

ACTS of VENGEANCE!

AVENGERS

#1

MARVEL

The Acts of Vengeance began in this prologue from *Avengers* #310...

Writer: John Byrne • Breakdowns: Paul Ryan • Finisher: Tom Palmer • Colorist: Christie Scheele • Letterer: Bill Oakley • Assistant Editor: David Wohl • Editor: Howard Mackie



Then, in *Thor* #410...

Co-Plotter & Scripter: Tom DeFalco • Co-Plotter & Penciler: Ron Frenz • Inker: Joe Sinnott • Colorists: Tom Vincent & George Roussos • Letterer: Michael Heisler • Assistant Editor: Mike Rockwitz • Editor: Ralph Macchio



And in *Captain America* #365...

Writer: Mark Gruenwald • Penciler: Mark Bright • Inker: Don Hudson • Colorist: Nel Yomtov • Letterer: Jack Morelli • Assistant Editor: Mike Rockwitz • Editor: Ralph Macchio



THE COMPOUND?

RYKER'S ISLAND?

ALCATRAZ?

YOU WISH.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

ACTS of VENGEANCE!

PROLOGUE

THIS IS THE "UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTALLATION FOR THE INCARCERATION OF SUPER-HUMAN CRIMINALS."

BUT THOSE IMPRISONED HERE HAVE ANOTHER NAME FOR THE PLACE.

THEY CALL IT THE VAULT.

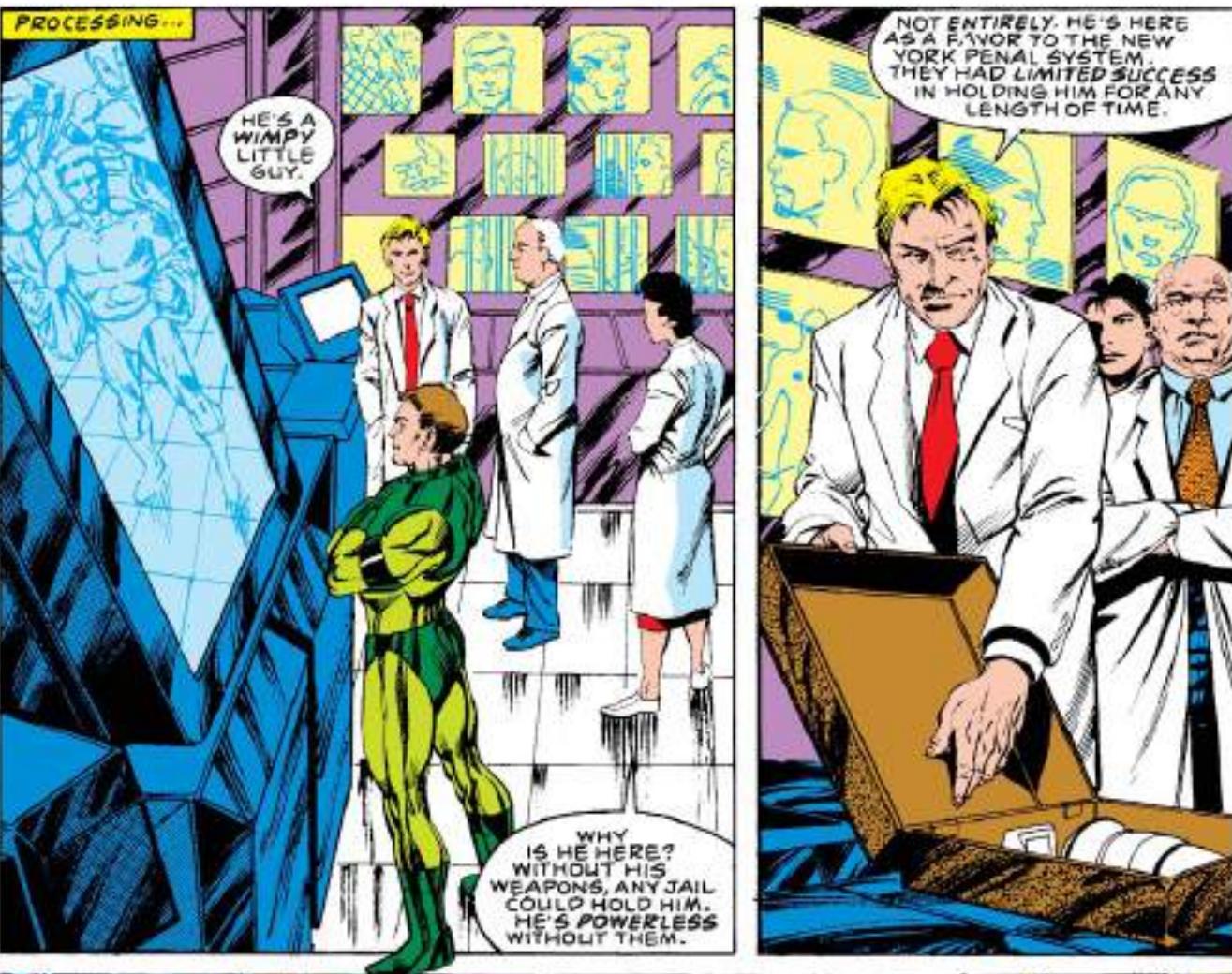
AND THEY ARE ALL BUT RESIGNED TO THE ONE INALTERABLE FACT OF THEIR EXISTENCE HERE...

THERE IS NO ESCAPE.

WRITER DWAYNE McDUFFIE
PENCILER DWAYNE TURNER
INKER CHRIS IVY
COLORIST PAUL BECTON
LETTERER RICHARD STARKINGS
EDITOR MARK GRUENWALD
EDITOR IN CHIEF TOM DEFALCO

TALES FROM THE VAULT





THEN WE'LL JUST STICK HIM IN ONE OF OUR STANDARD "MACGYVER-PROOF" CELLS, AT LEAST, UNTIL HIS TRIAL.

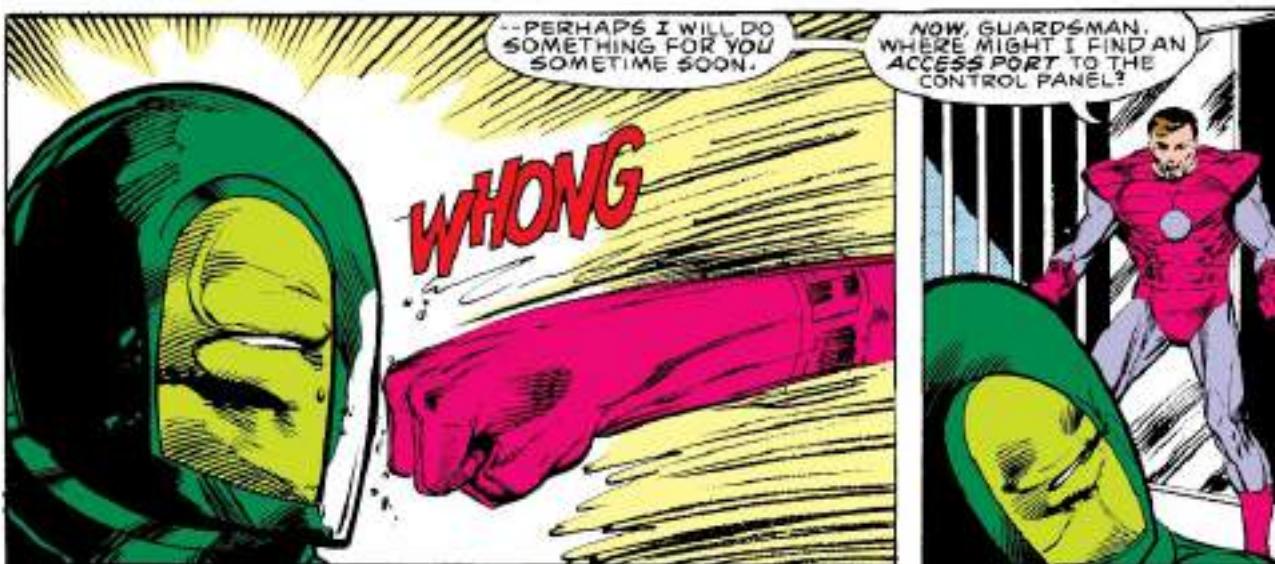






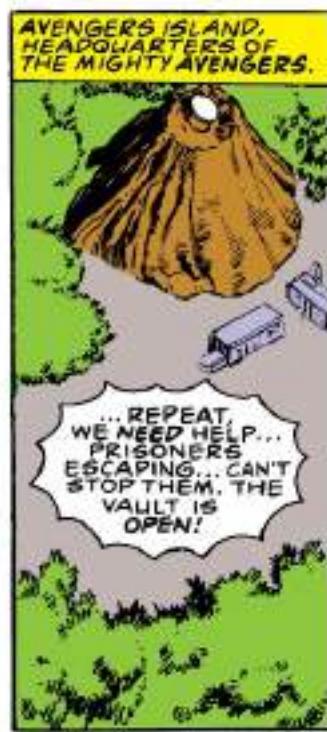
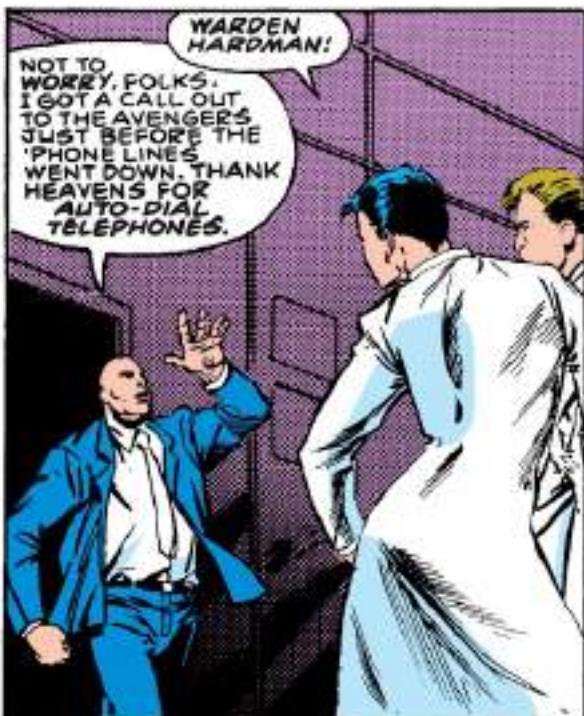




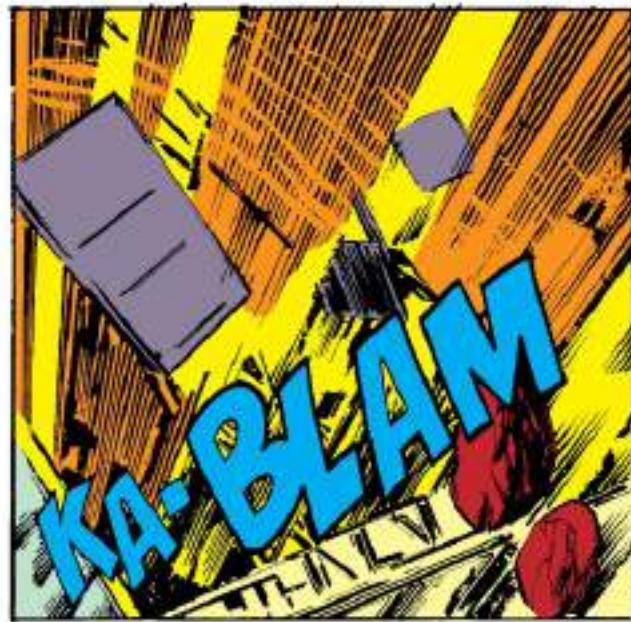












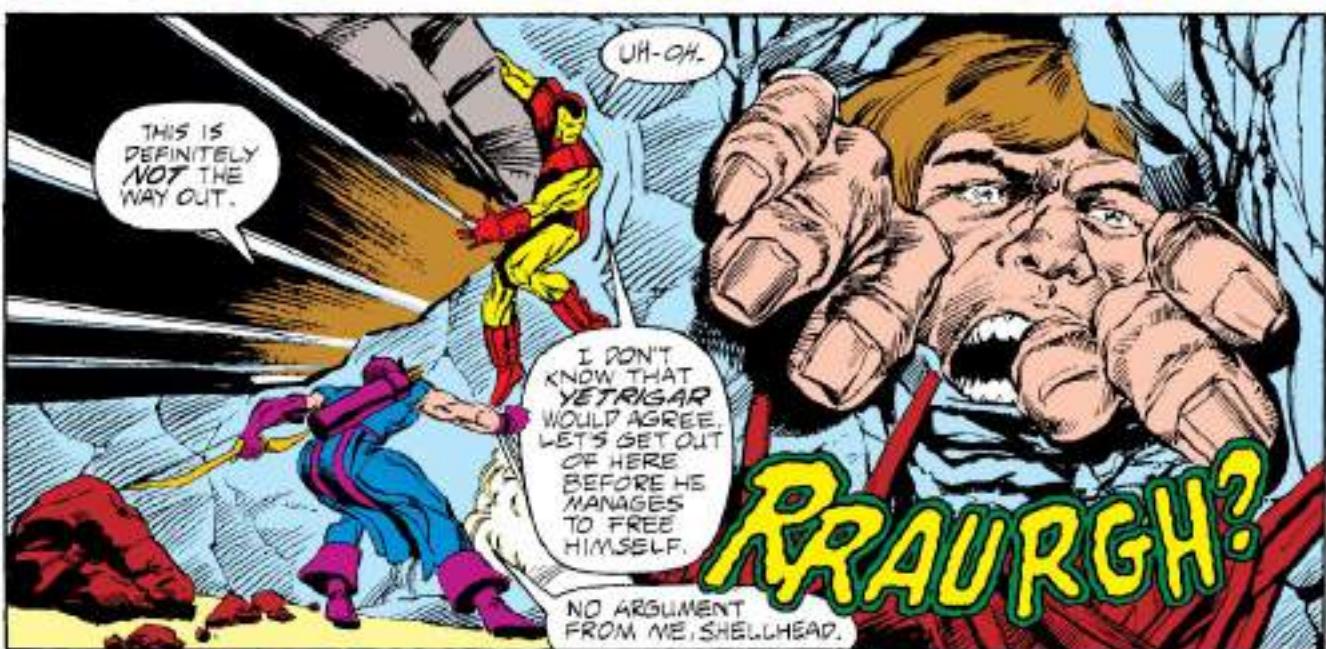


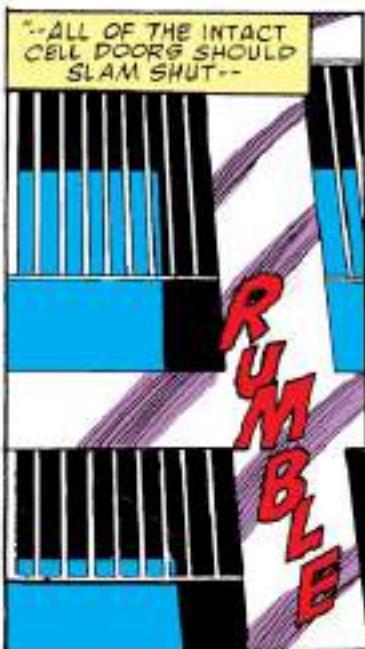


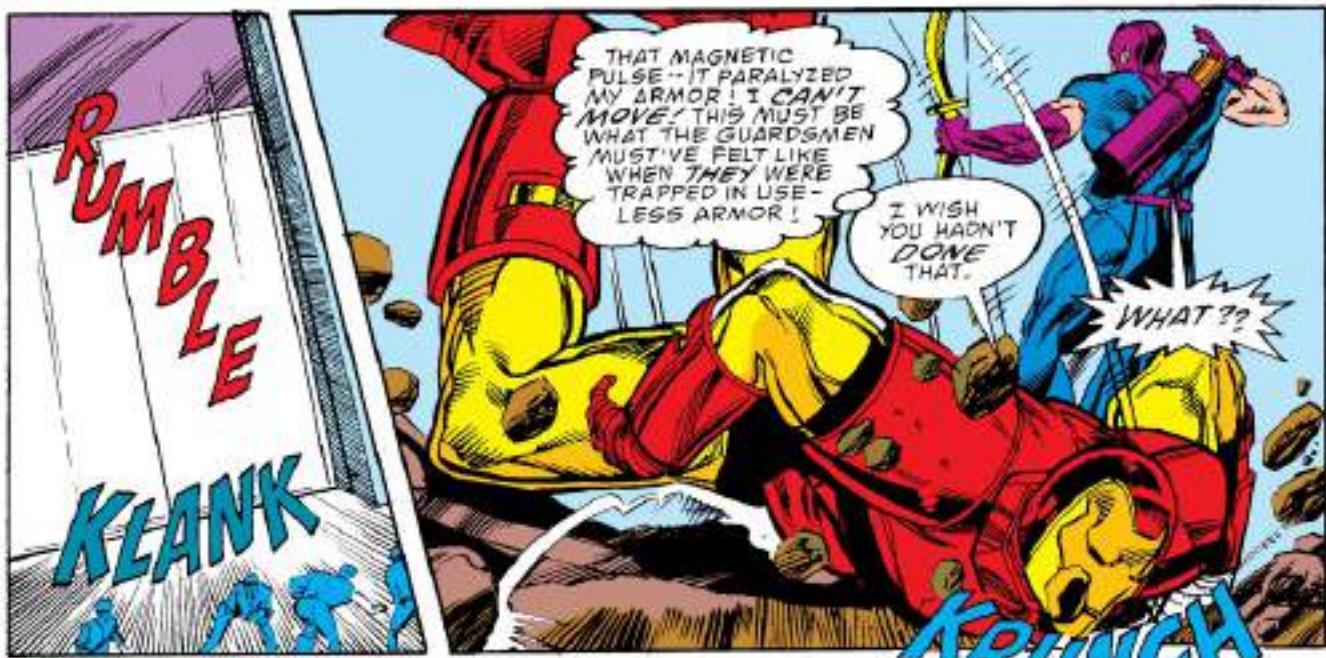












STAN LEE PRESENTS THE ONGOING SAGA OF ACTS OF VENGEANCE:

THE WEAKEST POINT

PAUL RYAN * - ARTISTS
TOM PALMER - WRITER
JOHN BYRNE - COLORIST
NELSON YOMTOV - LETTERER
BILL OAKLEY - EDITOR
HOWARD MACKIE - ASSISTANT EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO - ED. IN CHIEF

THE DAY IS DECEPTIVELY CALM.
THROUGH THE FLICKERING FIELD
THAT SURROUNDS HIM, THE
HERO KNOWN AS QUASAR FEELS
THE FIRST HINT OF FALL IN THE
SEPTEMBER AIR.

