

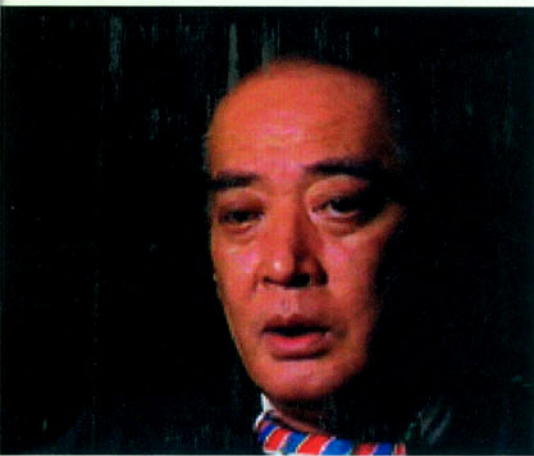

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STAR BLAZERS

THE MAGAZINE OF SPACE BATTLESHIP YAMATO



BASED
ON THE
HIT
ANIMATED
VIDEO
SERIES!



"A SENSE OF WONDER"

a personal message to the fans of *Star Blazers* from Yoshinobu Nishizaki

Hello, *Star Blazers* fans!

It is my great pleasure to launch a new *Star Blazers* comic book in America. I feel gratified to know that my American *Star Blazers* fans have been so loyal to my creation for over 15 years!

I created *Space Battleship Yamato* at the time of the first "oil shock." The world was in a sense of chaos, not knowing what to expect. That is when I realized young peoples' need for a hero of an unconventional sort—not a sumo wrestler, not a baseball player, not even a samurai warrior. The young needed something entirely different, something that would give them a sense of wonder. After all, when one thinks about the universe, one realizes how small a human being is and how short a human life is. Space, on the other hand, is an eternity. I want young people to live with this sense of wonder towards the universe, and with love for each other.

In closing, I thank the team at Studio Go! for creating such a beautiful comic book for my American fans.

Yoshinobu Nishizaki is the president of Jupiter Films and the creator of *Space Battleship Yamato*.



Based on *Space Battleship Yamato*
created by Yoshinobu Nishizaki and Reiji Matsumoto

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Scarlet Scarf

OCTOBER 5, 2200...

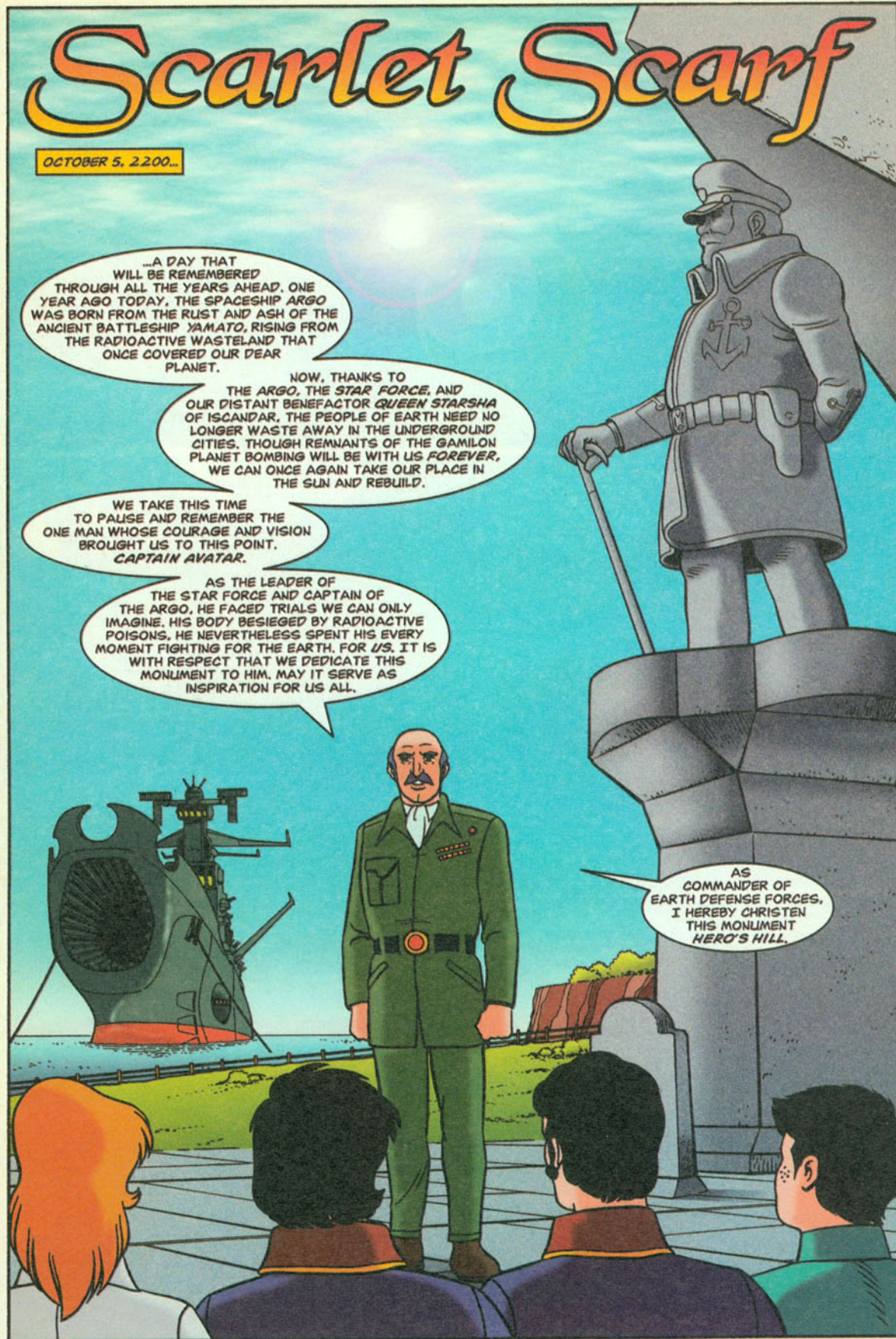
...A DAY THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED THROUGH ALL THE YEARS AHEAD. ONE YEAR AGO TODAY, THE SPACESHIP ARGO WAS BORN FROM THE RUST AND ASH OF THE ANCIENT BATTLESHIP YAMATO, RISING FROM THE RADIOACTIVE WASTELAND THAT ONCE COVERED OUR DEAR PLANET.

NOW, THANKS TO THE ARGO, THE STAR FORCE, AND OUR DISTANT BENEFACTOR QUEEN STARSHA OF IS CANDAR, THE PEOPLE OF EARTH NEED NO LONGER WASTE AWAY IN THE UNDERGROUND CITIES. THOUGH REMNANTS OF THE GAMILON PLANET BOMBING WILL BE WITH US FOREVER, WE CAN ONCE AGAIN TAKE OUR PLACE IN THE SUN AND REBUILD.

WE TAKE THIS TIME TO PAUSE AND REMEMBER THE ONE MAN WHOSE COURAGE AND VISION BROUGHT US TO THIS POINT.
CAPTAIN AVATAR.

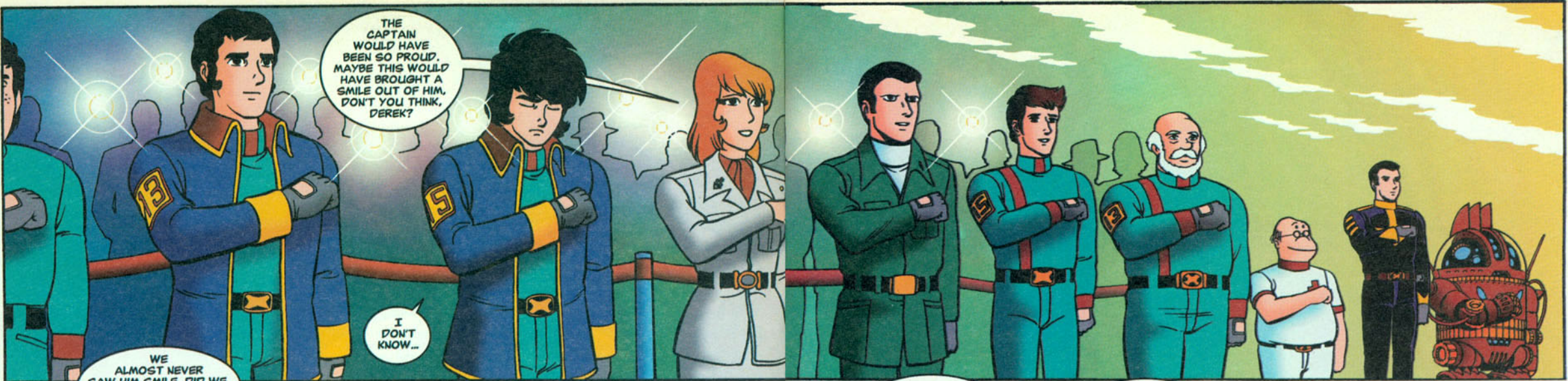
AS THE LEADER OF THE STAR FORCE AND CAPTAIN OF THE ARGO, HE FACED TRIALS WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE. HIS BODY BESIEGED BY RADIOACTIVE POISONS, HE NEVERTHELESS SPENT HIS EVERY MOMENT FIGHTING FOR THE EARTH. FOR US, IT IS WITH RESPECT THAT WE DEDICATE THIS MONUMENT TO HIM. MAY IT SERVE AS INSPIRATION FOR US ALL.

AS COMMANDER OF EARTH DEFENSE FORCES, I HEREBY CHRESTEN THIS MONUMENT HERO'S HILL.



Studio Go!
news and info:
studiogo@aol.com





THE CAPTAIN WOULD HAVE BEEN SO PROUD. MAYBE THIS WOULD HAVE BROUGHT A SMILE OUT OF HIM. DON'T YOU THINK, DEREK?

I DON'T KNOW...

WE ALMOST NEVER SAW HIM SMILE, DID WE, NOVA? I WONDER WHY I DIDN'T NOTICE THAT.

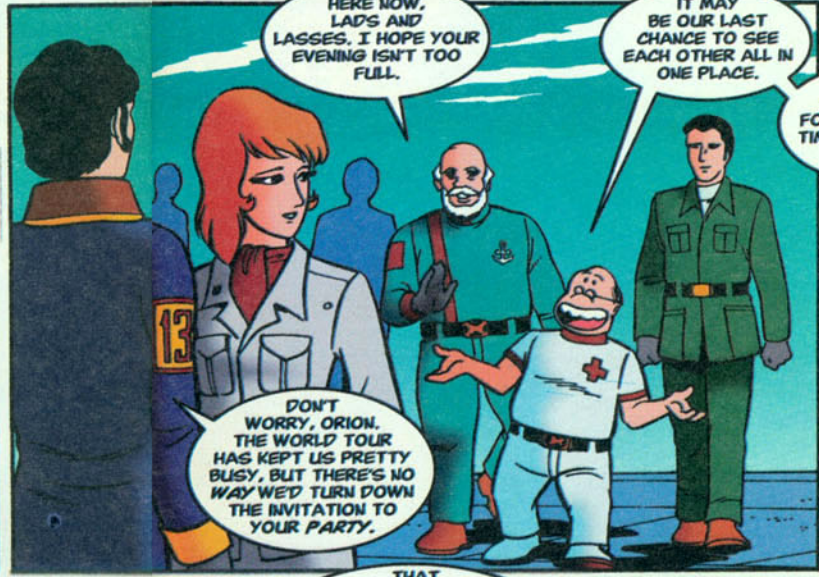
DON'T FEEL BAD, VENTURE. WE WERE ALL RATHER PREOCCUPIED...

