

NO. 233 JULY 35¢
30725

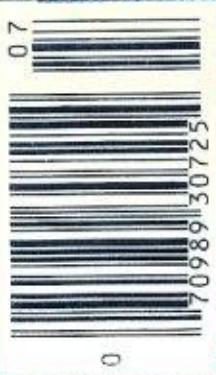


Wonder Woman

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AO
AUTHORITY



C-420



Monstrous... Merciless...
The JAWS OF THE LEVIATHAN!

GRAY MORROW

FROM THE BLAZING DAYS OF WORLD WAR TWO, A STARTLING NEW ADVENTURE IN THE STAR-SPANGLED SAGA OF--

Wonder Woman

THE ARMOR MUNITIONS
FACTORY IN ALEXANDRIA,
VIRGINIA, SIX MINUTES
AFTER MIDNIGHT!

THOUGH THE LATE SHIFT'S BEEN
GONE ALMOST AN HOUR NOW,
THERE IS MOVEMENT NEAR THE
UNMANNED ASSEMBLY LINE--

-- VIOLENCE SWIFT
AND SUDDEN!

GOTT IN,
HIMMEL!

IST DIE
WUNDER
FRAULEIN!

SHOOT HER, IDIOTS!
KILL HER! KILL
HER NOW!

SEADEATH!

A NEW BRAND OF AMAZON ACTION,
RELAYED BY

GERRY CONWAY, AUTHOR / DON HECK & VINCE COLLETTA, ARTISTS / JERRY SERPE, COLORIST

WONDER WOMAN, Vol. 36, No. 233, July, 1977. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1977 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever.

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC Comics Inc., 155 Allen Blvd., Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735.

Jenette Kahn, Publisher
Joe Orlando, Managing Editor
Dennis O'Neil, Story Editor
Jack Adler, Vice-Pres., Production
Vince Colletta, Art Director
Paul Levitz, Editorial Coordinator
Sol Harrison, President
Arthur Gutowitz, Treasurer

Advertising Representative,
Sanford Schwartz & Co., Inc.
355 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 391-1400

YOU SABOTEURS REALLY SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL! I SAW YOUR FLASHLIGHT BEAMS AS I PASSED BY IN MY ROBOT PLANE--

THAT WAS SLOPPY, GENTLEMEN, SLOPPY!

SHOOT IMBECILES! SHOOT!*

* A TRANSLATION, MEIN FREUND.--DENNY

NO ONE CAN WITHSTAND SUCH A WITHERING BARRAGE OF GUNFIRE--

--SHE ISN'T HUMAN!

COME NOW, GENTLEMEN! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD OF BULLETS AND BRACELETS?

IT'S A GAME WE PLAY ALL THE TIME ON PARADISE ISLAND--

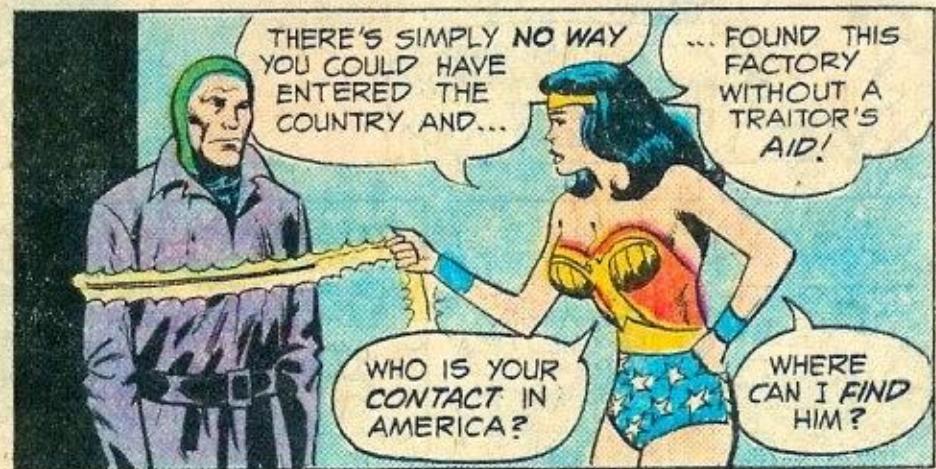
--NOT EVEN THIS WOMAN OF WONDER!

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

--AND WHILE IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS BASEBALL, IT'S MUCH MORE USEFUL--

RUN! SHE CAN DESTROY US ALL!

NO, OTTO!
HEAVEN HELP US,
YOU'RE WRONG--



QUESTIONING OF THE OTHER NAZIS PROVES
EQUALLY FUTILE, AND, AFTER SUMMONING ARMY
AUTHORITIES, WONDER WOMAN PREPARES TO LEAVE...

THIS IS THE
FOURTH
MAJOR
SABOTAGE
ATTEMPT
THIS
MONTH--

--AND TWO OF
THE ATTACKS WERE
SUCCESSFUL!

REALLY, COLONEL?
I HAD NO IDEA...

IT'S BAD, WONDER WOMAN!
LIEUTENANT ACKROYD AND I
HEAD UP A SPECIAL ARMY
INTELLIGENCE UNIT--

--SPECIALLY ASSIGNED
TO FERRETING OUT
THESE RATS--

AND PUTTING THEM
AWAY PERMANENTLY!
WE COULD USE
YOUR HELP!

