

MARVEL

THE UNCANNY

X-MEN

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U.K. 50p
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200
DEC

DOUBLE
SIZED
ISSUE!



JR/JRC

THE TRIAL OF MAGNETO!

"THIS WEEK-- IN PARIS, FRANCE-- A MOST EXTRAORDINARY MAN GOES ON TRIAL BEFORE A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, CHARGED WITH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY.

"TO MANY, HE IS THE EPITOME OF EVIL, THE GREATEST FIEND SINCE ADOLF HITLER.

"OTHERS, THOUGH, CONSIDER HIM BOTH LIBERATOR AND HERO.

"HE IS THE SELF-STYLED MASTER OF MAGNETISM.

"HIS NAME IS MAGNETO.



A STAN LEE PRESENTATION--
STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN

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GLYNIS OLIVER, colorist
TOM ORZECZOWSKI, letterer
ANN NOCENTI, EDITOR
JIM SHOTER, EDITOR IN CHIEF

"HIS ORIGIN IS UNKNOWN."

"BUT FROM HIS INITIAL APPEARANCE AT AMERICA'S CAPE CITADEL MISSILE BASE, HE CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF HOMO SUPERIOR."

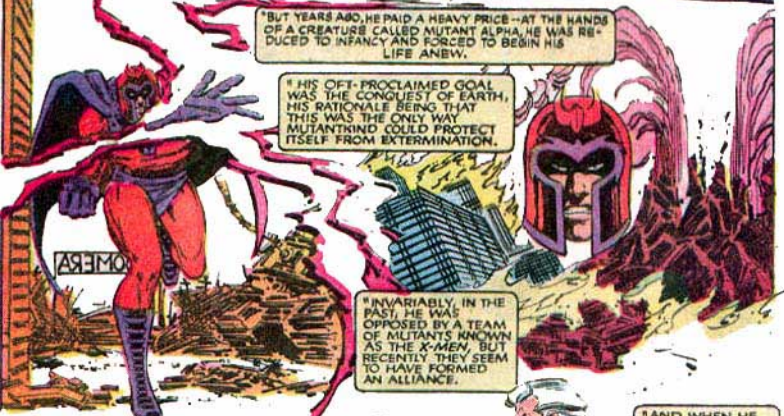
"... MORE COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS MUTANTS..."

"... THAT OFFSHOOT OF THE HUMAN SPECIES POSSESSING EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ABILITIES."



"BUT YEARS AGO, HE PAID A HEAVY PRICE--AT THE HANDS OF A CREATURE CALLED MUTANT ALPHA, HE WAS REDUCED TO INFANCY AND FORCED TO BEGIN HIS LIFE ANEVV."

"HIS OBT-PROCLAIMED GOAL WAS THE CONQUEST OF EARTH, HIS RATIONALE BEING THAT THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY MUTANTKIND COULD PROTECT ITSELF FROM EXTERMINATION."

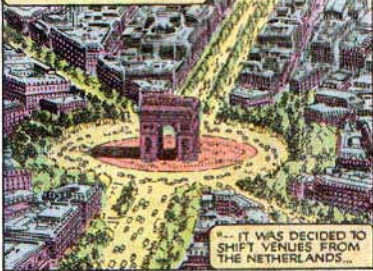


"INVARIABLY, IN THE PAST, HE WAS OPPOSED BY A TEAM OF MUTANTS KNOWN AS THE X-MEN, BUT RECENTLY THEY SEEM TO HAVE FORMED AN ALLIANCE."

"AND WHEN HE WAS FINALLY APPREHENDED-- AT THE NATIONAL HOLOCAUST CENTER, IN WASHINGTON, DC-- IT WAS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S NEWLY ESTABLISHED ACTION TEAM, FREEDOM FORCE."



"... NORMALLY, THE WORLD COURT SITS IN THE HAGUE, BUT SINCE THIS IS A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING-- OF A TYPE NOT SEEN SINCE THE NUREMBERG TRIBUNALS THAT FOLLOWED WORLD WAR II --



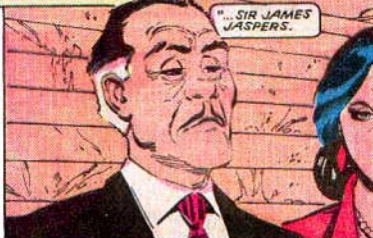
"... IT WAS DECIDED TO SHIFT VENUES FROM THE NETHERLANDS...

"... TO PARIS' HISTORIC PALAIS DE JUSTICE, ON THE ÎLE de la CITE, ONLY A BLOCK FROM NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL.



"THERE WILL BE NO JURY, AND THE FIVE JUDGES HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL: FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES.

"PROSECUTING THE CASE IS ENGLAND'S ATTORNEY-GENERAL...



"... SIR JAMES JASPERS.

"DEFENSE COUNSEL IS ISRAEL'S AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN, GABRIELLE HALLER, ASSISTED BY AMERICAN SCHOLAR AND EDUCATOR-- ONE OF THE FOREMOST EXPERTS IN HUMAN GENETIC MUTATION-- CHARLES XAVIER.



"FEELINGS ARE ALREADY RUNNING HIGH, AND THE MOOD IS UGLY. THERE HAVE BEEN DAILY PROTESTS, PROMPTING SOME OF THE HEAVIEST SECURITY MEASURES EVER SEEN.



"AS THE TRIAL PROGRESSES, THE IMPRESSION HERE IS, TENSION WILL CONTINUE TO GROW...

"... AND THE SITUATION BECAME INCREASINGLY MORE DANGEROUS.



"THIS IS NEAL CONAN, NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, REPORTING..."

IT ISN'T JUST IN PARIS, CHARLES. THIS TRIAL HAS SPARKED INCIDENTS ACROSS THE GLOBE...

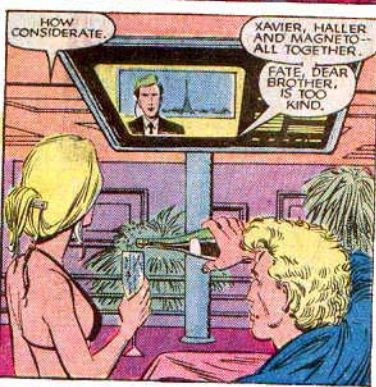
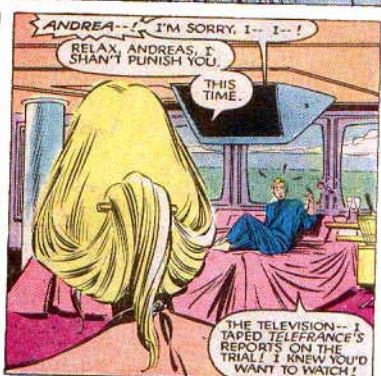
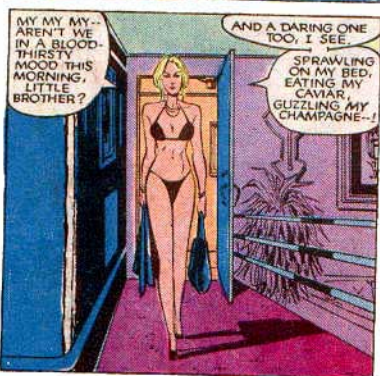
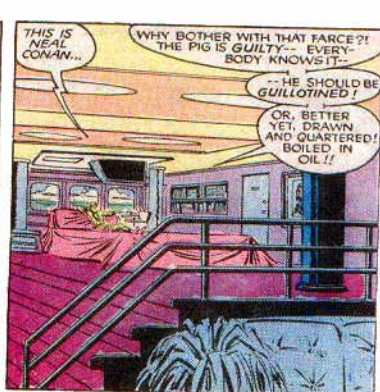
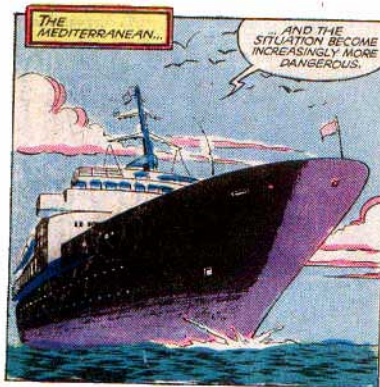


"... ALMOST AS IF IT'S GIVEN PEOPLE AN EXCUSE TO VENT THE ANTI-MUTANT HATRED THEY'VE KEPT HIDDEN WITHIN THEMSELVES.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE US DO, GABY? RUN AWAY? ABANDON MAGNETO TO HIS FATE?



