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# BABYLON

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

BASED ON THE  
GROUND-BREAKING  
WARNER BROS.  
TELEVISION SERIES

**SHADOWS**  
PAST AND PRESENT

SCOTT HAMPTON

DIRECT SALES

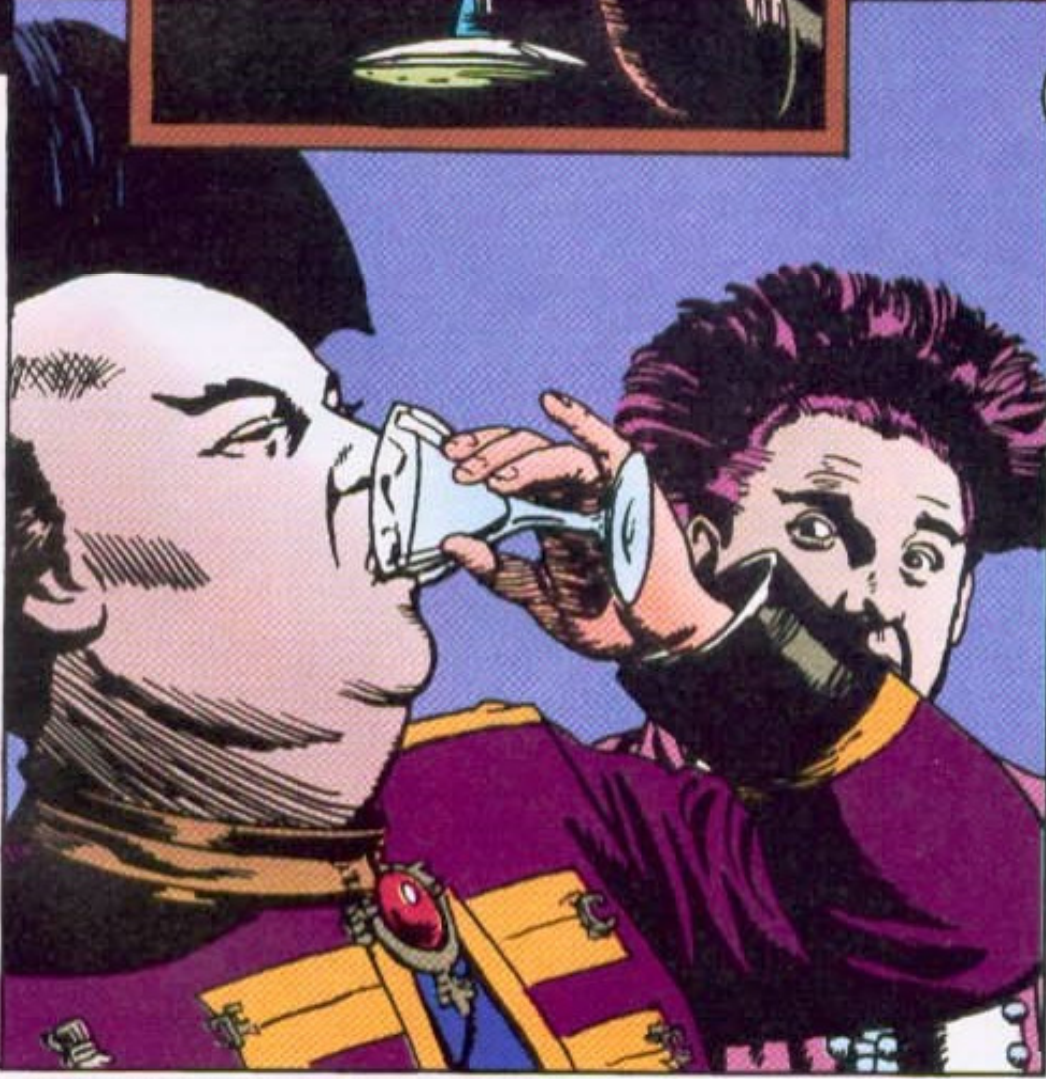


**OBI**  
DEHAAS  
RIDGWAY

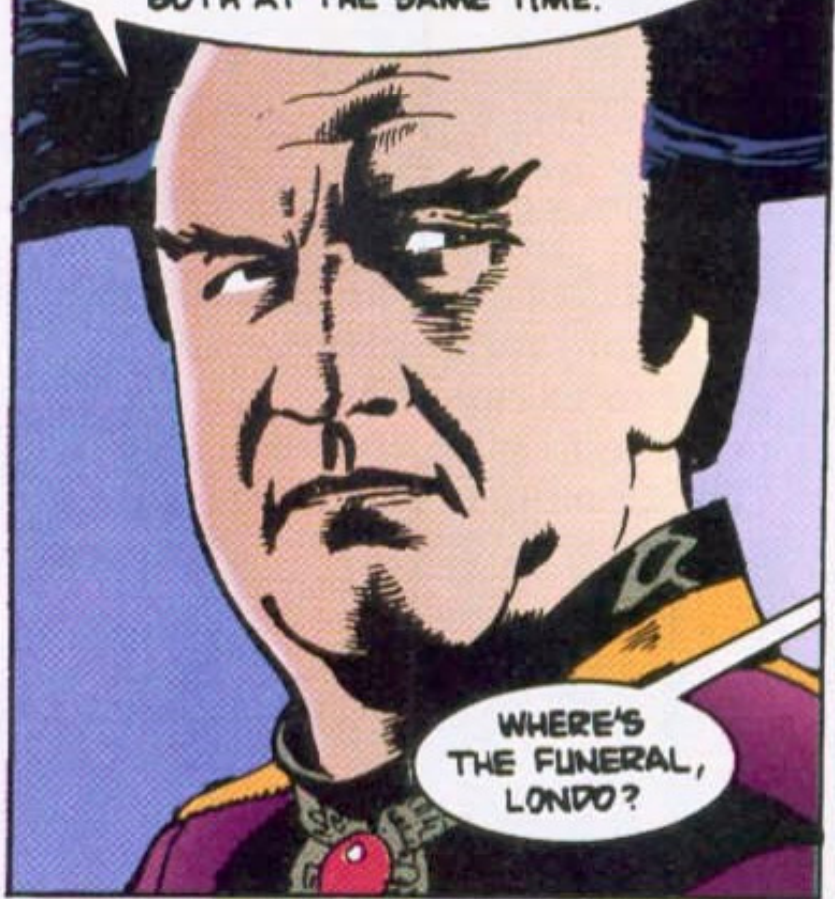
"A TOAST, VIR!"



TO THE CENTAURI EMPIRE! MIGHTIEST IN THE GALAXY!



CHEER UP— THIS IS A CELEBRATION, VIR. NOT A WAKE. OF COURSE, IF WE WERE AT G'KAR'S FUNERAL, WE COULD EXPERIENCE BOTH AT THE SAME TIME.



WHERE'S THE FUNERAL, LONDO?

SHADOWS PAST AND PRESENT: PART I

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE...

AH! MY DEAR FRIEND, MR. GARIBALDI, DID I MENTION FUNERALS? I WAS SPEAKING THEORETICALLY, OF COURSE.

LET'S SPEAK THEORETICALLY ABOUT QUADRANT 37, THEN.

PLEASE, MR. GARIBALDI. LET US NOT MIX PLEASURE WITH BUSINESS.

This story takes place prior to events that occurred in the episode "The Coming of Shadows."

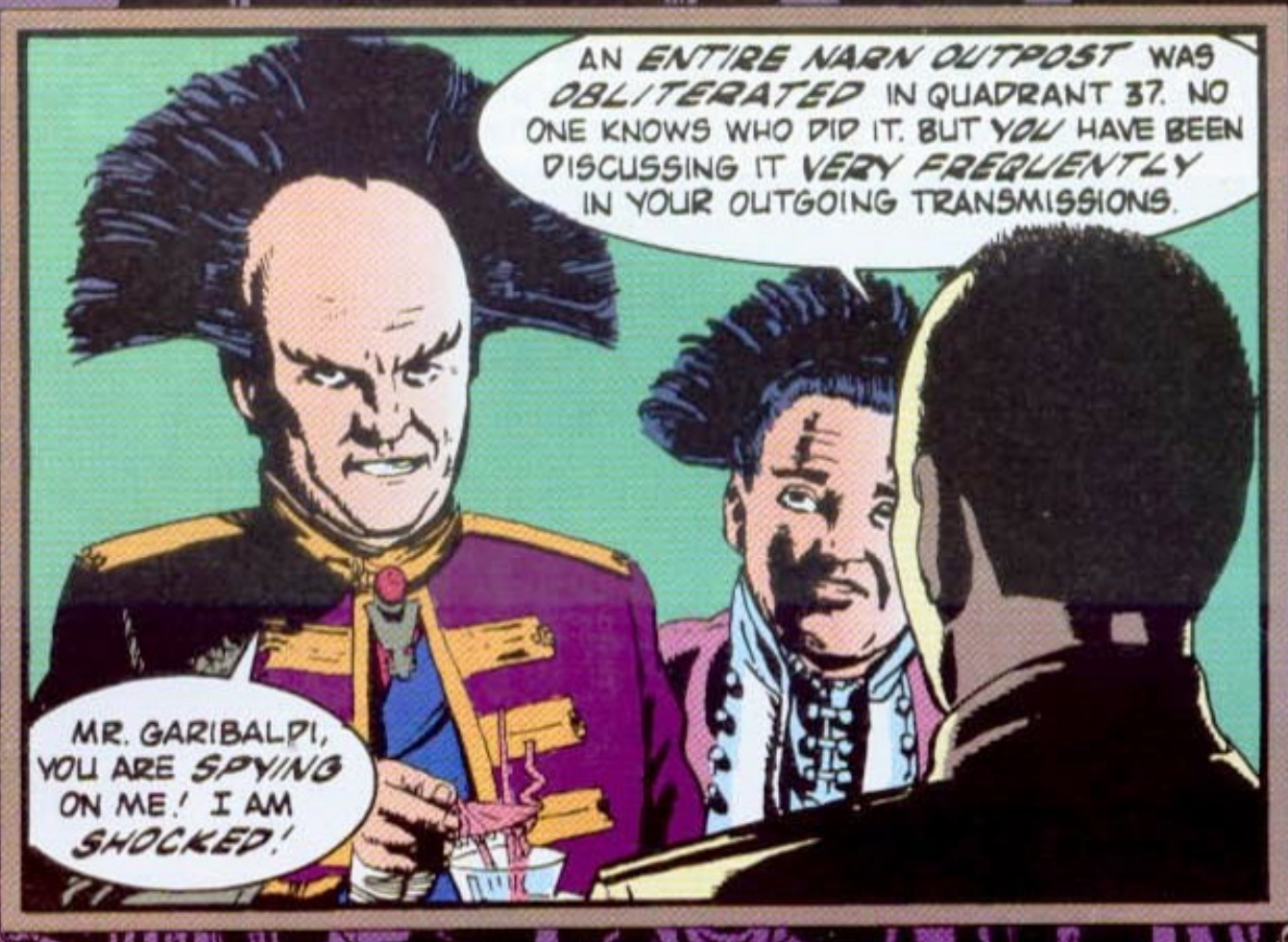
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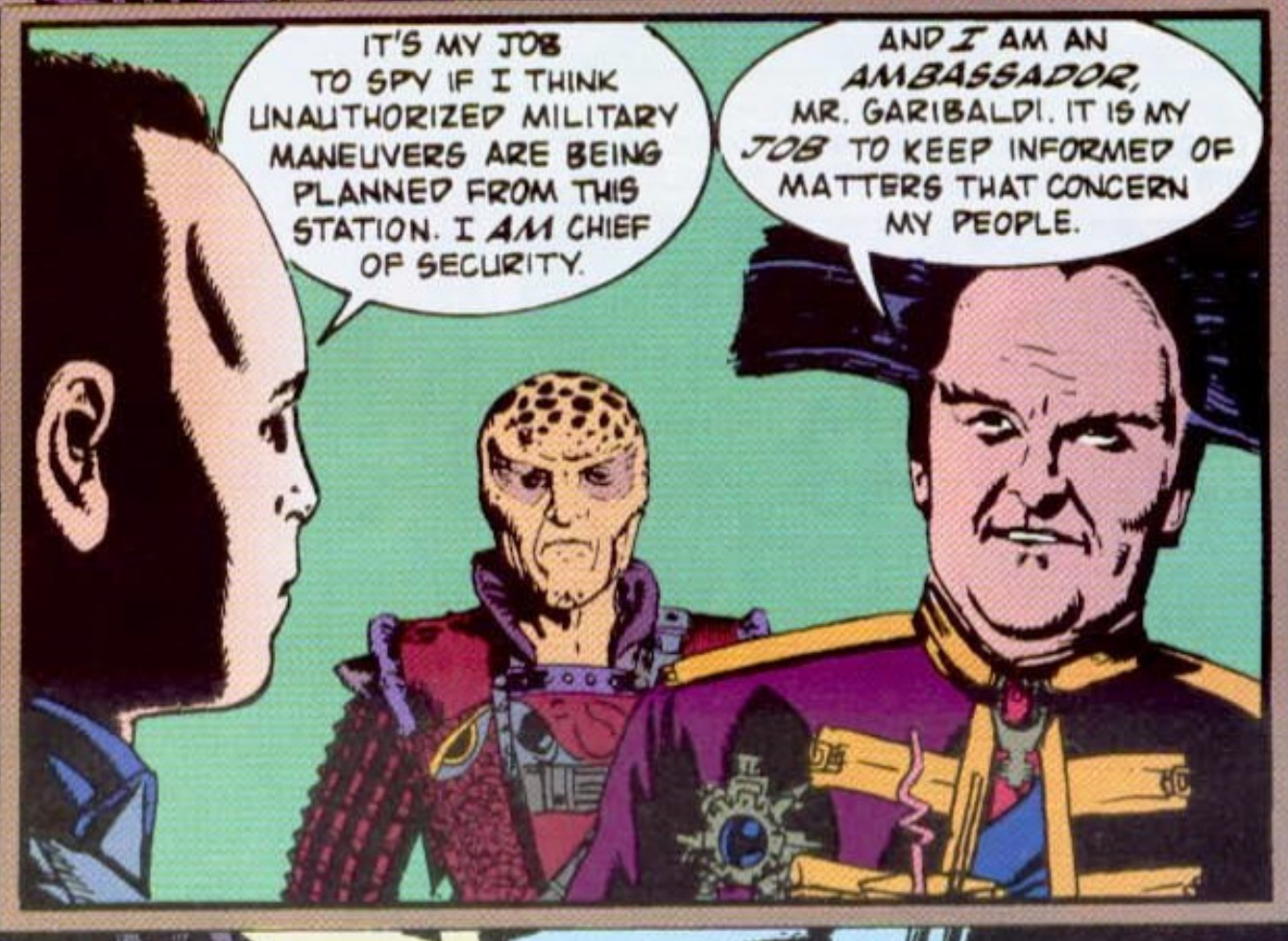
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BASED ON THE WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES BABYLON 5  
CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI



AN ENTIRE NARN OUTPOST WAS OBLITERATED IN QUADRANT 37. NO ONE KNOWS WHO DID IT. BUT YOU HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING IT VERY FREQUENTLY IN YOUR OUTGOING TRANSMISSIONS.

MR. GARIBALDI, YOU ARE SPYING ON ME! I AM SHOCKED!



IT'S MY JOB TO SPY IF I THINK UNAUTHORIZED MILITARY MANEUVERS ARE BEING PLANNED FROM THIS STATION. I AM CHIEF OF SECURITY.

AND I AM AN AMBASSADOR, MR. GARIBALDI. IT IS MY JOB TO KEEP INFORMED OF MATTERS THAT CONCERN MY PEOPLE.



YES, IT IS, AMBASSADOR. AND IT SEEMS EVERY TIME YOU ARE INFORMED OF SOMETHING, OTHERS PAY WITH THEIR LIVES.

YOU THINK I HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH QUADRANT 37, G'KAR? IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?

PLAY NICE, BOYS.

A NARN SHIP WAS DESTROYED COMING OUT OF  
HYPERSPACE ON THE RIM. FOUR PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE NARN  
REGIME KNEW THE SHIP WOULD BE THERE AHEAD OF TIME.

