

ATARI* MARIO BIOS*

Another smash arcade hit brought home only by Atari for use with the ATARI® 2600™ Game, Sears Video Arcade† systems and versions exclusively for the ATARI 5200™ Super System.















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S10.00. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Printed in USA, Advertising Representative: Sanford Schwarz & Co., 356
Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017, (21); 391-1400.

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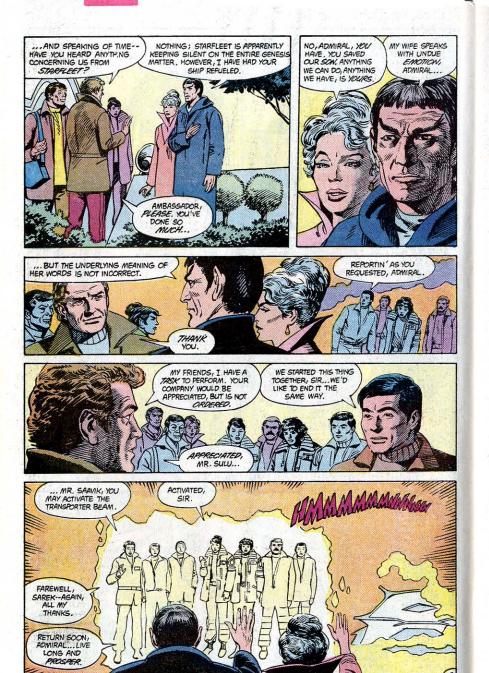


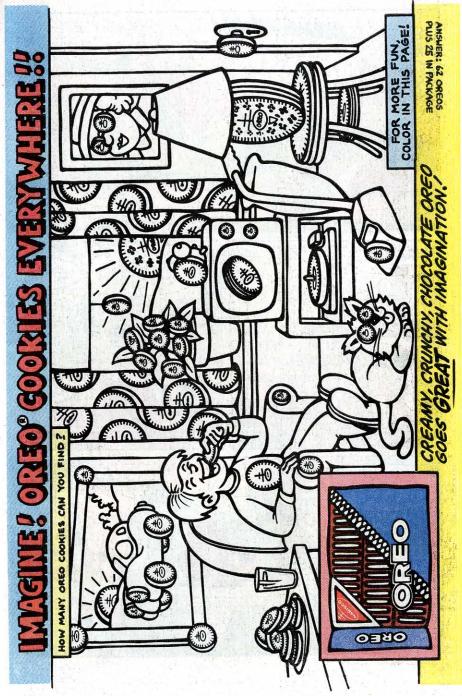




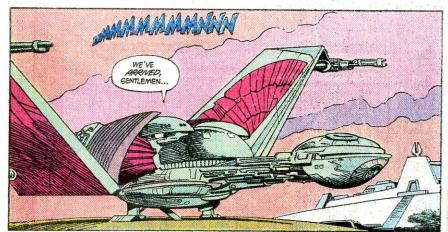






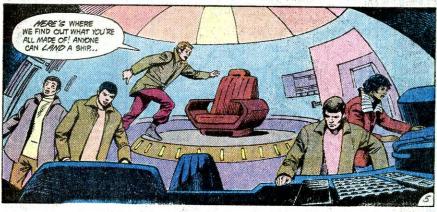


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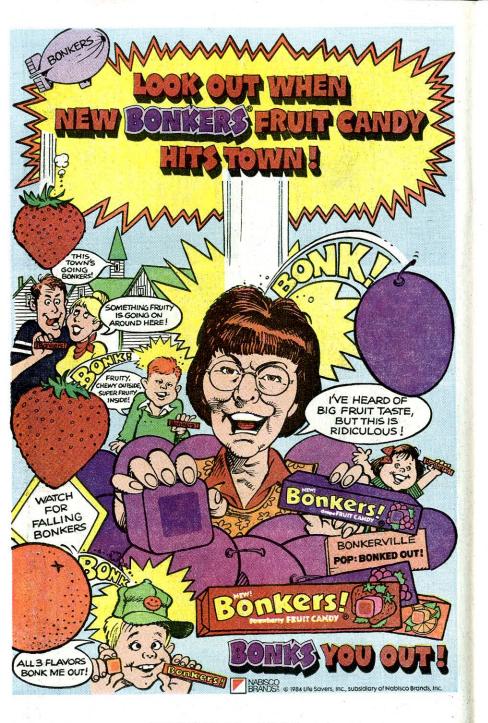






























