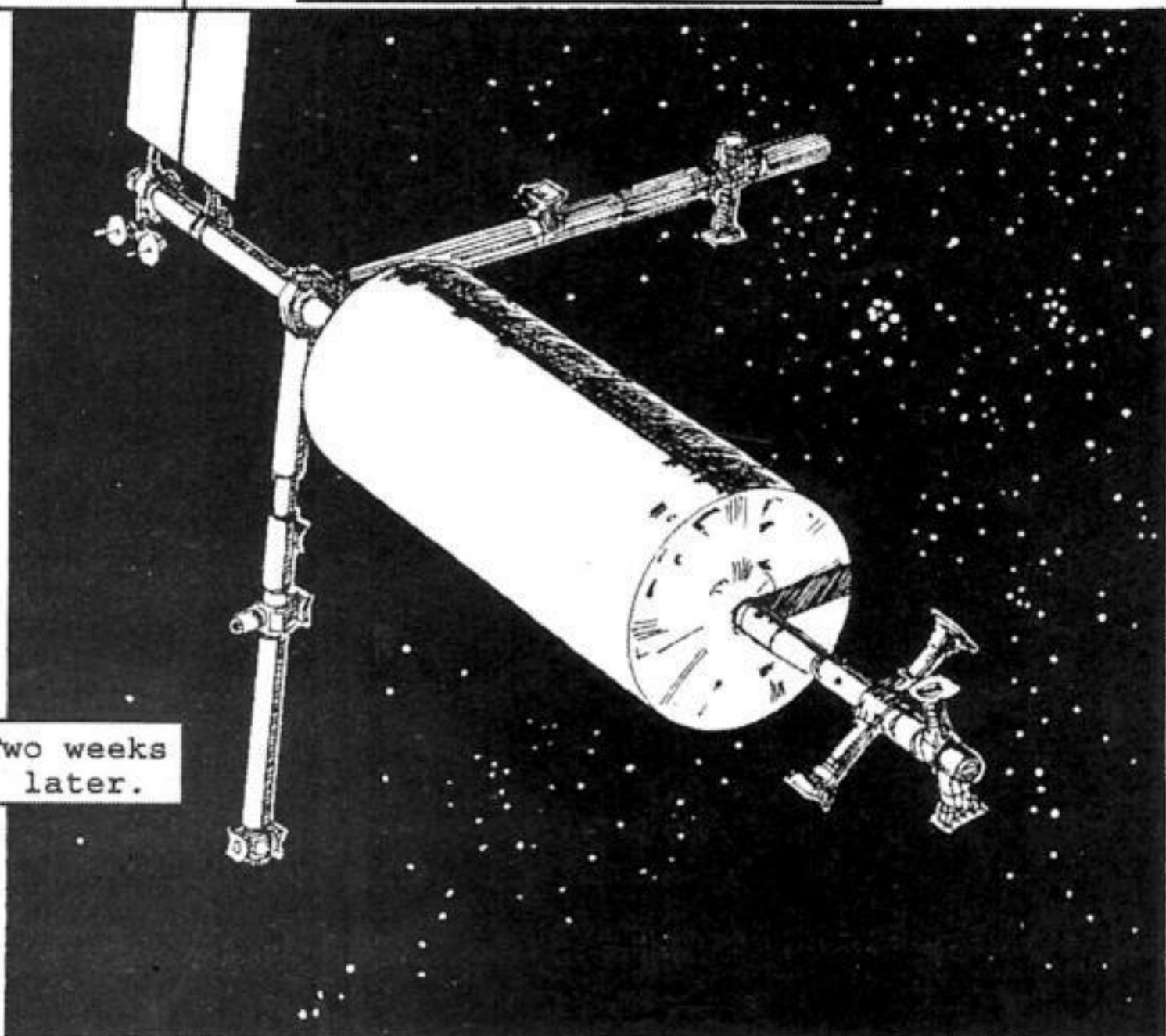
I PLEAD WITH YOU TO SPARE THE PERSONNEL. WE ARE ALL NON-COMBATANTS.

WE'LL SEE.

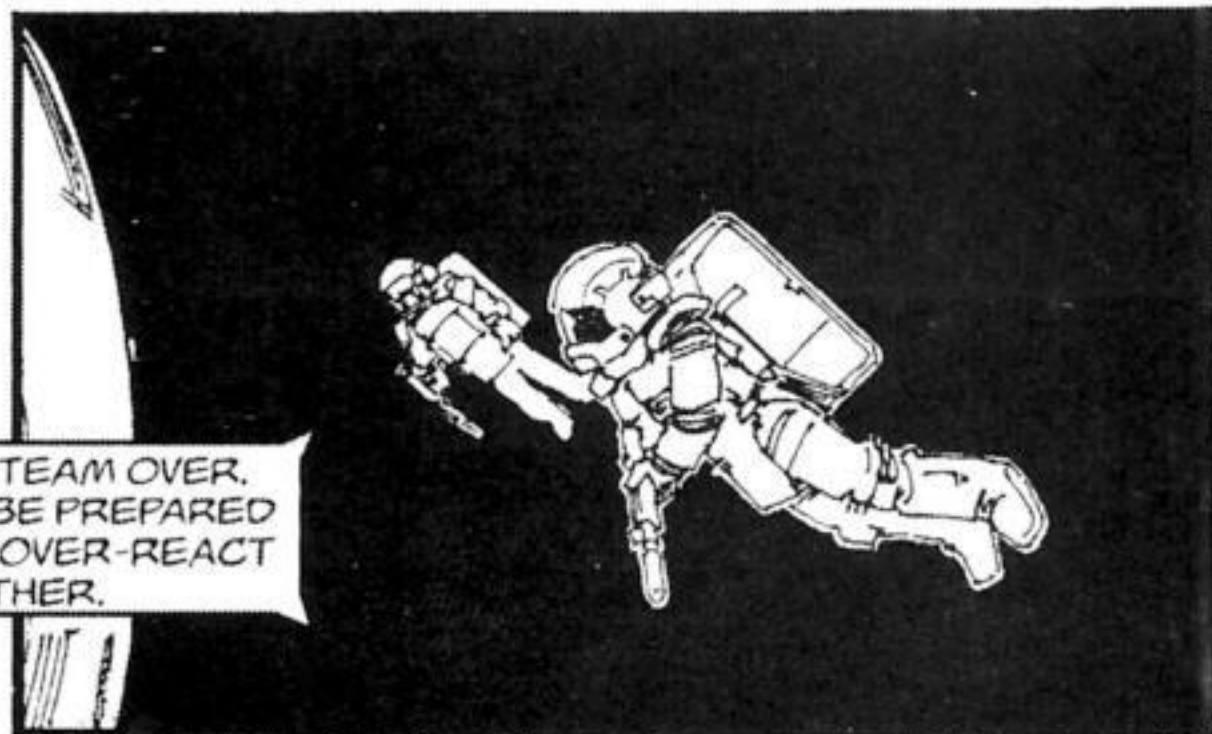
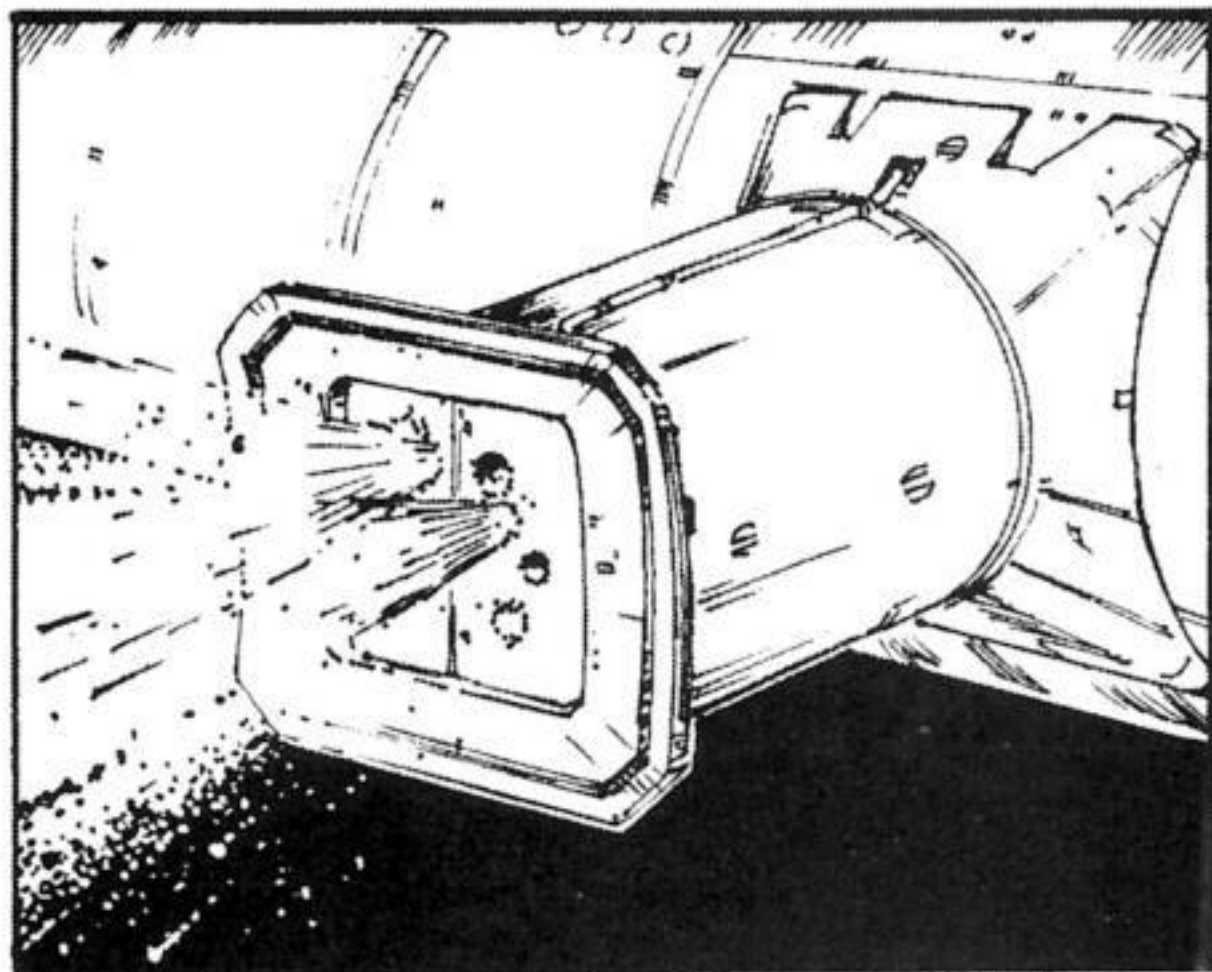
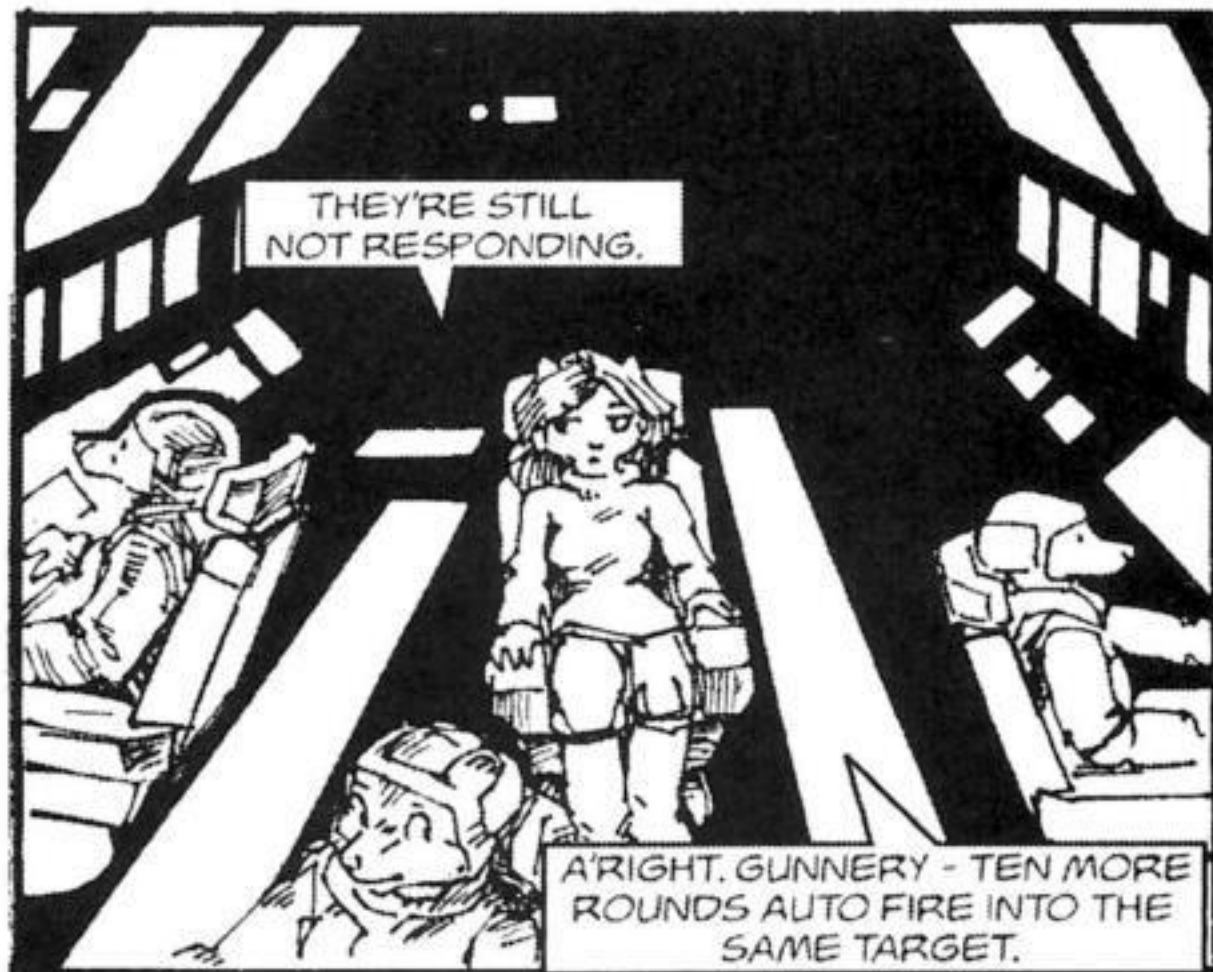




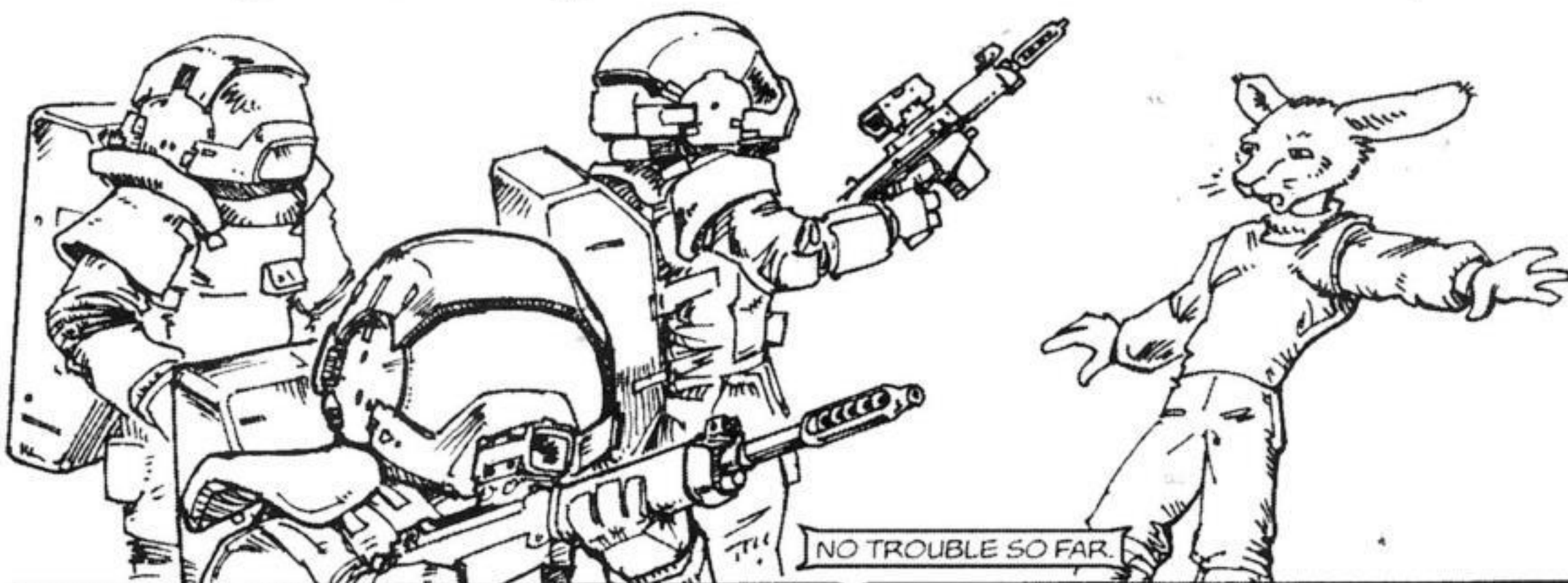
AND THEY DON'T THINK WE'D RISK IT.