THAT PROVES  
*NOTHING, G'KAR.*

TRUE,  
AMBASSADOR...

... BUT EVERYONE KNOWS THE CENTAURI DON'T  
HAVE THE COURAGE TO ANNOUNCE THEIR ARRIVAL BEFORE  
THEY WIPE OUT SOME UNSUSPECTING POPULATION.

**G'KAR!**

GET  
LONDO OUT OF  
HERE, VIR!

YES, SIR.  
AMBASSADOR, DON'T  
FORGET AMBASSADOR DELENN'S  
MESSAGE, REQUESTING  
TO SEE YOU.

YES, YES. COME,  
VIR, LET US NOT KEEP  
MADAME BUTTERFLY  
WAITING.

EXTINCTION  
IS TOO GOOD  
FOR YOU!

A NARN SHIP  
ATTACKED ON THE  
RIM. HAMM...



COULDN'T YOU HAVE POSTPONED THIS MEETING?

I TRIED, AMBASSADOR. THE MESSAGE WAS MOST INSISTENT, AND SAID YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND.



I UNDERSTAND, ALL RIGHT. I UNDERSTAND THAT WINE, WOMEN AND SONG HAVE SLIPPED TO NUMBER TWO ON MY LIST OF PRIORITIES. A TRAGEDY OF GALACTIC PROPORTIONS!

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY, AMBASSADOR?



SATISFYING EVERYONE ELSE'S SILLY LITTLE WHIMS!



WHIMS? HMM. A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR THE RESTORATION OF ONE'S EMPIRE, DON'T YOU THINK, AMBASSADOR?

YOU!  
YOU ARE NOT DELENN!

LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN: KNOCK, KNOCK. COME IN. AH, MR. MORDEN, COME INTO MY QUARTERS.

SEE HOW *EASY* IT IS? YOU SHOULD TRY IT SOMETIME.

THANK YOU, AMBASSADOR. I'LL KEEP IT IN MIND. IN THE MEANTIME, I COME WITH A MESSAGE.

WE WANT TO OFFER YOU A FRIENDLY SUGGESTION. CERTAIN OF YOUR *OFF-STATION TRANS-MISSIONS* ARE ATTRACTING THE ATTENTION OF *OTHERS*. THIS POSES A PROBLEM.

I WAS SIMPLY MONITORING CENTAURI ACTIVITIES. THERE IS MUCH TO KEEP TRACK OF IN THE CENTAURI EMPIRE.

ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED YOU CAN GET BY KEEPING QUIET AND JUST *LISTENING*, AMBASSADOR.

I CANNOT HEAR *EVERYTHING* FROM THIS STATION, MR. MORDEN.

*MYSTERY!* EVERYTHING IS *MYSTERY* WITH YOU. MY EARS ARE *OPEN*, BUT MY EYES ARE *BLINDFOLDED*. I DON'T LIKE THAT.

YOUR STAR IS *RISING*, AMBASSADOR. LET ME AND MY *ASSOCIATES* HANDLE ITS ASCENSION.

YOU CAN HEAR WHAT YOU NEED TO. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.



VIR!  
FIX ME A  
DRINK!

—FOR YOU  
MR. MORDEN?

NO, THANK  
YOU. THERE IS  
*ONE* MORE  
THING.

WITH  
YOU, THERE  
ALWAYS  
IS.



SHOULD  
MR. GARIBALDI  
DECIDE TO  
INVESTIGATE  
THIS MATTER  
FURTHER, WE  
WOULD  
APPRECIATE  
YOUR TELLING  
US.

GOOD DAY,  
AMBASSADOR.



MAYBE I SHOULD JUST  
THROW MR. GARIBALDI OUT THE  
NEAREST AIRLOCK *NOW*.

AMBASSADOR! MR. GARIBALDI IS YOUR *FRIEND*.  
YOU *WOULDN'T* DISCUSS HIS BUSINESS WITH THIS MORDEN...  
*WOULD* YOU? YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MORDEN!



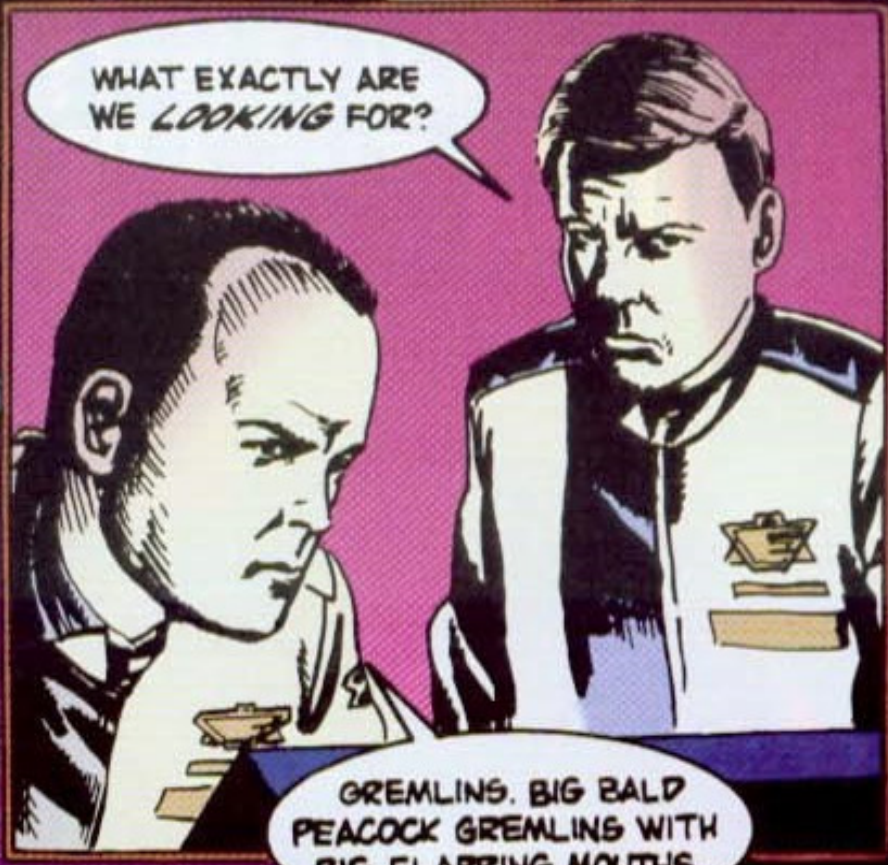
ENOUGH, VIR. MY LIFE  
IS GETTING TOO COMPLICATED.  
IT IS *TIME* TO CALL IN  
REINFORCEMENTS.





"ANYTHING ON GOLD CHANNEL?"

"NADA."



WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

GREMLINS. BIG BALD PEACOCK GREMLINS WITH BIG FLAPPING MOUTHS.



AH, MR. GARIBALDI. MY APOLOGIES. WHEN I ASKED TO SEE YOU IN C&C ABOUT THE DRAZI TRANSPORT MANIFEST AN HOUR AGO, I DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS SUPPOSED TO INTERRUPT MY BUSY SCHEDULE AND COME DOWN HERE TO YOU.



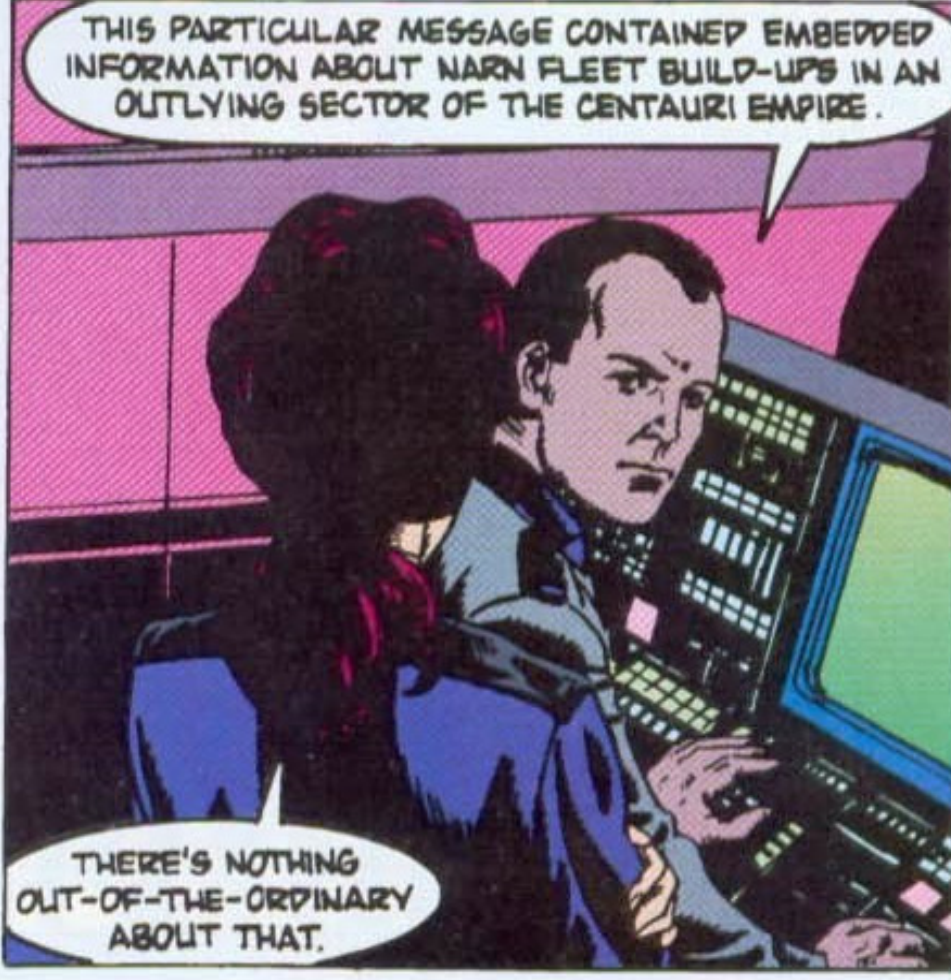
IMPENDING DEMOTION AT FOUR O'CLOCK.

MMM...



SHALL I START COMPOSING YOUR EULOGY NOW, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPLAIN YOURSELF.

I PERFORM RANDOM CHECKS ON DIPLOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS, LOOKING FOR UNAUTHORIZED OR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. TWO DAYS AGO, I PICKED UP AN ODD INCOMING MESSAGE.



THIS PARTICULAR MESSAGE CONTAINED EMBEDDED INFORMATION ABOUT NARN FLEET BUILD-UPS IN AN OUTLYING SECTOR OF THE CENTAURI EMPIRE.

THERE'S NOTHING OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY ABOUT THAT.



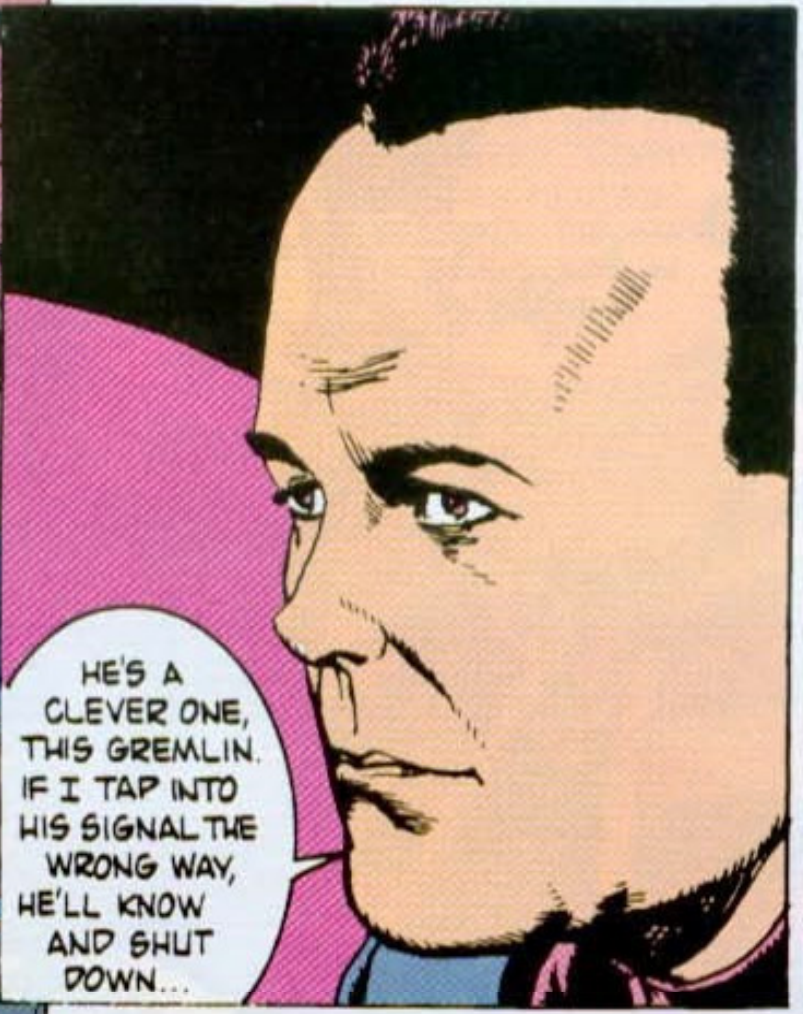
THERE'S MORE. A LITTLE WHILE AGO, G'KAR AS GOOD AS ACCUSED LONDO OF BETRAYING A NARN SHIP INTO BEING DESTROYED ON THE RIM.

HEARSAY, MR. GARIBALDI.

GOTCHA!

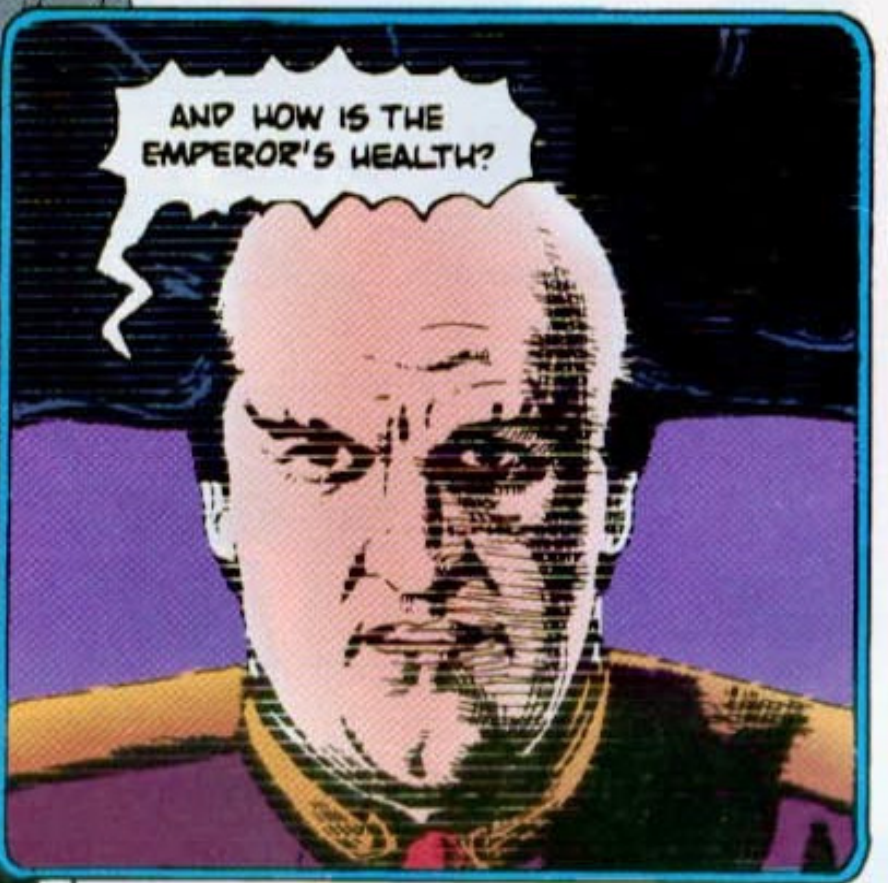
WHAT IS IT?

HE'S A CLEVER ONE, THIS GREMLIN. IF I TAP INTO HIS SIGNAL THE WRONG WAY, HE'LL KNOW AND SHUT DOWN...

