

MARVEL

THE UNCANNY



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176
DEC

X-MEN



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THE UNCANNY
X-MEN!

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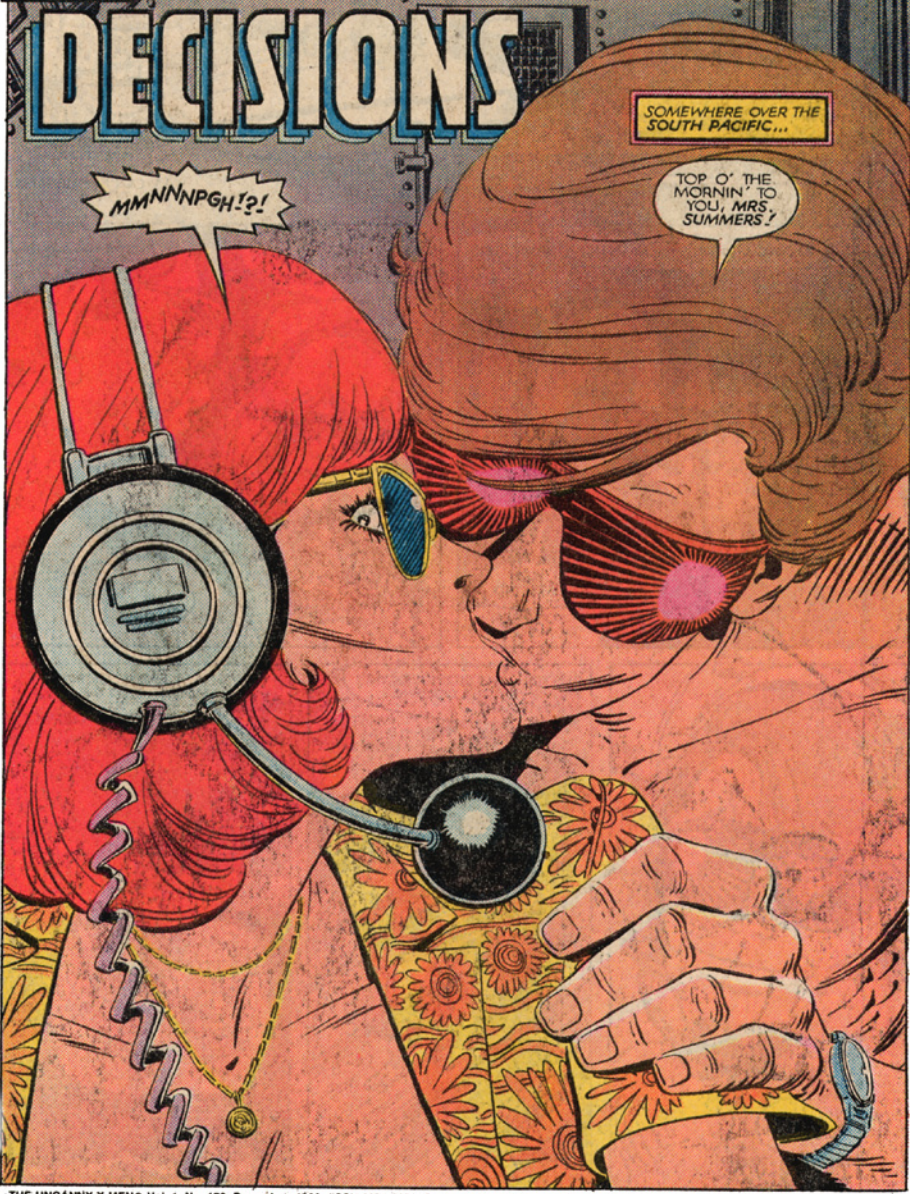
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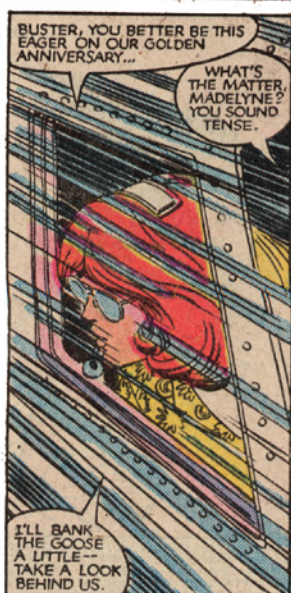
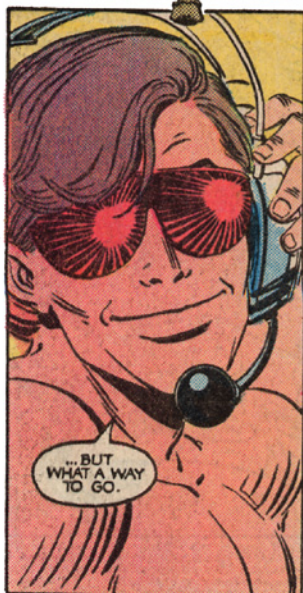
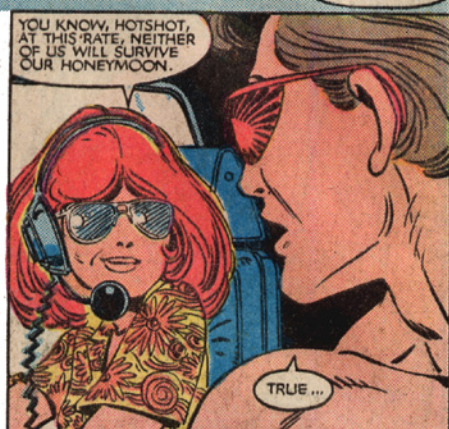
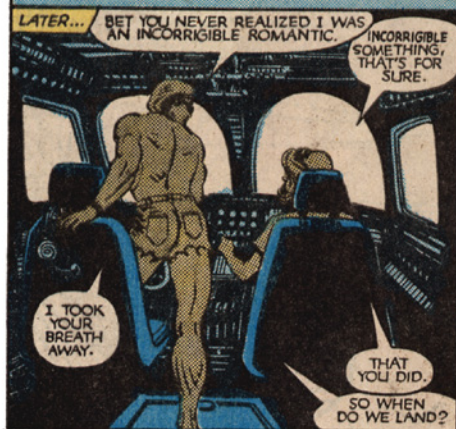
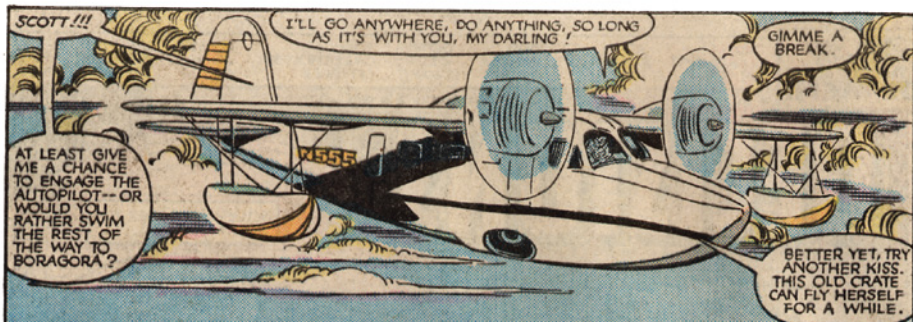
MMNNNPGH!?!?

