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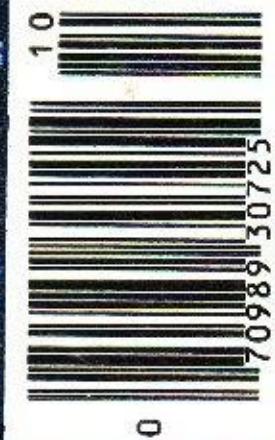
APPROVED
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CODE
AUTHORITY

Wonder Woman

KILL!

WHAT IS THE SINISTER
SECRET OF
THE
**CRYPT OF THE
DARK COMMANDER?**

PLUS!
**BATTING
AMAZONS!**



GRANTED THE WISDOM OF ATHENA, THE STRENGTH OF HERCULES, AND THE SPEED OF MERCURY, CONCEALED IN THE BEAUTY OF APHRODITE BY THE GODS, PRINCESS DIANA RENOUNCED HER IMMORTALITY TO ENTER MAN'S WORLD AS THE GREATEST AMAZON OF ALL...

LEGENDS SPEAK OF PARADISE ISLAND AS BEING THE ENCHANTED HOME OF THE AMAZONS, ANCIENT WARRIOR RACE OF WOMEN...

AND THE LEGENDS SPEAK TRUE! BUT DURING THE COUNTLESS CENTURIES SINCE THEIR EXILE FROM "MAN'S WORLD," THE AMAZONS HAVE ADVANCED SCIENTIFICALLY--TO A DEGREE FAR BEYOND THE IMAGININGS OF MERE MORTAL MEN...

THIS IS GOING TO BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN I FIGURED...

--THE AMAZON SCIENTISTS HAD TO CANNIBALIZE QUITE A BIT OF MACHINERY TO PUT THIS TOGETHER--AND THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO ACTIVATE IT!

A SIMPLE STRUGGLE FOR THE AMAZON PRINCESS, BUT IT IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE PERIL-PLAGUED PATH THAT LEADS TO...

The CRYPT of the DARK COMMANDER

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LETTERING: BEN ODA
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EDITING: LARRY HAMA

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IT SEEMS TO BE WORKING! YOU DID A FANTASTIC JOB!

ARE NOT MY SCIENTISTS THE FINEST IN THE WORLD, O DAUGHTER?

YOU FLATTER US, MY QUEEN. WE DO NOT KNOW, AS YET, IF OUR DEVICE WILL ACHIEVE THE DESIRED EFFECTS!

IT WILL BE QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE WE LEARN IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN REINTEGRATING THE ONE KNOWN AS INVERSION*!

*INVERSION--THE INSIDE-OUT MAN--SEEN LAST ISSUE--LARRY.

OUTSIDE THE MASSIVE AMAZONIAN LAB...

IF INVERSION IS RESTORED TO HIS HUMAN FORM, PERHAPS HIS MIND WILL BE RESTORED TO SANITY AT THE SAME TIME. HIS GENIUS WOULD BE VALUABLE TO THE WORLD.

YOU'LL NOT STAY TO SEE THE RESULTS?

ON SILENT MENTAL COMMAND, THE PLANE TAKES TO THE AIR...

I KNOW WHAT MOTHER'S THINKING! SHE'S ALWAYS DOUBTED MY LOVE FOR STEVE-- AND HIS FOR ME! BUT SHE'S WRONG!

MAYBE HE WAS THE FIRST MAN IN MY LIFE-- AND MAYBE HE WAS JUST INFATUATED WITH ME-- AT FIRST! BUT IT'S GROWN TO LOVE! I... I KNOW, IT HAS!

FAREWELL, PRINCESS. MAY ATHENA WATCH OVER YOU!

ALWAYS IT IS STEVE TREVOR HOWARD WHO IS ON HER MIND. SOMETIMES I FIND MYSELF QUESTIONING APHRODITE'S WISDOM IN RESTORING HIM TO LIFE...

2

BUT I DO
SEEM TO BE RESCUING
HIM QUITE A BIT LATELY!

AND THE LAST
TIME I SAW HIM
WAS WHEN HE WAS
ABDUCTED* IN FRONT
OF MY APARTMENT
HOUSE. I JUST
HOPE I'M NOT
TOO LATE!

*LAST ISSUE.
--LARRY!

AS THE AMAZON PRINCESS WINGS HER WAY BACK TO AMERICA,
LET US TURN BACK THE CLOCK TO SCANT MOMENTS AFTER
THE ABDUCTION OF STEVE TREVOR HOWARD...

I DEMAND TO
KNOW WHAT MILITARY
AUTHORITY ALLOWS
YOU TO KIDNAP
PRIVATE CITIZENS!

CALM DOWN,
MR. HOWARD...

WITHIN THE UNIQUE VEHICLE...

...WE ONLY WANT TO ASK
YOU SOME... QUESTIONS...
CONCERNING A CERTAIN
"STEVE TREVOR"!

AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT
YOUR UNITED NATIONS JOB.
WE'VE INFORMED MR. TRACY
THAT YOU'LL BE... AHH...
LATE FOR WORK...

I NEVER IMAGINED A
PROBLEM LIKE THIS! I
WAS SURE THAT THE MAGIC
THAT RETURNED ME TO LIFE
WOULD HAVE TAKEN CARE OF ALL
THESE MINOR POINTS--SUCH
AS THE FATE OF STEVE
TREVOR!

GUESS I WAS MISTAKEN...

AND WHERE'S
WONDER WOMAN?
I THOUGHT SHE'D
BE AFTER ME
READY TO PULL
A RESCUE RIGHT
AWAY. GUESS I
WAS WRONG
ABOUT THAT TOO--
--HEY!

RELAX,
MR. HOWARD!
THIS WILL
ONLY TAKE
A SECOND...

VINCE CAR WASH

\$2.00
HOT WAX
\$1.00

... AND THERE
ARE MORE EXITS
FROM THIS
CARWASH THAN
YOU CAN
IMAGINE!



CARWASH!? YOUR MISSION
MUST BE REAL URGENT--
SEEING AS HOW YOU HAVE
TIME TO MAKE YOUR
LITTLE CAR ALL SPIFFY!

JUST WAIT, MR.
HOWARD! YOU
WILL BE
IMPRESSED!