BELOW HIM, THE COMPLEX
OF BUILDINGS THAT IS
AVENGERS ISLAND LIES
CALM AND PEACEFUL AGAINST
THE DARK WATERS OF THE
CONVERGENCE OF THE EAST
AND HUDSON RIVERS.

STILL, HIS YOUNG HEART POUNDS,
HIS BLOOD YET SURGES WITH THE
ADRENALINE PUMPED INTO IT
DURING HIS BATTLE WITH THE
UBQUITOUS QUANTUM. A
BATTLE ENDED ONLY
MINUTES AGO."

ODD TO SEE
THE ISLAND
LOOKING SO
PEACEFUL...

AFTER ALL
THAT'S BEEN
HAPPENING.

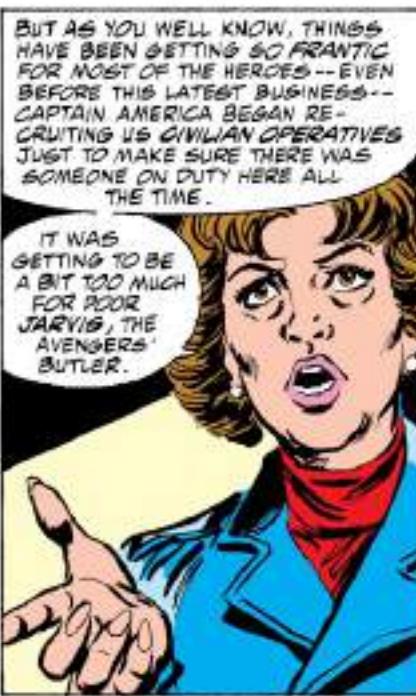
* THIS STORY FOLLOWS IMMEDIATELY THE EVENTS OF QUASAR #4.
IF YOU HAVE NOT YET READ THAT ISSUE, WE SINCERELY SUGGEST
YOU DO... PAUL, TOM, JOHN AND HOWARD.

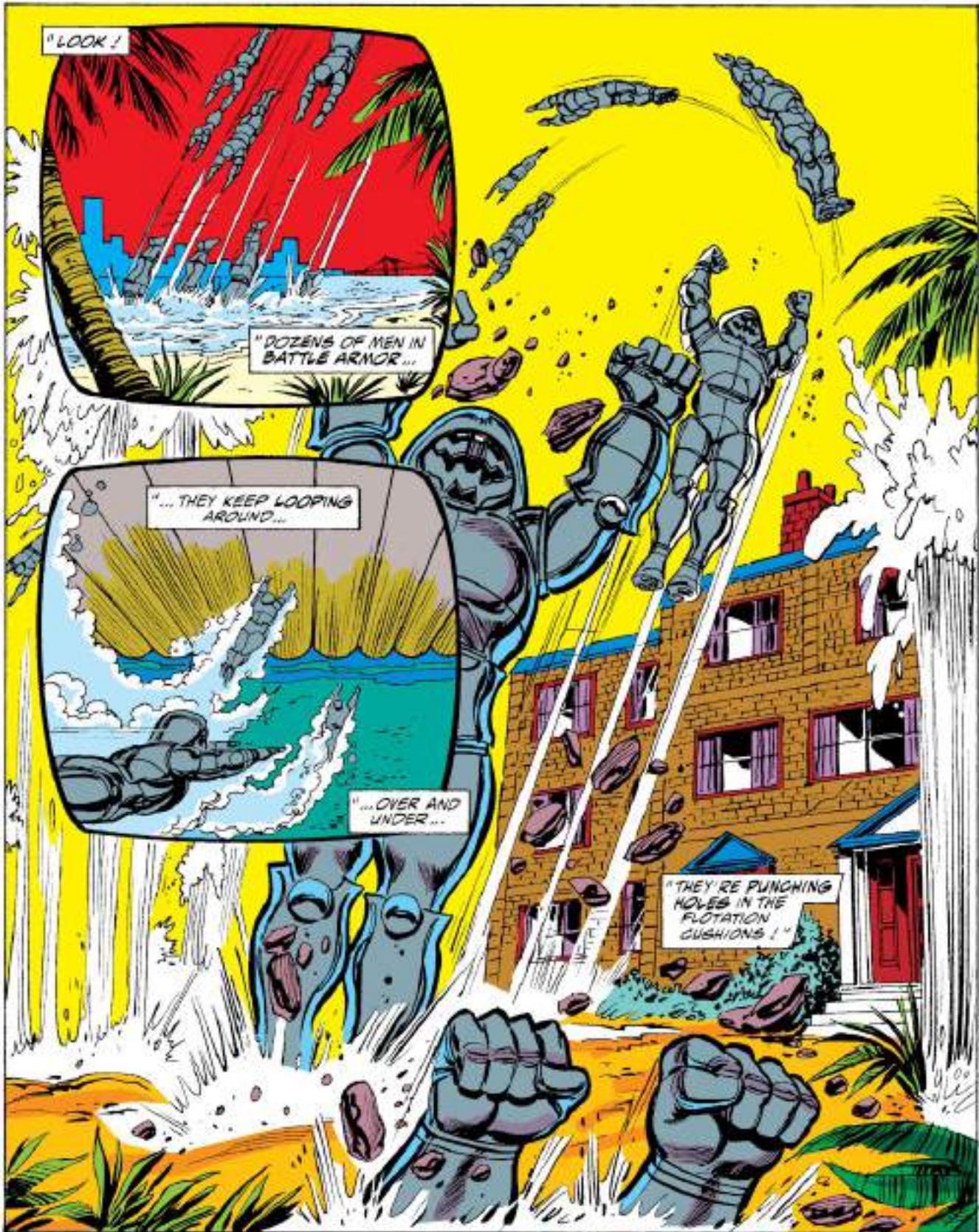




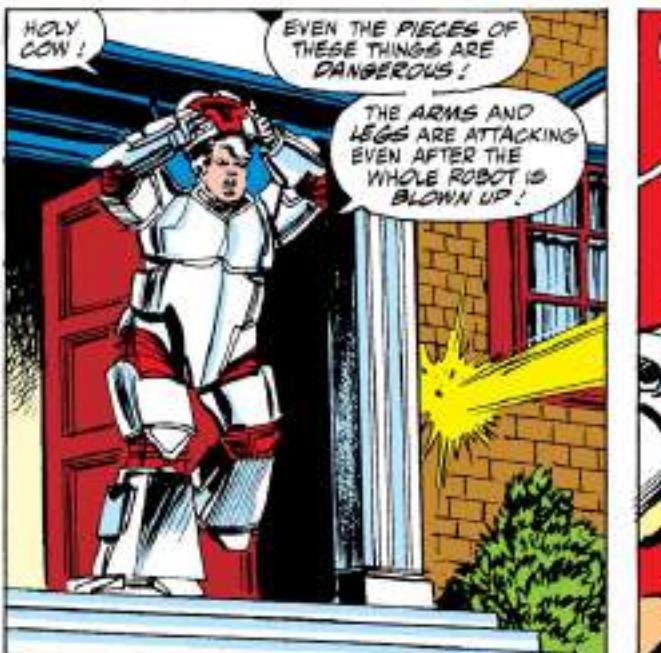
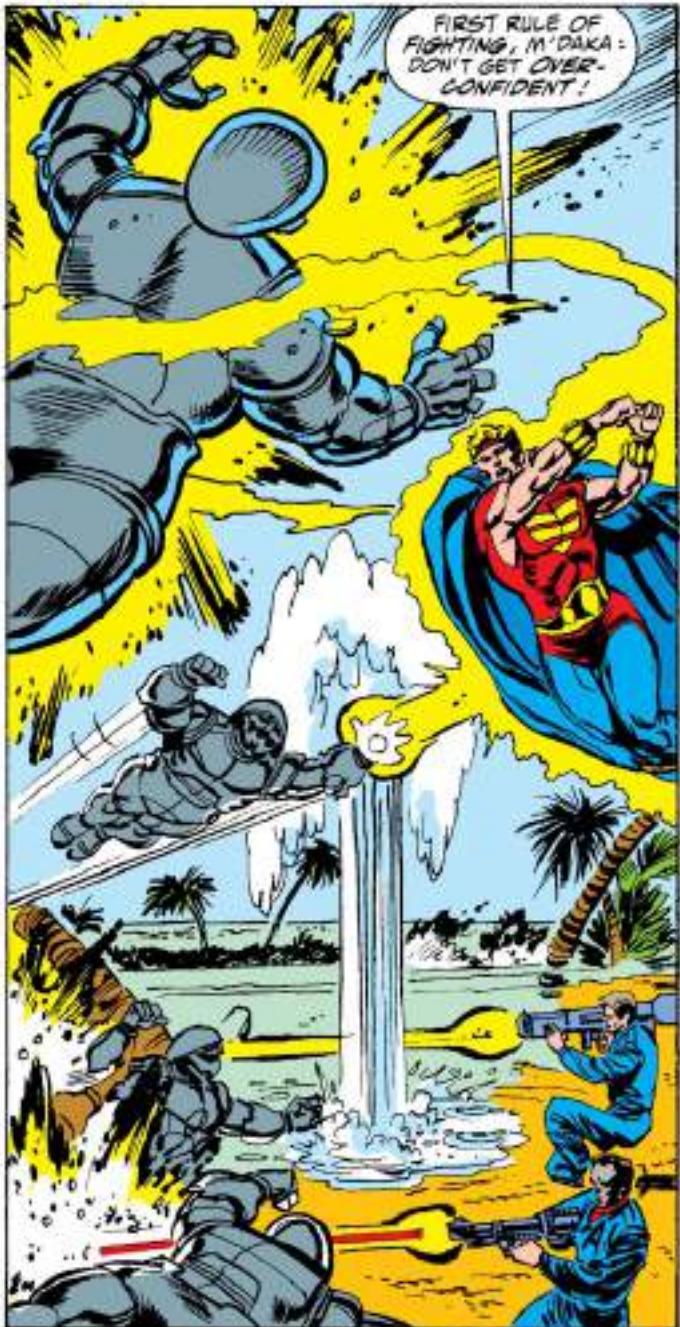