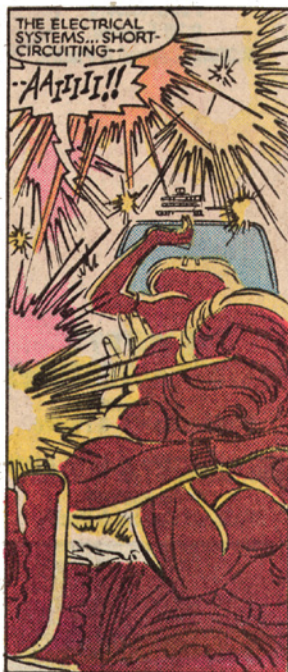
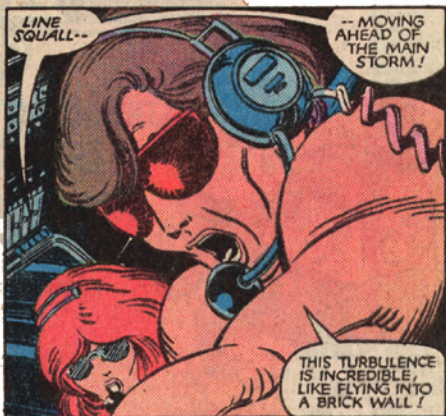
SOMEWHERE OVER THE
SOUTH PACIFIC...

TOP O' THE
MORNIN' TO
YOU, MRS.
SUMMERS!

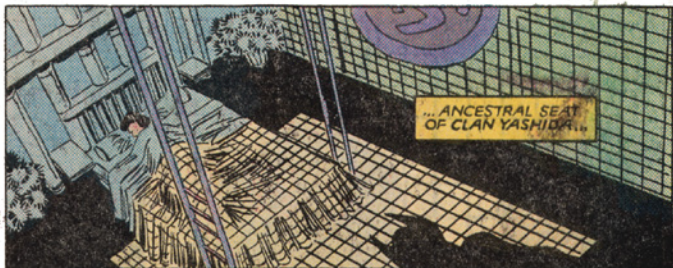


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AGARASHIMA,
IN THE NORTHERN
JAPANESE
PREFECTURE
OF MIYAGO...



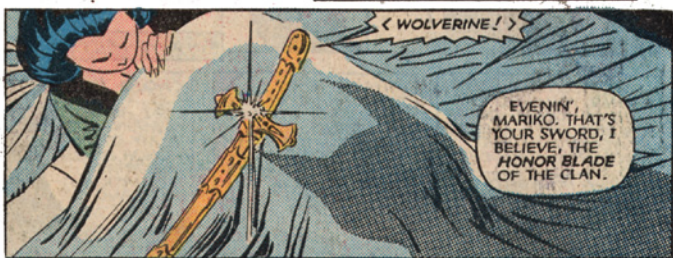
...ANCESTRAL SEAT
OF CLAN YASHIDA...



< WHO IS THERE?! >

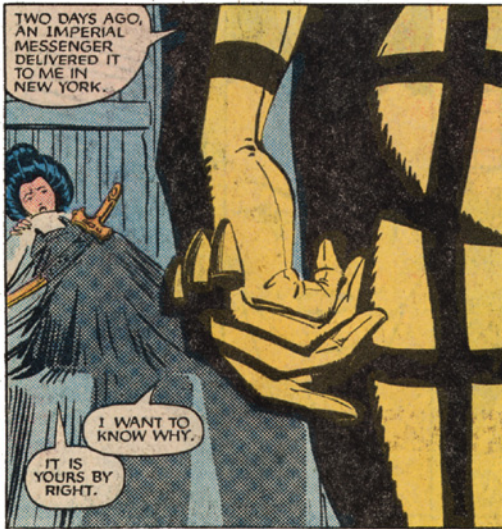
< WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?! >

*TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE -- L.



< WOLVERINE! >

EVENIN',
MARIKO. THAT'S
YOUR SWORD, I
BELIEVE, THE
HONOR BLADE
OF THE CLAN.



TWO DAYS AGO,
AN IMPERIAL
MESSENGER
DELIVERED IT
TO ME IN
NEW YORK.

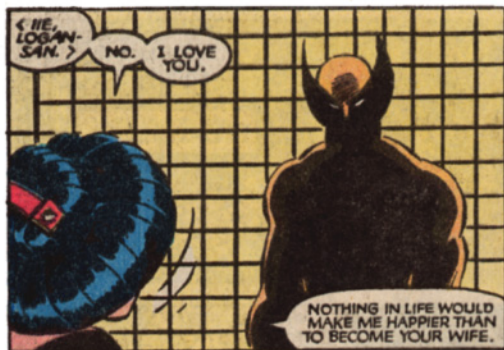
I WANT TO
KNOW WHY.

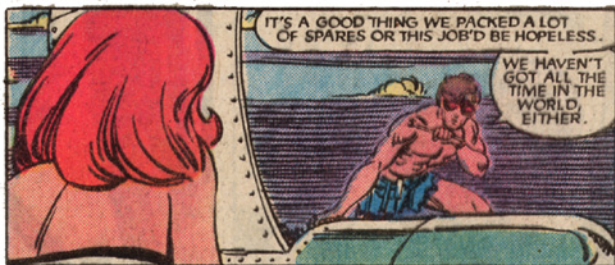
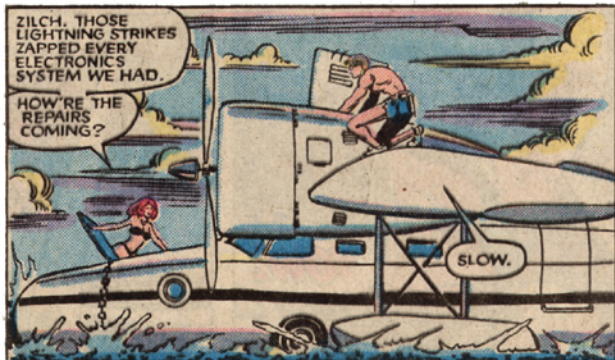
IT IS
YOURS BY
RIGHT.