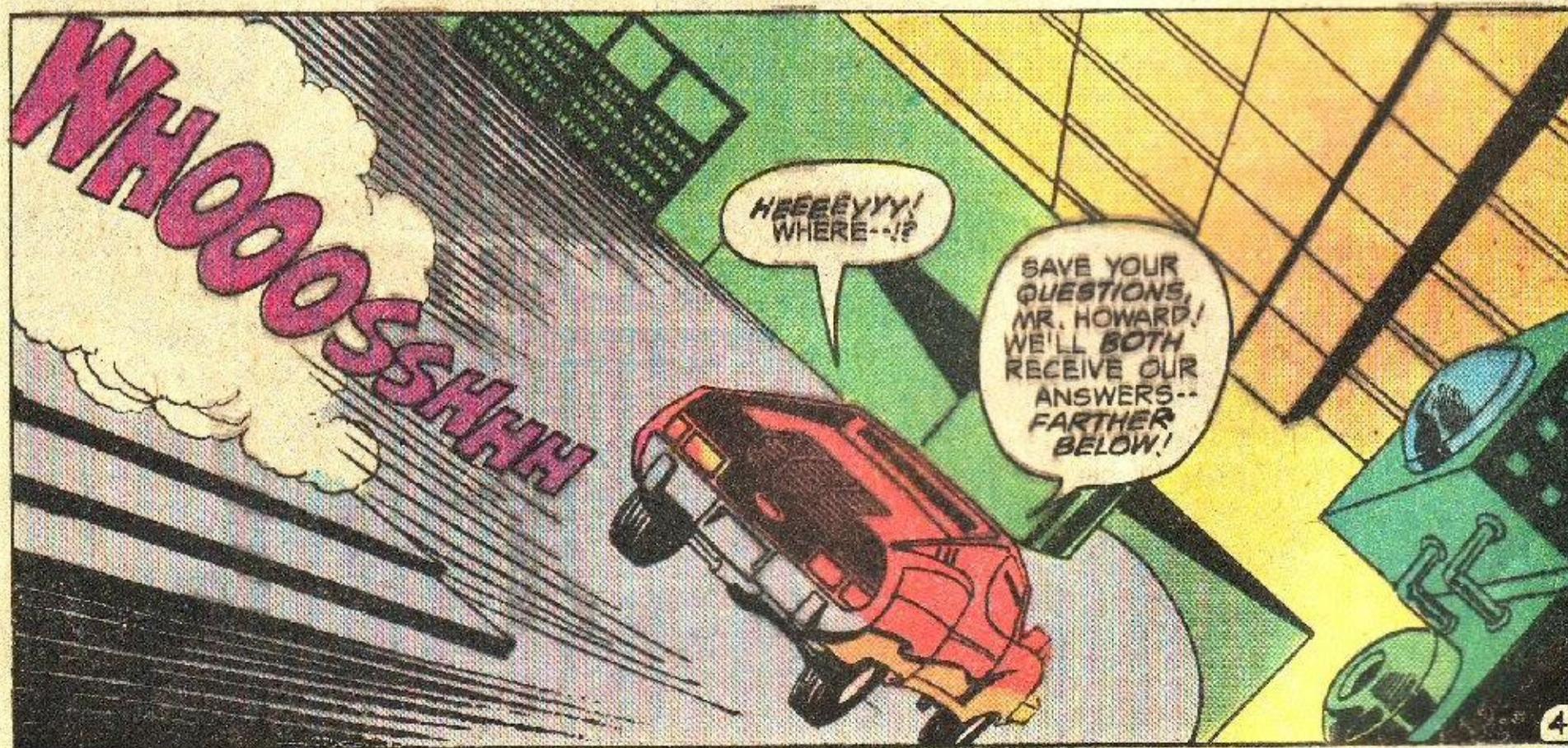


AS THE VEHICLE IS SUBJECTED TO A TORRENT OF
SOAP AND WATER, THE FLOOR BEHIND IT OPENS--

--REVEALING AN EXIT HIDDEN
BY THE JETS OF STEAM!

OKAY, I'M IMPRESSED!
BUT I STILL DON'T
LIKE IT!

THEN PERHAPS
YOU'LL ENJOY
THIS--!



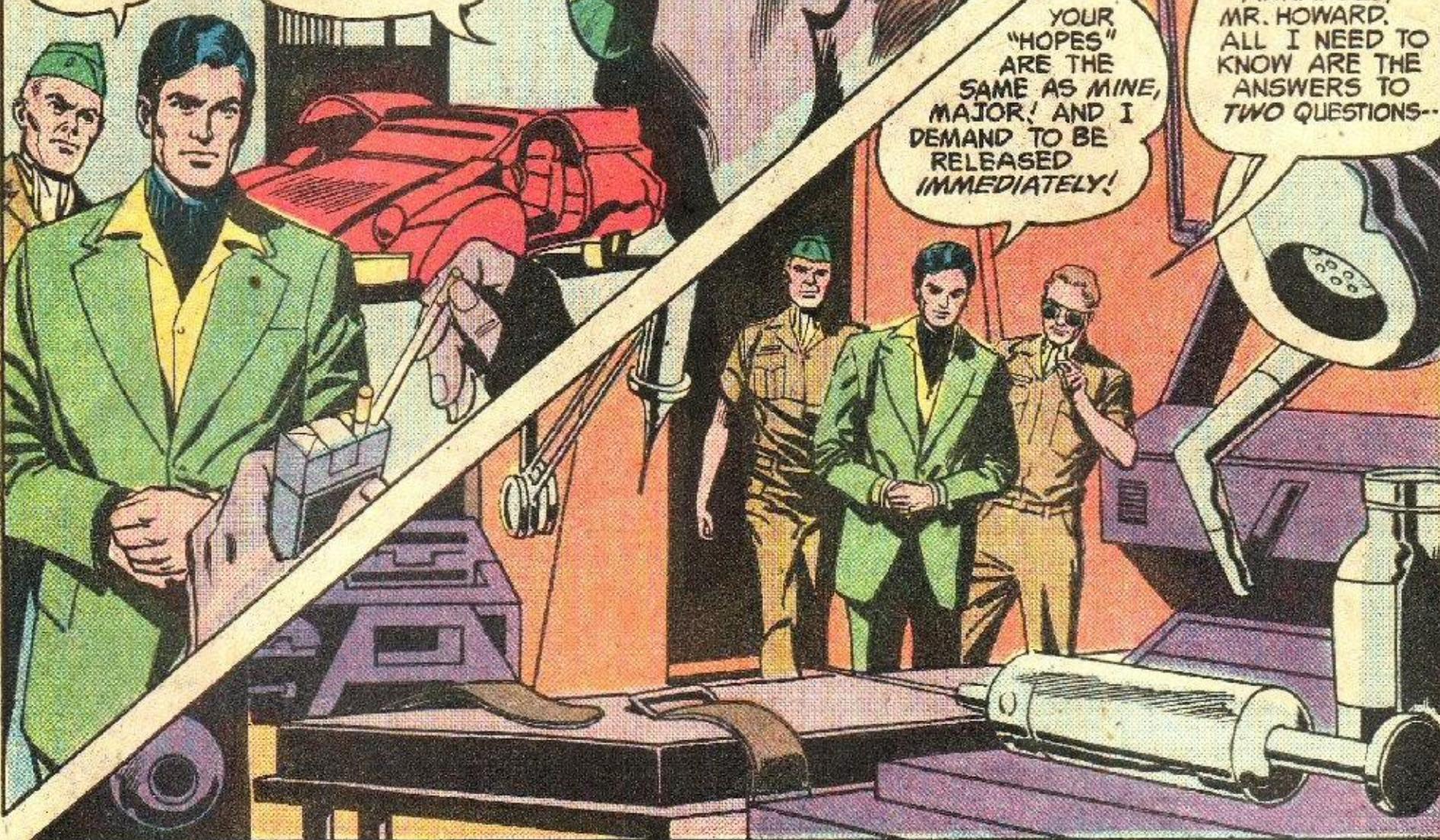
FOR LONG MINUTES THE FANTASTIC VEHICLE TRAVELS AT ULTRA-SONIC SPEEDS--ZOOMING THROUGH SEEMINGLY ENDLESS CATACOMBS UNTIL...