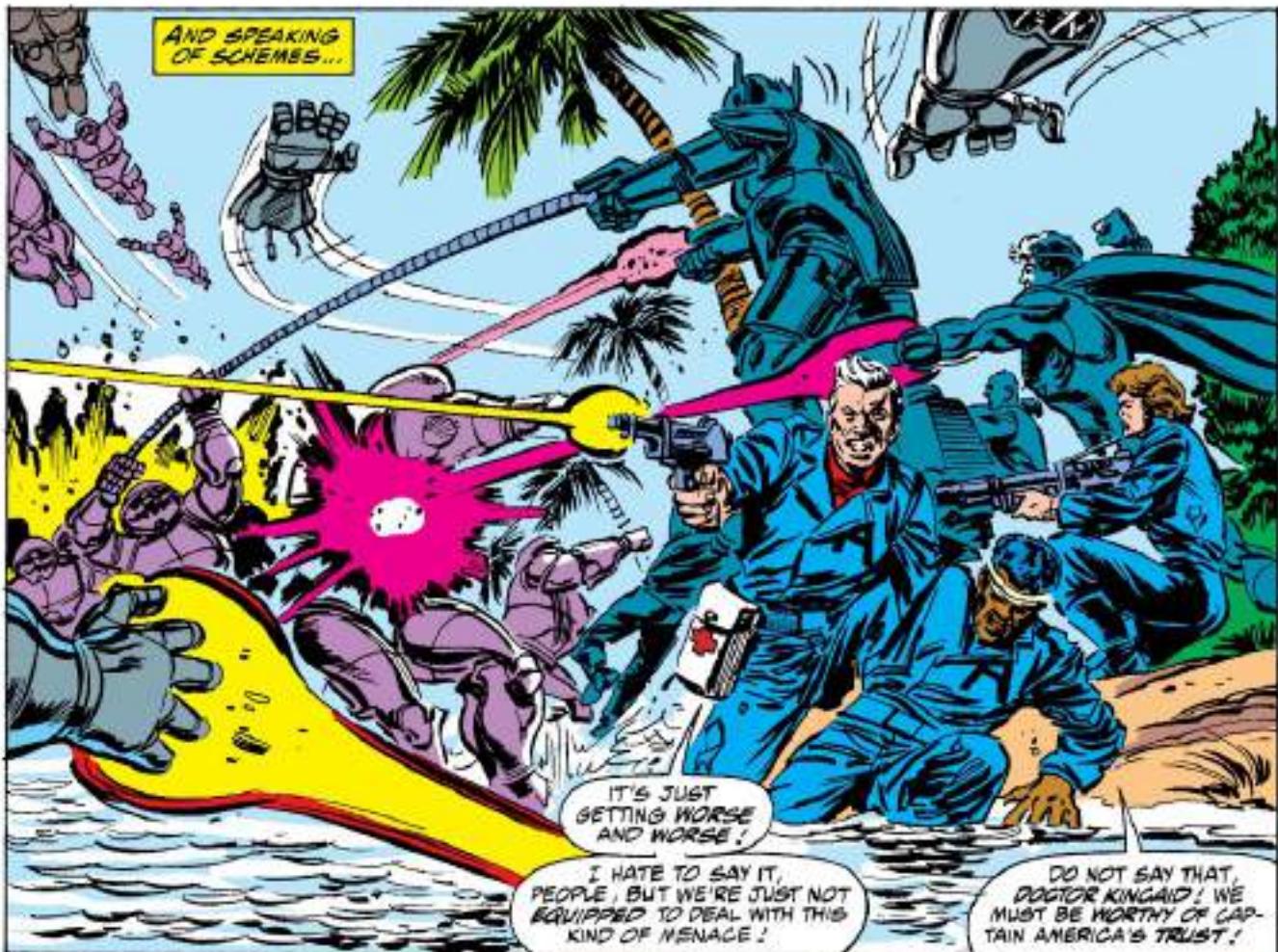






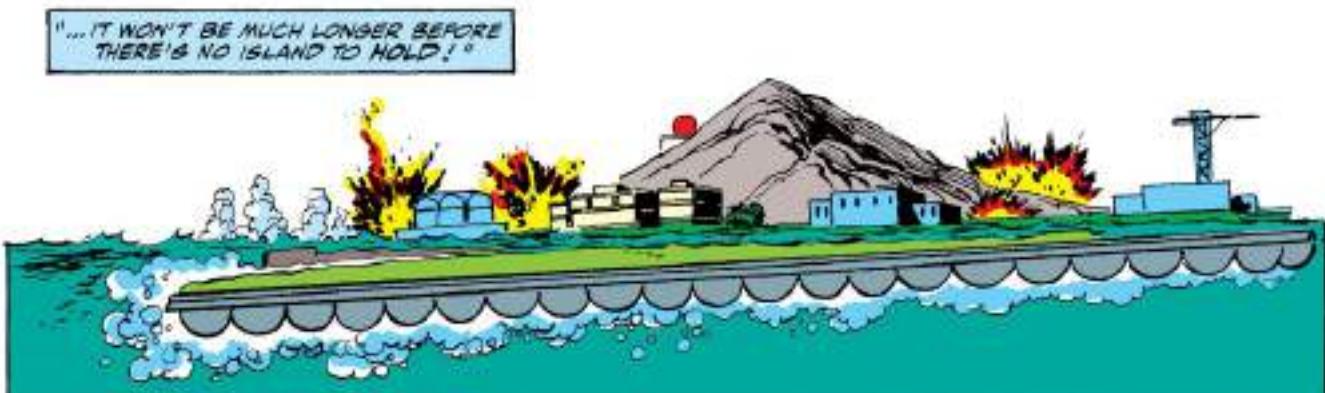


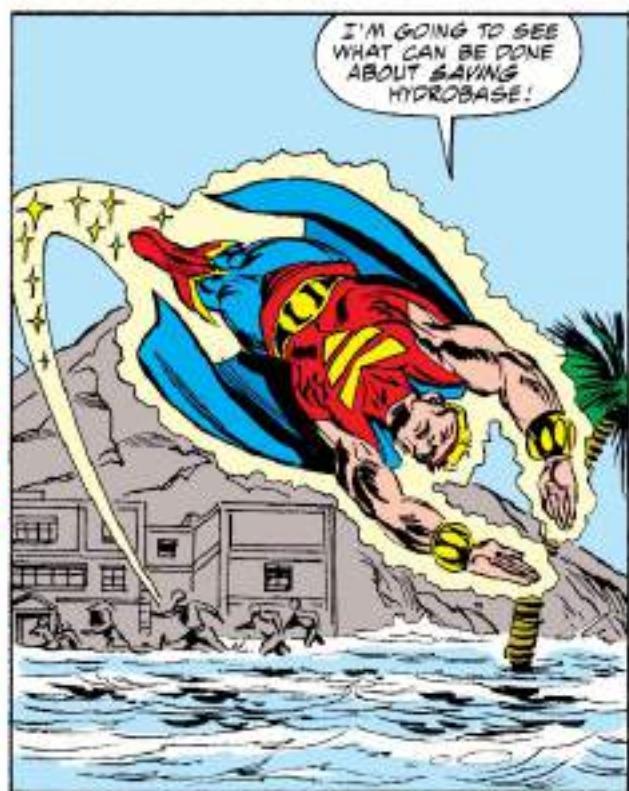
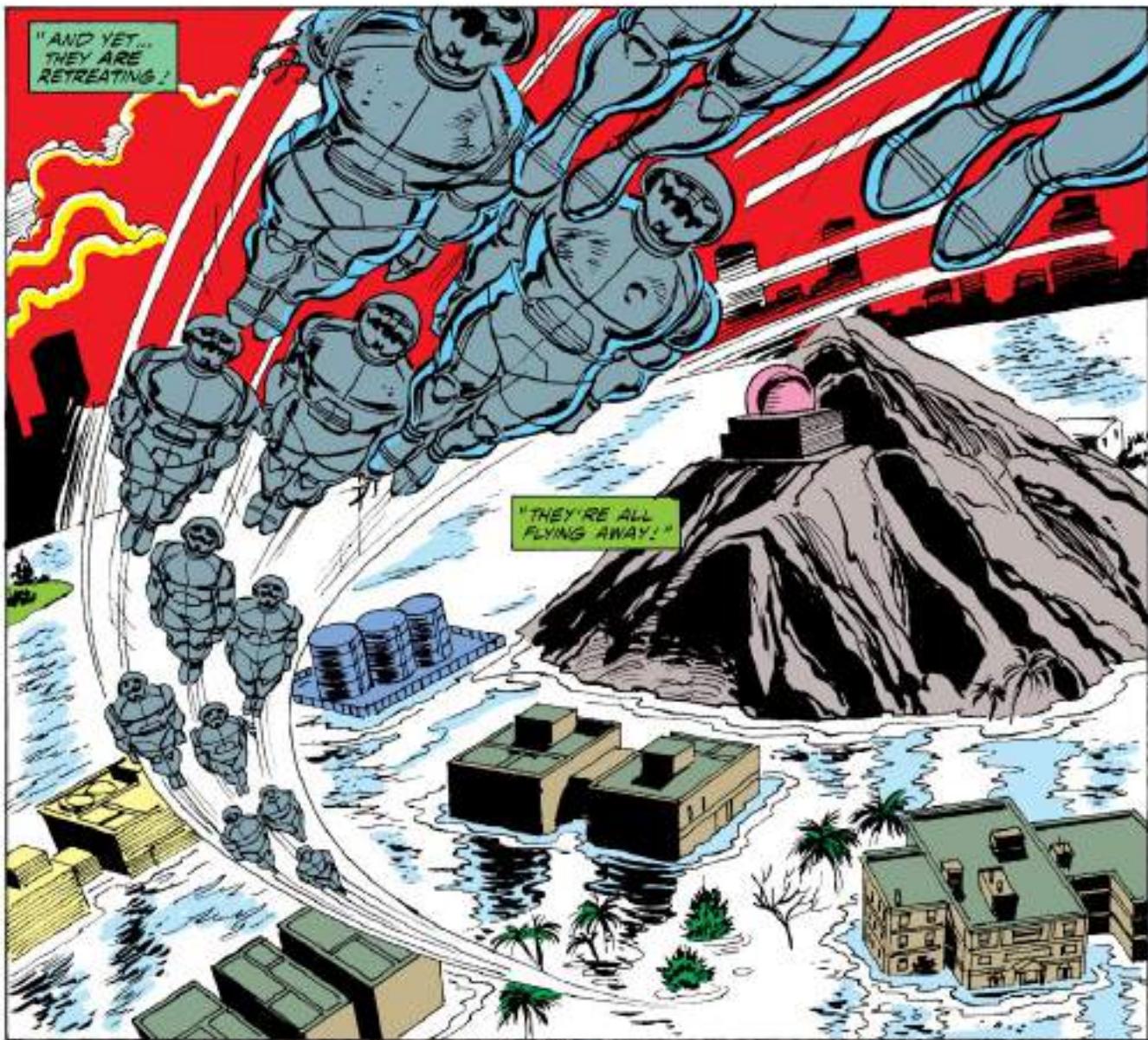










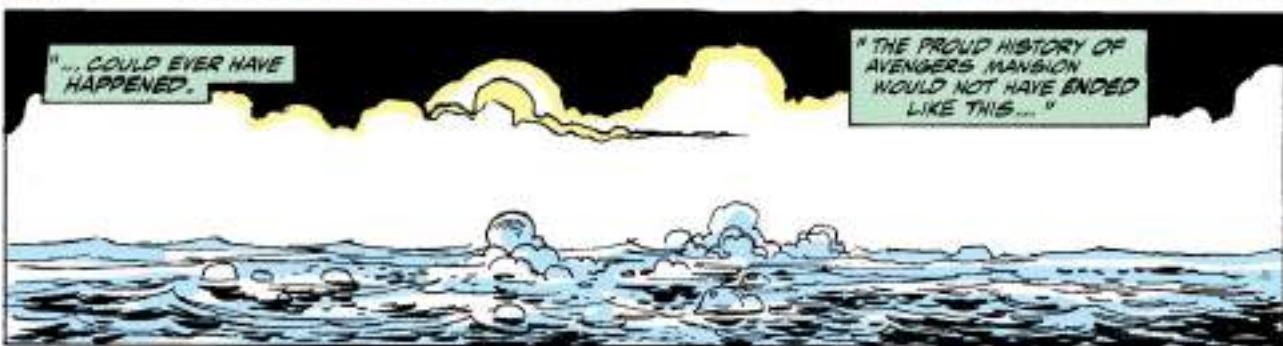
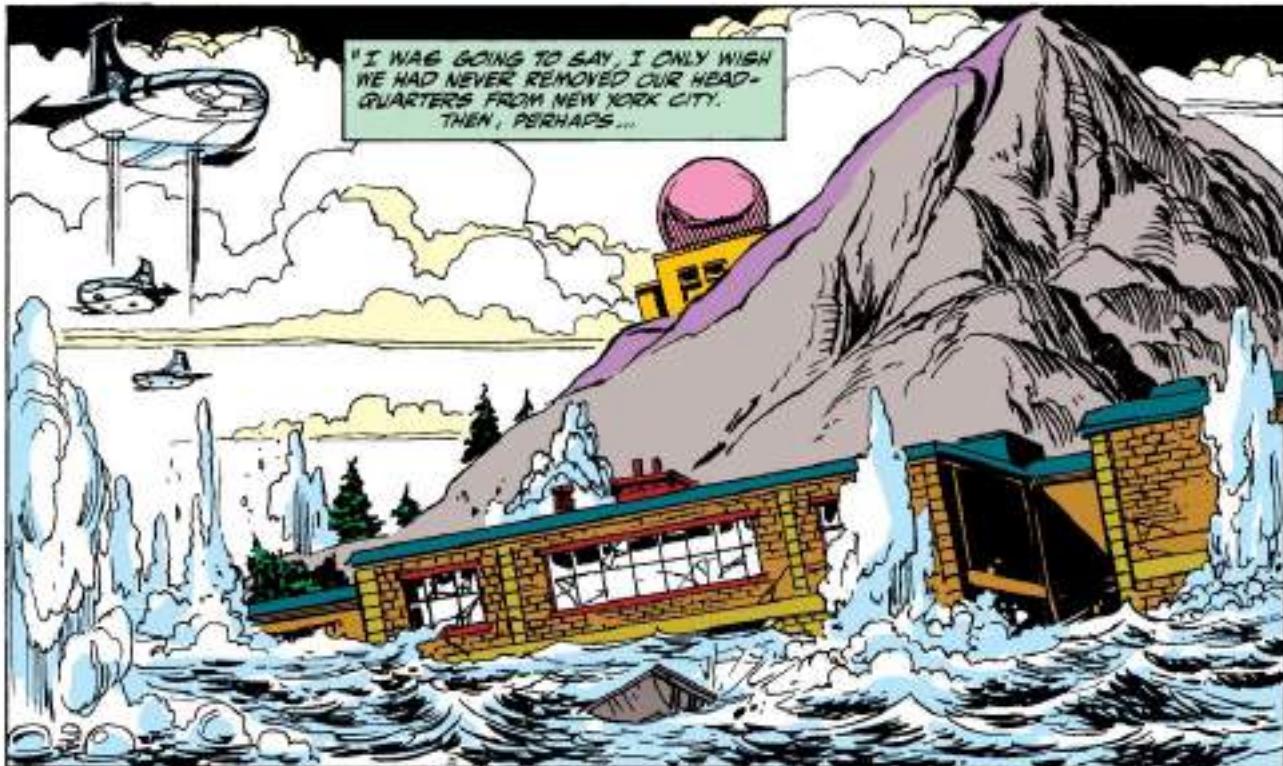












STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

CAPTAIN AMERICA

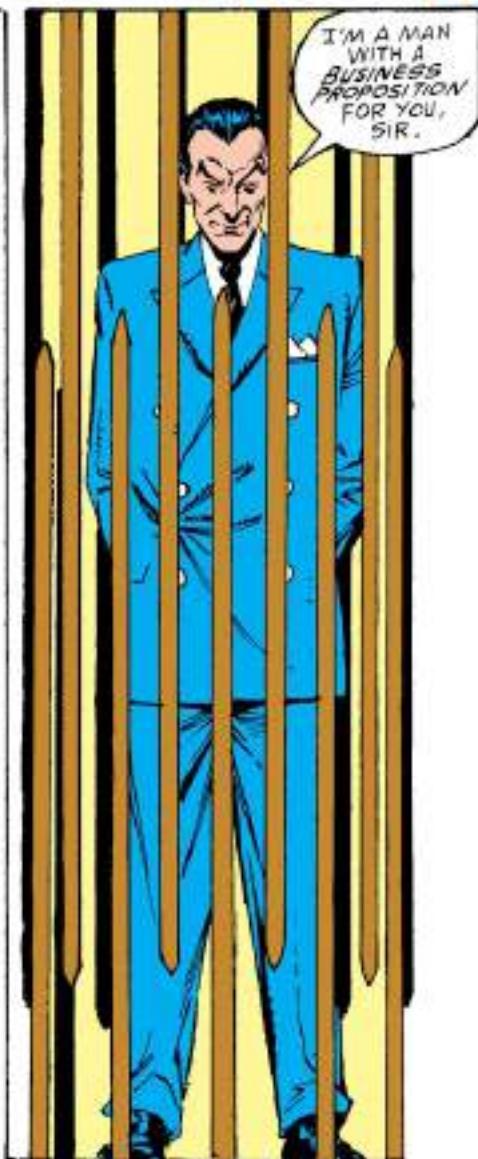
SUBMISSION

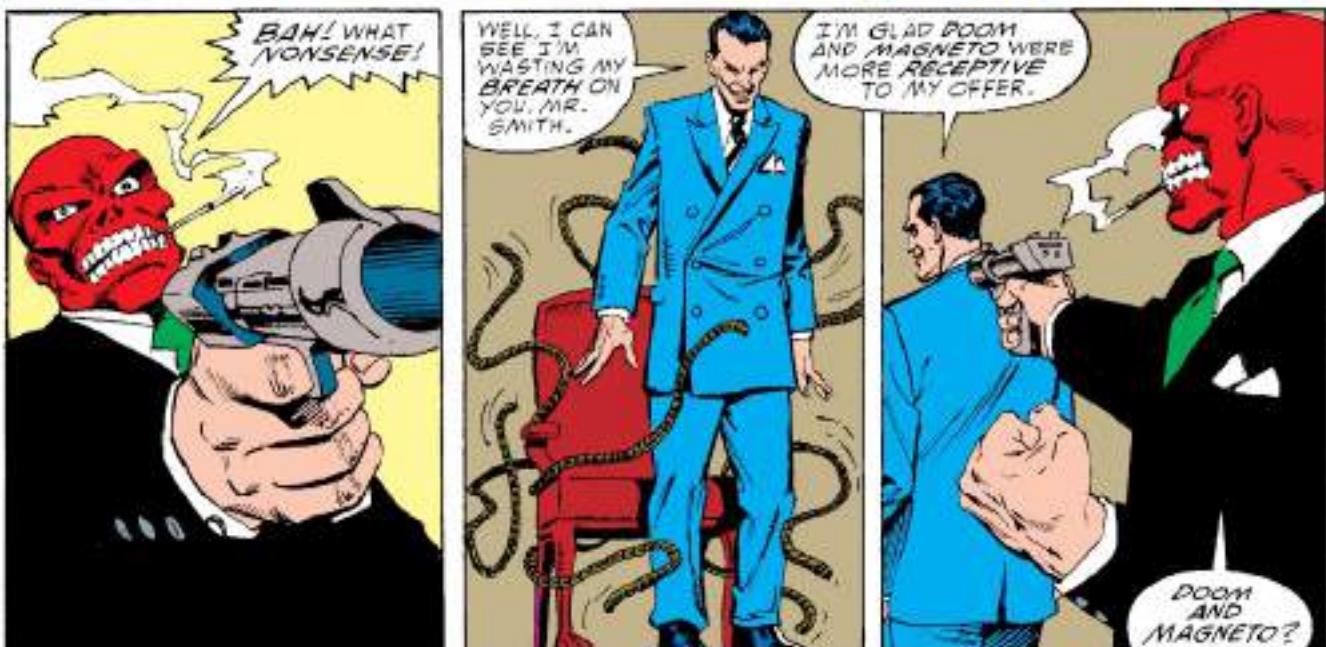
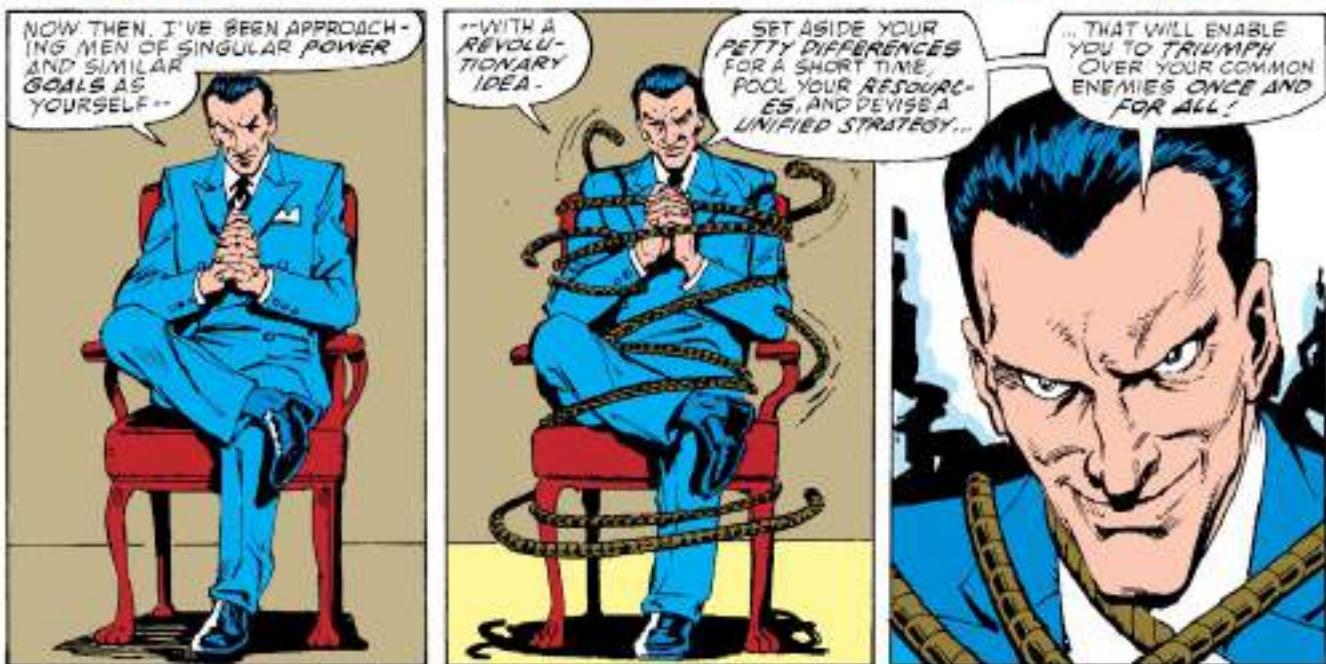
I AM VERY
DISPLEASED.

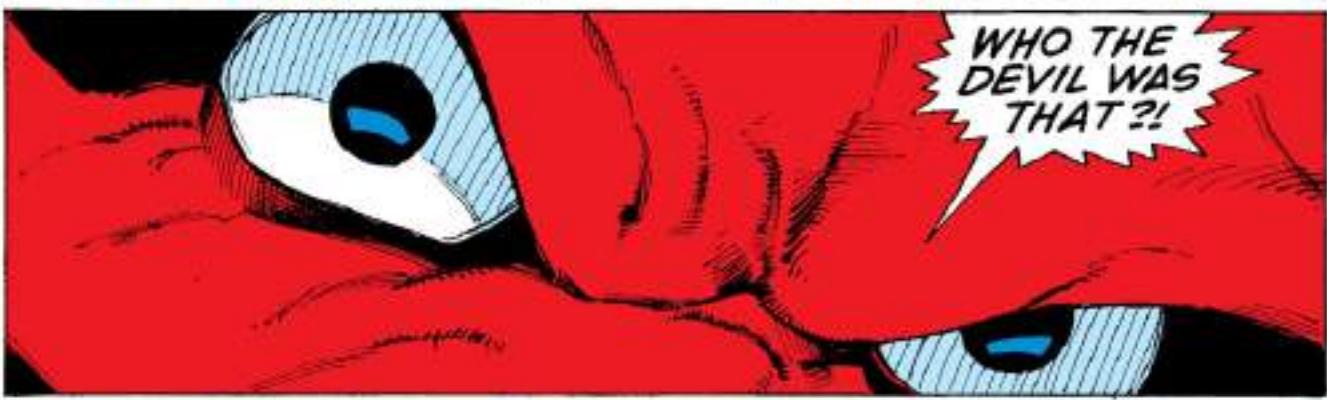


ANOTHER
GRUENWALD
DWYER
BULANDI
MORELLI
SHAREN
MACCIO
DEFALCO

TRIUMPH!











MEANWHILE,
SOMEWHERE
IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE ATLANTIC
OCEAN...

THE EARTH'S
SEAS COVER
THREE QUARTERS
OF THE PLANET.
I AM BUT
ONE MAN!

IT IS
CONCEIVABLE
I COULD SPEND
THE REST OF
MY LIFE IN
SEARCH OF THE
ALIEN SPAWN
OF MY LATE
WIFE, MY
BELOVED
MARINNA--

...AND NEVER
FIND THEM!

