

10¢

NO. 204

# FLASH GORDON



Another brand-new  
**FLASH GORDON**  
COMICS especially  
written and drawn  
for this book



# FLASH GORDON CUTOUT JET-CAR

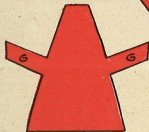
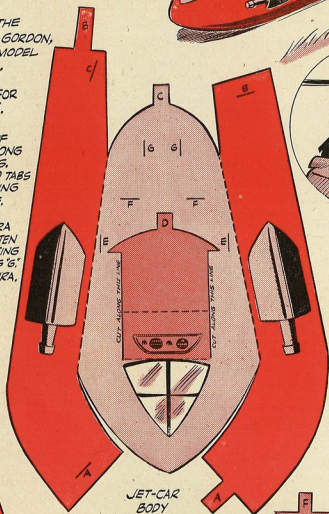
RIGHT OUT OF THE  
PAGES OF FLASH GORDON,  
AN ASSEMBLY MODEL  
JET-CAR.

## DIRECTIONS FOR ASSEMBLY.

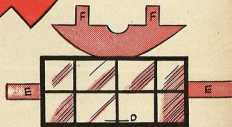
I. CUT OUT BODY OF  
JET-CAR. FOLD ALONG  
ALL DOTTED LINES.  
INSERT LETTERED TABS  
INTO CORRESPONDING  
LETTERED SLOTS.

II. CUT OUT VENTURA  
EXHAUST AND FASTEN  
TO BODY BY INSERTING  
TABS "G" INTO SLOTS "G".  
DO NOT FOLD VENTURA.

III. CUT OUT CANOPY  
AND FASTEN TO BODY  
BY INSERTING TABS  
"F" AND "E" INTO SLOTS  
"F" AND "E". BACK OF  
CANOPY WILL SECURE  
FRONT PART OF  
VENTURA EXHAUST.



VENTURA EXHAUST



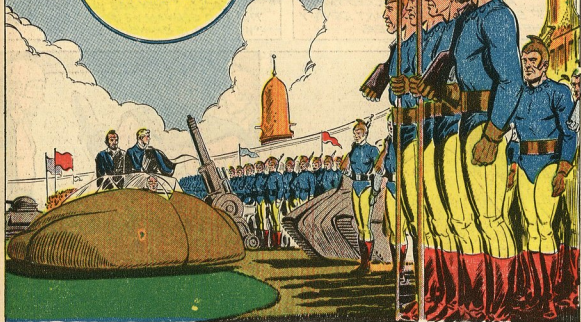
CANOPY.



# FLASH GORDON

*"Adventure on Orano"*

FLASH GORDON,  
PRESIDENT OF MONGO,  
AND DR. ZARKOV INSPECT  
TROOPS AND MILITARY  
EQUIPMENT OF MONGO....



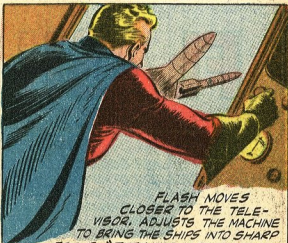
SUDDENLY, FLASH IS  
DISTRACTED BY A  
VOICE ON THE CAR-  
SPEAKER, WHICH  
BOOMS, "MISTER  
PRESIDENT, REPORT  
TO OPERATIONS!  
VERY URGENT!"



"LET'S GO!" SAYS  
FLASH. THE CAR  
SWERVES FROM  
THE PARADE  
GROUNDS AND  
HEADS FOR  
OPERATIONS.



IN THE OPERATIONS OFFICE, AN OFFICER POINTS TO A TELEVISOR SCREEN ON WHICH TWO STRANGE CRAFT ARE PLOTTED. "WE PICKED THEM UP SOMETIME AGO, SIR. CAN'T IDENTIFY THEM," SAYS THE OFFICER.



FLASH MOVES CLOSER TO THE TELEVISOR. ADJUSTS THE MACHINE TO BRING THE SHIPS INTO SHARP FOCUS. "THEY ARE VARIATIONS OF THE OLD GERMAN V-2 BOMB," SAYS FLASH. "WAIT, ONE IS CHANGING COURSE!"



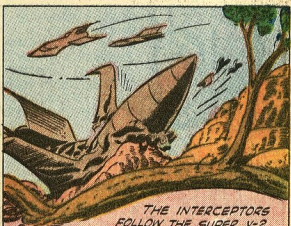
AS THEY WATCH, THE SHIP THAT CHANGED COURSE PLUNGES TOWARD ORANO WHERE IT CRASHES. THE OTHER CONTINUES TOWARD MONGO.



FLASH GRASPS A PHONE: "SQUADRON 'X'. INTERCEPT APPROACHING CRAFT, LOCATION, N-5-2, Z-3-7. FIRE ONLY IF FIRED UPON! PROCEED AT ONCE! GORDON!"



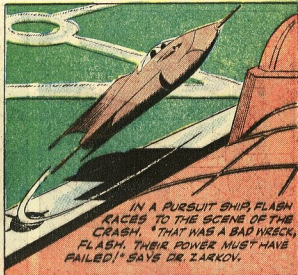
"THERE GOES SQUADRON 'X', FLASH," SAYS DR. ZARKOV. "WHY SO DOWNCAST, ZARKOV. THINKING OF THAT SHIP THAT CRASHED ON ORANO?" QUERIES FLASH. "YES," REPLIES ZARKOV, "THERE'S LITTLE CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL ON THAT PLANET!"



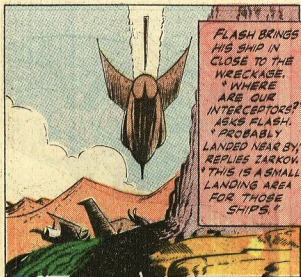
THE INTERCEPTORS FOLLOW THE SUPER V-2 IN OVER MONGO. THE V-2 LOSES ALTITUDE RAPIDLY. SUDDENLY, IT CRASHES IN THE MOUNTAIN REGION OF MONGO.



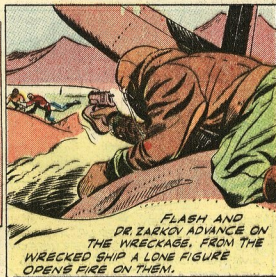
FLASH, WATCHING THE TELEVISOR SCREEN, SEES THE SUPER V-2 CRASH. "COME ON, ZARKOV, I WANT TO SEE WHO WAS FLYING THAT SHIP."



IN A PURSUIT SHIP, FLASH RACES TO THE SCENE OF THE CRASH. "THAT WAS A BAD WRECK, FLASH. THEIR POWER MUST HAVE FAILED!" SAYS DR. ZARKOV.



FLASH BRINGS HIS SHIP IN CLOSE TO THE WRECKAGE. "WHERE ARE OUR INTERCEPTORS?" ASKS FLASH. "PROBABLY LANDED NEAR BY," REPLIES ZARKOV. "THIS IS A SMALL LANDING AREA FOR THOSE SHIPS."



FLASH AND DR. ZARKOV ADVANCE ON THE WRECKAGE. FROM THE WRECKED SHIP A LONE FIGURE OPENS FIRE ON THEM.

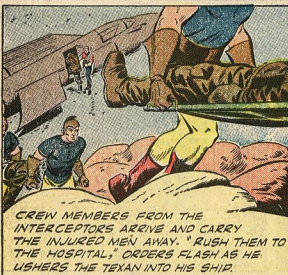


THAT MAN IS MIGHTY UNFRIENDLY, FLASH!

JUST OVERCAUTIOUS, BUT LISTEN TO THE BARK OF THAT PISTOL. IT'S A U.S. ARMY FORTY-FIVE!



"HOLD YOUR FIRE, YANKEE!" YELLS FLASH! "WHAT'S THAT?" MUTTERS THE AVIATOR. "THAT MAN SPEAKS ENGLISH... BUT HE OUGHT TO KNOW I'M A TEXAN!"





DR. ZARKOV REMOVES THE MASK FROM THE FACE OF THE MAN THE TEXAN SAYS IS THE COMMANDING OFFICER. THE OFFICER STARES AT THE THREE FACES. "WHO ARE THESE MEN, SERGEANT?" HE ASKS OF THE TEXAN.



THEY'RE GOOD JOES, MAJOR. THEY FIXED YOU UP IN NO TIME. BET NOBODY RIDES THE SICK-BOOK IN THEIR ARMY.

FLASH, BETTER TAKE THE SERGEANT OUT NOW. I'LL HAVE THESE MEN JOIN YOU LATER



LATER

SO, MR. GORDON, YOUR SKILLED DOCTOR HAS SAVED THE LIVES OF MY MEN AND MY LIFE. NOW YOU WISH TO INTERROGATE US?

MAJOR KENYON, I'LL NOT PRESS YOU FOR INFORMATION, BUT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE OTHER SHIP THAT CRASHED ON ORANO.



THAT SHIP IS A MYSTERY TO US. WE LEFT THE UNITED STATES ON A TOP-SECRET MISSION. WE BELIEVED WE HAD DEVELOPED THE V-2 TO THE POINT WHERE WE COULD CONQUER SPACE. WE THOUGHT WE WERE THE ONLY ONES TO MAKE SUCH PROGRESS.



SHORTLY AFTER LEAVING EARTH, WE NOTICED THE SECOND SHIP, WE TRIED CONTACTING IT BY RADIO, BUT GOT NO RESPONSE. IT WAS LAUNCHED FROM SOMEWHERE ON EARTH. WE DON'T KNOW WHERE.

LAUNCHED FROM EARTH! THERE'S BUT ONE THING TO DO....



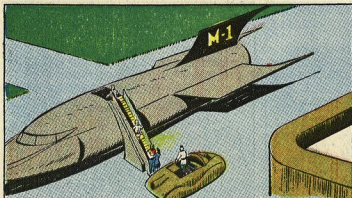
IF EARTHMEN ARE ON ORANO, THEY CAN'T SURVIVE LONG WITHOUT PROPER CLOTHING. THE SURFACE OF ORANO IS ALIVE WITH RADIO-ACTIVITY. WE WILL LEAVE IMMEDIATELY FOR ORANO!



DALE HEARS OF FLASH'S PREPARATION FOR FLIGHT TO ORANO AND JOINS HIM. "WHEN DO WE LEAVE, FLASH, DARLING? I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE ORANO," SHE SAYS. "SORRY, DALE. ORANO IS NO PLACE FOR SIGHT-SEEING," ANSWERS FLASH



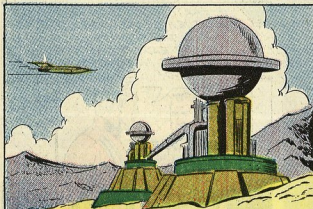
SHE FINDS DR. ZARKOV AND PLEADS WITH HIM TO PERSUADE FLASH TO LET HER GO. "NO, DALE, WE'LL BOTH STAY HERE AND KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING," SAYS DR. ZARKOV. "COME, WE MUST BID FLASH FAREWELL!"



