



35c

# FLASH GORDON



**THE SHARK MEN INVADE...**  
**as a traitor within waits**  
**to strike the final blow!**





Stranded in an alien world, Flash Gordon, Dale Arden and Dr. Hans Zarkov struggle against the evil emperor, Ming the Merciless, who seeks to enslave an entire planet....

# FLASH GORDON ON THE PLANET MONGO



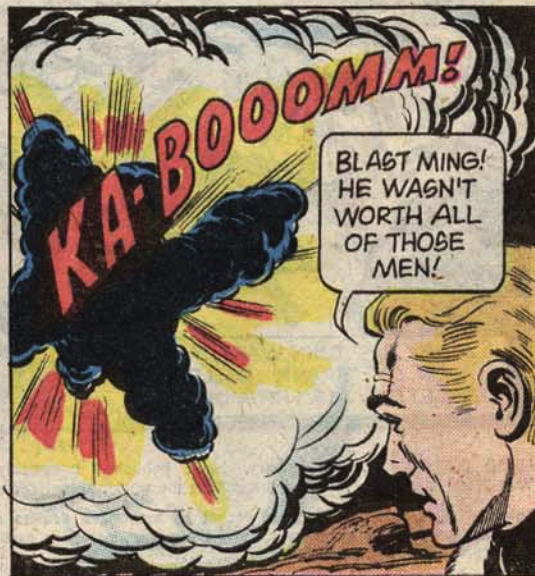
## PART 1 WOLF in the FOLD

AT LEAST WE NOW HAVE SOME REAL WEAPONS, ZARKOV!

WE ALMOST DON'T NEED THEM -- THESE "HOT ICE" CRYSTALS TOSSED NEAR THE EXHAUST VENTS OF THE ROCKETS GIVE US ALL THE FIRE POWER WE NEED!











WE'RE IN!

ZARKOV, GET ON THE CONTROLS  
AND LAUNCH! DALE, HOOK ME  
UP ON THE DOOR HARNESS!



WE DID IT!

UH, FLASH,  
DO YOU MIND  
IF I PULL YOU  
BACK IN NOW?



YOU, YOUNG  
LADY, WORRY  
ABOUT ME TOO  
MUCH!

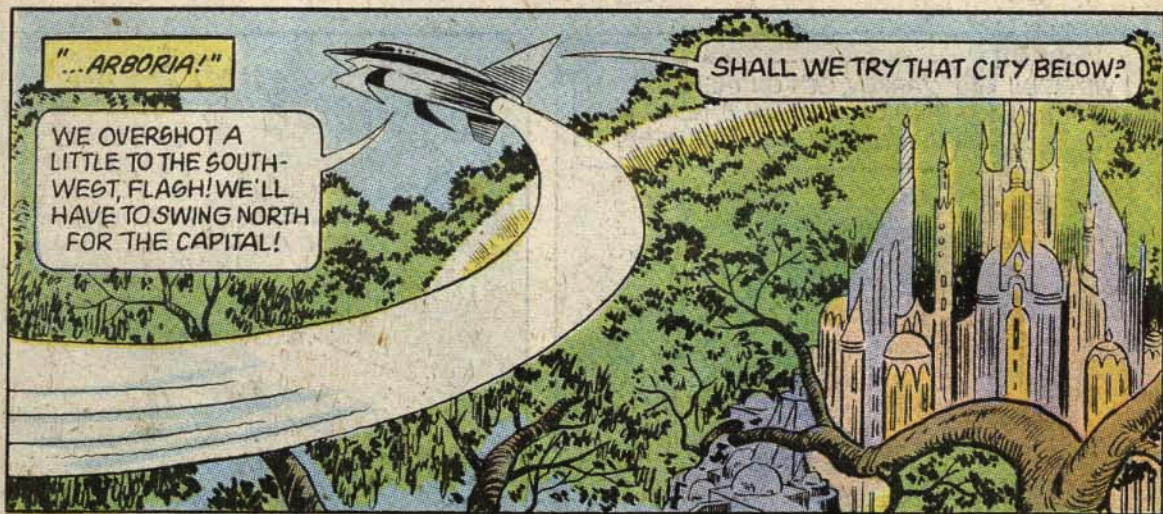
ME? I WAS JUST CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
FRIGHTFUL DRAFT YOU WERE CAUSING!