IT WAS HARD FOR HIM TO SMILE. HE KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT THE FUTURE.



HUH? WILDSTAR, WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

NOTHING.



HERE NOW, LADS AND LASSES, I HOPE YOUR EVENING ISN'T TOO FULL.

DON'T WORRY, ORION. THE WORLD TOUR HAS KEPT US PRETTY BUSY, BUT THERE'S NO WAY WED TURN DOWN THE INVITATION TO YOUR PARTY.

IT MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE TO SEE EACH OTHER ALL IN ONE PLACE.

EVEN SANDOR FOUND SOME TIME OFF FOR US.

IT WASN'T EASY WITH ALL THE ENERGY NETWORKING ASSIGNMENTS I'VE BEEN GIVEN. IF I'D KNOWN I WAS IN FOR THIS MUCH WORK, I MIGHT HAVE TAKEN MORE SICK DAYS ABOARD THE ARGO!



NOW WHERE IS YOUNG WILDSTAR? I SAW HIM WITH YOU A MOMENT AGO.

DEREK? HE MUST HAVE WANDERED OFF.

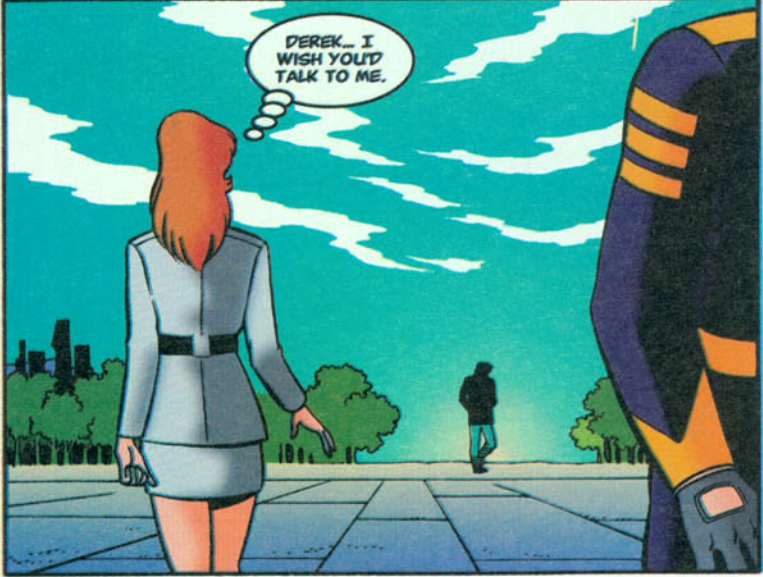


HE TOLD ME HE MIGHT NOT BE AT THE PARTY. HIS NEW TOUR OF DUTY STARTS TOMORROW. HE'S LIFTING OFF IN THE ARGO EARLY IN THE MORNING.



THAT DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT. HOMER'S GOING, TOO, BUT HE HASN'T TURNED US DOWN. WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THAT BOY? NOVA, GO AND TALK SOME SENSE INTO HIM.

I'LL DO WHAT I CAN, DR. SANE.



DEREK... I WISH YOU'D TALK TO ME.



THAT NIGHT...

HERE, NOW, THERE'S A YOUNG FELLA OVER HERE NOT HAVING A GOOD TIME. GOOD THING THERE'S A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE...

NOVA SENT YOU OVER HERE, DIDN'T SHE, DR. SANE?



SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU, WILDSTAR. YOU DIDN'T SAY A WORD TO HER DURING THE ENTIRE DRIVE. NOW IS THAT ANY WAY TO TREAT A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADY?

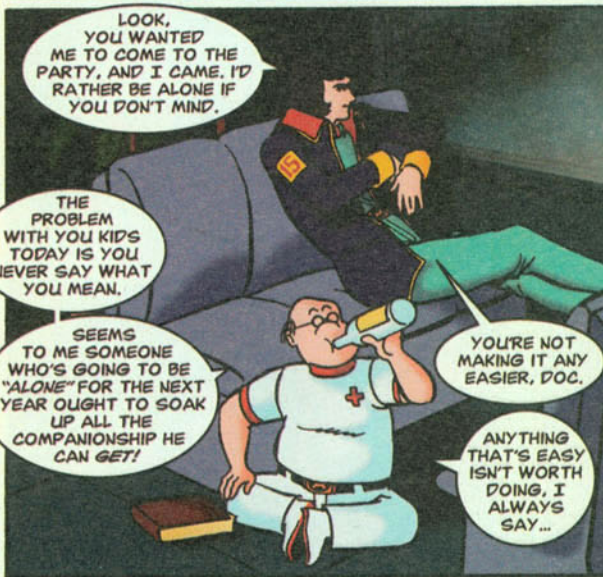


NO ONE WILL REMEMBER ME. THEY'LL ALL BE TOO BUSY GIVING SPEECHES AND GOING ON MORALE TOURS. WE ALL KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS!



FIRST YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT GOING BACK INTO SPACE. NOW YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO ON EARTH! SOME PEOPLE ARE NEVER HAPPY!

AW, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE! YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME.



LOOK, YOU WANTED ME TO COME TO THE PARTY, AND I CAME. I'D RATHER BE ALONE IF YOU DON'T MIND.

THE PROBLEM WITH YOU KIDS TODAY IS YOU NEVER SAY WHAT YOU MEAN.

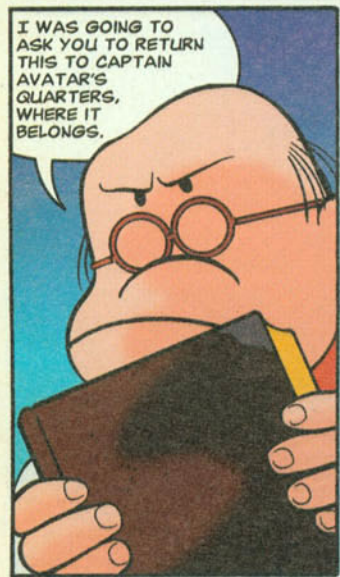
SEEMS TO ME SOMEONE WHO'S GOING TO BE "ALONE" FOR THE NEXT YEAR OUGHT TO SOAK UP ALL THE COMPANIONSHIP HE CAN GET!

YOU'RE NOT MAKING IT ANY EASIER, DOC.

ANYTHING THAT'S EASY ISN'T WORTH DOING, I ALWAYS SAY...



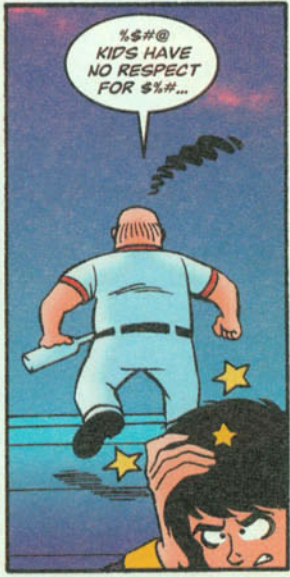
IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU. YOU'RE STAYING HERE ON EARTH. YOU'LL GET TO SEE NOVA AND THE OTHERS ANY TIME YOU WANT. I SPENT A WHOLE YEAR FIGHTING TO GET BACK HERE FROM ISCANDAR AND NOW THEY'RE SENDING ME AWAY AGAIN!



I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO RETURN THIS TO CAPTAIN AVATAR'S QUARTERS, WHERE IT BELONGS.



NOW I DON'T THINK I'LL BE SO POLITE!!



!\$#@ KIDS HAVE NO RESPECT FOR \$!#!...



YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, WILDSTAR. YOU PROVED YOUR WORTH, AND YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO WHERE YOU CAN BEST SERVE THE PEOPLE OF EARTH.

THE ARGO IS THE ONLY SPACE BATTLESHIP WE HAVE LEFT. IT'S GOT TO PROTECT THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM WHILE EARTH IS REBUILT. THAT'S A PRETTY IMPORTANT JOB, YOU KNOW.

YEAH...



COME ON, NOW. GET UP OFF YOUR MISERABLE BACKSIDE AND JOIN THE PARTY. IS THIS HOW YOU WANT YOUR FRIENDS TO REMEMBER YOU WHILE YOU'RE AWAY?



HUH?



August, 2199
I cannot bear to see what
has become of Earth.

Once green and growing with
blue lakes and silver streams,
great rivers and mighty seas.
Now all gone. Only burning desert
left. Radiation everywhere.

Seeing it from space only worsens our spirits as we return
from the battle at Pluto. Likely to be our last meeting with
the Gamilons as anything close to their equal.

CAPTAIN
AVATAR! OUR
LASER SHIP
EXPLODED!

TELL ME...
HOW MANY SHIPS
DO WE HAVE
LEFT NOW?

ONLY ONE MISSILE
SHIP OTHER THAN
THIS FLAGSHIP, SIR.

WHICH ONE?

NUMBER 17--
WILDSTAR'S
SHIP.

I SEE.

THIS IS
ENOUGH.
WE'RE GOING
HOME.



CAPTAIN, ARE
WE RETREATING?

WE'VE DONE
ALL WE CAN.
THERE WILL BE OTHER
BATTLES TO
FIGHT.

WILDSTAR,
DO YOU HEAR?
FOLLOW ME!

WILDSTAR! WE'RE GOING BACK TOGETHER!
I DON'T NEED OR WANT YOUR PROTECTION.
BUT PLANET EARTH DOES. THERE'S NOTHING
TO BE GAINED BY YOUR STAYING BEHIND.
YOU'RE NEEDED ON EARTH. THAT'S
AN ORDER I EXPECT YOU TO OBEY!

SURE, CAPTAIN...
I'LL BRING UP THE REAR.
YOU'RE UNPROTECTED.
SEE YOU LATER.

IT'S JUST A SIMPLE
MATTER OF MATHEMATICS, SIR.
THERE ARE 470 MEN IN YOUR FLAGSHIP.
THERE ARE 20 IN OUR SHIP. YOU'LL GET
BACK--WE'LL SEE TO IT!

WILDSTAR,
IT'S AN
ORDER!

180-DEGREE
TURN COMPLETED,
CAPTAIN.

CAPTAIN,
WILDSTAR ISN'T
FOLLOWING US!

CAN'T TALK NOW CAPTAIN --
THERE'S A BUNCH OF GAMILONS
COMING AT US! DON'T WORRY
I'LL GET 'EM AWAY FROM THE
FLAGSHIP AND I'LL SEE YOU
ON EARTH!

WILDSTAR!

"GOOD LUCK, ALEX WILDSTAR..."

There must be a way
to defeat this evil. Earth
cannot die this way.
Mankind was not created
to live in terror...
hiding beneath the earth.

As long as I live,
I will fight.



September 10, 2199
Fate twisted an unexpected knife today.

CAPTAIN...
I'M DEREK
WILDSTAR.

THEN,
YOU'RE...

ALEX'S
YOUNGER
BROTHER.



YES. I SEE. HE WAS BRAVE.
HE STAYED BEHIND TO FIGHT
A DELAYING ACTION. IF HE HADN'T
HELD THE ENEMY BACK, WE
WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT
BACK TO EARTH.