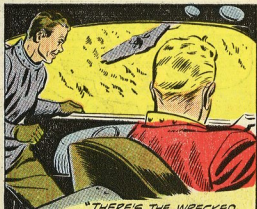
AT THE AIRDROME THEY WISH FLASH AND THE AMERICANS GOOD JOURNEY AND QUICK RETURN. CLAD IN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING, THE EARTHMEN BOARD THE MONGO SHIP. "GOODBYE, MY DARLING," WHISPERS DALE. "WE'LL WATCH YOUR PROGRESS ON THE TELESCOPE"



DR. ZARKOV AND DALE WATCH THE SHIP DISAPPEAR IN THE DISTANCE. "BY TAO," THINKS THE DOCTOR, "I PRAY THEY ESCAPE THE CLUTCHES OF 'TORRO, THE TERRIBLE, RULER OF ORANO!'"



HOURS LATER, THE MONGO SHIP ZOOMS OVER THE CYCLOTRONS OF ORANO, THE SOURCE OF THE RADIOACTIVITY THAT PROTECTS THE SURFACE OF ORANO. "ALL LIFE HERE EXISTS UNDERGROUND," FLASH INFORMS HIS PARTY.



"THERE'S THE WRECKED V-2," EXCLAIMS LT. FOWLER, ONE OF THE AIRMEN. "NO SIGN OF LIFE," SAYS FLASH. "BACK TO YOUR SEAT, LIEUTENANT. PREPARE FOR A ROUGH LANDING!"



FLASH LANDS THE SHIP ON ORANO. "WE'LL HAVE TO WALK FROM HERE. 'TERRAIN IS TOO ROUGH NEAR THE WRECKAGE," SAYS FLASH. "PUT ON YOUR HEADGEAR AND BE SURE IT IS SECURE."



NEARBY, AN ORANO GUARD PATROL APPROACHES THE AREA WHERE THEY SAW FLASH'S SPACE-SHIP LAND.



FLASH AND HIS PARTY REACH THE WRECKAGE AND SEARCH IT THOROUGHLY. "THIS SHIP WAS ROBOT-CONTROLLED," SAYS THE MAJOR. "LOOK, THE NOSE CARRIED RADIO EQUIPMENT TO RECORD AND TRANSMIT SPEED, DISTANCE AND WEATHER CONDITIONS!"

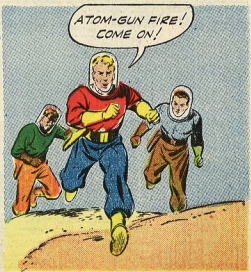


SST. SPARROW PICKS UP A SMALL NAME PLATE. "MAJOR, I'M NOT MUCH ON FOREIGN LANGUAGES, BUT FROM THIS I WOULD SAY THE SHIP WAS FROM ASIA." "YES, SERGEANT, THIS TELLS THE STORY," NODS THE MAJOR.

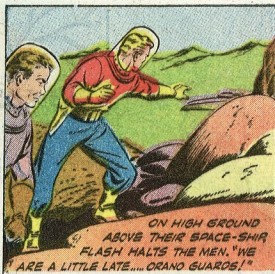


WELL, MEN, THAT'S IT! THERE IS NO ONE TO SAVE HERE, SO LET'S GET BACK TO OUR SHIP.

WHAT'S THAT, MR. GORDON? THAT SOUND IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SHIP?



ATOM-GUN FIRE! COME ON!



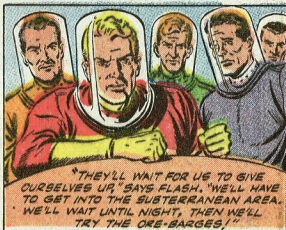
ON HIGH GROUND  
ABOVE THEIR SPACE-SHIP  
FLASH HALTS THE MEN. "WE  
ARE A LITTLE LATE.... ORANO GUARDS!"



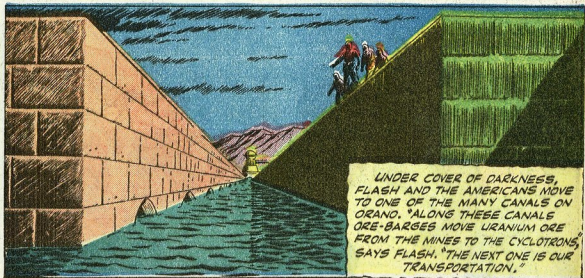
WHILE THEY WATCH, THE  
ORANO TANKS DESTROY THE  
SPACE-SHIP. "WELL, IT'S A LONG  
WALK BACK TO MONGO," SIGHS SGT. SPARROW.  
"WHAT DO WE DO NOW, GORDON?" SNAPS THE MAJOR.



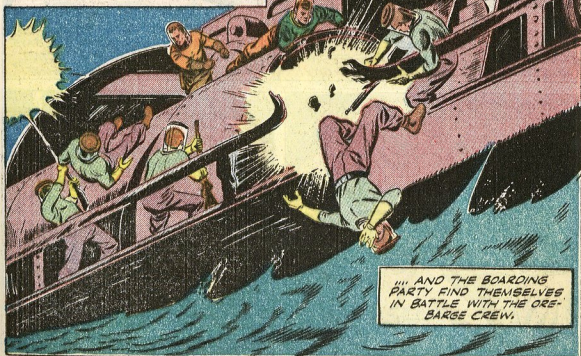
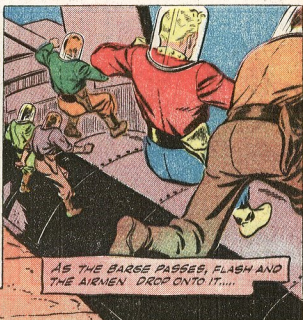
THE COMMANDER OF THE GUARDS  
SURVEYS THE DAMAGE, THEN SHOUTS,  
"FORGET THE PERSONNEL OF THAT SHIP.  
THEY'LL TURN UP AT A CYCLOTRON  
WHEN THEY GET HUNGRY."



"THEY'LL WAIT FOR US TO GIVE  
OURSELVES UP," SAYS FLASH. "WE'LL HAVE  
TO GET INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN AREA.  
WE'LL WAIT UNTIL NIGHT, THEN WE'LL  
TRY THE ORE-BARGES!"

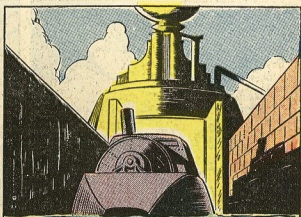


UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS,  
FLASH AND THE AMERICANS MOVE  
TO ONE OF THE MANY CANALS ON  
ORANO. "ALONG THESE CANALS  
ORE-BARGES MOVE URANIUM ORE  
FROM THE MINES TO THE CYCLOTRONS,"  
SAYS FLASH. "THE NEXT ONE IS OUR  
TRANSPORTATION."

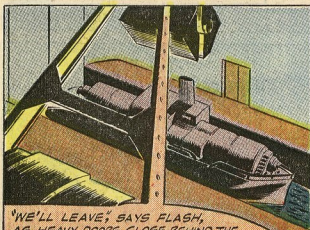




FLASH REACHES THE BARGE CAPTAIN, OVERPOWERS HIM, AND DEMANDS SAFE PASSAGE THROUGH A CYCLOTRON. THE CAPTAIN ORDERS, "CEASE FIRING!"



THEN HE HEADS THE BARGE INTO A CYCLOTRON. "YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE HERE," SNARLS THE CAPTAIN.



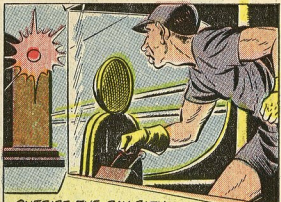
"WE'LL LEAVE," SAYS FLASH, AS HEAVY DOORS CLOSE BEHIND THE BARGE. "YOUR MEN ARE LOCKED BELOW, CAPTAIN! NOW YOU WILL LEAD US OFF THIS BARGE AND INTO THE UNDERGROUND CITY!"



THE CAPTAIN LEADS FLASH AND THE AMERICANS FROM THE BARGE. "WE MUST PASS THROUGH THE RAY-BATH," HE SAYS. "IT WILL NEUTRALIZE ALL RADIO-ACTIVE PARTICLES CLINGING TO OUR CLOTHING!"



THEY ENTER THE RAY-BATH. THE CAPTAIN PULLS A SWITCH AND THEY ARE BATHED IN A BRILLIANT GLARE OF LIGHT.



OUTSIDE THE RAY-BATH A RED LIGHT BLINKS. "TROUBLE IN THERE," MUTTERS A GUARD, THEN SHOUTS INTO AN ALARM SYSTEM.



IN THE ROYAL PALACE OF ORANO, DEEP IN THE SUBTERRANEAN CITY, TORRO, THE TERRIBLE, RECEIVES A MESSENGER. "SO YOU FOUND AND DESTROYED A MONGO SPACE-SHIP. WHERE IS THE PERSONNEL OF THE SHIP?" DEMANDS TORRO.

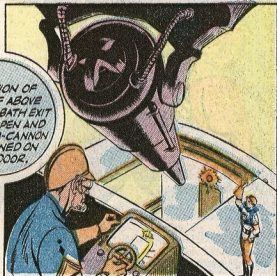


"FLASH GORDON IS PRESIDENT OF MONGO.... HE USUALLY HEADS ANY EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. FIND THE PERSONNEL OF THAT SHIP AND BRING THEM TO ME... AT ONCE," ORDERS TORRO.



BACK AT THE CYCLOTRON, THE SERGEANT OF THE GUARD ALERTS HIS MEN, "MAN THE ATOM-GUN AT THE RAY-BATH EXIT!"

A PORTION OF THE ROOF ABOVE THE RAY-BATH EXIT SLIDES OPEN AND AN ATOM-CANNON IS TRAINED ON THE DOOR.



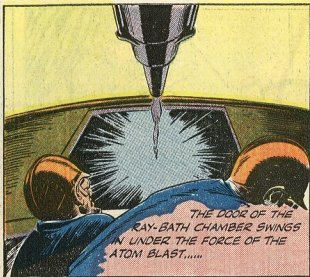
WITHIN THE RAY-BATH THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF THE RAYS DIE. ALL RADIO-ACTIVE PARTICLES HAVE BEEN NEUTRALIZED. YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND LEAVE THIS CHAMBER," SNEERS THE CAPTAIN.



"WE'LL FOLLOW YOU, CAPTAIN," SAYS FLASH, REMEMBER, IF MISFORTUNE AWAITS US.... YOU WILL SHARE IT!" THE CAPTAIN WALKS SLOWLY TOWARD THE DOOR.... RELEASES THE BOLT....



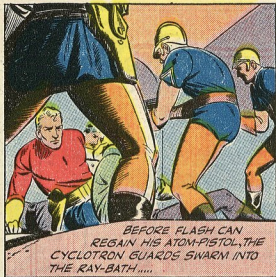
OUTSIDE, THE SERGEANT OF THE GUARD WATCHES THE DOOR. "THEY ARE COMING OUT. FIRE A LIGHT CHARGE," HE ORDERS.