THIS IS STEVE HOWARD, MAJOR.

EXCELLENT, LIEUTENANT! I HOPE YOUR STAY WITH US WILL BE BRIEF, MR. HOWARD...

YOUR "HOPES" ARE THE SAME AS MINE, MAJOR! AND I DEMAND TO BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY!

THAT CAN BE ARRANGED, MR. HOWARD. ALL I NEED TO KNOW ARE THE ANSWERS TO TWO QUESTIONS--



WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE BODY OF STEVE TREVOR?

AND WHO ARE YOU? OUR RECORDS ON YOUR PAST SEEM TO BEGIN AS SOON AS STEVE TREVOR'S END!

AND SO THE INTERROGATION BEGINS AND CONTINUES --RELENTLESSLY! THE HOURS DRAG BY SLOWLY AS STEVE HOWARD IS SUBJUGATED BY THE MOST ADVANCED METHODS KNOWN FOR OPENING THE HUMAN MIND...

AND ENDLESSLY THE QUESTIONS GO ON AND ON AND ON ...

WHO ARE YOU? WHERE? WHAT'S YOUR CONNECTION WITH STEVE TREVOR? WHO? WHERE? WHO? WHERE?

FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS THE QUESTIONING OF STEVE HOWARD HAS CONTINUED FAR BENEATH THE CITY'S STREETS ...

BUT NOW, FAR ABOVE...

I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST CLUE AS TO WHERE STEVE'S BEEN TAKEN...

...BUT THERE'S ONE PERSON WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO GIVE ME A LEAD!



MORGAN TRACY--
MY BOSS AT UNITED
NATIONS SECURITY
AND PUBLIC
RELATIONS!

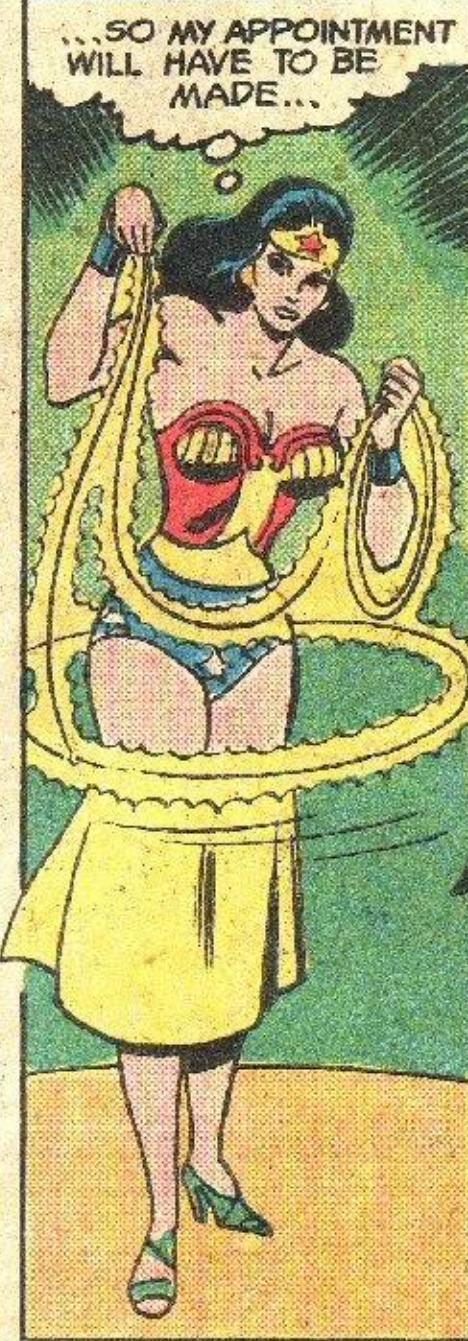
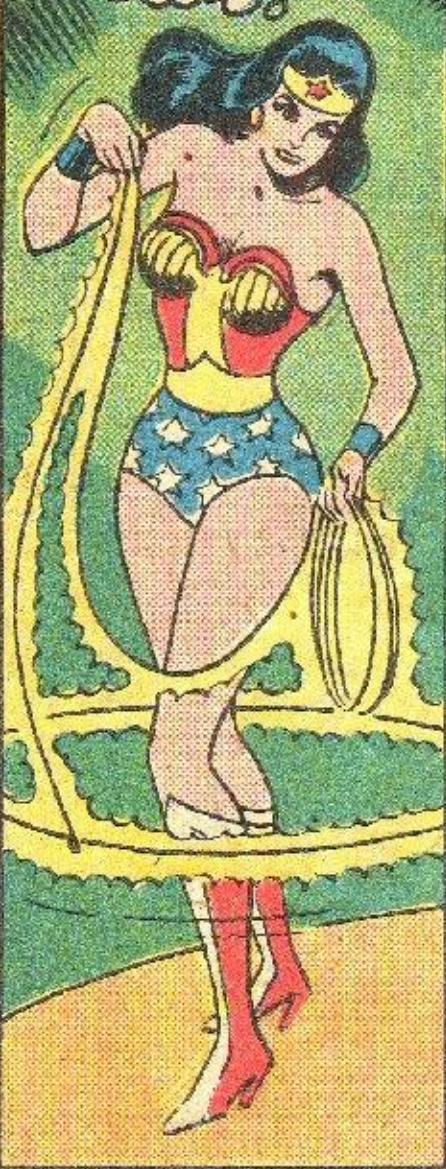
SURELY THE ARMY'S
NOTIFIED HIM OF AN
IMPENDING INVESTIGATION
OF STEVE!

BUT MORGAN HAS
NO DIRECT DEALINGS
WITH WONDER
WOMAN...

...SO MY APPOINTMENT
WILL HAVE TO BE
MADE...

...BY DIANA
PRINCE!

OH, THIS... THIS IS
STEVE'S. WHY DO I HAVE
THIS SUDDEN COLD
FEELING? APHRODITE,
I PRAY STEVE'LL BE
BACK TO WEAR THIS...



MINUTES LATER, IN THE LOBBY OF
THE PLUSH APARTMENT COMPLEX...