MING SURE ISN'T  
GOING TO BE ANY  
TOO HAPPY ABOUT  
THIS!

NEITHER ARE WE IF MING EVER GETS  
HIS HANDS ON US AGAIN! SET A COURSE  
FOR...





"...ARBORIA!"

WE OVERSHOT A LITTLE TO THE SOUTH-WEST, FLASH! WE'LL HAVE TO SWING NORTH FOR THE CAPITAL!

SHALL WE TRY THAT CITY BELOW?



I DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO HAVE MUCH CHOICE, ZARKOV-- WE HAVE AN ESCORT!

STRIKE FIGHTERS! THEY THINK WE'RE ONE OF MING'S SHIPS!



WE ARE ONE OF MING'S SHIPS, BLAST IT-- WHICH MEANS THESE RADIO CHANNELS ARE ON FREQUENCIES FOR MINGO CITY-- NOT ARBORIA!

MAYBE WE CAN OUT-MANEUVER THEM IN THE CITY BELOW!



NO CAN DO! THIS CITY IS DOMED UNDER A FORCE FIELD! I ALMOST FAILED TO REGISTER IT!



THEY'RE FORCING US TO LAND!

BE THANKFUL FOR SMALL FAVORS! THEY'RE LETTING US LAND IN ONE PIECE!









BUT WHAT HAPPENED?...  
HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT?



"IT'S A LONG STORY, FLASH! AS YOU  
KNOW, MING WAS EXILED AND I  
RULED..."

"BUT, NOW THAT THEY WERE FINALLY  
FREE OF MING'S TYRANNY, EVERY  
SMALL KINGDOM WANTED TO BE  
SELF-ASSERTIVE..."



"THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE, BUT  
MOST OF THEM KNEW NOTHING ABOUT  
RUNNING A STATE! THINGS DESCENDED IN-  
TO CHAOS AND MANY BORDER SKIRMISHES..."



"MING, MEANWHILE, HAD TAKEN REFUGE  
ON THE LOST CONTINENT! HE MADE CONTACT  
WITH THE IMPERIAL ARMY AND CERTAIN  
SYMPATHETIC KINGDOMS AND BEGAN A  
SERIES OF SECRET NEGOTIATIONS..."



"THE ARMY WANTED ORDER--AT ANY  
PRICE! MING GAVE IT TO THEM..."







"WE ESCAPED BACK TO ARBORIA! THERE WAS A BRUTAL WAR, BUT WE HELD OUR OWN, DESPITE LOSING MUCH OF OUR SEA POWER TO THE SUPERIOR SHARK FLEETS ALLIED WITH MING..."



THE OLD CAPITAL IS NOW A HEAVILY FORTIFIED MILITARY BASE! I RELOCATED TO THIS CITY TO PROTECT AURA AND OUR SON!

IN FACT, WE RE-NAMED THIS CITY ALANIA!



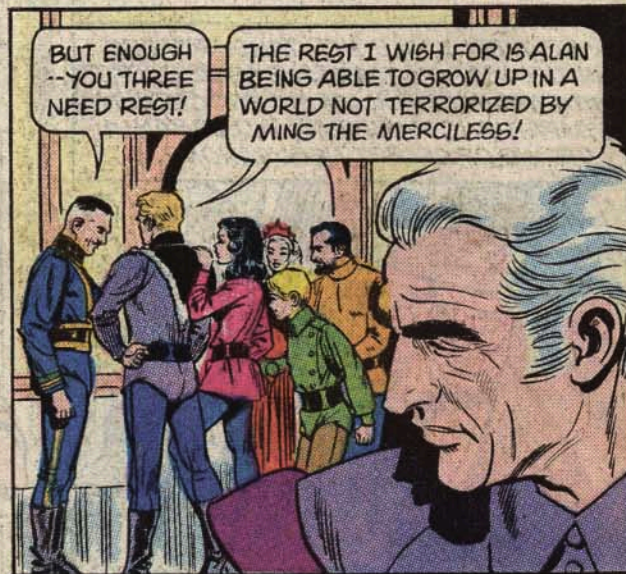
"AND HOW IS MY 'GODSON,' ALAN, DOING?"

HAHHH!



DOING QUITE WELL, AS YOU CAN SEE! FERRO, ALAN'S TUTOR, IS NOT ONLY AN ACCOMPLISHED SCHOLAR, BUT MY FINEST FENCER!