YOU LEFT
HIM BEHIND!



HE CHOSE
TO STAY.

ALEX
WAS IN YOUR
COMMAND, CAPTAIN!
YOU COULD HAVE
ORDERED HIM
BACK!



I AM
TRULY SORRY,
WILDSTAR...



I HEARD
CAPTAIN AVATAR
WAS BADLY WOUNDED
ON PLUTO.

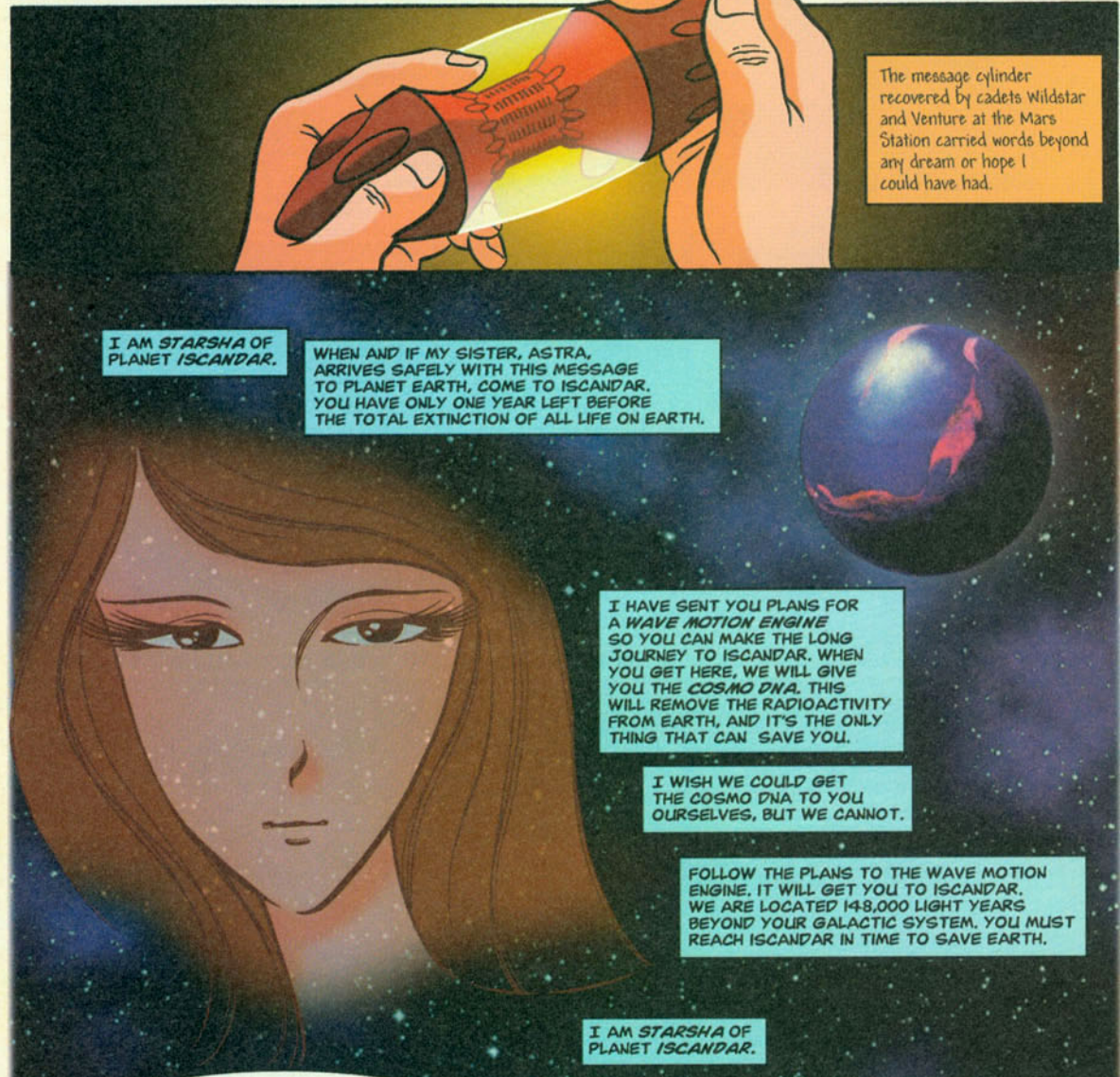
AT LEAST
HE GOT BACK,
WOUNDED OR NOT.
BUT ALEX...

Wounded. I suppose
that's one word for it.



September 11, 2199
An unbelievable miracle
at a time we most
desperately needed it.

The message cylinder
recovered by cadets Wildstar
and Venture at the Mars
Station carried words beyond
any dream or hope I
could have had.



I AM STARSHA OF
PLANET ISCANDAR.

WHEN AND IF MY SISTER, ASTRA,
ARRIVES SAFELY WITH THIS MESSAGE
TO PLANET EARTH, COME TO ISCANDAR.
YOU HAVE ONLY ONE YEAR LEFT BEFORE
THE TOTAL EXTINCTION OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH.

I HAVE SENT YOU PLANS FOR
A WAVE MOTION ENGINE
SO YOU CAN MAKE THE LONG
JOURNEY TO ISCANDAR. WHEN
YOU GET HERE, WE WILL GIVE
YOU THE COSMO DNA. THIS
WILL REMOVE THE RADIOACTIVITY
FROM EARTH, AND IT'S THE ONLY
THING THAT CAN SAVE YOU.

I WISH WE COULD GET
THE COSMO DNA TO YOU
OURSELVES, BUT WE CANNOT.

FOLLOW THE PLANS TO THE WAVE MOTION
ENGINE. IT WILL GET YOU TO ISCANDAR.
WE ARE LOCATED 148,000 LIGHT YEARS
BEYOND YOUR GALACTIC SYSTEM. YOU MUST
REACH ISCANDAR IN TIME TO SAVE EARTH.

I AM STARSHA OF
PLANET ISCANDAR.



THAT'S THE ENGINE PLAN, AVATAR,
DO YOU THINK IT CAN REALLY WORK?
THIS WAVE MOTION ENGINE?

WELL,
COMMANDER,
WE WON'T KNOW
UNTIL WE
TRY IT.

September 12, 2199
The wave motion engine is even more
sophisticated than the recovered scraps
of Gamilon space wreckage that got us
as far as Pluto. Queen Starsha's technology
has opened doors our engineers hadn't even
guessed at. The one thing we lack to fuel
our unexpected breakthrough is resources.
My flagship is the last thing standing between
Earth and the Gamilons. It cannot be spared
to make this incredible journey. Another
ship must be found. Somehow, somewhere...

September 14, 2199
In the Eastern Desert, revealed by the hands of the Gamilons' own Planet Bombs, stands the rusted hulk of the ancient battleship YAMATO.

We will refit it with Queen Starsha's wave motion technology. The Gamilons will not, could not, expect this of us. The very idea flies whimsically in the face of our own extinction. But, I ask, what more magnificent madness could there be than this?



YOU'LL NEED MANY MORE PEOPLE THAN ARE HERE NOW.

THEY WILL BE EARTH'S FINEST CITIZENS. PEOPLE WHO CAN TAKE A CHALLENGE AND ARE WILLING TO MAKE GREAT SACRIFICES.

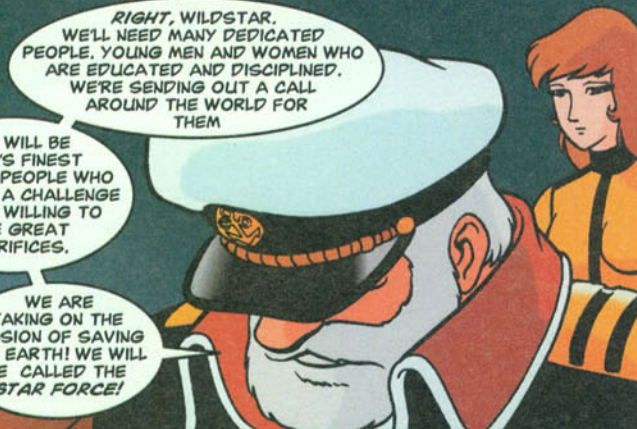
WE ARE TAKING ON THE MISSION OF SAVING THE EARTH! WE WILL BE CALLED THE STAR FORCE!

RIGHT, WILDSTAR. WE'LL NEED MANY DEDICATED PEOPLE, YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE EDUCATED AND DISCIPLINED. WE'RE SENDING OUT A CALL AROUND THE WORLD FOR THEM.

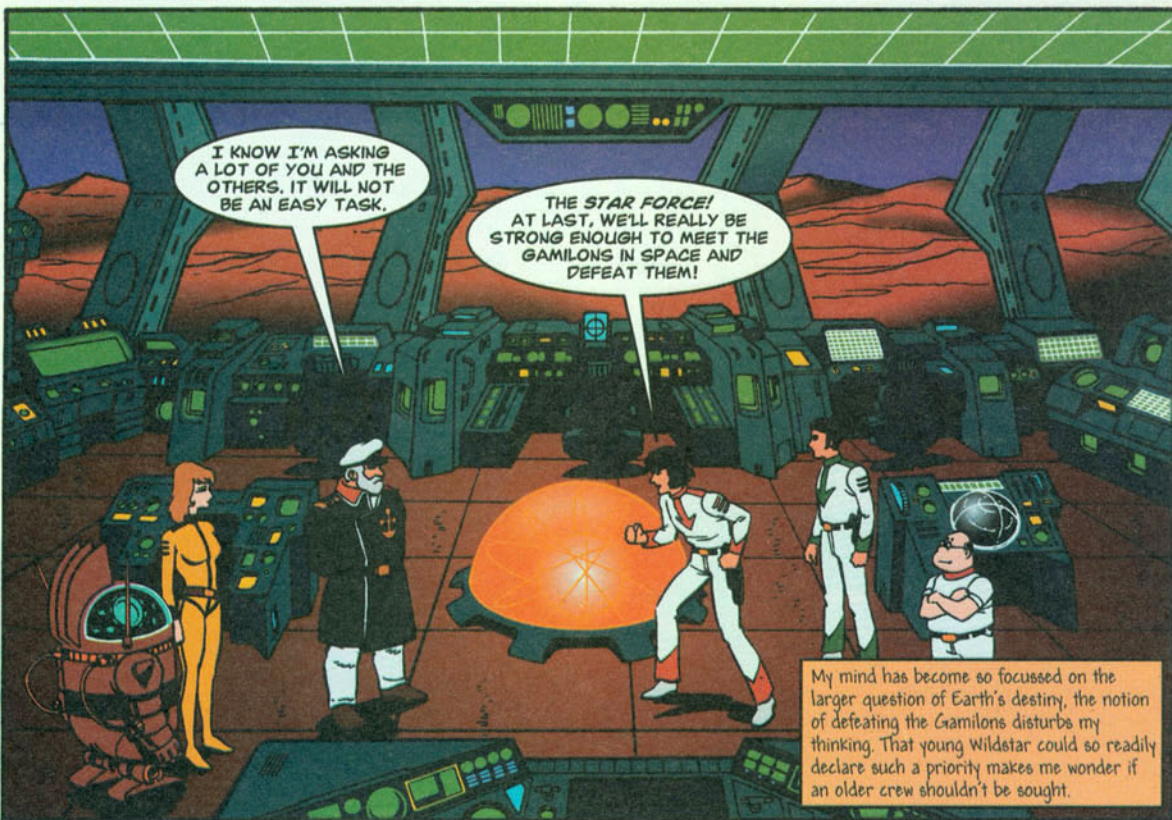
October 4, 2199
The YAMATO nears completion in record time. I was reunited today with the brother of Alex Wildstar, and we gave each other something to think about.