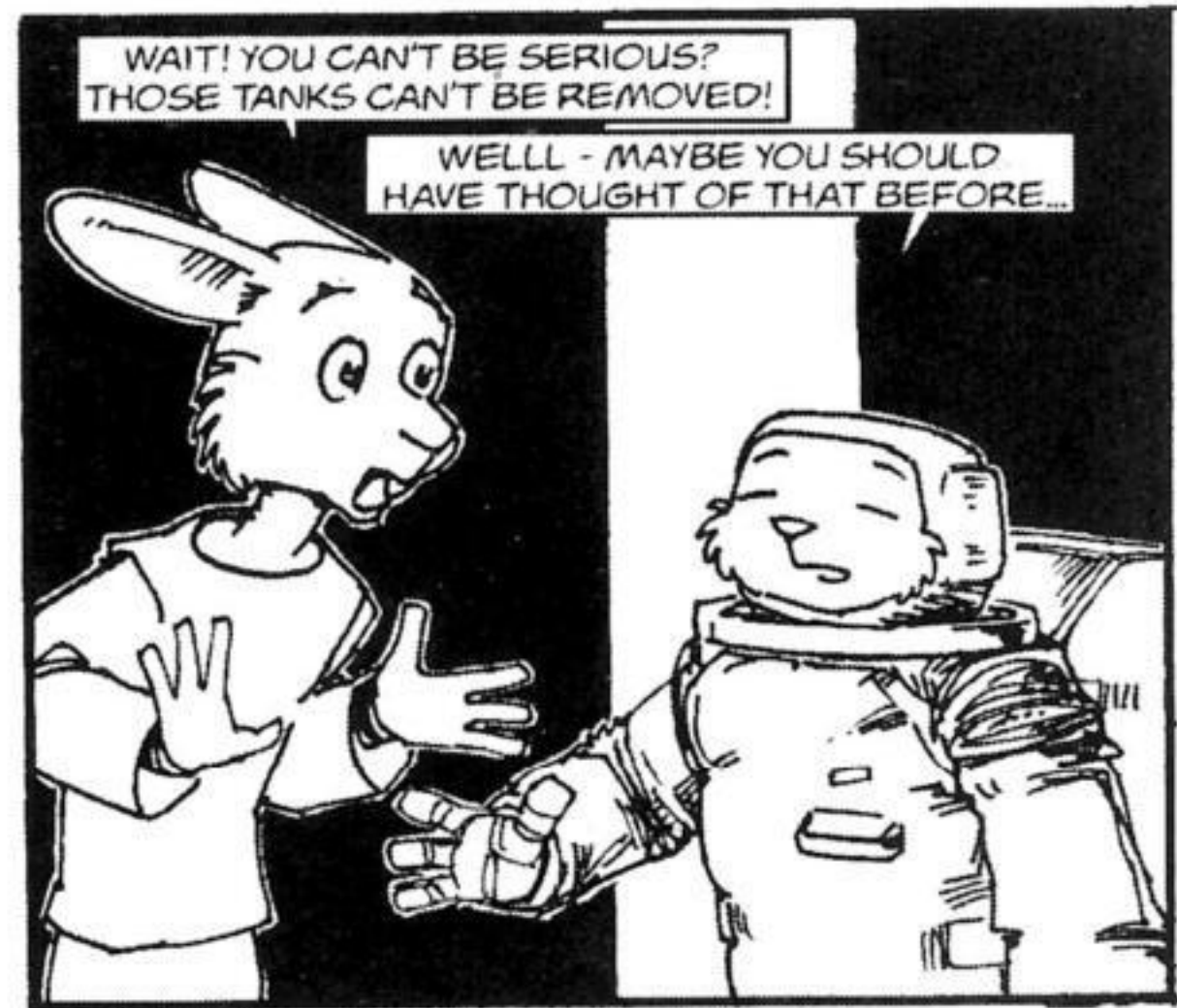
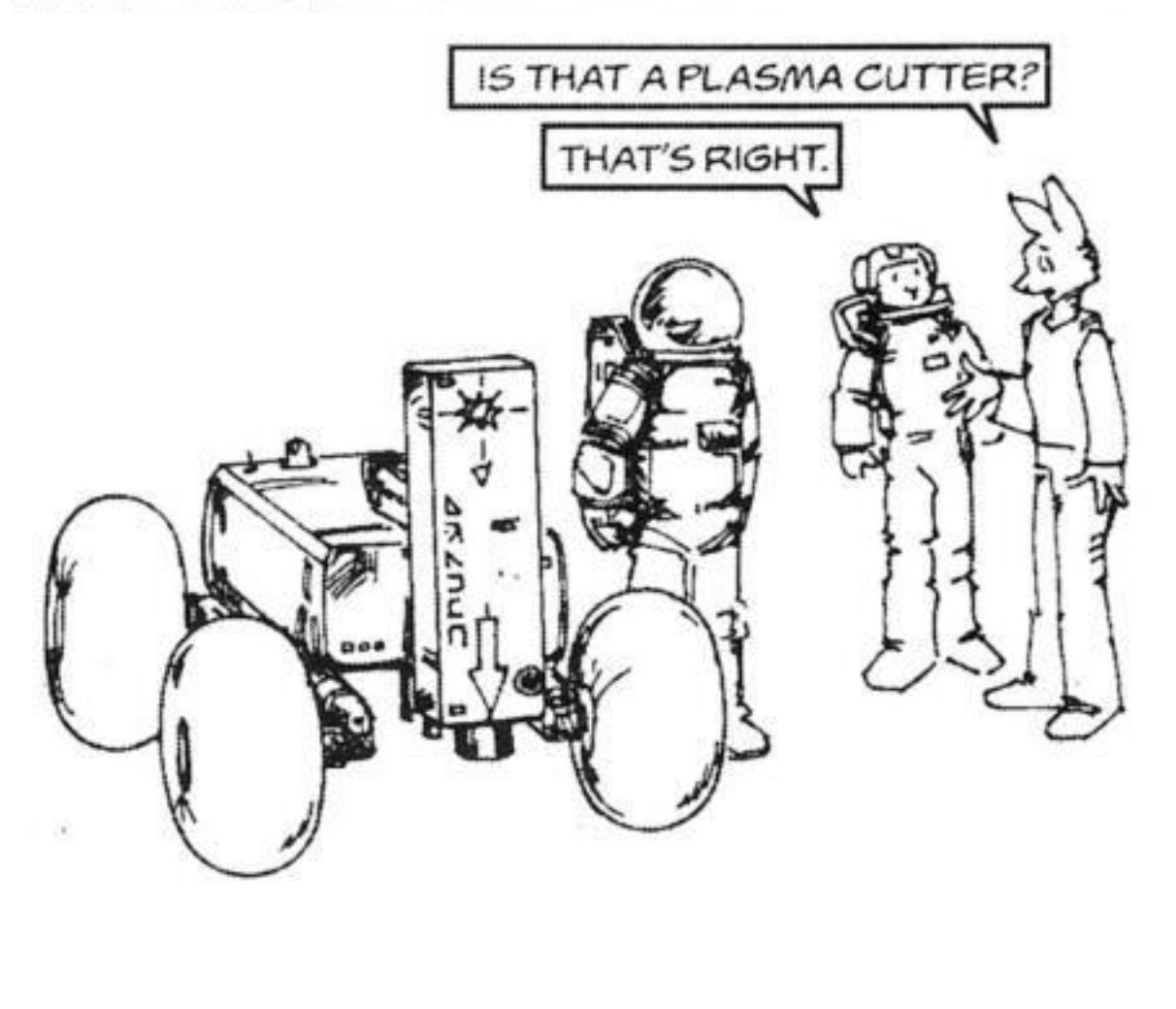
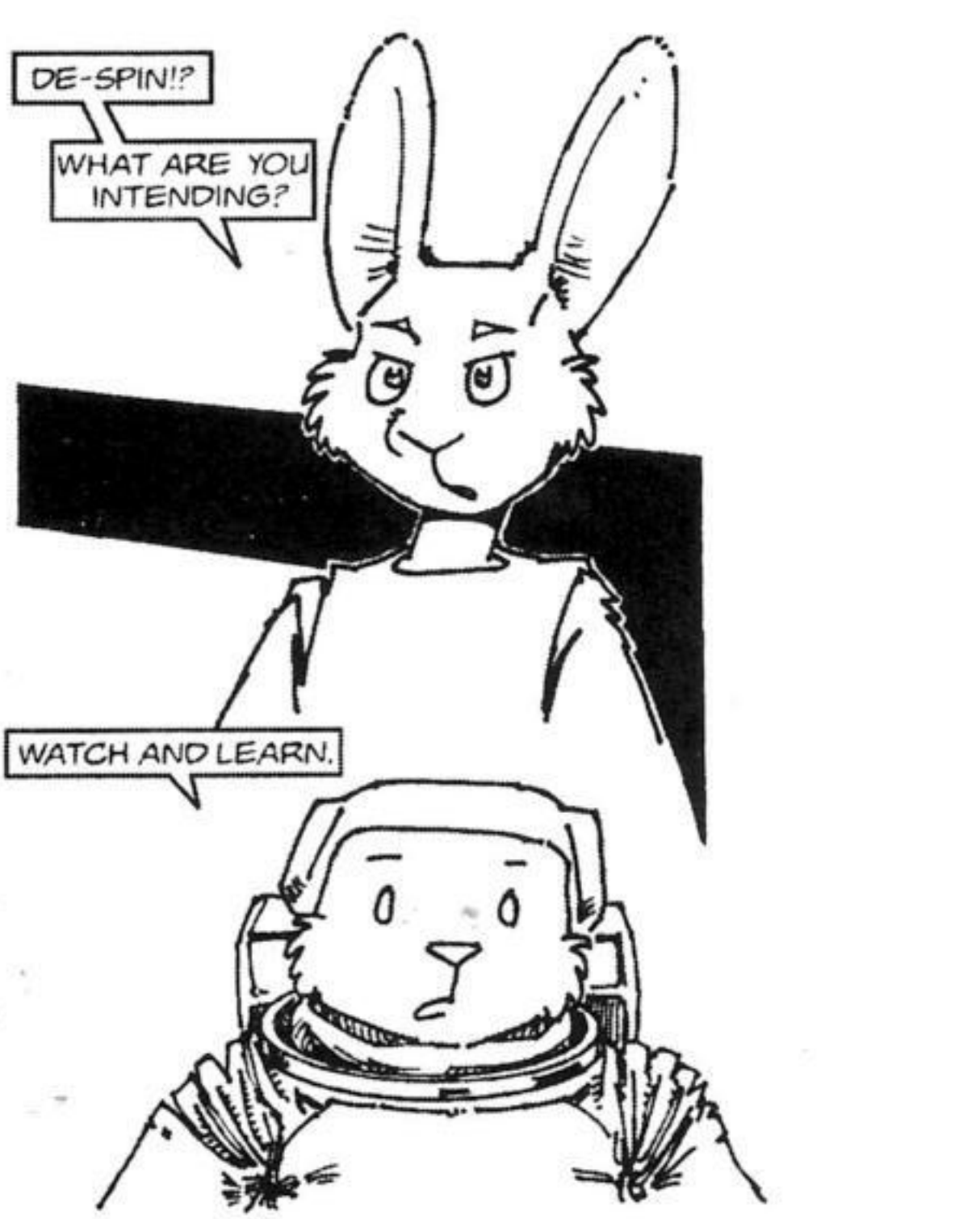
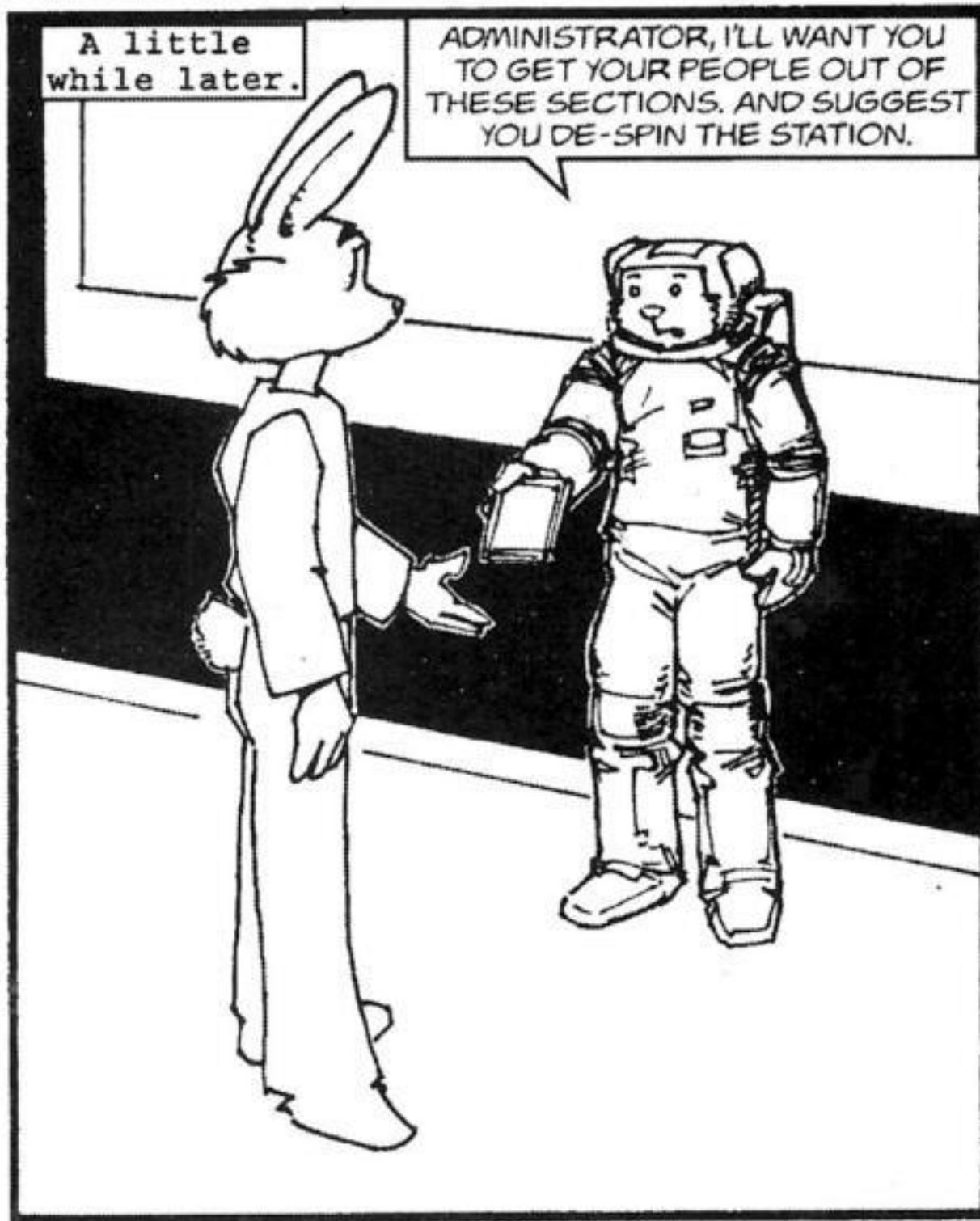
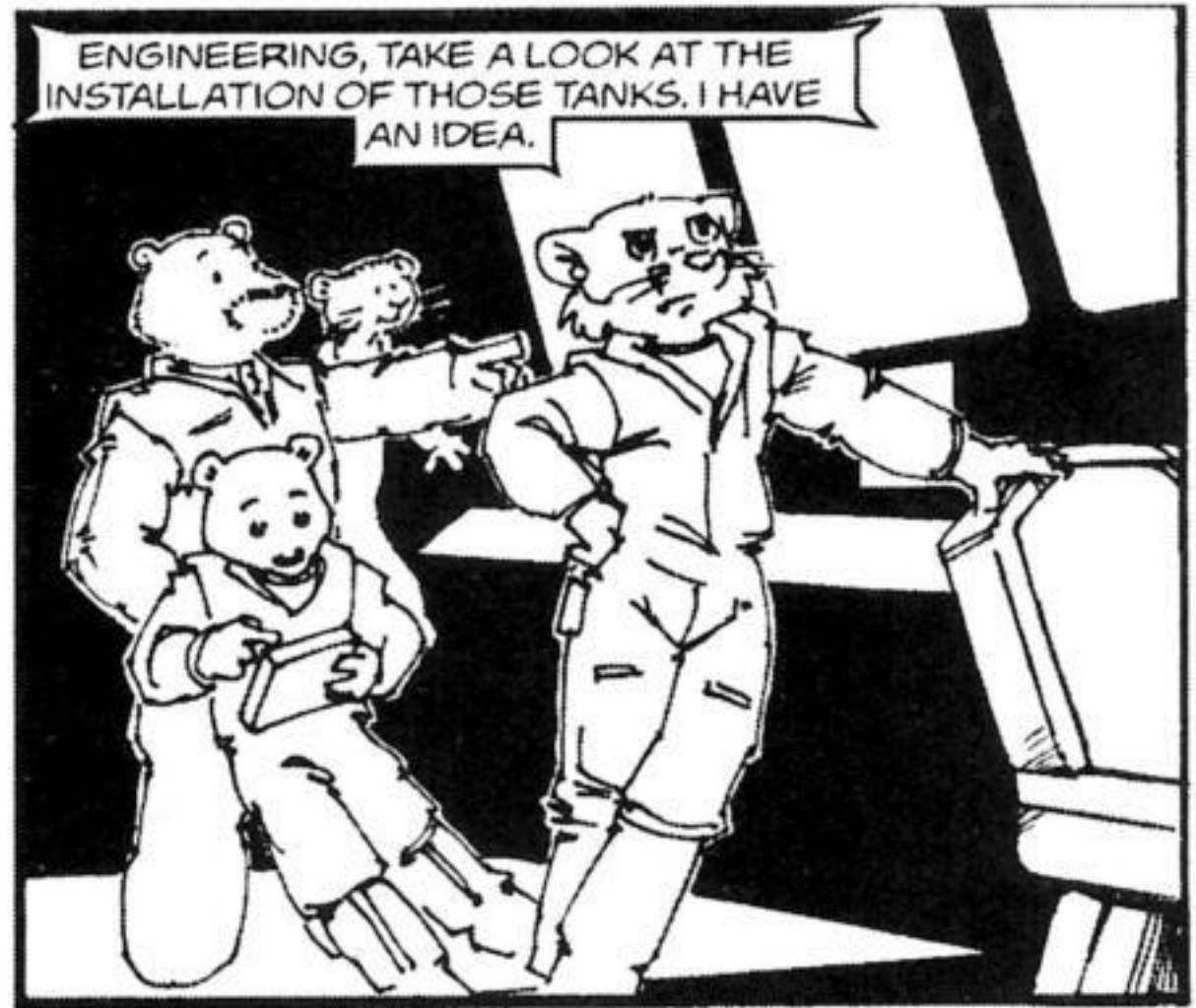
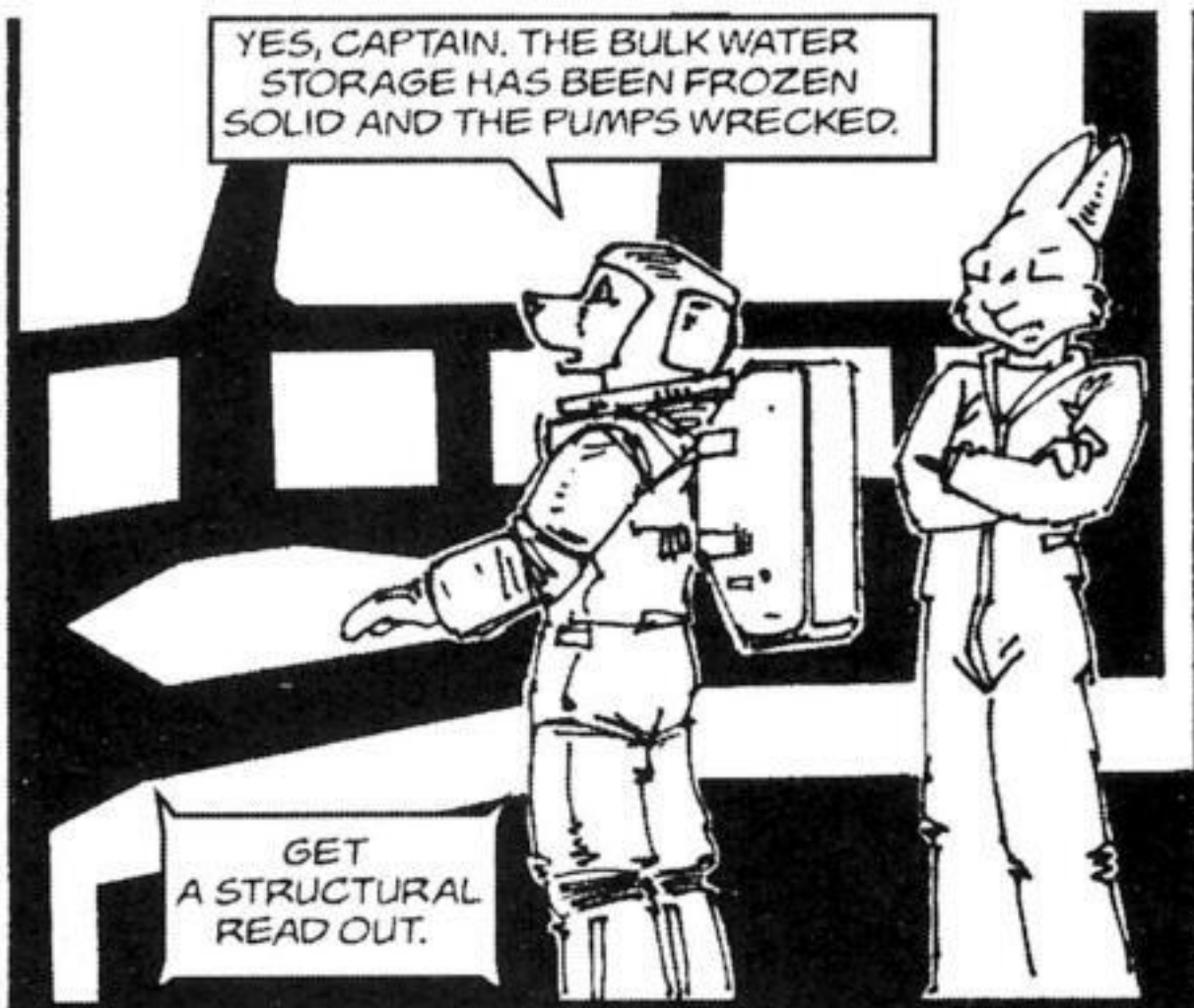