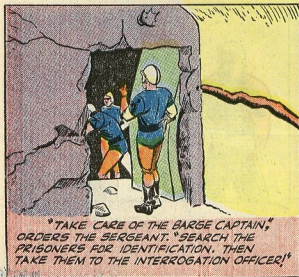
THE DOOR OF THE RAY-BATH CHAMBER SWINGS IN UNDER THE FORCE OF THE ATOM BLAST.....



FLASH IS DISARMED AS THE BARGE CAPTAIN IS THRUST BACK AGAINST HIM.



BEFORE FLASH CAN REGAIN HIS ATOM-PISTOL, THE CYCLOTRON GUARDS SWARM INTO THE RAY-BATH.....



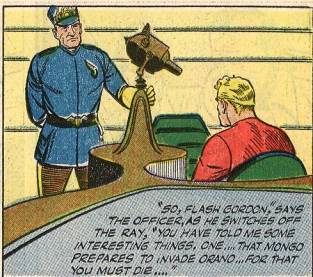
"TAKE CARE OF THE BARGE CAPTAIN," ORDERS THE SERGEANT. "SEARCH THE PRISONERS FOR IDENTIFICATION. THEN TAKE THEM TO THE INTERROGATION OFFICER!"



LATER, FLASH SITS BEFORE THE INTERROGATION OFFICER. "YOU WILL SPEAK EXACTLY THE TRUTH," SAYS THE OFFICER. "THIS IS A TRUTH-RAY THAT IS DIRECTED AT YOUR HEAD."



FLASH FELT THE RAY GAIN ITS GRASP ON HIM. THE INTERROGATOR'S VOICE BEAT INTO HIS EARS, AND DESPITE HIS WILL TO RESIST, FLASH TELLS THE OFFICER HIS IDENTITY, WHICH LEADS TO FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT MONGO.



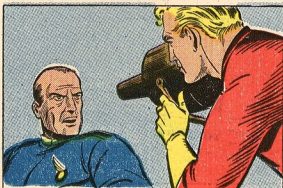
"SO, FLASH GORDON," SAYS THE OFFICER, AS HE SWITCHES OFF THE RAY, "YOU HAVE TOLD ME SOME INTERESTING THINGS. ONE... THAT MONGO PREPARES TO INVADE ORAND... FOR THAT YOU MUST DIE...."



FLASH SPRINGS AT THE ARROGANT OFFICER, CATCHING HIM OFF GUARD, "I TOLD YOU NOTHING OF THE SORT! I REMEMBER WHAT I SAID!"



FLASH HURLS THE OFFICER UNDER THE TRUTH-RAY, THEN THROWS THE SWITCH.



"NOW, MY FRIEND," SAYS FLASH, "I'LL DISPLAY MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH-RAY. AFTER YOU GIVE ME A FOOL-PROOF PLAN FOR ESCAPE TO THE NEAREST AIRDROME, I'LL USE THE RAY TO HYPNOTIZE YOU!"



FLASH TURNS OFF THE SWITCH AND SENDS THE OFFICER TO THE DOOR TO ASK FOR THE FOUR AMERICANS. "IS HE REALLY HYPNOTIZED, OR A GOOD ACTOR?" FLASH WONDERS, AS HE STAKES HIS PLAN OF ESCAPE ON THE OFFICER.



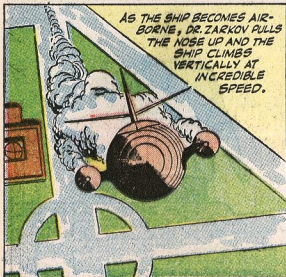
BACK ON MONGO, DALE HAS BECOME IMPATIENT. "DR. ZARKOV, WHEN DO WE LEAVE FOR ORANO? WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE FLASH WITH THE TELEVISOR. SURELY, SOMETHING'S WRONG!"



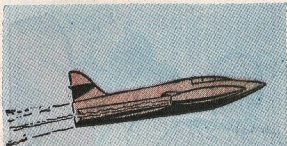
"I HAVE A SHIP READY, DALE, WE WILL SET OUT AT ONCE! I HOPE WE AREN'T TOO LATE!" SAYS DR. ZARKOV.



DR. ZARKOV HASTENS DALE TO THE AIRPORT AND IN HIS NEWLY DESIGNED SPACE-SHIP THEY ROAR DOWN THE RUNWAY FOR ORANO.



AS THE SHIP BECOMES AIRBORNE, DR. ZARKOV PULLS THE NOSE UP AND THE SHIP CLIMBS VERTICALLY AT INCREDIBLE SPEED.



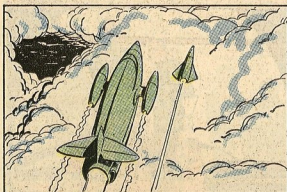
AT 52,800 FEET, DR. ZARKOV LEVELS OFF... CALLS OPERATIONS AND ORDERS, "RELEASE GUIDED MISSILE!" "DR. ZARKOV," GASPS DALE, "WHY THE GUIDED MISSILE?"



"WE'LL USE THE GUIDED MISSILE TO FRUSTRATE ORANO DEFENSES," ANSWERS ZARKOV. "FLASH WAS TRAPPED BECAUSE HIS SPACE-SHIP WAS SEEN. WE MUST AVOID THAT."



WHILE ZARKOV SPEAKS TO DALE, THE GUIDED MISSILE IS LAUNCHED FROM MONGO.



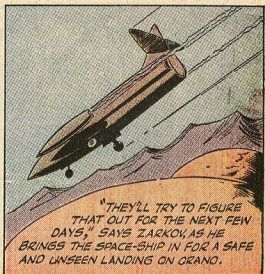
"THERE'S OUR INTERFERENCE," SAYS ZARKOV, AS HE POINTS OUT THE MISSILE TO DALE. "WE CAN CONTROL ITS FLIGHT FROM OUR SHIP. HERE, DALE, YOU HOLD THE SPACE-SHIP ON COURSE; I'LL GUIDE THE MISSILE TO ITS TARGET."



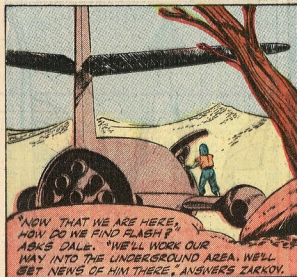
DR. ZARKOV WATCHES THE FLIGHT OF THE MISSILE ON A TELEVISOR SCREEN. "NEARING THE TARGET, DALE," SAYS ZARKOV. "THERE SHE GOES FOR A BULL'S-EYE."



THE MISSILE HITS THE TARGET... ONE OF ORANO'S MANY CYCLOTRONS...



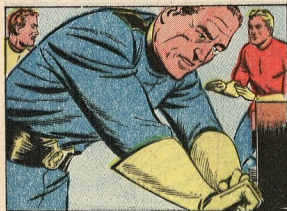
"THEY'LL TRY TO FIGURE THAT OUT FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS," SAYS ZARKOV, AS HE BRINGS THE SPACE-SHIP IN FOR A SAFE AND UNSEEN LANDING ON ORANO.



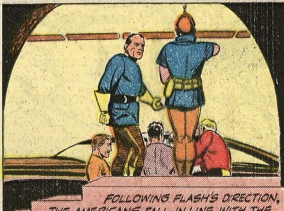
"NOW THAT WE ARE HERE, HOW DO WE FIND FLASH?" ASKS DALE. "WE'LL WORK OUR WAY INTO THE UNDERGROUND AREA. WE'LL GET NEWS OF HIM THERE," ANSWERS ZARKOV.



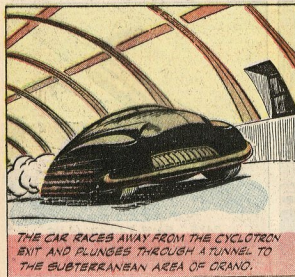
SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES AWAY, FLASH WATCHES THE HYPNOTIZED OFFICER BRING IN THE AMERICAN FLYERS.



"WHAT GOES, GORDON?" ASKS THE MAJOR. FLASH MOTIONS HIM TO SILENCE AS THE ORANO OFFICER CALLS INTO AN INTER-COM, "SEND MY VEHICLE TO THE EXIT 'A', AT ONCE!"



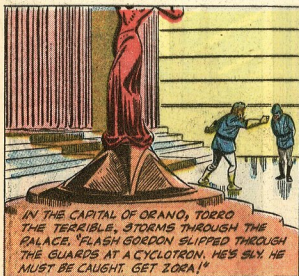
FOLLOWING FLASH'S DIRECTION, THE AMERICANS FALL IN LINE WITH THE OFFICER WHO INFORMS THE SENTRY, "I'M DELIVERING THESE PRISONERS TO TORRO. I NEED NO ASSISTANCE, THESE MEN ARE UNDER THE SPELL OF THE TRUTH-RAY!"



THE CAR RACES AWAY FROM THE CYCLOTRON EXIT AND PLUNGES THROUGH A TUNNEL TO THE SUBTERRANEAN AREA OF ORANO.



THE SENTRY WATCHES THE CAR, THEN STIRS WITH WONDER. "THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE. THAT OFFICER WAS UNCOVERED... HATLESS... HE WOULDN'T VIOLATE REGULATIONS!"

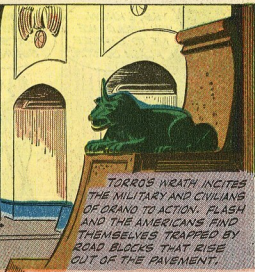
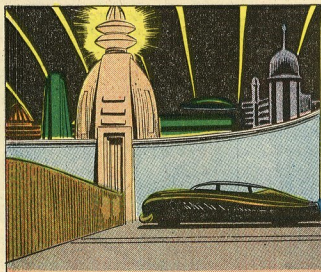




TORRO TURNS TO A VISAPHONE, "ATTENTION! ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS! FLASH GORDON IS LOOSE IN ORANO! INTELLIGENCE HAS THE VEHICLE IDENTIFICATIONS. GORDON MUST BE CAUGHT WITHIN THE HOUR!"



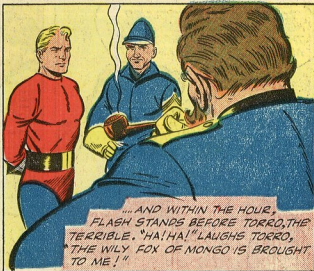
TORRO'S STORMING VISAGE IS CARRIED ON ALL VISA-NEWS SCREENS. ALL OF ORANO IS ALERTED FOR THE CAPTURE OF FLASH GORDON AND THE AMERICANS.



TORRO'S WRATH INCITES THE MILITARY AND CIVILIANS OF ORANO TO ACTION. FLASH AND THE AMERICANS FIND THEMSELVES TRAPPED BY ROAD BLOCKS THAT RISE OUT OF THE PAVEMENT.