YOU CAN HAVE IT, COLONEL BALUSHI--
STARTING TOMORROW!

RIGHT NOW, I'M LATE
FOR AN APPOINTMENT!
SO, IF YOU'LL FORGIVE
ME--

OF
COURSE,
WONDER
WOMAN!

THANK
YOU!

LATER, IN AN ALLEY
BESIDE THE ARMY
INTELLIGENCE BUILDING...

...WONDER
WOMAN
BEGINS
THE
STARTLING
TRANS-
FORMATION
FROM
AMAZON
PRINCESS...

...TO NAVY
YEOMAN...

ORDINARILY,
I'D CANCEL
AN
APPOINT-
MENT
LIKE
TONIGHT'S--

--BUT
THIS
TIME
THERE
ARE
MITI-
GATING
CIRCUM-
STANCES!

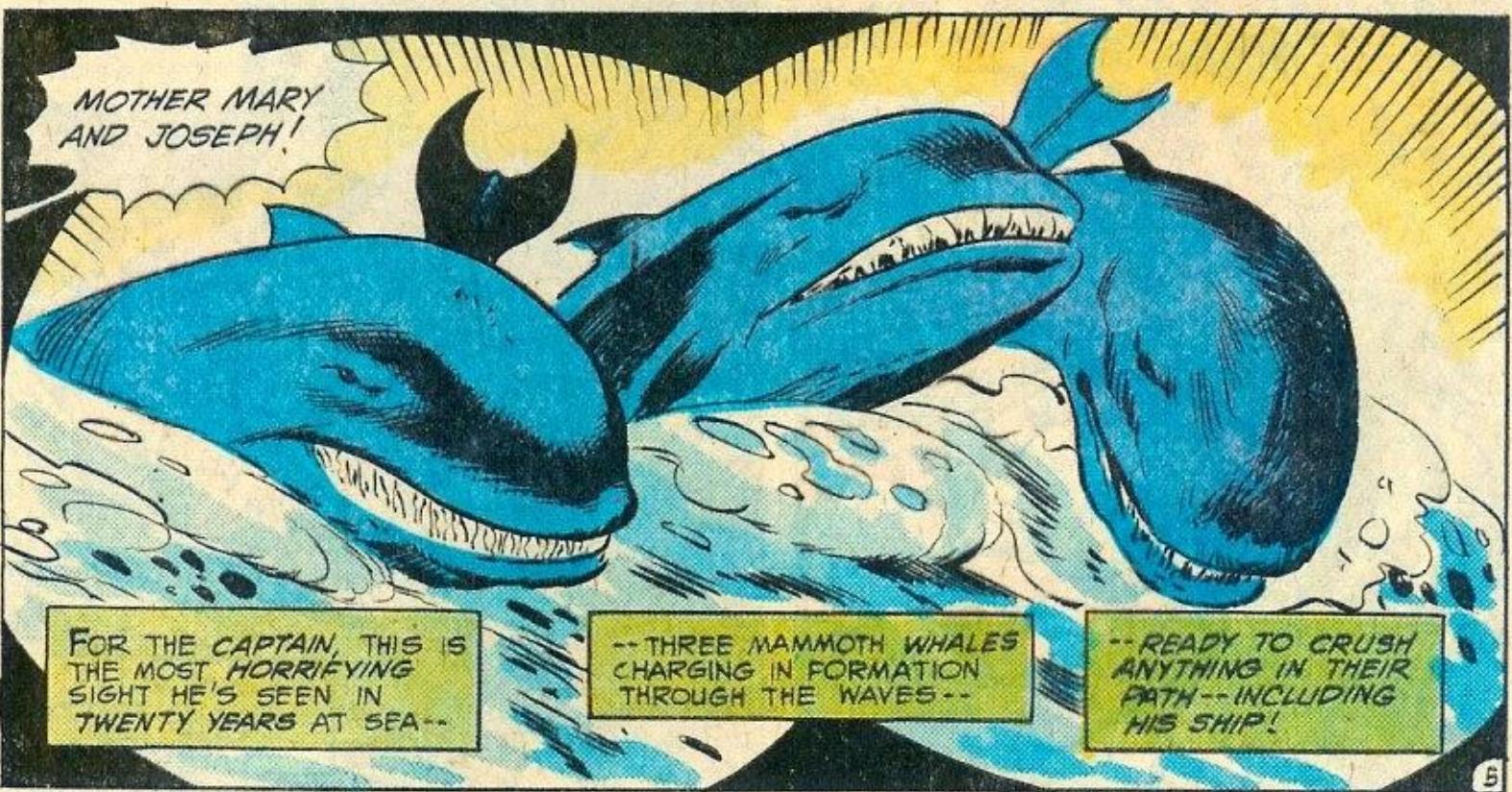
STEVE TREVOR WAS INJURED
IN AN EXPLOSION DURING A
WEAPON TEST, AND HE'S BEEN
SO DEPRESSED--