GOOD MORNING,
PHILIP...

MS. PRINCE?
I--I DIDN'T SEE
YOU COME IN
LAST NIGHT...

OH, PHILIP, LUV-- I
JUST DROPPED IN
THROUGH MY
SKYLIGHT...!
HAIL A CAB
FOR ME,
WILL YOU?

UHH...
YES, MS.
PRINCE...

CONTINUED ON 2 MP PAGE FOLLOWING.

ON THE EDGE OF THE EAST RIVER--
A GLEAMING GLASS BUILDING THAT
IS A SYMBOL TO MILLIONS AROUND
THE WORLD...

AND WITHIN THE STRUCTURE THERE IS A
LABYRINTH OF HALLS AND OFFICES-- BUT
THIS ONE IS DIANA PRINCE'S DESTINATION...



MINUTES LATER...

AND YOU'RE WORKING DIRECTLY WITH ALL THOSE AMBASSADORS! I TELL YOU, EVEN THOUGH I WORK FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS, I JUST NEVER GET TO MEET ANY OF THEM--/



LATER...

LOOK, STACY, I'D REALLY LOVE TO LISTEN TO THE UPS AND DOWNS OF WHAT IS PROBABLY A MOST REWARDING OCCUPATION, BUT I MUST SEE MORGAN TRACY--IMMEDIATELY!

IMMEDIATELY IS IMPOSSIBLE, MISS PRINCE! WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN ME FOR LUNCH-- AS SOON AS I'M FINISHED HERE?

SORRY, IMMEDIATELY IS RIGHT NOW!

OH, NO! I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO ADMIT ANYONE!

I'M NOT "ANYONE"-- I'M MAD!

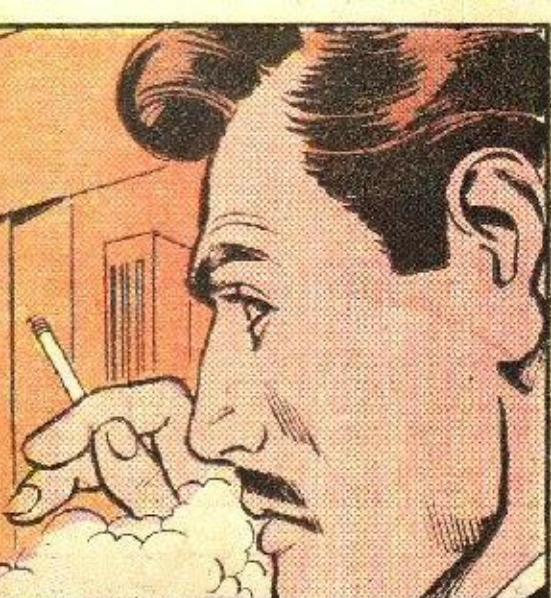
OH, MR. TRACY!
I'M SO SORRY,
I--

IT'S--IT'S QUITE ALRIGHT,
STACY!

GOOD TO SEE
YOU, DIANA.
COME IN,
COME IN...

I'LL BET YOU'RE GLAD TO SEE ME-- AFTER HAVING ME COOL MY HEELS OUT THERE WITH YOUR LITTLE MISS "HE'S-BUSY-RIGHT-NOW!"

NOW NO STALLING! WHERE'S STEVE HOWARD!?



BUT BEFORE WE LEARN MORGAN'S REPLY, LET'S ANSWER DIANA'S QUESTION FOR OURSELVES--RIGHT NOW-- DEEP IN THE SECRET COMPLEX BENEATH THE STREETS AND SUBWAYS OF NEW YORK CITY...

SO! THE FINGERPRINTS STEVE HOWARD CHECK! YOUR HAIR AND STEVE WAS JUST A DYE-JOB! TREVOR ARE ONE AND THE SAME!

BUT WE KNOW THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, DON'T WE, MR. HOWARD-TREVOR?

I KNOW IT IS BECAUSE I SAW STEVE TREVOR'S DEAD BODY! I HEADED STEVE TREVOR'S BURIAL DETAIL!

UNNN...



BY WHAT SCIENCE OR SORCERY WERE YOU RESTORED-- LT. TRUMAN! I TOLD YOU THAT NO ONE WAS TO ENTER THIS CHAMBER!



MY GOD, SIR! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?

FATIGUE, LIEUTENANT. UMM, SEE TO HIM, WILL YOU? I THINK WE'VE HAD ENOUGH QUESTIONS ANSWERED FOR THE TIME BEING...



AS THE YOUNG OFFICER HELPS STEVE FROM THE CHAMBER...

COULD IT BE THAT I'VE STUMBLED UPON THE VERY THING I'VE SEARCHED FOR SINCE THIS INSTALLATION WAS FIRST CONSTRUCTED?

COULD STEVE HOWARD-TREVOR HOLD THE VERY SECRET OF LIFE?



AHH, I REMEMBER THE DAY
THE ENGINEERING CREW
BROKE THROUGH TO THIS
LEVEL WHEN WE FIRST
BEGAN BUILDING OUR
COMPLEX...

I RECALL HOW I
ALONE INVESTIGATED
THE HOLLOW IN THE
BEDROCK AT THIS
DEPTH...

WHAT A GLORIOUS
DAY IT WAS WHEN
I MADE MY
DISCOVERY...

YES, AND NOW IT
SEEMS AS IF I AM
AT LAST GOING TO
FURTHER FULFILL
MY DREAMS...

SOON THE WORLD
WILL BE BROUGHT
TO ITS KNEES
BEFORE ME
AND MY--

--DARK
COMMANDER!

AT THAT MOMENT, FAR ABOVE...

WHERE IS HE, MORGAN?
AND WHY IS HE BEING
INVESTIGATED?

NOW YOU CAN
UNDERSTAND THAT,
DIANA...

STEVE HOWARD
WAS HIRED ON YOUR
RECOMMENDATION--
WITHOUT THE
REGULAR SECURITY
CHECK!

HE WAS
CHECKED
OUT...

OH, SURE, HE
CHECKED OUT, BUT
THERE WERE NO
DETAILS! HIS
ENTIRE RECORD
JUST HAD THE
BARE ESSENTIALS.
IT WAS AS IF HIS
ENTIRE LIFE WAS
JUST AN
OUTLINE...



IT DOESN'T WASH, MORGAN!
NO INVESTIGATION OF A
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
AGENT IS CONDUCTED BY
HAVING U.S. ARMY PERSON-
NEL DRAG HIM OFF SOME
NEW YORK CITY STREET!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?



UMMM... WELL, I'VE BEEN
ASKED... AHHH, THE MILITARY
REQUESTED THAT WE LET THEM
HANDLE THIS SINCE IT MIGHT
BE A NATIONAL SECURITY
MEASURE
AND--



WHAT KIND OF EMPLOYER
ARE YOU, ANYHOW?