WILDSTAR AND VENTURE... I REQUESTED THAT YOU TWO BE ASSIGNED TO ME BECAUSE OF YOUR EXCELLENT RECORDS AS CADETS. FOR THIS MISSION, I WILL NEED PEOPLE OF EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY AND CHARACTER. I BELIEVE YOU TWO QUALIFY.



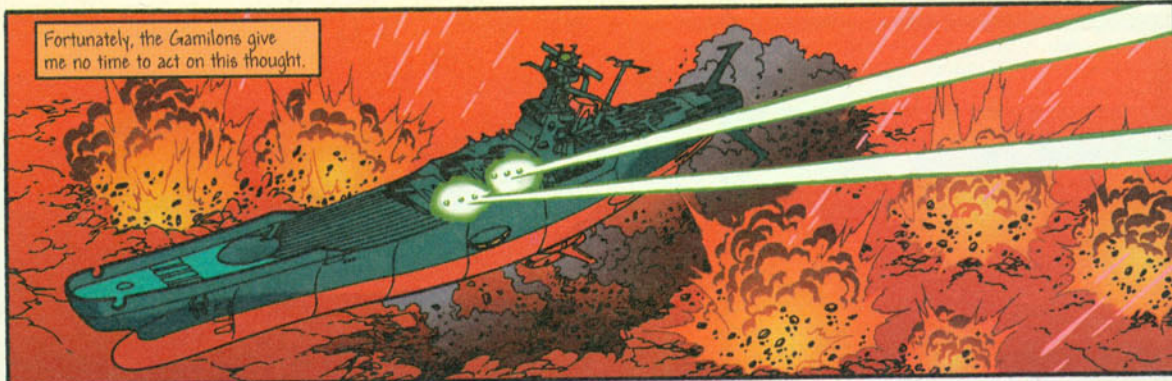
WE ARE TAKING ON THE MISSION OF SAVING THE EARTH! WE WILL BE CALLED THE STAR FORCE!



I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT OF YOU AND THE OTHERS. IT WILL NOT BE AN EASY TASK.

THE STAR FORCE! AT LAST, WE'LL REALLY BE STRONG ENOUGH TO MEET THE GAMILONS IN SPACE AND DEFEAT THEM!

My mind has become so focussed on the larger question of Earth's destiny, the notion of defeating the Gamilons disturbs my thinking. That young Wildstar could so readily declare such a priority makes me wonder if an older crew shouldn't be sought.



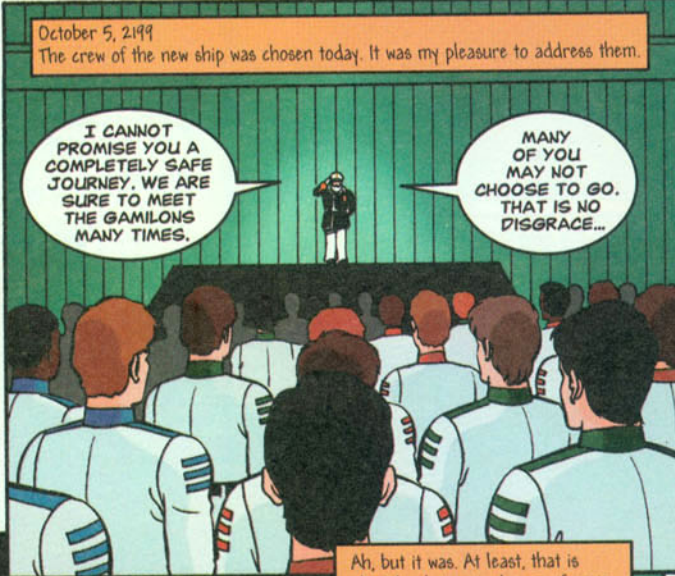
Fortunately, the Gamilons give me no time to act on this thought.



THE STAR FORCE NEEDS YOU, AND OTHERS LIKE YOU.

I'M PROUD TO GO WITH YOU, SIR, AND TO SERVE WITH THE STAR FORCE... AS MY BROTHER WOULD HAVE BEEN.

An indelicate reminder of how difficult the days ahead may be between us. But we cannot fail in our mission. Earth has only one year left.



October 5, 2199
The crew of the new ship was chosen today. It was my pleasure to address them.

I CANNOT PROMISE YOU A COMPLETELY SAFE JOURNEY. WE ARE SURE TO MEET THE GAMILONS MANY TIMES.

MANY OF YOU MAY NOT CHOOSE TO GO. THAT IS NO DISGRACE...

Ah, but it was. At least, that is what the determined gaze of young Wildstar told me. I suppose, then, I should not have been troubled at the words I overheard later.



JORDY... MOTHER... FATHER... DON'T WORRY. WE'LL MAKE IT BACK. I'M SURE OF IT.

WHAT MAKES YOU SURE OF IT, VENTURE? WERE YOU JUST KIDDING OURSELVES IF WE EXPECT TO GET BACK.

WHAT?? HEY, WE'LL PROBABLY GET STUCK WAY OUT IN SPACE AND WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK.

LOOK, CAPTAIN AVATAR'S NEVER BEEN THAT FAR OUT IN SPACE. HOW DO WE KNOW HE REALLY KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING?

LISTEN, IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY, WHY DID YOU JOIN THE STAR FORCE?

WHAT MAKES YOU ALL THINK CAPTAIN AVATAR'S SUCH A GREAT MAN?

SURE, HE WINS A LOT, BUT LOOK AT THE COST IN LIVES!

I'M SORRY, WILDSTAR. I KNOW YOU MISS YOUR BROTHER. YOU HAD NO ONE TO SEE YOU OFF. ARE YOU BLAMING THE CAPTAIN BECAUSE ALEX DIDN'T COME BACK?

I was grateful to know that others could tell Wildstar the things he would never hear from me. I was also grateful that such words were not limited to people his own age.

ORION, THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'VE BEEN CAPTAIN AVATAR'S CHIEF ENGINEER FOR A LONG TIME.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AFTER ALL THAT TIME, YOU MUST KNOW WHAT KIND OF A MAN HE IS.

WILDSTAR, COME ON, WE HAVE TO GET BACK UP TO THE BRIDGE.

MY BROTHER WAS WITH CAPTAIN AVATAR IN THE BATTLE OF PLUTO! HE NEVER CAME BACK!

HMM...I SEE, YOU'RE ALEX WILDSTAR'S BROTHER.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE TO LOSE SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR. THIS IS A CRUEL WAR. MANY FAMILIES ARE DESTROYED. CAPTAIN AVATAR LOST HIS ONLY SON IN THAT SAME BATTLE AT PLUTO.

HE'S A FINE LEADER. HE KNOWS WHAT MUST BE DONE. AND EVEN IF HE HAS TO PAY A PRICE, HE DOES IT.

AND HE DOESN'T BLAME OTHERS, HE JUST GOES ON.

COULD YOU DO THE SAME?

No. I don't blame you, Alex Wildstar. I don't blame you for taking my son with you.

As much as I want to.

October 6, 2199
Our baptism of fire. Today, the Gamilons finally realized our intention and moved to stop us with the deadliest weapon we've yet encountered.

Against it, our ship--which we now call the ARGO--proved more than adequate.

His older brother was a part of him. When Alex Wildstar died, so did a part of Derek Wildstar. Time would tell which part that was.

WELL, WILDSTAR, YOU CAME THROUGH. EVEN IF YOU DO BLAME ME FOR YOUR BROTHER'S DEATH.

IT'S GOING TO BE A VERY LONG JOURNEY.

I THINK YOU'LL BE A MAN... A MAN HE WOULD'VE BEEN PROUD OF.

YES.



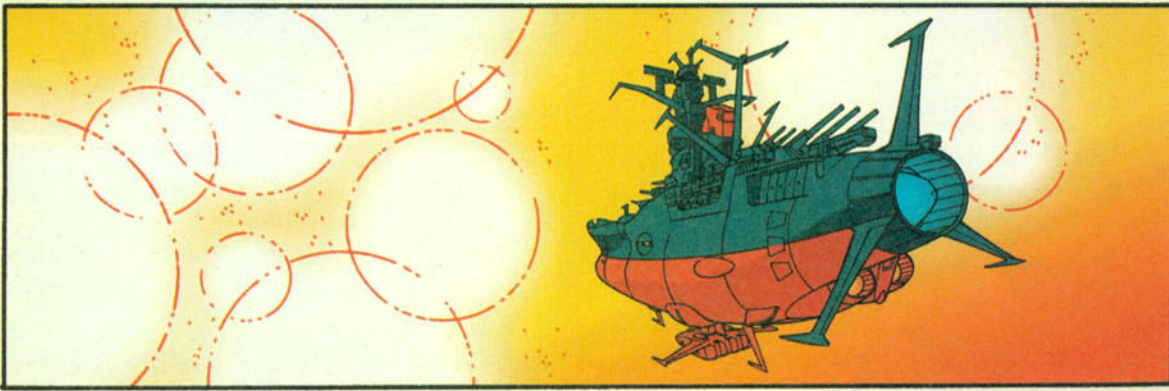


MISSILES APPROACHIN' -- FIFTEEN SECONDS...

CAPTAIN, SHOULD I FIRE THE COUNTERATTACK MISSILES?

CAPTAIN? CAPTAIN, WE'VE GOT TO ACT NOW!

...



IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE AN OFFICER IN THE STAR FORCE, YOU NEED TO HAVE SELF-CONTROL! YOU DON'T YELL OUT "IDIOT"...

I KNOW I GOT ANGRY, BUT I WAS JUST TRYING TO DO MY JOB.



TRYING ISN'T ENOUGH. APOLOGIZE!

I UNDERSTAND, SORRY, ORION.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, VENTURE. LET'S GO GET A CUP OF JAVA.

SOUND'S GOOD TO ME.



WILDSTAR, WHO ORDERED YOU TO FIRE THE COUNTERATTACK MISSILES?

WELL, SHOULDN'T I HAVE DONE IT, CAPTAIN?

BUT CAPTAIN AVATAR, IF I HADN'T FIRED THOSE MISSILES, WE WOULD'VE BEEN HIT, AND WE WOULDN'T BE HERE NOW.

I'M NOT DISCUSSING THE END RESULT. I'M TALKING ABOUT DISCIPLINE!



OF COURSE NOT!!

YOU FIRED THOSE MISSILES WITHOUT MY ORDER! ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

YOU ARE RIGHT, SIR. BUT I DID IT, CAPTAIN, BECAUSE YOU WERE NOT ABLE TO GIVE THE ORDER AND--



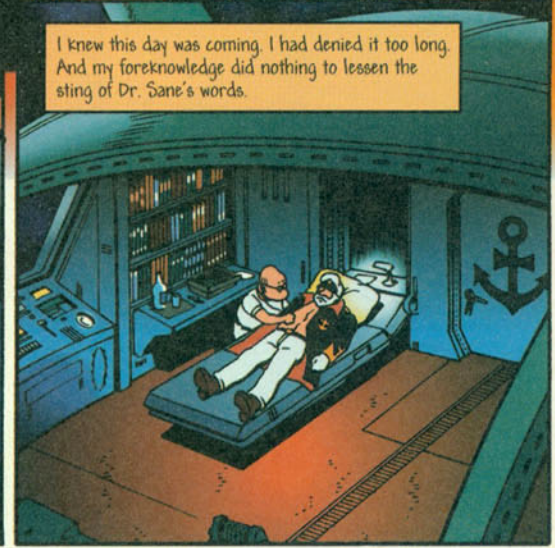
THAT'S ENOUGH!