ORANO TROOPS SWARM OVER THE VEHICLE... AND FLASH AND THE AMERICANS ARE ONCE AGAIN PRISONERS.



...AND WITHIN THE HOUR, FLASH STANDS BEFORE TORRO, THE TERRIBLE. "HA! HA!" LAUGHS TORRO, "THE WILY FOX OF MONGO IS BROUGHT TO ME!"



FLASH EXPLAINS HIS REASONS FOR BEING ON ORANO. TORRO'S WICKED LAUGH INTERRUPTS: "DON'T EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT. YOU CAME HERE TO STUDY OUR DEFENSES!"



"YOU ARE A SPY!" GROWLS TORRO, "AND IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE TO DEAL WITH YOU PERSONALLY. I'LL GIVE YOU A FIGHTING CHANCE WITH THE FOILS!"



"I REGRET THAT YOU FORCE ME INTO THIS," FLASH NEEDLES TORRO, "FOR I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN TAUGHT TO BE CONSIDERATE OF MY ELDERS!"



"ELDERS! SO YOU THINK I AM AN OLD MAN," ROARS TORRO. INFURIATED HE RUSHES FLASH.



FLASH GOES ON THE DEFENSIVE AGAINST TORRO, FOR HE REALIZES THAT EXPERIENCE IS THE ACE IN FENCING AND TORRO IS WELL-EXPERIENCED.



FLASH RETREATS FROM THE AGGRESSIVE TORRO AS HIS BLADE SINGS... BUT HE CONTINUES ENCOURAGEMENT OF TORRO'S WRATH UNTIL TORRO FORSAKES SKILL FOR RECKLESSNESS.



TORRO ENRAGED, MAKES A DESPERATE THRUST AT FLASH. FLASH SIDE-STEPS AND CAN'T RESIST THE CHANCE TO SPANK TORRO WITH THE BROADSIDE OF HIS BLADE.



FLASH REALIZES THAT HE HAS PILED INSULT UPON INSULT, WHICH HAS KINDLED TORRO'S WRATH INTO A FURY. NOW THE TERRIBLE RULER WILL MAKE IT A DUEL TO THE END.



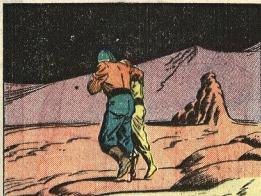
AS TORRO RESUMES THE ATTACK, FLASH SEES HIS BLADE SNAP. HE IS NOW AT THE MERCY OF TORRO, THE TERRIBLE.....



"HA, HA, HA," LAUGHS TORRO. "WHAT MANNER OF PRAYER DO YOU WISH TO OFFER, FLASH GORDON?... THINK FAST....."



ON THE SURFACE OF ORANO, DALE AND DR. ZARKOV MAKE THEIR WAY ACROSS THE DESOLATE WASTES OF THE PLANET... TOWARD THE NEAREST HIGHWAY.



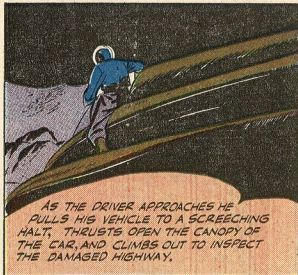
AS NIGHT CLOSES IN ON THEM THE BITTER COLD PENETRATES THEIR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. "HOW FAR MUST WE GO?" PLEADS DALE.



DURING THE NIGHT DALE AND DR. ZARKOV REACH A HIGHWAY. IN THE DISTANCE, LIGHTS BLINK AS A MESSENGER-CAR BOUNCES OVER THE RISES AND DIPS OF THE PAVEMENT.



"HERE'S WHAT WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR," SAYS ZARKOV, "TRANSPORTATION!" HE FIRES HIS ATOM-PISTOL INTO THE PAVED HIGHWAY CUTTING A WIDE, DEEP FISSURE.



AS THE DRIVER APPROACHES HE PULLS HIS VEHICLE TO A SCREECHING HALT, THRUSTS OPEN THE CANOPY OF THE CAR, AND CLIMBS OUT TO INSPECT THE DAMAGED HIGHWAY.



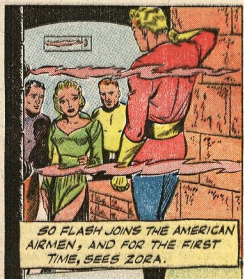
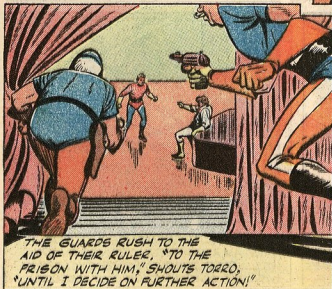
WHILE HE STUDIES THE ROAD, A STRONG ARM BINDS HIS BODY. "WE DESIRE TRANSPORTATION INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN AREA, AND I WARN YOU AGAINST REFUSING SUCH A REQUEST," SAYS ZARKOV.

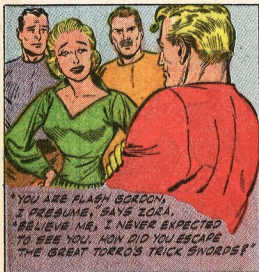


THE MESSENGER, DISARMED, READILY COMPLIES WITH DR. ZARKOV'S REQUEST. THE VEHICLE SWINGS WIDE AROUND THE TORN PAVEMENT AND RUSHES ON INTO THE DARKNESS.



LATER, THEY ARRIVE IN THE SHADOWS OF A CYCLOTRON. "REMEMBER, DRIVER, I HAVE AN ATOM-PISTOL TRAINED ON YOU. WE'LL PASS THROUGH THIS CYCLOTRON WITHOUT ALARM," CAUTIONS ZARKOV.





"YOU ARE FLASH GORDON, I PRESUME," SAYS ZORA.  
 "BELIEVE ME, I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU. HOW DID YOU ESCAPE THE GREAT TORRO'S TRICK SWORDS?"



"TRICK?" MUTTERS FLASH. "I THOUGHT THE SWORD SNAPPED TOO EASILY! NEVERTHELESS I MADE OUT, BUT I'M AFRAID HE WILL PLAN SOME AMAZING RETALIATION!"



"YOU CAN ESCAPE FROM THIS PRISON, YOU KNOW.... WITH MY HELP," SAYS ZORA. "THAT, DEAR LADY," SAYS FLASH, "SOUNDS LIKE IT MIGHT BE ONE OF TORRO'S TRICKS. WHY ARE YOU HERE, AND WHO ARE YOU?"



BEFORE ZORA CAN ANSWER, A GUARD SUMMONS HER. "ZORA, THE GREAT TORRO WISHES TO SEE YOU IMMEDIATELY!"



TORRO RECEIVES ZORA WITH: "MY DEAR, I ACTED IN A FIT OF ANGER, BUT EVEN THEN I ACTED WISELY, FOR GORDON HAS SEEN YOU IN PRISON. YOU MUST MAKE HIM BELIEVE YOU ARE A POLITICAL PRISONER, I...."



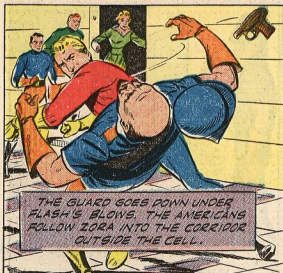
....AS SUCH, YOU WILL HELP HIM ESCAPE. I WILL SEE THAT THE ESCAPE IS EASY. AFTER THE ESCAPE LEAD HIM TO OUR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS SO THAT I CAN TRAP HIM AND PROVE HE IS A SPY!"



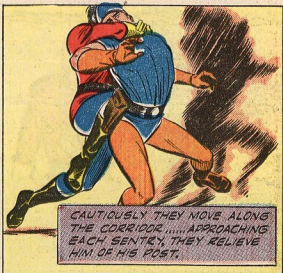
ZORA RETURNS TO THE PRISON AND TELLS FLASH AND THE AIRMEN OF HER ESCAPE PLAN. THEY SET THE PLAN IN MOTION. ZORA PLEADS WITH THE GUARD. THE PRISONER GORDON IS VERY ILL, YOU MUST HELP!"



THE SENTRY SWITCHES OFF THE ELECTRO-GUARD AND ENTERS THE CELL. "WHERE IS THIS PRISONER WHO CLAIMS HE IS ILL?" HE ASKS. "HERE," SAYS FLASH AS HE SWINGS THE GUARD AROUND.



THE GUARD GOES DOWN UNDER FLASH'S BLOWS. THE AMERICANS FOLLOW ZORA INTO THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE CELL.



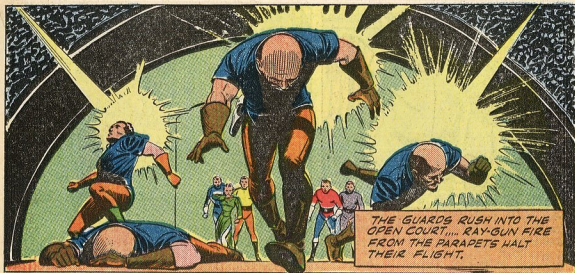
CAUTIOUSLY THEY MOVE ALONG THE CORRIDOR.....APPROACHING EACH SENTRY, THEY RELIEVE HIM OF HIS POST.



FLASH HERDS THE GUARDS AHEAD OF THE ESCAPING AIRMEN AND ZORA. "HERE," ANNOUNCES ZORA, "WE MAKE THE FINAL BREAK. WE MUST CROSS AN OPEN COURT TO THE MOTOR PARK!"



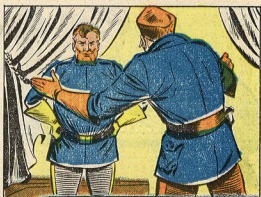
"WE AREN'T CROSSING THAT COURT," SAYS FLASH. "THIS ESCAPE HAS BEEN TOO EASY. THE GUARDS WILL CROSS, WHILE YOU LEAD US BACK THROUGH THE PALACE, ZORA!"



THE GUARDS RUSH INTO THE OPEN COURT, ... RAY-GUN FIRE FROM THE PARAPETS HALT THEIR FLIGHT.



"OH!" CRIES ZORA, "THAT IS WHY TORRO WANTED US TO ESCAPE BY THAT EXIT." "I THOUGHT YOU WERE WORKING FOR TORRO," SAYS FLASH. "NOW, YOU KNOW WHERE YOU STAND. LET'S GO! WE'VE NO TIME TO LOSE!"



"SIR," SAYS AN OFFICER, "THOSE WERE OUR GUARDS, NOT THE PRISONERS AND THE WOMAN, ZORA!" "WELL, DON'T STAND HERE," SHOUTS TORRO, "NOTIFY ALL GUARDS TO BE ALERT!"



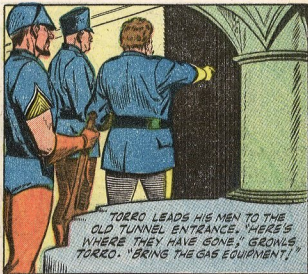
"HE PLANNED A BEAUTIFUL DOUBLE-CROSS. I'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE, FLASH GORDON," SAYS ZORA, AS SHE LEADS THEM THROUGH AN UNUSED SUBWAY TUNNEL UNDER THE PALACE.