YOU HONOR ME, MY KING!



BUT ENOUGH -- YOU THREE NEED REST!

THE REST I WISH FOR IS ALAN BEING ABLE TO GROW UP IN A WORLD NOT TERRORIZED BY MING THE MERCILESS!







[illegible]

BEHOLD, FLASH GORDON-- WHILE YOU SLEPT, MY PEOPLE GATHERED TOGETHER TO PAY YOU YOUR DUE HOMAGE!

A comic book panel showing Flash Gordon seated at a banquet table. He is wearing a blue tunic with a yellow sash and is smiling. To his left, a woman with blonde hair in a pink dress is also smiling. To his right, a woman with dark hair in a red dress is looking at him. In the background, a man in a blue tunic and a woman in a green dress are visible. The table is set with various dishes, including a plate of red fruit and a glass. A speech bubble from the man in the blue tunic reads: "BEHOLD, FLASH GORDON-- WHILE YOU SLEPT, MY PEOPLE GATHERED TOGETHER TO PAY YOU YOUR DUE HOMAGE!"

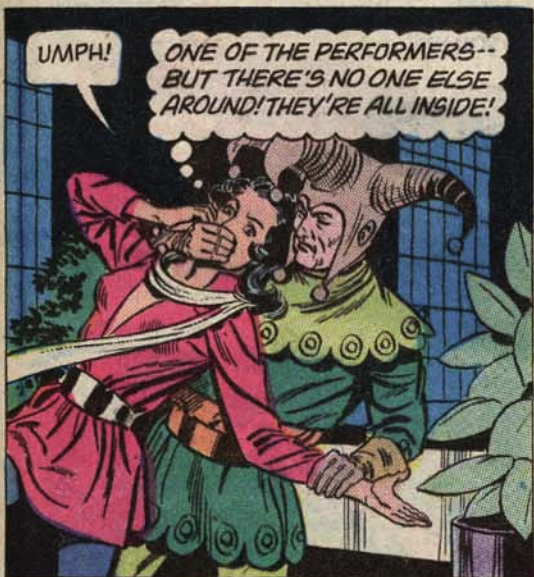
COME ON, FLASH! STOP LOOKING SO GRIM!

I'M SORRY, DALE! I KNOW I'M BEING RUDE AFTER ALL THE TROUBLE BARIN HAS GONE TO! I CAN'T HELP IT!

COME ON, FLASH! STOP LOOKING SO GRIM!