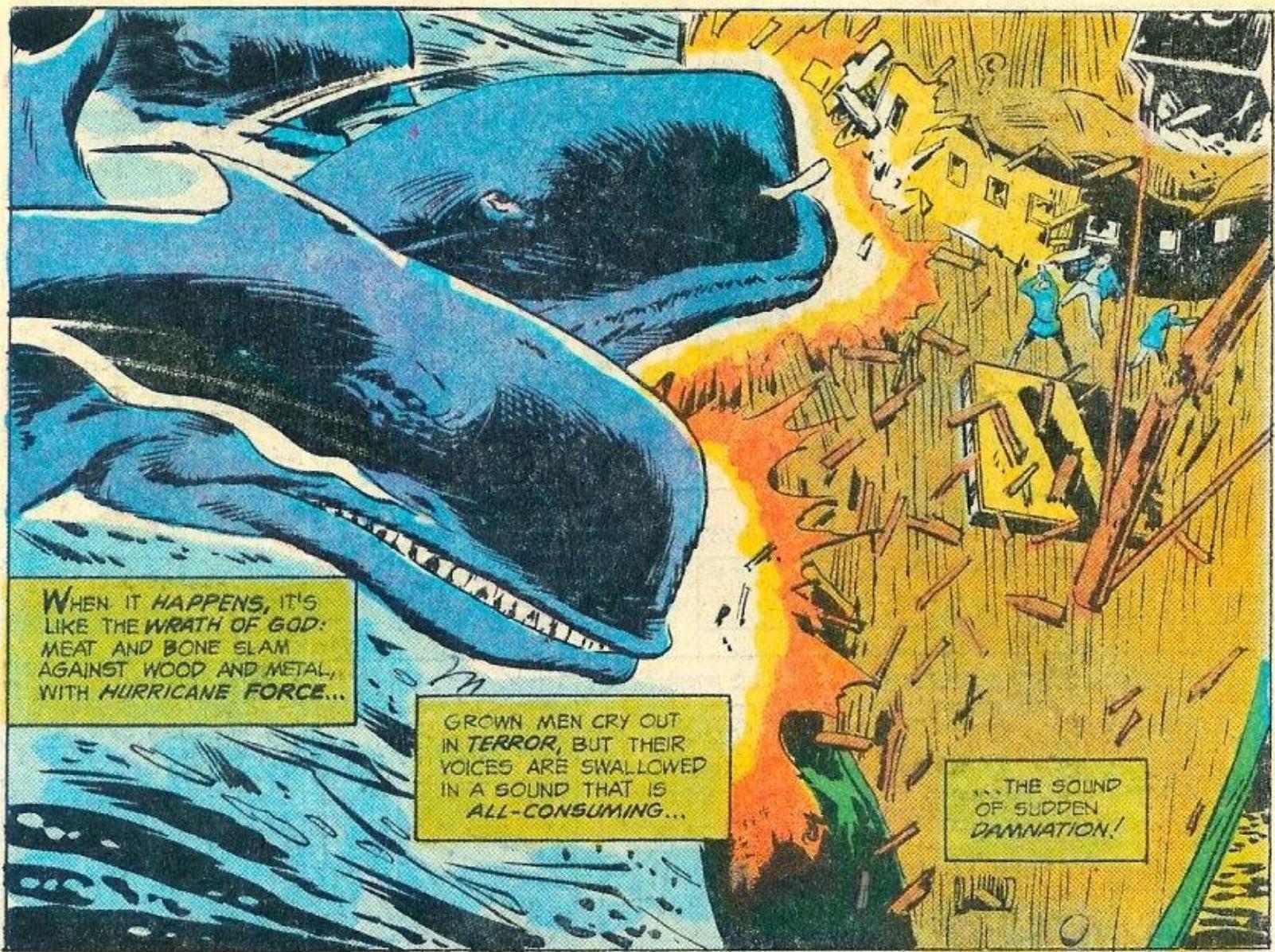
DIANA!

FOR A WHILE
THERE, YEOMAN
PRINCE, I WAS
WORRIED YOU
WOULDN'T SHOW
UP!

STEVE, I'VE
ALWAYS TOLD
YOU, WHEN
YOU NEED A
FRIEND--

--YOU CAN
COUNT ON
ME.





SOMEWHERE IN THE SHIP'S BOWELS, A SPARK IGNITES THE FUEL, AND THE STERN OF THE NEWPORT EXPLODES INTO FLAME--



AT FIRST THE SAILORS THINK THE SUB IS AMERICAN... BUT THEN THEY SEE THE INSIGNIA PAINTED PROUDLY ON THE CONNING TOWER...