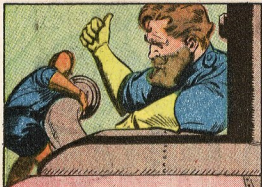
"REMINDS ME OF THE STORIES I USED TO READ ABOUT PARIS," SAYS THE MAJOR, AS THE PARTY WADES THROUGH THE WATER OF THE ABANDONED TUNNEL.



"WE HAVE CHECKED EVERY EXIT, SIR! THEY HAVE VANISHED," REPORTS AN OFFICER. "VANISHED! BAH! THEY'VE USED THE ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL," ROARS TORRO.



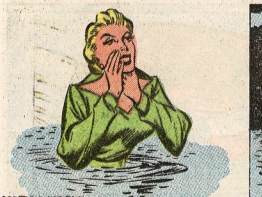
"TORRO LEADS HIS MEN TO THE OLD TUNNEL ENTRANCE. 'HERE'S WHERE THEY HAVE GONE,' GROWLS TORRO. 'BRING THE GAS EQUIPMENT!'"



THE EQUIPMENT IS BROUGHT TO THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE. "NOW WE'LL GET THEM," SAYS TORRO. "SEAL THAT TUBE INTO THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE!"



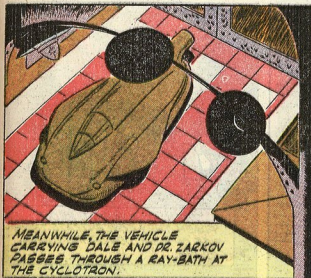
WITH THE TUBE SEALED, TORRO RELEASES THE GAS. "HA, HA!" LAUGHS TORRO, "THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD ESCAPE ME!"



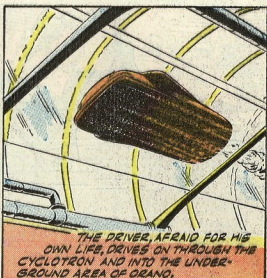
"GAS!" CRIES ZORA, "SLEEPING GAS! IS THERE NO ESCAPE FROM TORRO?" THE PARTY MEMBERS BECOME DROWSY AS THE GAS CLOSES IN ON THEM....



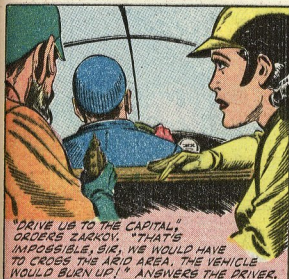
"ABOUT WHERE WOULD WE BE NOW, ZORA? WHAT'S BEYOND THESE WALLS?" ASKS FLASH. "I DON'T KNOW," WEEPS ZORA. "WHAT DOES IT MATTER?"



MEANWHILE, THE VEHICLE CARRYING DALE AND DR. ZARKOV PASSES THROUGH A RAY-BATH AT THE CYCLOTRON.



THE DRIVER, AFRAID FOR HIS OWN LIFE, DRIVES ON THROUGH THE CYCLOTRON AND INTO THE UNDERGROUND AREA OF ORANG.



"DRIVE UP TO THE CAPITAL," ORDERS ZARKOV. "THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, SIR, WE WOULD HAVE TO CROSS THE ARID AREA. THE VEHICLE WOULD BURN UP!" ANSWERS THE DRIVER.



"WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ARID AREA, IN A SUBTERRANEAN WORLD?" ASKS ZARKOV. "DUE TO A FORM OF CROP ROTATION, THEY BURN OUT CERTAIN AREAS EVERY YEAR WITH RAYS," SAYS THE DRIVER.



"WE'LL CHANCE IT," SAYS ZARKOV, "DRIVE ON!" THE DRIVER PROTESTS, BUT ZARKOV REMINDS HIM OF THE WEAPON PRESSED NEAR HIS BACK.



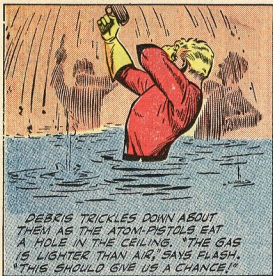
AFTER SEVERAL HOURS TRAVEL THE VEHICLE ENTERS UPON A HIGHWAY, CROSSING A DESOLATE AREA... THE HEAT INCREASES IN INTENSITY AS THEY PROGRESS.



FLASH HUDDLES AROUND THE  
ARMEN AND SHOWS THEM HOW TO  
ADJUST THE FIRE CHARGE OF THE WEAPONS  
THEY HAD TAKEN FROM THE GUARDS.



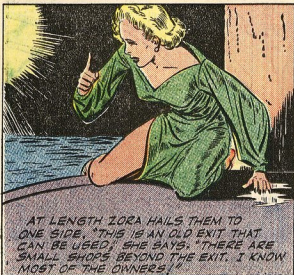
THEN, AT A SIGNAL FROM  
FLASH, THEY CONCENTRATE THEIR  
FIRE ON A SECTION OF THE TUNNEL  
CEILING.



DEBRIS TRICKLES DOWN ABOUT  
THEM AS THE ATOM-PISTOLS EAT  
A HOLE IN THE CEILING. "THE GAS  
IS LIGHTER THAN AIR," SAYS FLASH.  
"THIS SHOULD GIVE US A CHANCE!"



AS THE GAS ESCAPES THROUGH  
THE IMPROVISED VENT IN THE TUNNEL  
CEILING, THE PARTY CONTINUES ON  
UNHARMED. THE WATER BECOMES DEEPER  
AND THEY FIND THEY MUST SWIM.....



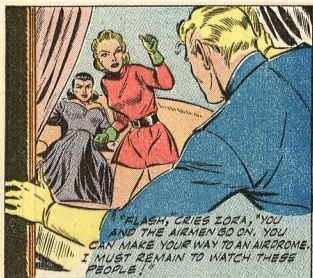
AT LENGTH ZORA HAILS THEM TO  
ONE SIDE. "THIS IS AN OLD EXIT THAT  
CAN BE USED," SHE SAYS. "THERE ARE  
SMALL SHOPS BEYOND THE EXIT. I KNOW  
MOST OF THE OWNERS!"



IN ONE OF THE SHOPS THEY ARE  
OUTFITTED IN DRY CLOTHING, BUT A  
SALES PERSON, REMEMBERING FLASH'S  
DESCRIPTION AS BROADCAST BY TORRO,  
STEALS AWAY TO A PHONE.



ZORA, SEEING THE INFORMER, SPRINGS ON HER. "NO NEWS FOR TORRO TODAY," SHE SAYS.....



"FLASH," CRIES ZORA, "YOU AND THE AIRMEN GO ON. YOU CAN MAKE YOUR WAY TO AN AIRDROME. I MUST REMAIN TO WATCH THESE PEOPLE!"



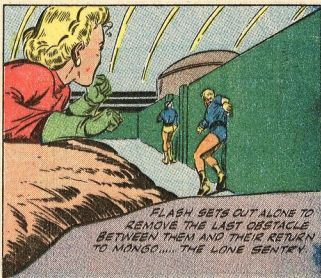
"YOU CAN TRUST ME," SAYS THE SHOPKEEPER, "I WILL SEE THAT YOUR WHEREABOUTS ARE NOT KNOWN TO TORRO. I WILL TAKE CARE OF THE SALESGIRL WHO THINKS ONLY OF REWARD MONEY!"



ACCEPTING THE SHOPKEEPER'S OFFER, FLASH, ZORA AND THE AIRMEN MOVE OUT INTO THE CITY STREETS AND COVER THEIR TRACKS IN THE MILLING CROWDS.



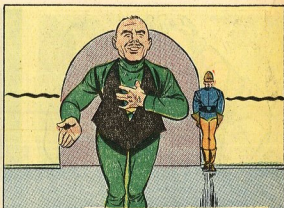
HOURS LATER THEY ARRIVE AT THE EDGE OF AN ORANO AIRDROME. "THERE IS YOUR ESCAPE, FLASH GORDON... SPACE-SHIPS. BUT THAT GUARD STANDS BETWEEN YOU AND THE SHIPS..."



FLASH SETS OUT ALONE TO REMOVE THE LAST OBSTACLE BETWEEN THEM AND THEIR RETURN TO MONGO..... THE LONE SENTRY



AT THE GATES OF THE PALACE A VISITOR BEGS ENTRANCE TO SEE TORRO. "I HAVE GREAT NEWS, ONLY FOR THE EARS OF HIS MAJESTY, TORRO!" HE PROCLAIMS.



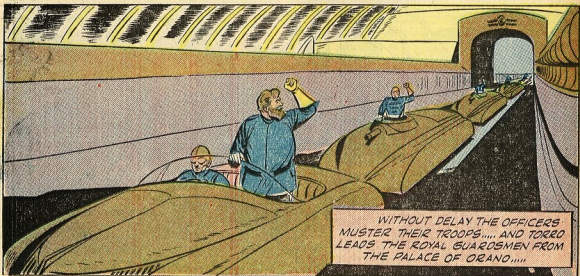
THE SHOPKEEPER GAINS HIS AUDIENCE WITH TORRO AND TELLS OF FLASH AND ZORA. "PERHAPS MY REWARD SHALL BE OF GREAT VALUE," HE ADDS.



"REWARD?" ROARS TORRO. "YOU DARE CLAIM REWARD FOR INFORMATION THAT IT IS YOUR DUTY AS A CITIZEN TO REPORT. GUARDS! CONFISCATE THIS MAN'S PROPERTY! TO THE DUNGEON WITH HIM! THAT IS HIS REWARD!"



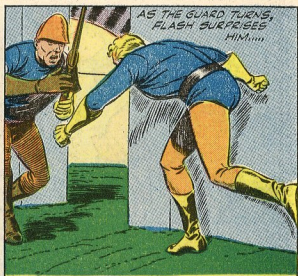
LEAVING THE SHOPKEEPER TO HIS GUARDS, TORRO STORMS INTO HIS OFFICERS' CLUB ROOM. "ALERT YOUR TROOPS AT ONCE! WE MARCH ON CENTRAL AIRDROME! FLASH GORDON IS THERE!"



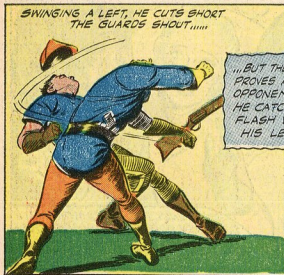
WITHOUT DELAY THE OFFICERS MUSTER THEIR TROOPS.... AND TORRO LEADS THE ROYAL GUARDSMEN FROM THE PALACE OF ORANO.....



FLASH INCHES  
NEARER THE  
SENTRY.....

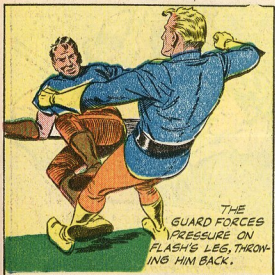


AS THE GUARD TURNS,  
FLASH SURPRISES  
HIM.....