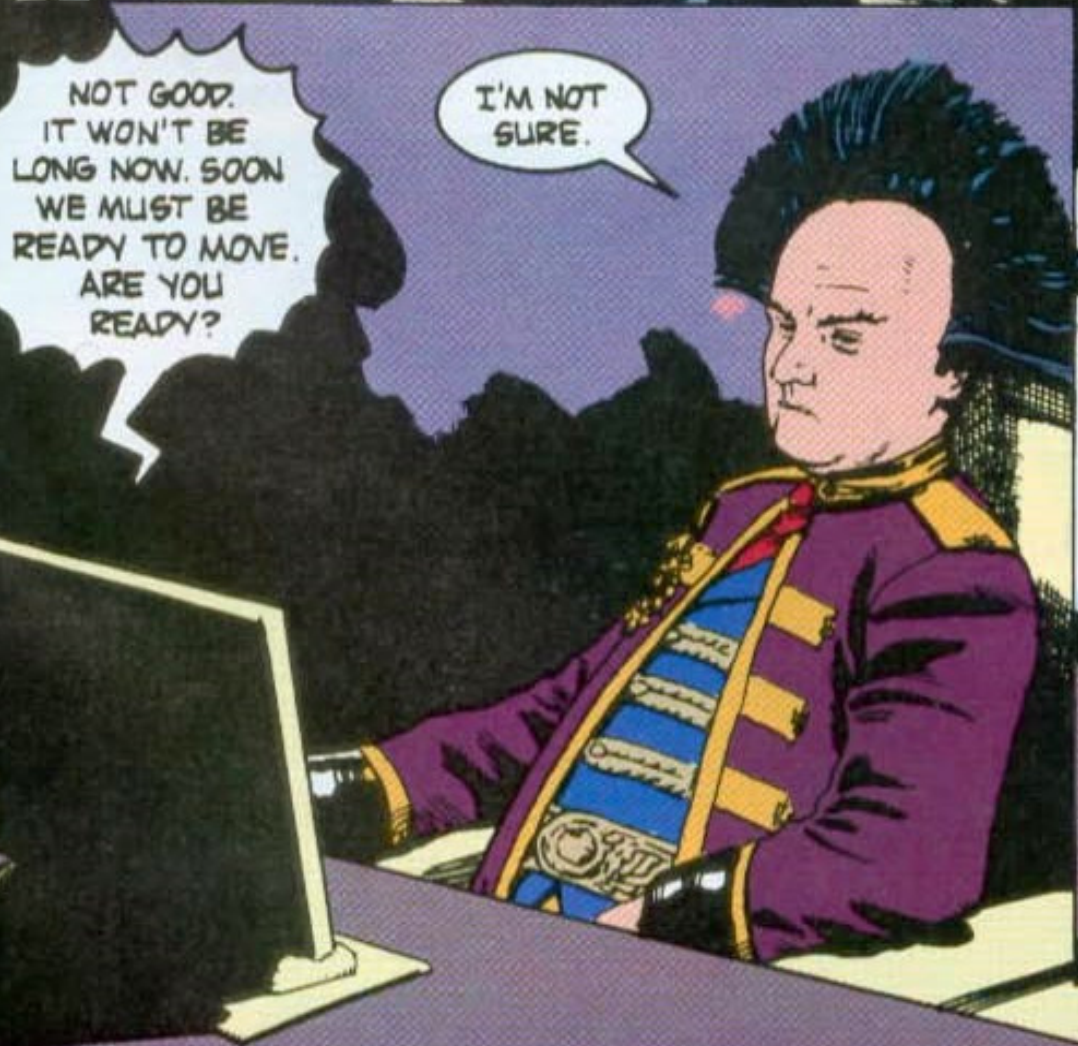


I HAVE NO CHOICE—THE ONLY WAY I CAN EAVESDROP IS TO PIGGYBACK ON THE *INCOMING* TRANSMISSION... I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE WHO'S SENDING. I'LL ONLY SEE WHO'S RECEIVING.

ALL RIGHT, MR. GARIBALDI. LET'S SEE YOUR GREMLIN.



AND HOW IS THE EMPEROR'S HEALTH?

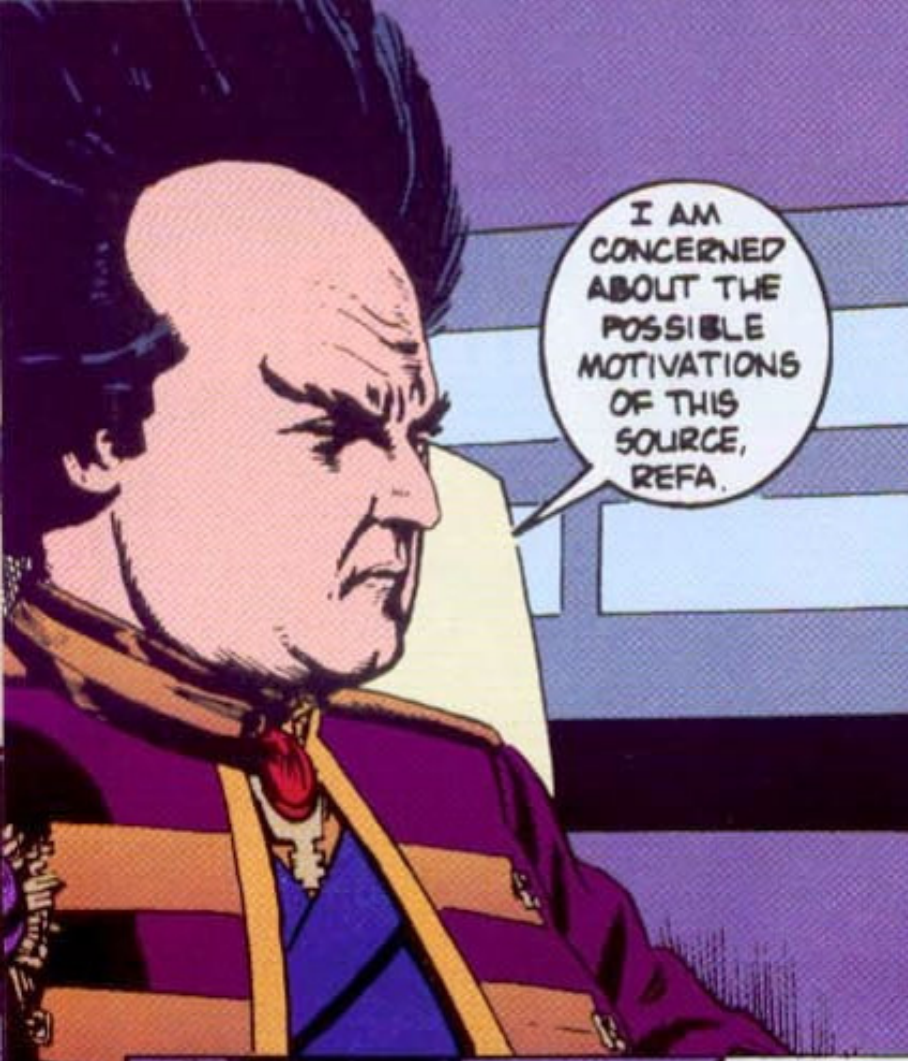


NOT GOOD. IT WON'T BE LONG NOW. SOON WE MUST BE READY TO MOVE. ARE YOU READY?

I'M NOT SURE.



YOUR SOURCE TOOK CARE OF A NARN MILITARY OUTPOST VERY IMPRESSIVELY. WHAT WORRIES YOU NOW?

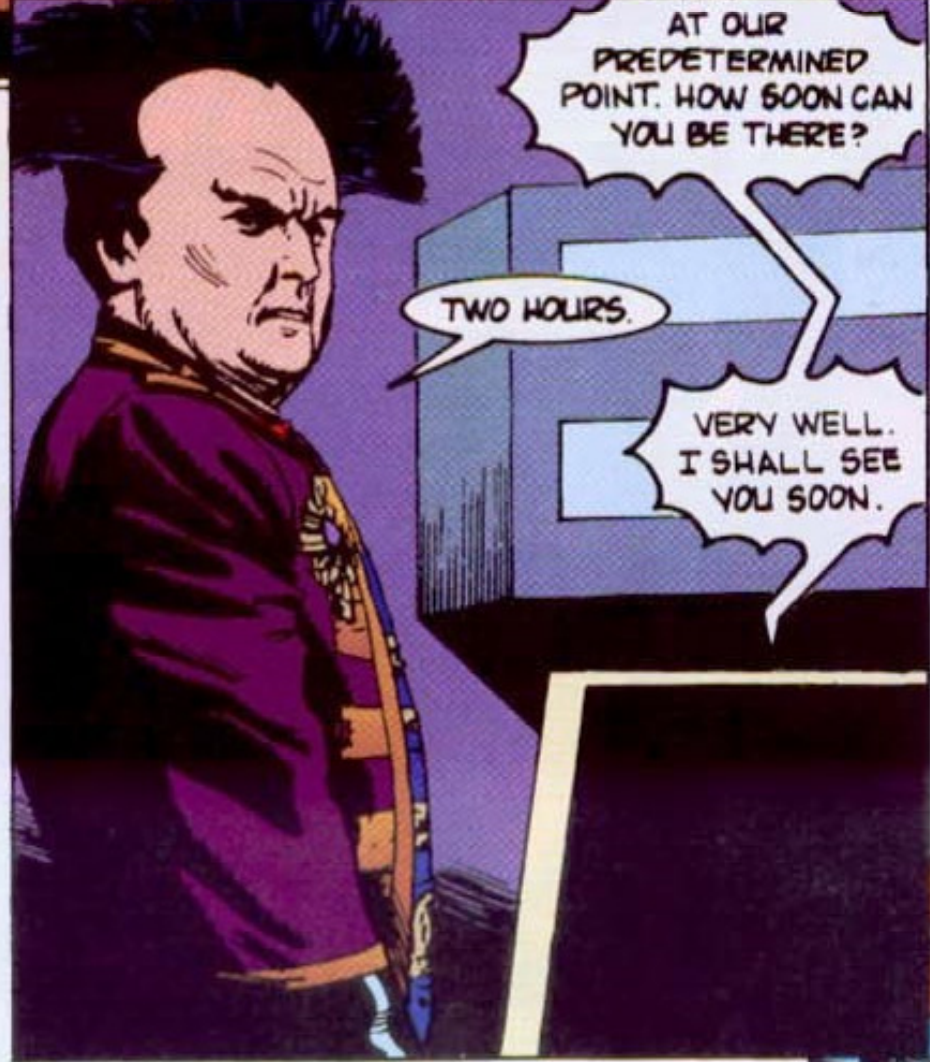


I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS OF THIS SOURCE, REFA.



SOURCE? WHAT SOURCE?

I SUGGEST WE MEET OFF THE STATION TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER.



AT OUR PREDETERMINED POINT. HOW SOON CAN YOU BE THERE?

TWO HOURS.

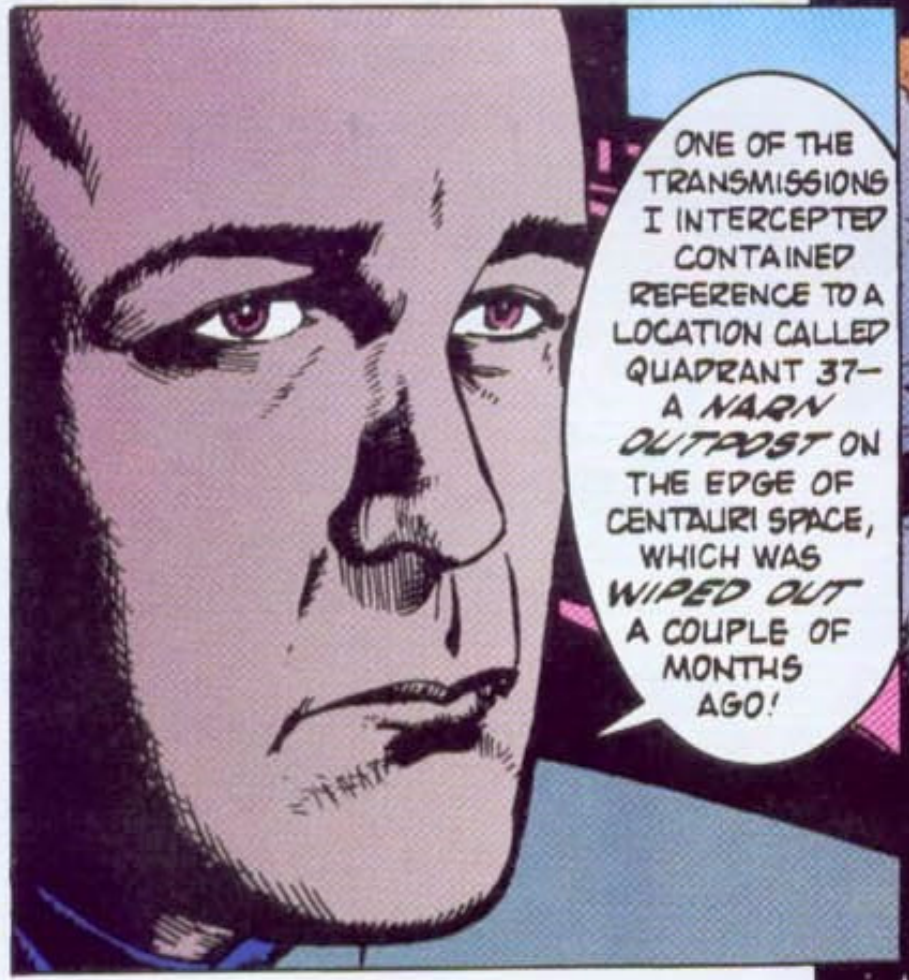
VERY WELL. I SHALL SEE YOU SOON.



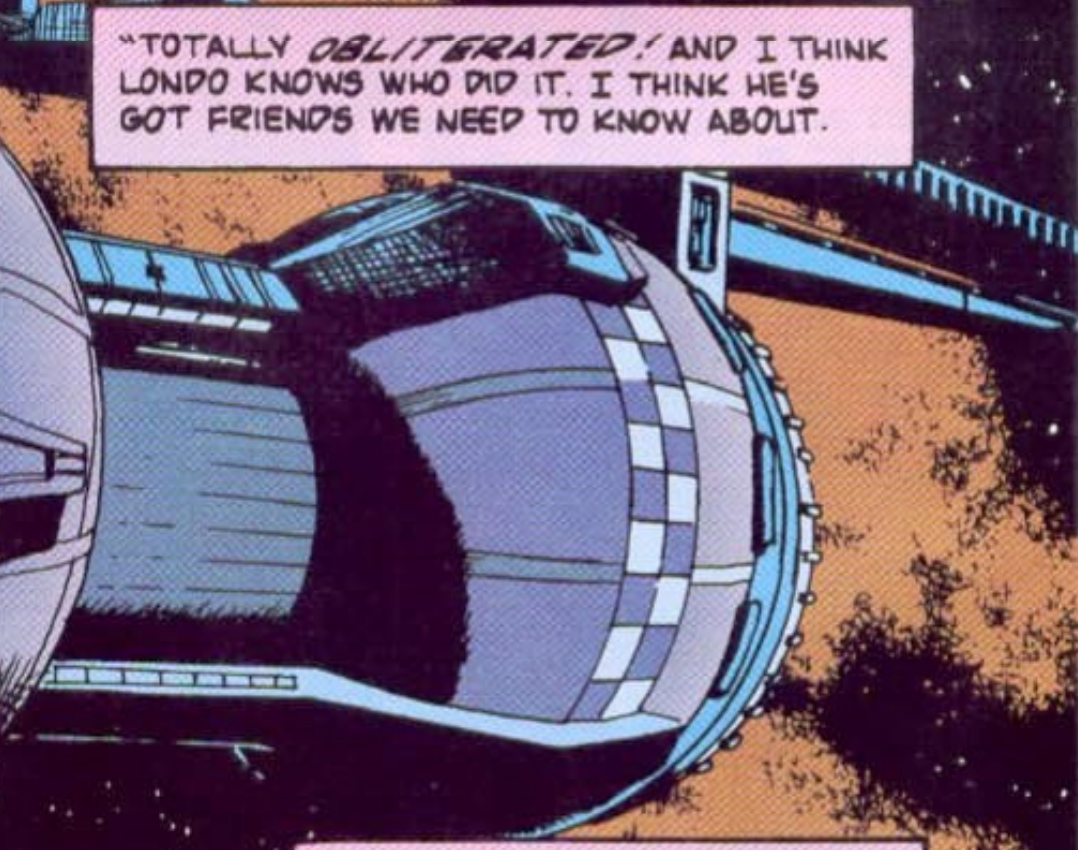
I KNOW WHERE HE'S GOING FROM THE OTHER MESSAGES. LET ME BEAT HIM THERE. WAIT FOR HIM. SEE WHAT HE'S UP TO.

YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TO GO ON, GARIBALDI.

THERE'S ONE OTHER THING—

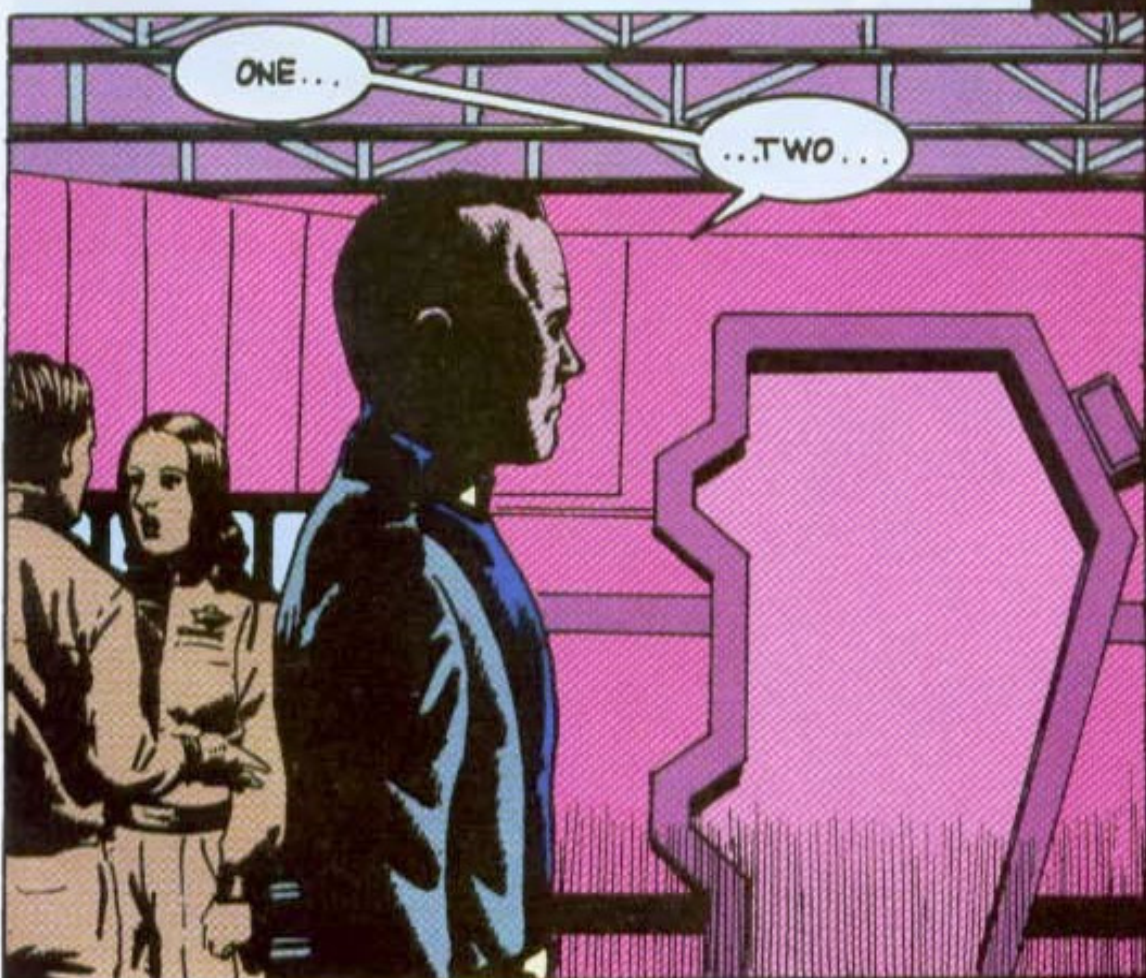


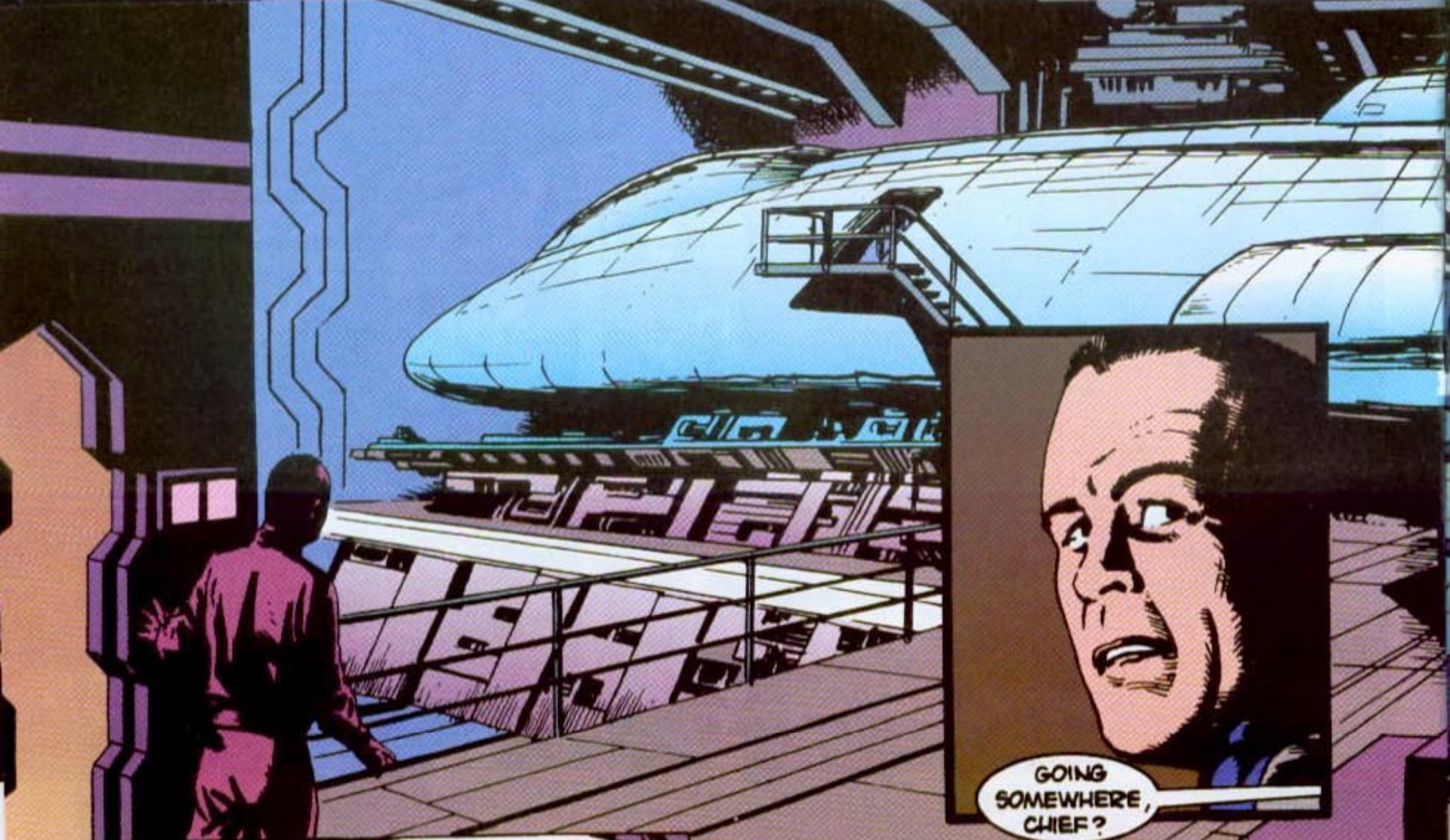
ONE OF THE TRANSMISSIONS I INTERCEPTED CONTAINED REFERENCE TO A LOCATION CALLED QUADRANT 37— A *NARN* OUTPOST ON THE EDGE OF CENTAURI SPACE, WHICH WAS WIPE OUT A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO!



"TOTALLY OBLITERATED! AND I THINK LONDO KNOWS WHO DID IT. I THINK HE'S GOT FRIENDS WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT."

"THE PIECES OF THE PUZZLE ARE ALL THERE. AND THAT'S THE ONLY THEORY THAT FITS THEM TOGETHER."





GOING SOMEWHERE, CHIEF?



KEFFER! DIDN'T YOUR MOMMY TELL YOU IT'S NOT POLITE TO SNEAK UP ON PEOPLE?

SNEAK? I WAS JUST IN HERE DOING SOME ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND INVENTORY. YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE DEFINITELY SNEAKING.



FINE, FINE, I WAS SNEAKING, IT'S A PHYSICAL DEFECT. HAD IT SINCE I WAS A KID.

AH, IN THAT CASE, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?



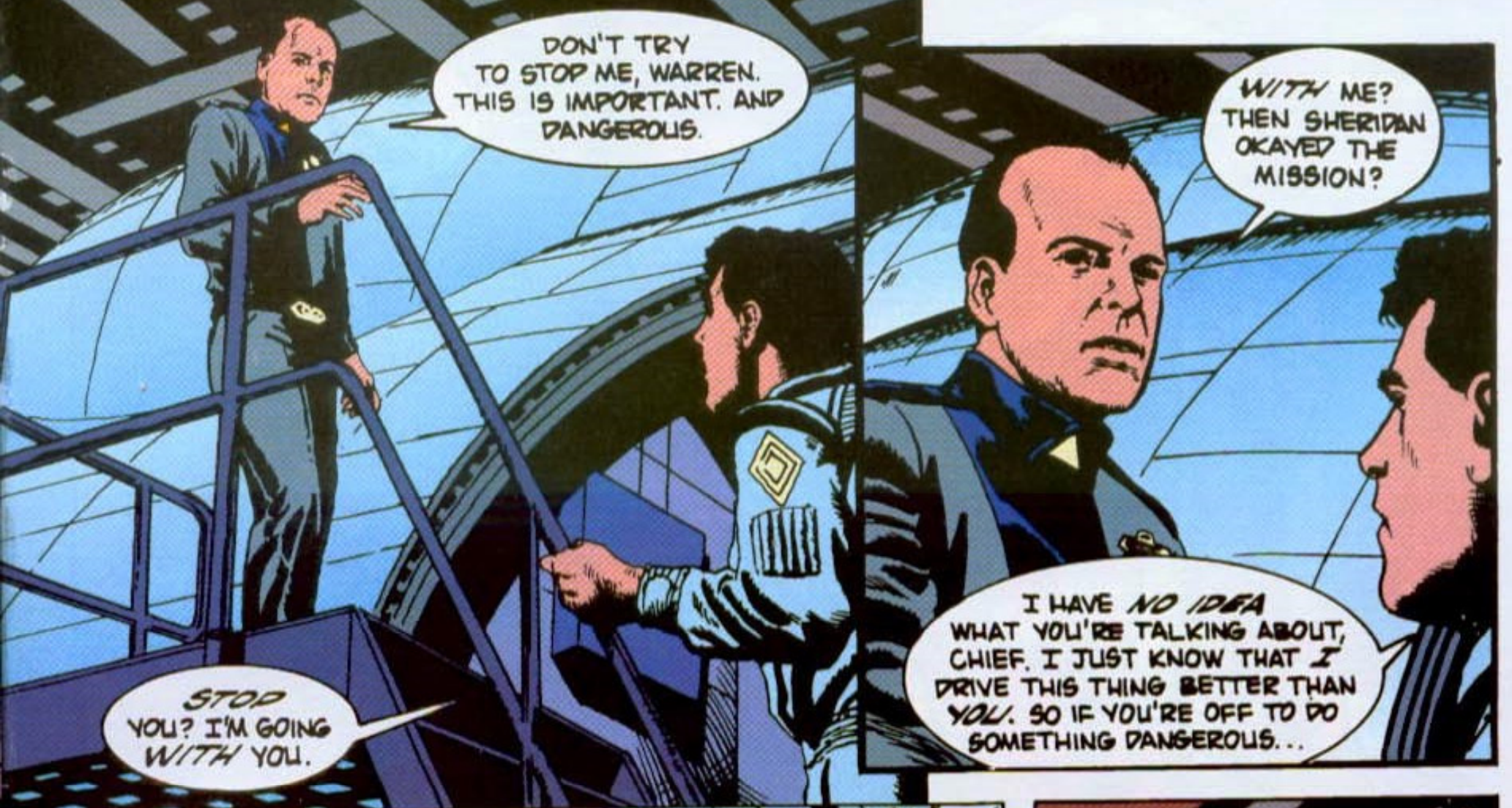
CHECK OUT BAY THREE. LOT OF MESS OVER THERE. COULD USE YOUR STEADY HAND.

I HAVEN'T FINISHED WITH THE MESS IN *THIS* BAY.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'LL COVER FOR YOU HERE.



I DON'T THINK I CAN DO THAT, CHIEF.

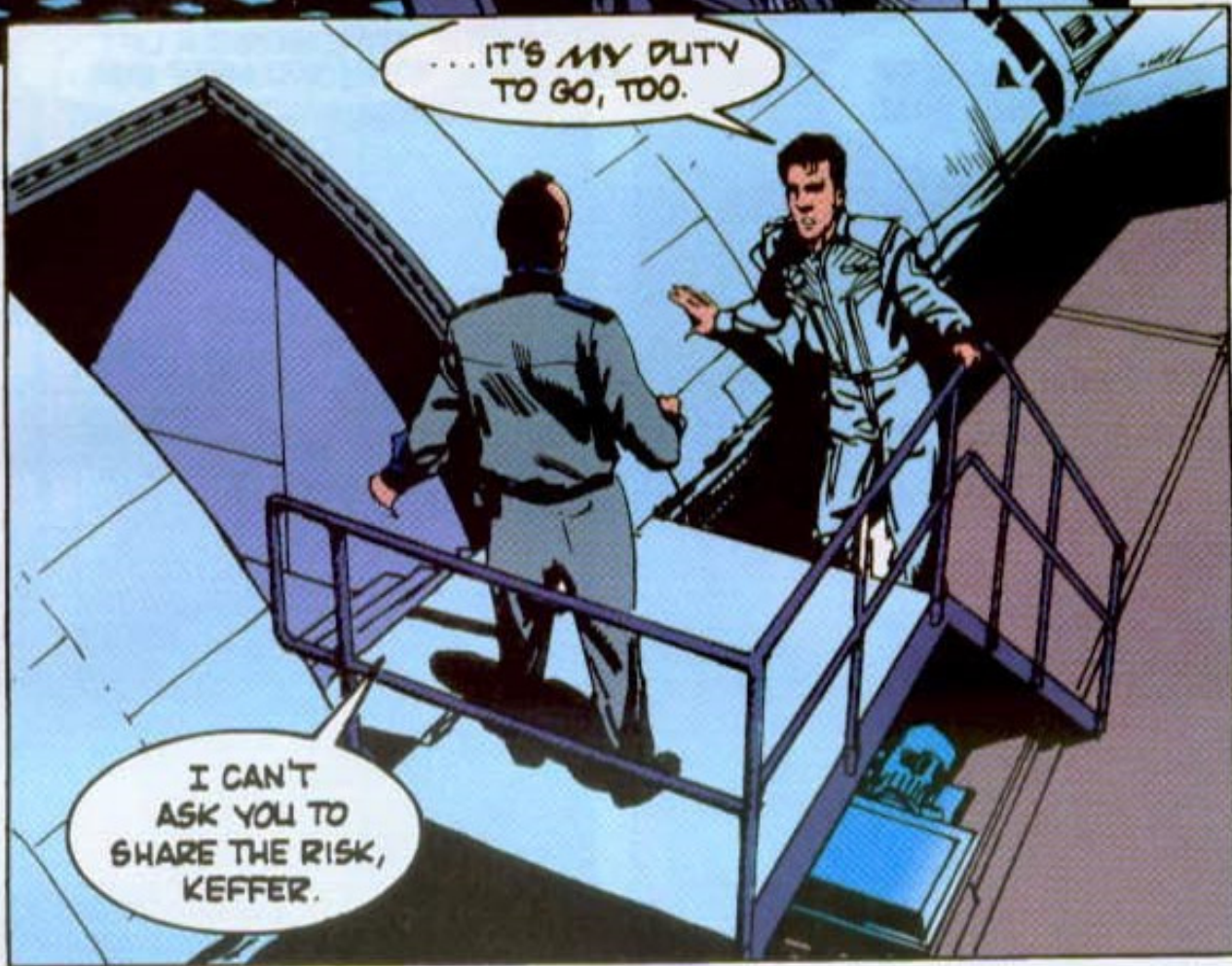


DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, WARREN. THIS IS IMPORTANT. AND DANGEROUS.