PERHAPS IT IS
TIME I--

PRINCE
NAMOR?

MY NAME IS UNIMPORTANT,
SUFFICE IT TO SAY I AM A
MAN OF CONSIDERABLE
POWER WHO HAS A PRO-
POSITION FOR YOU AS ONE OF
THE HUMAN RACE'S MOST
FEARSOME FOES.

I BID YOU
TO JOIN WITH OTHERS
OF YOUR STATURE--
DOCTOR DOOM,
MAGNETO, THE
MANDARIN, THE
RED SKULL--IN A
SUMMIT MEETING
THAT COULD ALTER
THE COURSE OF
HUMAN HISTORY!

SEPARATELY, YOU
ARE FORMIDABLE;
TOGETHER, YOU COULD
BE INVINCIBLE!

IMAGINE--
THE WORLD COULD
BE YOURS TO DIVIDE!
AND I'D BE WILLING
TO WAGER THAT YOU
WOULD BE GIVEN THE GREAT-
EST DOMINION-- THE SEA!

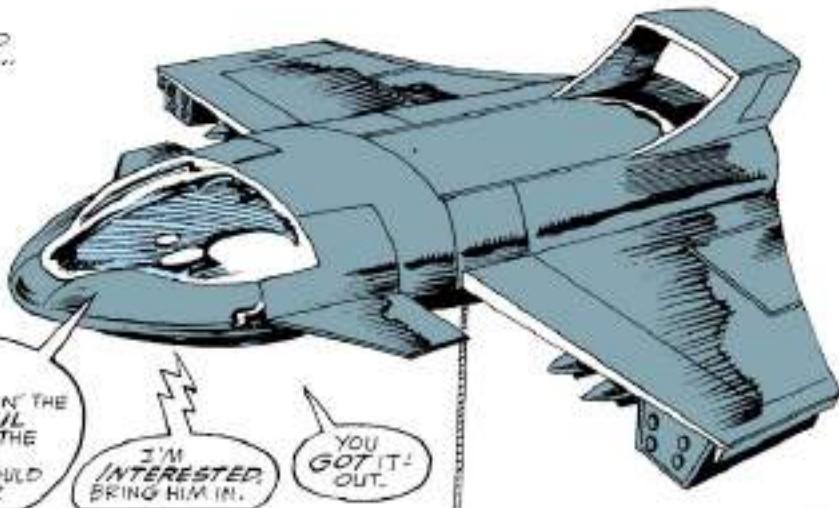
FOR YOUR
CONVENIENCE,
I GIVE YOU A
DOORWAY...

I DO NOT KNOW WHO THAT PHANTASMAL FIGURE
WAS, NOR HOW HE FOUND ME, NOR HOW HE CAN MAKE
HIMSELF HEARD DOWN HERE...

BUT HE WAS APPARENTLY
UNAWARE THAT I HAVE
RENGONCED MY ENMITY
WITH THE SURFACE WORLD,
AND HAVE IN FACT BEEN
ACCEPTED INTO THE
RANKS OF THE SURFACE
WORLD'S GREATEST
CHAMPIONS--THE
AVENGERS!

...AND SO, PRINCE
NAMOR, I AM
INVITING YOU
TO JUMP ONTO
THIS DOORWAY
AND COME UP
TO THE SURFACE
WORLD, WHERE
YOU CAN
JOIN US IN
OUR FIGHT
AGAINST
EVIL!

SOMEWHERE
OVER THE COLORADO
ROCKY MOUNTAINS...



YEAH, BOSS...
CROSSBONES,
WE GOT A LINE ON
THIS ESCAPEE MATCHIN' THE
DESCRIPTION OF **BASIL**
SANDHURST, ALIAS THE
CONTROLLER. YOU
INTERESTED, OR SHOULD
WE Toss HIM BACK?

I'M
INTERESTED.
BRING HIM IN.

YOU
GOT IT!
OUT!



CURSE
YOU!

YOU
CANNOT DO
THIS TO ME!
I AM THE
CONTROLLER!



COOL IT, CONTY. YOU AIN'T
BEEN CAPTURED, YOU BEEN
RESCUED!

NAME'S
CROSSBONES.
I WORK FOR A
GENTLEMAN
BY THE NAME
OF THE RED
SKULL!



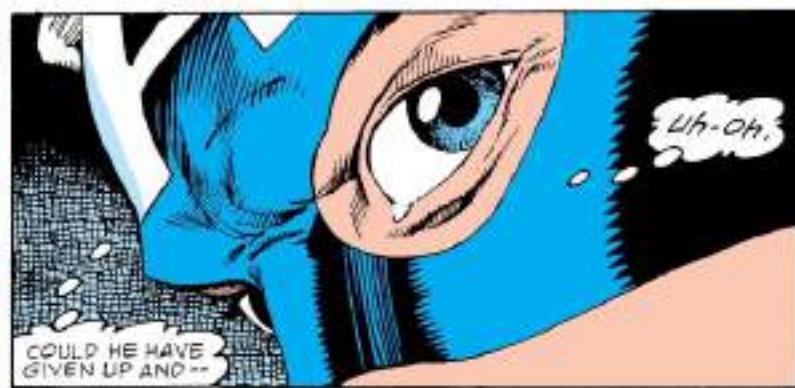
THE BOSS IS LOOKIN'
FER A FEW GOOD
MEN...

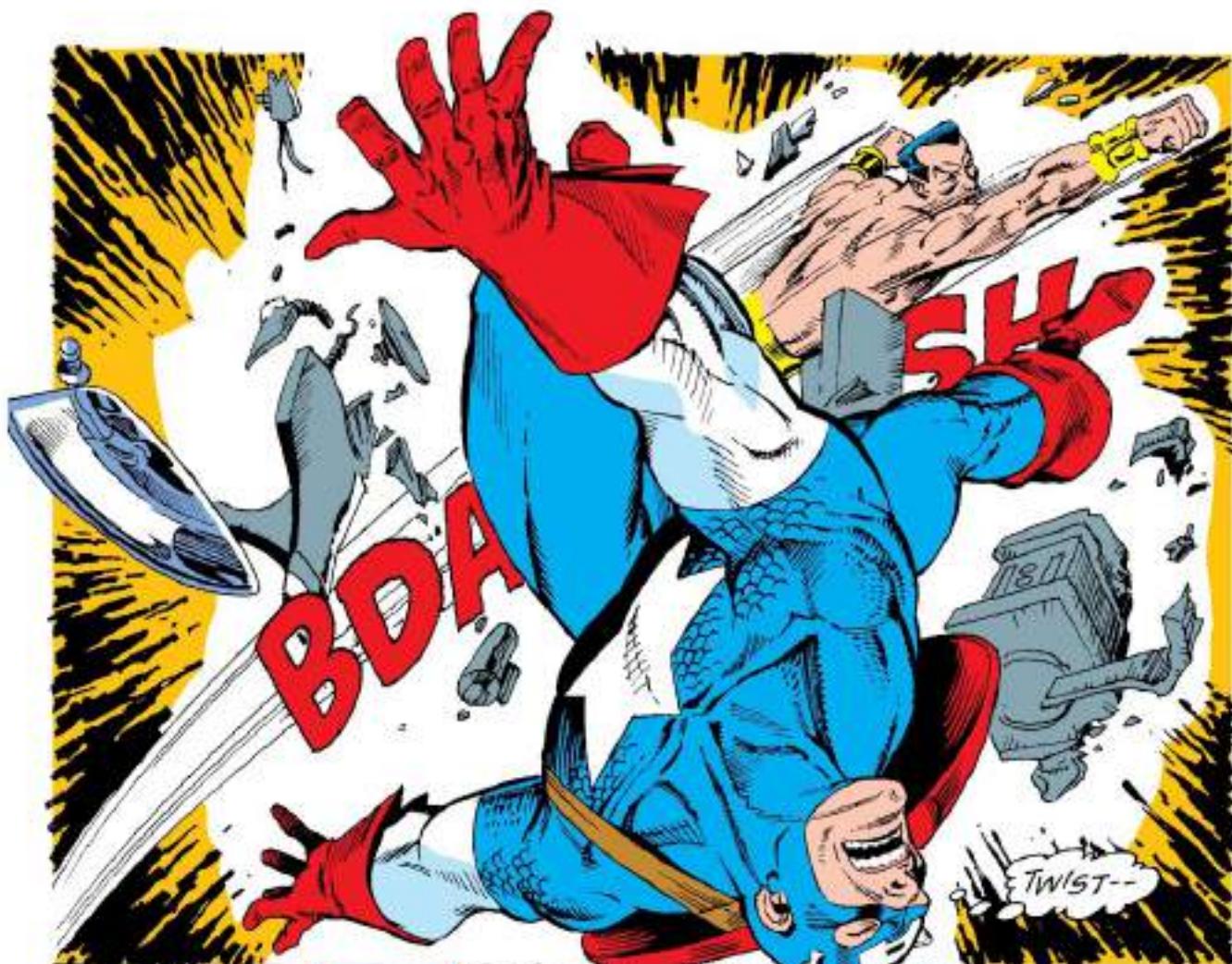
...AND FOR
SOME REASON
HE THINKS
YOU
QUALIFY.

INSOLENT
UPSTART!