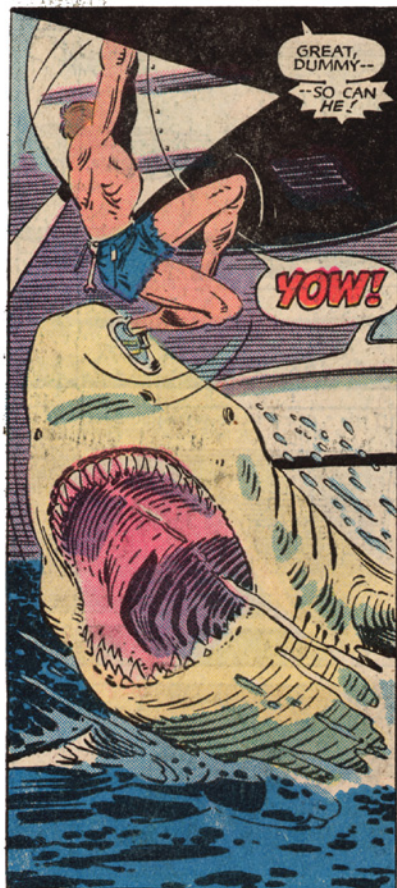
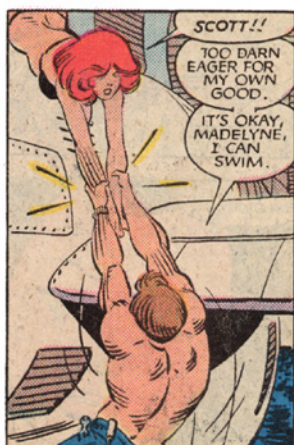
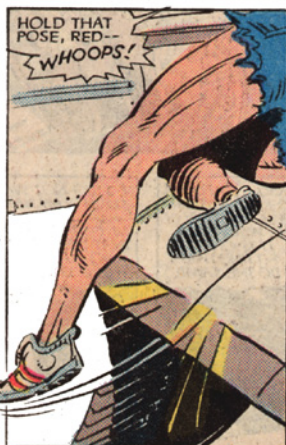
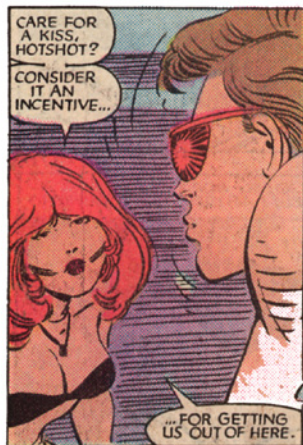


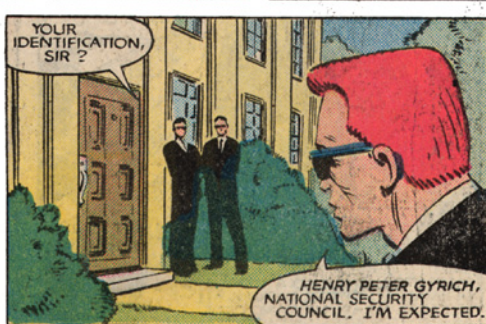
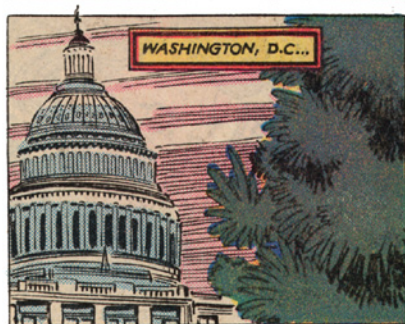
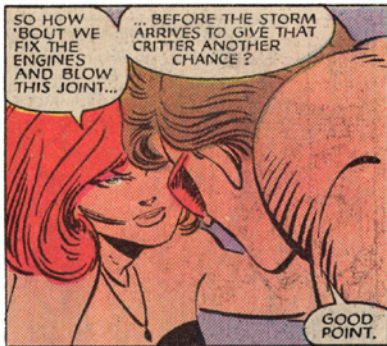
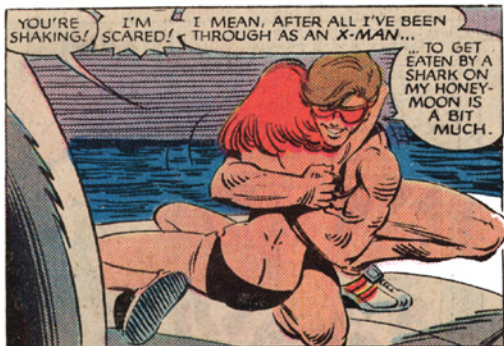
IF THAT'S
TRUE...

...YOU'RE
MINE AS
WELL.





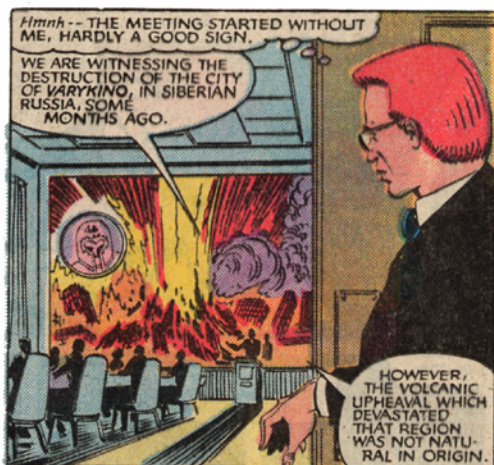






THE MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, JUDGE PETRIE, GAVE NO HINT AS TO WHY I'VE BEEN SUMMONED--

--BUT I ASSUME IT HAS TO DO WITH "PROJECT WIDEAWAKE".



Hmmh-- THE MEETING STARTED WITHOUT ME, HARDLY A GOOD SIGN.

WE ARE WITNESSING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF VARYKINO, IN SIBERIAN RUSSIA, SOME MONTHS AGO.

HOWEVER, THE VOLCANIC UPHEAVAL WHICH DEVASTATED THAT REGION WAS NOT NATURAL IN ORIGIN.