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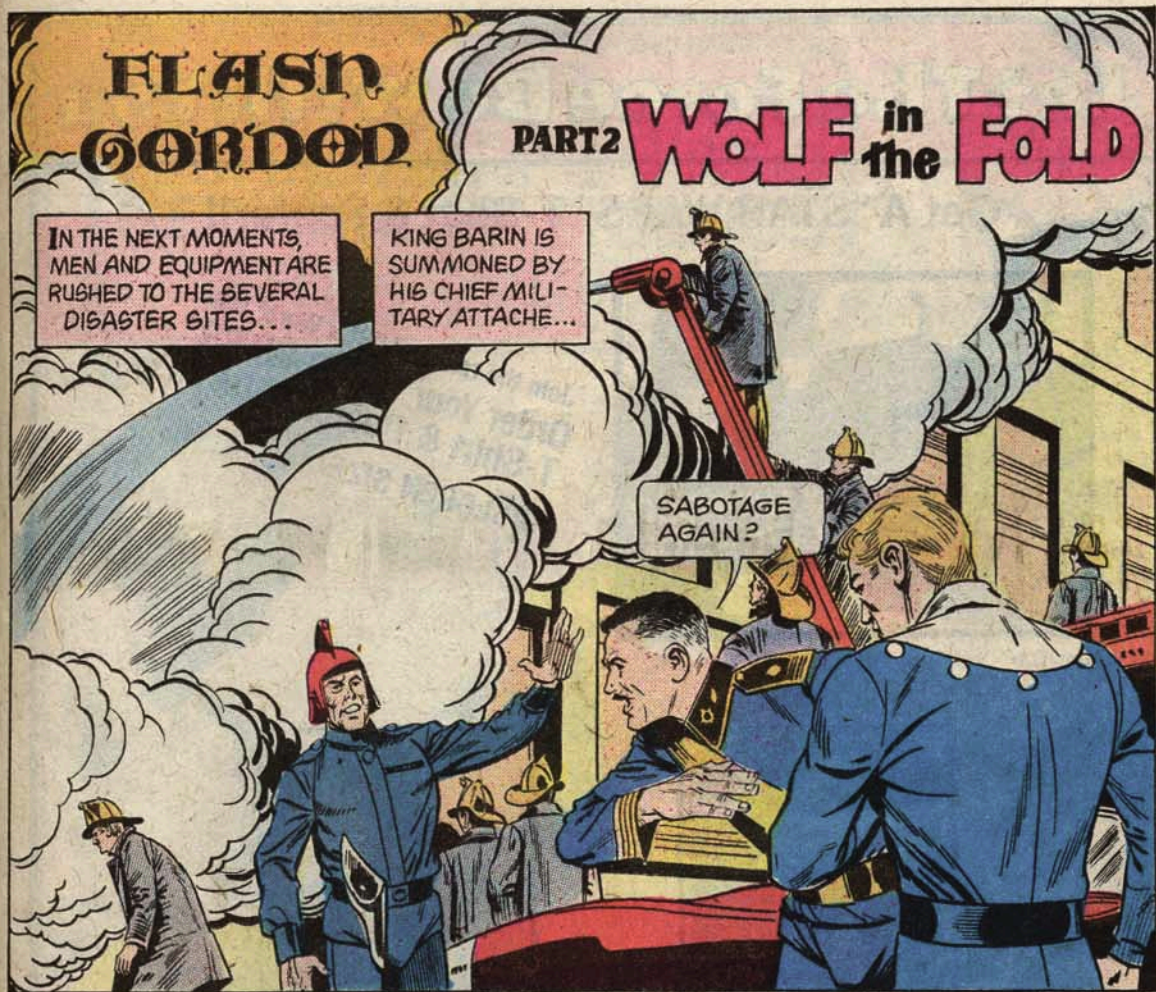
# FLASH GORDON

## PART 2 WOLF in the FOLD

IN THE NEXT MOMENTS,  
MEN AND EQUIPMENT ARE  
RUSHED TO THE SEVERAL  
DISASTER SITES...

KING BARIN IS  
SUMMONED BY  
HIS CHIEF MILI-  
TARY ATTACHE...

SABOTAGE  
AGAIN?

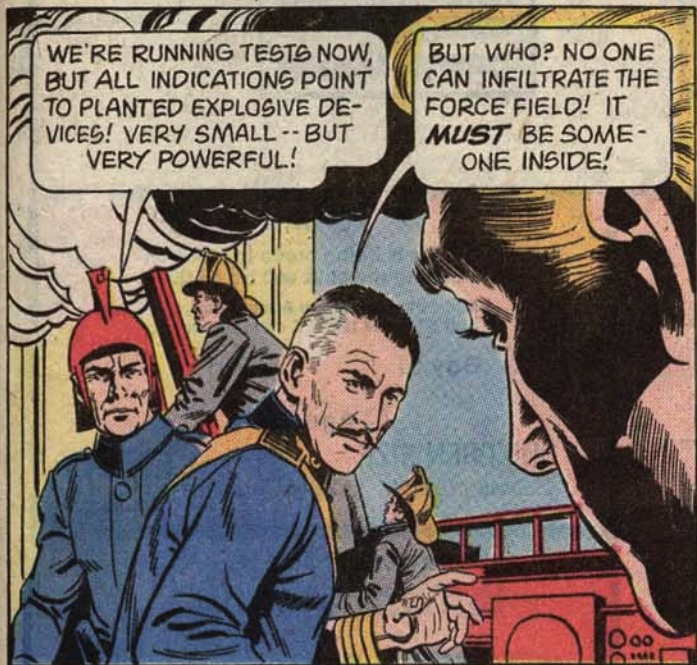


WE'RE RUNNING TESTS NOW,  
BUT ALL INDICATIONS POINT  
TO PLANTED EXPLOSIVE DE-  
VICES! VERY SMALL--BUT  
VERY POWERFUL!

BUT WHO? NO ONE  
CAN INFILTRATE THE  
FORCE FIELD! IT  
**MUST** BE SOME-  
ONE INSIDE!