WITH ME? THEN SHERIDAN OKAYED THE MISSION?

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, CHIEF. I JUST KNOW THAT I DRIVE THIS THING BETTER THAN YOU. SO IF YOU'RE OFF TO DO SOMETHING DANGEROUS...

STOP YOU? I'M GOING WITH YOU.



...IT'S MY DUTY TO GO, TOO.

I CAN'T ASK YOU TO SHARE THE RISK, KEEFER.



AND I CAN'T LET YOU GO ALONE, CHIEF. SOMEBODY HAS TO BRING YOU BACK ALIVE.



LET'S GO, THEN.

I KNEW YOU'D SEE IT MY WAY.

LONDO'S  
QUARTERS

AMBASSADOR,  
I THINK IT'S A  
MISTAKE FOR YOU  
TO LEAVE THE  
STATION.

THAT IS  
WHY I AM THE  
AMBASSADOR AND  
YOU ARE THE  
AIDE, VIR.

STOP  
THINKING SO  
MUCH AND START  
HELPING.

I'LL BE  
BACK SOON,  
VIR.

GREAT MAKER,  
PROTECT HIM.

HMF. NEVER A LIFT  
WHEN YOU NEED ONE...

AHA! IT'S  
ABOUT TIME—

ACK!

HELLO,  
AMBASSADOR.  
PLEASE, JOIN  
ME.

IT'S ALL RIGHT,  
AMBASSADOR. YOU'VE  
DONE US A FAVOR.

COME IN AND  
WE'LL TALK.

"AFTER YOU DEPART BABYLON 5, YOU WILL NOTIFY MR. REFA THERE HAS BEEN A *CHANGE OF PLANS*. HE IS TO RETURN *HOME*. YOU WILL GO TO SECTOR 14 AND PAY A ROUTINE DIPLOMATIC VISIT TO A CENTAURI COLONY..."

... AFTER WHICH YOU WILL RETURN TO BABYLON 5.

HOW DID YOU KNOW-

THAT IS NOT YOUR CONCERN, AMBASSADOR. FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS *EXACTLY*. ONE MORE THING...

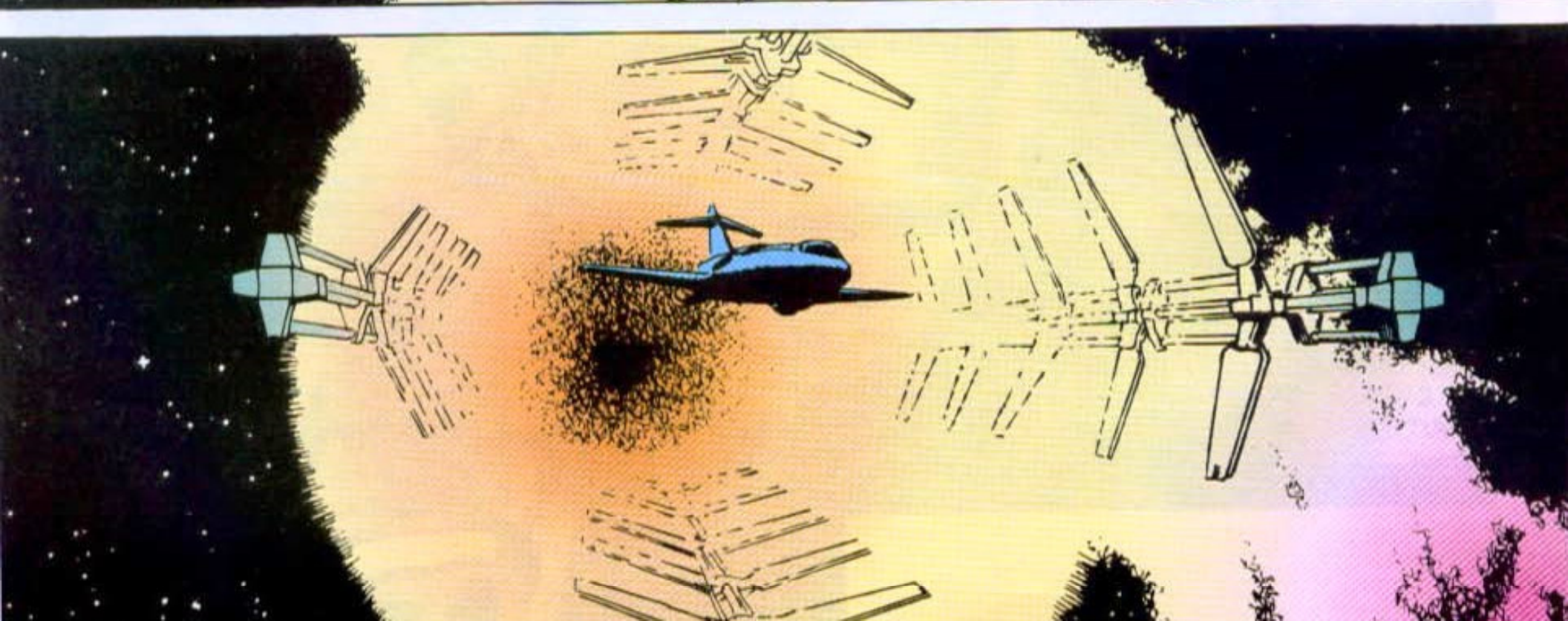
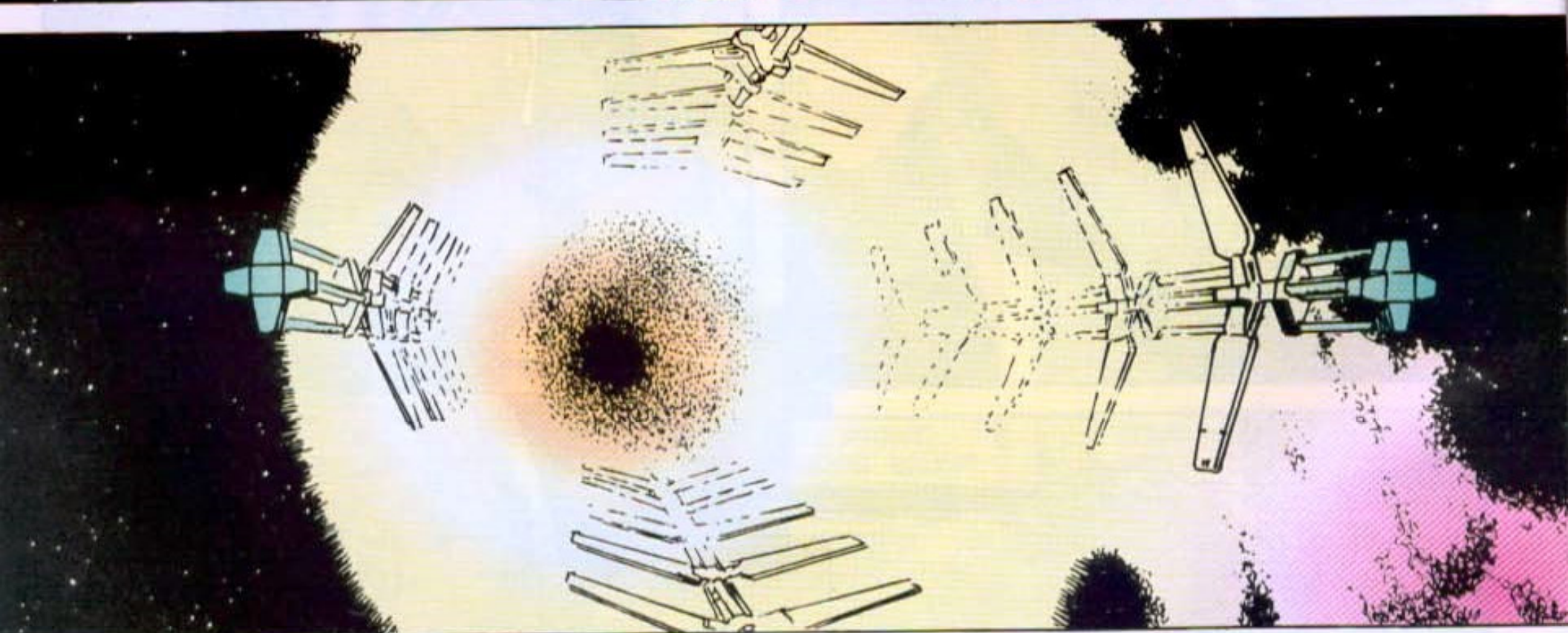
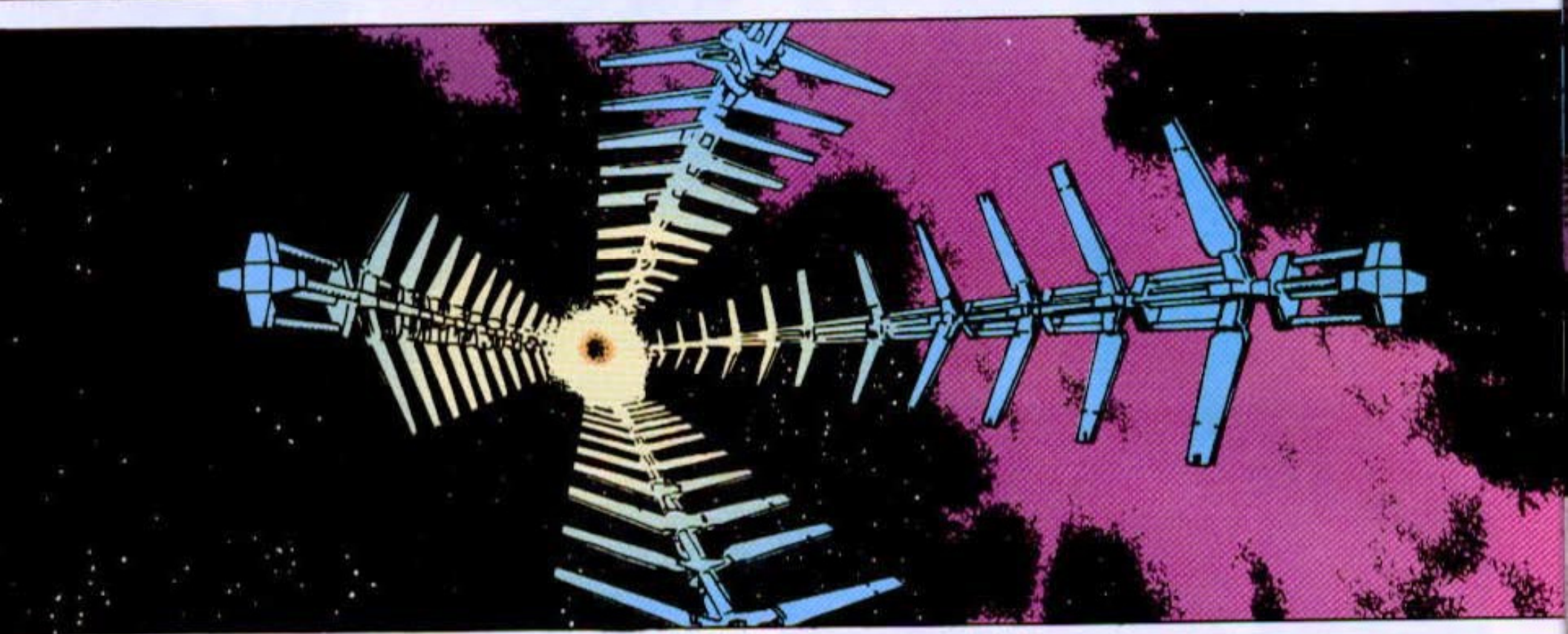
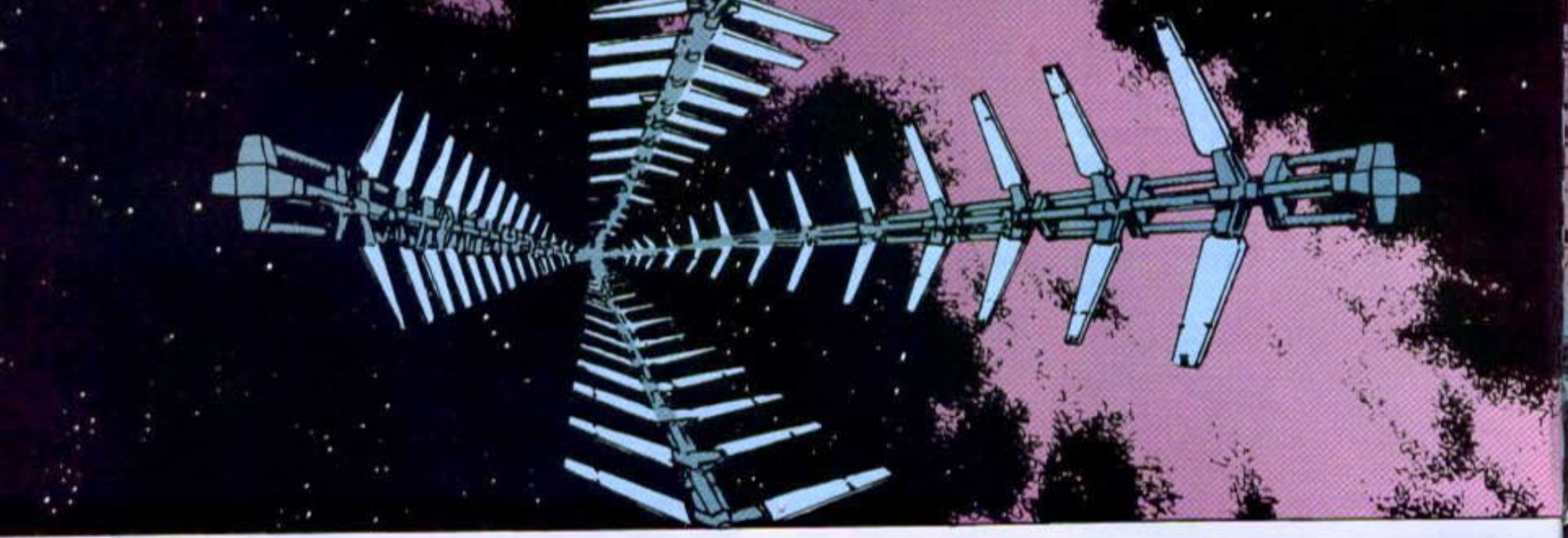
YES?


MR. GARIBALDI WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT YOUR ORIGINAL RENDEZVOUS POINT. WE WANT THAT LOCATION.

WELL, AMBASSADOR?

I'M WAITING...








"OKAY, WE'RE HERE..."



...NOW WHAT DO WE DO?


WE WAIT.



LEMME ASK YOU SOMETHING, KEFFER. WHY'D YOU COME WITH ME?

YOU NEEDED HELP. YOU DON'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS ON THE STATION.

YEAH. THE ONLY ONE I KNEW I COULD TRUST IS GONE.




YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? SHERIDAN MAY BE OKAY BUT...

GIVE SHERIDAN A CHANCE. HE'S OKAY.

...WOULD HE HAVE GIVEN ME A CHANCE? I DON'T KNOW.

WHAT'S THAT MEAN?



YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND?