ITS CAUSE WAS THE SELF-STYLED MASTER OF MAGNETISM:

...MAGNETO.

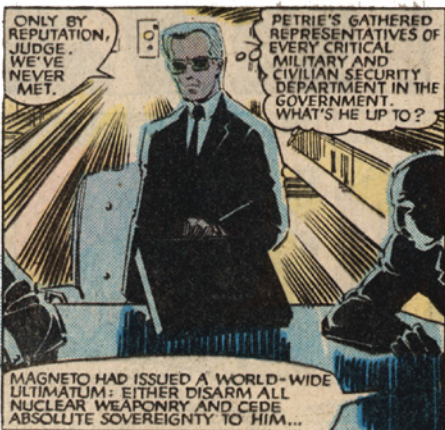
REPORTEDLY, HE GAVE THE SOVIETS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVACUATE THE CITY. NO ONE WAS KILLED, BUT HIS WARNING WAS PLAIN. WHAT WAS DONE THERE COULD BE REPEATED...

...IN MOSCOW, OR WASHINGTON-- OR ANYWHERE ON EARTH.



BEFORE YOU CONTINUE, FRANK, GIVE MR. GYRICH A MOMENT TO GET SETTLED.

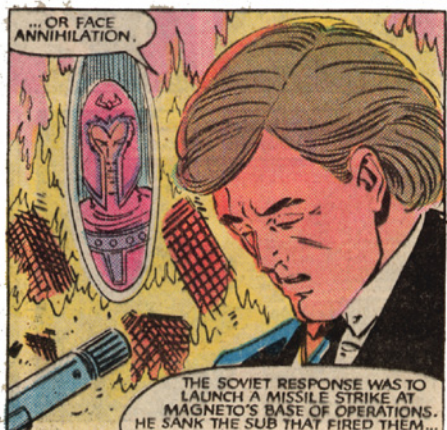
I BELIEVE YOU KNOW EVERYONE, HENRY-- FRANK LOWELL, FROM C.I.A., AT THE PODIUM, DR. COOPER HERE BESIDE ME, OF MY STAFF...



ONLY BY REPUTATION, JUDGE. WE'VE NEVER MET.

PETRIE'S GATHERED REPRESENTATIVES OF EVERY CRITICAL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECURITY DEPARTMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT. WHAT'S HE UP TO?

MAGNETO HAD ISSUED A WORLD-WIDE ULTIMATUM: EITHER DISARM ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONRY AND CEDE ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY TO HIM...



...OR FACE ANNIHILATION.

THE SOVIET RESPONSE WAS TO LAUNCH A MISSILE STRIKE AT MAGNETO'S BASE OF OPERATIONS. HE SANK THE SUB THAT FIRED THEM...

...AND PROCEEDED TO MAKE AN OBJECT LESSON OF VARYKINO.

INEXPLICABLY, AFTER THOSE INITIAL COMMUNICATIONS, NOTHING MORE WAS HEARD FROM HIM. HE NEVER CARRIED OUT HIS ULTIMATE THREAT.

EITHER HE WAS BLUFFING, OR CHANGED HIS MIND--

--OR SOME OUTSIDE AGENCY STOPPED HIM. * HAD HE PERSISTED, OUR COMPUTERS GRANT HIM A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS-- EVEN AGAINST THE OPPOSITION OF SUCH SO-CALLED "SUPER-HERO" GROUPS AS THE AVENGERS.

* THE X-MEN, IN ISSUE #150--L.

INDEED, OUR RESEARCH FURTHER INDICATES THAT WERE THE AVENGERS THEMSELVES TO ATTEMPT THE CONQUEST OF THE EARTH...

...THEY COULD DO SO WITH EASE.

THEY ARE BUT A SINGLE TEAM-- A COMPARATIVE HANDFUL OF SUPER-BEINGS-- THERE ARE A LOT MORE WHERE THEY CAME FROM. AND THE NUMBERS ARE GROWING EVERY DAY.

TO CONCLUDE THIS BRIEFING, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT DR. VALERIE COOPER...

THANK YOU, FRANK.

THE PROBLEM, JUDGE, COLLEAGUES, IS MUTANTS.

"A NEW EVOLUTIONARY BRANCH OF HOMO SAPIENS-- POSSIBLY A NEW SPECIES ALTOGETHER-- GIFTED AT BIRTH WITH EXTRAORDINARY ABILITIES THAT SET THEM APART FROM THE REST OF HUMANITY.

MOST PROMINENT AMONG THEM ARE THE X-MEN.

INITIALLY, THE CONCERN ABOUT MUTANT-KIND WAS COINED IN PURELY BIOLOGICAL TERMS, THAT THEY MIGHT ONE DAY SUPPLANT US AS RULERS OF THE EARTH-- AS CROMAGNON MAN DID NEANDERTHAL.

HOWEVER, THE SITUATION HAS GROWN CONSIDERABLY MORE COMPLICATED-- AND DANGEROUS. THE VIRTUAL MONOPOLY OF SUPER-BEINGS-- MUTANT AND OTHERWISE-- ONCE ENJOYED BY THE UNITED STATES NO LONGER EXISTS.

MUTANTS--
ADULTS,
POSSESSING
SUPER-
POWERS--

-- HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE SOVIET UNION, GREAT BRITAIN, CANADA, ISRAEL, EGYPT, AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AMONG MANY OTHERS. BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND PRIVATE INTERESTS ARE RECOGNIZING THE POTENTIAL INHERENT IN THESE PEOPLE AND ARE BEGINNING TO EXPLOIT IT.

IMAGINE, IF YOU WILL, THE DAMAGE THAT COULD BE DONE BY A MUTANT TELEPATHIC SPY, ABLE TO READ MINDS. NO ONE'S THOUGHTS-- NO SECRET-- WOULD BE SAFE.

OR, WORSE YET, A MUTANT SABOTEUR. AN ASSASSIN. FOR ALL WE KNOW, SUCH OPERATIVES MAY ALREADY BE AT WORK.

WE MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO PROTECT OURSELVES AND, IF NECESSARY, STRIKE BACK!

YOU'RE SUGGESTING WE FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE, COUNTER FOREIGN MUTANTS WITH SOME OF OUR OWN?

PRECISELY, MR. GYRICH.

MAGNETO'S CARDINAL ARGUMENT, DOCTOR...

... HAS BEEN THAT, OUT OF GREED, HUMANITY WILL USE MUTANTS-- ENSLAVE THEM-- AND THEN, OUT OF FEAR, DESTROY THEM.