"NO, HE IS RIGHT. THE ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH SUCH DEEP-ROOTED, FUNDAMENTALLY IRRATIONAL FEAR AND PREJUDICE IS TO CONFRONT IT.



THE BAGATELLE,
PART OF THE
BOIS DE BOULOGNE...

AT NIGHT THIS GLORIOUS PARK-- ON THE WESTERN
OUTSKIRTS OF PARIS-- BELONGS MOSTLY TO LOVERS.

BUT IN THE MORNING-- BETWEEN DAWN AND
THE START OF THE WORKDAY-- ITS PATHS AND
GARDENS ARE THE PROVINCE OF STROLLERS,
JOGGERS, HORSEBACK RIDERS, STUDENTS SKYLARKING
BEFORE SCHOOL, ORDINARY PEOPLE DOING ORDINARY
THINGS...

...ARE
WITNESS--
SUDDENLY--
AND QUITE
WITHOUT
WARNING--

--TO THE X-MEN'S AND
NEW MUTANTS' MOST
EXTRAORDINARY
RETURN TO EARTH!*



*IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE BOTH
TEAMS HAVE BEEN AND WHAT THEY'VE BEEN
UP TO, READ NEW MUTANTS SPECIAL
EDITION #1 AND X-MEN ANNUAL #3, ON
SALE NOW.. ANN (WHO WILL REALLY AND
TRULY SHOOT CHRIS IF HE EVER PULLS AN
STUPID A SCHEDULING STUNT AS THIS AGAIN,
AND SHE REALLY MEANS IT!)

BANG!

SAPRISTE!

C'EST HORREUR!

CE SONT MONSTRES!

QU'EST-CE QUE C'EST?!

QUI VEUX-LA?!

SOMEWHERE, MEIN FREUNDS, I THINK WE MADE A WRONG TURN.

LEMME TALK TO THESE PEOPLE, NIGHT-CRAWLER. I'LL FIND OUT WHERE WE ARE.

GREAT! FOR ONCE, MY TALENT WITH LANGUAGES IS GOING TO DO SOME GOOD!

THEY'RE SPEAKING FRENCH!

PARDON, M'SIEU-- OU SONT NOUS?

PARIS--!

OF ALL THE DUMB--! WHEN LOKI SAID HE'D TRANSPORT US HOME, I ASSUMED HE MEANT OUR MANSION IN NEW YORK.

BUT HE MUST HAVE SENT US TO WHERE PROFESSOR X IS. OUR BEST BET WOULD BE TO TRY AND FIND XAVIER.

CUTE, CYCLOPS.

WE'RE STUCK IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, WE GOT NO PAPERS, NO MONEY-- WHAT DO WE TELL THE LOCAL LAW, huh?!

" PARDON US, BUB, WE'RE JUST PASSIN' THROUGH FROM FLAMIN' ASGARD?!! "

ONE PROBLEM, WOLVERINE, AT A TIME.

WE HAVE DRAWN A CROWD. WE NEED TO SLIP AWAY, AND FIND A MORE PRIVATE PLACE TO PLAN OUR NEXT MOVES.

LEAVE THAT TO ME, STORM.

ONE TELEPATHIC DIVERSION, COMING UP!

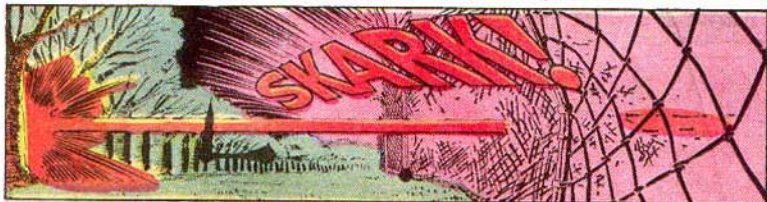
TO MANY ONLOOKERS, IT'S AS IF THE STRANGERS DISAPPEAR, RACHEL SUMMERS HAVING USED HER FORMIDABLE PSI-POWERS TO BLOCK EVERYONE'S PERCEPTIONS OF THE MUTANTS.

WITHIN HOURS, A FANTASTIC RUMOR SWEEPS PARIS-- THAT GEORGE LUCAS IS IN TOWN, FILMING A NEW MOVIE, WITH ABSOLUTELY SPECTACULAR SPECIAL EFFECTS!



POLAND,
A FEW DAYS
LATER--

-- A RED ARMY BASE NEAR THE
BALTIC SEAPORT OF SZCZECIN...



THE RITZ,
PARIS--

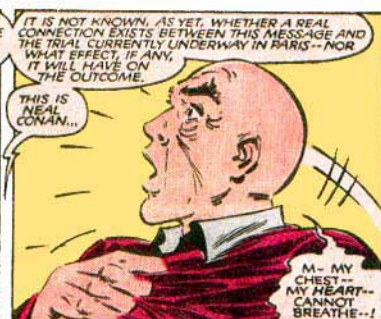
...THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED
REPORTS OF A TERRORIST
ASSAULT ON A MAJOR SOVIET
MILITARY INSTALLATION OUT-
SIDE STETTIN, ON THE EAST
GERMAN BORDER.



THE COST-- IN
LIVES AND EQUIP-
MENT-- IS
BELIEVED BY NATO
INTELLIGENCE
SOURCES TO BE
HEAVY.

A MESSAGE IS REPUTED TO HAVE
BEEN LEFT BY THE ATTACKERS,
DEMANDING THAT THE ARCH-
VILLAIN MAGNETO BE FREED.

IT IS SIGNED--
THE X-MEN.



I UNDERSTAND YOUR AMBIGUANCE, SCOTT, BUT I ALSO ASK THAT YOU RESPECT MY JUDGMENT. MAGNETO HAS VOWED TO ACCEPT ANY DECISION OF THE COURT.

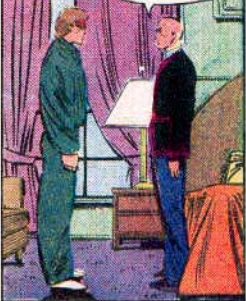
EVEN A DEATH SENTENCE? DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE HE'LL LET HIMSELF BE EXECUTED?!



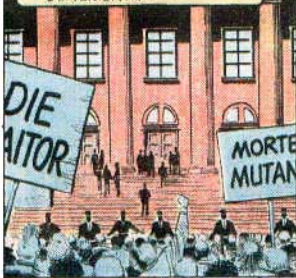
I PRAY IT WILL NOT COME TO THAT, FOR HIS PEOPLE-- FOR US, CYCLOPS, FOR MUTANTKIND-- HE PLACED HIS LIFE IN JEOPARDY. THE LEAST HE DESERVES IN RETURN IS A FAIR TRIAL.

IF NOT FOR MAGNETO, DO THIS FOR YOURSELVES. THE X-MEN ARE BEING BLAMED FOR THESE ATROCITIES. TO PROVE THE TEAM'S INNOCENCE...

... FIND THE TRUE CULPRITS.



"THE LARGEST PROTEST SEEN THIS FAR FILLED THE *PLEIN AIR* CITE THIS MORNING AS SIR JAMES JASPERS ROSE TO PRESENT THE PROSECUTION'S OPENING STATEMENT..."



... IT IS SAID, MY LORDS AND LADY, THIS IS A POLITICAL TRIAL, A MODERN DAY WITCH-HUNT-- THAT THE ACCUSED IS NO MORE THAN A MAN FIGHTING PASSIONATELY FOR A NOBLE CAUSE! THE LIBERATION OF HIS OPPRESSED PEOPLE. HE IS MOSES, WE ARE PHARAOH.

THIS IS SIMPLY NOT SO.



HE IS A CRIMINAL. HE HAS KILLED. HE HAS ROBBED. HE HAS WANTONLY DESTROYED.

MORE THAN ONCE, HE HAS BROUGHT THE WORLD TO THE BRINK OF ARMAGEDDON!



AND WHAT OF THIS CAUSE HE PURPORTS TO TRIUMPH? WHERE IS THE OPPRESSION OF WHICH HE SO ELOQUENTLY SPEAKS?