I HELPED
STEVE SET
UP HIS NEW
"HOWARD"
IDENTITY, BUT
EVEN IF THE
FAKE RECORDS
I MADE CATCH
UP TO HIM,
TRACY SHOULD
STILL BACK
UP HIS
EMPLOYEES!

I... I CAN'T...



YOU MEAN
YOU WON'T!

THAT'S IT,
MORGAN!
FORGET
IT!

I QUIT!

DIANA!

SLAM

WELL, THAT'S
THAT! I CAN'T
WORK FOR A
MAN LIKE
MORGAN
TRACY
ANY
LONGER!

AT LEAST
I DID
MANAGE
TO LIFT THIS
FILE OF STEVE'S!
MAYBE IT WILL
TELL ME
WHERE HE'S
BEING HELD!

AHA! HE'S IN THAT
COMPLEX BELOW THE
CITY--PART OF THE
SAME ONE WE
VISITED DURING
THE SELKIRK
INVESTIGATION...

LADIES

* WONDER WOMAN
#245. --LARRY

THEN IT'S
UNDER
NEW YORK
FOR ME!

HANG ON,
STEVE!

LIKE A LEAF CAST TO
THE WIND, THE AMAZON
PRINCESS GLIDES UPON
THE AIR CURRENTS
THAT RUSH UP THE SIDE
OF THE GLEAMING
GLASS...

HERA HELP
ME FIND
HIM! I
THINK I
KNOW THE
WAY! IT'S...

--STRAIGHT
DOWN!

KA-FWRAMMM

SCANT SECONDS PASS, AND ON THE FIRST LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW YORK UNDERCITY...

WHERE IS HE? WHERE IS STEVE HOWARD?

CRASH!

I DON'T HAVE THE PATIENCE TO PLAY BULLETS AND BRACELETS WITH YOU--!

YOU! YOU SEEM TO BE IN CHARGE HERE! TELL ME! WHERE IS STEVE HOWARD BEING HELD? ANSWER!

GOOD GLORY!

RATATAT

RAT ATATA TATA

IT'S AN INVASION! FIRE! FIRE!

YES! YES! HE'S IN SECTION 75-- UNDER ROCKEFELLER PLAZA!

TH-THAT'S THE SECTION COMMANDER BY MAJOR BRADLEY!

AND SPEAKING OF MAJOR BRADLEY...

MAJOR! WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

WITH THE LIFE FORCE OF STEVE HOWARD TREVOR-- IF IT'S OF MYSTICAL ORIGIN, AS I BELIEVE IT IS-- I CAN RESTORE THE DARK COMMANDER TO LIFE--

HA! HA! YOU SEE, LIEUTENANT? ONCE, THE DARK COMMANDER LED THE DEMONS OF THE WORLD IN CONSTANT BATTLE! HE WILL DO SO AGAIN! AND WE-- THE SOLDIERS-- SHALL HAVE WAR TO FIGHT-- GLORIOUS PERPETUAL WAR!

MINUTES LATER, AFTER A MAD DASH THROUGH THE ANCIENT HALLWAYS TO THE UNDERCITY...

WITH THIS MAN'S ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORCE CHANNELLED INTO THE CRYPT OF THE DARK COMMANDER, HE SHALL SOON COME FORTH!

KEEP AWAY, SIR! YOU-- YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A MADMAN!

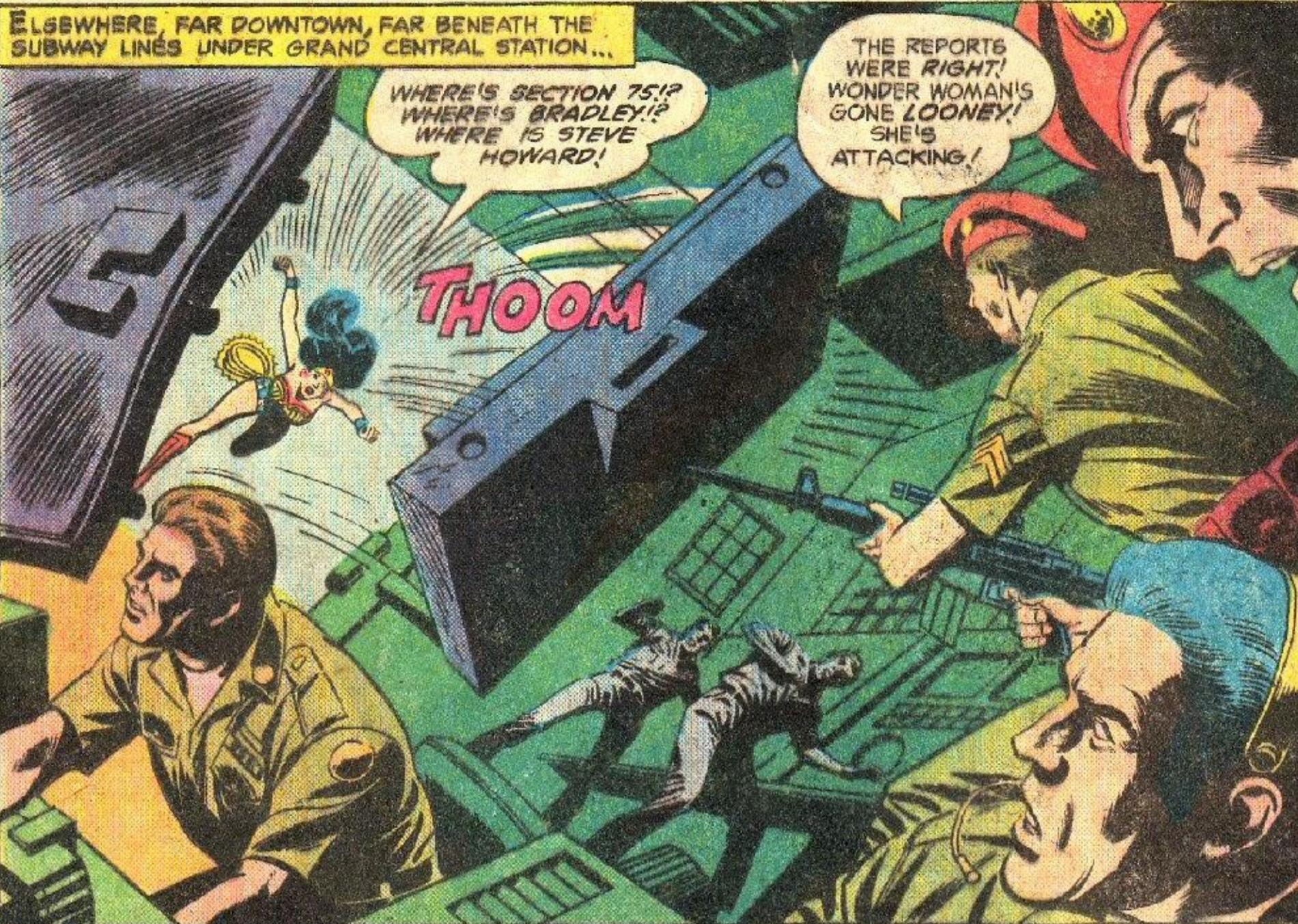


ELSEWHERE, FAR DOWNTOWN, FAR BENEATH THE
SUBWAY LINES UNDER GRAND CENTRAL STATION...