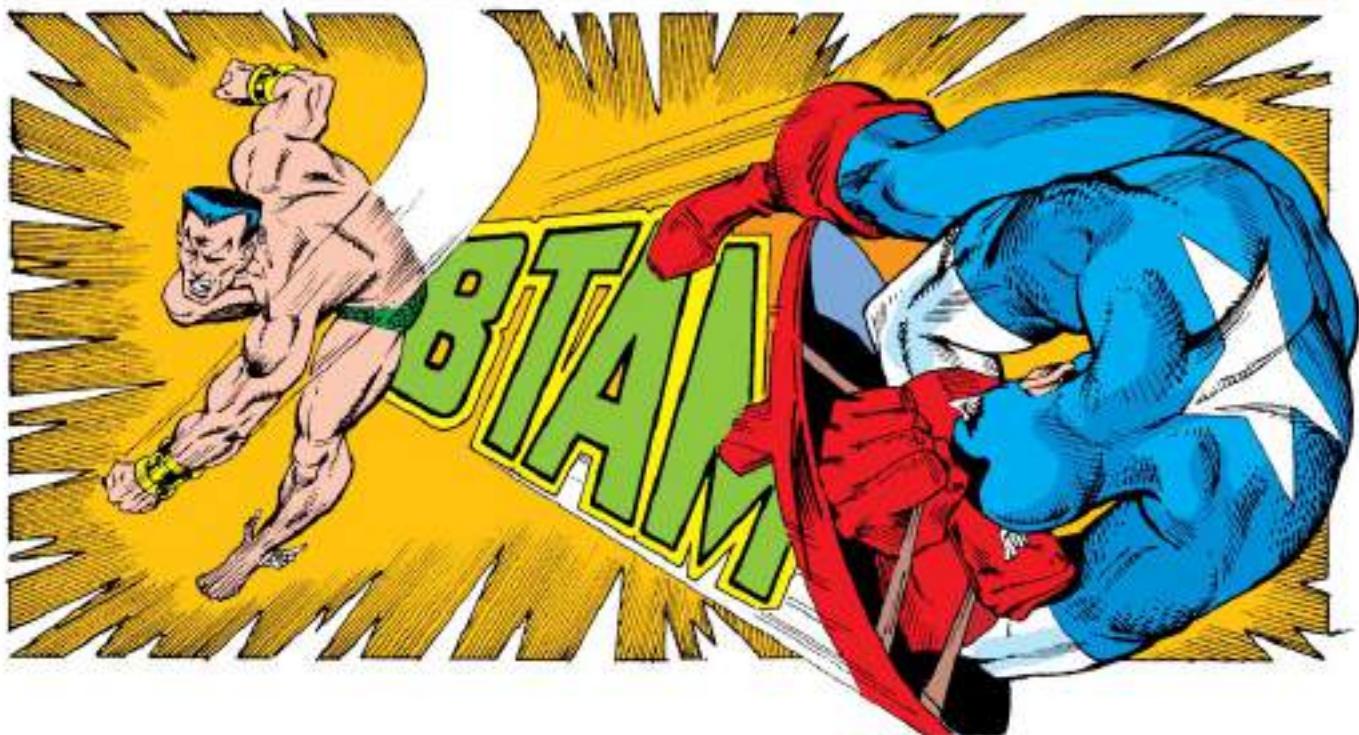


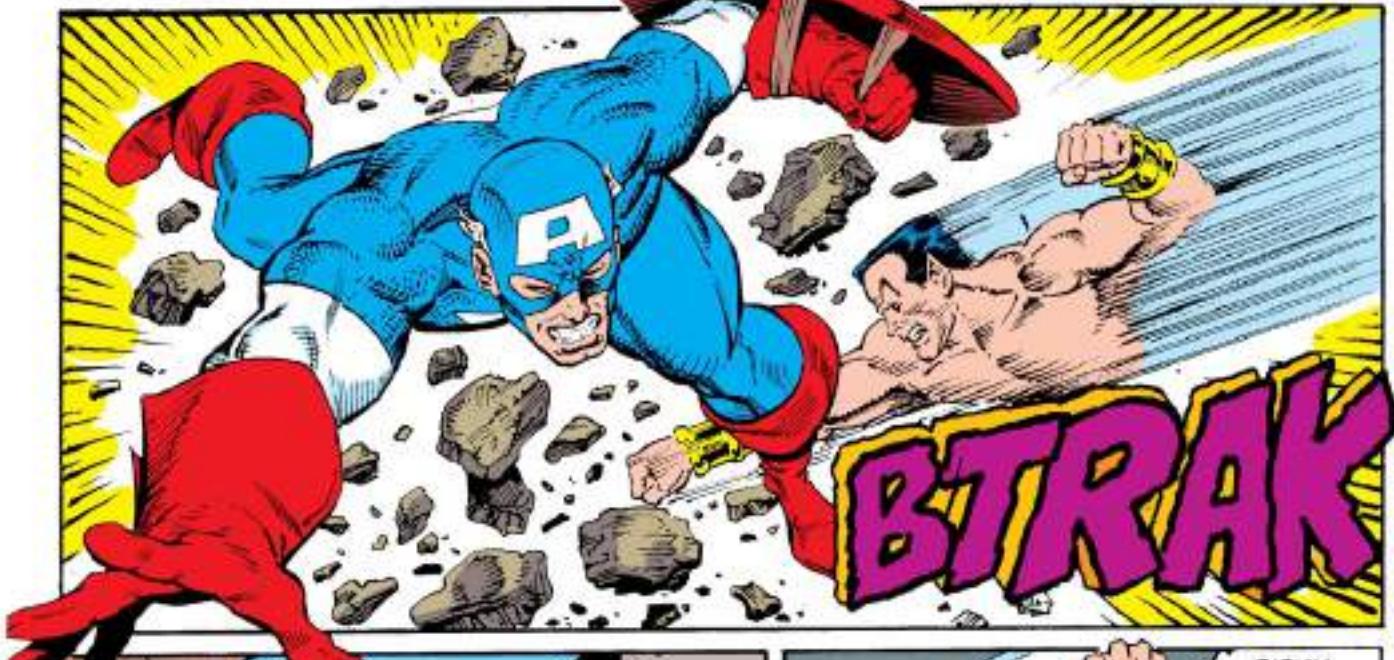


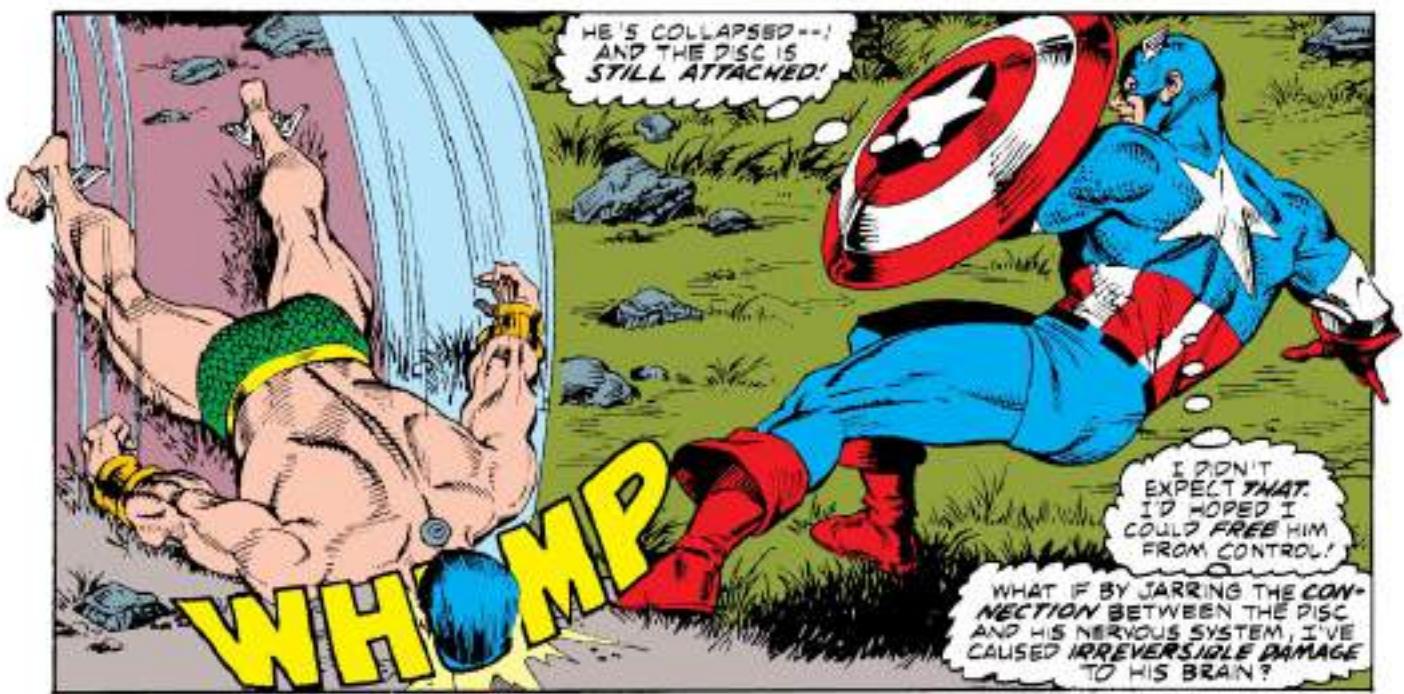
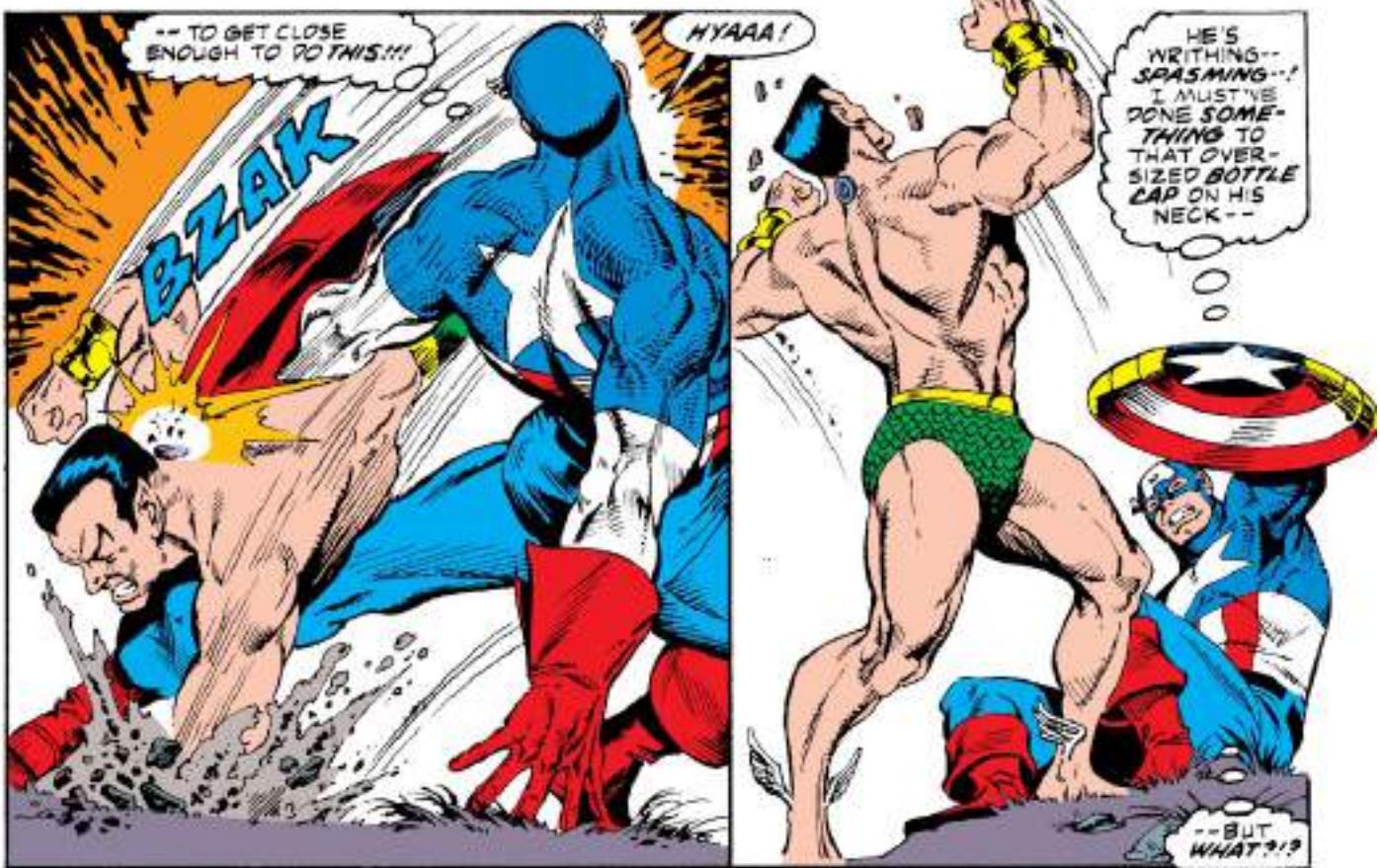


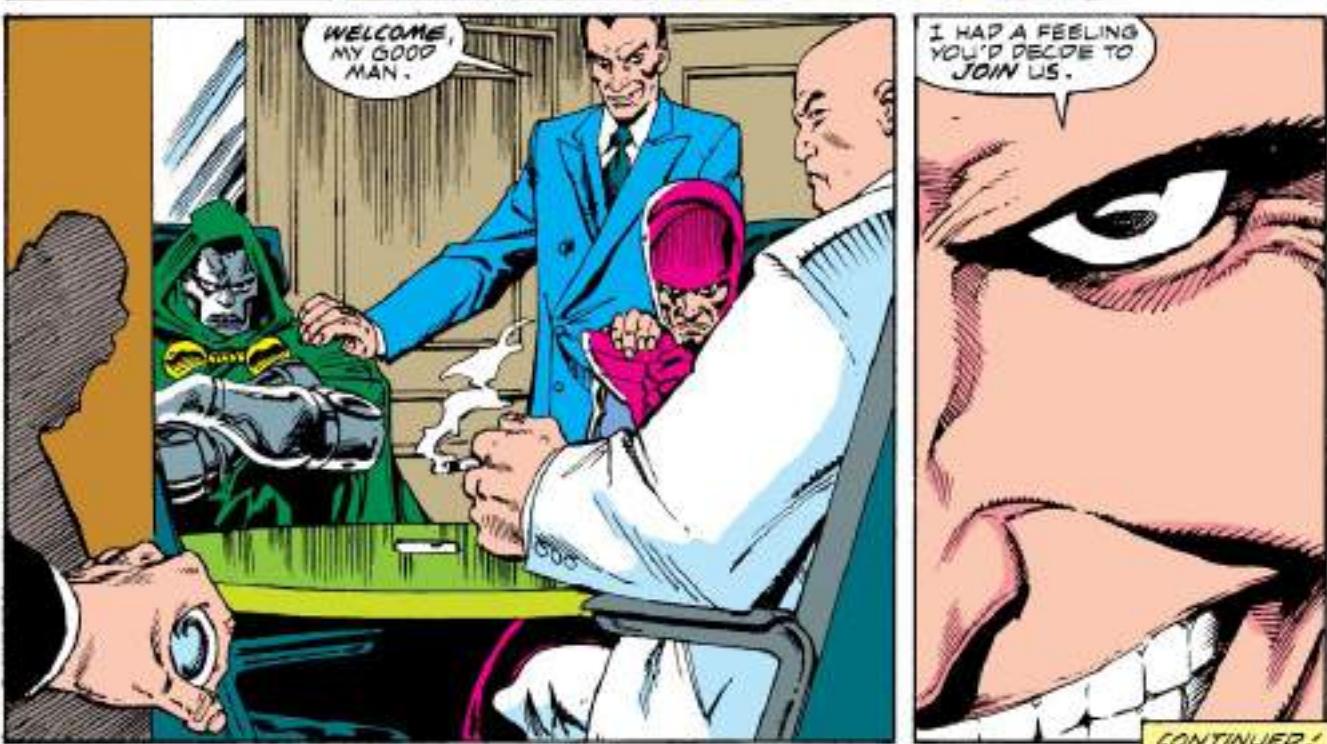












STAN LEE PRESENTS:

QUASAR

THE ABSORPTION PRINCIPLE

EIGHT HOURS AGO, A HORDE OF ROBOTS ATTACKED THE FLOATING HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX OF THE MIGHTY AVENGERS AND MANAGED TO SINK IT. *

SINCE THEN, THE AVENGERS' NEWEST RECRUIT, THE COSMIC CRUSADER CALLED QUASAR, AND THE AVENGERS RESIDENT OCEANOGRAPHER, THE SOMETIME SUPER HERO STINGRAY, HAVE BEEN HARD AT WORK SALVAGING WHAT THEY CAN.

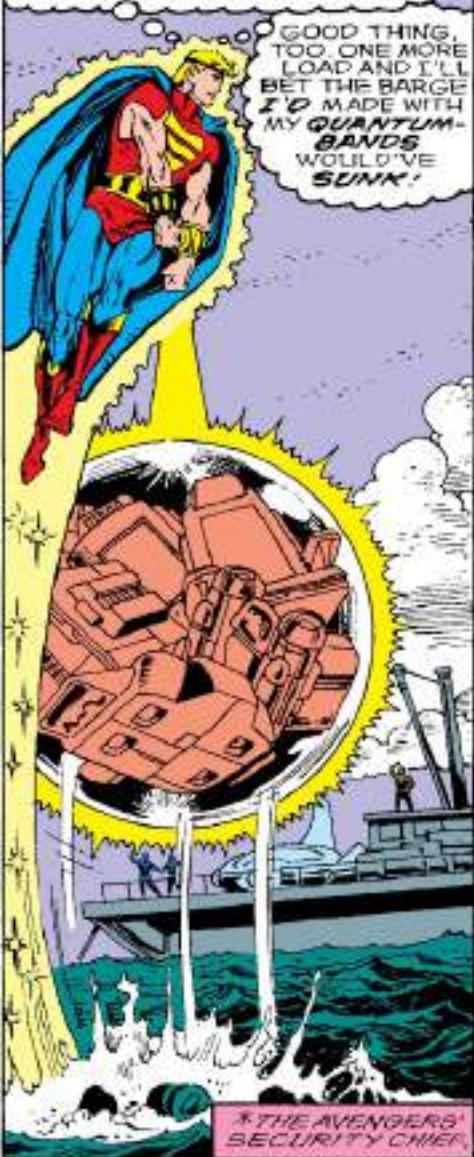
STING AND I'VE BEEN AT THIS ALL NIGHT AND WE'VE STILL BARELY HAULED UP A TENTH OF THE HARDWARE THE AVENGERS ACCUMULATED IN THEIR SHORT STINT ON THIS 'ISLAND.'

YOU ASK ME, NONE OF THIS STUFF WILL EVER WORK AGAIN AFTER TOTAL IMMERSION IN THIS MURK!

DON'T TELL US YOU MISSED AVENGERS #311!

MARK GRUENWALD • PAUL RYAN • DANNY BULANADI • JANICE CHIANG • PAUL BECTON • HOWARD MACKIE • TOM DE FALCO
STORY PENCILS INKS LETTERS COLORS EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

AND THERE'S THE GARBAGE
SCOW O'BRIEN* CONTRACTED
FOR THIS LITTLE OPERATION.



HERE'S THE LATEST LOAD,
MICHAEL. MARK IT FROM THE
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.



BETTER GET BACK TO IT. IT'S ALMOST MORNING AND I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SPLIT FOR WORK SOON.



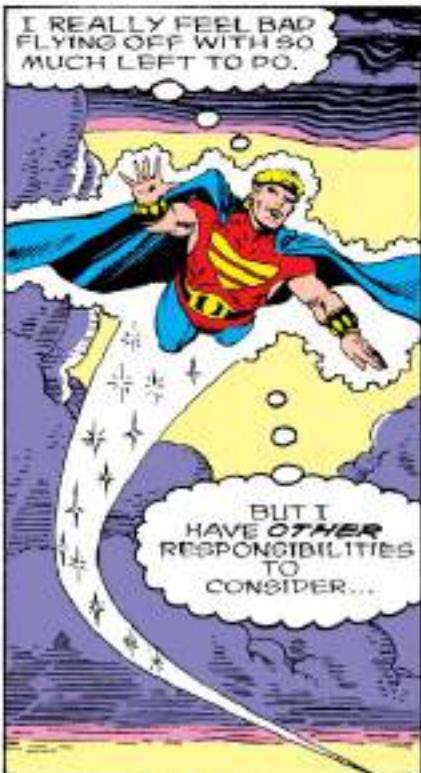
THERE'S STINGRAY.
LOOKS LIKE HE'S
GOING TO CHECK
OUT THE MANSION
AGAIN.

I COULD PROBABLY
TOW THE WHOLE DARN
MANSION BACK UP TO
THE SURFACE... BUT
THEN WHERE WOULD I
PUT IT?

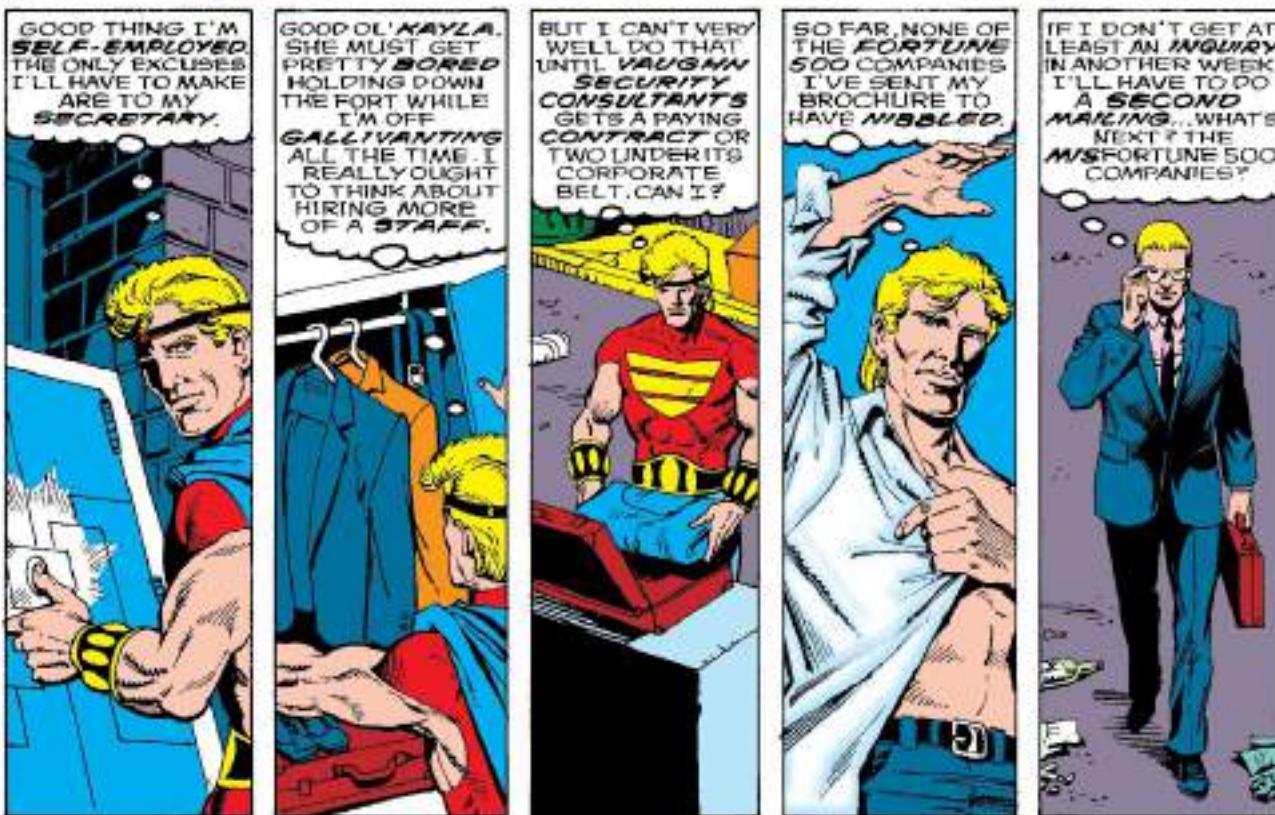
CERTAINLY IT'D
BE TOO HEAVY
FOR THE SCOW...
AND I CAN'T VERY
WELL HAIL IT
ALL OVER TOWN
LOOKING FOR
A PLACE TO
PARK IT.