I KNOW OF NO COUNTRY WHERE IT IS A CRIME MERELY TO BE A MUTANT. I HAVE SEEN NO DEATH CAMPS, HEARD NO REPORTS OF GENOCIDE, THROUGHOUT THE EARTH, THEY ARE TREATED NO BETTER, NO WORSE, THAN THEIR FELLOW HUMAN CITIZENS.

IF PREJUDICE EXISTS, THERE ARE MEANS WITHIN SOCIETY TO COMBAT IT. MAGNETO CHOSE TO PLACE HIMSELF ABOVE THE LAW-- AND THEREBY BEYOND THE PALE OF CIVILIZED CONDUCT. IF A DANGER EXISTS, IT COMES NOT FROM US...

BUT FROM HIM!



HOLZRUHE,
WEST GERMANY--

-- HEADQUARTERS OF THE 173rd
TACTICAL STRIKE WING, UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE --

WYANG!

KRANKOON!

"... POLICE AND THE GERMAMERIE
TODAY SEALED OFF THE ILE DE
la CITE, AS PUBLIC ANGER OVER
THE ONGOING SERIES OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS CONTINUES
TO GROW.

"IT'S HARDLY
THE MOST
AUSPICIOUS
MOMENT FOR
AMBASSADOR
HALLER TO
PRESENT HER
CASE FOR THE
DEFENSE..."

DIE
MUTIES!

KILL HIM

TEARER

MY LORDS, MY LADY-- MY LEARNED FRIEND OPPOSITE WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE THIS CASE IS CLEAR-CUT, THE ISSUES BLACK AND WHITE, WOULD THAT WERE SO.

RECENT HISTORY, HOWEVER, IS FULL OF ACCUSED, AND ADMITTED TERRORISTS-- THIEVES AND MURDERERS-- WHOM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY LATER ACCEPTED, EVEN WELCOMED AS STATESMEN.

SHOULD A PERSON WHO ACTS FOR A CAUSE BE JUDGED BY THE SAME STANDARD AS ONE WHO ACTS FROM GREED? AND IF THE CAUSE IS JUST, WHAT THEN OF THE DEEDS COMMITTED IN ITS NAME?

REGARDING THE SPECIFICS OF THE INDICTMENT, I MOVE THAT ALL COUNTS PERTAINING TO INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED PRIOR TO MAGNETO'S CONFRONTATION WITH MUTANT ALPHA AT THE UNITED NATIONS BE STRUCK.

TRAITOR!

WELL, YOU'VE SOLD OUT YOUR OWN KIND! YOU DESERVE THE SAME FATE AS HIM!

GABY...?

MERELY THINKING-- SADLY-- CHARLES: "PLUS CA CHANGE, PLUS CA MEME CHOSE."

"THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME." SOME OLD HATREDS NEVER SEEM TO DIE.

AS I WAS SAYING-- AT THAT TIME, MAGNETO WAS REDUCED TO INFANCY, RETURNED TO A STATE OF GRACE, HIS LIFE CAN BE SAID TO HAVE BEGUN AGAIN.

THE MAN THAT WAS, AT THAT MOMENT, CEASED TO EXIST. IN EFFECT, HE DIED.

WHICH IS, OF COURSE, THE ULTIMATE PENALTY FOR ANY CRIME.

OBJECTION! THIS IS THE MOST PREPOSTEROUS PERVERSION--!

IT IS ESTABLISHED BEYOND QUESTION THAT MAGNETO WAS AN INMATE AT AUSCHWITZ AS AN ADOLESCENT. HE SHOULD THEREFORE BE NEARLY SIXTY YEARS OLD.

YET EXPERT MEDICAL TESTIMONY WILL SHOW HE IS NOW BIOLOGICALLY A MAN IN HIS EARLY 30'S.

THAT'S IRRELEVANT! HE COMMITTED THOSE CRIMES, REGARDLESS OF HIS AGE!



MEANWHILE...

...CLOSE BY, ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE SEINE...



THIS IS WHERE I BELIEVE OUR TERRORISTS WILL STRIKE NEXT.

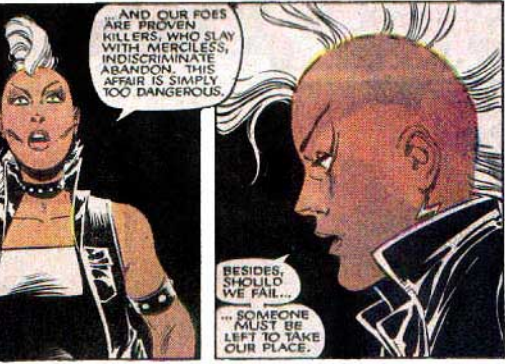
WE'LL HAVE TO SPLIT UP...

...TO COVER AS MANY TARGETS AS POSSIBLE. WHEN TROUBLE COMES, THE OTHER TEAMS WILL HAVE TO HEAD FOR IT AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAN.



MIGHT WE NOT CALL ON THE NEW MUTANTS FOR ASSISTANCE, CYCLOPS? WE COULD COVER A GREAT DEAL MORE TERRITORY.

NO! THEY ARE CHILDREN, MY FRIENDS...



AND OUR FOES ARE PROVEN KILLERS, WHO SLAY WITH MERCILESS, INDISCRIMINATE ABANDON. THIS AFFAIR IS SIMPLY TOO DANGEROUS.

BESIDES, SHOULD WE FAIL...

... SOMEONE MUST BE LEFT TO TAKE OUR PLACE.

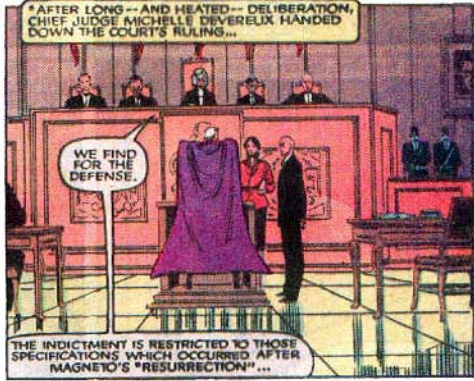


WE CAN'T CALL ON THE AVENGERS OR THE FANTASTIC FOUR, EITHER, THEY'D FEEL DUTY BOUND TO ARREST US ON SIGHT.

BY THE TIME WE EXPLAINED OURSELVES-- ASSUMING THEY BELIEVED US--

--IT'D BE TOO LATE.

WHATEVER HAPPENS, X-MEN-- AS USUAL-- WE'RE ON OUR OWN.



*AFTER LONG-- AND HEATED-- DELIBERATION, CHIEF JUDGE MICHELLE DEVEREUX HANDED DOWN THE COURT'S RULING...

WE FIND FOR THE DEFENSE.

THE INDICTMENT IS RESTRICTED TO THOSE SPECIFICATIONS WHICH OCCURRED AFTER MAGNETO'S 'RESURRECTION'...

ALL OTHER CHARGES ARE HEREBY STRICKEN.



«SHAME!»

«BOOO!»

«DON'T WORRY, JUDAS, YOU'LL GET YOURS!»

«THE TRIAL IS RIGGED!»

«UNFAIR!»



*TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH. AHH.

«SILENCE IN THE COURT!»

«ANOTHER SUCH OUTBURST AND I SHALL HAVE THE CHAMBER CLEARED!»



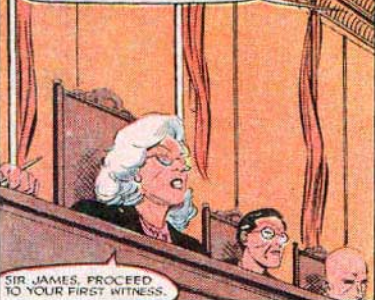
THE MOOD IS VERY UGLY. I FEEL AS IF ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.

AT LEAST WE SEEM TO BE WINNING.



DON'T FOOL YOURSELF. THESE ARE JUST THE PRELIMINARIES. I EXPECTED TO DO WELL.

NOW, THE TRIAL REALLY BEGINS.



SIR, JAMES, PROCEED TO YOUR FIRST WITNESS.

I SUMMON ADMIRAL GREGORI MIHAILOVITCH SUVOROV...



COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE SOVIET NAVY'S STRATEGIC MISSILE SUBMARINE FORCE.