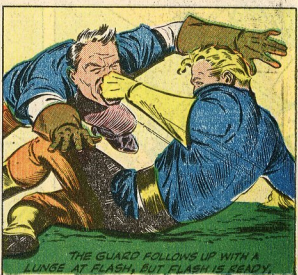


SWINGING A LEFT, HE CUTS SHORT  
THE GUARD'S SHOUT.....

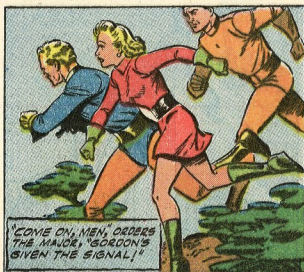
...BUT THE GUARD  
PROVES A HARDY  
OPPONENT AS  
HE CATCHES  
FLASH WITH  
HIS LEGS.



THE  
GUARD FORCES  
PRESSURE ON  
FLASH'S LEG, THROW-  
ING HIM BACK.



THE GUARD FOLLOWS UP WITH A  
LUNGE AT FLASH, BUT FLASH IS READY.



"COME ON, MEN," ORDERS THE MAJOR, "GORDON'S GIVEN THE SIGNAL!"



LEAVING THE GUARD, BOUND WITH PIECES TORN FROM HIS UNIFORM, FLASH AND THE ESCAPING GROUP HASTEN TO A SPACE-SHIP LAUNCHING RACK.



ZORA LEADS THEM INTO THE ORANO SPACE-SHIP. HASTILY SHE INSTRUCTS FLASH IN THE MECHANICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CRAFT....



SUDDENLY SHE STOPS WITH, "WAIT! I NEARLY FORGOT THE DOORS! THE CEILING DOORS! THEY CAN ONLY BE OPENED FROM THE CONTROL ROOM OF THE LAUNCHING RACK!"



"THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE UNDERGROUND," SAYS FLASH. "YOU MEN STAY HERE. I'LL GO WITH ZORA!"



AS THEY PASS A PORTHOLE ON THEIR WAY TO THE CONTROL ROOM, ZORA GASPS, "FLASH! LOOK! TORRO AND HIS MEN! THE SHOP-KEEPER TALKED!"



AS FLASH PAUSES TO SHOUT AN ORDER TO THE AMERICAN AIRMEN, ZORA RUSHES ON TO THE CONTROL ROOM OF THE LAUNCHING RACK.

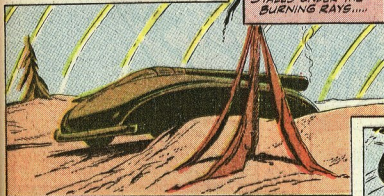


TURRO SNAPS ON HIS HELMET... A SIGNAL FOR ACTION. "FIRE DIRECTLY ON THAT SPACE-SHIP," HE ROARS. "NUMBER 3 TANK CONCENTRATE ON CONTROL SURFACES!"

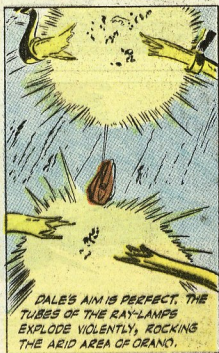
MEANWHILE, IN THE HEART OF THE ARID AREA, THE CAR CARRYING DALE AND ZARKOV STALLS UNDER THE BURNING RAYS....



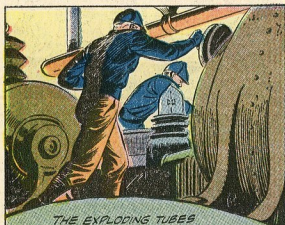
"DALE!" GASPS ZARKOV NEARLY OVERCOME IN THE INTENSE HEAT, "TRY TO SHOOT OUT THE LIGHTS!"



"HE MUST MEAN THE CEILING LIGHTS OF THIS SUBTERRANEAN AREA," THINKS DALE AS SHE STEADIES HER AIM AND FIRES AT THE BURNING LAMPS OF GRANO.



DALE'S AIM IS PERFECT. THE TUBES OF THE RAY-LAMPS EXPLODE VIOLENTLY, ROCKING THE ARID AREA OF GRANO.



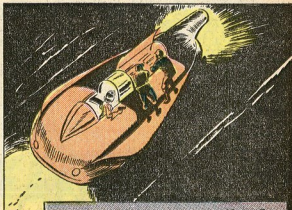
THE EXPLODING TUBES SET OFF A CHAIN REACTION THAT PLUNGES SUBTERRANEAN ORANO INTO DARKNESS. POWERHOUSE ENGINEERS WORK FRANTICALLY TO DISCOVER THE CAUSE....



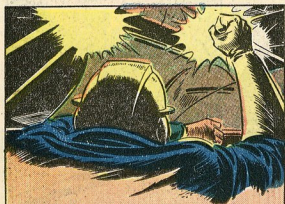
THE PEOPLE OF ORANO CROWD INTO GROTTOS, PROVIDED FOR SUCH EMERGENCIES, WHERE TECHNICIANS LABOR OVER EQUIPMENT THAT PROVIDES LIGHT AND HEAT.



IN THE ARID AREA LIFE BECOMES BEARABLE AGAIN AS THE TEMPERATURE FALLS. DALE REVIVES DR. ZARKOV AND THE DRIVER.



HURRIEDLY ZARKOV AND THE DRIVER MAKE REPAIRS ON THE VEHICLE. "WE ARE READY TO RESUME TRAVEL, SIR," SAYS THE DRIVER.



TORRO STORMS AND RAGES WHEN THE POWER FAILS. "KEEP UP YOUR FIRE AT THE SPACE-SHIP! THAT, AT LEAST, WILL HELP LIGHT THE AIRDRONE!"



FLASH AND ZORA REACH THE CONTROL ROOM OF THE LAUNCHING RACK AS THE POWER FAILS. "WE CAN'T OPEN THE CEILING DOORS," GASPS ZORA. "ALL LIGHTS ARE OUT," SAYS FLASH. "ONLY TORRO'S GUNS LIGHT THE AREA!"



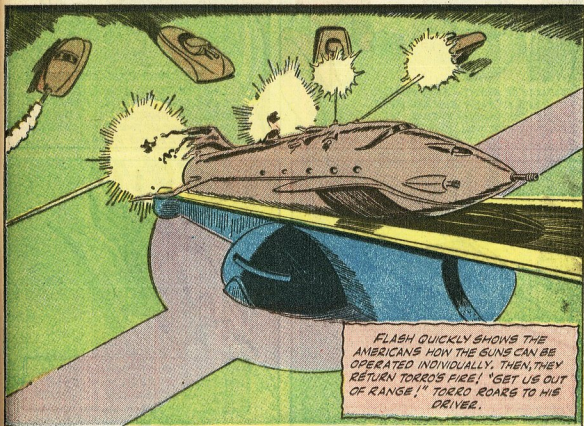
"THE MAJOR ISN'T RETURNING THE FIRE," SAYS FLASH. "COME ON, ZORA, WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE SPACE-SHIP." "NO!" PLEADS ZORA, "COME WITH ME, ESCAPE NOW, DARLING!"



BUT FLASH IGNORES ZORA'S PLEADING AND RUSHES UP TO THE SPACE-SHIP. "YOU MAY REGRET THIS," FLASH, "MUTTERS ZORA."



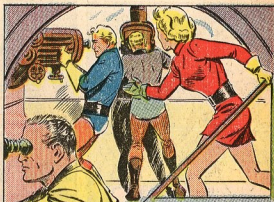
FLASH FINDS THE MAJOR FRETFULLY WORKING OVER THE GUN CONTROLS. "THE FIRST ROUND TORRO FIRED KNOCKED OUT THIS CONTROL PANEL," SAYS THE MAJOR.



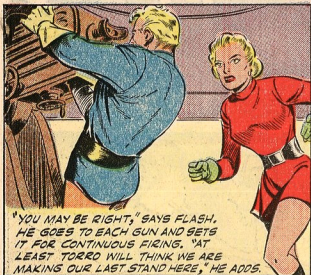
FLASH QUICKLY SHOWS THE AMERICANS HOW THE GUNS CAN BE OPERATED INDIVIDUALLY. THEN, THEY RETURN TORRO'S FIRE! "GET US OUT OF RANGE!" TORRO ROARS TO HIS DRIVER.



TORRO, OUT OF THE RANGE OF FIRE, SPEAKS TO AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL GUARDSMEN. "THEY CAN'T OPEN THE CEILING DOORS! GET TO THE REMOTE CONTROL STATION AND SET OFF THE PROPELLING CHARGE IN THAT SHIP!"



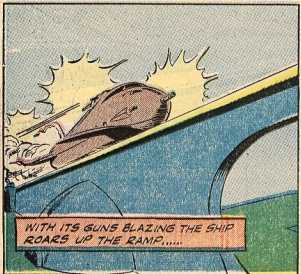
ZORA, HAVING FOLLOWED FLASH, PLEADS, "YOU MUST GET OUT OF HERE. TORRO'S GUNS WILL DESTROY THIS SHIP. WE STILL HAVE TIME TO ESCAPE THROUGH THE CATACOMBS BENEATH THE LAUNCHING RACK!"



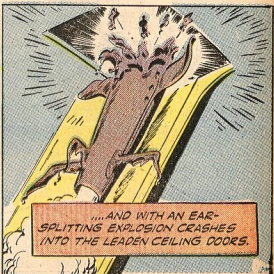
"YOU MAY BE RIGHT," SAYS FLASH. HE GOES TO EACH GUN AND SETS IT FOR CONTINUOUS FIRING. "AT LEAST TORRO WILL THINK WE ARE MAKING OUR LAST STAND HERE," HE ADDS.



THE OFFICER FOLLOWS TORRO'S INSTRUCTIONS. IN THE REMOTE CONTROL STATION HE RELEASES THE PROPELLING CHARGE THAT STARTS THE DAMAGED SHIP UP THE RAMP TOWARD THE SEALED CEILING DOORS.



WITH ITS GUNS BLAZING THE SHIP ROARS UP THE RAMP.....



...AND WITH AN EAR-SPLITTING EXPLOSION CRASHES INTO THE LEADEN CEILING DOORS.

DALE AND DR. ZARKOV ROLL NEARER TO THE CAPITAL OF ORANO. "SIR, THERE'S A ROAD BLOCK AHEAD," SAYS THE DRIVER, "I MUST STOP!"



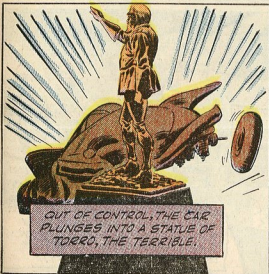
"GO ON THROUGH IT!" ORDERS ZARKOV. "BUT, SIR, IT'S AN EMERGENCY SQUAD SEEKING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE POWER FAILURE!" RETURNS THE DRIVER.