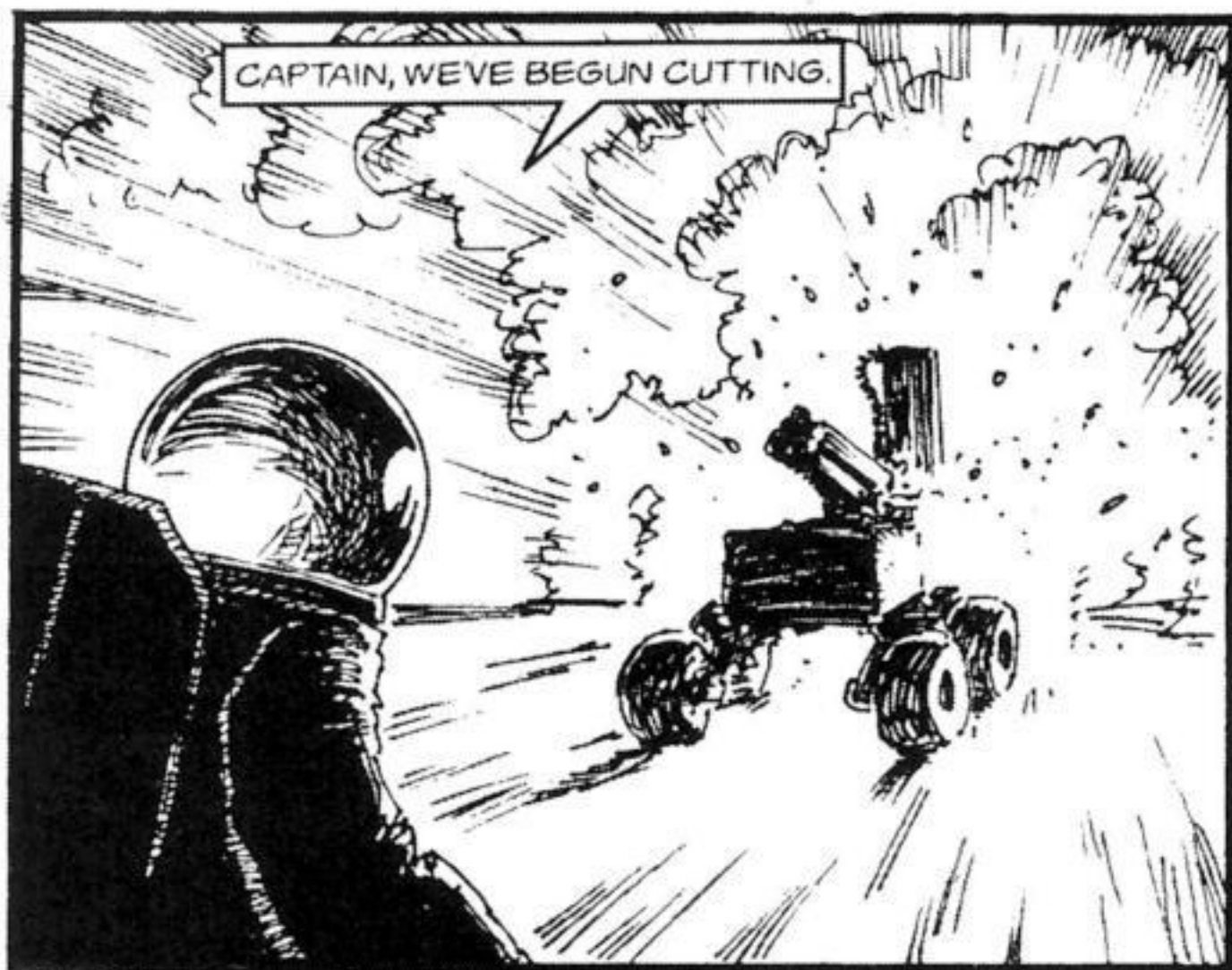
EVERYONE SEEMS SUITABLY SUBDUED.











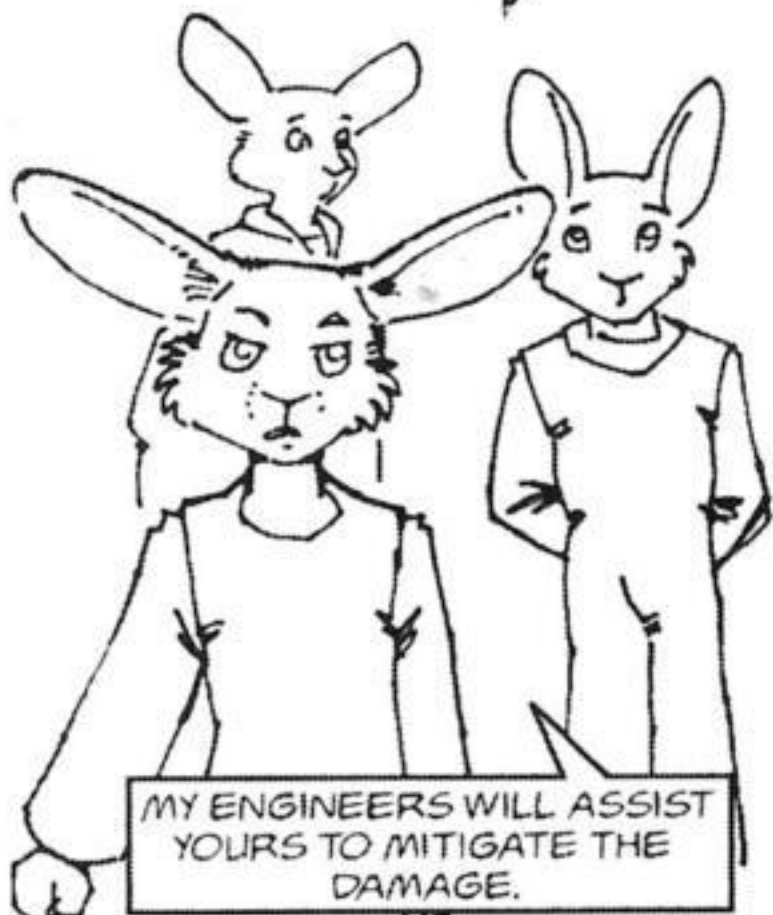
CAPTAIN, WE'VE BEGUN CUTTING.

CAPTAIN! I MUST PROTEST! THIS WANTON DESTRUCTION IS A CRIMINAL ACT!

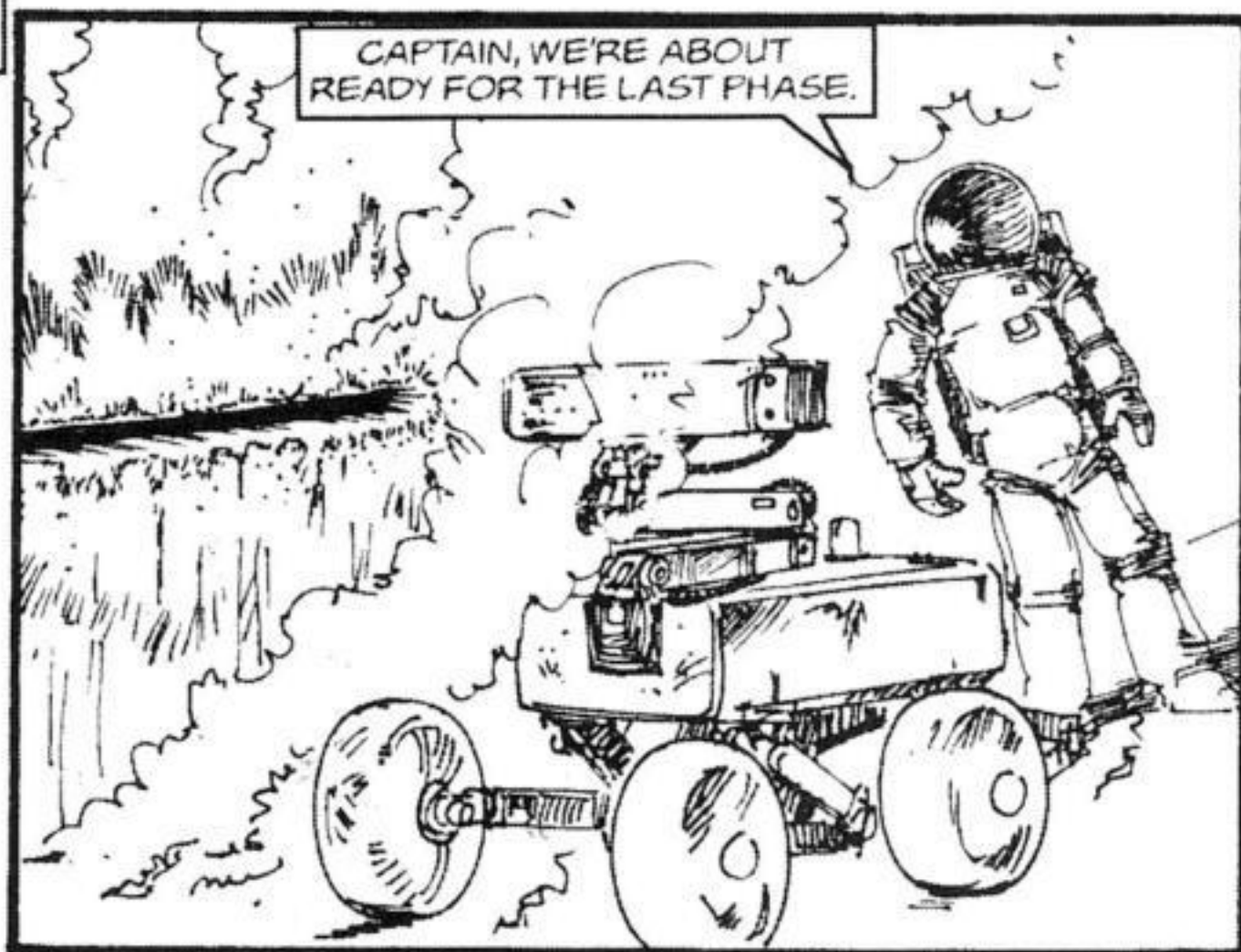


ADMINISTRATOR, WOULD YOU RATHER I SIMPLY DESTROY THE STATION OUTRIGHT?

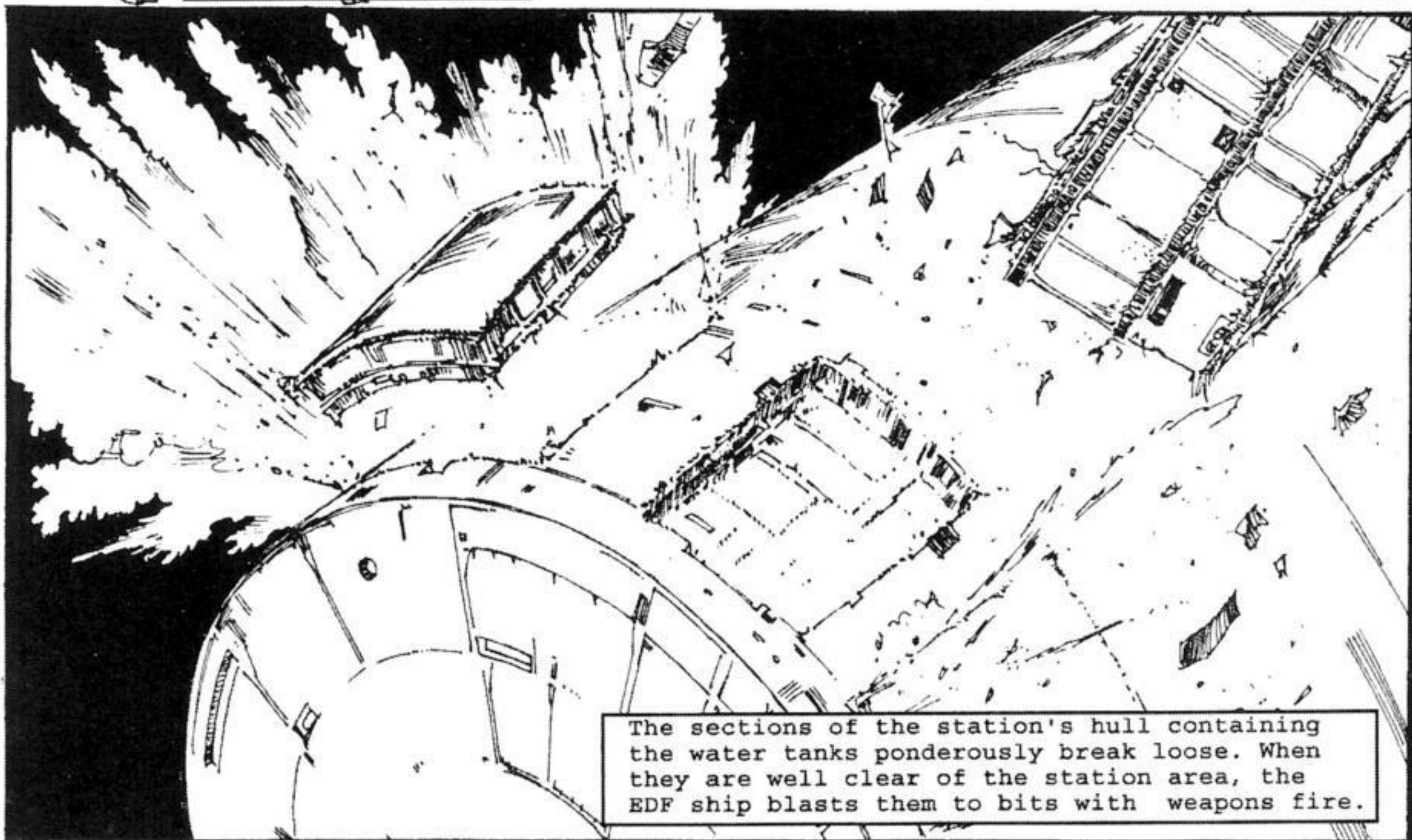
OKAY, CAPTAIN. IT SEEMS WE'LL HAVE TO CO-OPERATE WITH OUR OWN DESTRUCTION.



MY ENGINEERS WILL ASSIST YOURS TO MITIGATE THE DAMAGE.



CAPTAIN, WE'RE ABOUT READY FOR THE LAST PHASE.



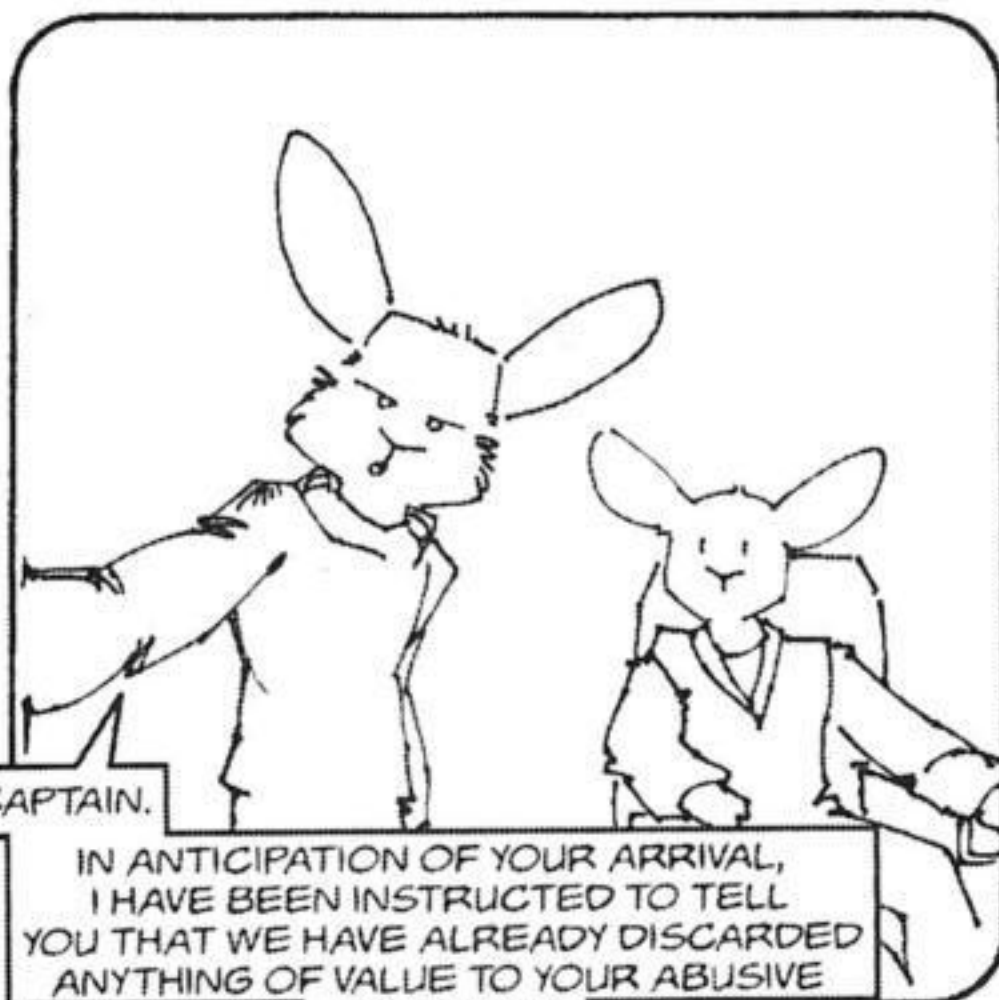
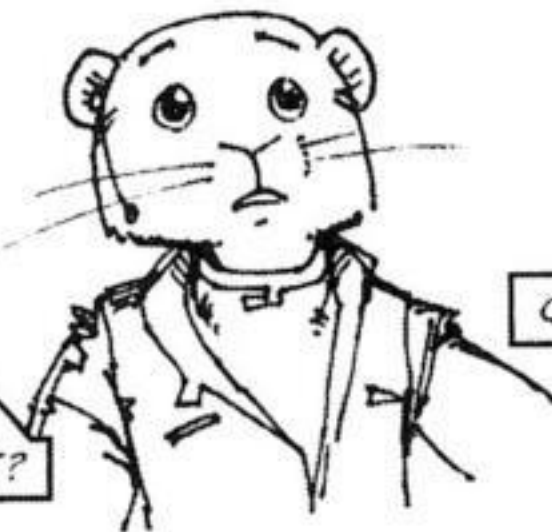
The sections of the station's hull containing the water tanks ponderously break loose. When they are well clear of the station area, the EDF ship blasts them to bits with weapons fire.



WELL, THAT OUGHT TO CONVINCE THEM THAT WE MEAN REAL BUSINESS.