SUPPOSE YOUR PLAN CONVINCES THEM HE'S RIGHT?

IS YOUR ALTERNATIVE TO DO NOTHING, TO LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE?

FOR THE MOMENT, YES.

MR. GYRICH, DO YOU SUPPOSE THE RUSSIANS MAINTAIN AS CAVALIER AN ATTITUDE?

MUTANTS POSE A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER TO OUR COUNTRY THAT MUST BE DEALT WITH TODAY. AT ONCE! FOR TOMORROW WILL BE TOO LATE.

THE PACIFIC...

THAT DOES IT, I THINK. I HOPE.

MADELYNE, TRY THE ENGINE!

GNNRRRRPOKATAPOKA
BLAM!

MADELYNE,
CUT THE
SWITCHES!

I WAS CERTAIN
I HAD IT THIS
TIME.

I MUST BE SCREWING UP,
BUT I'M DARNED IF I CAN
FIGURE OUT WHERE.

PITY I DIDN'T TURN OUT TO
BE PHOENIX--LIKE MASTER-
MIND MADE YOU ALL
BELIEVE--

--THEN I COULD
SIMPLY FLY US
TO SAFETY.

IF YOU HAD
EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST
CONCEPTION
OF THE REALITY
OF PHOENIX,
MADELYNE...

...YOU
WOULDN'T
MAKE JOKES.

YOU FORGET, SWEETHEART.
I'M THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF
A PLANE CRASH THAT KILLED
NEARLY 400 PEOPLE.

I KNOW MORE THAN
MY SHARE ABOUT DEATH
AND RESURRECTION--
AND NIGHTMARE...

...AND MIRACLES.

I MEAN, I SHARED YOU. HOW MUCH
LUCKIER CAN I GET?

FEELING'S
MUTUAL, RED.

Y'KNOW, THERE
ARE NO STORMS
IN SPACE.

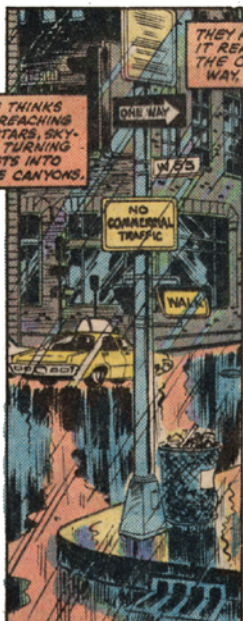
NO LIFE,
EITHER.

BACK TO WORK,
HOTSHOT. WE'VE BOTH
FOUGHT TOO HARD
FOR OURS TO GIVE
UP NOW.



NEW YORK CITY...

EVERYONE THINKS OF IT AS REACHING FOR THE STARS. SKY-SCRAPERS TURNING ITS STREETS INTO MAN-MADE CANYONS.



THEY FORGET IT REACHES THE OTHER WAY, TOO.



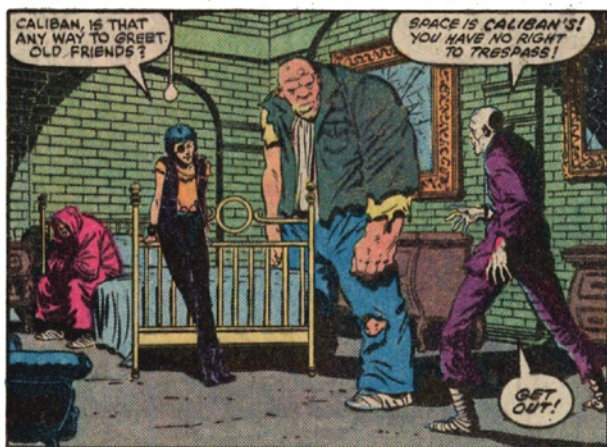
A THOUSAND FEET BELOW MANHATTAN IS WHERE THE MORLOCKS LIVE.

LIKE THE X-MEN, THEY ARE MUTANTS-- BUT THEY CARE NOTHING FOR HUMANITY. THEY CONSIDER THEMSELVES OUTCASTS AND OUTLAWS, AND THESE TUNNELS ARE THEIR DOMAIN.



STRANGERS ENTER AT THEIR PERIL.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!!



CALIBAN, IS THAT ANY WAY TO GREET OLD FRIENDS?

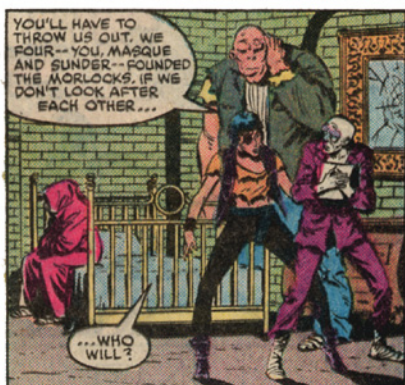
SPACE IS CALIBAN'S! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TRESPASS!

GET OUT!



WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN AGES. WE'RE CONCERNED, THAT'S ALL...

...WONDERING PERHAPS IF ANYTHING'S WRONG?



BE PATIENT, CALIBAN--TRUST ME, OBEY ME--
AND YOUR HEART'S DESIRE WILL BE YOURS.

STORM
BOSS
NOW.

SUPPOSE
SHE
OBJECTS?

THEN, MASQUE, I GET
MY HEART'S DESIRE,
TOO.

MEANWHILE...

SHE'S WORSENING,
SCOTT.

IF WE DON'T MAKE
IT THIS TIME...

WE'VE DONE OUR BEST, THEY OUGHT'A START.

IN THAT CASE, I WON'T MENTION
MR. MURPHY'S LAW.

THANKS, HONEY.
I NEEDED THAT.

CROSS YOUR
FINGERS.

HERE
GOES!

KEEP AN EYE ON
THE ENGINES, SCOTT...

...WHILE I HAUL
IN THE SEA
ANCHOR!

WHAT THE--?!
BLOODY THING
FEELS LIKE IT'S
SNAGGED...

AYYIII!!

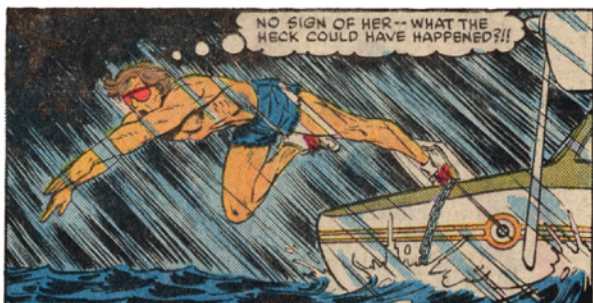


MADELYNE!!