WHERE'S SECTION 75!?
WHERE'S BRADLEY!?
WHERE IS STEVE
HOWARD!

THE REPORTS
WERE RIGHT!
WONDER WOMAN'S
GONE LOONEY!
SHE'S
ATTACKING!

THOOM



I'VE NO QUARREL
WITH YOU,
SERGEANT-- OR
YOUR WORK HERE!

I JUST WANT
STEVE TREV--
HOWARD!

I DON'T WANT TO
HEAR ABOUT
NATIONAL
SECURITY,
OR SECRECY
OR -- HUH?

WHAT
TH--?

THE AUTOMATIC DEFENSE
LASERS HAVE TAKEN
OVER, WONDER WOMAN.
MAYBE NOW YOU'LL
SETTLE DOWN A BIT!

SETTLE DOWN? YES...
WHY AM I SO
DESPERATE TO
GET TO STEVE?
THE LIEUTENANT
SAID HE'D BE
RETURNED...
MORGAN
DIDN'T SEEM
TO BE
WORRIED...

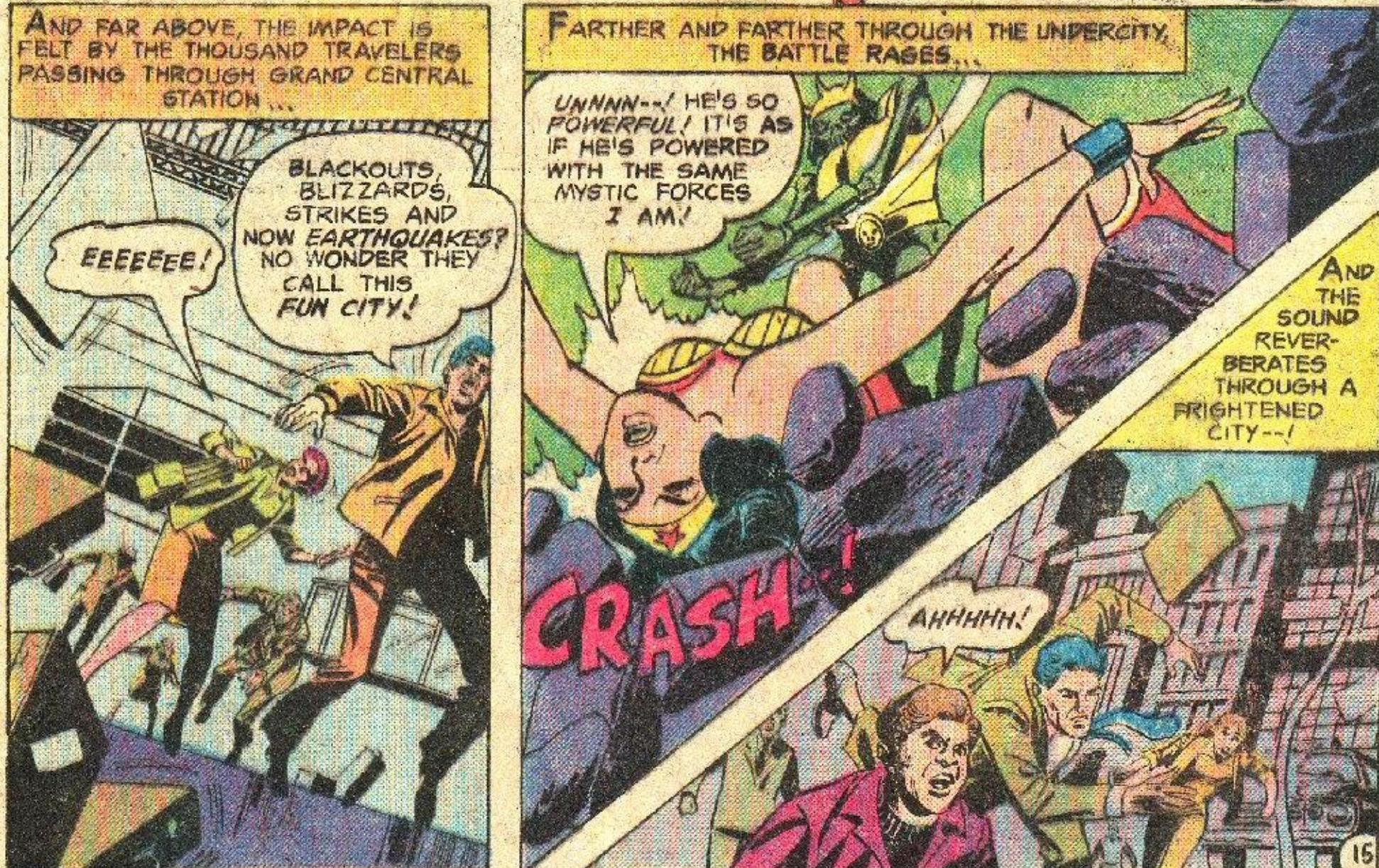
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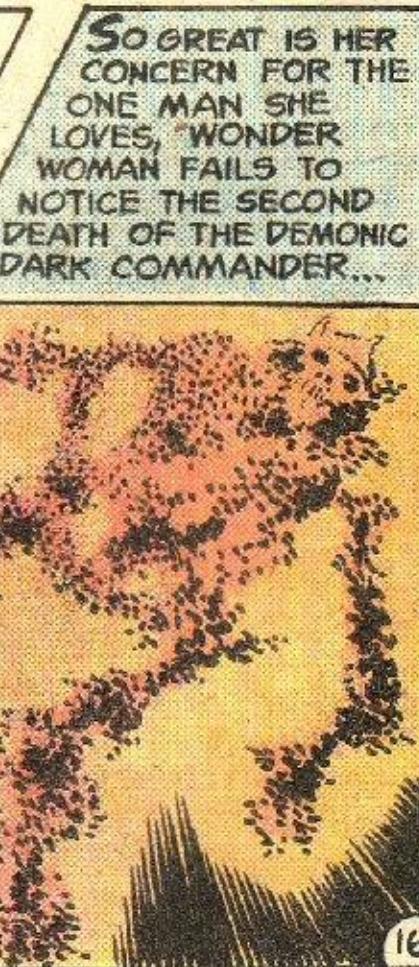
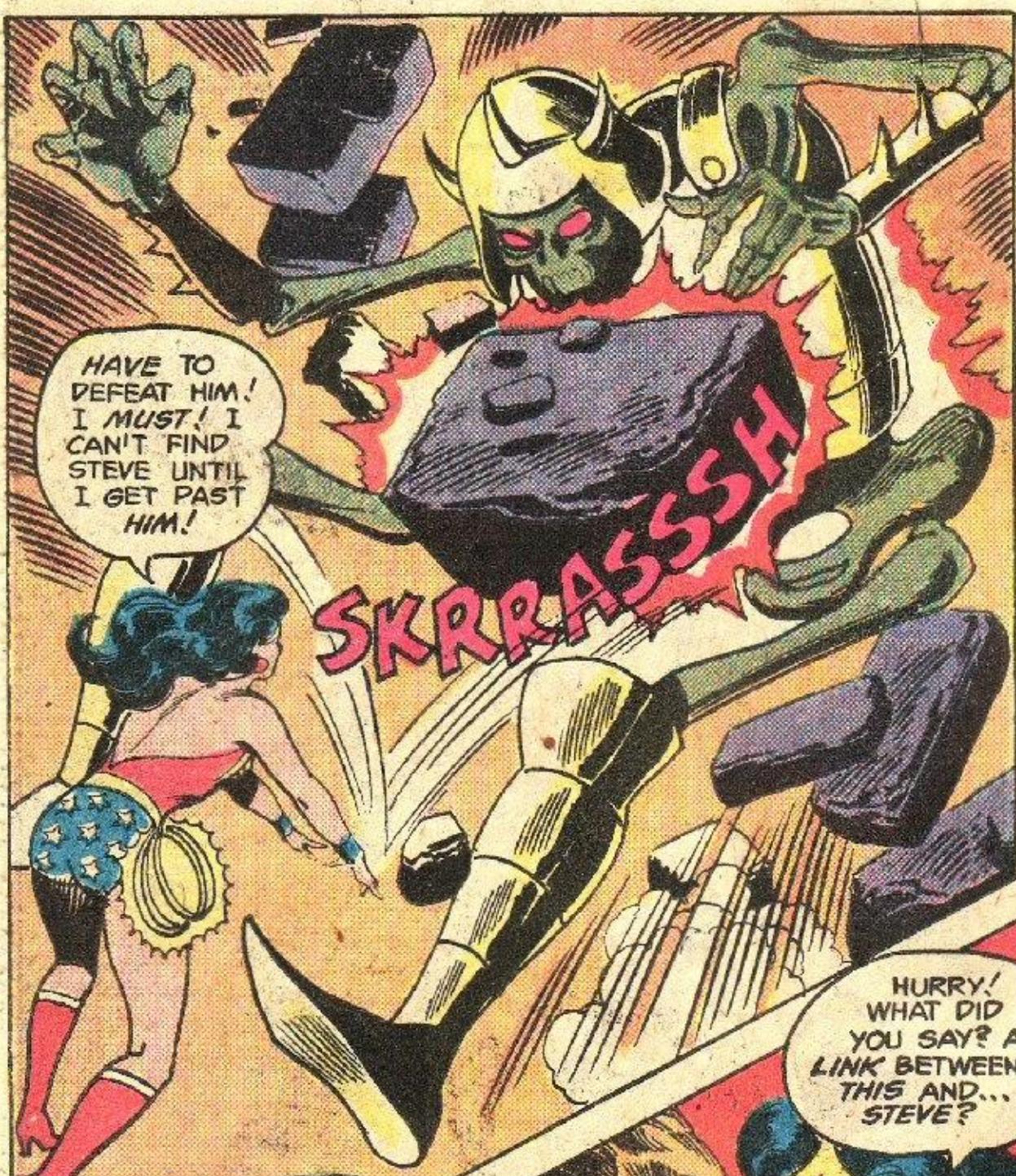
GREAT
HERA!