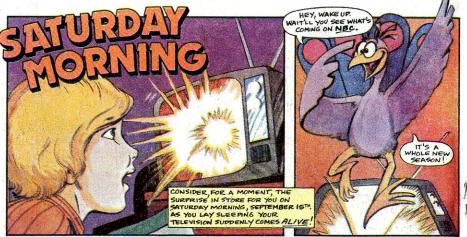




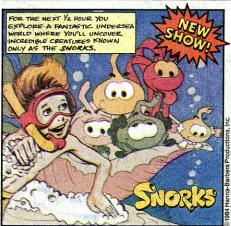




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PITY THE POOR

FOOL WHO MESSES

WITH THE CHANNEL

CHANGER!

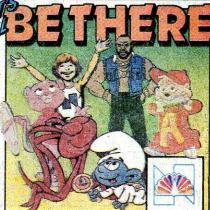


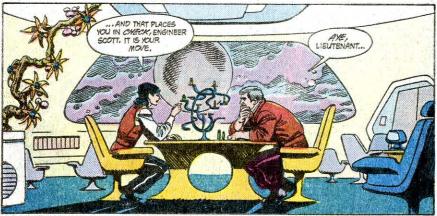




AND FIVE TIMES DURING





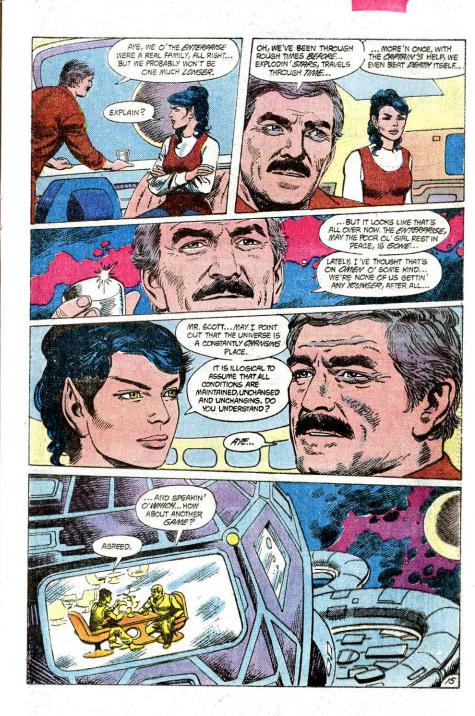


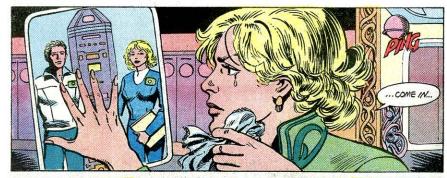




















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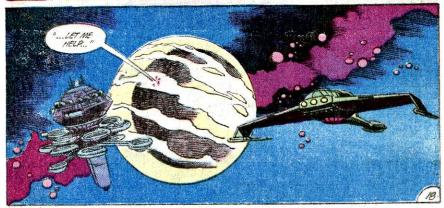