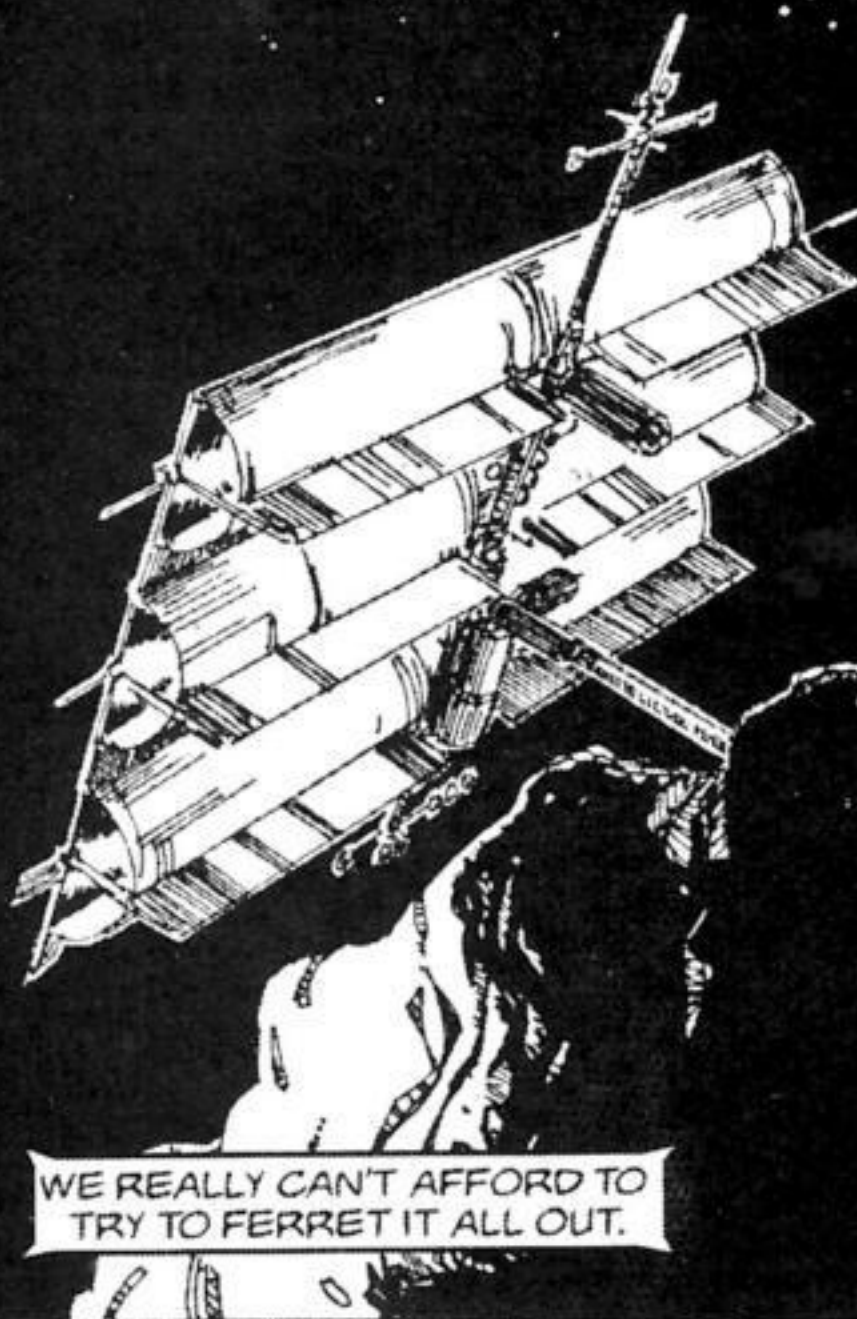
SO, WHO'S NEXT?



CAPTAIN.

IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR ARRIVAL, I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TELL YOU THAT WE HAVE ALREADY DISCARDED ANYTHING OF VALUE TO YOUR ABUSIVE INCURSION.

SO IT WOULD APPEAR.



WE REALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO TRY TO FERRET IT ALL OUT.



HOWEVER, WE KNOW YOU'VE ACTUALLY DISPERSED MOST OF WHAT WE WANT THROUGHOUT THE STATION.

SIMPLY  
DESTROYING THE STATION IS AN OPTION,  
BUT THAT ISN'T WHAT WE'RE ABOUT.  
SO - HOW ABOUT BLOWING YOUR FLYWHEEL?



ADMINISTRATOR CHARDARRIAD HERE.  
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE  
HERE YOU'D BE PUTTING AT RISK.

NOT NECESSARILY.  
BUT IT WOULD  
BE A CONSIDERABLE  
INCONVENIENCE.





I'D RECOMMEND YOU JETTISON YOUR FLYWHEELS YOURSELF. LESS LIKELY TO HAVE ANY COMPLICATIONS THAT WAY.



ALRIGHT THEN.



YOU'D LIKE THAT. BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO JEOPARDIZE MY PEOPLE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

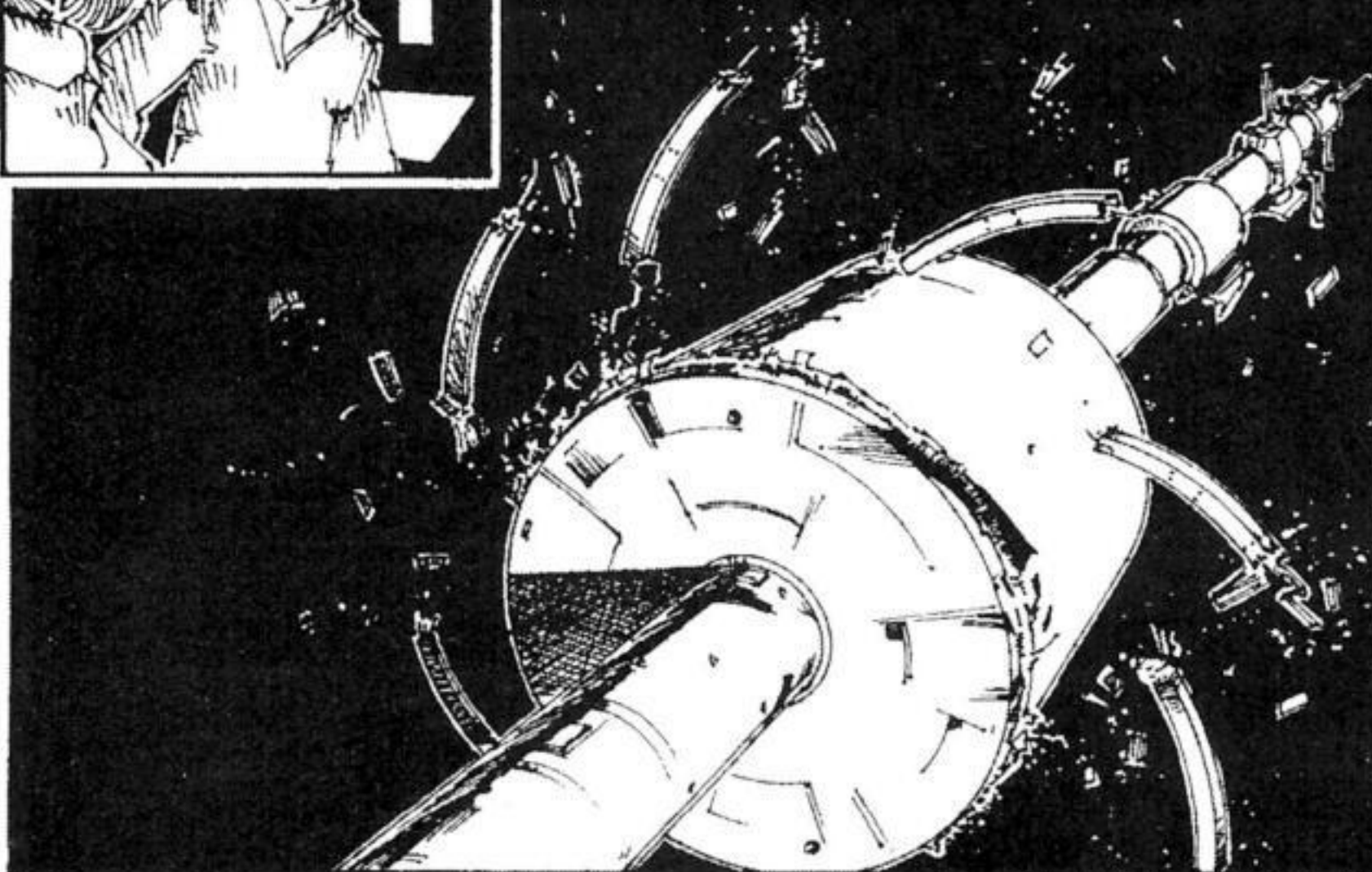
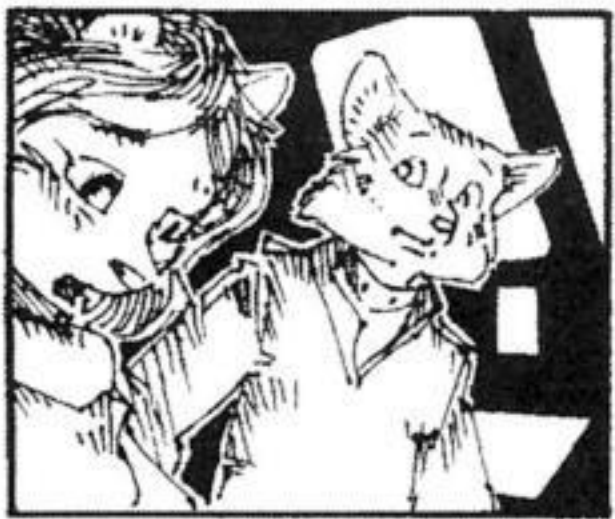


I'LL JUST SHOOT THEM OFF. I'D ASSUME THE FAILSAFES WILL PREVENT THEM FROM DOING TOO MUCH DAMAGE....

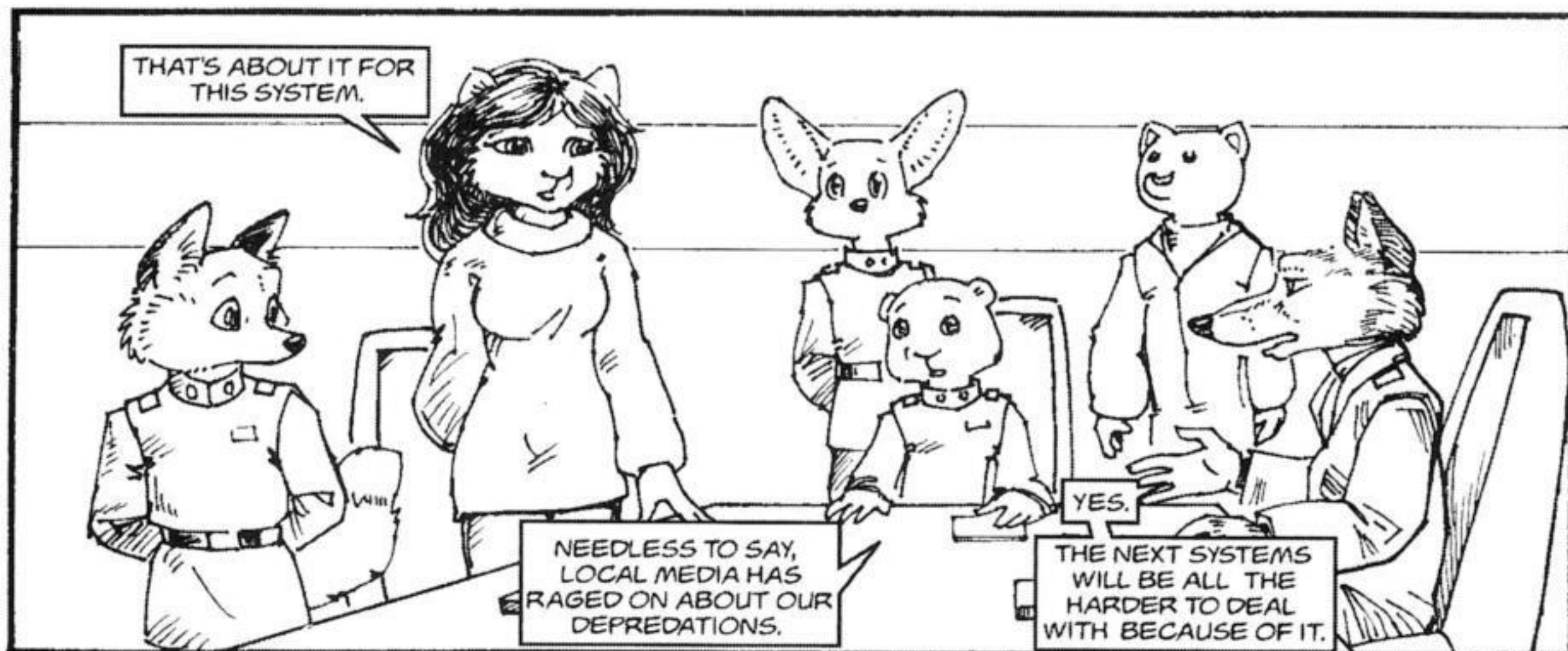
YOU WOULD DO THAT.



Moments later, the first of the multi-thousand ton flywheel assemblies are released, safely breaking free from the stations.







THAT'S ABOUT IT FOR THIS SYSTEM.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, LOCAL MEDIA HAS RAGED ON ABOUT OUR DEPREDATIONS.

YES.

THE NEXT SYSTEMS WILL BE ALL THE HARDER TO DEAL WITH BECAUSE OF IT.

THIS NEXT ONE INCLUDES A WHOLE PLANET.

EUWW! AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY IN-DEPTH INTELL ON IT. WE WON'T KNOW WHERE TO START.

HURMPH. GOT NO SENSE OF ADVENTURE?



GOING INTO THE TEETH OF IT IS WHAT WE DO BEST.

WELL, I'D RATHER WE SIMPLY ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION IN ONE PIECE.

WE'VE GOT FOUR WEEKS TO WORK OUT OPTIONS.

I RECOMMEND THE CREW GET SOME INTENSIFIED SIM TRAINING IN COMBAT.

ESPECIALLY WITH IN THE FIELD DECISION MAKING.

AND WITH ALL KINDS OF SCENARIOS, LOTS OF SURPRISES.

THE ONE THING I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ONCE WE GET THERE IS "WE DIDN'T THINK OF THAT."





# PRINCE OF FUR

is

## *A love story*

Warren Schafer cared for only one living thing: his cat. After death he has the chance to follow her to a world of intelligent felines.

## *An adventure*

Once on Rherau, he finds himself the adventure hero he never was in life on earth. Unmitigated evil threatens his world. Can Warren, in the body of a sickly, feebleminded prince, face and defeat it?

## *A reunion*

Returning to her first professional work after *Wandering Star*, Teri brings the story she created with Dwight Decker to a triumphant ending.



PRINCE of FUR  
2003



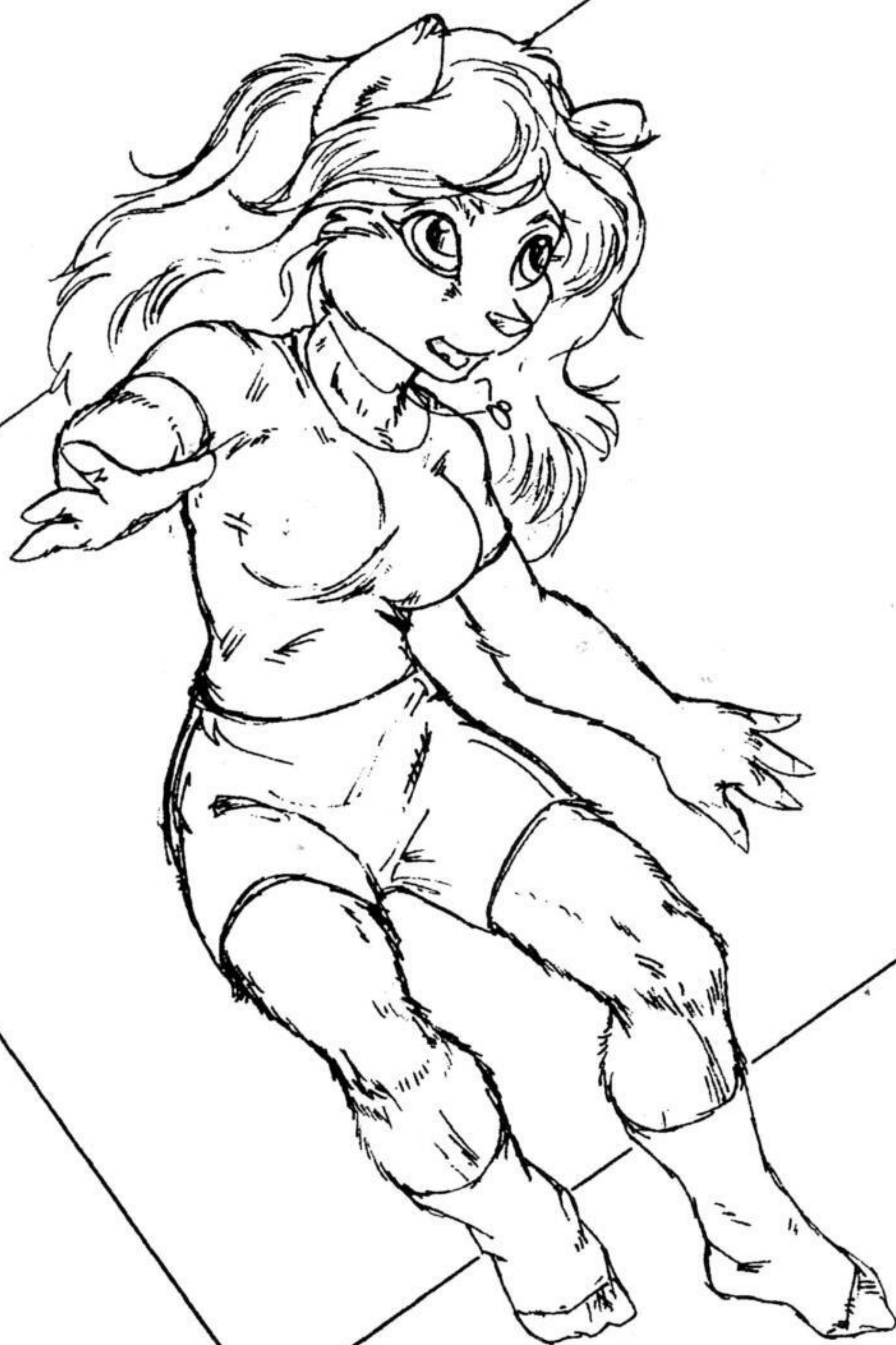
returning this summer from mu press

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**GIRLS WITH  
BLUE HAIR...**