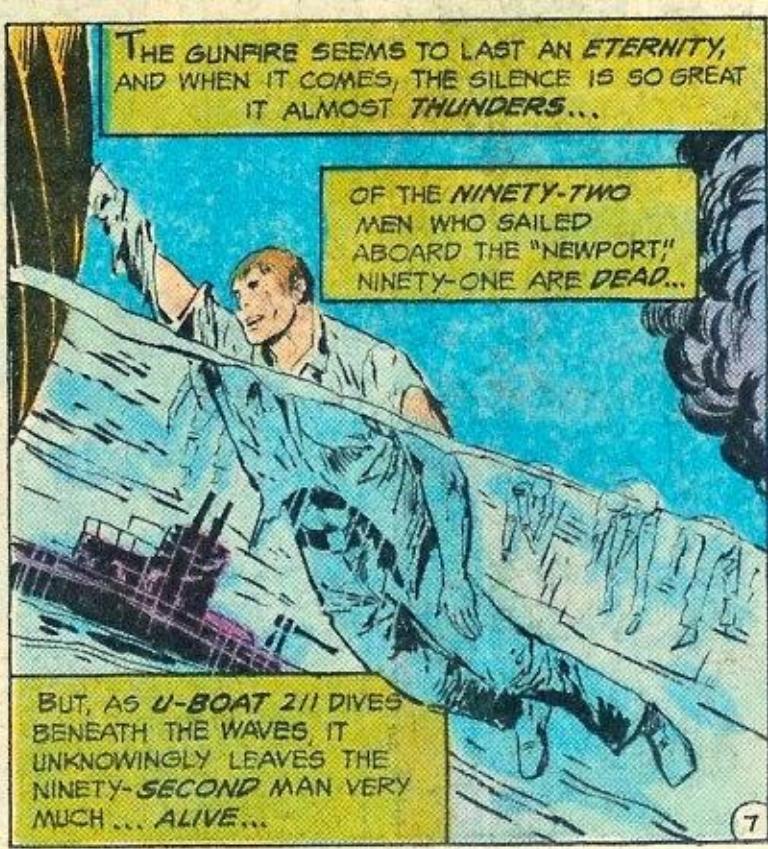
...AND AS THEY DIE, THEIR MURDERER GLOATS--



--THE MAN WHO HARNESSSED THE BEASTS OF THE SEA-- AND USED THEM FOR EVERLASTING GLORY OF THE THIRD REICH!



THE GUNFIRE SEEMS TO LAST AN ETERNITY, AND WHEN IT COMES, THE SILENCE IS SO GREAT IT ALMOST THUNDERS...



AND, THE NEXT MORNING...

...STEVE,
THIS IS
JUST
INCREDIBLE!

IF THIS SAILOR'S
REPORT IS TRUE--
THEN THE GERMANS
HAVE DEVELOPED
A WEAPON OF
DEVASTATING
POTENTIAL--

--POSSIBLY POWERFUL ENOUGH
TO DETERMINE THE VERY OUTCOME
OF THE WAR!

GENERAL BLANKENSHIP,
EVERY WORD IN THAT
REPORT IS GOSPEL!

WE SENT OUT A B-29
TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS
OF THE NEWPORT'S
REMAINS--

-- AND WE FOUND THE SHIP WHERE HE
SAID WE WOULD, AT 40° NORTH LATI-
TITUDE AND 52° 6 MINUTES WEST
LONGITUDE!

GÉNÉRAL, THOSE PHOTOS
WOULD MAKE YOU SICK...

I'VE HEARD
ENOUGH...

THIS IS SOMETHING I
MUST INVESTIGATE...
NOT ONLY TO HELP
THE AMERICANS...

...BUT
ALSO TO
PROTECT
MY HOME,
PARADISE
ISLAND!

A LIGHTNING-SWIFT CHANGE,
AND, MINUTES LATER, IN THE
SKY OVER WASHINGTON, D.C.--

THE BRITISH HAVE DEVELOPED
A NEW DEVICE CALLED
RADAR--CAPABLE OF
SEEING THINGS AT
NIGHT OR IN FOG--!

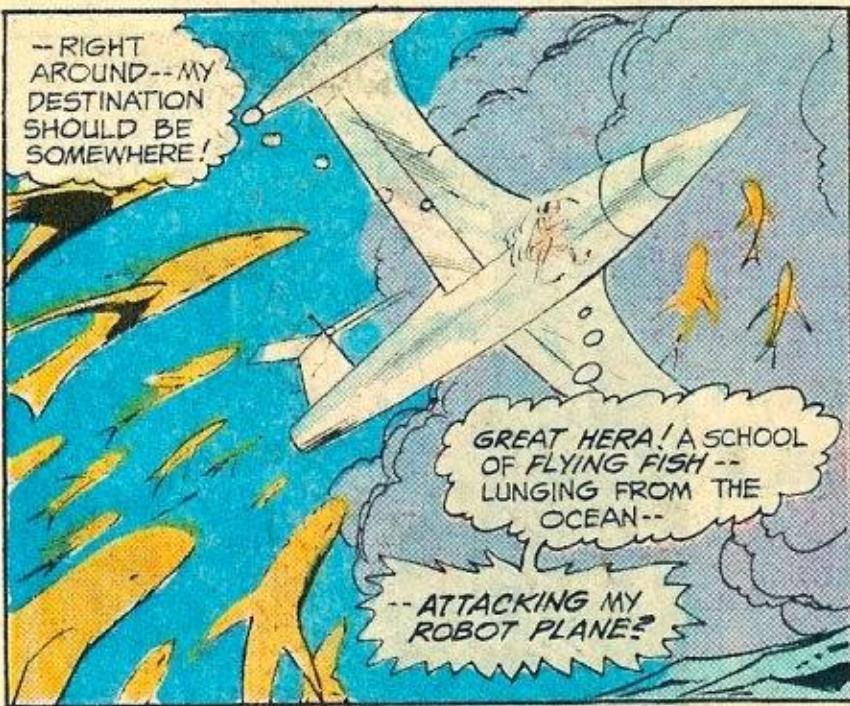
I WONDER IF IT
CAN ALSO "SEE" MY
INVISIBLE PLANE--

--BECAUSE IF IT CAN, I
MIGHT HAVE TO GET MYSELF
A NEW MEANS OF
TRANSPORTATION!