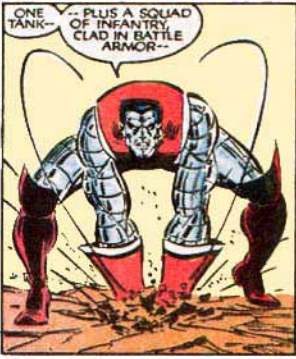




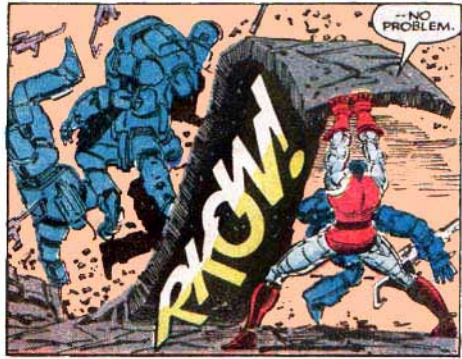
THAT WAS AN INCENDIARY SHELL-- IT'S SET THE BUILDING ABLAZE!

HOLD THEM OFF, WHILE I EVACUATE THE PATIENTS!

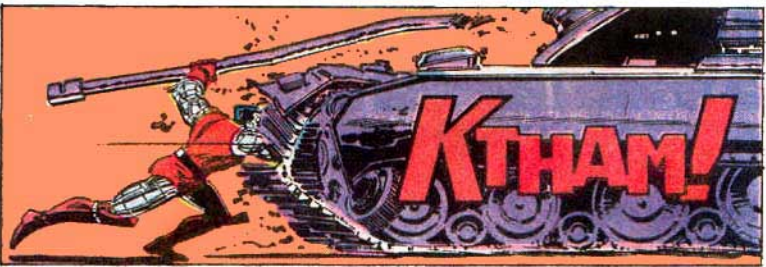
AND WITH THAT CRY, THE GERMAN X-MAN VANISHES--IN HIS CHARACTERISTICALLY NOISOME BURST OF SMOKE AND FLAME...



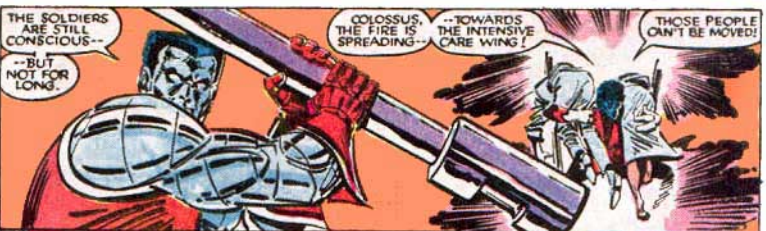
ONE TANK--
-- PLUS A SQUAD OF INFANTRY CLAD IN BATTLE ARMOR--



--NO PROBLEM.



KTHAM!



THE SOLDIERS ARE STILL CONSCIOUS--
--BUT NOT FOR LONG.

COLOSSUS, THE FIRE IS SPREADING--

--TOWARDS THE INTENSIVE CARE WING!

THOSE PEOPLE CAN'T BE MOVED!

I SEE-- THEN, THE FIRE MUST BE STOPPED.

WHICH MEANS, REGRETTABLY, THIS PART OF THE COMPLEX...

IT CANNOT BURN WITHOUT FUEL.

... MUST BE LEVELLED!

IF ONLY STORM STILL POSSESSED HER ELEMENTAL POWERS. SHE COULD SUMMON RAIN TO DROWN THESE FLAMES.

IT IS GOOD TO HAVE HER BACK WITH US-- BUT SINCE SHE IS NO LONGER A MUTANT, HOW CAN SHE STAY?

MY IMPROVED FIREBREAK SEEMS TO BE WORKING--

ZARK!

--WHOOFFF!

TUNH!

BDAM!

THERE'S THE HOSPITAL-- NICE MESS!

CYCLOPS-- A PSI-FLASH OF PAIN FROM COLOSSUS-- HE'S BEEN HIT BY SOME SORT OF PRESSOR BEAM!

GET US DOWN, ROGUE-- FAST!

LOOK OUT!

BARELY MANAGED TO DEFLECT THAT BOLT!

HAVE TO FOCUS MY TELEKINETIC POWERS--

--MAKE OUR LANDING GENTLE AS-- OUCH!

ZUM TUEFUL-- WHAT HIT YOU?!

THE SAME FORCE, I'LL WAGER, TOVARISCH, THAT JUST STRUCK ME!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MEIN FREUND?!

DA.

AS USUAL, ONLY MY COSTUME SUFFERED.

THE ARMORED GOONS YOU TWO FOUGHT WERE OBVIOUSLY MERELY CANNON FODDER.

IT'S THE PERSON WIELDING THAT POWER BLAST WHO'S THE REAL THREAT--
DOWN, X-MEN!

GUNFIRE--

-- THOSE BOZOS STARTIN' ROUND TWO?!

B-BLAM BLAM BLAM JM

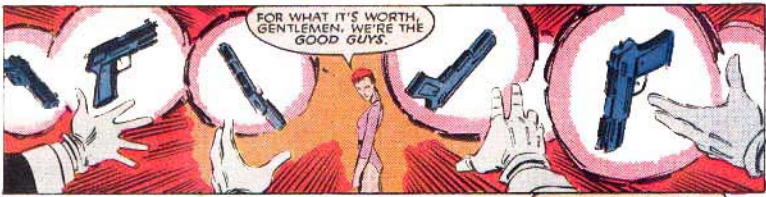


< THIS IS THE POLICE! >

< HANDS UP, MUTIES-- YOU ARE UNDER ARREST! >

< THOSE WERE WARNING SHOTS-- >

<-- ONE FALSE MOVE AND WE SHOOT TO KILL! >



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, GENTLEMEN, WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS.



BUT WHO'D EVER BELIEVE THE TRUTH TOLD BY A MUTANT?!

WE CAN'T DO ANY MORE HERE-- EXCEPT HURT OURSELVES.

RACHEL-- CLOUD EVERYONE'S PERCEPTIONS, TO MASK OUR ESCAPE.

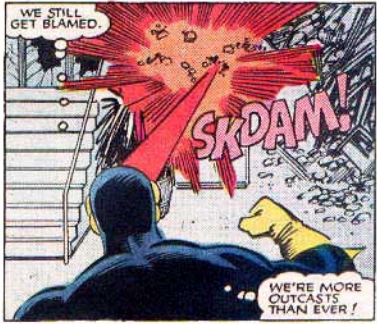


WE COME TO HELP. WE SAVE LIVES, WE AVERT A DISASTER--

-- AS WE ALWAYS DO--

FREE MAGNETO & X-MEN

-- AND IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE.



WE STILL GET BLAMED.

SKDAM!

WE'RE MORE OUTCASTS THAN EVER!



* THANKS TO LAST NIGHT'S TERRORIST ASSAULT ON THE ST. JUST MILITARY HOSPITAL NEAR PARIS...

* ... TENSIONS AT THE TRIAL OF MAGNETO ARE RUNNING HIGHER THAN EVER.

The International Herald Tribune
**X-MEN
ATTACK HOSPITAL**

* THIS IS NEAL CONAN... *



« THERE'S THAT'S THE SLUT WHO'S DEFENDING THE MONSTER! »

« SHAME, WOMAN! »

« GET OUT OF FRANCE, MUTIE-LOVERS! WE DON'T WANT YOUR KIND HERE! »

« FOREIGNERS! GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM! »

« TAKE MY HANDS, BOTH OF YOU! I'LL PHASE US ALL, SO WE DON'T GET HIT! »

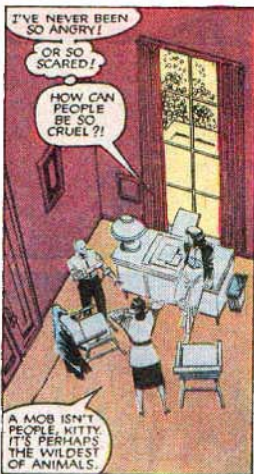


« YOU KNOW, CHARLES-- I HAVE THE SAD FEELING THAT IF, BY SOME MIRACLE, I WIN MAGNETO'S ACQUITTAL... »

« THAT MOB WILL GO BERSERK AND TEAR HIM APART. »

« ALONG... ALONG WITH HIS LAWYER. »

« LOUSY-- ROTTEN-- STINKING--! »