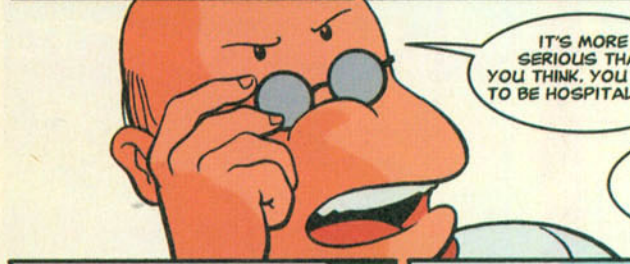
CAPTAIN, CAN I HELP YOU?



LEAVE ME ALONE...



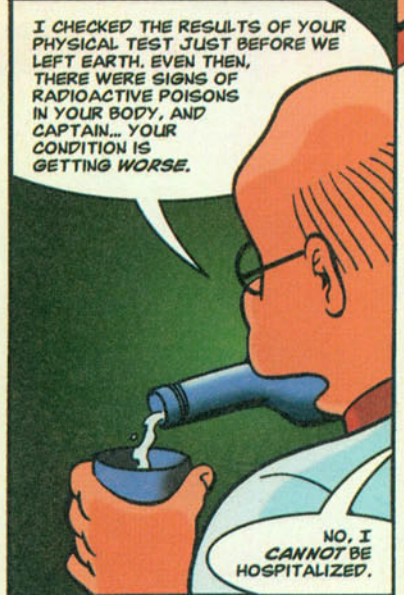
I knew this day was coming. I had denied it too long. And my foreknowledge did nothing to lessen the sting of Dr. Sane's words.



IT'S MORE SERIOUS THAN YOU THINK. YOU HAVE TO BE HOSPITALIZED.

HOSPITALIZED? WITH THIS SCRATCH?

IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE OF THAT WOUND YOU'VE BEEN FEELING SO ILL LATELY. I THINK YOU KNOW THAT YOURSELF.



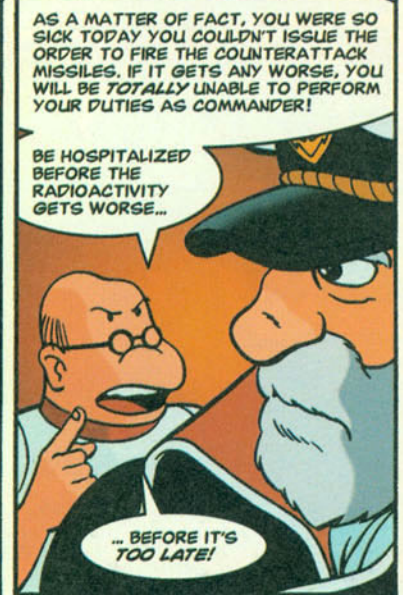
I CHECKED THE RESULTS OF YOUR PHYSICAL TEST JUST BEFORE WE LEFT EARTH. EVEN THEN, THERE WERE SIGNS OF RADIOACTIVE POISONS IN YOUR BODY, AND CAPTAIN... YOUR CONDITION IS GETTING WORSE.

NO, I CANNOT BE HOSPITALIZED.



CAPTAIN!

I ALONE AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SHIP.



AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU WERE SO SICK TODAY YOU COULDN'T ISSUE THE ORDER TO FIRE THE COUNTERATTACK MISSILES. IF IT GETS ANY WORSE, YOU WILL BE TOTALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM YOUR DUTIES AS COMMANDER!

BE HOSPITALIZED BEFORE THE RADIOACTIVITY GETS WORSE...

... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

January, 2200
Looking back on this last month, the sheer number of dangers we've faced stands in stark contrast to the emptiness of the intergalactic space we've travelled. I sense that the desperation of the Gamilons to stop us increases as we near Iscandar, but the reason for this escapes me. What threat can one ship, no matter the size, offer against an entire race of spacegoing beings? Or is it simply that we are the first to defy them?

My health has continued to deteriorate despite my best attempts to ignore it. The time is approaching when I will no longer be able to serve at full capacity. I have watched young Wildstar closely these past weeks. He still displays the recklessness I observed at the beginning of the voyage, but other qualities have come forward to temper his anger. The Star Force will need a new leader when my time comes to step down. I will know soon if I've found that leader.

January 24, 2200
The words I have needed to hear were spoken today as we orbited planet Balan, heedless of the artificial sun the Gamilons were preparing to hurl at us.

CAPTAIN! THAT GAMILON BASE ON BALAN IS HUGE! IF WE DON'T DESTROY IT NOW, WE'LL NEVER GET TO ISCANDAR!

YOU THINK SO?

THAT BASE HAS BEEN A CONSTANT THREAT TO THE STAR FORCE. NOW IS OUR CHANCE!

WE MUST GET TO ISCANDAR, THAT'S MORE IMPORTANT.

WE'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE BECAUSE WE'VE HAD TO FIGHT THE GAMILONS! AND WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT THEM ON THE WAY BACK! OR DO YOU THINK THEY'LL BE NICE GUYS AND LET US GET BACK TO EARTH WITHOUT A FIGHT?

WILDSTAR! WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO START A FIGHT WITH THE GAMILONS NOW. WE'RE 44 DAYS BEHIND SCHEDULE!

I could no longer deny Wildstar's instincts.

It quite simply hadn't occurred to me until today that a successful penetration through Gamilon territory to Iscandar would be an unpardonable act.

They would never allow us to return home.

The fact that Wildstar came to this realization confirmed my thoughts about his capacity for leadership.

March 3, 2200
We stand at a crucial point. General Lysis of Gamilon has issued a direct challenge to battle him at the Rainbow Star Cluster. So much of what will take place today will depend on Wildstar. I wonder if I made the right choice when I made him my deputy captain. He is young for such a great responsibility, but I feel he is a leader. I will know for sure after today.

March 10, 2200
"Your presence in our galaxy is a threat to our survival." Those were the final words spoken to me by General Lysis. I will continue to ponder them throughout our recovery.

The fight is behind us now. The Star Force and the ARGD suffered grievous wounds, far more than either should be expected to recover from. As I stood on the deck in the wake of the battle, I looked off into the immeasurable void and realized how tiny, how fragile we are. But our spirit is greater than all things, and this proud vessel is its embodiment. We will not rest until it is whole again, no matter the amount of Gamilon wreckage we must cannibalize.

I now know we can face any test that still lies before us. Onward, at last, to Iscandar.

April 16, 2200
My old legs refuse to hold me up anymore.
I had so wanted to walk with Queen Starsha.
I am very tired now.

April 22, 2200
Iscandar and Gamilon are twin planets.
A rare double-planet system.

Lysis' words are clear to me now. The Gamilons
react just as we would to an intruder in our homeland.

April 23, 2200
We are being pulled into the maw of
our enemy's own stronghold. Every
anxious word spoken on the bridge
filters through my quarters, and
my heart races.

But there is nothing I can do
that is not already being done.
This battle is Wildstar's.

I have chosen well.

April 26, 2200
Iscandar. A phantom of the Earth
before the planet bombs deprived
us of its beauty. At last, I can rest.
This fine crew no longer needs a
father. They will now care for me
as they will also care for the Earth
when we return home with the
Cosmo DNA.

April 27, 2200
Queen Starsha extended her hospitality to us
to stay with her for a full month. One breath
of fresh air was all it took to convince us.

I feel well enough to sit up for the first time
in what seems like many months. But I am
neither young nor foolish enough to believe
my condition will improve beyond this.

WE'LL HAVE ALL THE
PARTS OF THE COSMO
DNA ON BOARD BY
TOMORROW.

SANDOR, HOW
DO YOU KNOW IT
WILL WORK? ALL
I SEE ARE A
LOT OF BOXES.

WE'LL TEST EVERY
PART AS WE ASSEMBLE
IT, DR. SANE. WE HAVE
ALL THE ENGINEERING
BLUEPRINTS, AND WE
CAN DO A THOROUGH
JOB ABOARD THE ARGO
DURING OUR RETURN
TRIP TO EARTH.

IS THAT THE
BEST WAY
TO DO IT?

WELL, I WOULD PREFER
TO ASSEMBLE IT HERE,
WHERE WE CAN ASK THE
ENGINEERS OF ISCANDAR
ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT
THE COSMO DNA. BUT WE
ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
WE ARE TWO MONTHS BEHIND
SCHEDULE, AND WE HAVE TO
MAKE IT UP. WE'LL SAVE TIME
BY DOING IT ABOARD
THE ARGO.

IT'LL BE A GREAT
JOKE IF WE FIND OUT
WE LEFT A FEW
IMPORTANT SCREWS
BEHIND HERE ON
ISCANDAR WHEN WE
GET BACK TO EARTH,
SANDOR.

DR. SANE, YOU
REALLY DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY ABOUT
THAT. SANDOR IS
AS GOOD AT HIS
JOB AS YOU ARE
AT YOURS.

It was a moot point, in any case. There
were no engineers left on Iscandar, we were
to learn later. In fact, no one was left here
at all aside from our elegant hostess.

It was the last piece in the grand puzzle. Both Iscandar
and Gamilon were doomed worlds. But whereas Starsha
looked to aid the people of Earth in her twilight, the
warlike Gamilons could only see the conquest of other
planets as their solution.

I pity them.

April 28, 2200
Nothing could have prepared me for today.

ALEX WILDSTAR REPORTING, SIR.

...

Starsha says he was captured--not killed--at the battle of Pluto. The vessel that brought him back here was beset by a space storm and crashed on Iscandar. She recovered Alex and secretly nursed him back to health. Though I don't doubt the existence of a higher force, I have never been more astonished by its providence.

Seeing them together, the growth of Derek Wildstar has been thrown into sharp relief. On Earth, so long as Alex was alive, Derek was always the younger brother. The child. When he thought Alex had died, that child died with him.

ALEX... YES?
WHY DON'T WE TAKE STARSHA WITH US WHEN WE RETURN TO EARTH?

What I regarded as his immaturity in the early days of the voyage was instead the death throes of the child. Now the man has come forward and forever taken the child's place.

"I LOVE YOU, ALEX. I LOVE YOU."

"DEAR STARSHA...
"...OF COURSE I'LL STAY HERE WITH YOU."

Would that I could find such healing.

September 5, 2200
This will be my final day. Despite a last ditch attempt on our lives by the Gamillons, I will see our dear Earth again...thanks to a magnificent young woman.

CAPTAIN AVATAR, NOVA HAS GOT TO GET WELL. DR. SANE SAYS SHE'S JUST NOT COMING OUT OF IT. THE SLEEPING GAS HAS...

DON'T GIVE UP HOPE.

WILDSTAR...YOU KNOW WHAT HOPE HAS MEANT TO THE STAR FORCE. WITHOUT THAT HOPE, WE NEVER COULD HAVE GOTTEN TO ISCANDAR.

AND THE PEOPLE OF EARTH, LIVING UNDERGROUND, HOPING WE WOULD RETURN SO THEY COULD RECLAIM THEIR PLACE IN THE SUN.