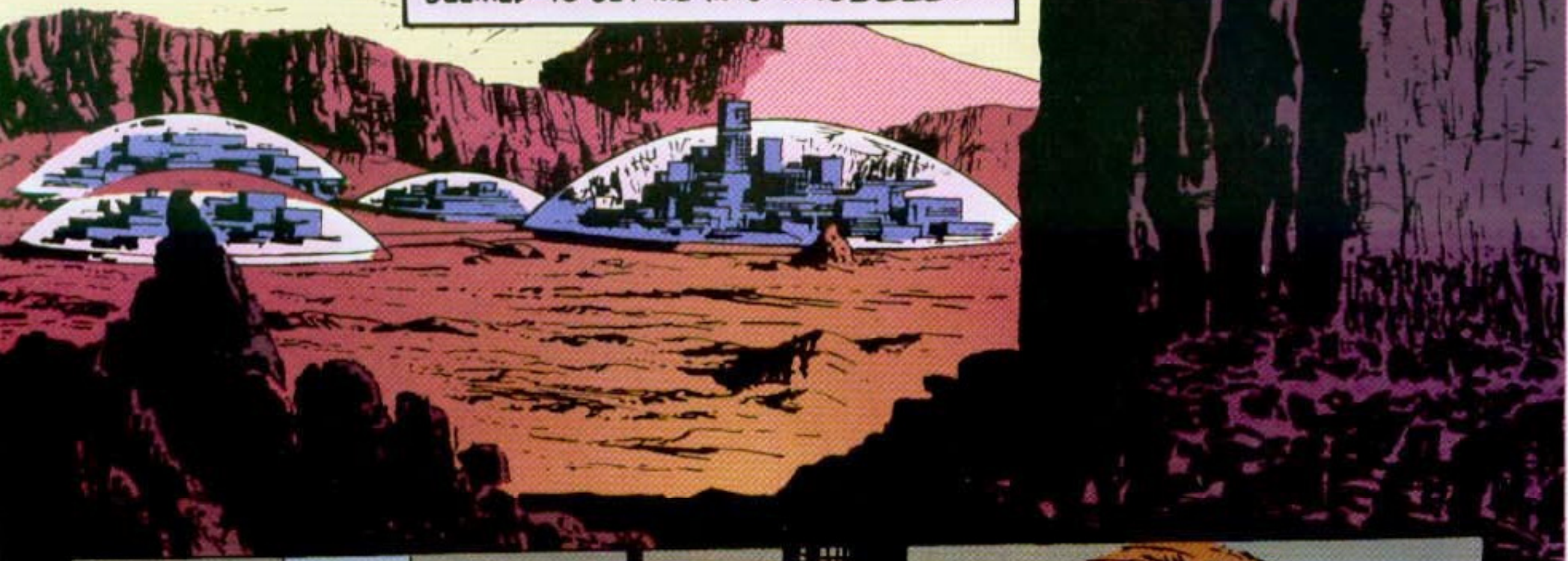
YEAH? TRY ME. WE'LL BE WAITING HERE AWHILE—TELL ME A STORY, UNCLE MIKE.

ALL RIGHT...

MARS COLONY.

"I'D BEEN FIRED FROM MY LAST COUPLE OF GIGS. I STARTED A *SHUTTLE TRANSPORT SERVICE* TO THE OUTLYING REGIONS. MOSTLY PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T LIKE BEING ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS.

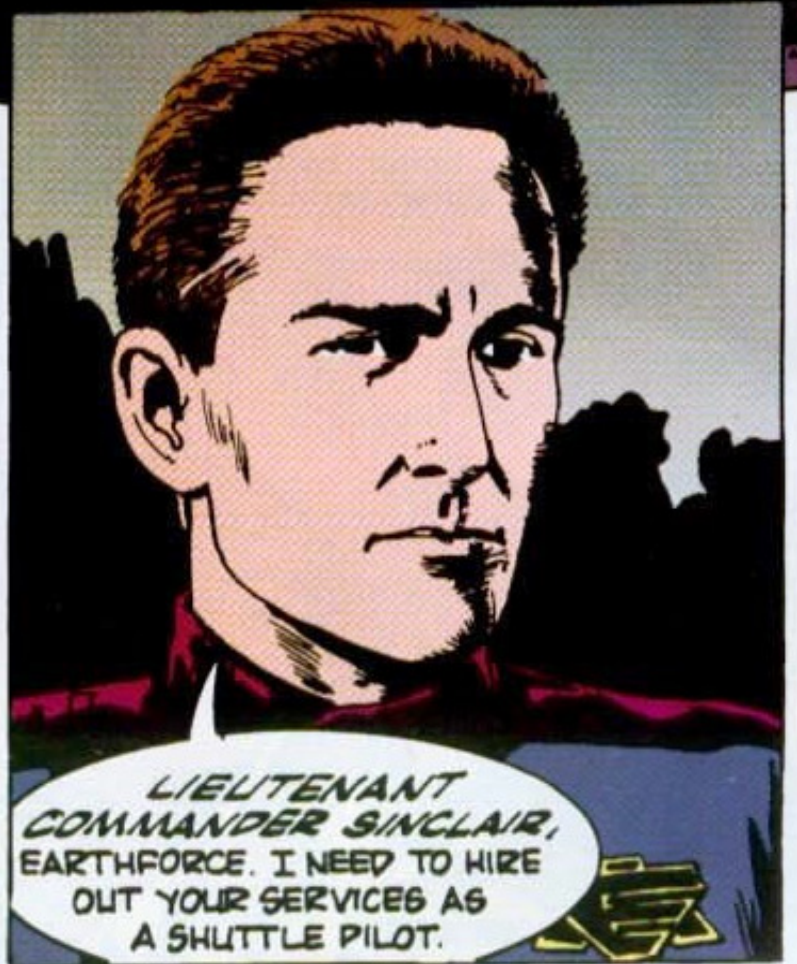
"FINE WITH ME. ASKING QUESTIONS ALWAYS SEEMED TO GET ME INTO *TROUBLE*."



"I WAS LOOKING FOR COMFORT IN A BOTTLE WHEN MY LIFE CHANGED—*PERMANENTLY*."

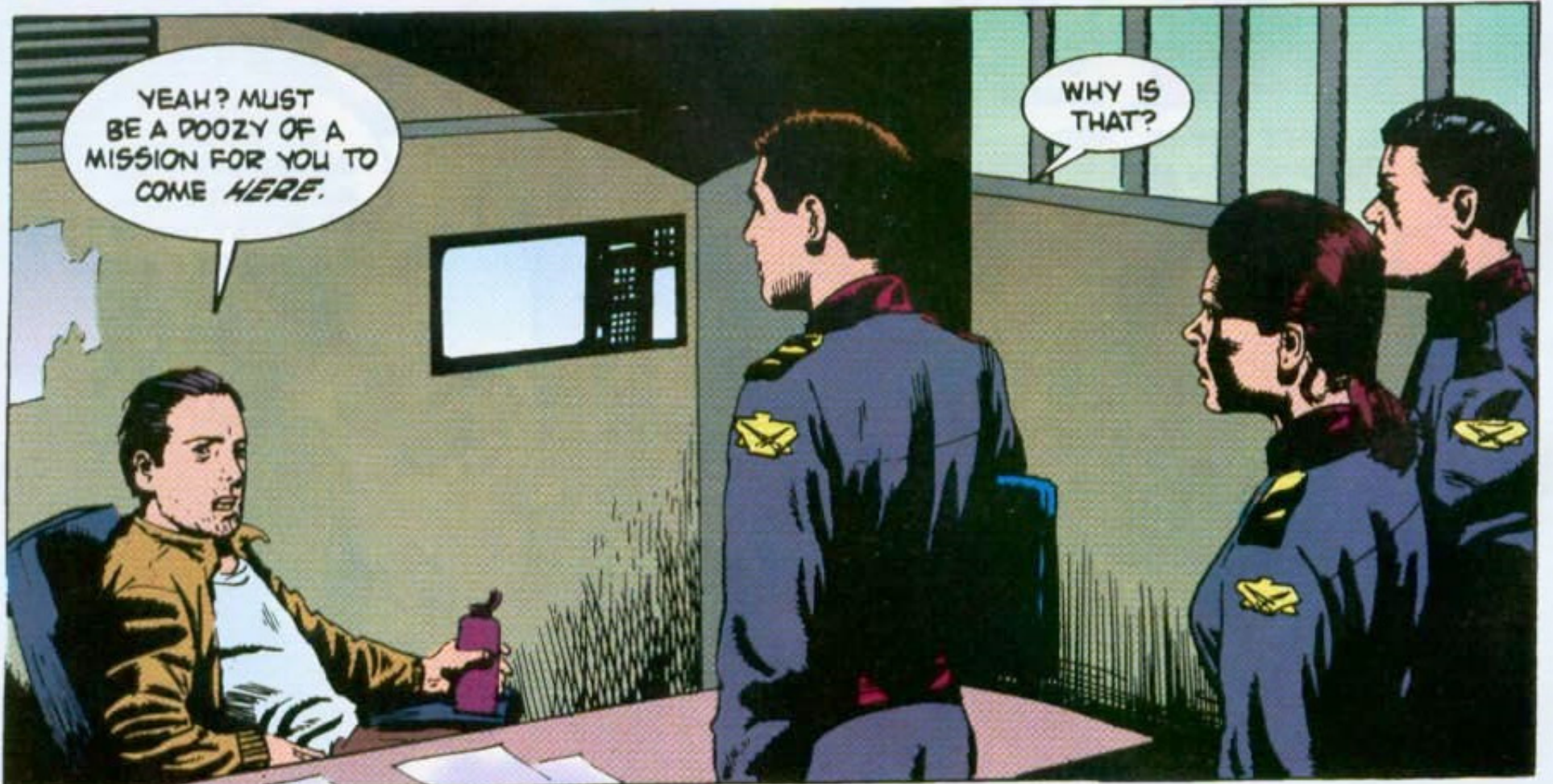


MR. GARIBALDI...

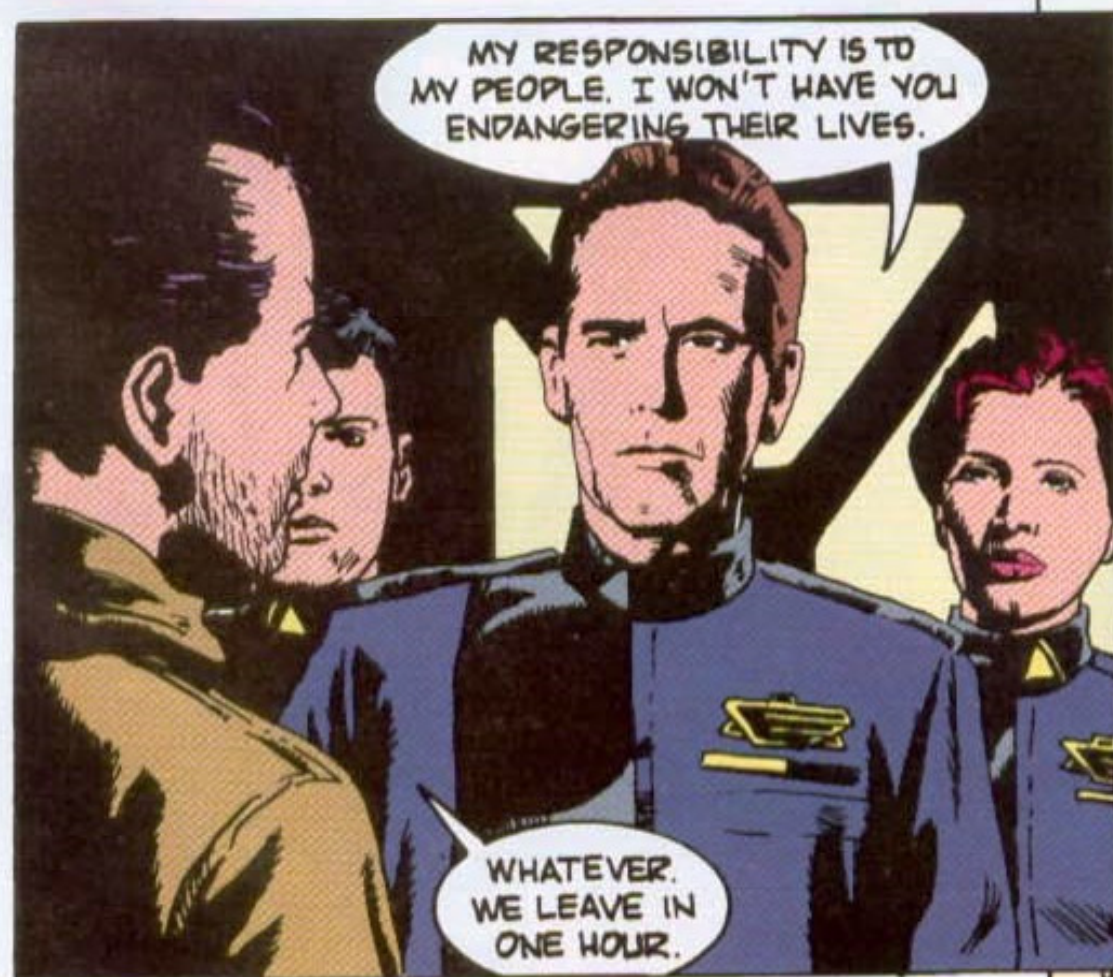
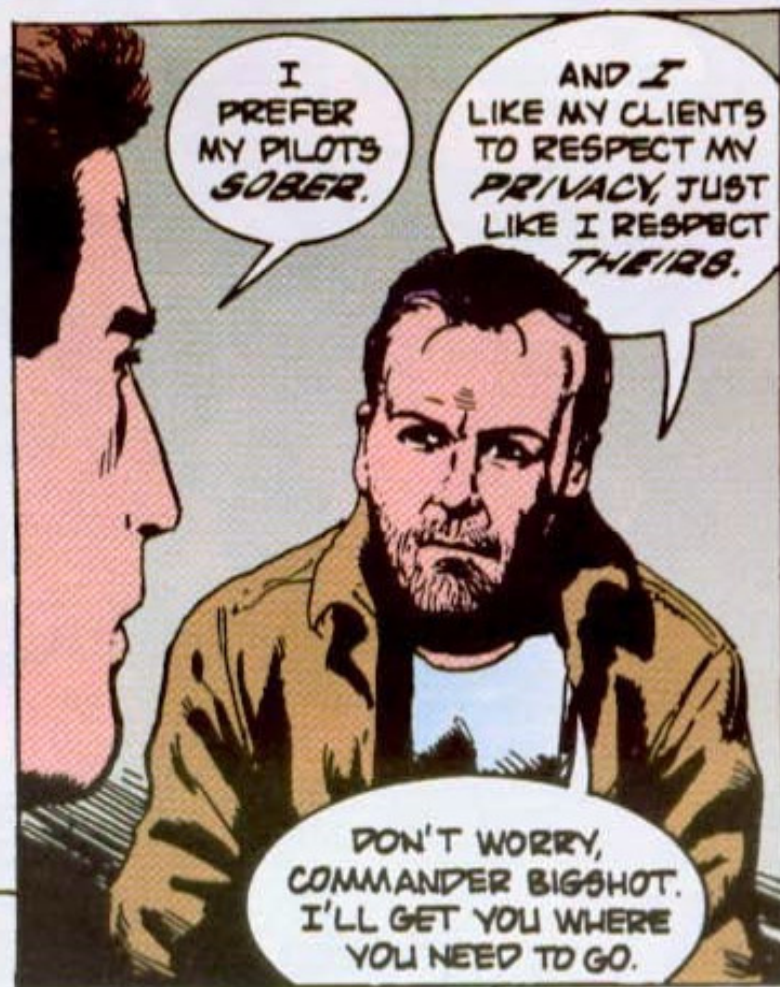
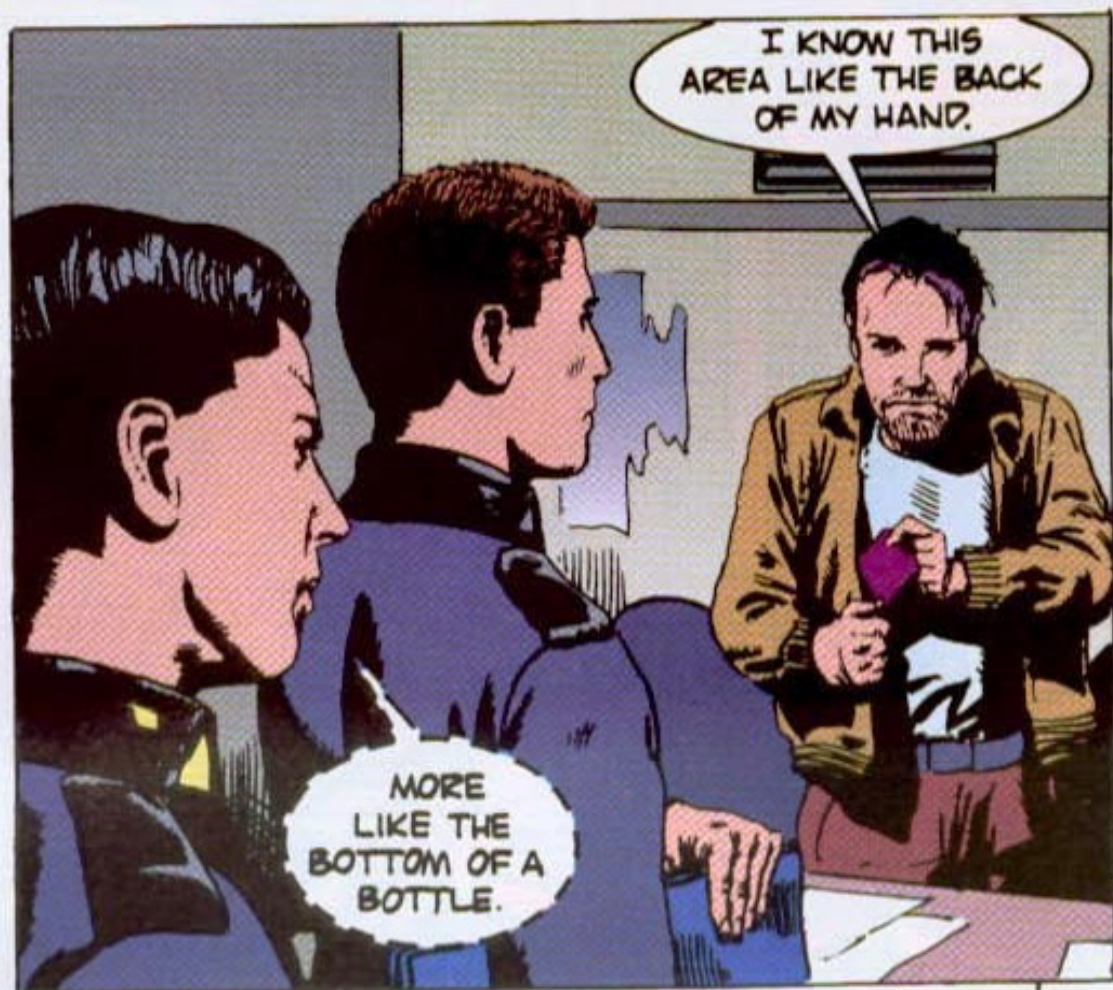
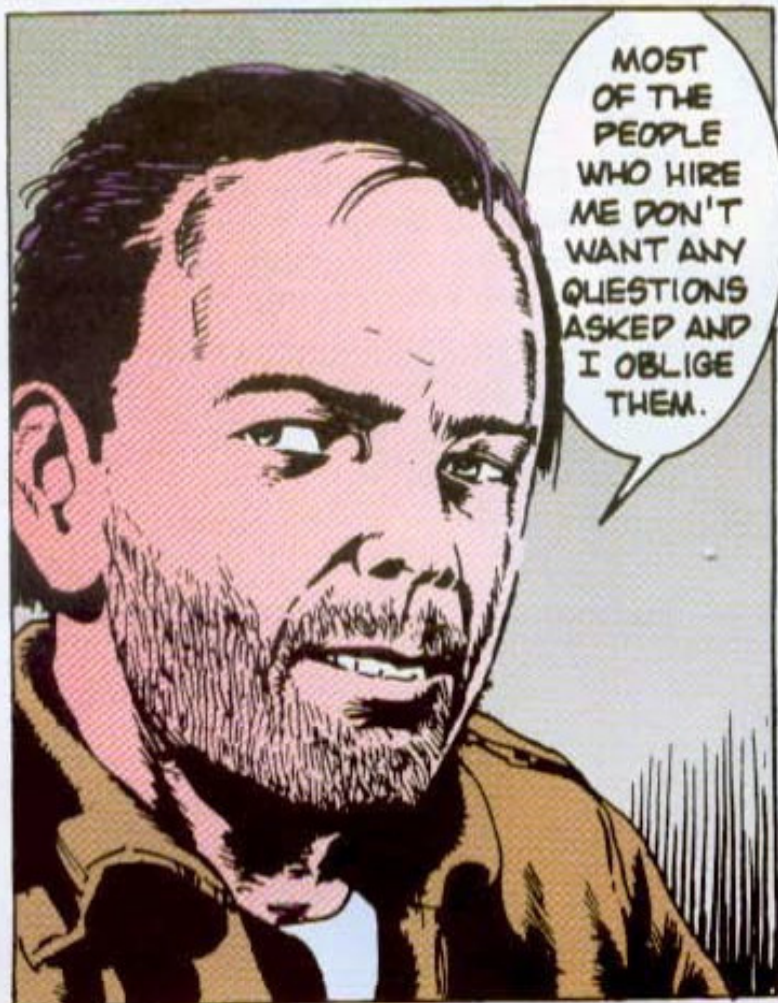