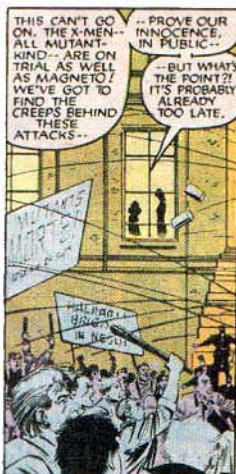


« I'VE NEVER BEEN SO ANGRY! »

« OR SO SCARED! »

« HOW CAN PEOPLE BE SO CRUEL?! »

« A MOB ISN'T PEOPLE, KITTY. IT'S PERHAPS THE WILDEST OF ANIMALS. »



« THIS CAN'T GO ON. THE X-MEN-- ALL MUTANT-KIND-- ARE ON TRIAL AS WELL AS MAGNETO! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE CREEPS BEHIND THESE ATTACKS-- »

« -- PROVE OUR INNOCENCE, IN PUBLIC-- »

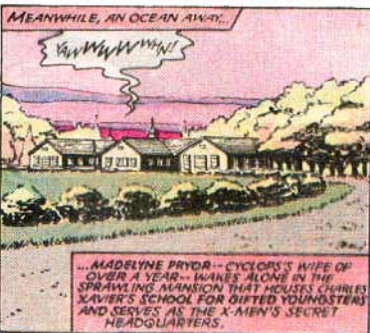
« -- BUT WHAT'S THE POINT?! IT'S PROBABLY ALREADY TOO LATE. »



« IT'S EASY TO RUN AWAY-- OR GIVE UP, AS MY PARENTS DID-- THEY WERE LUCKY, THEY DIED IN BERGEN-BELSEN. »

« FOR THEM, THE PAIN ENDED QUICKLY, THEY'VE NO MEMORIES TO HAUNT THEM, NO MORE FEARS. »

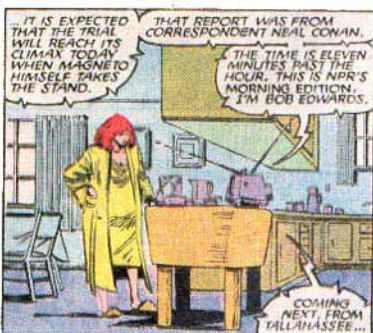
« BUT WE WHO SURVIVED HAVE A DUTY TO MAKE CERTAIN THE HOLOCAUST NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN TO ANYONE! WE MUST FIGHT, KITTY-- WE MAY BE DEFEATED, BUT WE MUST NEVER SURRENDER. »



« MEANWHILE, AN OCEAN AWAY... »

« WAAAAAAAAH! »

« ... MADELYNE PRYOR-- CYCLOPS'S WIFE OF OVER A YEAR-- WAKES ALONE IN THE SPRAWLING MANSION THAT HOUSES CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS AND SERVES AS THE X-MEN'S SECRET HEADQUARTERS. »



« IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE TRIAL WILL REACH ITS CLIMAX TODAY WHEN MAGNETO HIMSELF TAKES THE STAND. »

« THAT REPORT WAS FROM CORRESPONDENT NEAL COWAN. »

« THE TIME IS ELEVEN MINUTES PAST THE HOUR. THIS IS NPR'S MORNING EDITION. I'M BOB EDWARDS. »

« COMING NEXT FROM TALLAHASSEE... »

BAD NEWS, GETTING WORSE. I FEEL SO OUT OF IT, SO HELPLESS! WHY HASN'T SCOTT CALLED?? HE AND THE X-MEN RETURNED FROM ASGARD OVER A WEEK AGO-- ARE THINGS SO TOUGH OVER THERE, IS HE SO BUSY??!



OTHERS HAVE PHONED, ORORO, NIGHTCRAWLER-- AND KITTY ALMOST EVERY DAY, BLESS HER! DOESN'T SCOTT WANT TO TALK TO ME?? HAS HE FORGOTTEN I EXIST??!

PROBABLY.

Sigh!

BABY, I LOVE YOUR FATHER DEARLY-- BUT SOMETIMES HE CAN BE A REAL JERK!



?!?

CORSAIR-- --SCOTT'S FATHER, LEADER OF THE STARJAMMERS-- --AND EMPRESS LILANDRA!?!



CHARLES XAVIER-- WHERE IS HE??!



I KNOW HIS CONDITION, MADELYNE-- I FELT HIS DEATHPAIN, THROUGH THE RAPPORT WE SHARE-- THE ADVANCED MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY ABOARD STARJAMMER IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE MY BELOVED!

HE'S SICK--?!

Oh, NO-- THIS IS TERRIBLE-- HE ISN'T HERE! HE'S IN PARIS!

BLAST! THIS COMPLICATION, WE DO NOT NEED! LILANDRA, WE'LL HAVE TO 'BEAM BACK AND RE-CALIBRATE THE STARGATE!



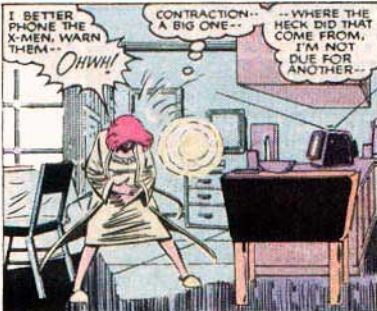
HATE TO RUN, MADELYNE--



CORSAIR, WAIT! EXPLAIN YOURSELVES--!

CAN'T, HONEY-- NO TIME!

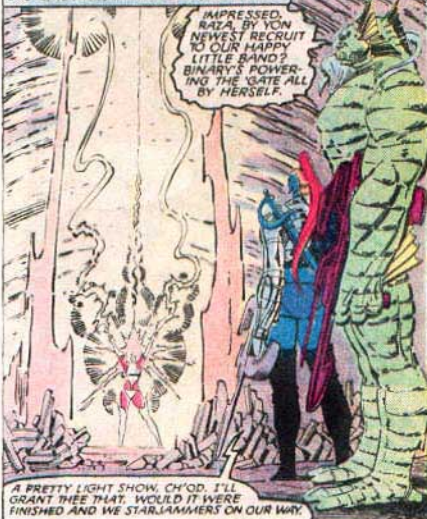
FTZAPT!



A THIRD, MASSIVE SPASM HAMMERS MADELYNE TO HER KNEES...



... THE PRESENCE OF A STARGATE-- A DEVICE CAPABLE OF INSTANTANEOUSLY BRIDGING THE GULF BETWEEN STAR SYSTEMS AND, IN THIS CASE, GALAXIES.



HEPZIBAH, YOU COPY--?

YAH!

WALDO,
ON
LINE?!

AS PRIME COMPUTER, CORSAIR,
I RUN THIS SPACESHIP-- SO
HOW COULD I BE ANYTHING BUT?

RECALIBRATE
THE 'GATE
TRANSMAT FOR
PARIS, FRANCE.
THAT'S WHERE
XAVIER IS.

SUPPOSE
HE'S SOME-
WHERE
ELSE?

CANNOT TO HIM, GO,
HIS LIFE TO SAVE.

MUST, XAVIER,
BRING HERE.

TSCHA!

FRIEND, XAVIER
IS, HEPZIBAH.

WOULD AID--
DIEWARK!

EXPLOSIONS--!

MULTIPLE
ATOMICS--
BRACKETING
HULL!

HEPZIBAH SAYS IT'S A SHI'AR BATTLE
GROUP, THE 'MAMMER'S SHIELDS ARE
HOLDING, BUT THEY WON'T LAST IN-
DEFINITELY.

SAVE YOURSELVES,
FRIENDS.

I ASK ONLY
TO BE SENT
TO EARTH,
THAT I MAY
STAND BY MY
BELOVED'S
SIDE AT HIS
LIFE'S END.

IF WALDO CAN COME UP WITH
THE RIGHT NUMBERS IN TIME,
WE'LL SAVE XAVIER YET. IF NOT--

--THEN, EMPRESS,
YOU GO YOUR WAY,
WE'LL GO OURS.

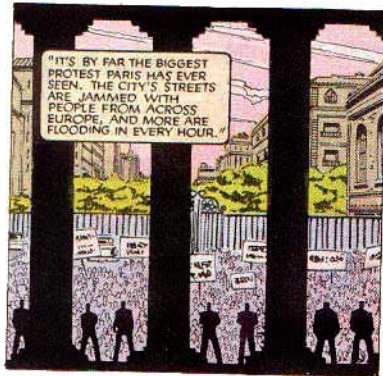
BUT, CORSAIR, IF YOU GO
BACK, YOU MIGHT BE
TRAPPED ON EARTH.