YOU MEAN AN ARBORIAN WHO  
IS SYMPATHETIC TO MING? THAT  
DOESN'T  
SEEM  
LIKELY!

I AGREE, FLASH  
GORDON! WHO IN  
ALL OF ALANIA  
WOULD WISH TO  
BRING ABOUT THE  
TRAGEDY WHICH  
I BEAR?







I-I FOUND THIS IN THE DEBRIS SCATTERED BY THE EXPLOSION!

DALE'S SCARF! AURA GAVE IT TO HER JUST THIS AFTERNOON ...BURNED!



FOUND IN THE DEBRIS, YOU SAY?

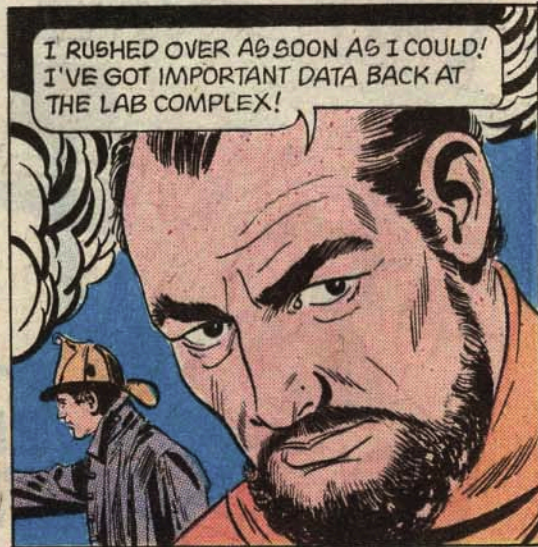
AND NO SIGN OF DALE?



THEN SOMEONE MUST HAVE ABDUCTED HER!

AND IF ANY HARM COMES TO HER, I'LL--

FLASH!



I RUSHED OVER AS SOON AS I COULD! I'VE GOT IMPORTANT DATA BACK AT THE LAB COMPLEX!



SOON, IN THE LAB COMPLEX...

I WAS INVESTIGATING SOME OF YOUR WORK HERE WHEN I STUMBLED ON THIS ELABORATE SEISMOGRAPHIC DATA CENTRAL!

WE SET UP THIS MONITOR SYSTEM TO LET US KNOW IF THE FORCE FIELD STRESSES WERE GETTING TOO GREAT!





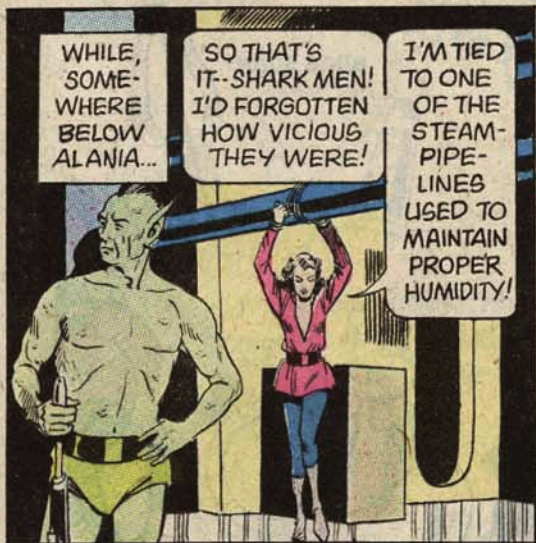
THAT'S JUST IT! YOU WERE ONLY LOOKING FOR THE BIG PROBLEMS!

BEGINNING A MONTH AGO, SEVERAL VERY CONCENTRATED DISTURBANCES IN THE CRUST BEGAN OCCURRING AT INTERVALS!



NEVER ENOUGH TO CAUSE MUCH CONCERN, BUT THE LAST OCCURRED JUST BEFORE THOSE EXPLOSIONS!

BARIN, I PROPOSE THAT IF ONE WANTS TO GET PAST A FORCE FIELD, ONE WOULD TUNNEL UNDER IT!



WHILE, SOMEWHERE BELOW ALANIA...

SO THAT'S IT - SHARK MEN! I'D FORGOTTEN HOW VICIOUS THEY WERE!

I'M TIED TO ONE OF THE STEAM-PIPE LINES USED TO MAINTAIN PROPER HUMIDITY!