SO MUCH RAIN AND SPRAY--
I COULDN'T SEE CLEARLY--

--DID SHE FALL OR
WAS SHE YANKED
OVERBOARD?!

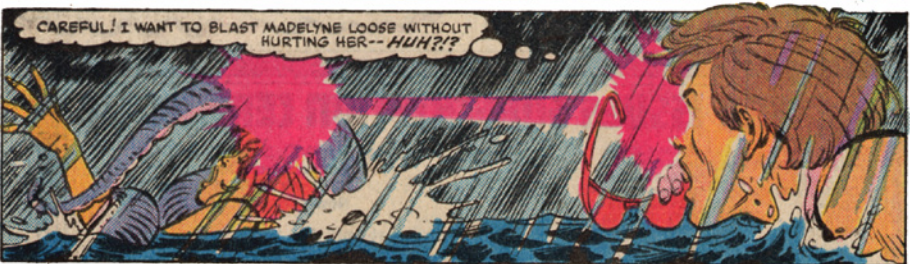


NO SIGN OF HER-- WHAT THE
HECK COULD HAVE HAPPENED?!!



SCOTT!!

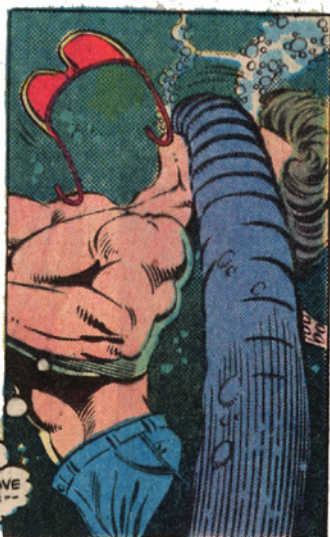
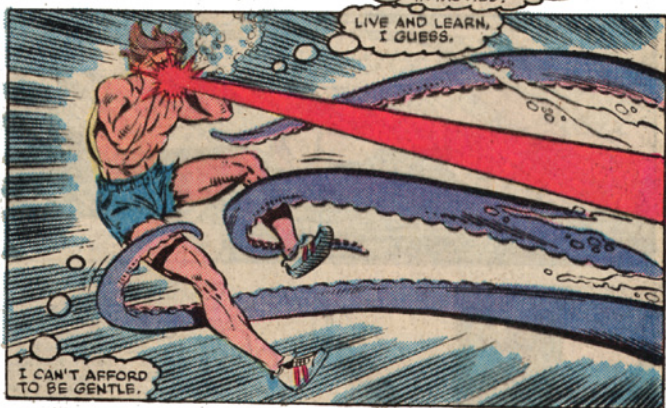
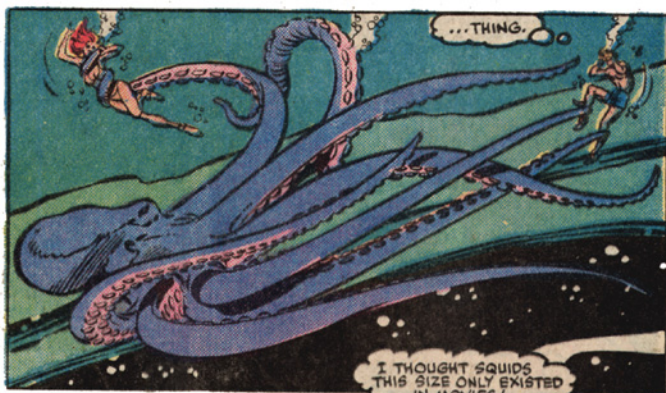
GOOD LORD--
A TENTACLE!?!

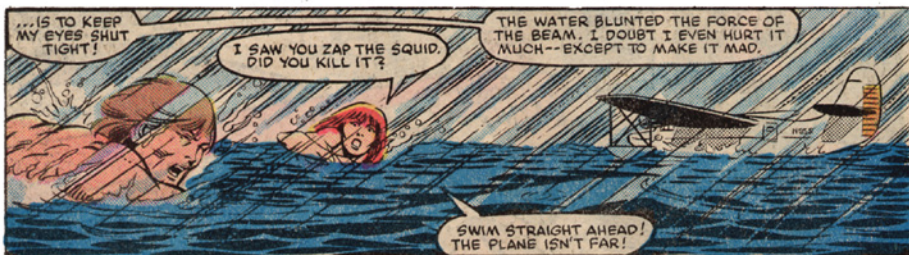
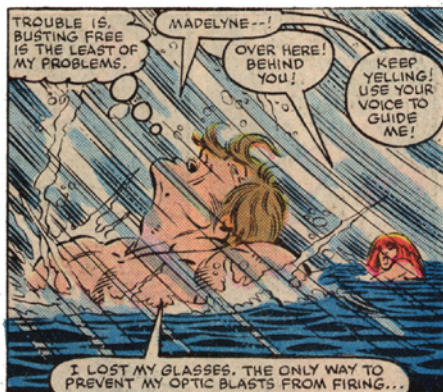
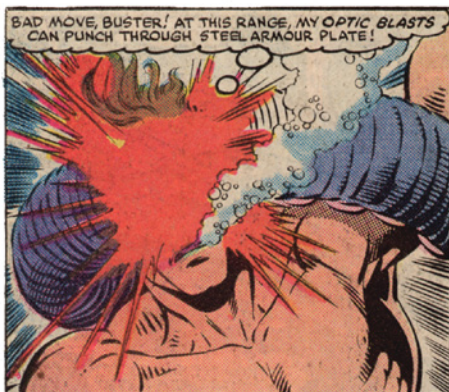