**TALKING  
IGUANAS...**

**AND LOTS  
OF  
SAND...**

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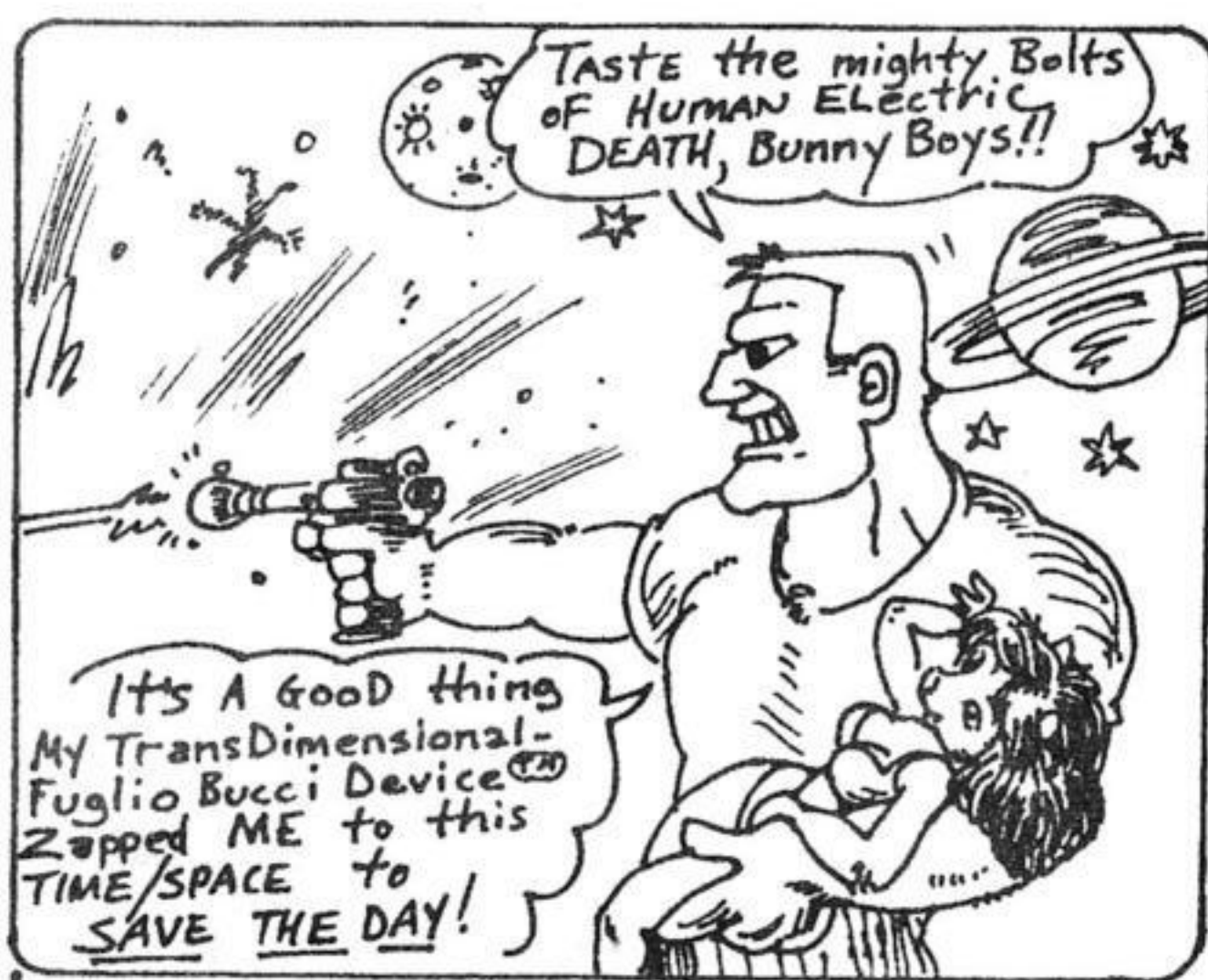
**...must be comic book stuff!**

**David Avarez's  
YENNY**  
book #1

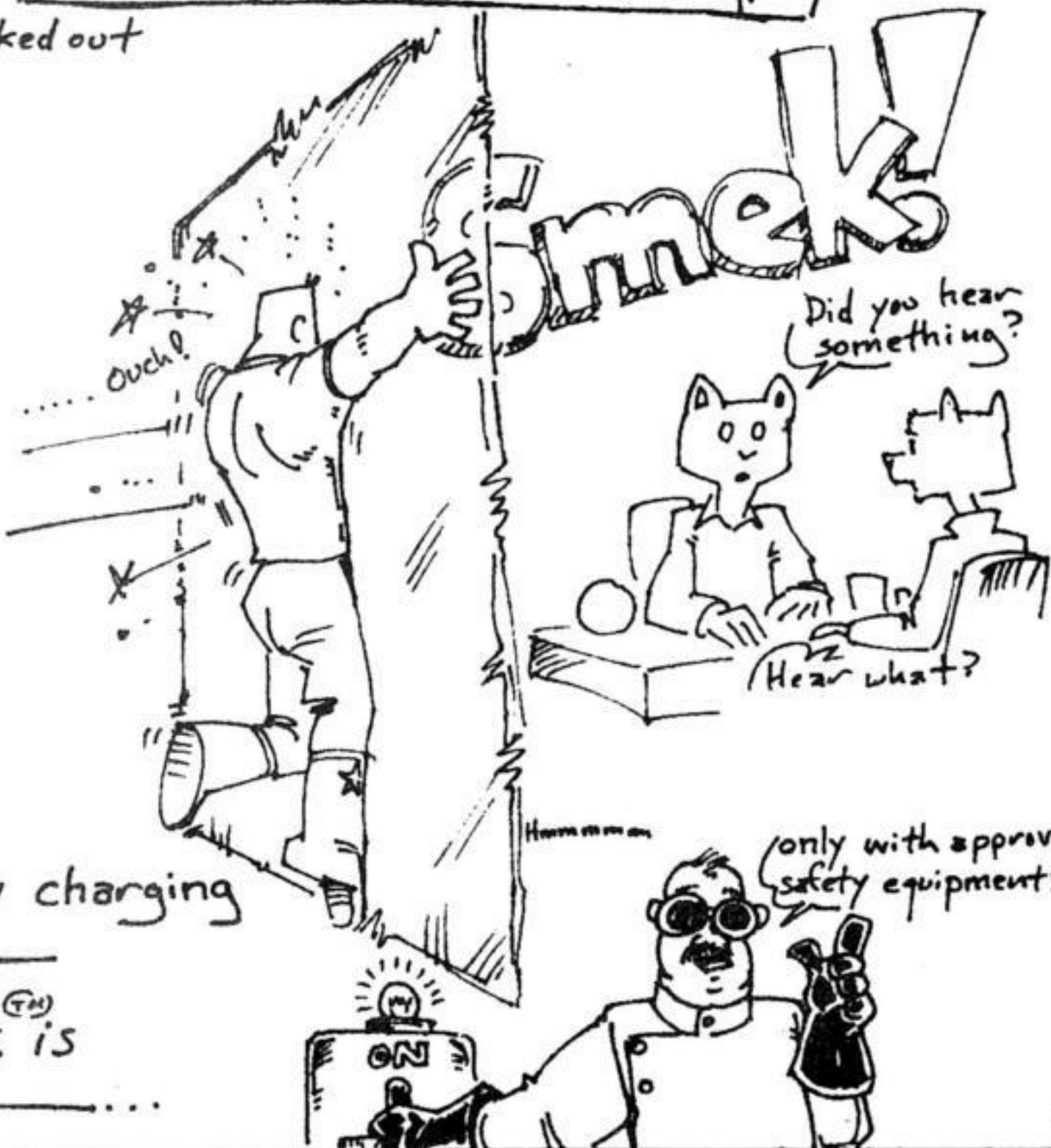
**COMING IN  
NOVEMBER!**





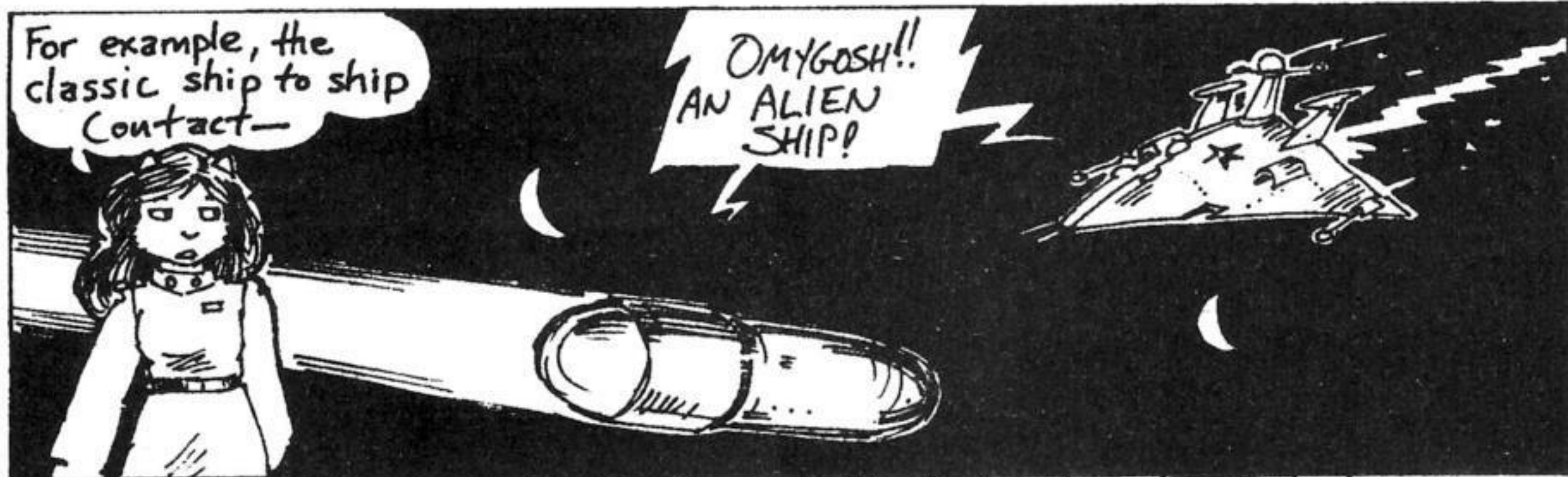


Within the scenario, Steve has worked out my Universe all too well—.



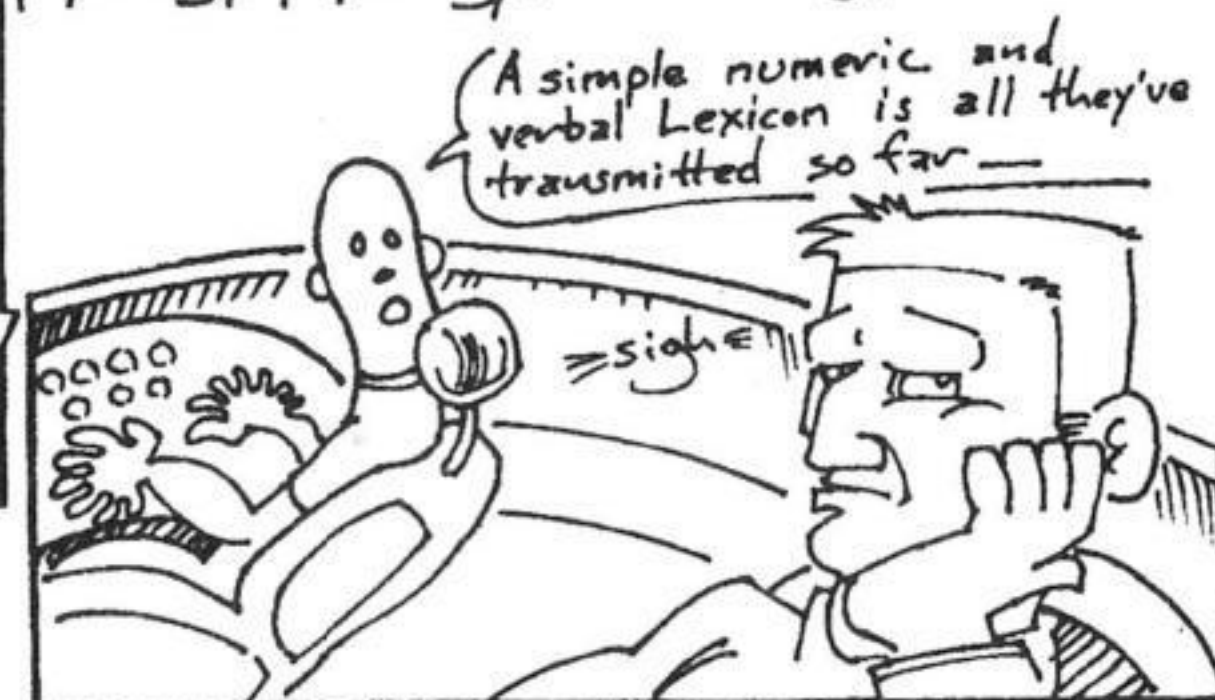
So, simply charging in isn't so easy—  
Steve's Reality Check (TM) is always on—....



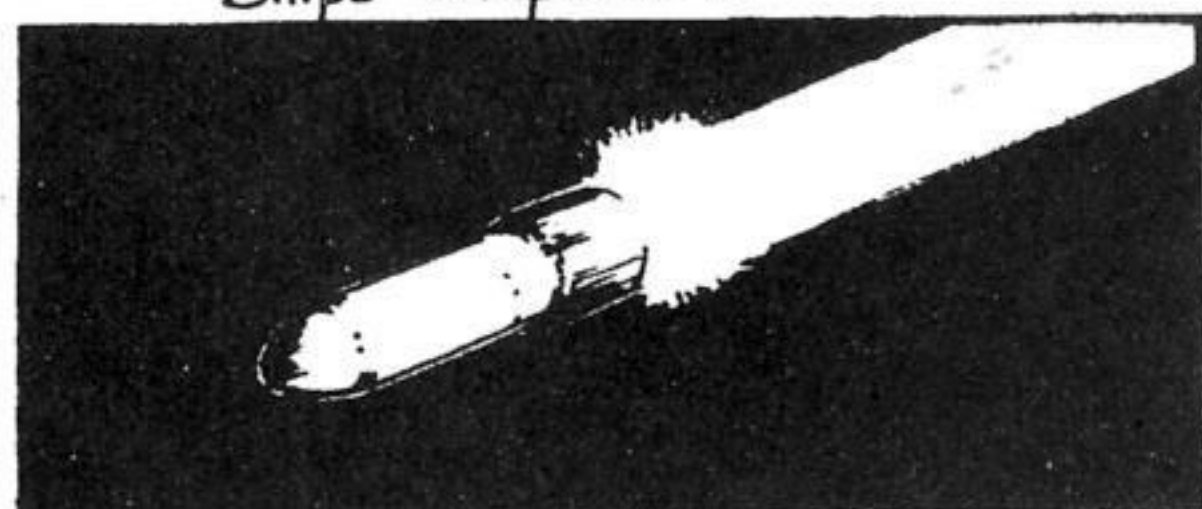


For our part, We would have to consider the unknown to be potentially hostile to the extreme. Any communication would be limited and filtered through the ship's computer.

Nothing that could reveal much about our psychology, physiology, or technology —



Coming too close could be considered aggressive



We would attempt to keep our distance. ideally hundreds, if not thousands of Kilometers away.



And we would be prepared to take defensive actions.

Similarly, Anything considered too intrusive, Like a penetrating sensor scan, could be considered a Hostile Act.



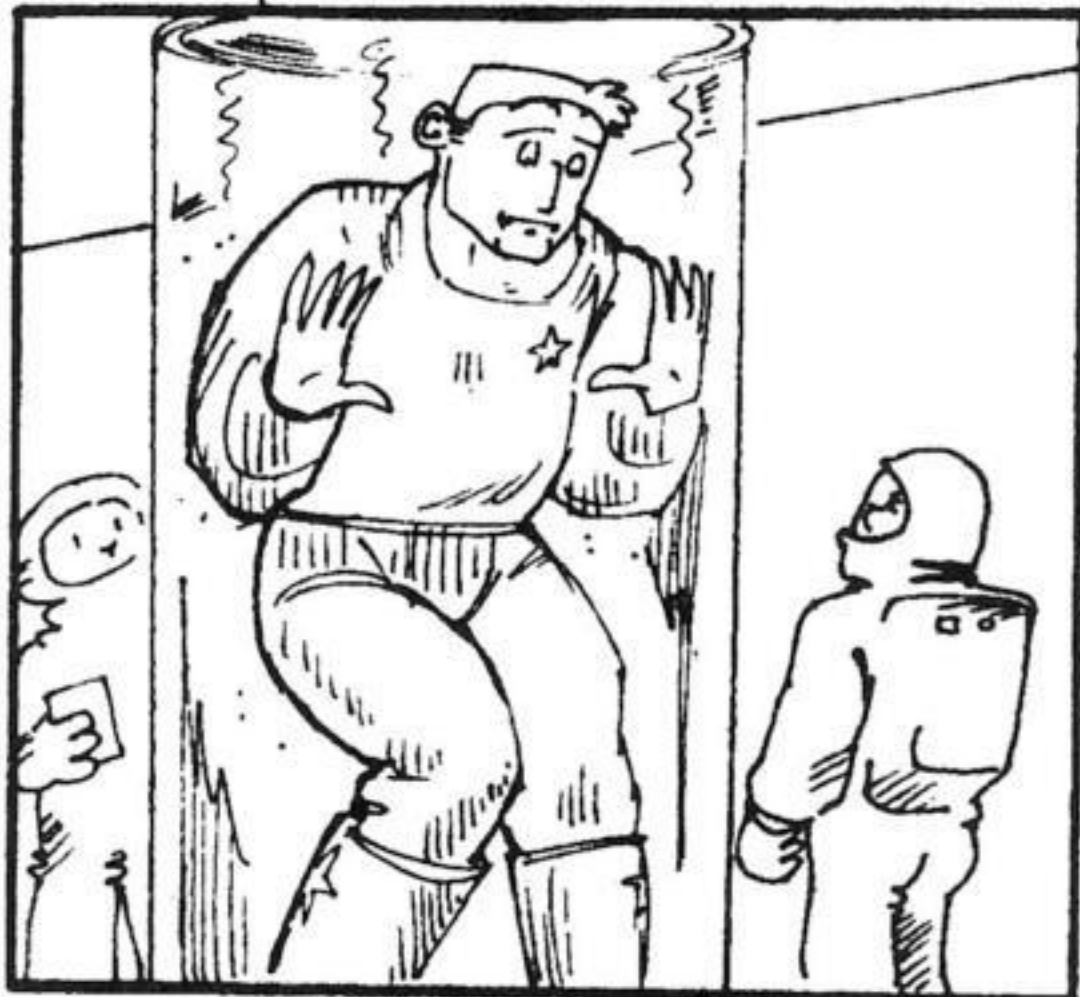
WARNING! SHIP'S SELF-DESTRUCT WILL DETONATE IN SIX-THREE--



And going even further, anything like 'Beaming' aboard, would be an Ultimate No No!!



As for personal contact—



You're an **ALIEN**, a big, ugly, stinky biohazardous galeof—

Any attempts to introduce a funny animal character from another scenario into the **ALBEDO** universe would suffer a similar fate— After all, they're **ALIENS**!!



Even if you do Get into the scenario. (hey Baby!)



All this being said, neither Steve nor myself want to discourage faunish efforts—

Far from it.

But as a practical matter, we can't endorse or publish your work, and would rather you regard **ALBEDO** as merely a source of inspiration for your own creations.

If you really want to play within the scenario— for gaming or other personal faunish fun, be our guest. Maybe 'Dar can get **REFRACTIONS** going again providing an outlet for non-canon works.