-- AND THAT WOULD
BE TRAGIC!

NOT NEARLY SO
TRAGIC AS THE DEATHS
OF THOSE SAILORS
LAST NIGHT, HOWEVER!

THE WAY I
TRAVEL AROUND
THE COUNTRY, I
MIGHT BE SHOT
DOWN SOMEDAY BY
AN OVEAGER
ANTI-AIRCRAFT
GUNNER--



THIS IS AS IT SHOULD BE-- THE ARYAN IN CONTROL, THE INFERIOR IN SUBMISSION!

NO DOUBT, YOU HEARD OF OUR DESTRUCTION OF THE NEWPORT--

--AND YOU HAVE COME TO FIGHT US, EVEN DEFEAT US, JA, FRAULEIN?

THAT'S CORRECT, CAPTAIN! AND IF I DON'T SMASH YOU, OTHERS WILL--

--BECAUSE YOU REPRESENT A TWISTED AND EVIL PHILOSOPHY--

--HATED BY FREE MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE!

SO, FRAULEIN-- YOU ARE A PHILOSOPHER AS WELL AS A WARRIOR, JA?

LET US SEE HOW WELL YOUR FINE THOUGHTS SERVE YOU--

-- WHILE YOU SINK TO THE VERY BOTTOM OF THE SEA!

AT CAPTAIN STRUNG'S COMMAND, WONDER WOMAN IS COLLARED AND CHAINED, THEN THRUST INSIDE THE WAITING TORPEDO TUBE ...

AUF WIEDER-SEHEN, FRAULEIN... THOUGH I DOUBT WE SHALL MEET AGAIN!

FOR YOU, AS THE AMERICANS SAY--

-- THE STORY IS OVER!"

LIKE THE DOOR TO A TOMB, THE HATCH CLANGS SHUT, AND SECONDS LATER--



THIS FARCE HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH...

STRUNG RELEASED
ME, WHEN HE
SHOT ME FROM
THAT TORPEDO
TUBE! I'M
BACK IN
CONTROL--



--AND
THAT'S
HOW I
INTEND
TO
STAY!



WHEN I FIRST
CAME OUT HERE,
I THOUGHT THERE
MIGHT BE A
CONNECTION
BETWEEN THIS
SUB AND THE
SABOTEURS
HITTING
WASHINGTON--

--BUT AFTER SEEING
STRUNG, I KNOW
HE CAN'T BE
INVOLVED IN
SUBTERFUGE!



KAPITAN, THE PERISCOPE
--IT'S BEEN RIPPED
AWAY!



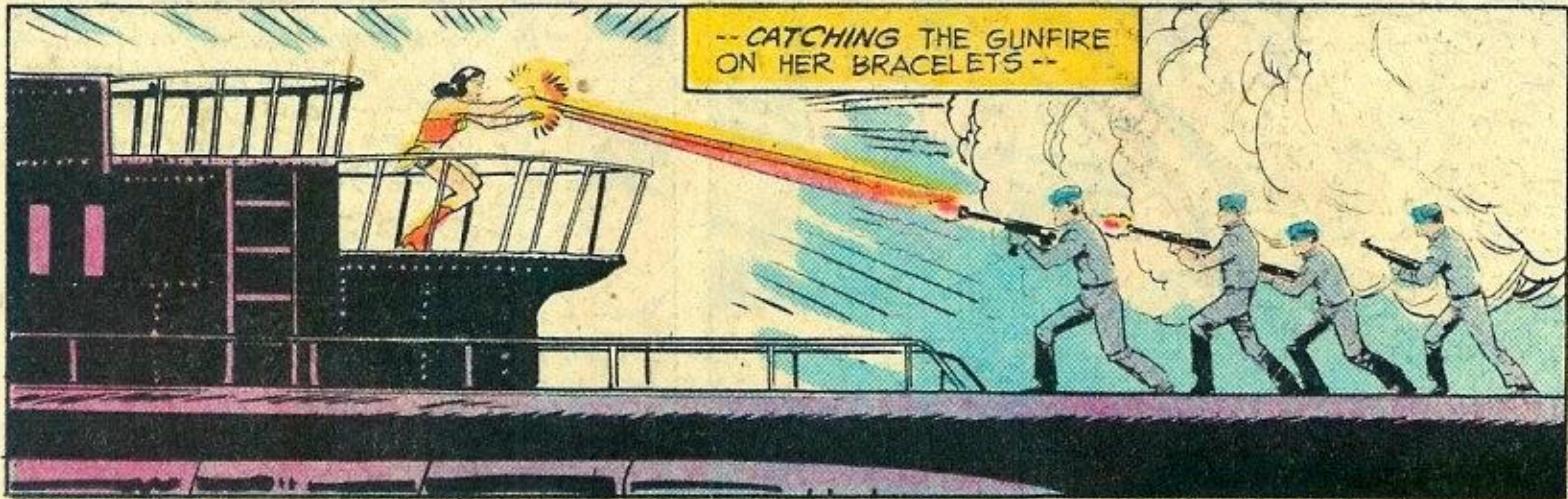
SHUDDERING, THE U-BOAT TURNS ITS NOSE
UPWARD, RISING SWIFTLY THROUGH THE BRINE
--ITS CREW UNAWARE ON AN UNANNOUNCED
PASSENGER--



--UNTIL, ON
THE SURFACE--

YOU!