ZARKOV THRUSTS HIS ATOM-PISTOL AGAINST THE DRIVER'S BACK AND THE DRIVER SENDS THE CAR CRASHING THROUGH THE BARRICADE.



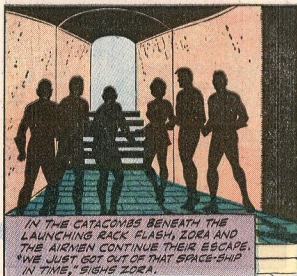
THE CAR SKERVES MADLY AS THE EMERGENCY SQUAD OPENS FIRE ON IT! "WE'RE GOING TO CRASH! I CAN'T CONTROL THE CAR!" YELLS THE DRIVER.



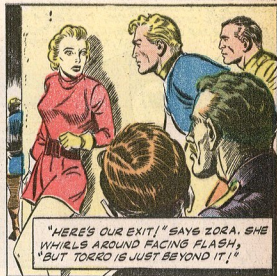
OUT OF CONTROL, THE CAR PLUNGES INTO A STATUE OF TORRO, THE TERRIBLE.



THE EMERGENCY SQUAD REMOVES THE PASSENGERS FROM THE WRECK-AGE. "THE BEARDED MAN AND THE GIRL ARE FOREIGNERS," MUMBLES THE DRIVER. "THEY SHOT OUT THE LIGHTS IN THE ARID AREA!"



IN THE CATACOMBS BENEATH THE LAUNCHING RACK FLASH, ZORA AND THE AIRMEN CONTINUE THEIR ESCAPE. "WE JUST GOT OUT OF THAT SPACE-SHIP IN TIME," SIGHS ZORA.



"HERE'S OUR EXIT!" SAYS ZORA. SHE WHIRLS AROUND FACING FLASH, "BUT TORRO IS JUST BEYOND IT!"



"SO HE IS," SAYS FLASH. "THIS WILL BE PERFECT! YOU MEN CLOSE IN BEHIND ME AS SOON AS I GET HIM!"



TORRO STANDS BESIDE HIS CAR LISTENING TO HIS RADIO-PHONE....

SIR! WE HAVE CAPTURED THE TWO FOREIGNERS WHO DISRUPTED THE POWER CIRCUITS!

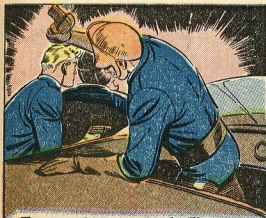
WELL, BRING THEM TO ME IMMEDIATELY!



TORRO IS STARTLED BY A STRONG ARM ABOUT HIS NECK. "DON'T TRY TO RESIST," SAYS FLASH AS HE TAKES TORRO'S WEAPON.



"NOTIFY YOUR MEN TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS," SAYS FLASH STERNLY, "OR YOU WILL GIVE UP YOUR RULE OF ORANO... QUITE SUDDENLY!"



TORRO ORDERS HIS MEN TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS, BUT HIS DRIVER LEANS ACROSS THE SEAT BACK OF FLASH.....



MAJOR KENYON SEES THE DRIVER AS HE AND THE AIRMEN CLOSE IN. DESPERATELY, THE MAJOR RUSHES TOWARD THE DRIVER.....



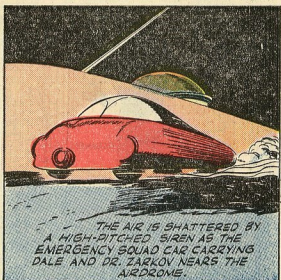
CATCHING THE DOWNWARD SWING OF THE DRIVER'S ARM, THE MAJOR DIVERTS THE BLOW AND HAULS THE DRIVER TO THE GROUND.



"NICE WORK," SAYS FLASH. THEN TURNS TO TORRO. "YOU WILL SEE THAT WE ARE GIVEN SAFE PASSAGE FROM ORANO IN A SPACE-SHIP. WE ARE HOLDING YOU AS HOSTAGE!"



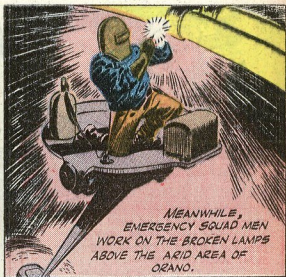
"BUT THERE IS NO POWER TO OPEN THE CEILING DOORS," SAYS TORRO. "AND BY THE TIME POWER IS RESTORED YOU MAY BE MY PRISONER. HEAR THAT SIREN?"



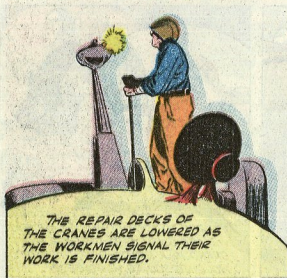
THE AIR IS SHATTERED BY A HIGH-PITCHED SIREN AS THE EMERGENCY SQUAD CAR CARRYING DALE AND DR. ZARKOV NEARS THE AIRDROME.



THE CAR RACES ON TO THE AIRDROME AND COMES TO A HALT ON THE RAMP WHERE FLASH HOLDS TORRO CAPTIVE.



MEANWHILE, EMERGENCY SQUAD MEN WORK ON THE BROKEN LAMPS ABOVE THE ARID AREA OF ORANO.



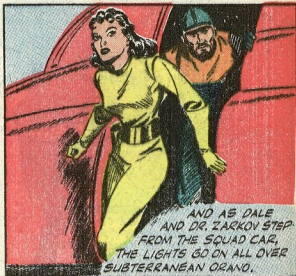
THE REPAIR DECKS OF THE CRANES ARE LOWERED AS THE WORKMEN SIGNAL THEIR WORK IS FINISHED.



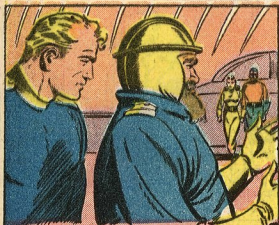
AN OFFICER SPEAKS INTO A RADIO-PHONE. "CIRCUITS RESTORED! WE'LL STAND BY UNTIL ALL POWER FACILITIES ARE BACK TO NORMAL!"



IN THE CAPITAL CITY THE MASTER SWITCHES ARE THROWN.



AND AS DALE AND DR. ZARKOV STEP FROM THE SQUAD CAR, THE LIGHTS GO ON ALL OVER SUBTERRANEAN ORANO.



FLASH BLINKS IN THE BRIGHT LIGHT THAT FLOODS THE AIRDRONE. "NO!" HE WHISPERS, "IT CAN'T BE DALE AND ZARKOV!"



"FLASH!" SCREAMS DALE. RECOGNIZING HIM, SHE RUSHES FORWARD.



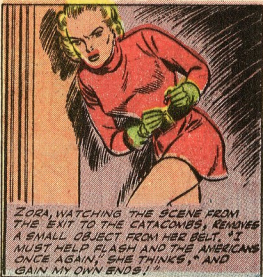
ZARKOV, SEEING THE MISTAKE DALE IS MAKING, TRIES TO PREVENT IT, BUT IS PINNED BACK BY TWO SQUAD MEN.



TORRO TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION AND WHIRLS DALE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND FLASH.



"NOW, FLASH GORDON, I SEEM TO BE IN CONTROL AGAIN. THROW AWAY YOUR WEAPONS!" LAUGHS TORRO.



ZORA, WATCHING THE SCENE FROM THE EXIT TO THE CATACOMBS, REMOVES A SMALL OBJECT FROM HER BELT. "I MUST HELP FLASH AND THE AMERICANS ONCE AGAIN," SHE THINKS, "AND GAIN MY OWN ENDS!"



"WAIT," SCREAMS ZORA.  
 "YOU ALL KNOW THAT MY FATHER  
 WAS THE GREATEST SCIENTIST IN  
 ORANO. YOU KNEW OF HIS RESEARCH  
 IN NUCLEAR FISSION!"



"ZORA!" GASPS TORRO. "LISTEN NOT TO THIS WOMAN!  
 SHE CANNOT SPEAK THE TRUTH... I FOUND HER  
 FATHER GUILTY OF TREASON!"



BUT TORRO'S MEN IGNORE HIM,  
 FOR ZORA HAS ALWAYS BEEN POPULAR  
 WITH THE PEOPLE OF ORANO. "FIND YOUR  
 VOICE AND HAVE YOUR SAY, ZORA OF ORANO,"  
 SAYS AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL GUARDSMEN.



"IN MY HAND I HOLD THE LAST OF MY  
 FATHER'S GREAT DISCOVERIES. A BOMB,  
 MINUTE IN SIZE, BUT THE MOST POWERFUL  
 IN THE UNIVERSE.... MADE FROM ORAN-  
 IUM," SHE SAYS SO ALL CAN HEAR.



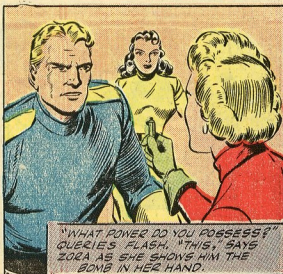
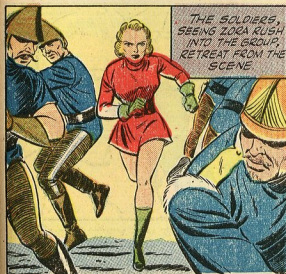
"I, ALONE, HAVE KEPT ITS SECRET. KEPT  
 IT SO THAT ONE DAY I MIGHT USE IT TO  
 EXPOSE TORRO BEFORE HIS OWN PEOPLE  
 AND BEFORE LEADERS OF ANOTHER PLANET!  
 RELEASE THE YOUNG WOMAN, TORRO," ZORA ORDERS.



"NO! NO! ARREST THAT WOMAN,  
 AS WELL AS FLASH GORDON AND  
 HIS MEN!" ROARS TORRO. BUT  
 NO ONE HEEDS HIS ORDERS.

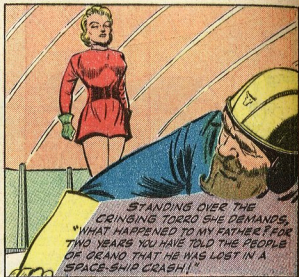


FLASH INTERVENES AND BRINGS TORRO DOWN WITH A FLYING TACKLE.





"THIS... AND THE FACT THAT TORRO ADMITTED HE CONVICTED MY FATHER OF TREASON," SAYS ZORA AS SHE TURNS TO TORRO.



STANDING OVER THE CRINGING TORRO SHE DEMANDS, "WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FATHER? FOR TWO YEARS YOU HAVE TOLD THE PEOPLE OF ORANO THAT HE WAS LOST IN A SPACE-SHIP CRASH!"



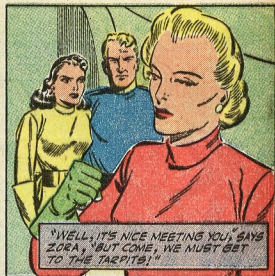
NO! I SPOKE FALSELY! HE WOULD NOT AID ME IN MY PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL CONQUEST! I SENT HIM TO THE TARPITS OF ORANO.