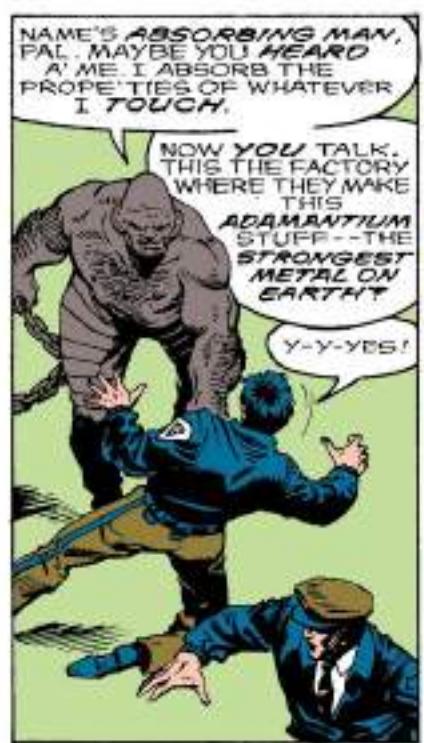


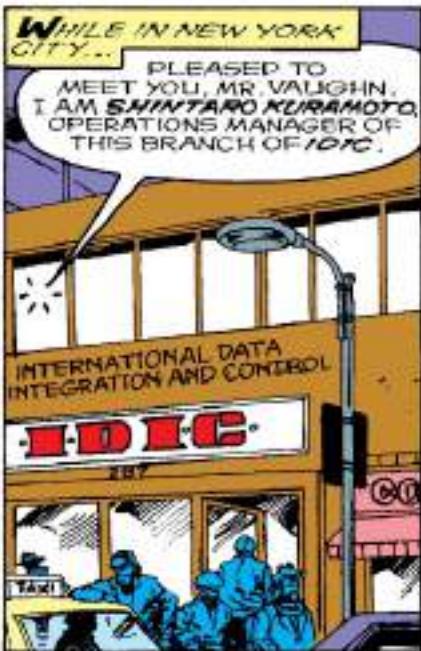








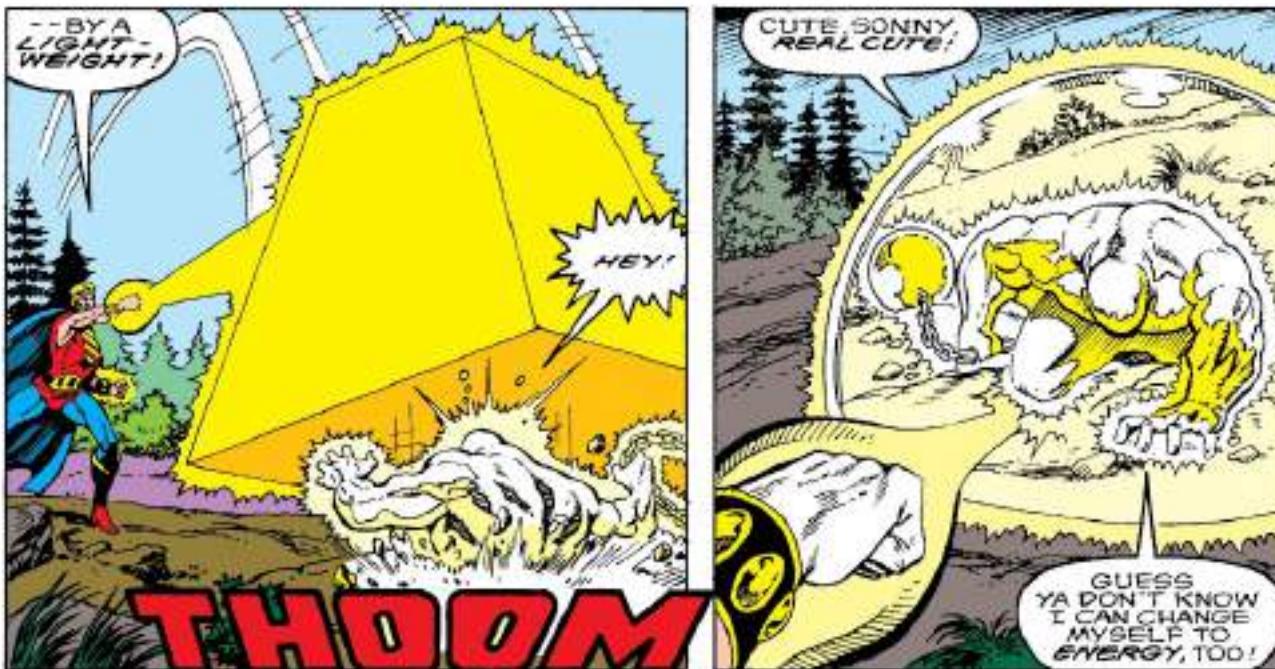




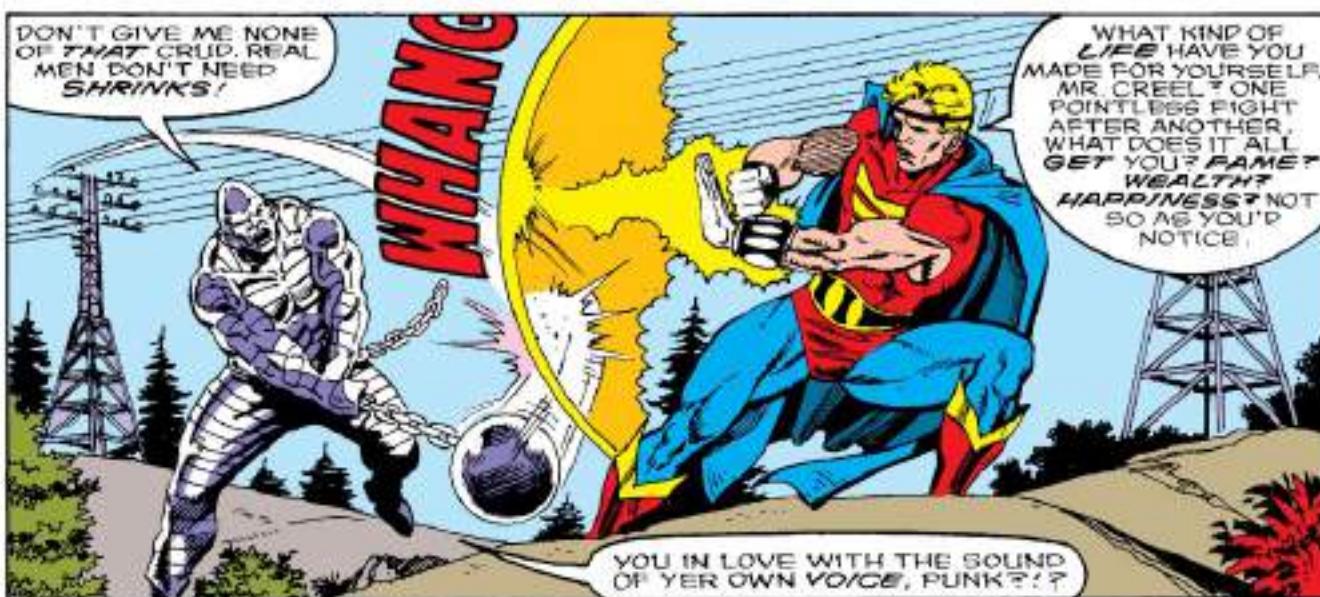
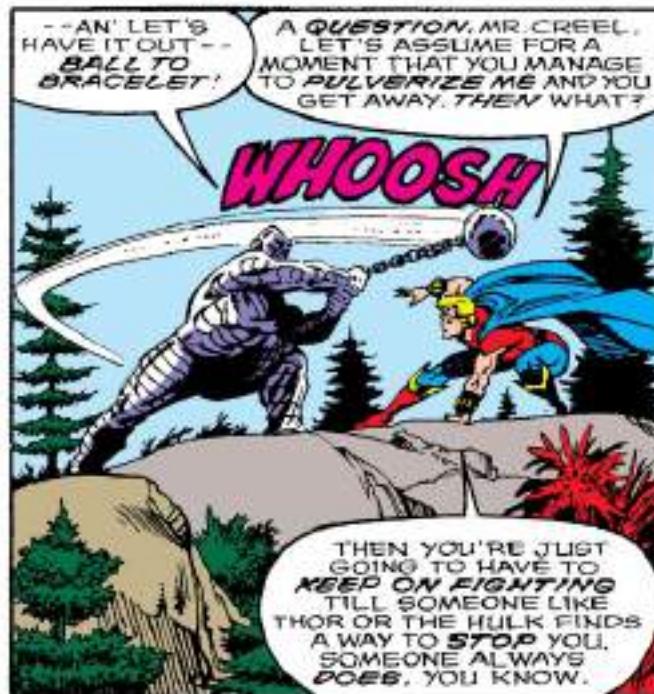












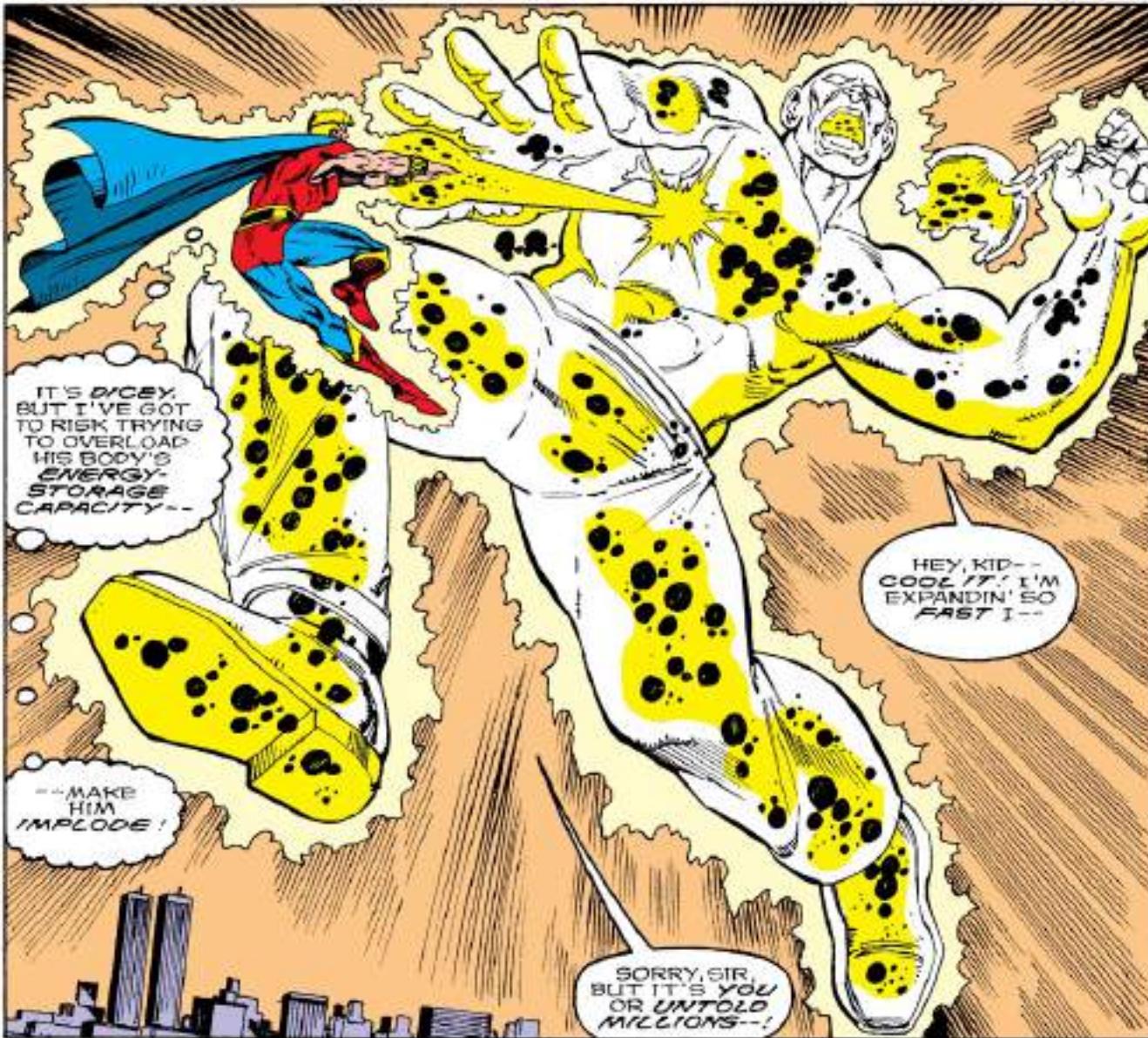
YOU'VE GOT A TERRIFIC POWER THERE MR. CREEL. BUT WHAT DO YOU DO WITH IT? GET INTO STUPID FIGHTS! WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO REALIZE WHAT A WASTE YOU'RE MAKING OF YOURSELF?













Steve Lee
PRESENTS:

HAWKEYE

"HURTING INSIDE"

THE MAN'S NAME
IS BOOMERANG.

A FEW SECONDS AGO ONE OF
HIS SHATTERANGS BLASTED A
HOLE THROUGH THE WALL OF THE
SECURITY OFFICE OF A SMALL
DIVISION OF STARK
ENTERPRISES.

HE COULD
HAVE USED THE
DOOR--

-BUT HE'S
JUST LIKE
THAT!



HOWARD MACKIE / AL MILGROM / DON HECK / JACK MORELLI / GEORGE ROUSSOS / MARK GRIENWALD / TOM WRIGHT / DEFALCO
WRITER PENCILS INKS LETTERS COLORS EDITOR EDITOR II EDITOR III





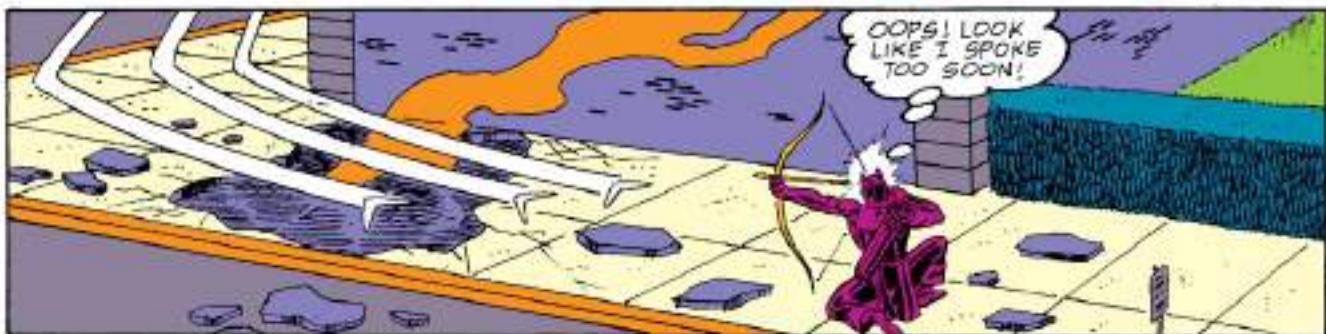


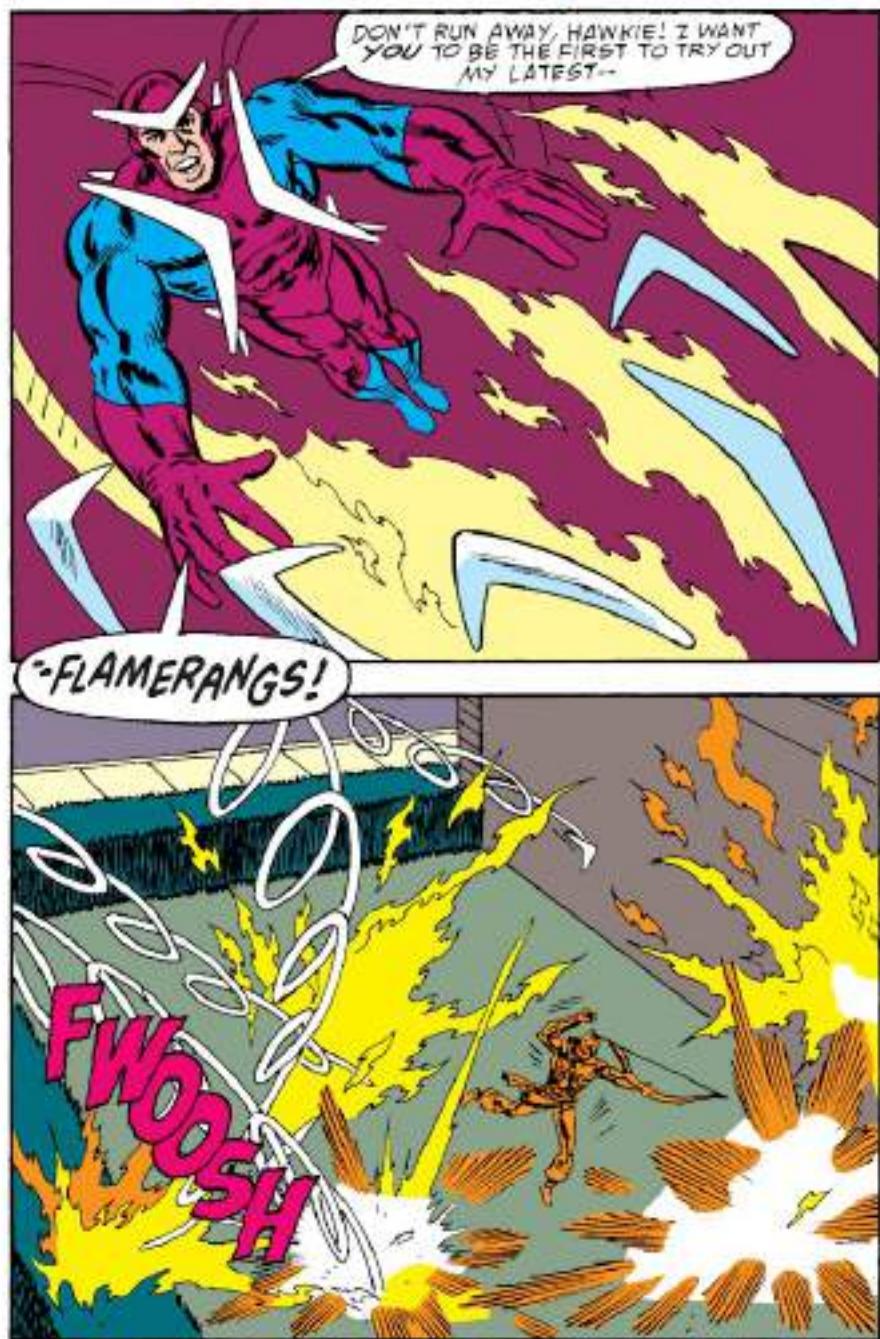


*SEE AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT # 28-25!