LASERS?

RRRAAH











Dear Editor,

A word of praise is in order. *WONDER WOMAN* #243 is one of the best issues in years and years. Actually, I haven't enjoyed an issue so much since Bob Kanigher gave the book to someone else.

The plot was intriguing and tightly written. Best of all, the story did not fall apart at the climax. Too often I read an interesting story that goes nowhere except into mindless fight scenes. Fortunately, most DC comics have removed themselves from this boring formula.

I have a few questions for you. What is the starting date for the current, Earth-1 *Wonder Woman*? Why was the Spectre involved in the wrap-up scene at the beginning of the book. I believe he had resigned by this time (*ALL STAR COMICS* #27). I notice by the circulation figures that the book is selling extremely well as compared to most of the others; do you have any idea why this is so?

Robin Snyder
Box 2134

Bellingham, Washington 98225

While the stories and art are surely the main reason the WONDER WOMAN comic is doing so well, we must confess that the current television show ('though only BASED on our concept) has also helped sales. The SPECTRE just dropped by to wish WONDER WOMAN well. You'll recall that WONDER WOMAN said she was not in on the action (in ALL STAR #27), but SHE was still there. The current adventures of WONDER WOMAN (Earth-1) began in issue #98, 1958 which explained how she met Steve Trevor and left Paradise Island after World War II. It's been 20 years "real time," but considerably less "comic book time" since she appeared in the United States.

Dear Editor,

WONDER WOMAN #243: Beautiful! After a too-long run of mediocre stories accompanied by mediocre art, *Wonder Woman* has finally had a good solo story. Make that a great solo story.

But what's so great that I am prompted to send this ever-so-complimentary letter of comment. Well, how about Jack C. Harris' scripting? Much better than Gerry Conway's. Not that Conway's were bad, just that they were nothing special. Your script for #243, Mr. Harris, was something special. Keep it up, keep it up!

And the art... WOW! But hey, Jose Delbo drew #243, right? Hasn't he been drawing the Amazon Princess on a pretty steady basis for some time now? So why is this issue something special? I think (and this is only the opinion of one who's been into comics and comic art for more than enough years to have his opinion mean something, so there is no reason why you should pay attention to me... sarcasm) it has something to do with

the inking. As a matter of fact, I think it has plenty to do with the inking. Please keep Frank Chairamonte as Jose Delbo's inker.

Okay folks? Have I said enough? The future potential of *Wonder Woman* has just been hinted at with this issue. Don't disappoint me.

Stuart Snyder

119 Kennedy Blvd.
Bellmawr, NJ 08031

• * * * •
Dear Editor,

It was with great anticipation that I read the first Earth-1 *Wonder Woman* adventure to appear in more than a year. And if #244 is any indication, the future looks refreshingly bright. I was worried that this first issue might try to cram too much into one book, but Jack C. Harris wrote a smooth transition issue that brought up a wealth of possibilities. Specifically, the Steve Trevor-Howard subplot was handled intelligently and seems to be moving toward a comfortable resolution.