NOVA DID A FINE, BRAVE THING. SHE RISKED HER LIFE FOR ALL YOUR TOMORROWS. FOR THE TOMORROWS OF THE WORLD. I OWE HER SOMETHING, TOO. SHE HAS GIVEN ME THE CHANCE TO SEE EARTH AGAIN. OUR BELOVED EARTH.

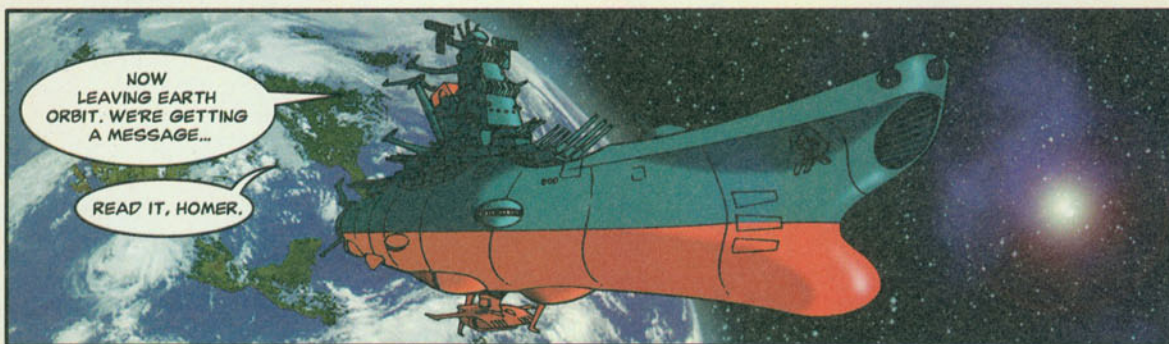
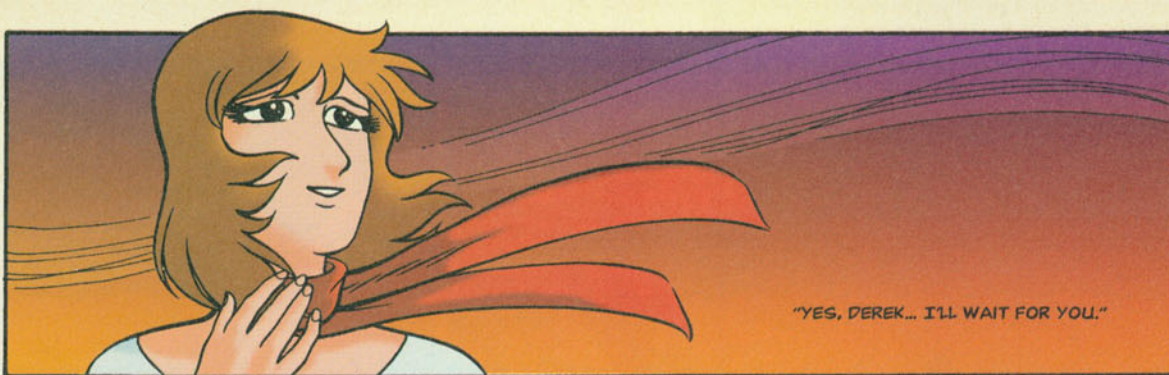
I'LL TELL HER WHAT YOU SAID. I KNOW IT WILL PLEASE HER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

WILDSTAR...

My thoughts are now with Derek Wildstar as he walks into his future. I feel that the best...and worst times for him are yet to come. The impatient youth I met one year ago has found his true self on this grand voyage. He should find it easier now to wait for the rewards life has to offer.

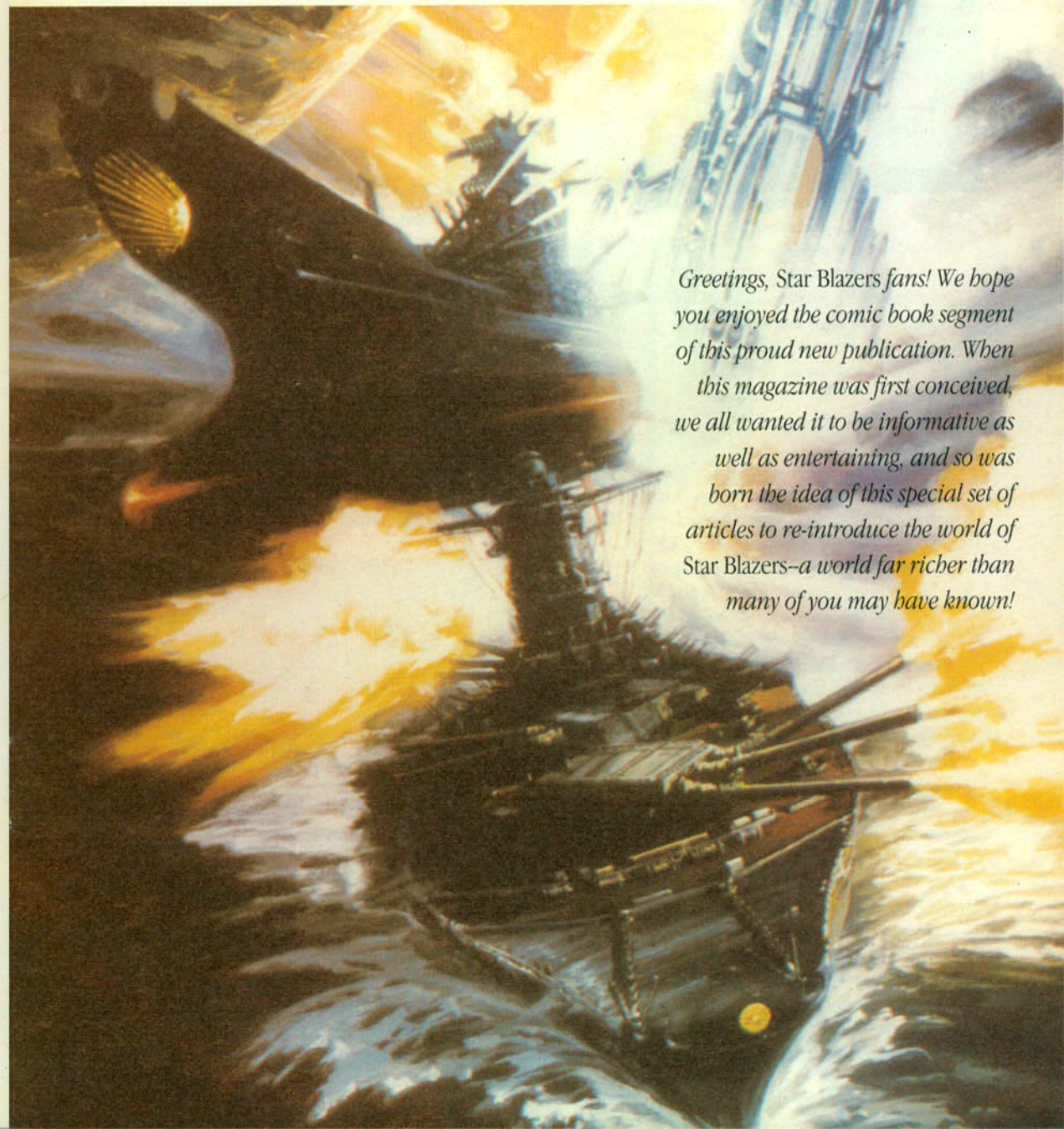
AS YOU TRAVEL ON YOUR WAY AND LIGHT TURNS INTO DAY

YOU WILL CARRY IN YOUR HEART MEMORIES OF THE SCARLET SCARF...



END

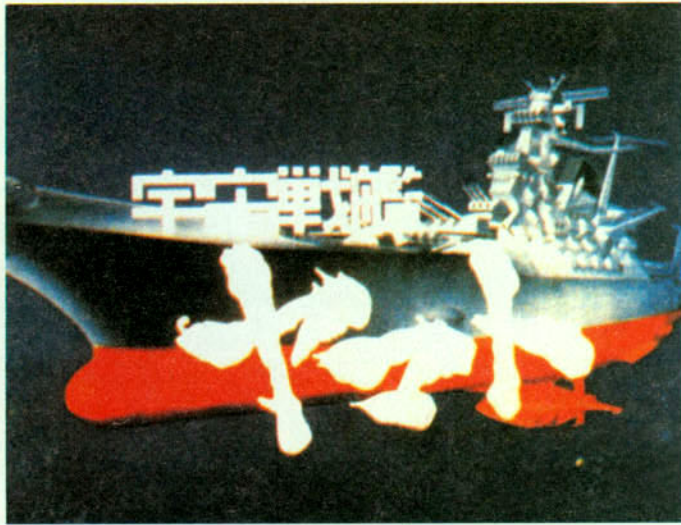
past, present, and future **YAMATO**



Greetings, Star Blazers fans! We hope you enjoyed the comic book segment of this proud new publication. When this magazine was first conceived, we all wanted it to be informative as well as entertaining, and so was born the idea of this special set of articles to re-introduce the world of Star Blazers—a world far richer than many of you may have known!

IN THE BEGINNING...

When you talk about the history of *Star Blazers*, you need to start with its parent program, *Uchu Senkan Yamato* (known as *Space Battleship Yamato* in English). In the



Above: The image that started it all: title card from the *Yamato* pilot film, which sold the first series to networks in Japan.



Above: The ghost of Starsha? That's what our heroes found on Iscandar in the *Yamato* feature film, edited from the first TV series.

Star Blazers: the Original Episode Titles

Although never brought forward into *Star Blazers*, each and every episode of *Space Battleship Yamato* had a title. They are presented here for your reading enjoyment!

1. SOS Earth! Revive Space Battleship Yamato!
2. The Opening Gun! Space Battleship Yamato Starts!
3. Yamato, Take Off! The Challenge of 296,000 Light-Years!
4. World of Wonder! Yamato Leaped Past Light!
5. Escape the Floating Continent!
Crisis Calls the Wave Motion Gun!
6. Space Destroyer Yukikaze Sleeps in the Icefield!
7. Yamato Sinks! Fateful Battle to Destroy the Enemy Stronghold!
8. Yamato Braves Death! Destroy the Reflection Satellite Gun!
9. Revolving Defense! Asteroid Belt!
10. Solar System, Farewell! From the Galaxy With Love!
11. Resolution! Break Through the Gamilas Absolute Defense Line!

12. Absolute Death! The Wishing Star of Orion, Hell-Star!
13. Hurry Yamato! Earth is Suffering!
14. The Galaxy's Ordeal! The Year 2200 A.D. Advances!
15. Desperate Escape! Yamato's Different Dimension!
16. Planet Beamera, Underground Prison
of Condemned Criminals!
17. Charge! Ballanodon Special Attack Group!
18. Floating Fortress Island! Two Men Brave Death!
19. Homesickness of Space! My Mother's Tears are My Tears!
20. The Day Planet Ballan's Sun Dropped!
21. Desperate Challenge from Domeru's Fleet!
22. Decisive Battle! Battle for Honor in the Rainbow Star Group!
23. Finally Arrived! Crest of the Magellanic Cloud's Wave!
24. Death Struggle! God, Weep for the Gamilas!
25. Iscandar! A Dying Planet of Love!
26. Earth! Yamato Returned!

early 1970s, producer Yoshinobu Nishizaki, along with animator Reiji Matsumoto, created *Space Battleship Yamato* for broadcast on Japanese television in 1974. This animated science fiction series ran 26 episodes, beginning a saga that would touch the lives of millions.