WORSE, SUPPOSE
THE 'GATE
COLLAPSES WHILE
YOU'RE IN
TRANSIT--?!

THAT, BINARY, IS A RISK...

...BOTH
LILANDRA
AND I
CHOOSE TO
TAKE.

THERE'S NO SENSE,
THOUGH, CONDEMNING
THE BEST OF YOU IN THE
BARGAIN, THE MOMENT
SHIELD STRENGTH GOES
CRITICAL, YOU FORGET
ABOUT US, YOU
ABANDON US--
YOU RUN!



"... CALLED TO TESTIFY, ADMIRAL GREGORI MIHAILOVITCH SUVOROV, VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE SOVIET NAVY..."

WHAT TYPE OF VESSEL WAS THAT, ADMIRAL?

THE CRIMINAL SANK THE SUBMARINE LENINGRAD, WITH THE LOSS OF HER ENTIRE CREW.

A DELTA-II CLASS FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINE.

ARMED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

YES.

AND HAD NOT LENINGRAD JUST FIRED FOUR OF THOSE MISSILES AT THE ACCUSED'S ISLAND HOME...

WE WERE PROVOKED! IT WAS OUR RIGHT, AS A SOVEREIGN NATION, TO RESPOND SO!

MAGNETO THREATENED US. THE SOVIET UNION ACTED IN SELF-DEFENSE!

...IN A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO KILL HIM?!

OUR ANALYSIS OF THE BEAM THAT STRUCK COLOSSUS AND ROGUE INDICATES IT WAS ORGANIC IN ORIGIN.

THAT KIND OF NATURAL POWER CAN'T EASILY BE HIDDEN, SO RACHEL'S USING HER TELEPATHIC ABILITY TO SCAN FOR ANY SIGN OF IT.

EASY AS PIE, DADDY. I SPENT YEARS DOING THIS IN MY NATIVE ERA, AS A "HOUND"-- HUNTING DOWN MUTANTS...

...SO THEY COULD BE KILLED.

I SWORE ON YOUR AND MOM'S GRAVES NEVER TO DO THIS AGAIN...

BUT, WITH SO MUCH AT STAKE, HOW CAN I REFUSE?!

BINGO, X-MEN.

I'VE GOT 'EM!

I FREELY ADMIT THE DESTRUCTION OF BOTH THE WARSHIP AND THE SIBERIAN CITY OF VARYKINO--

--ALTHOUGH THE LATTER WAS DONE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENSURE NO LOSS OF LIFE.

HOW CONSIDERATE OF YOU.

TELL US WHY?

FOR THE SAME REASON THE SOVIETS ATTACKED ME-- SELF-DEFENSE. SELF-PRESERVATION.

YOU HELD THE WORLD HOSTAGE-- THREATENING THE GREAT POWERS WITH ANNIHILATION...

... IF THEY DID NOT IMMEDIATELY DISARM...

... AND CEDE TO YOU ALL THEIR POLITICAL POWER!

DO YOU DARE DENY THAT?!

SIR JAMES--!

THE BEHAVIOR OF OPPOSING COUNCIL HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY.

I STRONGLY SUGGEST YOU FOLLOW HER EXAMPLE.

BY WHAT RIGHT DO THOSE SELF-SAME GREAT POWERS HOLD ME HOSTAGE, WITH THEIR NUCLEAR ARSENALS?! I AM A CITIZEN OF NEITHER THE UNITED STATES NOR THE SOVIET UNION...

... YET THEY POSSESS THE CAPABILITY TO SLAY ME AND MINE.

I LIVE, I PROSPER, SOLELY BECAUSE TWO MEN ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE GLOBE CHOOSE TO KEEP THE PEACE.

I CAN JUST AS EASILY, AS ARBITRARILY, BE CONDEMNED.

UNLIKE OTHERS, HOWEVER, I HAVE THE POWER TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. I THOUGHT, MISTAKENLY, THOSE NATIONS WOULD BEST UNDERSTAND THEIR OWN LANGUAGE OF VIOLENCE.

UNFORTUNATELY, FORCE BEGAT FORCE-- AND, AS ALWAYS, INNOCENTS PAID THE PRICE.

A PRICE-- I DISCOVERED TOO LATE-- THAT WAS TOO HIGH.

MY GOAL HAS NOT CHANGED, BUT MY METHODS HAVE.

YOU STILL SEEK THE DOMINATION OF THE WORLD?

MY DREAM, FROM THE START, HAS BEEN THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF MY OWN KIND, MUTANTS.

TO SPARE THEM THE FATE MY FAMILY SUFFERED IN AUSCHWITZ-- AND DO NOT TELL ME SUCH A THING CANNOT HAPPEN AGAIN, BECAUSE THAT IS A LIE!

YOU HUMANS SLAUGHTER EACH OTHER BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF YOUR SKIN, OR YOUR FAITH OR YOUR POLITICS-- OR FOR NO REASON AT ALL--

--TOO MANY OF YOU HATE AS EASILY AS YOU DRAW BREATH, WHAT'S TO PREVENT YOU ADDING US TO THAT LIST?!

I THOUGHT I COULD IMPOSE SANITY FROM ABOVE-- THROUGH CONQUEST-- BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OF YOU. SO, I DECIDED I MUST TRY ANOTHER WAY.

I AM THE REASON MUTANTS ARE UNJUSTLY FEARED. THAT IS WHY I AM HERE, WHY I WILL ABIDE BY THE COURT'S DECISION.

MY HOPE IS TO MAKE THE WORLD UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR MY BEING. BUT, MOST OF ALL, TO PUNISH ME FOR MY CRIMES-- AND, NO LONGER, MY PEOPLE.

WHATEVER MY FATE, YOU MUST STILL FACE THE REALITY PRESENTED BY OUR-- MUTANTS -- EXISTENCE.

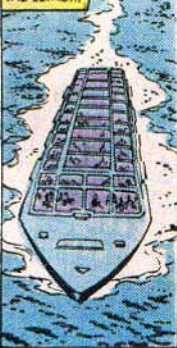
YOU CANNOT WISH US AWAY. YOU CANNOT IGNORE US. WE-- HOMO SAPIENS SUPERIOR-- ARE YOUR CHILDREN, WE ARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF HUMANITY. WHAT KIND OF PARENT FEARS HIS PROGENY? TRIES TO MURDER THEM? IS THIS THE LEGACY YOU WISH TO LEAVE?

I HAVE SEEN THE ERROR OF MY WAYS-- CAN YOU SAY THE SAME?!

AS MAGNETO SPEAKS...



...A BATEAU MOUCHE CRUISES UP THE SEINE...



...CROWDED WITH TOURISTS, WHOSE HAPPY WAVES...



...ARE RETURNED BY THOSE ON SHORE.



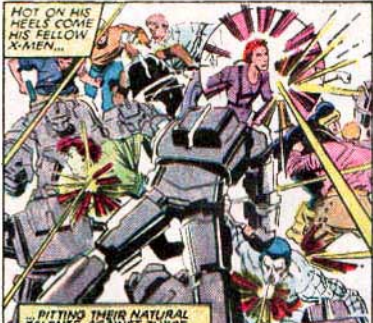


THE MERCENARIES' ARMOR IS PROOF AGAINST VIRTUALLY ANY WEAPON.



UNFORTUNATELY FOR THEM, WOLVERINE'S CLAWS ARE FORGED OF ADAMANTIUM--THE STRONGEST METAL KNOWN--HONED TO RAZOR-KEENESS.

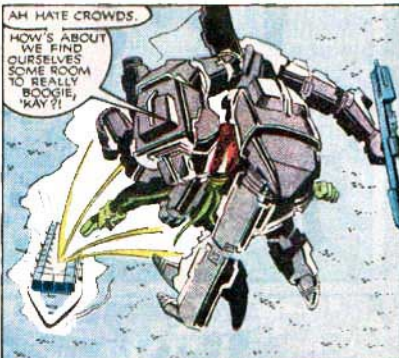
HOT ON HIS HEELS COME HIS FELLOW X-MEN...