Jack's story was a good example of how to combine action and suspense with characterization in a fluid writing style. The insight into Diana's problems, both physical and mental was especially notable for the way it was intergrated into the main plot. While I don't feel Joe Giella's inks truly fits WW, his job these past few issues has been more than adequate. What I feel needs saying is that Jose Delbo's pencils are vastly underrated and happily he's found a niche in one of DC's most important books.

Until you've really hit your stride, I'd like to make a few suggestions myself. I agree that *Wonder Woman* needs some more strong supporting characters and supervillains (both old and new). Even some cross-over tales with her *WORLD'S FINEST* stories will help matters. A few years ago I was morbidly pleased that Steve Trevor, the male version of Lois Lane, had kicked the bucket, but in his new incarnation he has really become an asset to the comic. He's independent without being foolhardy or chauvinistic and his personality is truly enigmatic. Thus, I feel he should be given a full reprieve and remain in the book.

Tony Edwards

454 N. Formosa Ave.
Los Angles, Ca 90036

*As you can see by the conclusion of this issue's epic, that fate has other plans for Steve Trevor-Howard, and we're pretty confident that we'll not be seeing him here again. He had a long association with *WONDER WOMAN*, but the time has come for new things. Next issue, for instance, *WONDER WOMAN* greets that winged wonder HAWKGIRL as she guest-stars in the Amazon's book for the very first time. Don't miss it!*

• * * * •
*This, and the next few issues of *WONDER WOMAN* will present some drastic changes in the Amazing Amazon's life. We're anxious to learn what you think about them. Write to us at: *WONDER WORDS*, DC Comics Inc., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019. And may Hera watch over you.*



The Wind between The Stars

TALES OF THE
AMAZONS
IN THE
ANCIENT WORLD...



IT'S THUNDEROUS ROAR STUNG THE
SENSES. APHRODITE'S MAELSTROM--
NO OTHER POWER ON EARTH COULD TEAR
SUCH A HOLE IN THE SEA.

THE AMAZONS SAIL THIS AWESOME VORTEX
ON THE DECK OF A STOLEN SHIP. BEHIND
THEM LIE THE SHATTERED CHAINS OF
SLAVERY--AND THE ONLY WORLD THEY
KNOW.

AHEAD OF THEM LIES ANOTHER
UNIVERSE. HERE THEY WILL FIND
ENCHANTMENT, STRANGE BEAUTY,
GROTESQUE HORROR AND SUDDEN
DEATH--

J-5298

WRITER
BOB
TOOMEY

PENCILS
MAURICE
WHITMAN

INKS
VINCE
COLLETTA

LETTERING
MILTON
SNAPINN

COLORING
JERRY
SERPE

EDITOR
LARRY
HAMA

WHERE
ARE
WE?

WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE?

MY QUEEN,
WE'RE LOST,
ABANDONED!

EASY, MALA.
HAVE FAITH--
APHRODITE
WOULD NEVER
ABANDON
US.

EXCUSE ME.

WHAT?

EXPLAIN
YOURSELF!

A DIFFICULT REQUEST.
MY BRAIN IS WOOD,
MY THOUGHTS ARE
SPLINTERS. GIVE ME
A MOMENT.

IT SEEMS THAT I AM
TO GUIDE YOU-- BUT
WHERE, OR WHY, I
KNOW NOT.

ALL I'VE BEEN GRANTED
IS A SENSE OF DIRECTION.
OTHER THAN THAT, NOTHING
IS CLEAR TO ME.

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?

YES-- APHRODITE
HAS PROVIDED
FOR US. THAT IS
ENOUGH TO
UNDERSTAND--
FOR NOW.

A QUESTION--
HOW DO WE
SAIL WITHOUT
ANY WATER?

I SAIL THE OPEN SEA
OF THE SKY, CARRIED
BY THE WIND BETWEEN
THE STARS...

SUDDENLY--

HELP ME--
HELP ME--
I'M TRAPPED!

IT'S A-A GIANT
SPIDERWEB!

SET ME
FREE!

IT RESISTS
MY STEEL--

--BUT MY
STEEL IS
STRONGER!

HULLO
DOWN
THERE!

NOW
WHAT?

I'M CAUGHT
IN THIS CURSED
WEB!

I'LL SEND
SOMEONE UP
TO HELP YOU!

THIS WEB STICKS
LIKE GLUE! DON'T
SEND ANYONE TO
CLIMB IT!

THROW ME A
SWORD! I KNOW
HOW TO USE IT!

SHOULD WE
ARM HIM?
HE IS,
AFTER ALL,
A MALE!

OUR GODDESS
PREACHES COMPASSION.
WE MUST NEVER
FORGET THAT.

HERE!

THANKS!

FREE YOURSELVES
QUICKLY, BEFORE THE
SPIDER COMES!

SPIDER?

AAAIEEEEE



SAVE
ME!

I'M SORRY--
I CAN'T!

WHY DO YOU
STRUGGLE SO? IT
WILL SOON BE
OVER. AND I
PROMISE YOU,
THERE WILL BE
NO PAIN.

BUT FIRST
WE WILL
TALK.

LONG AGO
I HAD A
MATE, BUT
I KILLED
HIM, I
DON'T KNOW
WHY.

DO YOU
HAVE A
MATE?

MEANWHILE--

FREE!

YOU HAVE THE
GRATITUDE OF CHAR,
KING OF THE ISLE
OF KENDRYS.

I AM
HIPPOLYTE,
QUEEN OF THE
AMAZONS.

AND NOW YOU
CAN DO ME A
SERVICE.

YOU MUST FLY
ME ON YOUR BACK
TO SAVE MY SISTER
FROM THE BEAST.

A WORTHY CHORE --
BUT I FEAR I
MUST DECLINE.

MY BUSINESS IS
WITH MY KINGDOM.
MY YOUNGER BROTHER
-- JEALOUS OAF --
HAS DEPOSED ME.

YOUR FRIEND IS
LOST IN ANY
CASE. NO ONE
SURVIVES THE
HOSPITALITY
OF THE SPIDER.

THE KING SHOWS HIS
GRATITUDE. NO WONDER
YOU WERE DEPOSED.

HARSH WORDS,
AMAZON QUEEN,
VERY HARSH. BUT
WHERE IS YOUR
KINGDOM?

SO MUCH FOR
NOBILITY. NOW
FOR A COMPROMISE.

AID ME IN REGAINING
MY THRONE, AND I WILL
HELP YOU WITH YOUR
FRIEND.

DONE!

GO ON
WITHOUT
ME.

LEAVE
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

YES, M'LADY -- BRIGHT
FORTUNE TO BOTH OF
US.

STRONG WINGS BEAT
AGAINST THE NIGHT AND --

AND THE
SPIDER!

THERE --
IT'S MALA!

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I'LL CIRCLE IN CAREFULLY! I DON'T RELISH THE THOUGHT OF TANGLING WITH THAT WEB AGAIN.





Scanned by Troia