Taking footage from the *Yamato* TV series after its initial broadcast, Nishizaki reedited and released it as a feature film on August 6th, 1977. Thus, an explosion was heard; the start of the *Yamato* Boom.

The *Uchu Senkan Yamato* movie did very, very well, and it was decided that another chapter of the *Yamato* story was in order. Again, with Matsumoto as part of the team, Nishizaki put the "final" *Yamato* movie into production, which opened August 5th, 1978. It was called *Saraba, Uchu Senkan Yamato: ai no senshitachi* (*Arrivederci Yamato: Soldiers of Love*). Defying common thinking, it was an even greater success than its predecessor!

A NEW LIFE

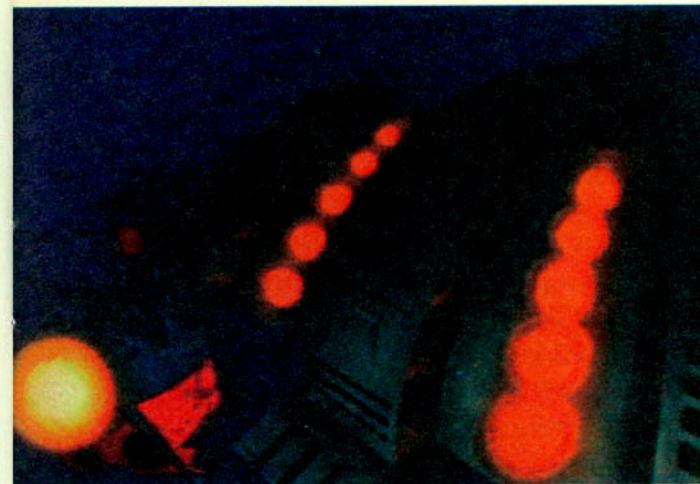
The producer Nishizaki considered the future of *Yamato* and began production of a new TV series, *Space Battleship Yamato 2*. This second series, which also ran 26 episodes, was

broadcast in Japan through the major network, Yomiuri TV from October 14, 1978, to April 30, 1979 with great success. It was a retelling (with significant changes) of *Arrivederci Yamato*. By changing the ending so that most of the core *Yamato* crew (and Desslar) survive the attack of the Comet Empire, the foundation for a long-running saga was laid.

Plans began for the next feature film, and *Uchu Senkan Yamato: Aratanaru Tabidachi* (*Space Battleship Yamato: The New Voyage*) came to life. Broadcast on Japanese television July 31, 1979, *New Voyage* featured a new direction for Desslar, the return to Iscandar, the introduction of the Dark Nebula Empire, and the birth of Mamoru Kodai and Queen Starsha's baby girl, Sasha. Important groundwork was laid to move the *Yamato* saga into its future.

GOLDEN AGE

August, 1979 saw the release of the feature film *Yamato yo towa ni* (*Be Forever Yamato*). The publicity for *Be Forever* was almost overwhelming in its breadth and coverage. (When was the last time an American studio promoted the opening of a movie with a special ocean cruise on a liner outfitted like the hero ship? Nishizaki did it for *Be Forever*.) Additionally, *Be Forever Yamato* pushed back the boundaries of how films themselves were screened. In most Japanese theaters, *Be Forever* was presented in "Warp Dimension". Most of the film was shown in standard ratio, but at a pivotal scene in which the *Yamato* warps to the heart of the Dark Nebula Empire, it is projected in widescreen. (Imagine—you're watching the film, wrapped up in the drama, as the *Yamato* goes into warp. Imperceptibly, the curtains on either side of the screen slide back, and as *Yamato* approaches the Galaxy of Light, WHAM! the picture seems twice as big! This is preserved in the home video release of the film, in which the widescreen portion of the story is letterboxed.)



The *Yamato* faced Prince Zordar in both *Arrivederci Yamato* and the *Yamato 2* TV series—but with very different results.

AN INVITATION

To anyone who was a voice actor or production person during the production of the *Star Blazers* television series: please get in touch with us. The fans of *Star Blazers* truly appreciate the work that went into the performance, and would finally like to put some names to those remarkable voices. Please contact us care of Voyager Entertainment. Even if you don't write, thank you for all the great work!

THE SCARLET SCARF

As longtime *Yamato* fans know, the title of this issue's comic story has special significance, for it is also the name of the end title song written for the original *Yamato* television series. It can be heard briefly in episode 10 of *Star Blazers* with the refrain of "We will return." Presented here is an English transliteration of the original *Scarlet Scarf* lyrics. If you are able to recall the tune of this beautiful song as you read the end of the comic story, it is virtually guaranteed to enhance the experience!

See the girl, she's waving to you
The scarf, so bright and red
As you race into the blue
She is waving, waving to you
As you travel on your way
And night turns into day
You will carry in your heart
Memories of the scarlet scarf
Romance is yours, as you travel out among the stars
Romance is yours
as you speed along to distant Mars.
La la la la la
La la la la la
Just keep it near your heart
The scarlet scarf.

You'll return, don't have any fears
So sing a happy tune
As the months turn into years
She'll be waiting, waiting for you
You will find your hopes and your dreams
Your plans and all your schemes
You will see, as you depart
Her eyes and scarlet scarf
So have your dreams
as you fly on to the end of space
The bright moonbeams will lighten up a lovely face
La la la la la
La la la la la
Remember while apart
The scarlet scarf

English lyrics by Donald P. Berger



The music of *Star Blazers* and *Space Battleship Yamato* is every bit as memorable as the story, yet these lyrics are rarely found in print. We decided that if they didn't appear here, we just weren't doing our job!

FIRST SERIES OPENING SONG

We're off to outer space
 We're leaving mother Earth
 to save the human race
 Our Star Blazers
 Searching for a distant star
 Heading off to Iscandar
 Leaving all we love behind
 Who knows what dangers we'll find
 We must be strong and brave
 Our home we've got to save
 If we don't, in just one year
 Mother Earth will disappear
 Fighting with the Gamilons
 We won't stop until we've won
 Then we'll return/And when we arrive
 The Earth will survive with our Star Blazers

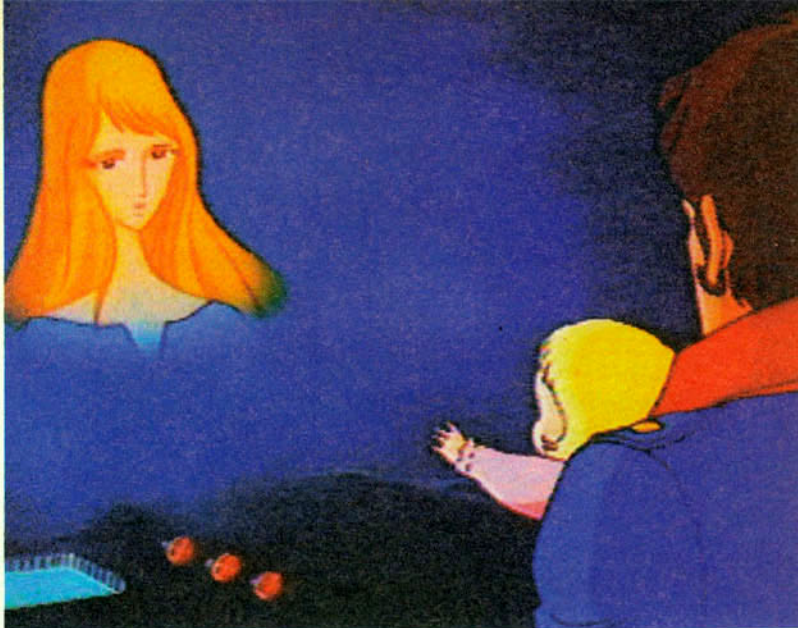
SECOND SERIES OPENING SONG

We're off to outer space
 We're leaving mother Earth
 to save the human race
 Our Star Blazers
 A cry for help, a desperate plight
 Makes our Star Force reunite
 As we rush and heed our fate
 The Comet Empire awaits
 We must be strong and brave
 To stop its evil ways
 If Zordar's plot should work
 He'll destroy the universe
 We'll fight the Comet Empire
 Battle through the raging fire
 Filled with the hope that Earth will survive
 We'll keep peace alive with our Star Blazers

END TITLE SONG

We're off in outer space
 Protecting Mother Earth
 to save the human race
 Our Star Blazers
 Danger lurking everywhere
 But we know we've got to dare
 Evil men with evil schemes
 They can't destroy all our dreams
 We must be strong and brave
 Our home we've got to save
 We must make the fighting cease
 So Mother Earth will be at peace
 Through all the fire and the smoke
 We will never give up hope
 If we can win, the Earth will survive
 We'll keep peace alive with our Star Blazers

English lyrics by Ginny Redington



Top: From *New Voyage*.; Alex Wildstar (aka Mamoru Kodai), Queen Starsha, and...baby makes three?



Bottom left: Leader Desslok (aka Desular) is reunited with old foes...but under slightly better conditions in *Yamato III*.



Bottom right: Some of the *Yamato* saga's moments of highest drama can be found in *Be Forever Yamato*.

THREE'S THE CHARM

In October 1980, a third TV series, appropriately called *Space Battleship Yamato III* went on the air. *Yamato III* ran 25 episodes, cut from a proposed 52. With a slightly different animation style, *Yamato III* showcased some exceptional character development. Kodai continued his evolution from brash hotshot to mature Captain of the *Yamato*. But the core of this series was the stories of Ageha and Domon, two new crew members who could have been the start of a 'next generation'—if they hadn't died in the final episode!

In November, 1980, Nishizaki began planning the "last" *Yamato* movie, *Uchu Senkan Yamato: Kanketsu-ben (Space Battleship Yamato: The Concluding Chapter, also known as Final Battle,)*. This premiered in Japan March, 1983.

Beautiful animation and a galaxy-spanning story were the vehicle for the resurrection of Captain Okita, the death of Shima, and the destruction of the *Yamato*. This, then, finally seemed to be the end of the story.

STAR BLAZERS WAS BORN

In 1978, Nishizaki licensed the international rights for the *Yamato* saga to Westchester Films. Westchester assigned Claster Television with the task of preparing the first two TV series for American audiences. Claster, in turn, hired Sunwagon Productions for the job of translation, editing, cutting, and dubbing. September, 1979 saw the successful debut of *Star Blazers* on (mostly) UHF stations across North America.

In a market that, at the time, treated all

animation as children's programming, *Star Blazers* was something different. Even with editing, the heart and soul of *Yamato* shone through with realistic characters, action and drama on a cosmic scale, and a stirring musical score. The original 52 episodes (comprised of the first two *Yamato* TV series) became legendary to hundreds of thousands of fans, many of whom went on to try and learn Japanese so they could continue the adventures with the *Yamato*.

In 1983, the production of more *Star Blazers* episodes was said to be underway, but it wasn't until 1985 that a very small number of fans got to see the American dub of *Yamato III*. Why did so few stations pick up the new series? One main reason was that many stations were overreacting to the "takeover" of children's television by Japanese cartoons.

Westchester, however, began to breathe new life into *Star Blazers* by releasing it to home video. In 1988, they began marketing of the *Star Blazers* video series; series 1 (renamed "The Quest for Iscandar"), series 2 ("The Comet Empire"), and later the mostly-unseen third series ("The Polar Wars"). But, many fans asked, would any of the *Yamato* feature films ever be brought to the U.S.?