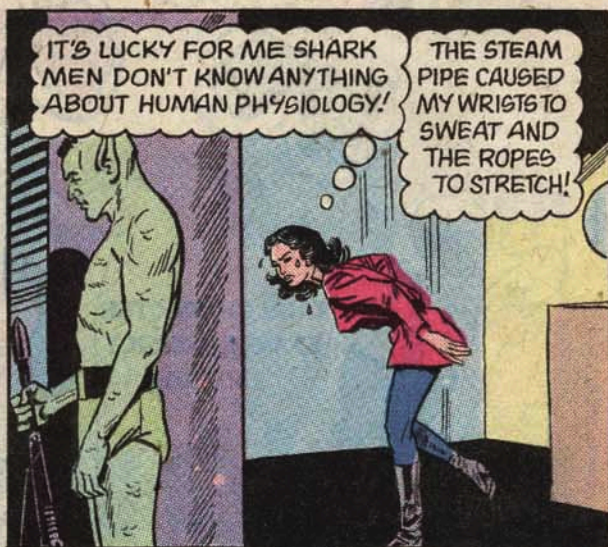
YOU WERE A FOOL TO BRING HER HERE! THERE WAS NO REASON--

YES, THERE WAS!

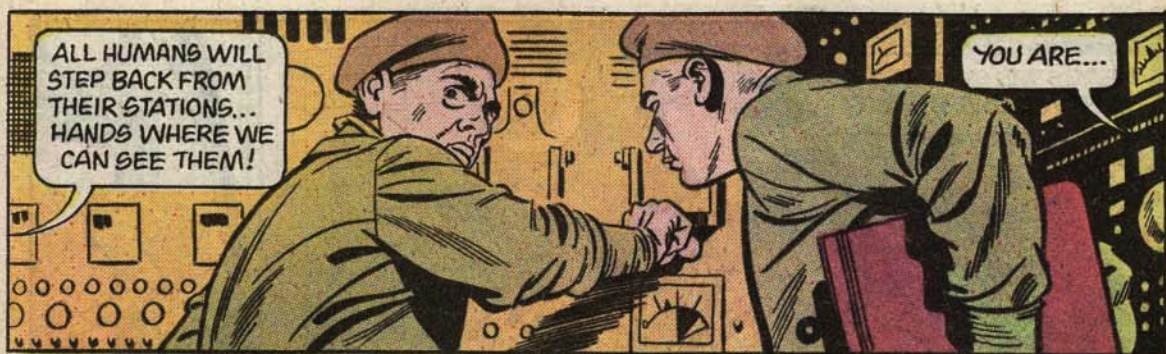


MING WILL REWARD ME HANDSOMELY FOR HER! A FINE **BONUS** ATOP WHAT HE HAS ALREADY PROMISED FOR BARIN'S DEATH!