FROM OUT OF THE DEPTHS
IT ROARS, AWAKENED FROM
SOME MILLENNIA-LONG SLEEP
IN THE BLACK ABYSS BELOW...

NOT SINCE MAN FIRST WALKED THE
EARTH HAS ITS LIKE BEEN SEEN...
A CREATURE SO HUGE, SO
FRIGHTENING, IT DESERVES THE
NAME LEVIATHAN...

AS IT ERUPTS
INTO THE LAST
LIGHT OF DAY,
IT BELLOWS
WITH RAGE--

--AND WHEN
MEN HEAR THAT CRY,
THEY TREMBLE
AND WEEP
IN FEAR!



TOO LATE, WONDER WOMAN
REALIZES THE BEHEMOTH
SEEKS HER ALONE...

TOO LATE, SHE
TRIES TO SPRING
ASIDE...

... AS THE BEAST COMES
CRASHING DOWN!

AT THE SAME
MOMENT IN
WASHINGTON...

PRINCESS,
DON'T--

--MAJOR STEVE
TREVOR WAKES
FROM AN
AFTERNOON
NIGHTMARE!

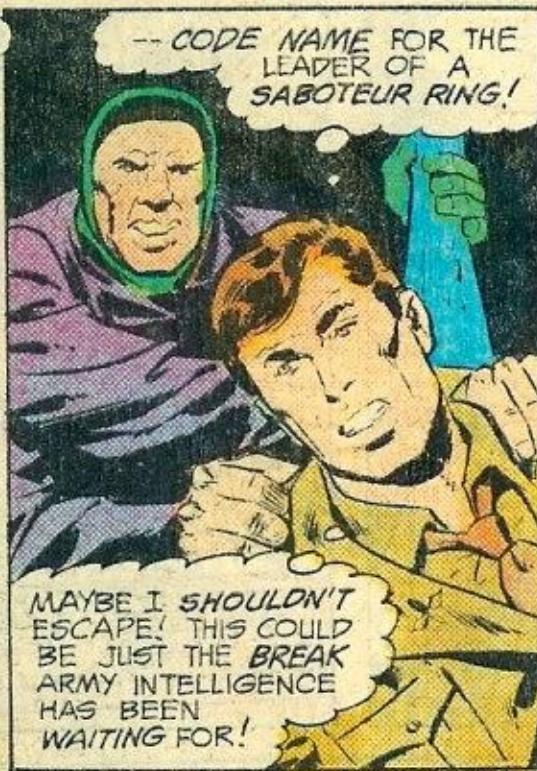
A DREAM... BUT
WHAT A DREAM!
WONDER WOMAN
IN DANGER...
CAN'T EVEN
REMEMBER WHAT
KIND OF
DANGER...

TREVOR, YOU'VE
GOT TO LAY
OFF THOSE
BANANA
SPLITS...

HEY... SOMETHING
WOKE ME...
A SOUND...

... THE WINDOW!

HE'S SEEN
US! SHOOT
HIM, SWINE--
SHOOT
NOW!



AND, WHILE STEVE TREVOR "VANISHES," THE OBJECT OF HIS CONCERN IS BORNE OCEANWARD BY A THOUSAND TONS OF RAMPAGING SEA-MONSTERS--

--AS A TRIUMPHANT CAPTAIN STRUNG WATCHES AND SNEERS:

CORRECT, MEIN FREUND?

AS YOU SAY, MEIN KAPITAN, AS YOU SAY.

THE GREAT WUNDER FRAULEIN! IN THE END, SHE IS NOTHING BESIDE GERMAN GENIUS--

WHY, FREIDRICH... WHERE IS YOUR NATIONAL SPIRIT? AREN'T YOU PROUD OF THE FATHERLAND'S VICTORY...?

AREN'T YOU GRATEFUL... THAT WE LET YOU AND YOUR MISERABLE CHILDREN... LIVE? WELL, FREIDRICH? WELL?

JA, MEIN KAPITAN! I AM GRATEFUL!

THEN YOU MUST OBSERVE THE VICTORY, FREIDRICH...

...YOU MUST WATCH WHAT YOUR... TALENTS... HAVE ACCOMPLISHED FOR THE RICH!

DO YOU SEE, FREIDRICH? DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

I SEE, MEIN KAPITAN...

IN THE NAME OF YAWEH... I SEE...

JUDEN! DOG! NEVER SPEAK THE NAME OF YOUR JEWISH GOD AS LONG AS YOU STAY ON THIS BOAT! UNDERSTAND?

AS YOU SAY, MEIN KAPITAN! AS YOU SAY!

BAD ENOUGH WE ARE FORCED TO BREATH THE SAME AIR AS YOU DO...

I WILL NOT HEAR YOUR BLASPHEMY AS WELL!