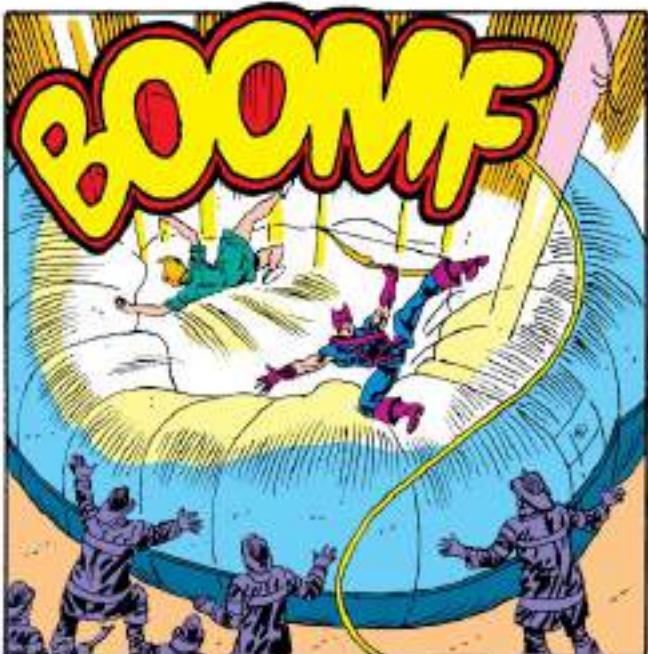


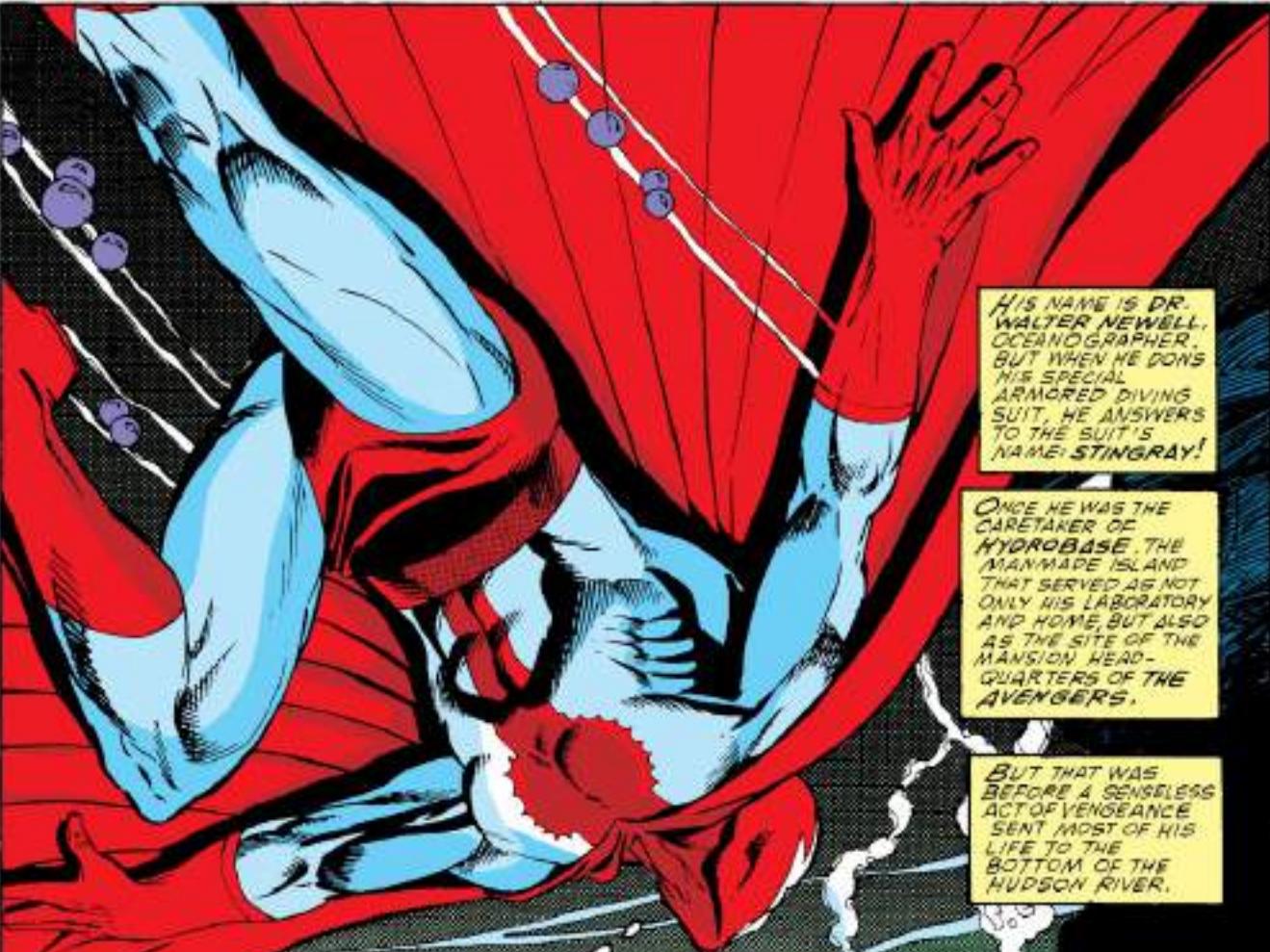












HIS NAME IS DR. WALTER NEWELL, OCEANOGRAPHER. BUT WHEN HE DONS HIS SPECIAL ARMORED DIVING SUIT, HE ANSWERS TO THE SUIT'S NAME: STINGRAY!

ONCE HE WAS THE CARETAKER OF HYDROBASE, THE MANMADE ISLAND THAT SERVED AS NOT ONLY HIS LABORATORY AND HOME, BUT ALSO AS THE SITE OF THE MANSION HEADQUARTERS OF THE AVENGERS.

BUT THAT WAS BEFORE A SENSELESS ACT OF VENGEANCE SENT MOST OF HIS LIFE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE HUDSON RIVER.

ONCE MORE INTO THE BREACH.

WE'VE WORKED ON THIS SALVAGE THROUGH THE ENTIRE NIGHT. IT WAS GOING A LOT FASTER BEFORE QUASAR LEFT. AT LEAST SOME OF THE AVENGERS HAVE SINCE SHOWN UP TO HELP OUT.

"SALVAGE" AS IF THE JUNK WE'RE DREDGING UP FROM DOWN HERE IS GOING TO HELP ME PUT MY LIFE BACK TOGETHER.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:
ACTS OF VENGEANCE!

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

DWAYNE McDUFFIE / DWAYNE TURNER / CHRIS IVY / JACK MORELLI / MIKE ROCKWITZ / GREG WRIGHT / MARK GRUENWALD / TOM DEFALCO
STORY PENCILS INKS LETTERS COLORS MANAGER EDITOR CHIEF



ON THE SURFACE, THE EQUIPMENT DREDGED UP EARLIER BY STINGRAY AND QUASAR ARE MOVED GENTLY TO THE PIER--



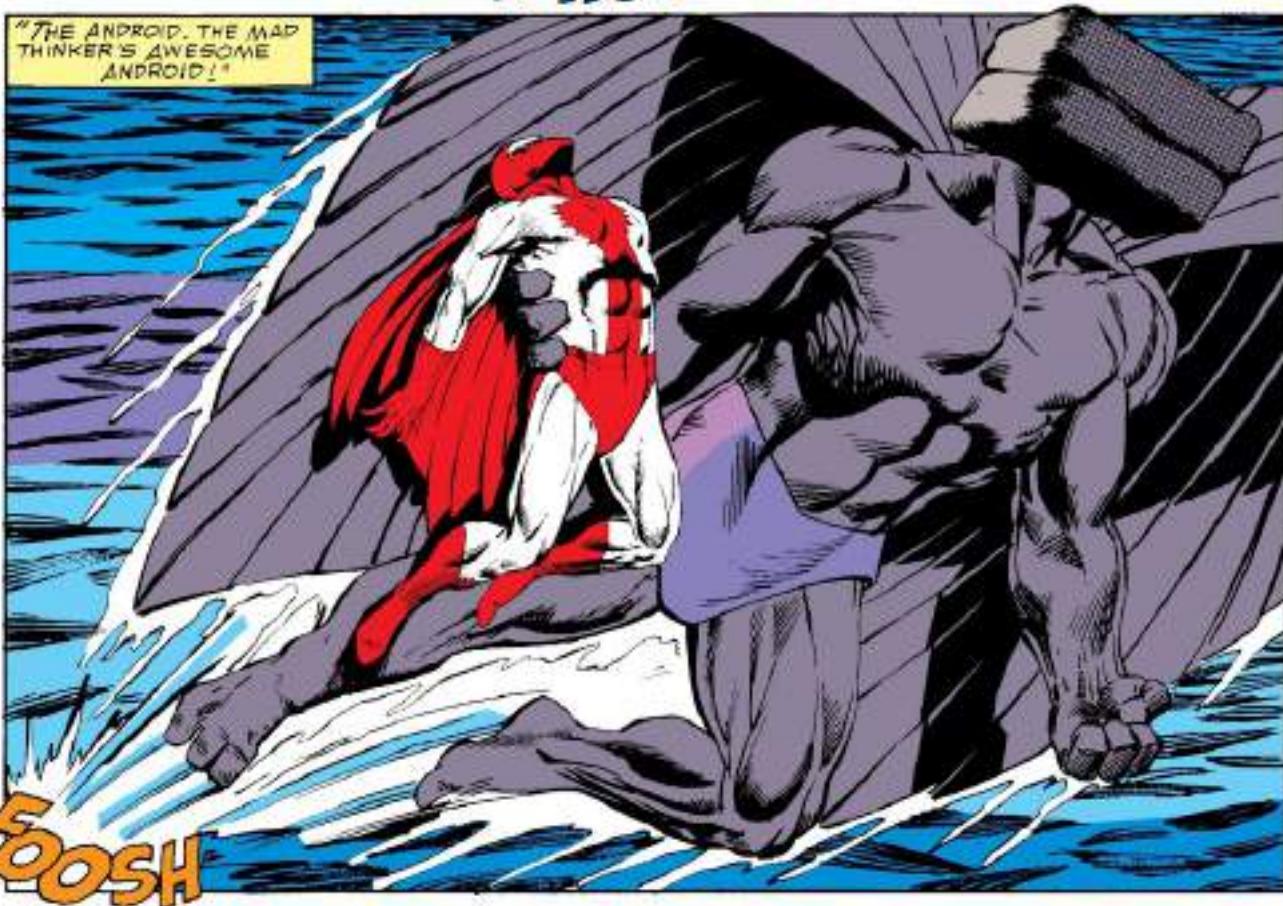
--COURTESY OF FIREBIRD!



FIREBIRD-- WAIT!

--NONE OF YOU ARE ESPECIALLY EQUIPPED FOR UNDERWATER WORK!







BUT THE CALL GOES MOSTLY UNHEeded, OR PERHAPS SIMPLY UNHEARD... THE REST OF THE AVENGERS ARE OCCUPIED IN BATTLES OF THEIR OWN...

THOR BATTLES THE JUGGERNAUT...



* SEE THIS MONTH'S ACTS OF VENGEANCE CORE TITLES FOR DETAILS.

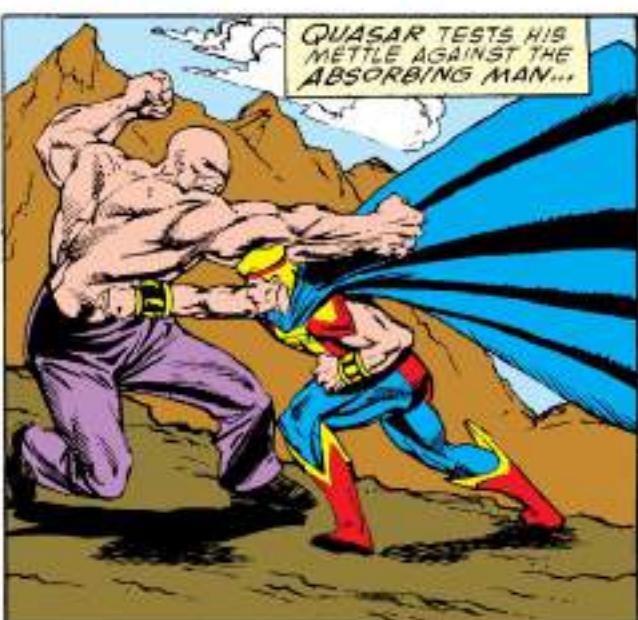
IRON MAN FACES OFF WITH THE WRECKER...



CAPTAIN AMERICA FIGHTS HIS TEAMMATE AND WORLD WAR II ALLY, THE SUB-MARINER...



QUASAR TESTS HIS METTLE AGAINST THE ABSORBING MAN...



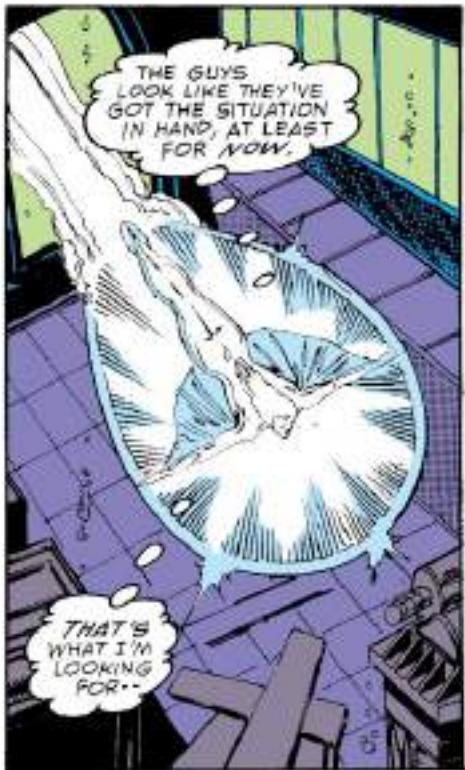
AND THE AVENGERS' WEST COAST TEAM WAGES WAR ON THE U-FOES...













STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

TONY STARK, THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN!

A COLLAPSING BRIDGE AND A CAR FULL OF HELPLESS PASSENGERS: A SURE RECIPE FOR DISASTER, IF NOT FOR THE INTERVENTION OF THE RED AND GOLD ARMORED AVENGER KNOWN AS IRON MAN...

LUCKY THING RHODEY AND I HAPPENED BY. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THINGS UNDER CONTROL HERE BEFORE ANYONE GETS HURT.

ALL THE BLASTED TAXES WE PAY AND THIS COUNTRY STILL DOESN'T SPEND ENOUGH MONEY ON MAINTAINING ITS INFRASTRUCTURE.

"WRECKED HIM? HE NEARLY KILLED HIM!"

DWAYNE McDUFFIE • HERB TRIMPE • AL MULGROM • RICK PARKER • PAUL BECTON • HOWARD MACKIE • TOM DEFALCO
WRITER PENCILER INKER LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF





SHORTLY...



LATER, OUTSIDE OF STARK PROSTHETICS...



CURTIS CARR,
GOOD TO SEE YOU
AGAIN!

RHODEY, YOU KNOW
MY DIRECTOR OF
RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT
OUT HERE, DON'T
YOU?

Hi, TONY.

THOUGHT I DID.
NO OFFENSE, BUT
THE GUY I MET
HAD A STUMP FOR
ONE OF HIS FEET.

NONE
TAKEN, AND
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I DO.

BUT
THIS
PROS-
TETIC
FOOT WE
DESIGNED
AND
BUILT GIVES
ME, AND
THOUSANDS
LIKE ME A
DEGREE OF
MOBILITY COM-
PAR-
ABLE TO
WHAT I
WAS BORN WITH.

I MADE SOME MISTAKES
IN THE PAST AND I PAID FOR
THEM BIG TIME.* TONY
GAVE ME A LOT MORE THAN
JUST THE CHANCE TO WALK
NORMALLY AGAIN. HE GAVE
ME A CHANCE TO GIVE THE
WORLD BACK SOME OF
WHAT I TOOK FROM IT.

I GOT A SECOND CHANCE,
AND THAT'S WHAT THIS
PLACE IS ALL ABOUT.
LET ME SHOW YOU.

* CURTIS CARR LOST HIS
FOOT IN AN ACCIDENT WHILE IN
ACTION AS THE SUPER-VILLAIN KNOWN
AS CHEMISTRO. -- HOWARD



THIS IS THE MAIN LAB. WHEN TONY CALLED AND TOLD ME HE WANTED TO CREATE A RESEARCH CENTER FOR PURSUING TECHNOLOGIES TO AID THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED, I HAD NO IDEA THAT HE HAD THIS KIND OF COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT.



DON'T MAKE ME OUT TO BE A SAINT. IT WAS ONLY THE TEMPORARY LOSS OF THE USE OF MY OWN LEGS THAT MADE ME FEEL ANY RESPONSIBILITY TO FUND THIS KIND OF WORK.



IN ANY EVENT, DEVICES LIKE TONY'S ANTI- GRAV WHEEL- CHAIR COULD BE A BOON TO THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS.

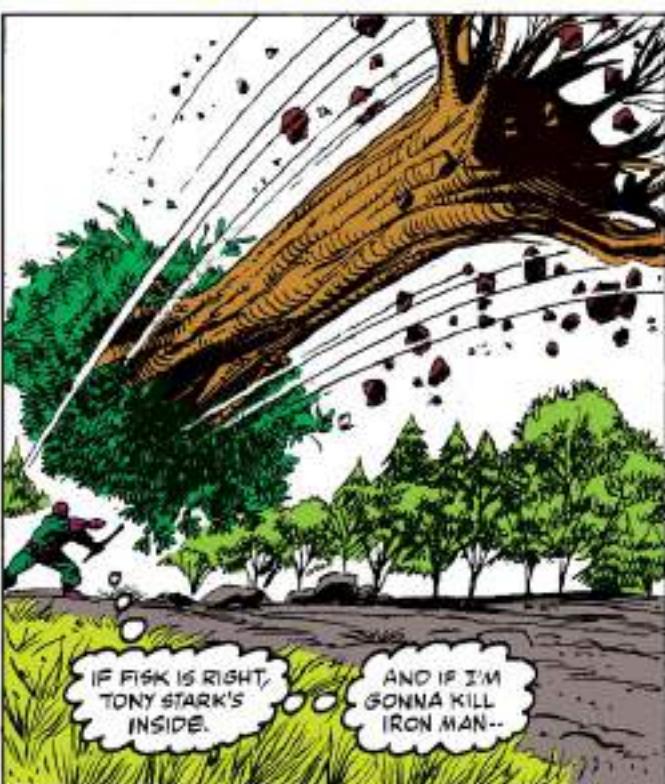
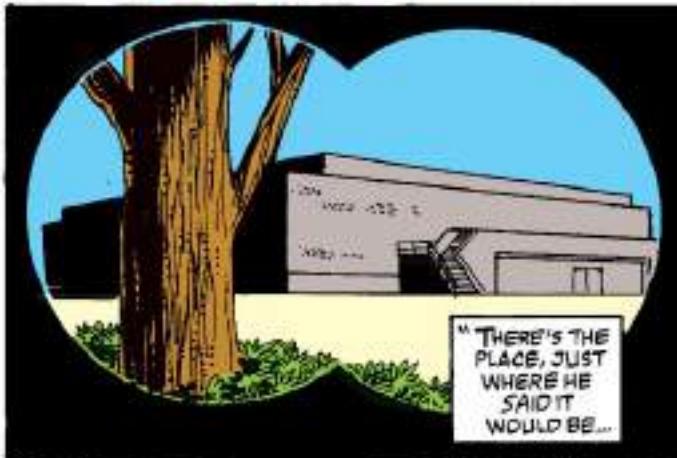
NOT TO MENTION THE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IT COULD SAVE AMERICAN INDUSTRY IF WE DIDN'T HAVE TO ALTER BUILDINGS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO OLD-STYLE WHEELCHAIRS.