PITTING THEIR NATURAL TALENTS AGAINST THESE ULTIMATE EXAMPLES OF MILITARY HIGH-TECHNOLOGY.

AH HATE CROWDS.

HOW'S ABOUT WE FIND OURSELVES SOME ROOM TO REALLY BOOGIE, KAY?!



WE HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO STRIKE AS WE DID.

ANY DELAY WOULD HAVE BEEN CATASTROPHIC.

BUT, TO THE PEOPLE ON SHORE, IT MUST APPEAR AS IF THE X-MEN ATTACKED A BOATLOAD OF DEFENSELESS TOURISTS, SO-- EVEN IF WE WIN, WE'LL STILL LOSE.



DRAAT! THESE BATTLE-SUITS HAVE TOO MANY BACK-UP SYSTEMS! WHEN I SHORT-CIRCUIT THE MAINS-- BY PHASING THROUGH THEM-- SECONDARIES AUTOMATICALLY COME ON-LINE!

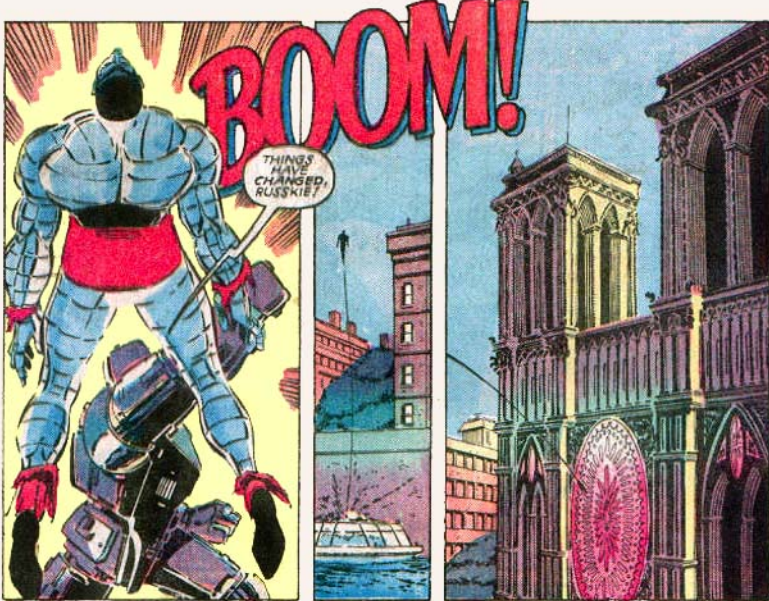
I CAN SLOW THESE SUCKERS DOWN-- BUT I CAN'T STOP THEM!



REMEMBER OUR LAST MEETING, BUTCHERS?!

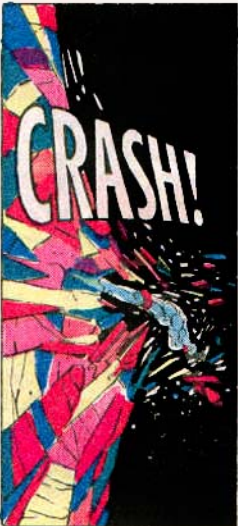
YOU WERE NO MATCH FOR ME, THEN--!





BOOM!

THINGS
HAVE
CHANGED,
RUSSKIE!



CRASH!



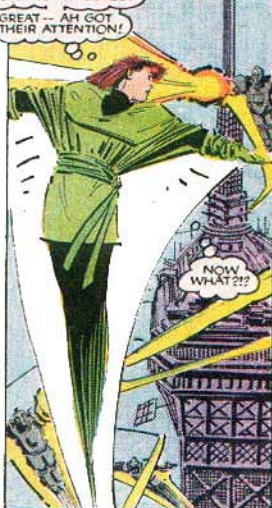
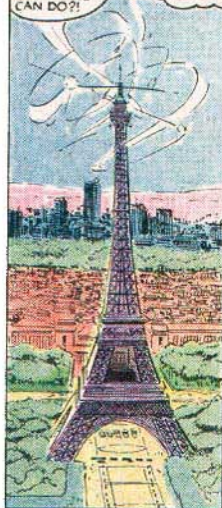
MY THUNDER-
PUNCHER PUT
THE MUTIE DOWN
FOR THE COUNT!

LET'S
FINISH
HIM!

C'MON, SLOWPOKES-- THAT THE BEST Y'ALL CAN DO?!

UP HERE, THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF ANY INNOCENT BYSTANDERS GETTIN' CHOPPED IN THE CROSSFIRE, OR OF THE CITY BEIN' TOO BADLY WRECKED.

GREAT -- AH GOT THEIR ATTENTION!



WE KEEP HITTIN', THEY KEEP COMIN' --

-- WHICH SUITS ME JUST FINE!

BUT SOMETHIN' IN THIS CAPER DOESN'T FIT.



THESE ARE GRUNTS-- CANNON FODDER-- THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE SUPER- BEINGS RAY SENSED, THE ONES WHO ZAPPED ROGUE AN' COLOSSUS AT THE HOSPITAL.

IF THEY'RE NOT HERE -- IF THIS IS A DIVERSION, TO KEEP THE X-MEN BUSY--



"-- WHAT'S THEIR REAL TARGET?!"

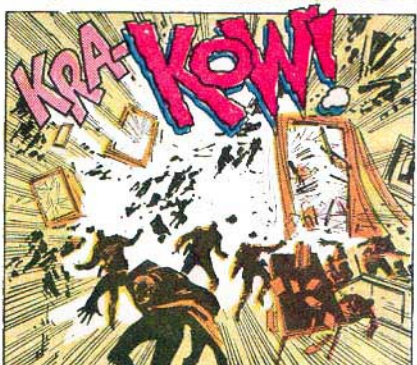
THERE'S A PITCHED BATTLE RAGING IN THE SEINE!

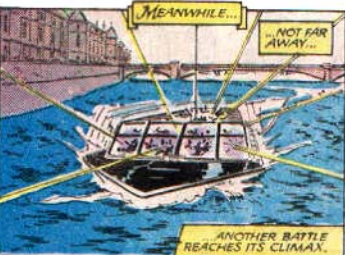
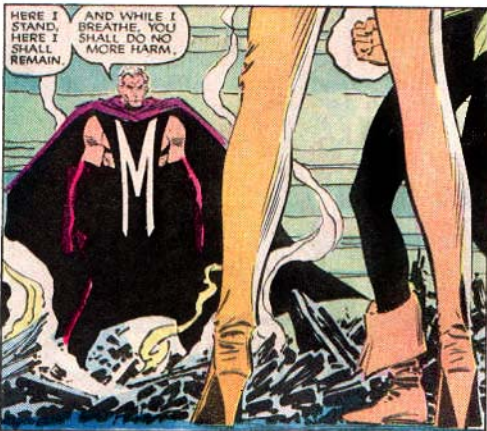
IT'S MAGNETO'S FAULT!

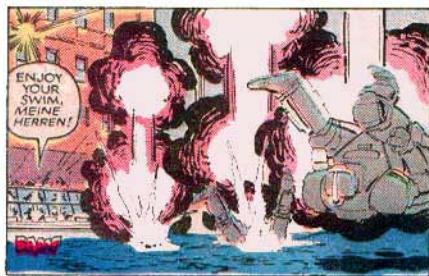
< IS IT SAFE?!! >

< SHOULD WE EVACUATE THE COURT?!! >

ARE WE IN DANGER?!







FOR TOO MANY YEARS, SWINE, THE HUMILIATION AND DEFEAT SUFFERED BY OUR BELOVED FATHER AT YOUR HANDS HAS GONE UNAVENGED!

TODAY, AT LONG LAST, YOU SHALL PAY!

WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT, WHO DO THEY MEAN?!



SEE, JASPERS?! MAGNETO'S RISKING HIS LIFE TO SAFEGUARD OURS-- HARDLY THE ACT OF A VILLAIN.



AND NOT DOING TOO FINE A JOB OF IT, EITHER!

FOOLISH OLD MAN-- THERE'S MANY A WAY...

...TO SKIN THE PROVERBIAL CAT!

THE FLOOR--?!



I'M FALLING INTO THE BASEMENT--



--AND SOME OF THE JUDGES-- PLUS GABRIELLE, JASPERS AND XAVIER-- WITH ME!



... AND PROTECT EVERYONE FROM FALLING DEBRIS. I WAS OVERCONFIDENT. I SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED THAT MOVE.