MORE WILL BE
REVEALED ABOUT
THE MAN NAMED
FREIDRICH
NEXT ISSUE ...

RIGHT NOW, OTHER
URGENT MATTERS
CLAIM OUR ATTENTION,
MATTERS OF LIFE ...

... AND MATTERS
OF DEATH!



CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE -- WHAT MIGHT WELL BE THE LAST BATTLE OF THE AMAZON'S CAREER:

"AND DEATH my DESTINY!"

ON SALE THE LAST WEEK IN MAY!

Wonder Words

L-684

Gentlemen:

When it was first announced that you were going to start doing **Wonder Woman's** adventures back in World War II (the Earth 1/2 explanation is just a technicality for convenience in the transition), I was about ready to cancel my subscription . . . and never speak to you again.

But lo and behold, issues 228 and 229 were fantastic! I found them much better than the Earth 1, or present-day, adventures. And I DON'T like the TV series!

. . . let's hear it for the return of Etta Candy! . . . Having her as one of Gen. Blankenship's secretaries rather than a college student is much more believable, and was one of the things that always bugged me about the original stories—after all, she never did seem to go to classes or have term papers to write.

And that brings me to the one important mistake that was made in #229 . . . I just finished a term paper for my Mythology class that goes into explicit detail about how **Theseus** defeated the Minotaur. You have the Red Panzer saying on page 13 that Diana must escape the missile as **PERseus** escaped the Minotaur. You may have just cost me my grade!

Jan Harper

618 S. Mitchell, Bloomington, IN 47401

Replies a red-faced Marty Pasko: "Obviously, I should've spent a minotaur two doing some research rather than relying on my (faulty) memory. But you have to admit it was an understandable myth-take!" As for our other "mistakes", we refer you to our reply to the following letter.

Dear Editor,

I'm sure you will receive a number of letters commenting on this. Well, here's one more.

It's one thing to change **Wonder Woman** and locales. Although I don't go for it, I realize there is nothing that can be done about it. But it's another thing to deliberately ignore established facts relating to the strip merely to conform to the TV show. Now, I've never been a big fan of Steve Trevor. I was glad to see him killed off a number of years back and was equally sorry to see him resurrected not long ago. Of course, the Steve Trevor that is not appearing in **WONDER WOMAN** is a resident of Earth-Two. But . . . he's supposed to have **blond** hair, just like the Steve of Earth-1 used to! Lyle Waggoner doesn't have blond hair, but Steve **must!** That's how it's gotta be if this series is going to fit into the established past. And while I'm at it, who's this Etta Candy character? Sure isn't the Etta H.G. Peter used to depict stuffing herself back in the days of the big bands.

There is only one, inescapable conclusion that we must draw from all this. We are **not reading** about the **Wonder Woman** of Earth-2 at all! What we actually have here is another "DC-TV comic", like **WELCOME BACK, KOTTER**, and it should say so on the cover.

Really guys, I do feel kind of silly harping on what may be considered a minor point. I don't think I've ever written a letter concerning a comic strip character's hair before. . . . But let's keep things in order, okay?

Joe Rusnak

Main Road, Montville, NJ 07045

If you feel silly writing a letter about a character's hair-color, Joe, think how we must feel answering it! But since we could wallpaper the inside of the Sistine Chapel with all the letters we've received on this subject, answer it we will. Now read carefully, 'cause we're only gonna go through this once:

At the moment, DC does not publish any reprint material, and has not for quite some time. We must assume that the vast majority of our audience consists of comic book readers, not collectors or long-time fans. It is entirely plausible to assume—if they've been reading **WONDER WOMAN** a relatively short while—that these readers have never been exposed to the "wartime" WW, either in the form of old issues or reprints. Had we been slavishly faithful to the Charles Moulton version of the Amazon, we probably would have gotten just as many letters from readers asking why Steve Trevor's hair ISN'T brown like the one on TV's as we've gotten asking why it IS. The same goes for General Blankenship as opposed to General Darnell, the color of Queen Hippolyte's hair, "Yeoman" Prince instead of "Lieutenant" Prince—and all the other "discrepancies" some of you have pointed out in your letters. We're faced with an either-way-we-lose proposition, at least as far as a small percentage of our readers is concerned.

But since we'd rather bring you **WONDER WOMAN** 12 times a year than six, we decided to opt for the more potentially commercial approach—which is to present WW and her universe in a manner compatible to the television incarnation. In terms of the "big picture", the "continuity problems" this creates are minimal—since the rest of DC's superhero stories are set in the present, and WW will not be appearing in **ALL STAR** in the foreseeable future.

Dear Editors,

"Tomorrow Belongs to Me" was great . . . I liked the fact that Diana had **not** really been knocked out by the time ship, but only dazed. I have to assume that the condition lasted until after she had been tied up, however! She'd never have allowed it to happen otherwise.

It was nice having WW pursue the Panzer in his own plane, rather than "fly" after him. The TV version apparently lacks the ability to float on air currents, so I'm glad you're steering away from it as well.

I really enjoyed seeing Steve help **Wonder Woman** for a change. I think that the World War II setting will help out his characterization immensely. Etta and General Blankenship were a nice little extra, too.