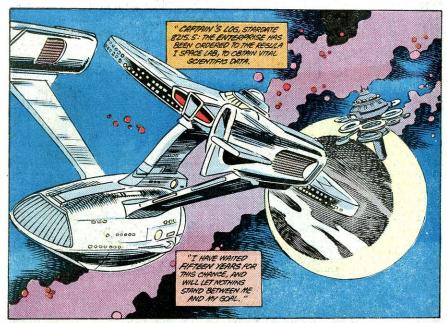






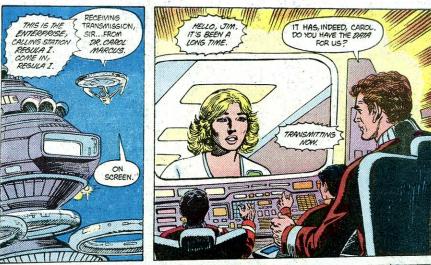




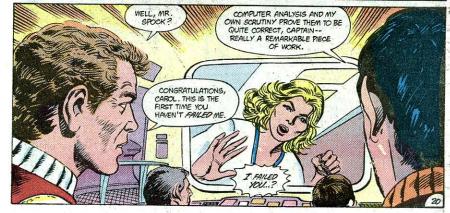








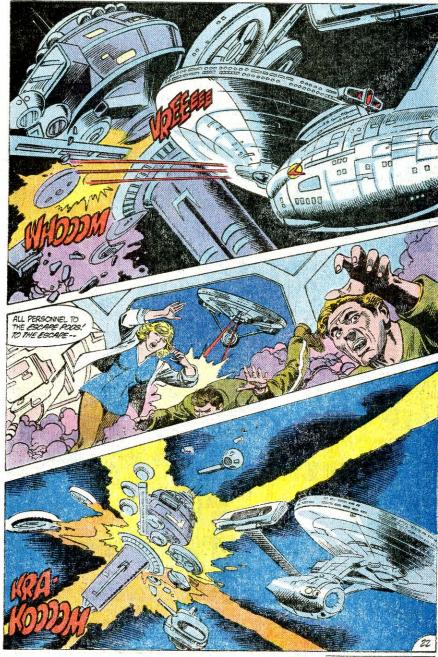








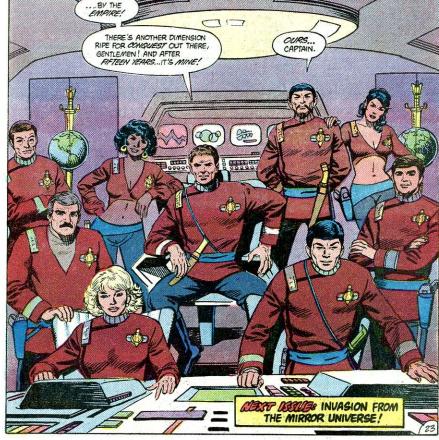




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We have a lot of ground to cover this issue because we'll examine comments on issues 5 and 6 to get us back on track. Besides, we expect a flood of letters concerning your thoughts on STAR TREK III and our adaptation. Don't disappoint us. And now, on to issue 5:

Dear Mr. Wolfman,

Oh, that dad-blasted Prime Directive again. But Admiral Kirk need not worry. The Prime Directive was meant to preserve the normal status quo of a planet. But since the normal status quo no longer existed on Beta Epsilon VI, by definition the Prime Directive would not

Admiral Kirk mentioned that the Organians and Excalbians forced their wills, as gods, upon others. In a way, the Epsilonians forced their will on Captain Hodges when they made him a god. How many of us, spacewrecked and stranded in a strange land, and called a god, would have the nerve to deny it? Imagine the consequences if one did so.

Finally, what a refreshing change that Lylla was not the usual ravishinghuman-with-technicolor-skin type of alien. She was certainly not unattractive, but she was non-human enough that it was clear Fy-Lip (Fy-Lip! That is charming!) fell in love with her as a

> John Henry Sain 2251 Kings Highway Medford, OR 97501

Dear Trekkers.

You had Dr. McCoy looking for psychological reasons for Konom's aversion to violence. I don't think he'll find them-anymore than you could find much evidence that biological needs cause certain humans to kill. With an entire culture of billions of people to choose from, you are going to run into many Klingons who hate violence, and many others who cannot get out of bed without killing someone. The vast majority of Klingons will then fall somewhere between these two extremes. People, even Vulcans, are not stamped out of a machine somewhere. and will therefore vary in their actions.