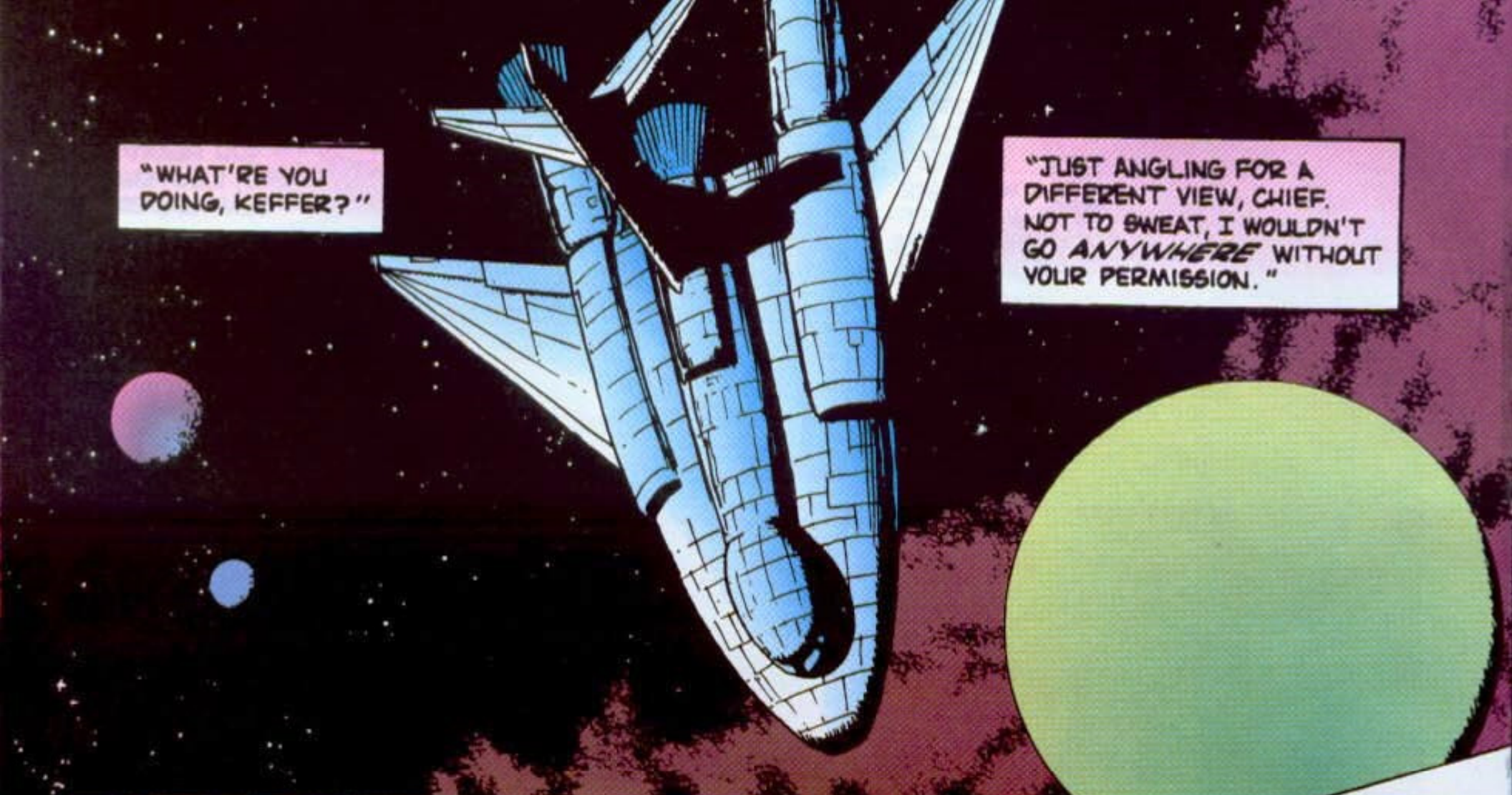
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER SINCLAIR, EARTHFORCE. I NEED TO HIRE OUT YOUR SERVICES AS A SHUTTLE PILOT.

YEAH? MUST BE A DOOZY OF A MISSION FOR YOU TO COME *HERE*.




WHY IS THAT?





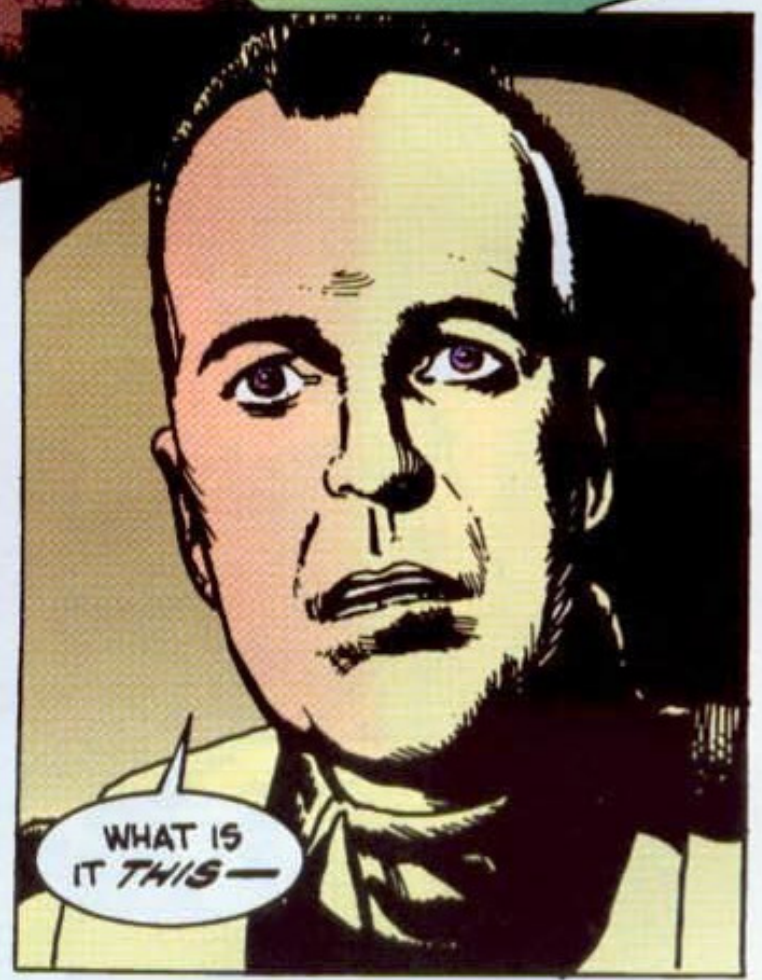
"WHAT'RE YOU DOING, KEFFER?"

"JUST ANGLING FOR A DIFFERENT VIEW, CHIEF. NOT TO SWEAT, I WOULDN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION."



HEY, HOT SHOT PILOT—MY STORY BORING YOU?

UH-OH... OUTSIDE, ON THE LEFT...



WHAT IS IT THIS—



OH, MY GOD...

"EVASIVE  
MANEUVERS!"

"AFT THRUSTERS  
ON FULL!"

"MAYBE IT CAN'T FOLLOW  
US INTO THE ATMOSPHERE."

"GO FOR THE  
PLANET!"

"WE'RE HIT!"





AFT THRUSTERS  
OUT. LANDING GEAR  
WON'T EXTEND.

RIGHT STABILIZER  
IS DAMAGED. DON'T KNOW  
HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN  
KEEP US STEADY.

WE'LL HAVE  
TO ATTEMPT A  
MANUAL LANDING. FIND  
A FLAT AREA.

"LOSING ALTITUDE FAST. WE'LL  
HAVE TO TRY OVER THERE."

HOLDING  
STEADY...