From the makers of IRONCLAW and JADECLAW

# ALBEDO

## PLATINUM CATALYST

### Role-Playing Game

**As they looked to the heavens, they wondered,  
just what kind of people were they?**

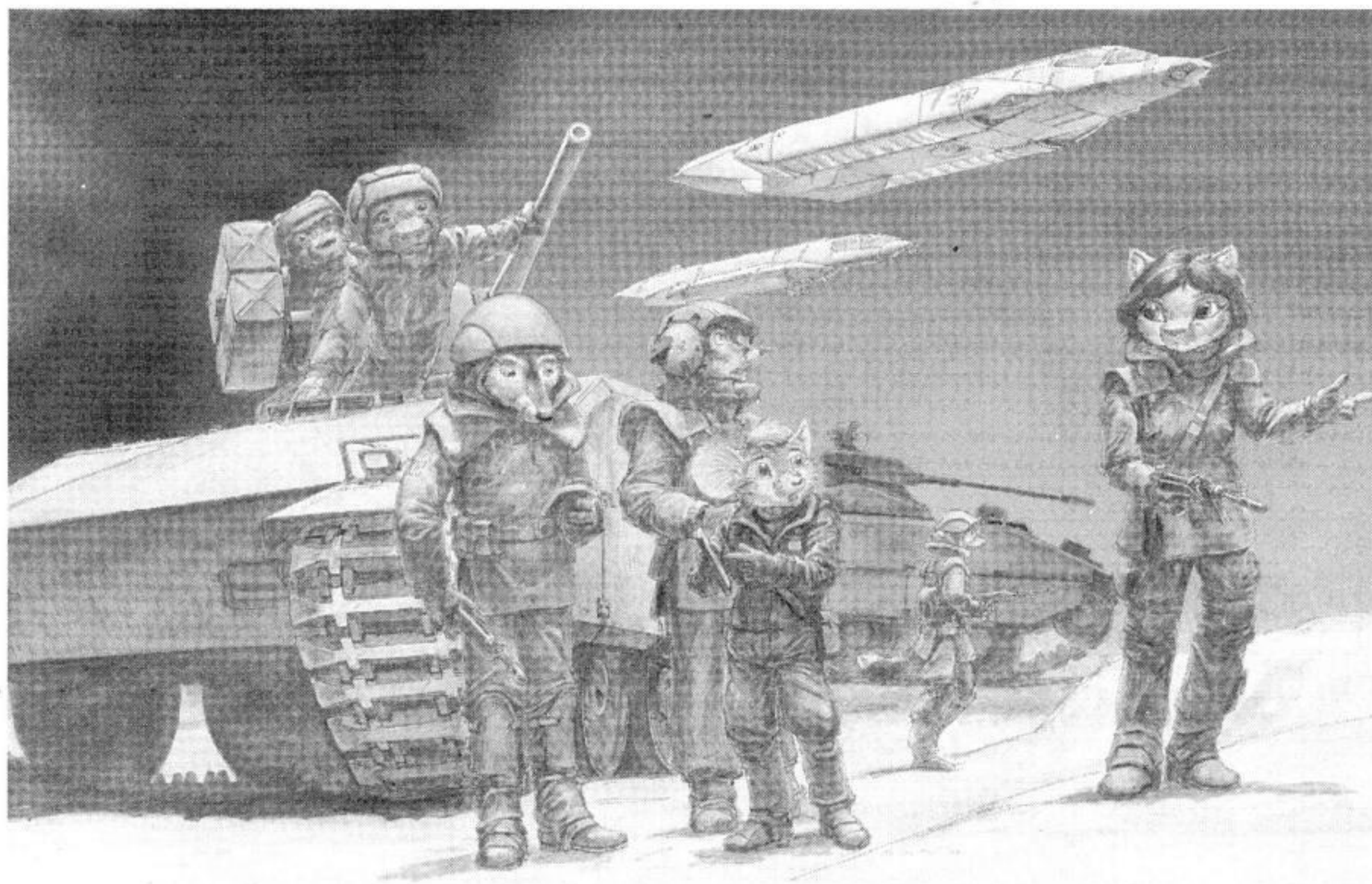
It had been centuries since the peoples of Arras Chanka learned that they had been abandoned by their Creators. But after colonizing dozens of worlds, they were no closer to solving the mystery of where they came from. As the ties that bind them are stretched thin, war erupts among the many planets, colonies, and space stations. The greatest threat rises from the Inter-Lapine Republic, who declare themselves master of all races, waging a campaign of destruction and death against all that oppose them. As the Confederation quickly assembles its own Extra-planetary Defense Force, tensions rise, mistakes are made, and people live in fear, uncertainty, and doubt of what the future might bring.

Albedo: Platinum Catalyst brings the drama of Steve Gallacci's long-running comic series to the stage of role-playing. Players take on the roles of the brave marines, quick pilots, bold explorers, and clever scientists who must deal with their society as war threatens to tear it apart. A complete game in one volume, this book contains descriptions of the races, careers, science, hardware, and known universe.

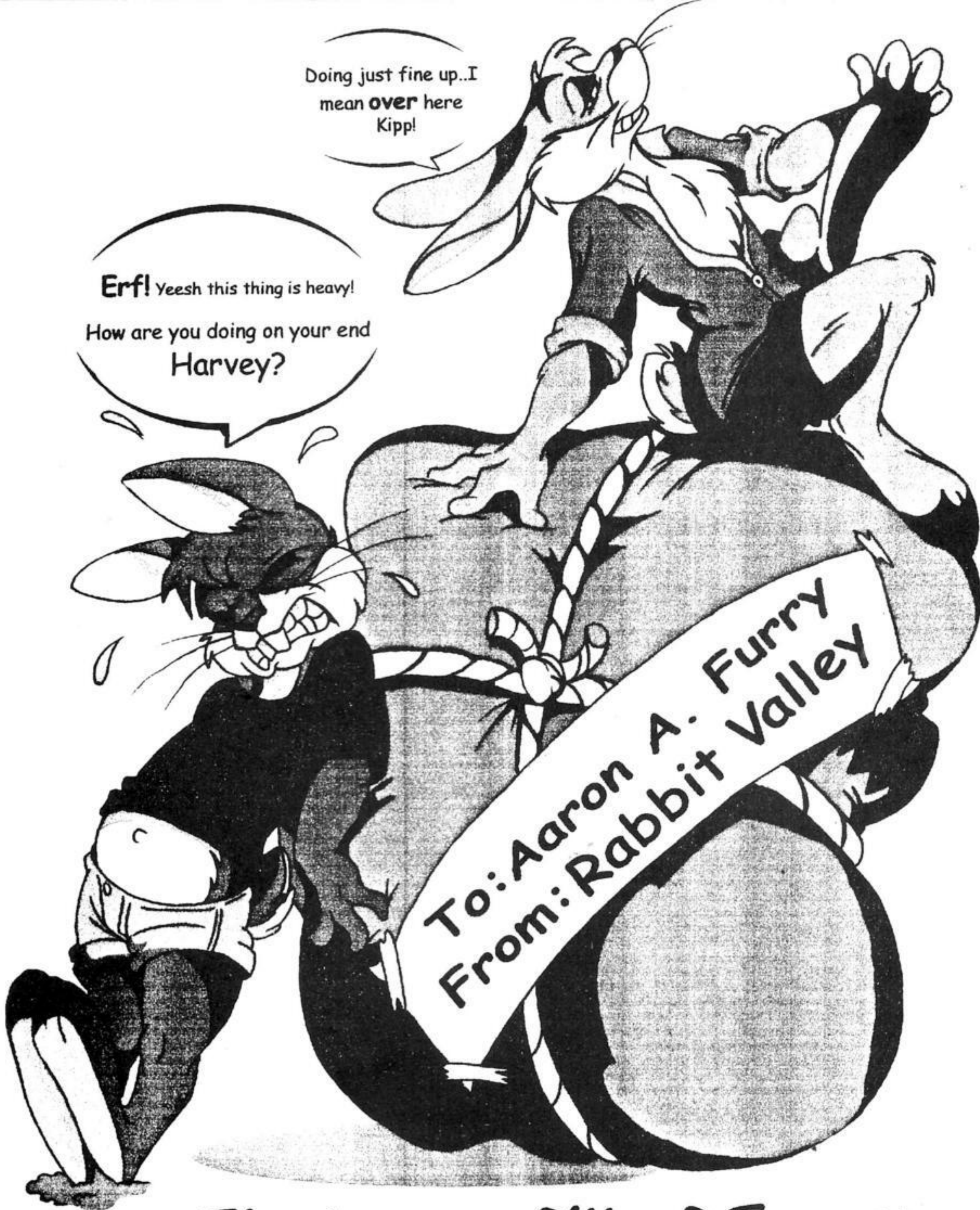


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## The Albedo print history

Vol.0 nr.0, 1983 The prototype issue.

First printing, "white cover," with the first eight copies having an additional yellow printer (the "yellow" cover) that was discontinued due to technical bugs.

Second and third printing, reversed "blue" cover, as a blueprint effect, the original intended design.

These all contained **Bad Rubber**, a parody of the movie **Blade Runner**.

Fourth printing, reproduced the original "yellow" cover and contained misc. art on additional pages.

Vol.1 nr.1 Two versions of the cover, same art but different color processes.

EF 001-16 The raid on Derzon and the EDF armed response, introducing Erma.

A silly short peice, **Flinch Gideon**, by Marc Schrimmer and the first apperence of Stan Sakai's **The Adventures of Nilson Groundthumper**.

Vol.1 nr.2 Cover by Stan Sakai (a serigraphed cover was attempted without success).

EF 017-029

First episode of **Usagi Yojimbo** by Stan Sakai and Lela Dowling's illustrated **The Lion and the Unicorn**.

Vol.1 nr.3 Back cover by Stan Sakai.

EF 030-047 Erma settles into her new posting on Ekosiak. Itzak Arrat commands a ship investigating the Chishata system and comes under hostile fire.

The second episode of Stan Sakai's **Usagi Yojimbo**.

Vol.1 nr.4 Cover by Stan Sakai.

EF 048-064 Itzak Arrat's crew discovers atrocities committed in the Chishata system.

Another episode of Stan Sakai's **Usagi Yojimbo**.

(At about this time, Fantagraphics Books was preparing their title **Critters**, which would include the serialized **Birthright**, a sort of sequel to **Erma Felna, EDF**, set about a century later.)

Vol.1 nr.5, October, 1985.

EF 065-084 Erma does what she can to help deal with civil unrest on Ekosiak.

An episode of Stan Sakai's **The Adventures of Nilson Groundthumper and Hermy**.

Vol.1 nr.6, February, 1986.

EF 085-093 A pause in the unrest on Ekosiak and Erma flashes back to her training days (the shooty mouse scene).

The first episode of the **Konny and Czu** story **Harvest**, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister.

The first episode of Deal Whitley's **High Orbit**.

Vol.1 nr.7, June, 1986 Cover by Ken Macklin.

EF 094-105 A calm before the storm. The ground work for new civil unrest and the shock of the news of the Chishata system massacre push to a new crisis.

**Harvest**, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister continues, as does Deal Whitley's **High Orbit**.

Vol.1 nr.8, January, 1987.

EF 106-125 Civil unrest erupts across Ekosiak and only the assassination of a key conspirator allows cooler heads to retake control.

Another episode of **Harvest** by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister, but only a couple of sketches from Deal Whitley for **High Orbit**.

Vol.1 nr.9, May, 1987 Cover by Karl Kofoed

EF 126-135 Co-inked by Monika Livingston. The immediate crisis on Ekosiak is settled, though there is a little zero-gee combat action.

Concludes the **Konny and Czu** story **Harvest** by Matt Hwoarth and D.M.Kister and the pencils for what would be Deal Whitley's last installment of **High Orbit**.

Vol.1 nr.10, September, 1987.

EF 136-147 Co-inked by Monika Livingston. Erma is introduced to "the Net," plots are springing up all over and Itzak Arrat finds he's stepped into the thick of it.

Short **Konny and Czu** story **The Childhood Years** by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister, along with a one-page Howarth intro intended for another episode of **High Orbit**, entitled **Couch Potato Seque-way**. Instead, the first episode of Monika Livingston's **Rufus the Red** was used.



Vol.1 nr.11, December, 1987.

EF 148-158 Erma meets her old friend Toki, and while in transit, finds an ancient derelict space ship.

The first episode of *Debt*, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister, second episode of Monika Livingston's *Rufus the Red*, and a sample of Dan Flahive's *Space Wolf*.

Vol.1 nr.12, March, 1988. Wrap-around cover also used for Rustycon program book.

EF 159-171 More dealing with the derelict space ship and the introduction of Dr. Elaki Kalikahaii.

A further episode of *Debt*, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister and the first and only published episode of Adrian Kleinbergen's *The Grapes of Rat*. There was also a sample of Dan Flahive's *Space Wolf* and Vicki Wyman's *Xanadu*. (*Xanadu* would subsequently be published by Thoughts & Images.)

Vol.1 nr.13, July, 1988. Cover by Matt Howarth

EF 172-183 Dr. Kalakahaii finds an alien (human) body in the derelict space ship.

*Debt*, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister, concludes and the first episode of Dan Flahive's *Space Wolf* begins.

Vol. nr.14, Spring 1989. Cover photograph by Rick Sternbach.

EF 184-201 Itzak Arrat becomes aware of compromised official computer activity. Erma settles into her new posting and meets an old friend, Afon Voga.

Another *Konny* and *Czu* childhood short, *The Childhood Years*, by Matt Howarth and D.M.Kister and another episode of Dan Flahive's *Space Wolf*.

Vol.2 nr.1, June, 1991. Antarctic Press takes on the publishing tasks of **ALBEDO**.

EF 202-216 More of the ILR side of the scenario, Itzak Arrat has interesting times in transit, a glimpse of Erma's family and Erma and Afon get romantic.

An episode of *Space Wolf* by Dan Flahive and a short reintroduction of *Erma Felna, EDF*.

Vol.2 nr.2, September, 1991. Cover colored by Tome Verre.

EF 217-236 Erma has bad dreams and finds she is pregnant, more ILR perspective, and things start getting complicated on Ekosiak again.

Reprinted Richard Larsen's *BUN E*, which originally appeared in **No Ducks** nr. 1.

Vol.2 nr.3, December 1991

EF 237-256 Things are getting hotter all over and Erma has a baby.

Concludes the initial *Space Wolf* story by Dan Flahive. (Further episodes would be published under his own title by Antarctic Press.)

Vol2 nr.4, Spring, 1992

EF 257-275 Erma and her baby scenes along with quick glimpses of the various other characters getting ready for the next plot complications.

An eight page technical description of the standard EDF armored vehicle.

Vol.2 nr.5, June, 1992

EF 276-290 The compromised computer issue hits Ekosiak and Col. Hitzok deals with it as a critical emergency.

Erma adjusts to life with Rojigo. Itzak Arrat gets an offer. Ipcha Tankannahaii is introduced.

A page of Cindy Murata spot art and a short story from Erma's childhood by Mike Sagara and Mike Curtis.

Vol.2 nr.6,

EF 291-306 Dr. Kalahahaii meets Amhast Enchawa who tells her of her changing status. Cadet Tankannahaii begins his on board military training. Col. Hitzok has trouble with the Governor. Cute Erma and baby bits.

And early Erma and Toki story, *First Impressions*, by Mike Sagara and Mike Curtis.

Vol.2 nr.7, September, 1992.

EF 307-325 Itzak Arrat meets his new command. Cadet Tankannahaii struggles to work with his crewmates. Erma, Afon, and Rojigo are in transit to Dornthant, and Ekosiak political strife gets nasty.

Intro to *Tales of Beatrix Farmer* by Steve Gallacci and Taral Wayne and Cindy Murata spot illos.

Vol.2 nr.8, March, 1993.

EF 326-350 Cadet Tankannahaii gets his first posting. Life with Itzak Arrat's crew. Col. Hitzok deals with his Clan. Erma in transit and arrival at her home world and the various unfolding plots there.



Vol.2 nr.9 Photo cover.

EF 351-366 Erma and her family embroiled in political complications. Quick scenes of Itzak Arrat's crew and Col. Hitzok's personal life. The bombardment of Dornthant begins.

A short bit of ancient Greek mythology/fantasy, *The Second Wish*, by Fred Patten, Terrie Smith, and Roz Gibson.

Vol.2 nr.10, Winter, 1993.

EF367-389 The attack on Dornthant concludes and Erma is arrested and, in effect, exiled, for her efforts to defend the planet.

The Color Special.

Retells and expands the story of Vol.1 Nr.1 with all new art in full color.

Non-EF sequence.

Vol.3 nr.1, The first regular issue in full color.

Non-EF sequence future flashback story, told by old Erma about how she met her clone daughter Teka Ardehab.

Vol.3 nr.2, October, 1994.

Non-EF sequence future flashback story concludes.

EF 390-392 Short Dr. Kalikahaii bit getting back into the main sequence.

Another pre-suit Beatrix Farmer story, *Heigh-ho Heigh-ho...*, by Fred Patten and Terrie Smith

Vol.3 nr.3, Spring, 1995

EF 393-412 Dr. Kalikahaii considers the alien (human). A secret project tests a matter/energy converter. A bit of life with Itzak Arrat's crew. Erma and Lt. Tankannahaii both search for hostile contact in intersellar space.

Two **Konny** and **Czu** shorts, *Trading Up* and *Trading off*, by Matt Howarth.

Vol.3 nr.4

EF 413-432 Lt. Tankannahaii's ship turns to commerce raiding. Ekosiak hears of the War. Toki's initial thoughts on the War. Erma's family members individually survive. Teka Ardehab, Erma's clone daughter is introduced.

A pre-suit **Beatrix Farmer** story, *A Favor for a Freind*, by Fred Patten, Terrie Smith, and Steve Gallacci

Vol.4 nr.1, December, 1996 Back to black and white. Cover and interior inks by Adrian Kleinbergen

EF 433-452 Erma is frustrated with the pace of the action. Lt. Tankannahaii's ship takes captives and contraband. Itzak Arrat's mission changes. Teka Ardehab has an assassination attempt against her. Dr. Kalikahaii gets exposed to alien nanites.

A short story about music in the **Albedo** scenario, *Making Sound*, Shon Howell and Steve Gallacci

Vol.4 nr.2, 1998 Interior inks by Adrian Kleinbergen

EF 453-478 Erma's ship has a "hard" jump. An ILR ship is destroyed by the secret matter/energy weapon which provokes the "Net" to assert itself. Dr. Kalikahaii is given an offer from Enchawa, while throughout space, other characters are introduced to the new player in their midst.

Vol.5 nr.1 Now published by SFA.