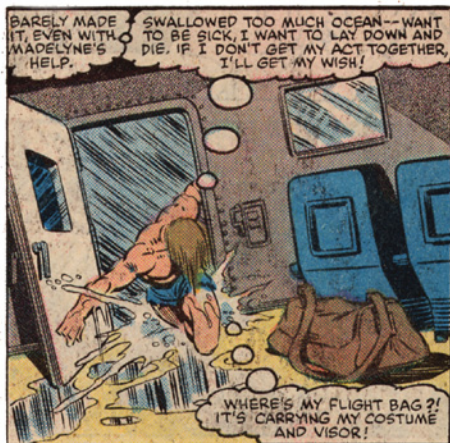
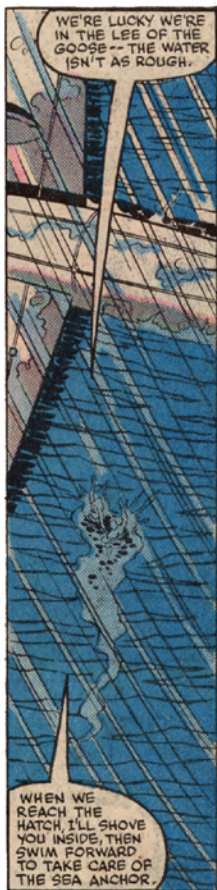
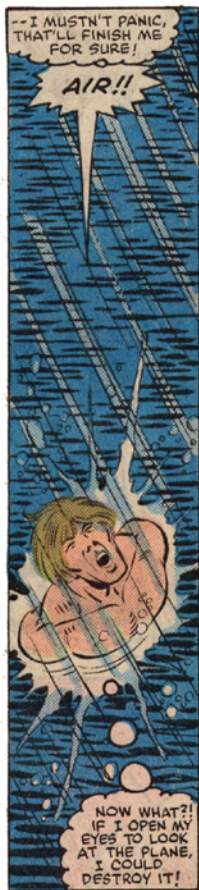
CAREFUL! I WANT TO BLAST MADELYNE LOOSE WITHOUT
HURTING HER-- HUH?!

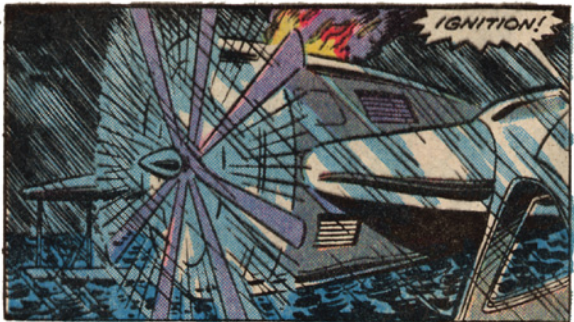
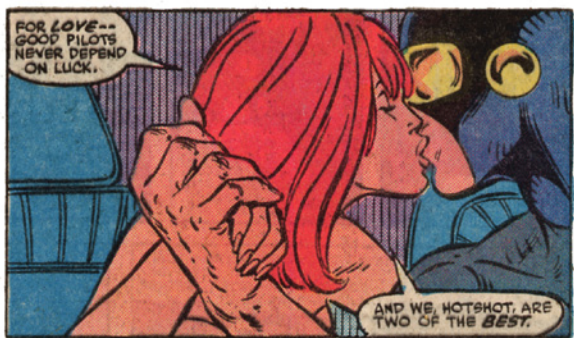
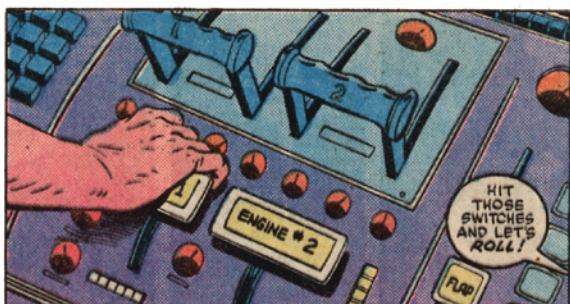


SOMETHING
TOUCHED
MY LEG!









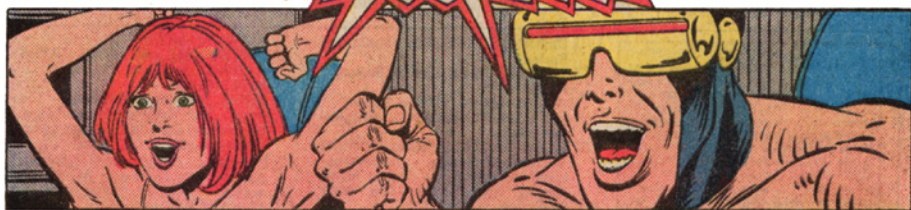
CATCH, YOU BIG, UGLY BEAST-- CATCH!



WAH--HOOO!!

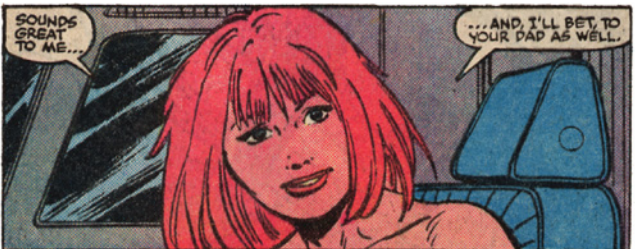
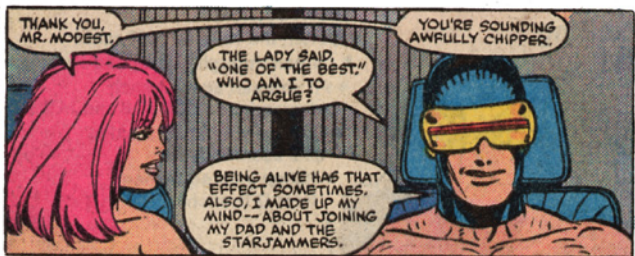


WE'RE-- AIRBORNE!!



SCOTT, LOVE, I
HATE TO SPOIL AN
ABSOLUTELY MAGNIFI-
CENT MOMENT...





Bulpen Bulletins

HERE'S THE SITUATION...

I, Editor in Chief and Supreme High Kahuna of Marvel Comics, will be leaving very soon on a month-long trip around the country to attend several of the biggest Comics Conventions of the year. Since many of the Editors here at Marvel will be going with me. That means no one will be here at the House of Ideas guarding the fort - except the Assistant Editors!

They will be in complete charge of one entire month's worth of Marvel Comics. For that month, they will be the absolute masters of the Marvel Universe.

And they're up to something! Something... strange.

This is no gag. No joke. Really, honestly, I thought it would be good for our assistant editors to have a real chance on the firing line - to have a shot at wielding the enormous responsibility and power of being editors-for-a-month under actual combat conditions - so I arranged it. Somewhat to my amazement, they're taking it very seriously! They see this as their opportunity not to merely oversee the comics for a month, but to do the stories they've always wanted to do! To oversee a month's worth of the wildest, most spectacular, most unforgettable and possibly weirdest Marvel Comics ever published! To prove themselves by knocking the world on its ear with every single issue coming out that month!