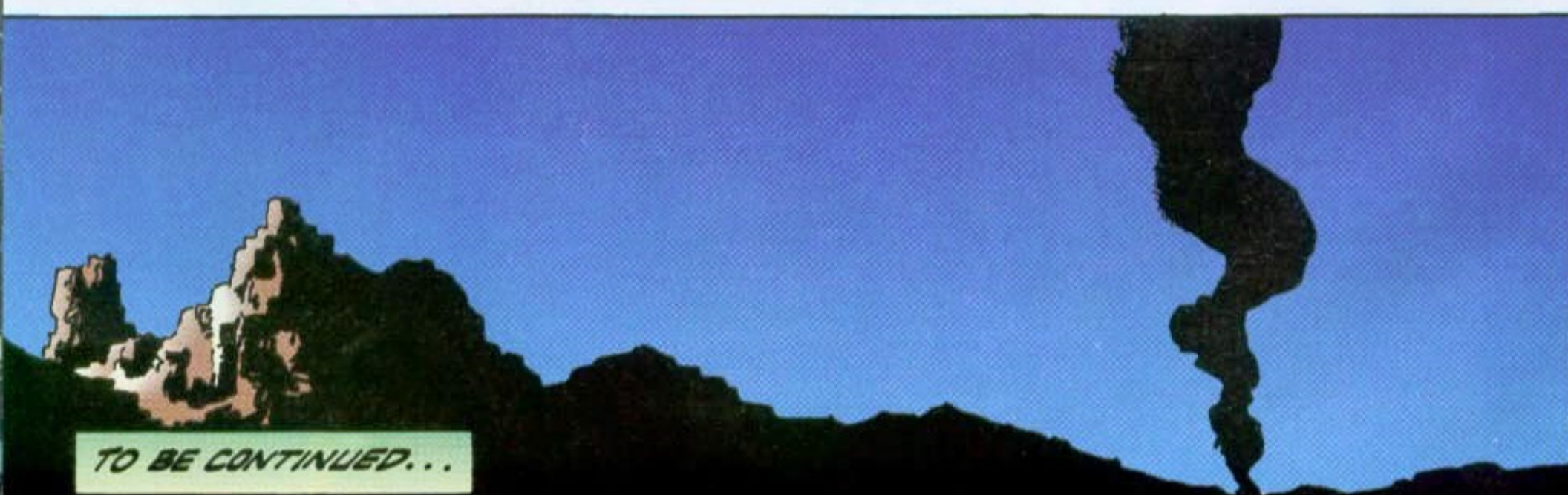
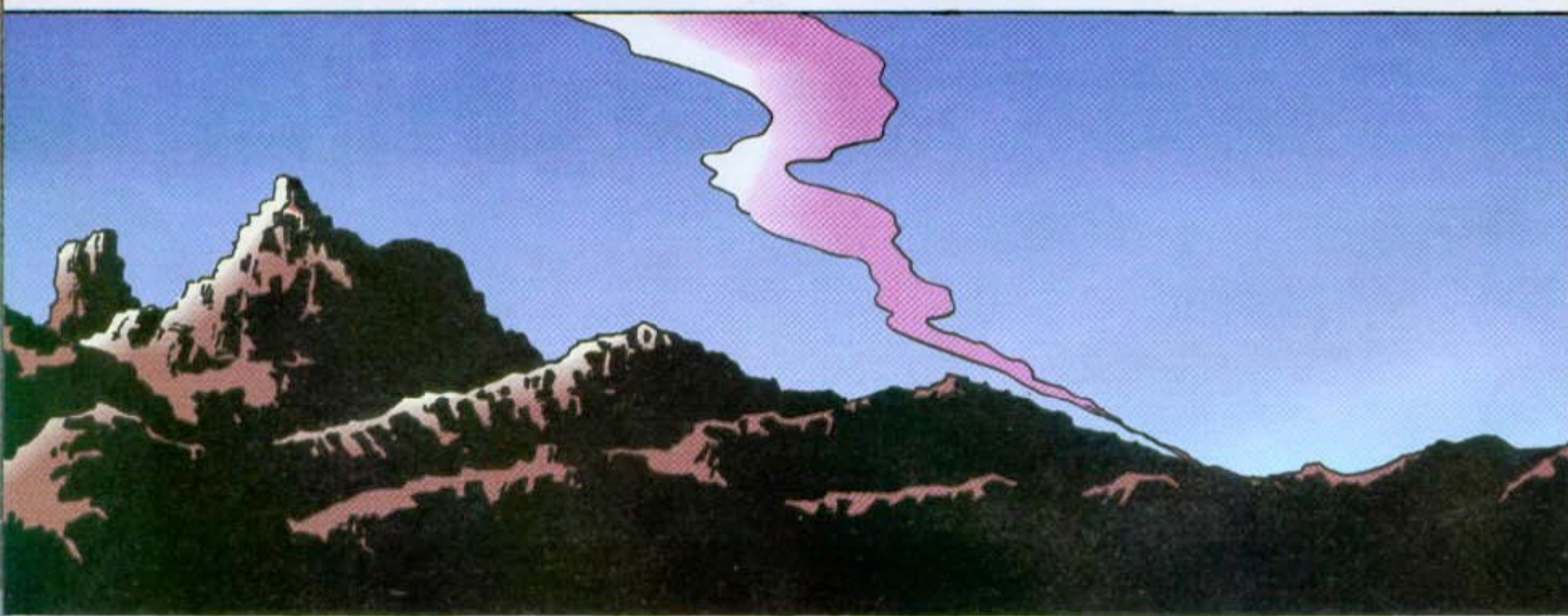
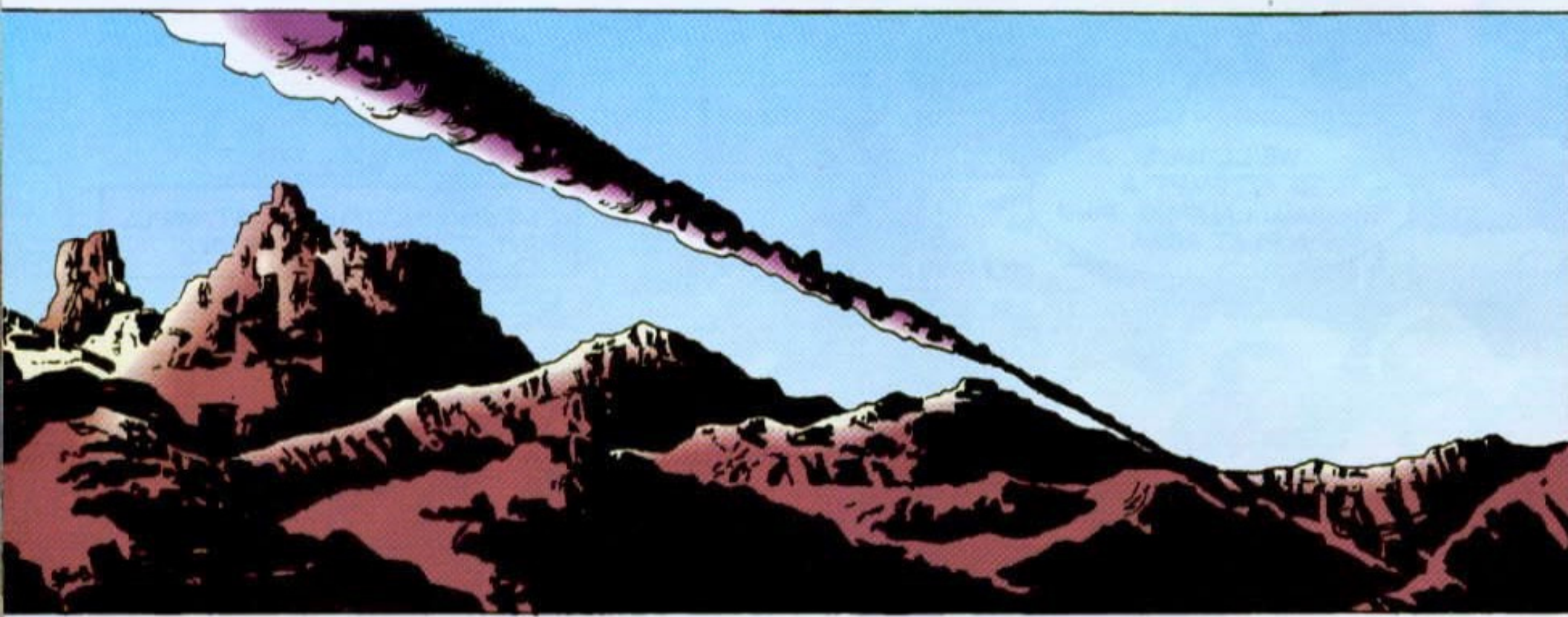
HOPE THE  
FOAM-PROTECT  
STILL WORKS.





"ANY IDEA WHERE WE ARE?"

"NONE. PUT YOUR BREATHER ON."



TO BE CONTINUED...

# B A B Y L O N

"It was the dawn of the third age of mankind... ten years after the Earth-Minbari war. The Babylon Project was a dream given form. Its goal: to prevent another war, by creating a place where humans and aliens could work out their differences peacefully. It's a port of call, home away from home, for diplomats, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and wanderers. Humans and aliens, wrapped in two million, five hundred thousand tons of spinning metal... all alone in the night. It can be a dangerous place, but it's our last, best hope for peace. This is the story of the last of the Babylon stations. The year is 2259. The name of the place is... **BABYLON 5.**"

Dear Babcom,

The first issue of BABYLON 5 ["In Darkness, Find Me"] was great! We finally get to see what happened to Jeffrey Sinclair through his point of view. This issue would have made an excellent episode of the show, but I guess the visual effects would have taken forever and driven Mr. Thornton crazy.

It is nearly impossible to pick a favorite character from the show, but if I was forced through torture to do so, I would have to pick Sinclair. The thing that makes him so cool is that he is an underdog who, as the show has hinted, has a great destiny before him. I think everyone likes to think he or she has a destiny and will become something great. That is what's so appealing about Sinclair.

I hope the story of Sinclair will not be limited to the comic for too long. The sooner we see Michael O'Hare back in the show, the better.

The B5 comic can be a great addition to the show. It can show things the TV show never could, like shots of Earth and various other home worlds. You can trust me to follow the show — and the comic — to the very end.

THOMAS F. WOODS  
1027 W. DUBOIS STREET  
DENISON, TX 75020

Dear Laura,

I've become a BABYLON 5 junkie ever since I first started watching, about two months before the start of the second season. I've downloaded nearly two hundred pages of support material from the Internet and searched frantically for merchandise (only to find that there isn't much... yet).

So, naturally, being a B5 fan and a DC fan, I grabbed the comic. Great so far. Netzer's work on this book looks very good so far, and of course the story by JMS was perfect. I'm curious to see if Moretti can keep it up, but I have faith in him.

I'm looking forward to seeing where this

story goes. And hopefully, the inclusion of more Tennyson, Yeats, et al., since JMS is keen on having his B5 fans learn about literature. It's a great starting point to go off and read more of the classics.

RANDY LANDER  
11505 KEMPWOOD DRIVE  
AUSTIN, TX 78750

Hi, there!

This will be my first letter to any comic, so first, I'd like to say thanks to DC for coming to AOL and making this kind of interaction possible. : )

Now, on to B5. I only recently started watching BABYLON 5 on a regular basis, and I plan to catch up on the rest. I am glad to see the comic is picking up on the story with Commander Sinclair. The story was very good. However, the artwork just wasn't the best. It was hard to tell who was who. The art, in my opinion, hampered the story. Improve the art, and you'll have a very good comic.

A couple of questions. From what I understand, both this comic and the forthcoming novels will be in continuity with the show itself. Will they explore facets of the show that would normally be left unsaid (such as the current Sinclair storyline)? Would those who don't read the comics or novels miss anything important to the show's storyline? Or would the details of Sinclair on Minbar as occurring in the comic be mentioned on the show at all?

That's all for now. Now that DC Comics is online, I'll probably be writing to comics more.

RICHARD GUINN  
RIKIG@AOL.COM

Hope so. Online notes are as welcome as regular letters — and best of all, no envelopes to open!

Yes, you're correct about the continuity. We do plan to explore new facets of the B5 world and dovetail into the television show whenever feasible. As for how much the show

will echo the comic... well, that's up to J. Michael Straczynski.

Dear Laura,

I've never seen BABYLON 5, the TV show, and know very little about it other than that Harlan Ellison, Peter David and some famed actors have been involved with the show. But there was an extra two bucks calling out to me on my usual Wednesday night visit to the comic store, and there was BABYLON 5. It was the dawn of the third age of mankind...

Creator/writer J. Michael Straczynski did a nice job in translating his story to the printed page, although I don't know how this relates to what has been established on television. As this space opera unfolds, I hope to learn more not just about Jeffrey Sinclair, but about the history of the universe, the different alien cultures and even what Babylon 5 is! The comic and TV show bear the title of the space station, yet Commander Sinclair mentions how it's been "seven days since I left Babylon 5" along with his wife (!) and refers to his experience there with the Minbari. But how does the station tie in with current events? Please clear that up to avoid future confusion!

I was fascinated by this world of technology and mysticism, although J. Michael made it clear the Minbari's talk of souls and soul hunters wasn't exactly on the level. I'd like to see magic explored in this futuristic setting. What the writer did best, though, was delve into Sinclair's mind, and I hope Mark Moretti has that same hold on the character. If it weren't for the great dialogue and intriguing past that this character displayed, I definitely wouldn't have been as impressed with BABYLON 5's debut.

And here's a strange thing for me to compliment you on, but thanks for straying away from STAR TREK territory. Gene Roddenberry's show and its many spinoffs tend to be linked with the entire science-fiction genre, and critics often try to find similarities to TREK in any other show remotely dealing

with science fiction. I don't notice much in common, which should serve as a testament to Straczynski's originality.

Mike Netzer and Rob Leigh's art was perfectly suited for this comic. Interestingly enough, the solid artwork and Tracy Munsey's large lettering gave the issue the feel of an old comic strip rather than a modern book. I enjoyed that a lot, and Robbie Busch's colors were also nicely done.

Hopefully, future issues of BABYLON 5 will have the same qualities that this opener did, but will introduce more concepts for the reader to enjoy and understand. Who knows? Maybe the TV show could gain a viewer. See you in 30!

JOEY MARCHESE  
P.O. BOX 802  
CLARK, NJ 07066

**BABYLON 5 is about the different characters who pass through the space station. So, we may spend time off B5, but we'll never be too far away.**

Dear Babcom:

This is a great idea for a comic. I love the show and your comic version. I recently bought #1 and could not put it down.

I especially liked the section at the end, about the 'Starfury.' For a long time, I have been trying to make a picture of the fighter. This section boosted my knowledge incredibly. I have also assembled two very good 3-D models thanks in part to the drawings and pictures.

And because of the first page, I finally understand why they call it the Battle of the Line.

MARK PAGLIUCA  
72 ENTRANCE WAY  
PURDYS, NY 10578

**In fact, the first pages of issue #1 followed dialogue from the TV show closely — so you could have picked up the reference to "holding the line" from the show. Still, this is a good example of how the B5 comic book may clear up or illuminate details of the show.**

Glad you enjoyed the Starfury piece. We're thinking of asking other pros from the TV show to write articles, beyond what we've done for issues #1-4. Any suggestions or special requests?

Dear BABYLON 5:

As a BABYLON 5 fan, I was happy to see the story expand into comics. I don't usually read comics, but I do intend to purchase any and all set in the Babylon 5 universe. It was great to see Sinclair again, even if only on paper, since the actor isn't on the show full time this

season.

I thought DC Comics did a good job visualizing Sinclair's emotions in this first issue. I found the story and the dialogue convincing and entertaining. The only flaw I found was that the president in the comics looks nothing like the one on the television show. Oh well, I guess you can't have everything.

Thanks you for producing such an enjoyable comic.

NERMEISTER @AOL.COM

**Back when we were drawing issue #1, the part of President Clark hadn't yet been cast in the TV show. So, we did the best we could. Circumstances beyond our control sometimes make it tough to match every detail to the show.**

Ms. Hitchcock:

Well, now I'm getting a little red-faced and there are two reasons:

First, I rarely ever write to comic creators and this is my second letter to your book in as many issues.

Second, I have to eat my words.

If you recall the last time I wrote, I highly praised your book, but had some reservations about the art. They were nit-picking little issues, but that is what most of us anal retentive "B5" fans do. We love the show so much that we want to see it perfect, and as a professional, you, no doubt, want the same thing.

But I must take back my criticisms. As Mr. Netzer and Mr. Leigh, truly a great team, continue to work together, they improve and have grown to complement one another amazingly well after only one issue. Sure, there were some slight errors (such as Earthforce patches occasionally on the wrong sleeve, and the absence of the new wing patch that was added for the second season) — but as I said, this is nit-picking. The look, feel, and general ambiance projected in issue two was very nearly perfect.

The major congrats must go to Mr. Busch. His colors were a vast improvement over the all-too-dark look of the first issue. This issue was bright, vibrant, and most of all, accurate. One sole goof is that security uniforms are grey, not blue. Oh well, go get 'em next time, Robbie.

As for Mr. Moretti, he did a great job following up "Great Maker" J. Michael Straczynski. He may come under some fire, but readers must realize that Mr. Straczynski is the B5 creator and considering Mr. Moretti followed such a tough act, he came off like a champ.

My major request: MORE GARIBALDI. He is my favorite character and Jerry Doyle is my favorite actor on the series. Heck, when I grow up I want to be just like this character. (Now, if only Mr. Doyle would start doing conventions — I'd love to meet the man behind the character!)

Anyway, congratulations on a great book and your vast improvements on an already great product. Thank you for reading this letter, but I gotta go. Babylon 5 is on...

BRETT T. HARRIS  
65 WOODSTOCK LANE  
BRISTOL, VA 24201

P.S. PETER DAVID. GEORGE PEREZ.  
Something to think about.

We're thinking, we're thinking. Maybe we'll even have something official to report, soon.

And thanks, Brett, for writing two letters before even one letter column was published — that's devotion.

As you may know, we plan to publish BABYLON 5 as a series of story arcs, with rotating creative teams on script and art. You'll see that each team brings its own unique sensibility and interpretation to the B5 universe. It may not always match your own vision of B5, but it will be interesting, guaranteed. Keep an open mind.

Thanks to everyone who wrote. Overall, it's been a good letter column debut — lots of compliments, a few complaints, plus smart commentary from both diehard fans and new recruits.

What more could an editor want?

Maybe... suggestions and questions? Drop a line, by mail or modem — let us know what you're thinking, about any aspect of Babylon 5.

If you crave still more Babylon 5 action, look for the novelizations published by Dell, with all-new stories, available now.

And if you're not already aware of DC Comics Online (via America Online), consider joining us. You can preview covers and get advance info about this and other DC titles before they arrive in stores. A B5 folder is also available, filled with all kinds of Babylon 5 notes. Additionally, Peter David, who wrote the B5 television episode "Soul Mates" is scheduled to appear live on DC Comics Online in May.

If you're not a member of America Online, all you need to join is a computer, a modem and a starter kit, which includes ten free hours online. To get your free starter kit, call 1-800-203-2600.

Till the dawn of the next month...

## NEXT UP: AGAINST THE ODDS

Garibaldi and Keffer are lost and desperate... but Garibaldi won't stop talking about the old days with Sinclair on Mars. What gives? Tim DeHaas and John Ridgway continue the saga.

COVER ART FOR THIS ISSUE BY SCOTT HAMPTON.