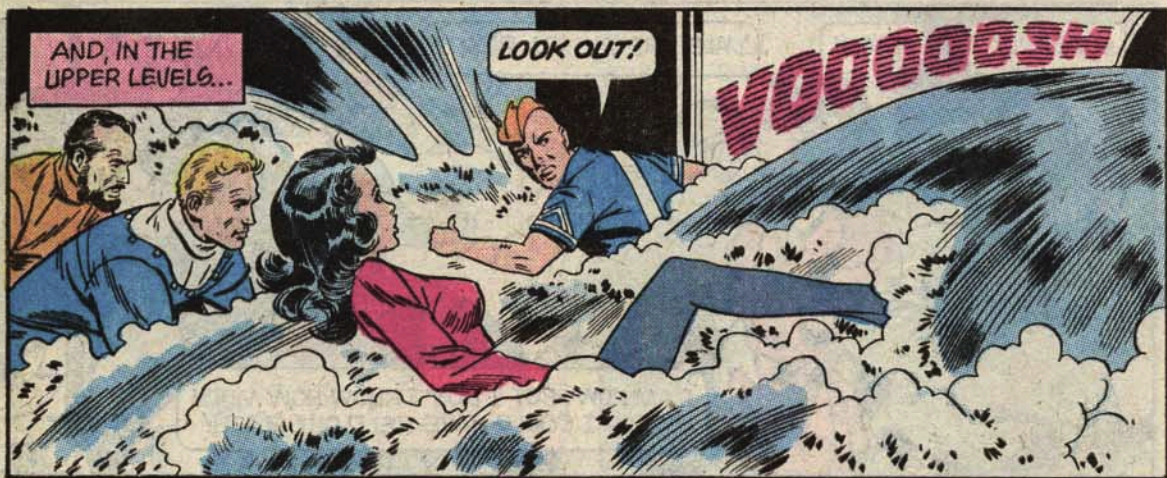










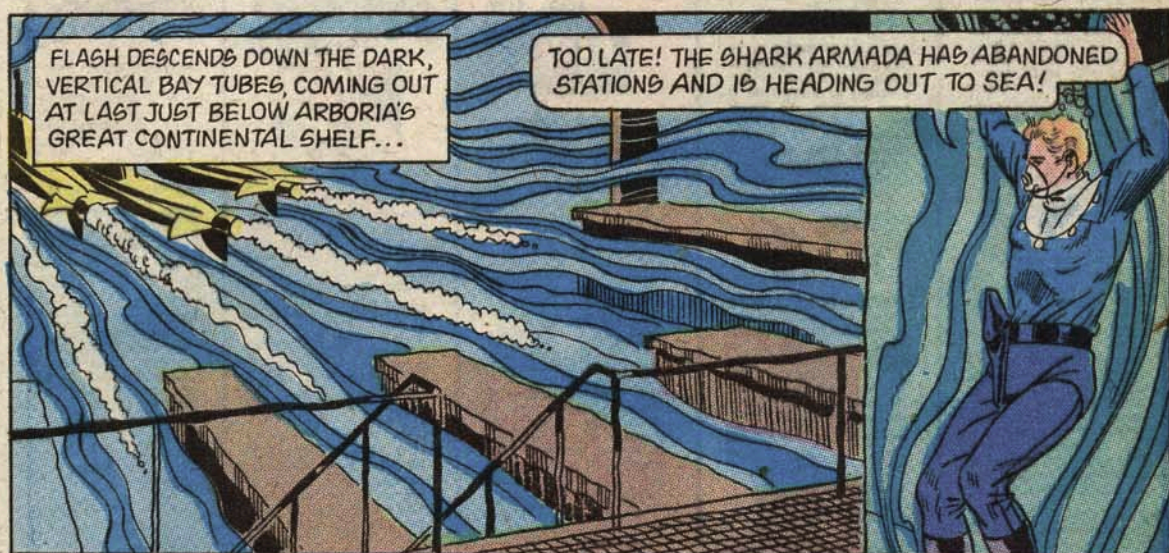






COME  
BACK! I--

IT'S NO USE-- SHE'S MADE UP  
HER MIND! AND IT WON'T HELP  
TO SEND ANY MORE DOWN! LET'S  
GO!



FLASH DESCENDS DOWN THE DARK,  
VERTICAL BAY TUBES, COMING OUT  
AT LAST JUST BELOW ARBORIA'S  
GREAT CONTINENTAL SHELF...

TOO LATE! THE SHARK ARMADA HAS ABANDONED  
STATIONS AND IS HEADING OUT TO SEA!



THEY'LL CONNECT SOMEWHERE  
WITH MING, NO DOUBT!

LET THEM GO! NOW THAT  
WE *KNOW* ABOUT THESE  
TUBES...

...THEY CAN'T USE  
THEM TO INVADE!



THE ONE THING ALANIA WILL GET OUT OF THIS IS  
THE BEST UNDERSEA DEFENSE SYSTEM POSSIBLE...

...COURTESY OF THE  
SHARK MEN!



NEXT DAY, IN  
ONE OF THE  
COURT GARDENS  
WITHIN THE  
ROYAL PALACE...

I PUT MING'S PLAN  
TOGETHER FROM WHAT  
THE PRISONERS TOLD  
US!



SIMPLY, THE  
SHARK PEOPLE  
WERE TO  
COVERTLY  
CREATE HAVOC!

THIS WAS TO  
DIVERT US  
WHILE THEY  
PREPARED  
THEIR ATTACK  
ON THE POWER  
PLANT!



ALL THIS WAS, OF  
COURSE, TO CLEAR  
THE WAY FOR MING!

BUT THE PRISONERS  
CLAIM THERE WAS AN  
ACTUAL CONTACT HERE  
IN ALANIA! THEY WERE  
NOT TOLD WHO!

**GAKKK!**



FERRO--  
YOU? WHY--?