The recapture and consequent death trap sequence was superb. It featured everything from Amazon lore to a brilliant show of **Wonder Woman's** strength and cunning.

Scott R. Taylor

103 Markham Place, Portland, TX 78374

Scott, you're a reader after our own heart. And not just because you like issue #229—but because you accept the idea that we're following the TV show without disputing it. Would that there were more letter-writing readers like you.

Ah, but such disagreement is the stuff of which these letter columns are made. And we'd rather be stuck with nothing but rancor and bile than nothing to print on this page. And so—good, bad, or indifferent—we'll see you next month.

MAKE WAY FOR
INTERGALACTIC
EXCITEMENT!

RETURN
OF THE NEW GODS

ON SALE APRIL 21ST!

"Remember the Five-Cent Phone Call?"

Lately, the staff around here has taken to calling my monthly letter *The Publishorial*. Or, much more often, *Your Publishorial*, as in "when are you finally going to have your publishorial finished so that all the books on the April schedule which are otherwise complete have a fighting chance of meeting their shipping dates?"

It is true that in an earlier column I admitted to being unduly tardy in delivering my publishorial into the clamoring hands of Jack's production room. However, you may recall that at that time I did not cop a plea.

Now, here it is, my fifth publishorial and I am late again. Only this time there is a reason, and actually an exceedingly important one that affects you directly. Let me try to explain.

Originally, I had wanted this column to burst with my enthusiasm for our new science-fiction line which opens April 21st with *The New Gods*, to be followed by *Mr. Miracle* in June, and then by David Michelinie's enthralling new creation, *Star Hunters*. I don't want to give this line short shrift, for all three of the titles are truly exceptional, both in concept and execution. However, a serious problem has cropped up, and I feel you should be apprised of it before anything else.

When Paul Levitz took over *The Comic Reader* in 1971, it had 500 subscribers. By the time he got out of the fanzine racket—two years later—*The Comic Reader*'s circulation septupled (3,500 copies), picking up two "best fanzine" awards along the way.

Why would someone quit a publication at the height of its success? Because Paul Levitz was offered a job working in the comics industry, which beats just writing about it. Paul assumed the duties of an assistant editor: proofreading, steering plot conferences, editing scripts and the like. It wasn't until 1974 that Levitz was able to fulfill a life-time ambition—being a comic book writer.

"I was greatly inspired by the success of Jim Shooter, who at the time was writing *The Legion of Super-Heroes*. He had the impossible luck to be hired at 13," Levitz reported. Paul started out with a

Several months ago, I explained that everything in a comic book—from the ads to the letters page—is completed at least three months before the comic goes on sale. Therefore, I am writing this publishorial with the knowledge that certain things which are currently the subject of open discussion may or may not be fact come April. I can't give you any conclusion, only the ins and outs of our daily fervent debate.

We are talking about raising our price from thirty to thirty-five cents. We are not talking about if we should, but when. I wish that could sound less cold than it does, but you might remember how only several months ago I explained just why a price increase was sure to be inevitable. However, I confess—I never expected that we'd be discussing it so seriously so soon.

At the time of writing, it's January. To our dismay, the New Year brought us not just new but unexpectedly high prices from the printer. Thus, we are faced with a single question: how long can we hold the line at thirty cents. March? April? Anything beyond that seems untenable.

You're reading this in April. What happened? Did you pay thirty cents for this comic book or thirty-five? What a strange business we're in. It

would be nice to arrive at a package and a price that we could maintain despite the slings and arrows which have become standard operating procedure for our industry.

I guess in part, that's what Dollar Comics are all about. With a Dollar Comic you can count on getting four comics' worth of new material for four quarters for a long time to come.

And what about *New Gods*? It's terrific. Gerry Conway (writer) and Paul Levitz (editor) have added tight plotting and vivid story-telling to Jack Kirby's original vision. Don Newton's pencils are a joy. Infused with intelligence, dynamic and bold, they gleam from behind the authoritative yet faithful inks supplied by his friend, Dan Adkins.

One last thing. I imagine that many of you out there have a question or two or three or four that you'd like answered. Questions about comics, business, publishing; about management, present or long gone; about the staff; questions personal or impersonal, relevant or irreverent, questions about life, DC, even me. Every once in a while, I'd like to turn over my publishorial to answering them. So drop us a line, when you've got the time.

Wishing all of you the very best... *Jenette*

number of mystery stories, and moved on to *The Phantom Stranger*, *Stalker*, *Kamandi*, *Justice Inc.*, and *Karate Kid*. It was Paul's work on *Aquaman* in *Adventure Comics* that set the tone for the character's successful revival.

primary contact point for all freelance activity—seeing that material comes in on time, working with the writers and artists, and so on.

Levitz works three near-full time jobs for DC Comics. In his spare time—which is almost an office joke—

DC Profiles #13

PAUL LEVITZ

Last year, Levitz acquired four new assignments. He succeeded Shooter on *The Legion*, picked up *The Justice Society* series, and became the story editor of some nine titles. More importantly, Paul became DC's editorial co-ordinator,

Paul is a business major at New York University; he should be picking up his masters sometime in 1979.

Not bad for a twenty year-old. It will be interesting to see what Paul Levitz can do when he grows up.

—Mike Gold