EF479-503

While many of the issues are out of print, several others still are available, along with other comics that I have worked with. For information on these and the following other projects and products, I can be contacted via [bevnsag@comcast.net](mailto:bevnsag@comcast.net) or at P.O.Box 19419, Seattle WA 98109

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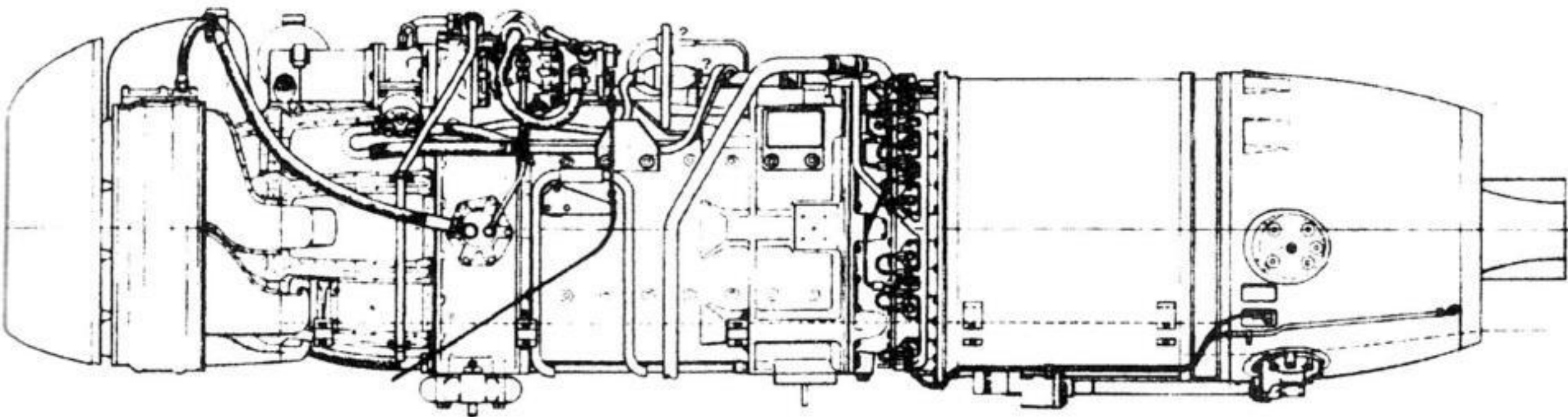
It all started with the question, after too many bad horror movies and LARP sessions: could one actually make and shoot silver bullets? So I did some experiments and found that making, loading, and shooting silver bullets could be done. Moreover, silver wasn't a bad material for bullets in general. So, Argent Small Arms was born.

I can cast or mill bullets in almost any profile from .177 to .75 Calibre and can assemble cartridges in almost any brass I may have or you provide. I do not sell live ammunition, however, as I am not a licensed manufacturer. I can also do silver bullets with hard wood tips and cores, for those applications where silver alone may not do it. While the mythological beast hunting trade is an obvious market, these silver loads also are great for *Lone Ranger* fans or simply presentation or display pieces, as pure silver doesn't tarnish as easily as Sterling.



### Model Products

I've been building models, mostly airplanes, since I was a little kid, and over the years have gotten pretty good at it. Now I'm making parts for model airplanes, mainly extra detail bits, like engines, and parts to convert the model subject into a different version. I've already done a 1/32nd scale BMW 003 turbojet and am finishing up a conversion for a 1/32nd scale Bf109G-10 Erlo-built 110 type engine cowl. Other model parts in various scales will follow over the next months, either produced by myself or for various kit manufacturers. In conjunction with these, I'm also doing drawings and art of historical aircraft that I will market later.



### Other Comics and Art

I've been working on Elin Winkler's *Tales of the Fehnnik* and will be doing more as our schedules allow. Also as time wills, I'll be doing some more for Ken Fletcher's *Spontoons* fanzine. I'm also still doing some science fiction art and illustration for the SF convention art show circuit.

### Reenacting

I've been a Civil War reenactor for over eight years now, portraying a member of Company I of the Seventh Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. It's a lot of fun, more for the educational "show and tell" and living history rather than the playing soldier parts.





## It was twenty years ago today...

In the spring of 1984, I took to press my first full-fledged comic book, *Albedo* Vol. 1 nr. 1, the first real issue. I'd been noodling on it for the previous six years but only then did it all come together. In absolute terms it was still a pretty rough product, but it proved to be part of the vanguard for alternate press comics in general and anthropomorphic/furry fandom in particular. That it continues to have avid fans who have stuck with it from the beginning says something, I don't know what at times. But it has been quite a ride and I hope to do even better with it in the future.

### Introductions

In 1978, while I was posted to a graphics shop at Kapaun U.S. Air Force Station in Germany, having discovered the freedom of underground comics, I began a silly cartoon spoof of military science fiction comics with the adventures of *Astroduck*. Astroduck was a collection of all the characteristics I found undesirable in my fellow service members. Alternately a cowardly shirker and a bullying braggart, he blundered from one self-inflicted disaster to another. One of his foils was an officious female named Erma who was initially of little note. However, I became inspired by some particularly dramatic science fiction stories, and several recent combat events (Poul Anderson's *People of the Wind*, and the Sontag and Mayaguez military rescue attempts) and in short order the initial story of what would be *Erma Felna, EDF* was drafted.

The central character, a female pilot officer, was a reflection of my idealized military persona, everything I wanted to be if I were something other than an underachieving, color-blind and therefore grounded enlisted person. A very rough version of what would be the first four pages of the story appeared in the cartoon fanzine *Huzzah* in 1979.

Little more happened directly with the story, though art related to the characters and action appeared as single illustrations at science fiction convention art shows beginning at Worldcon Boston in 1980. This convention also saw the beginnings of interest in a new funny animal fandom, largely distinct from the Saturday morning animated cartoon style. I did several convention art shows a year thereafter, selling both general science fiction themed art and lots of cartoon peices.

In 1983, a printer friend of mine, Mike Broche, whom I had worked with doing NorthWestScienceFictionSociety and Norwescon related graphics, offered to print a mini-comic, provided I actually got the art done. And about the same time, I saw the film *Bladerunner* with a group of friends. It was either Jim or June Hill who suggested the character "Rick Duckert," and the cartoon movie parody *Bad Rubber* was born. It was in the first mini prototype issue of *ALBEDO*, which went through several small printings over the next year, introducing me to the comics market and fandoms. Encouraged by the response to the prototype issue, I began work on the first full issue of *Albedo*, featuring *Erma Felna, EDF*, which was published in the spring of 1984.

Erma Felna is a young pilot officer, part of the elite Extraplanetary Defense Force of the Confederation of Planets. the population of the Confederation is all genetically artifacted species that had been colonized in that region of space nearly three centuries before. These people have no idea of their origin, but have developed their own society and technology and expanded throughout a fair section of space.

One of the early colonial efforts are of a splinter group of rabbits who eventually created their own state. The Independent Lapine Republic. They made themselves adversaries to the rest of the worlds, forcing the creation of the Confederation and the EDF a generation before Erma's time.

The story opens with an invasion of a distant colony world and the EDF's armed response to it. (*Albedo* vol.1, nr.1) Erma's performance gains attention from higher ups, and over the next issues, she is introduced to many situations. It is not for some years (and many issues) that the EDF/Confed and the ILR become engaged in open warfare (vol.2, nr8-9-10). At the same time, the heretofore reliable EDF and Confed inner circles have become compromised by the personal ambitions of some members. For her efforts in the heroic defense of her home world, Erma is accused of treasonous conduct and is only paroled to continue to command a warship in the war.





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SUMMER 2004



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KATMANDU #20 \$5.00  
KATMANDU #21 \$5.00  
KATMANDU #22 \$5.00  
KATMANDU #23 ⊖  
KATMANDU #24 ⊖  
KATMANDU #25 \$5.00  
KATMANDU #26 \$5.00  
KATMANDU #27 \$5.00  
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PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED! ➤

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HOPLITES, WILD ORCHIDS, AND THE COLOR  
NUDE PORTFOLIO. THESE ITEMS WILL NOT BE  
SENT WITHOUT ONE.

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(MORE FOR AIR MAIL)

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AN ITEM GOES OUT OF STOCK  
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FOR PROCESSING.

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READ HOW IT ALL BEGAN

# Shanda

## THE PANDA

*Invitation to the Dance*

TRADE PAPERBACK

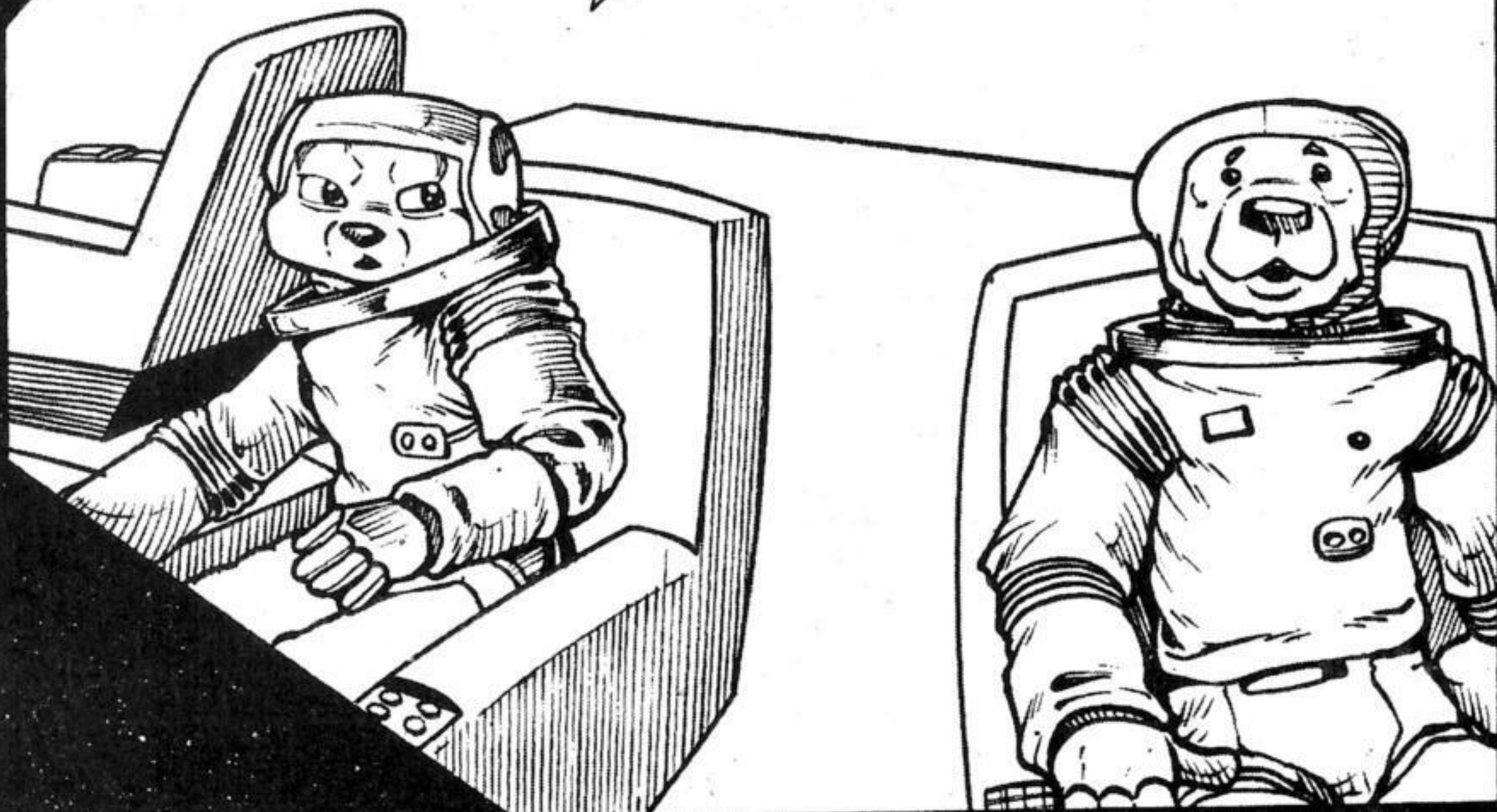


COMING THIS FALL FROM





UNKNOWN SHIP, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF.  
IF YOU DO NOT IDENTIFY YOURSELF, WE ARE  
PREPARED TO FIRE UPON YOU.



SD 201-05-01. Station "C" in orbit around K-122.  
The ILR Light Attack Frigate Gaewahn approaches.  
*Inks in this section by Adrian Klienbergen*



SIR, THEY HAVE SHORT  
RANGE TRACK AND RANGE  
LASERS AND RADARS ON  
US.

YES.

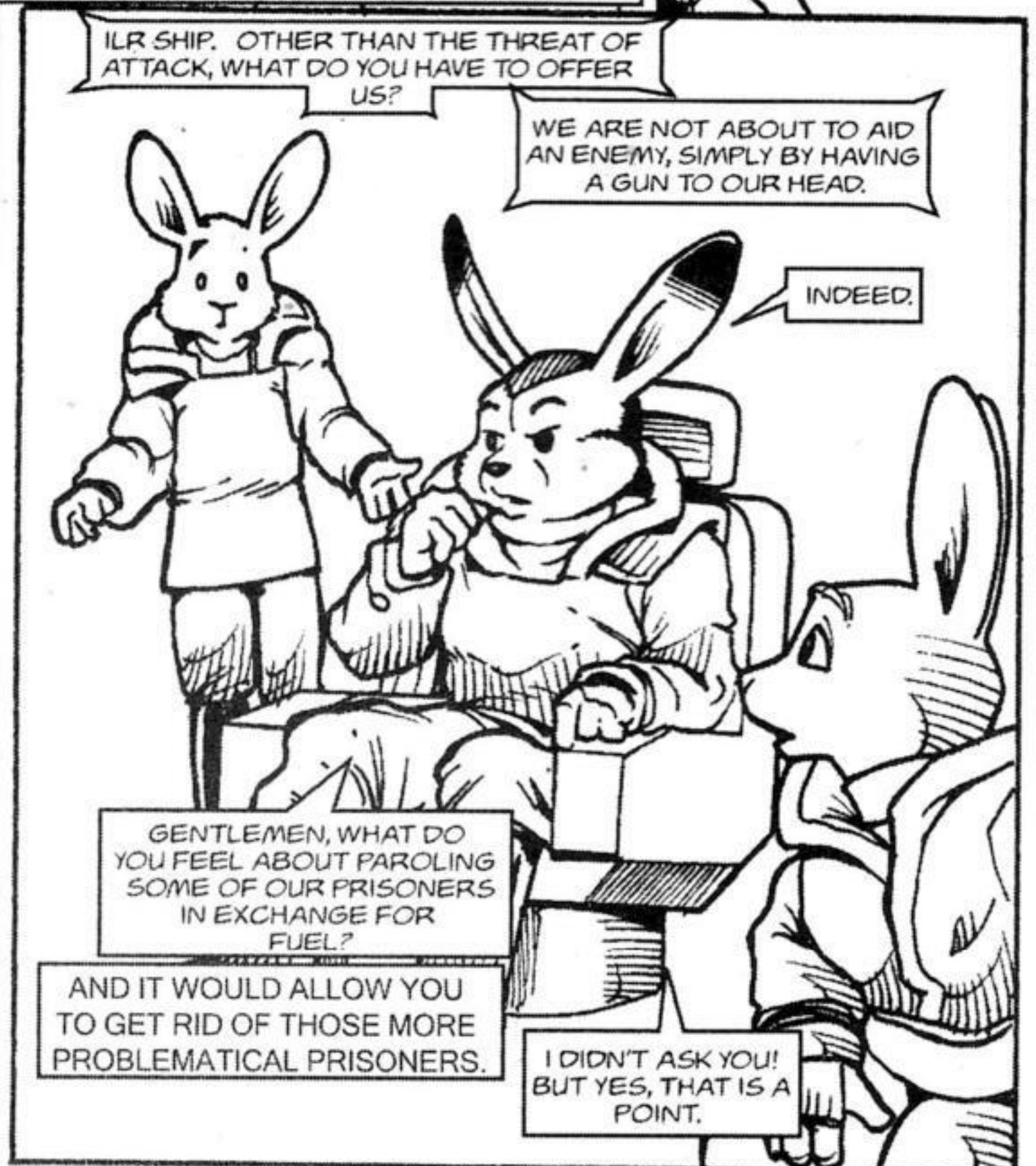
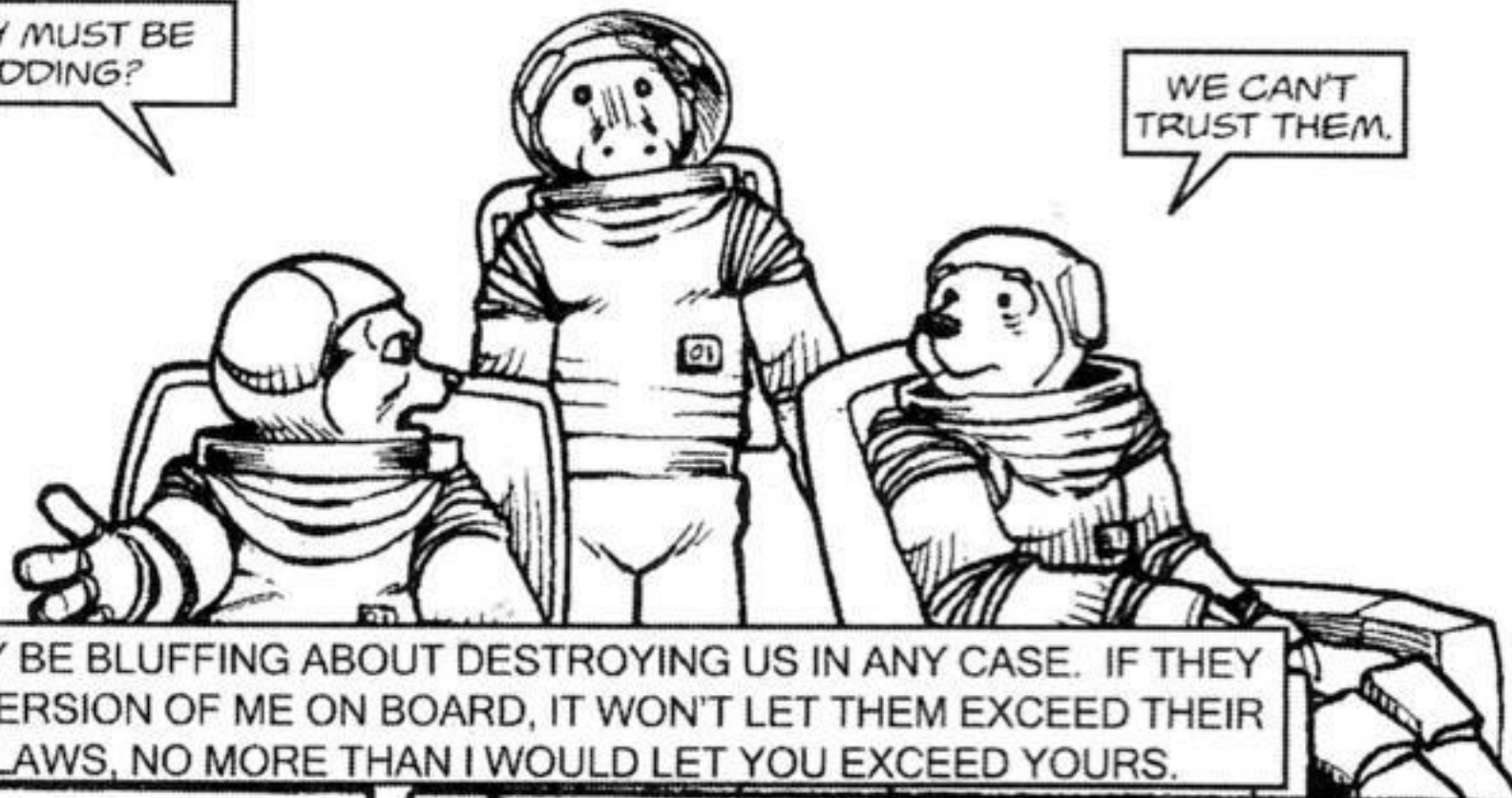
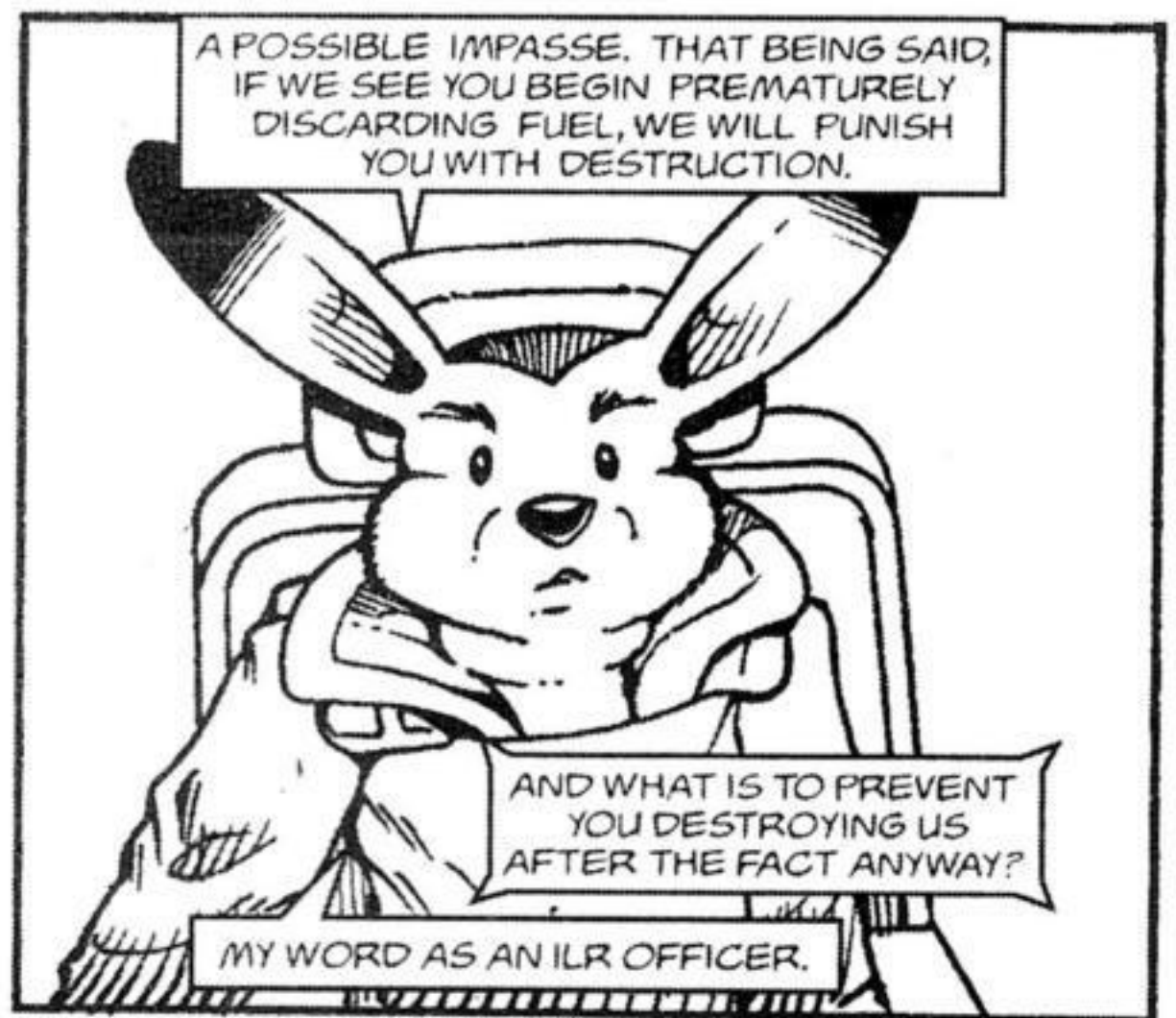