YOU'RE BLEEDING, CHARLES. BUT THE CUT ISN'T SERIOUS, THANK HEAVEN!



JUDGE SAKHAROV AND CHIEF JUSTICE DEVEREAUX ARE UNHURT, SIR JAMES--?



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, MURDERER-- AND, SPARE ME YOUR FALSE SOLICITUDE.

I'M FINE.



THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR YOU THIS WAY, OLD MAN-- OR ANY OTHER!

YOUR FATE-- AND BALDY'S AND THE JEWESS'S-- IS SEALED!

WHY THE THREE OF US??

THE TWINS' POWER EVIDENTLY WORKS SOLELY WHEN THEY'RE IN PHYSICAL CONTACT--

--THE BOY PROJECTS FORCE, HIS SISTER RAW POWER, DIS-INTEGRATING WHAT-EVER IT TOUCHES.



WHA--?!

THE GROUND-- WE'RE BEING BURIED!

MY DOING, HOTSHOTS...

MY PLEASURE.

FENRIS IS NOT SO EASILY CAGED, X-MAN.

NOR WILL OUR HATRED BE DENIED--BY YOU OR ANYONE!



YIELD--OR I FRY THE HUMAN TO ASHES!

I THINK I CAN NAUL HER IN TIME--

BUT SUPPOSE I'M WRONG I CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE.



OKAY, BLONDIE-- YOU WIN.



WE ALWAYS DO.

TELL US, MAGNETO-- IS YOUR LIFE WORTH MORE THAN THESE HUMANS? WOULD YOU SACRIFICE IT TO SAVE THEM?!

THEY'RE LYING, THEY MEAN TO SLAY US ALL, REGARDLESS.

YES.

BUT WHAT CHOICE HAVE I?!



THIS IS MY CHANCE--WHILE FENRIS IS CONCENTRATING ON MAGNETO!

I'VE BROKEN THEIR GRASP! KEEP THEM APART--

--AND THEY'RE POWERLESS!

I HOPE.

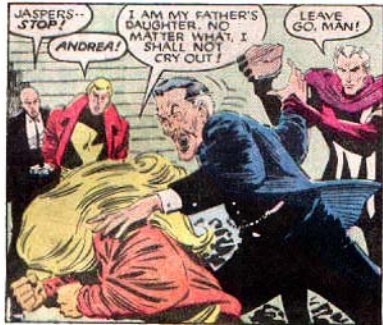
BUT IF MY DEDUCTIONS ARE INCORRECT--?!

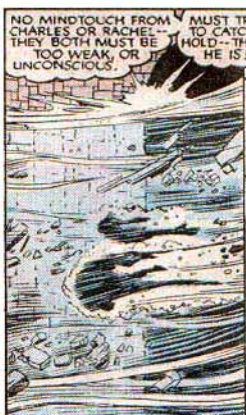


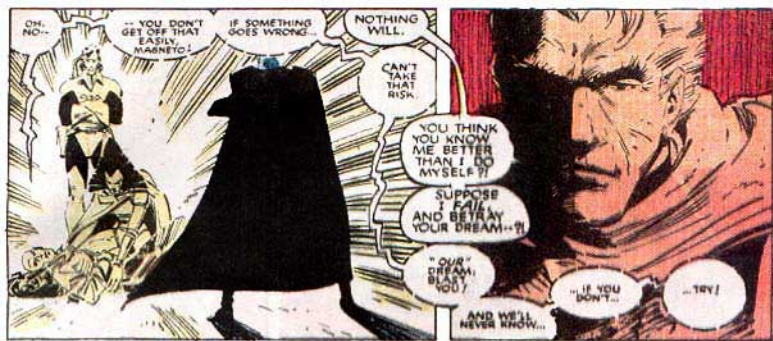
THREATEN ME, WILL YOU, MUTANT?!

BY GODFREY, I'LL SEE TO IT YOU NEVER HARM ANOTHER LIVING HUMAN SOUL!









OH, NO--

-- YOU DON'T GET OFF THAT EASILY, MAGNETO!

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG...

NOTHING WILL

CAN'T TAKE THAT RISK.

YOU THINK YOU KNOW ME BETTER THAN I DO MYSELF?!

SUPPOSE I FAIL AND BETRAY YOUR DREAM--?!

"OUR DREAM, BLAST YOU!"

... IF YOU DON'T...

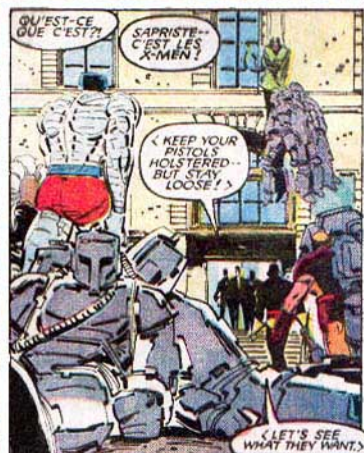
... TRY!

AND WE'LL NEVER KNOW...



PARIS POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

?!?

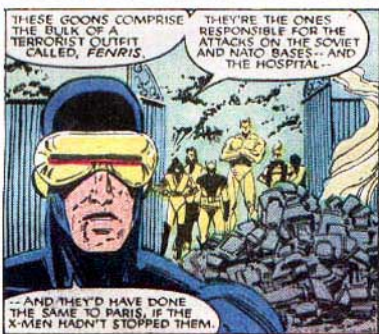


QU'EST-CE QUE C'EST?!

SAPRISTE-- C'EST LES X-MEN!

< KEEP YOUR PISTOLS HOLSTERED-- BUT STAY LOOSE! >

< LET'S SEE WHAT THEY WANT. >



THESE GOONS COMPRISE THE BULK OF A TERRORIST OUTFIT CALLED, FENRIS.

THEY'RE THE ONES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET AND NATO BASES-- AND THE HOSPITAL--

-- AND THEY'D HAVE DONE THE SAME TO PARIS, IF THE X-MEN HADN'T STOPPED THEM.



WE'VE DONE OUR JOB, GENTLEMEN.

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

AROUND THE CORNER,
AT THE LAW COURTS...

< YOU MUST LEAVE,
MADAME CHIEF JUSTICE.
THE BUILDING IS
STRUCTURALLY UNSOUND. >

< AND THERE ARE MUTANTS
REPORTED IN THE
VICINITY. IT IS
NOT SAFE! >

UN MOMENT, CAPITAINE.

HOW DO
YOU FEEL,
RACHEL?

I ACHE
ALL OVER,
MS. HALLER--
ESPECIALLY
INSIDE MY
SKULL-- BUT
I'LL BE OKAY.

I'LL TRY
TO CONTACT
THE OTHERS.

THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL MOMENT.
WE THREE HAVE EACH LIVED THROUGH
PRIMAL ASPECTS OF THIS NEVER-
ENDING NIGHTMARE OF PERSECUTION
AND HATRED. I AM THE PAST,
MILE. DEVEREAUX THE PRESENT...

... AND RACHEL,
THE FUTURE.

BUT HAVE TODAY'S
EFFORTS CHANGED
THAT FUTURE?

"HAVE WE MADE
A DIFFERENCE?"

YOU KNOW, COUNSELLOR, I
WOULD PROBABLY HAVE ACCEPTED
A PLEA FOR MITIGATION OF SENTENCE
IF HE HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY.

NOT AN ACQUITTAL
FOR MAGNETO,
BUT NOT DEATH,
EITHER.

BUT THAT HAS ALL BEEN
RENDERED MOOT. WHATEVER A
COURT OF LAW DECIDES...

... HIS FATE -- AND THE X-MEN'S --
IS NOW BEFORE THE COURT OF
PUBLIC OPINION. THE PEOPLE OF
THE WORLD WILL
DETERMINE THEIR INNOCENCE
OR GUILT -- AND WHETHER
THEIR STORY HAS A
TRULY HAPPY ENDING.

MS. HALLER,
I'VE SCANNED
ALL OVER --

-- BUT I CAN'T
SPOT ANY TRACE OF
PROFESSOR X!

"WHERE HAS HE GONE?! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?!"

I GAVE YOU
MY WORD,
CHARLES.

COME
WHAT
MAY...

... I WILL BE
TRUE TO IT.

NEXT: **A BEGINNING... A DUEL... AN ENDING!**