What month? Next month. All Marvel Comics which bear a January cover date, which will be on sale next month, in September, are the ones to watch for.

The Assistant Editors have been very secretive about what they have planned, so I can't tell you anything about next month's stories - I honestly don't know what they've got cooking. I firmly believe that these issues are going to be one-of-a-kind collector's items, though, and if I were you, I wouldn't miss any of next month's issues. I don't

say that lightly, by the way. If you read this column regularly, you know that I don't hard-sell anything, and rarely even give a plug. I leave the hype for the Hype Box. This is an unusual circumstance, though, I think. Assistant Editors Month has really grown from an innocent little educational exercise into an event!

Okay, enough about that. You've been advised - or warned, depending upon how you look at it. By the way, Editor Mark Gruenwald's assistant

Mike Carlin asked me to run the ad which appears below. So there it is!

Stay well,

Stan Lee

P.S. Being that I'll be away for a month, the next Bulpen Page will be written by my assistant-and-secretary, Lynn Cohen! I'll be back writing this, the most widely-read page in comics the following month! See you!



THE HYPE BOX

MAGIK (Storm and Illyana Limited Series) #1 - Attention X-MEN lovers! This is the one you've been waiting for! The most bizarre Limited Series you'll ever read, as Storm, Kitty Pryde, Nightcrawler, and Colossus' sister, Illyana Rasputin, are trapped in the demon-lord Belasco's dark dimension! It's written by CHRIS CLAREMONT, with art by JOHN BUSCEMA and TOM PARKER. We predict it's gonna be the most talked about Limited Series since Wolverine's! How can you resist?

KA-ZAR #29 - Could there be a better place to hold a wedding than the beautiful and exotic land of Pandea? Well, yes. Virtually anywhere, if you don't want to be interrupted by the hell-spawn Belasco! (He does get around, doesn't he?) Are those wedding bells we hear tolling for Ka-Zar and Shanna, or funeral bells? A special double-sized spectacular brought to you by MIKE CARLIN, RON FRENZ, and ARMANDO GIL. And, for one issue only, it's available at newsstands as well as comics specialty shops, so there's no excuse for missing this one!

X-MEN #176 - You got a small taste of his work last issue, but here's the real thing: the eagerly anticipated pencils of the X-MEN's newest artist, JOHN ROMITA JR! That's right, Marvel's hottest young talent takes Marvel's favorite team book. Along with writer CHRIS CLAREMONT andinker BOB WIAECK, he brings you an incredible story of giant squids and a honeymoon in outer space. Destined to be a milestone!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ THE THING #6
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #201
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #10
- ☐ STAR WARS #78
- ☐ DEFENDERS #126

- ☐ RETURN OF THE JEDI #3 (Limited Series)
- ☐ THE FALCON #2 (Limited Series)
- ☐ KA-ZAR #29
- ☐ RED SONJA #3 (Limited Series)
- ☐ KULL THE CONQUEROR #3 (Limited Series)
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION #2 (Limited Series) - More sensational reprints of the original Moon Knight epics, from The Hulk Magazine.
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #247
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #288
- ☐ THOR #338
- ☐ INDIANA JONES #12
- ☐ DR. STRANGE #62
- ☐ HAWKEYE #4 (Limited Series)
- ☐ MAGIK (Storm and Illyana Limited Series) #1 - See Hype Box.
- ☐ U.S. #17 (Limited Series)
- ☐ S.H.I.E.L.D. Special Edition #1 - First of two issues reprinting the classic Stan Lee S.H.I.E.L.D. stories.
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #290
- ☐ AVENGERS #238
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #153
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #158 - Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #20 by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, "The Coming of the Scorpion."
- ☐ ROM #49
- ☐ X-MEN #176
- ☐ POWER MAN/IRON FIST #100
- ☐ G.I. JOE #18
- ☐ CLOAK & DAGGER #3 (Limited Series)
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #261
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #136 - Spider-Man and Wonder Man
- ☐ IRON MAN #177
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #85

- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #5
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #12
- ☐ WHAT IF #42
- ☐ KRULL #2 (Limited Series) - The concluding chapter of Marvel's adaptation of the Columbia Pictures space fantasy smash!
- ☐ X-MEN CLASSICS #1 (Limited Series) - Re-presenting the history making ROY THOMAS/NEAL ADAMS X-Men adventures!
- ☐ MICRONAUTS SPECIAL EDITION #1 (Limited Series) - First of six issues reprinting BILL MANTLO and MICHAEL GOLDEN's classic early Micronauts sagas.
- ☐ THE PUNISHER #1 (Limited Edition) - Reprinting, for the first time in color, some of the Punisher's first, most explosive adventures.

MARVEL ANNUALS

- ☐ STAR WARS ANNUAL #3 - Darth Vader finds a disciple eager to learn the ways of the force. By JO DUFFY and KLAUS JANSON.
- ☐ SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #17 - Peter Parker's High School reunion. By ROGER STERN, BILL MANTLO and ED HANNING.

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #84
- ☐ MARVEL AGE #9

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ EPIC ILLUSTRATED #20
- ☐ COYOTE #4
- ☐ DREADSTAR ANNUAL #1 - For the first time in full color - JIM STARLIN'S "The Price."

**MARVEL
COMICS GROUP**
A DIVISION OF CAPSTONE
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MEMO TO: Weez
FROM: Jim Shooter
SUBJECT: The cover of X-MEN #176

Beautiful art! who knew that John Romita, Jr. could ink? I'm impressed!

However... when I first saw it, my immediate reaction was "Gee, Cyclops is so upset about being strangled by that octopus that he's shattering his own logo." Now, it seems perfectly reasonable to me that a man might be a bit peeved about being strangled by an octopus, and, yes, I can see that he'd feel the need to vent a little anger under the circumstances — but why take it out on the logo of his very own book?

Okay, okay, other cover logos have been shattered, and it does make for an eye-catching graphic design. In this case though, it seems... strange.

Now, if I were suddenly possessed by an awesome, evil, alien force, and was transformed into Dark Shooter, I might storm into your office and growl, "Fix the logo and have Cyke blasting the octopus! And don't give me any grief, Jones! This isn't Burger King! You're going to have it my way!"

Or, following the same logic as your cover, I might simply use my powers to destroy my own office.

But, I'm not Dark Shooter. I'm really a nice guy. And, I could be wrong.

So, if you want, go ahead with it. But, do me a favor, and ask the readers what they think about it, okay?

One thing for sure. It's a beautiful art job!

Jim Shooter