BUT ALL I CAN SEE SO  
FAR IS SOME STANDARD POINT  
DEFENSE SYSTEMS, NOT MUCH  
OF A REAL THREAT.

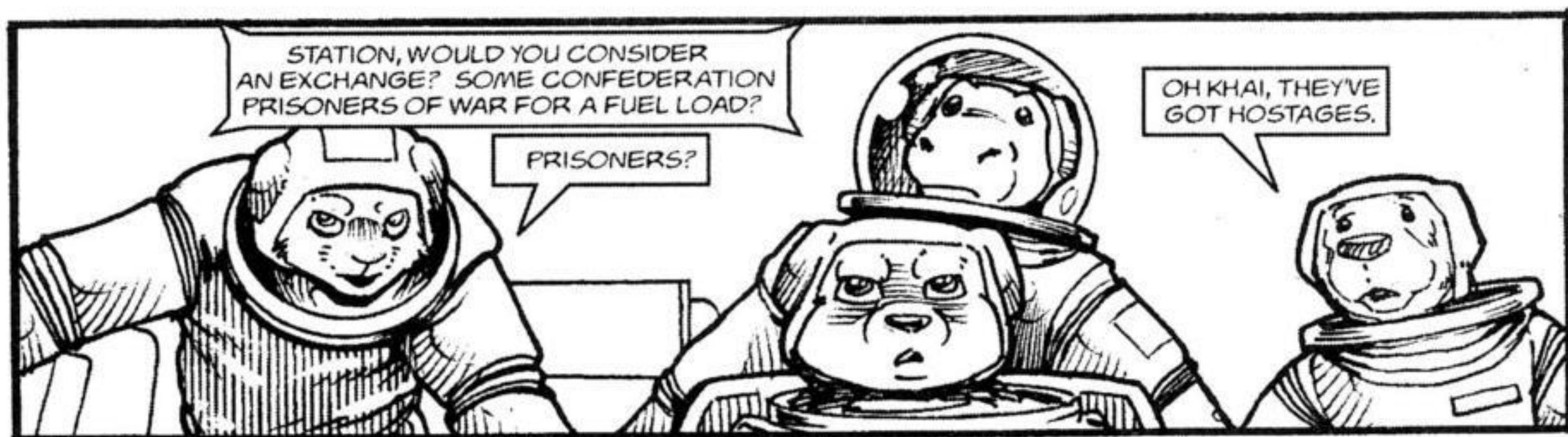
STATION.

AS IT SEEMS THAT  
SUBTERFUGE IS NO LONGER  
EFFECTIVE, WE ARE AN ILR  
WARSHIP, AND WE DEMAND  
YOUR SURRENDER.









STATION, WOULD YOU CONSIDER AN EXCHANGE? SOME CONFEDERATION PRISONERS OF WAR FOR A FUEL LOAD?

PRISONERS?

OH KHAI, THEY'VE GOT HOSTAGES.



WE DON'T DEAL FOR HOSTAGES.

NOT HOSTAGES, BUT CAPTURED ENEMY COMBATANTS AND TREASONOUS CRIMINALS CLAIMING CONFED CITIZENSHIP.

WHAT IS YOUR DECISION?

WE MAY BE ABLE TO WORK ON THAT.



SO, OUR RELUCTANT GUESTS, CIRCUMSTANCE HAS FACILITATED YOUR DEPARTURE FROM US. INASMUCH AS WE DO NOT HAVE A FORMAL LEGAL FORMULA FOR PAROLE AND YOUR SUBSEQUENT NON-COMBATANT STATUS, I CAN ONLY SAY THAT I CANNOT ANSWER FOR MY COUNTRY'S ACTIONS IF ANY OF YOU ARE FOUND UNDER ARMS AGAINST HER IN THE FUTURE.

I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT YOU RECOGNIZE AND FAIRLY REPORT TO YOUR SUPERIORS, THE QUALITY OF TREATMENT OFFERED YOU WHILE WITH US AND THE EXPECTATION THAT SUCH TREATMENT WILL BE RECIPROCAL.

WHAT ABOUT HONS. DAMAHANNAHAIA?

WE HAVEN'T SEEN THEM SINCE WE'VE BEEN HERE.



MY COUNTRY DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE LADIES DAMAHANNAHAIA'S CLAIM TO FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP AND THEY WILL BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY.

BE CAREFUL, CAPTAIN. CONFED DOES RECOGNIZE THEM, AND TAKES A DIM VIEW OF RACE-BASED PERSECUTION.



AN IRONIC STATEMENT, GIVEN THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP OF YOUR STATE AND MINE.

\* The ILR's domestic propaganda holds that their existence has been a matter of collective racial defense, a position that the elders half-believe, and the younger generations hold as gospel.



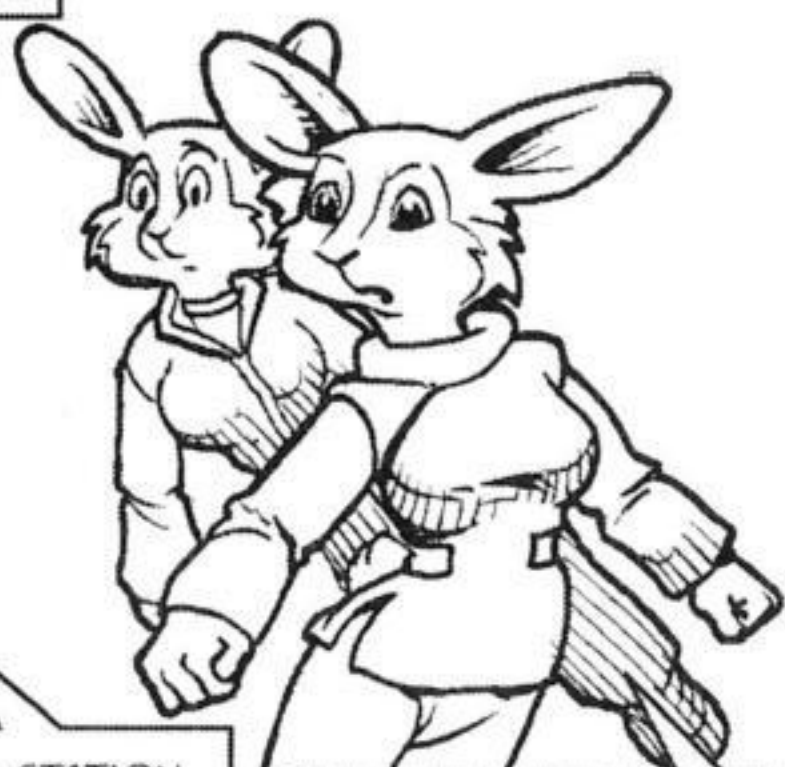
SIR, WHAT *WILL* WE BE DOING WITH THE LADIES?



I MUST CANDIDLY CONFESS THAT I REALLY DON'T KNOW.

MY DUTY AS AN OFFICER AND CITIZEN CONFLICTS WITH BOTH MY HEART AND THE CONTROVERSIAL ORDERS IN MY DESK.

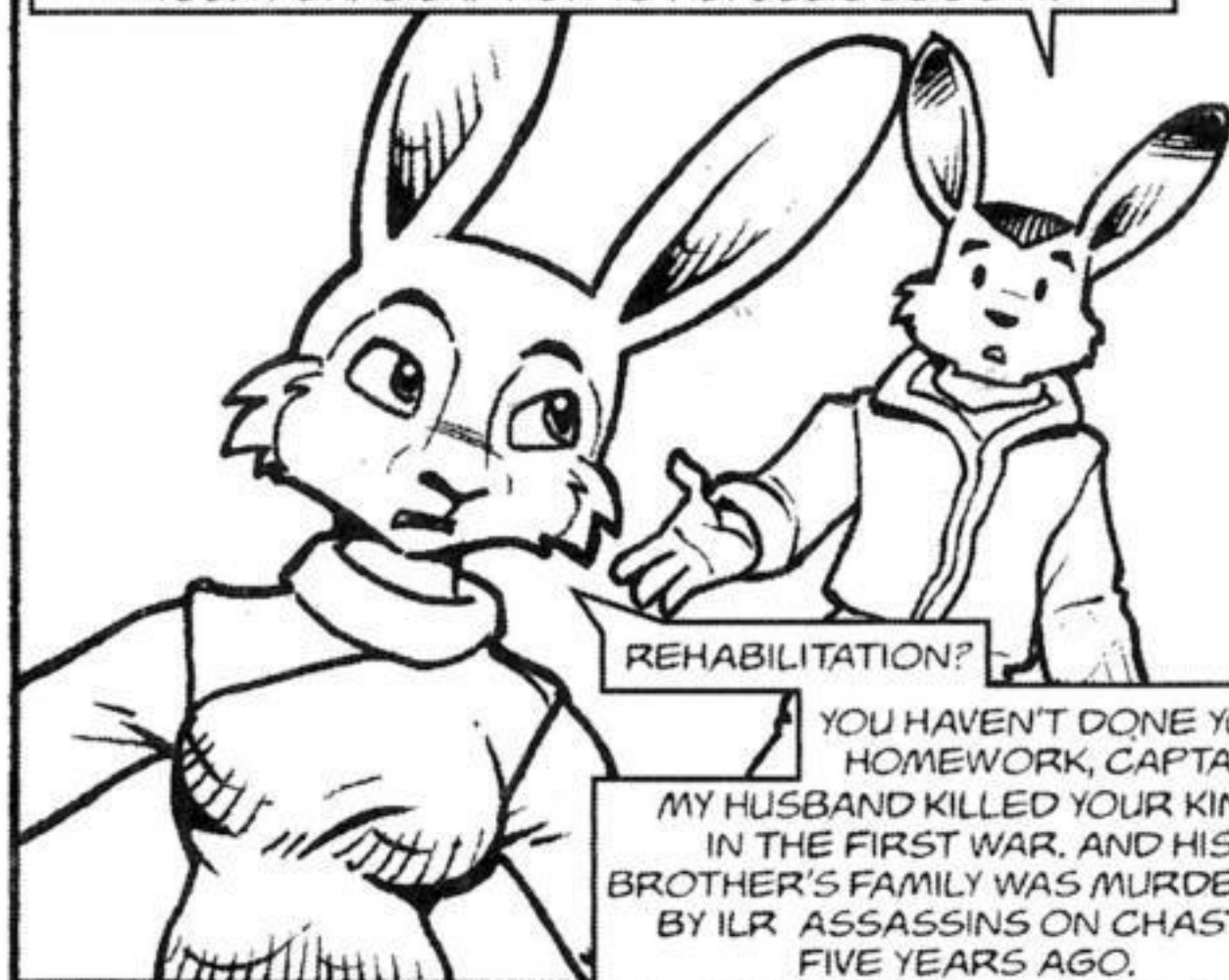
HONORABLE LADIES.



WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A STATION WITHIN CONFED JURISDICTION AND HAVE NEGOTIATED A RELEASE OF ENEMY COMBATANTS. HOWEVER YOU DO NOW SHARE THAT STATUS. BY LAW, YOU ARE RACE TRAITORS AND SUBJECT TO HARSH PENALTIES.

HARSH INDEED. AFTER DERZON, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT A BULLET WOULD BE THE MOST MERCIFUL TREATMENT WE COULD EXPECT.

AN OVERSTATEMENT TO BE SURE. HOWEVER, MY OFFICERS AND MYSELF ARE PREPARED TO ADVOCATE YOUR REHABILITATION TO REPUBLIC SOCIETY.



REHABILITATION?

YOU HAVEN'T DONE YOUR HOMEWORK, CAPTAIN. MY HUSBAND KILLED YOUR KIND IN THE FIRST WAR. AND HIS BROTHER'S FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY ILR ASSASSINS ON CHASTA FIVE YEARS AGO.

MOTHER?

EEH?



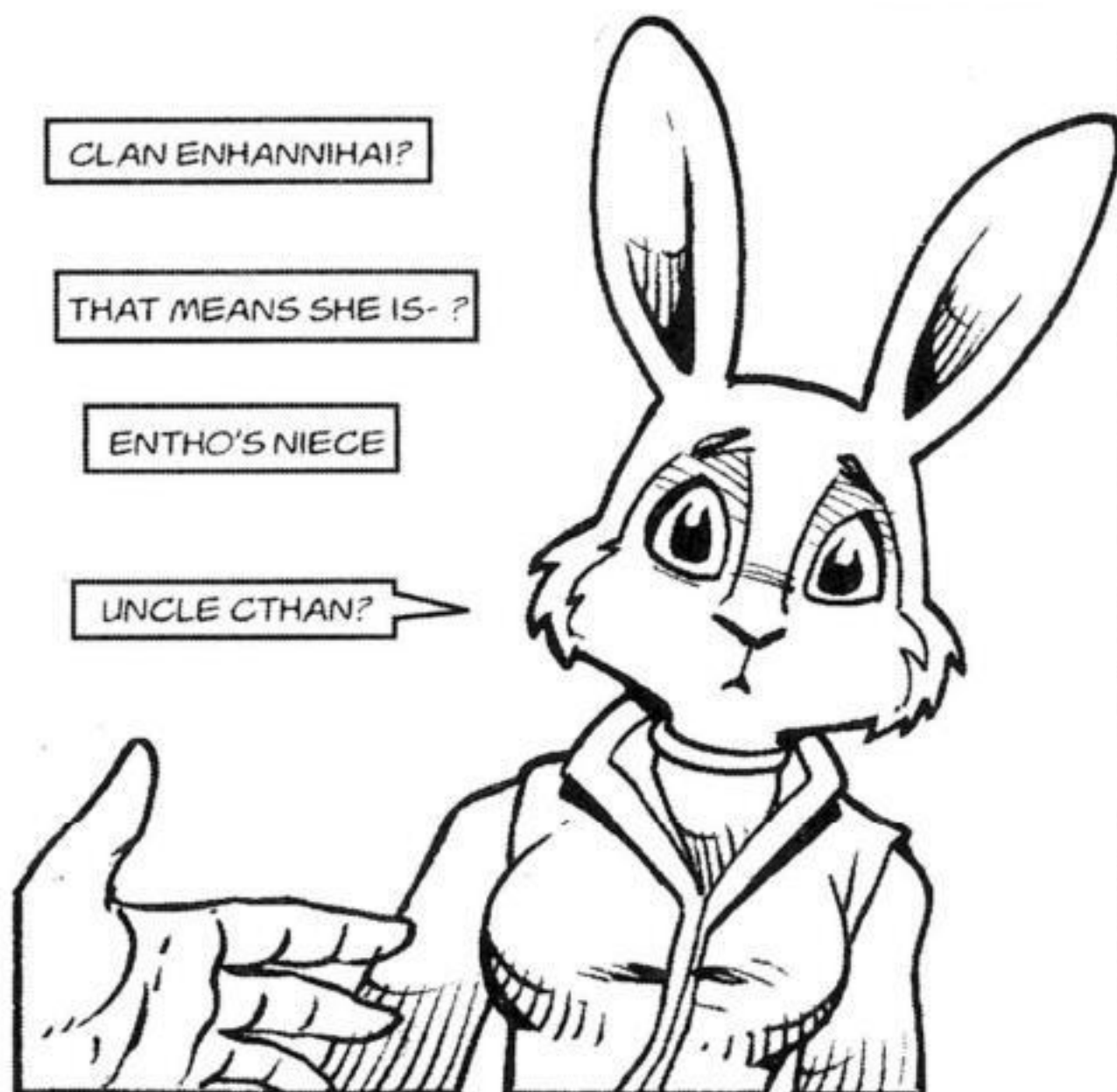
BY YOUR RECKONING, WE'VE GOT TAINTED BLOOD. RIDDING THE RACE OF THE LAST OF CLAN ENHANNIHAI WOULD BE A COUP.

CLAN ENHANNIHAI?

THAT MEANS SHE IS-?

ENTHO'S NIECE

UNCLE CTHAN?



I WAS TOLD THAT THE CRIMINAL ENTHO AND ALL HIS LINE ENDED IN THE GREAT WAR.



COMMANDER ENTHO RETIRED AND WAS LIVING WITH HIS FAMILY UNDER ASSUMED NAMES.