OKAY, WE BELIEVE YOU. YOU'RE SELFISH. HAPPY NOW?

BUT THAT'S A PIPE DREAM, UNTIL WE CAN GET THE PER-UNIT COST DOWN TO CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THE 2.7 MILLION BUCKS YOU PAID FOR YOURS. LET ME SHOW YOU A PROJECT JUST A LITTLE CLOSER TO FRUITION.





*THE FEDERAL PRISON FOR THE INCARCERATION OF SUPER-POWERED CRIMINALS. THE WRECKER JUST ESCAPED FROM THERE HIMSELF SEE AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT #26, AND DAMAGE CONTROL #1 FOR DETAILS.--HOWARD





























THAT TAKES CARE OF THE WRECKER. NOW LET'S SEE IF I HAVE ENOUGH POWER LEFT TO DEMAGNETIZE MY ARMOR AND GET OFF THE SIDE OF THIS TRUCK.

NOPES, BUT I DO HAVE JUST ENOUGH TO USE MY THERMO COUPLES TO HEAT THE ARMOR UP.



AND FORTUNATELY, A MAGNETIC FIELD OF THIS SORT DECAYS AT HIGH TEMPERATURES.

YES, I CAN FEEL IT WORKING...

NICE WORK, IRON MAN. OH, CURTIS. WHAT DRAGGED YOU BACK HERE?



I DIDN'T RUN AWAY. I WENT TO GET HELP.

IN FACT, HERE IT COMES NOW!



IT'S MY BROTHER, CHEMISTRO!

YOU WON'T BE SO GLAD TO SEE ME ONCE YOU FIND OUT WHY I'M HERE, BIG BROTHER.

I'M HERE TO FINISH THE JOB THAT THE WRECKER BUNGLED--



-- I'M HERE TO KILL IRON MAN!

NEXT: WITHOUT **CHEMISTRO**

-- LIFE **ITSELF** WOULD STILL BE **Possible!**

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

APOTHECARY NOW!

THE ARMORED AVENGER KNOWN AS THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN HAS HAD BETTER DAYS...

...ONLY MOMENTS AGO, HE SAVED THE LIVES OF A DOZEN MEN DURING AN UNPROVOKED ATTACK BY THE VILLA'NOUS AND SUPER-STRONG WRECKER...

...AND NOW HE LIES, BATTERED AND HELPLESS TO PREVENT THE UPCOMING ONSLAUGHT OF CAVEMASTRO!

NOTHIN' PERSONAL, IRON MAN! IT'S JUST THAT THERE'S BIG MONEY WAITING FOR ME --

-- BUT ONLY IF I KILL YOU!

NO!



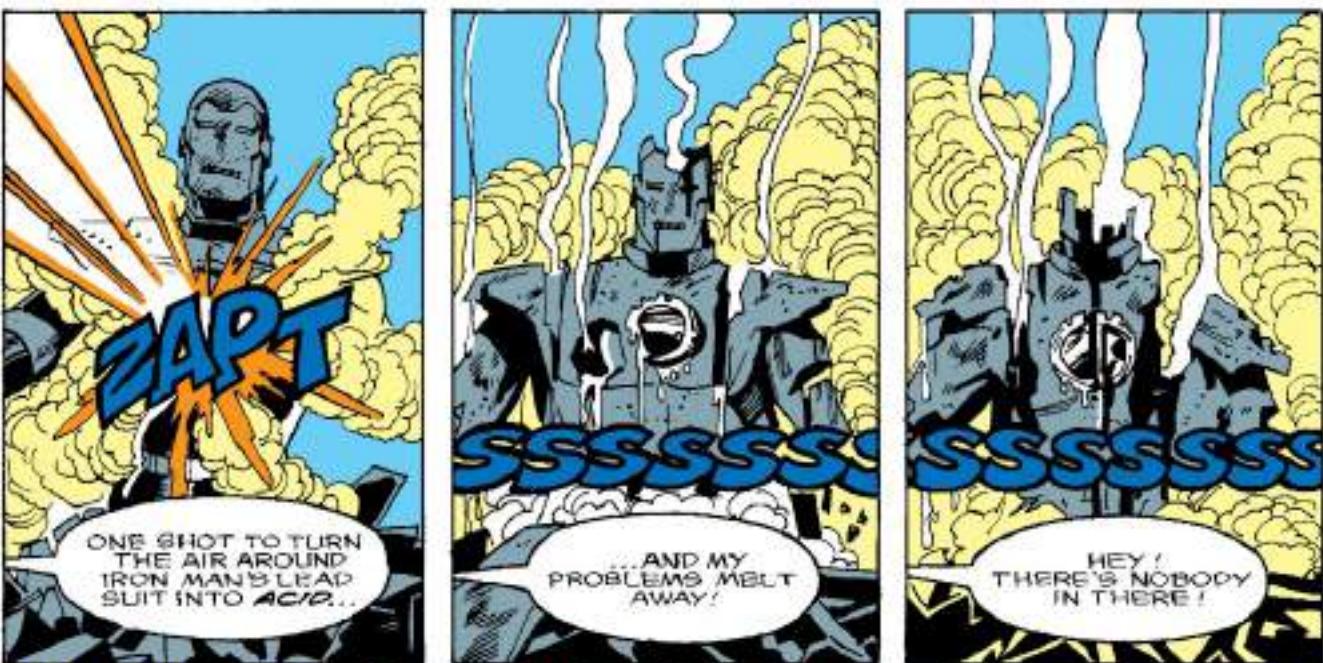
DWAYNE MC'DUFFIE • HERB TRIMPE • AL MILGROM • JANICE CHIANG • PAUL BECTON • HOWARD MACKIE • TOM DE FALCO
WRITER PENCILER INKER LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF















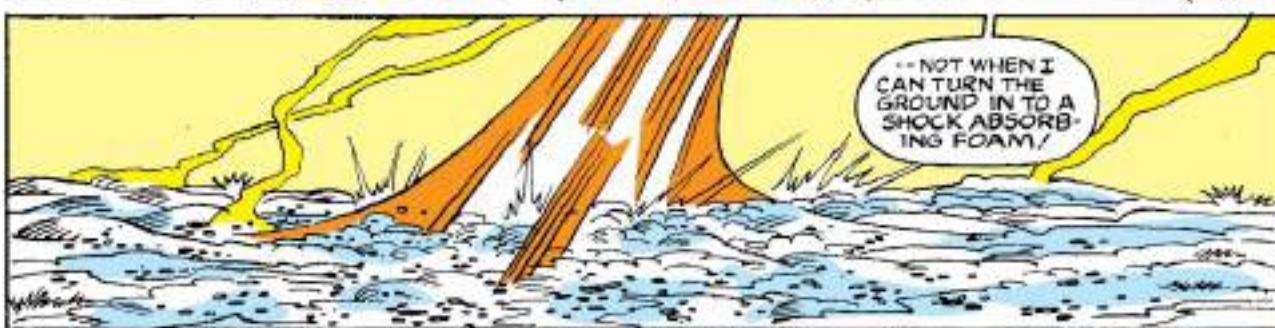




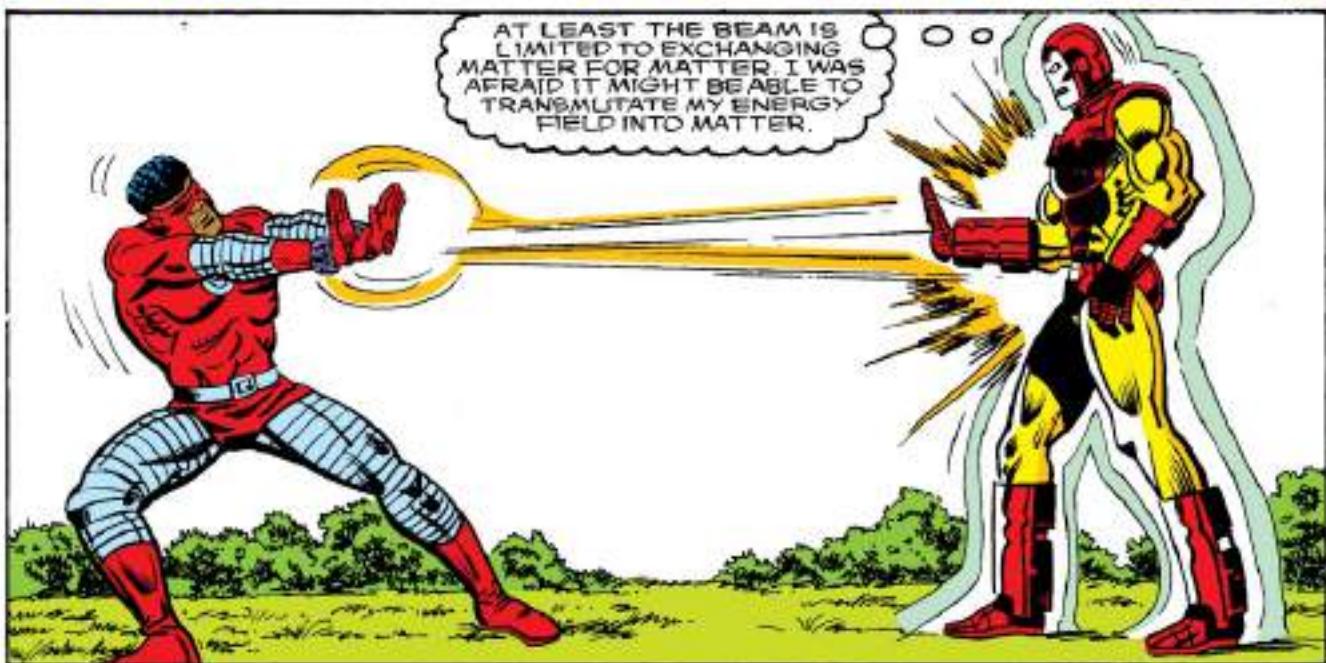


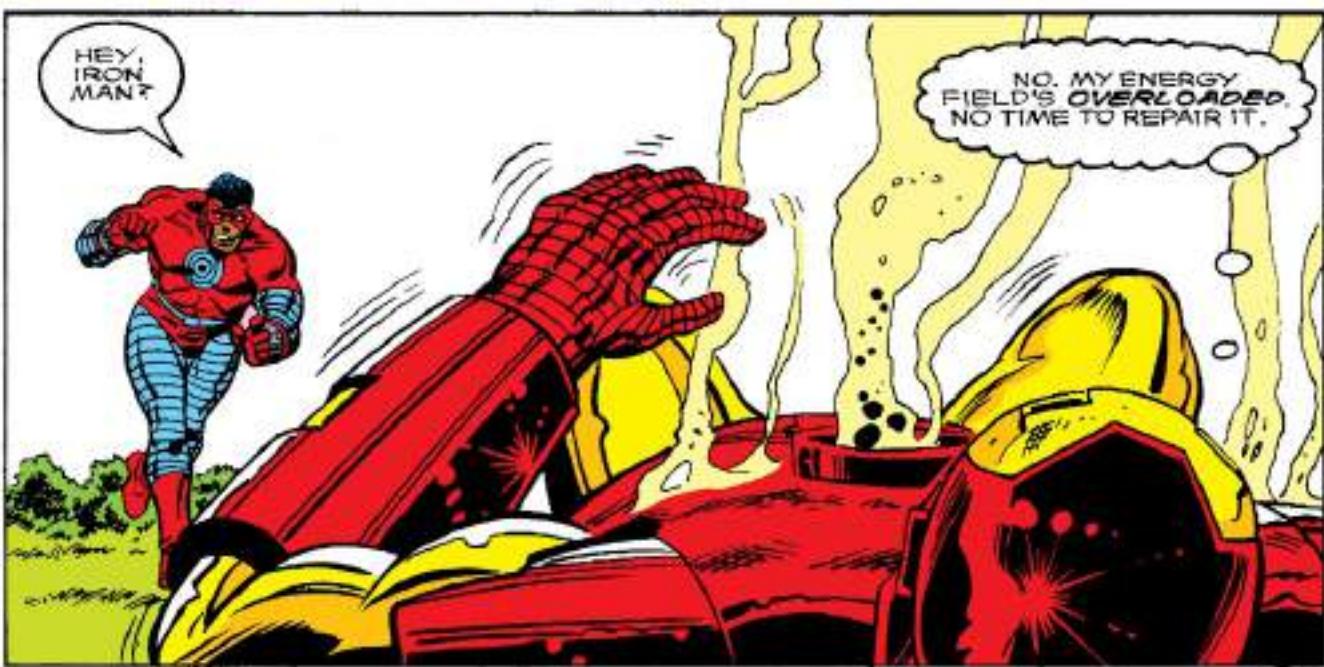


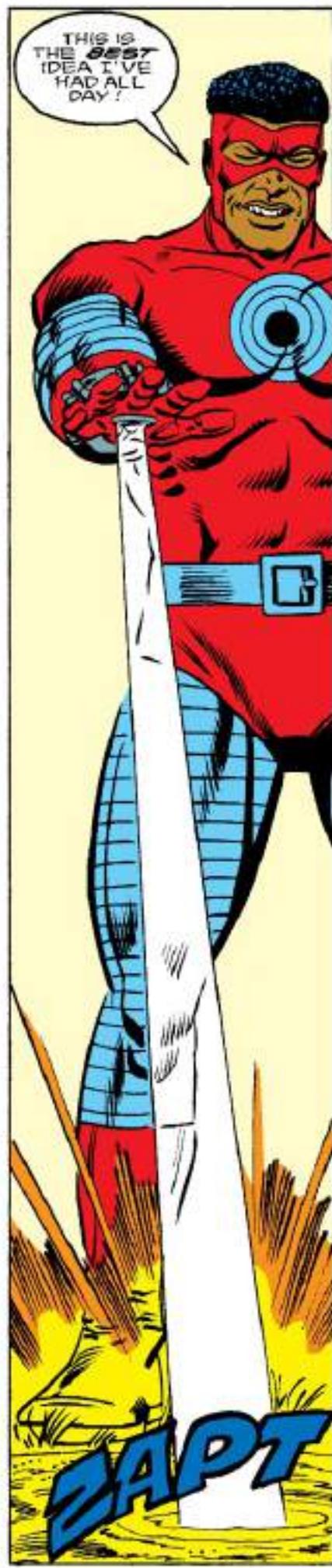




















THE PLAN PROCEEDS!

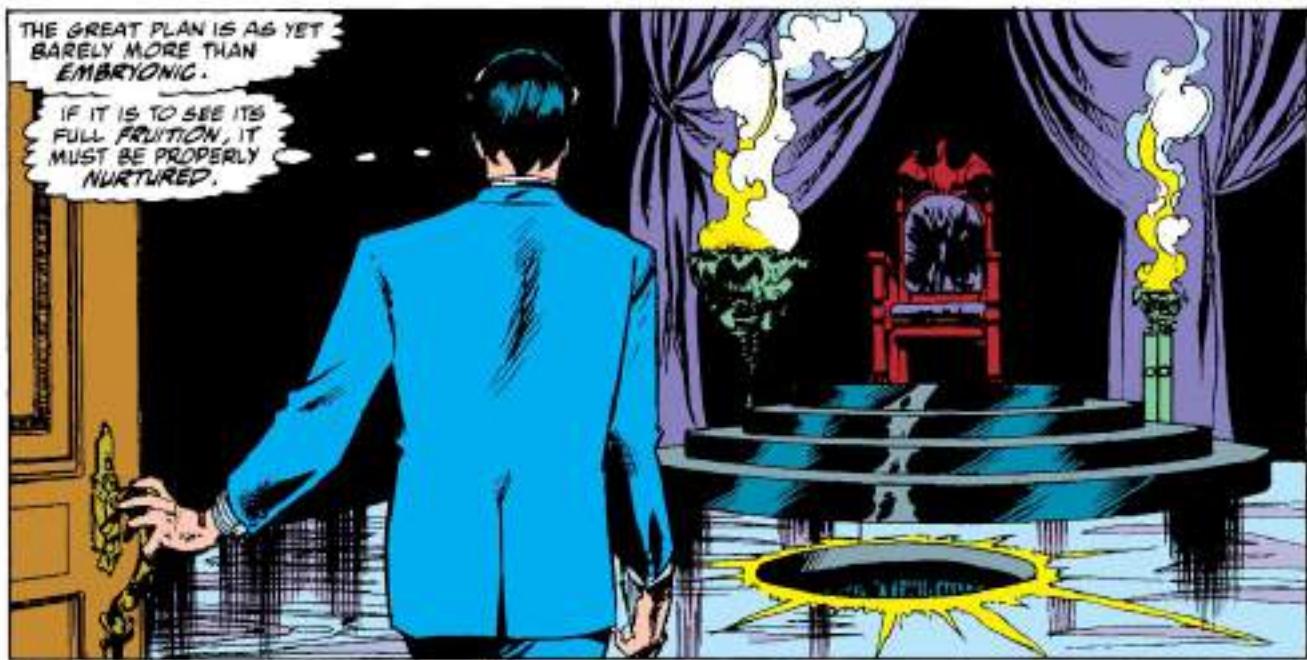
QUITE SO, MY LORD! ALL ACROSS AMERICA, VARIOUS SO-CALLED SUPER-VILLAINS ACT AGAINST HEROES UNFAMILIAR WITH THEIR POWERS AND ABILITIES.

IT WILL NOT BE LONG ERE WE SEE THOSE CHAMPIONS UTERLY OBLITERATED!



Stan Lee PRESENTS: JOHN BYRNE - WRITER/PENCILER, KEITH WILLIAMS - INKER, BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER, HOWARD MACKIE - CO-EDITOR, TOM DEFALCO - EDITOR, BOB SHAREN - COLORIST, ED. IN CHIEF







* RIGHT AFTER THIS YEAR'S FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL -- HOWARD M.

* ALL IN ABOUT A YEARS WORTH OF CON-
TINUITY IN AVENGERS WEST COAST -- H.M.



* IN THE ATLANTIS ATTACKS
STORYLINE IN THIS YEAR'S
ANNUALS -- HOWARD AGAIN