STAR BLAZERS RE-ENERGIZED

In November, 1992, international rights to both *Star Blazers* and *Yamato* reverted to Yoshinobu Nishizaki's U.S. Corporation, as well as the rights to the *Star Blazers* trademark. For the first time, a Japanese company had control of a product licensed to the U.S., and was going to make sure it was handled correctly. Voyager Entertainment, Inc. was assigned the task of administering those rights. The first step was to remaster and repack the videotapes, create a trio of special boxed sets for collectors, and develop all-new posters and brochures to promote the videos. This move vastly improved the recognition of the *Star Blazers* name in the American anime market, and fans renewed their requests for the release of the feature films.

June, 1994 saw the first new release from VEI, the American dub of *Saraba Yamato*, called *Farewell to Space Battleship Yamato: In The Name Of Love*. This was the key to unleashing the backlog of *Yamato* films to the American market, and was followed by releases of the all-new, subtitled version of *Space Battleship Yamato: The New Voyage*. *Be Forever Yamato* and *Space Battleship Yamato: The Final Battle* are scheduled for release in 1995.

A NAME IS A NAME

For future reference, here's a list of character names (in English and Japanese), for the first series of *Star Blazers* and *Space Battleship Yamato*.

<i>Star Blazers</i>	<i>Yamato</i>
Derek Wildstar	Susumu Kodai
Mark Venture	Daisuke Shima
Nova	Yuki Mori
Capt. Avatar	Capt. Juyzo Okita
Sandor	Shiro Sanada
Eager	Kenjiro Ota
Homer	Yoshikazu Aihara
Dash	Yasuo Nambu
Dr. Sane	Dr. Sakezo Sado
Orion	Hikozaemon
Tokugawa	Conroy
Saburo	Kato
Hardy	Akira Yamamoto
Sparks	Sukeharu Yabu
Lance	Akira Nemoto
Kato	Wahiko Sugiyama
Rider	Hayashi
IQ-9	Analyzer
Mimi	Mi-kun
'The Commander'	Hyokuro Todo
Alex Wildstar	Mamoru Kodai
Jordie Venture	Jiro Shima
Starsha	Starsha
Astra	Sasha /Saasha
Desslok	Desular/Dessler
Talan	Taran
Lysis	Domeru
Bulgar	Geru
Krypt	Hisu
Ganz	Schultz
Bane	Gantz



Return of a legend: Captain Avatar (aka Captain Juyzo Okita) takes back the helm in *Final Yamato*.

Timeline A	Series 1: Journey to Iscandar <i>Space Battleship Yamato (movie)</i>	→	Series 2: The Comet Empire	<i>Yamato: The New Voyage (movie)</i> <i>Be Forever Yamato (movie)</i>	→	Series 3: The Bolar Wars
Timeline B	Series 1: Journey to Iscandar <i>Space Battleship Yamato (movie)</i>	→	Series 2: The Comet Empire	<i>Yamato: The New Voyage (movie)</i> <i>Be Forever Yamato (movie)</i>	→	Series 3: The Bolar Wars <i>Final Yamato (movie)</i>
Timeline C	Series 1: Journey to Iscandar <i>Space Battleship Yamato (movie)</i>	→	<i>Arrivederci Yamato (movie)</i> ; continuity ends.			

HOW TO ENJOY AND COMPREHEND ALL THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE YAMATO CANON

Many fans of Japanese animation have difficulty trying to figure out how various series and movies are connected. Just ask a hardcore Matsumoto fan to explain why there are two different pirate ships named *Arcadia!* *Yamato* fans are no different, they just have it a little easier. There is an internally-consistent logic to the structure of the various series and movies, and plenty of ways to pick and choose what anyone might consider 'canonical'. The timeline (above) diagrams the major views on this.

The timelines are read chronologically, from left to right.

INTO THE FUTURE

And now a whole new era in the history of *Yamato* and the American anime marketplace is poised to launch. The publication you are now reading represents the first effort by a Japanese creator to publish an all-new, official comic book series in the U.S. In Japan, Nishizaki has begun not one, but two new *Yamato* projects: *Yamato 2520* and *Uchu Senkan Yamato: Fukkatsuben (Space Battleship Yamato: Rebirth)*. VEI will be bringing both projects to the American public as they are readied. For more information, continue reading!

As is the case with many Japanese animation programs, *Yamato* has been heavily merchandised. In fact, the series has set the standard for successful anime merchandising with products as far ranging as calendars and pencil boxes. *Yamato Shop* will be report on these products for collectors' reference.

CD FLASH!

For years, a grand tradition of each new *Space Battleship Yamato* project was the announcement of new *Yamato* soundtrack albums and the reissue of previous ones. On the "eve" of *Yamato 2520*, the tradition continues. Nippon Columbia, the major manufacturer of *Yamato* LPs, has finally started to reissue their catalog on CD in Japan.

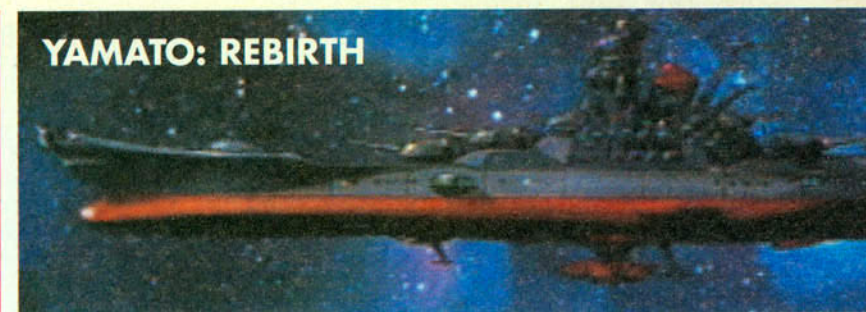
YAMATO SHOP

There are six CD's in release, all essential for the *Star Blazers/Yamato* fan. Although these products are not currently available from Voyager Entertainment, you may contact one of the many importers of Japanese CDs to buy them. It will be well worth the effort! In order to help you, here's the ordering information (prices are in Japanese Yen).

Order Number	Title	Price
COCC-12227	Symphonic Suite Yamato	¥2700
COCC-12228	Symphonic Suite Arrivederci Yamato	¥2700
COCC-12229	Yamato The New Journey Original Sound Track	¥2700
COCC-12230~1	Be Forever Yamato OST (2 Disc set)	¥5000
COCC-12232	Symphonic Suite Yamato III	¥2700
COCC-12233~5	Final Yamato OST (3 Disc set)	¥7500

Most highly recommended from this list (if you can afford only one) is *Symphonic Suite Yamato*. Not only does it present all the best music you heard in *Star Blazers*, it also contains arguably the most dynamic version of the opening title theme. Track it down--your ears will thank you!

YAMATO: REBIRTH



NEO YAMATO

YAMATO: REBIRTH
YAMATO 2520

1995: a new
odyssey



YAMATO: 2520

SPECIAL REPORT: YAMATO 2520

In 1983, Yoshinobu Nishizaki produced the last movie starring his most famous creation. Now, twelve years later, *Yamato* revives with *Yamato 2520*, an all new video series! Spectacularly animated using state of the art techniques, *Yamato 2520* details the conflict between two warring factions in the Milky Way Galaxy: the Earth Federation and the Salene Empire. It is also a war of technology, pitting Salene's powerful Magnetic Monopole Energy against Earth's Wave Motion Energy. The new *Space Battleship Yamato* (the 18th vessel to bear the name) is a melding of the two energy technologies, and is the only hope to restore peace for all mankind.

Nabu Enshinto is the 17-year old hero of the series. A native of planet **Rinbos**, Nabu is instrumental to the birth of the new *Yamato*, and harbors a secret that may be the key to peace. **Mercy Shima** is a 17-year old girl, a friend to Nabu and daughter of an old man who runs a scrap reclamation yard on Rinbos. Mercy also has a great secret that is vital to Earth. Opposing the reborn *Yamato* are the forces of the Salene Empire, whose **Emperor Brone** has for almost 300 years held a great resentment towards Earth and fights to establish his view of peace on the Galaxy.



BEHIND THE SCENES

The project was announced in Japan in December, 1992, with the first glimpse of the new *Yamato* appearing in a video special called *Space Battleship Yamato: The Quickening*. This video documented the making of this new animated series, featuring the history of *Yamato*, interviews with the main creators, and as a capstone the first test animation of the new *Yamato* in action. In November, 1994, *Yamato 2520 Vol. 0: Story of the Galactic 100 Year War* was released. It presented a background story to inform viewers of the several hundred years of history between the original *Yamato* and the new series. Again, it is full of behind-the-

scenes surprises, including a new set of breathtaking paintings by conceptual artist **Syd Mead**. Volume 1 of *Yamato 2520*, scheduled for release in Japan in the spring of 1995, will be followed by five more volumes. Voyager Entertainment, Inc. has plans to release *Yamato 2520* in the U.S. this year. No firm date has been set for this release, but all options are open. ☉



Above, left to right: characters from *Yamato 2520*: Mercy, Nabu, Brone. Below, right: Capt. Susumu Kodai and crew from *Yamato: Rebirth*

YAMATO REBIRTH

Also announced in *Space Battleship Yamato: The Quickening* was another project that will help bridge the gap between past and future. *Space Battleship Yamato: Rebirth* is the working title for an animated story that picks up some years after events in the *Final Battle* feature film. An older **Susumu Kodai** is among the returning

cast members, who will unite with a new, younger crew in the inaugural voyage of a rebuilt *Yamato*. Some of Japan's top animators are scheduled to work on this exciting project, including **Makoto Kobayashi**, key designer for the popular *Giant Robo* OVA series. Keep reading *Star Blazers* for all the latest official news on these and other exciting *Yamato* projects. ☉



NEXT ISSUE: DESSLOK'S STORY!

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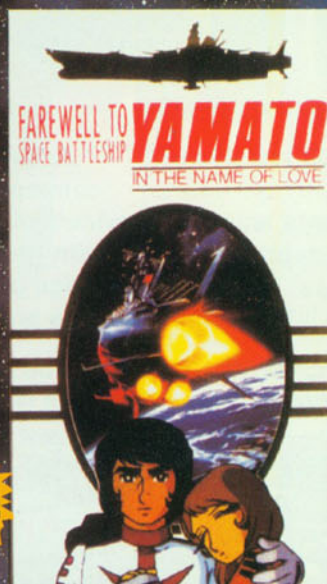
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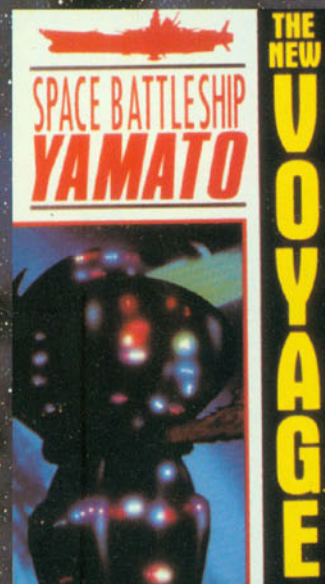


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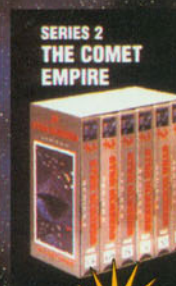
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