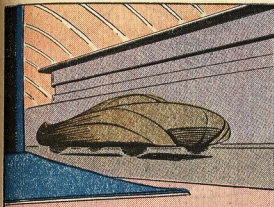
"THE TARPITS! YOU FIEND!" SNAPS ZORA. "FLASH, YOU MUST GO WITH ME TO GET MY FATHER! SOLDIERS OF ORANO YOU KNOW WELL WHAT TO DO WITH TORRO!"



"WAIT! WHO IS THIS YOUNG LADY?" ASKS ZORA. FLASH INTRODUCES DALE AND DR. ZAIKOV, WHO HAS JOINED THEM.



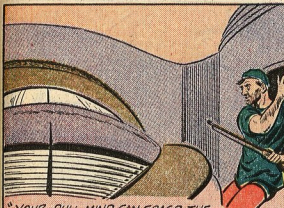
"WELL, IT'S NICE MEETING YOU," SAYS ZORA, "BUT COME, WE MUST GET TO THE TARPITS!"



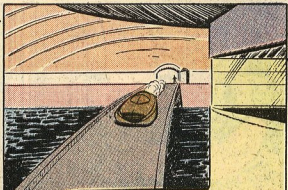
FLASH HAS DR. ZARKOV AND THE AMERICAN AIRMEN REMAIN AT THE AIRDROME TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RETURN TO MONGO. HE AND DALE JOIN ZORA IN THE TRIP TO THE TARPITS.



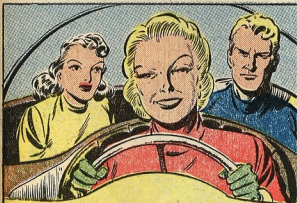
THE SULLEN GUARD AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE TARPITS HALTS THEIR CAR. "I ONLY TAKE ORDERS FROM TORRO," ANSWERS THE GUARD TO ZORA'S REQUEST TO ENTER.



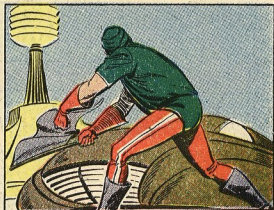
"YOUR DULL MIND CAN GRASP THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS OBJECT," SAYS ZORA AS SHE THRUSTS THE URANIUM BOMB TOWARD THE GUARD. "PASS!" SHOUTS THE GUARD AS HE DRAWS BACK.



THE CAR SPEEDS ON INTO THE TARPITS. "WHY DOES EVERYONE FEAR YOUR BOMB?" ASKS DALE. "BEFORE MY FATHER DISAPPEARED HE SET OFF JUST ONE OF THESE ON THE SURFACE OF ORANO. EVERYONE HAS TRAVELED TO SEE THE DESTRUCTION IT WROUGHT!" ANSWERS ZORA.



"IT IS THE POWER OF FEAR..... FEAR OF THE O-BOMB," LAUGHS ZORA. "BUT THIS IS A PHONY. I'M DEADLY AFRAID OF THE REAL THING MYSELF."



A GUARD FLAGS THEM. "YOU DARE NOT GO FARTHER. WE HAVE SENT FOR YOUR FATHER. HE WILL BE HERE SOON."



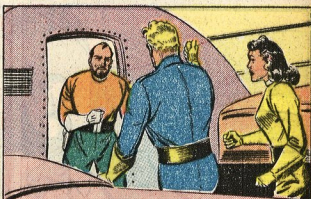
AN AGED MAN IS BROUGHT TO THEM. HE EYES THEM CLOSELY. THEN MUTTERS, "MY CHILD, MY ZORA! AT LAST YOU HAVE COME FOR ME!"



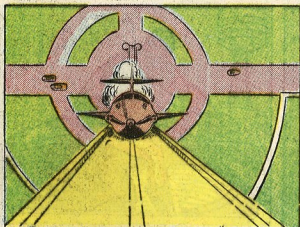
"YES, FATHER. YOU SHALL AT LAST BECOME RULER OF ORANO. THE FAKE O-BOMB YOU GAVE ME TWO YEARS AGO FINALLY DID THE TRICK!" WHISPERS ZORA



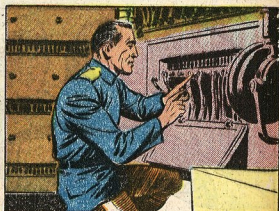
"FAKE! WHY, MY CHILD, THAT IS THE ONLY O-BOMB IN EXISTENCE," SIGHS THE OLD DOCTOR. ZORA, HEARING THE WORDS OF HER FATHER, FAINTS IN HIS ARMS.



LATER, DR. ZARKOV RECEIVES DALE AND FLASH ABOARD A WAITING SPACE-SHIP. "WE LEFT ZORA UNDER A MEDIC'S CARE," SHE'S RECOVERING FROM SHOCK," SAYS FLASH. "LET'S HEAD OUT FOR MONGO!"



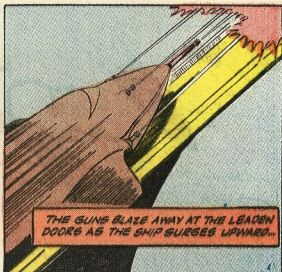
FLASH JOINS THE ORANO PILOT. "READY TO TAKE-OFF," HE SAYS. THE PILOT SIGNALS THE CONTROL ROOM AND THE SPACE-SHIP STARTS UP THE LAUNCHING RACK.



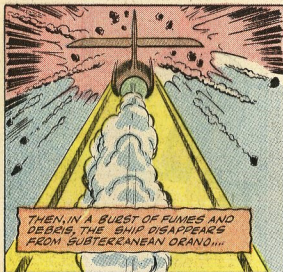
IN THE OPERATIONS CENTER AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER DISRUPTS THE CIRCUITS CONTROLLING THE CEILING DOORS. "HE MADE A FOOL OF ME WITH THE HYPNOTIC RAY, BUT THIS WILL EVEN THE SCORE..."



"THE DOORS!" YELLS THE PILOT. "CAN'T CUT THE SPEED!" "FIRE THE FORWARD GUNS!" ORDERS FLASH.



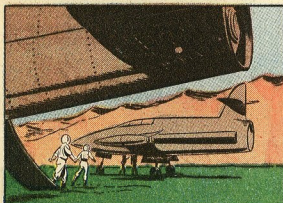
THE GUNS BLAZE AWAY AT THE LEADEN DOORS AS THE SHIP SURGES UPWARD...



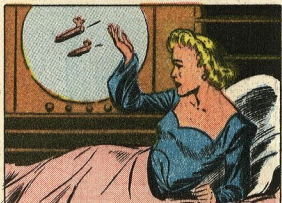
THEN, IN A BURST OF FUMES AND DEBRIS, THE SHIP DISAPPEARS FROM SUBTERRANEAN ORANO...



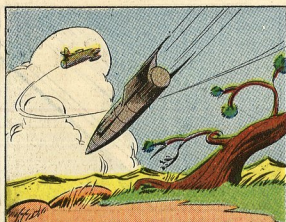
... AND PLUNGES OUT ABOVE THE SURFACE OF ORANO. "WE MADE IT!" SIGHS THE PILOT, "THANKS, GORDON, FOR THINKING OF THE GUNS!"



THE SHIP RACES ACROSS THE SURFACE OF ORANO TO DR. ZARKOV'S SHIP WHERE FLASH AND HIS PARTY CHANGE SHIPS.



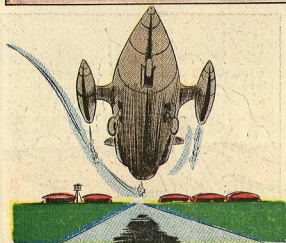
THE ORANO SHIP ESCORTS THE MONGO SHIP FOR A TIME. SOMEWHERE IN ORANO A LADY WHISPERS, "GOOD-BYE, FLASH GORDON, YOU WILL ALWAYS BE WELCOME IN ORANO!"



BACK ON MONGO FLASH PREPARES THE AMERICANS FOR THEIR RETURN TO EARTH. HE INSTRUCTS THEM IN THE FLIGHT OF SPACE-SHIPS.



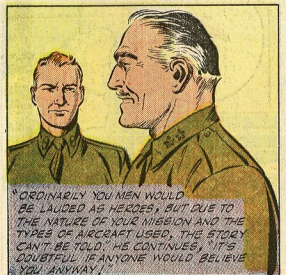
THEY PASS THE RIGID FLIGHT TESTS. THEN, FLASH GIVES THEM A MONGO SHIP AND BIDS THEM GOOD LUCK.



LATER, THE AMERICANS COME IN OVER THEIR HOME BASE IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES.



THEIR COMMANDING GENERAL RECEIVES THEM WITH ENTHUSIASM. "THIS IS INCREDIBLE, YET YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR MISSION, AND HAVE PROOF OF EVERYTHING YOU SAY!"



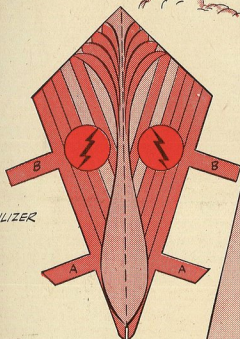
"ORDINARILY YOU MEN WOULD BE LAUDED AS HEROES, BUT DUE TO THE NATURE OF YOUR MISSION AND THE TYPES OF AIRCRAFT USED, THE STORY CAN'T BE TOLD," HE CONTINUES, "IT'S DOUBTFUL IF ANYONE WOULD BELIEVE YOU ANYWAY!"

IN WASHINGTON AN OFFICER-COURIER DELIVERS A REPORT OF THE MISSION TO THE WHITE HOUSE ... THE REPORT....

**TOP-SECRET**

... THUS, THE MISSION ENDS...

# ORANO FLY MODEL SPACE-SHIP



STABILIZER

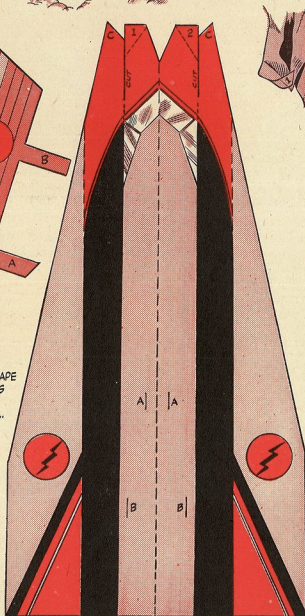
## DIRECTIONS FOR ASSEMBLY

CUT OUT FUSELAGE ASSEMBLY, FOLD FUSELAGE ALONG DOTTED LINES INTO SHAPE INDICATED IN FIGURE 1, HOLD NOSE TABS C TOGETHER, FOLD TAB 1 OVER TABS C, FOLD TAB 2 OVER TABS C AND TAB 1.... SEE FIG. 2.

CUT OUT STABILIZER ASSEMBLY, FOLD TOGETHER ALONG DOTTED LINE, INSERT TABS A AND B INTO SLOTS A AND B ON FUSELAGE.



FIG. 1



FUSELAGE.