> John A. Whiting 230 S. Coronado St. #21 Los Angeles, CA 90057

On the whole, it was a very nice issue. I sincerely doubt that the Federation will achieve a permanent peace with the Klingons (especially considering developments upcoming in the third movie), but it's good that they're negotiating. With the abolishment of the Organian peace treaty, a major story impediment has been removed, and I welcome that. There was nothing too extraordinary about the way Kirk solved the problem of removing a false god. It's a little disturbing to note, however, that Kirk just finalized things. The actual means of solving the problem was thrust upon him by circumstance. If it hadn't been for the abduction of Captain Hodges and the subsequent almostwar. Kirk would have had a much harder time of it. Doubtless he'll get better at this sort of thing the more times he has to do it. Chalk it up to his being a little rusty. I also question his command to set phasers on kill. In the old days, a setting on stun would have sufficed. Granted, it was a life-threatening situation, but he's been in tight spots before and rarely resorted to killing. Why kill now?

Konom continues to be a joy. I rarely find myself amused by anything in a comic, but Konom's banter with McCoy, and his later views on his costume, reduced me to helpless laughter. I hope that he continues to verbally spar with the good Doctor. It fills in a certain void that's been present. One would think that by now he'd be garbed in a Federation uniform instead of a battle suit. I'd like to see a story regarding his first encounter with a Federation planet. No doubt news of his presence on the Enterprise has been spread all through the civilized Federation worlds. It would be interesting to see how well he's assimilating the differences in culture (especially under the tutelage of Nancy, who I suspect is falling in love with our favorite Klingon navigator).

> Abe Goldblatt 61 Garfield Ave. Danbury, CT 06810

Dear Mike, Tom, Marv, and crew,

Gosh, you can sure tell that Jim Kirk is getting old! It used to be he'd be meeting up with an old commander of his or a teacher from Starfleet Academy, but now in #5 he comes across a former student.

And this student seems to have

DC Comics Inc. 666 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10103

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learned just about as much about the Prime Directive as any other previous student as the Academy, which is to know the rule and know why it is usually best to break it. The Prime Directive seems to be little more than a prime example of a rule observed more in the breach than in compliance.

Besides being a reflection of the needs of Star Trek writers, this might also be a reflection of the way human beings are. If there's one thing we humans have trouble doing, it's doing nothing. Our curiosity alone "forces" us to nose in. And then there is the desire to fix things up: If it doesn't work, then fix it so it will work; if it works, then fix it so it will work better.

In the end, I think the Prime Directive boils down more to a statement of purpose than to a hard-and-fast law of practical observance. Kirk's observance on the final page, that they gave Lorac's people a choice, hints at this purpose. The main point of the Directive can be seen to be that the Federation's interactions with "immature" cultures must not be for the Federation's benefit, but for that culture's benefit-the benefit being to be left to develop normally. (And is it not true that abnormal development is the most-cited reason, by Kirk and others, for ignoring the Prime Directive?)

> "T.M. Maple" Box 1272, Station B Weston, Ontario M9L 2R9

And so the comments went on issue five. As for six, let's take a look:

STAR TREK is definitely one of the best comics around today, and issue 6 just proved that point once again! "Who Is ... Enigma?" was, overall, a very good

One of the most interesting parts of the story was taking Ambassador Fox and giving him a "human" side, with his daughter Trisha. And that wonderful closing line ... 'There are always possibilities, Mr. Ambassador ... good luck ..." Applause, applause!

The one thing I didn't like ... or maybe ! should just say I found questionable ... something like 15 years have gone by since Kirk and Spock were trapped by the mad Garth of Izar on Elba II. I would think a substantially different code might have been developed in that time. rather than "Queen to Queen's level

William Moschka 636 Kellogg Apt 1 Grand Rapids. MI 49503

Dear Trekkers, STAR TREK #6 was a good issue. The Sutton/Villagran team is really beginning to mesh on the art (welcome back. Ricardo, you were missed. Now we have to do without Tom for a while! Oh, well

...); Mike crafted an interesting and suspenseful varn. Suspension of disbelief breaks down at one point. however; and I'm surprised that neither writer nor editors caught the mistake. When Trisha Fox changes into Jim Kirk's duplicate she does so in the open in plain sight. No matter how much she looked like Kirk it should have been obvious who was who! If the two had scuffled, then the sequence would have made sense: instead it stood out like a sore thumb

> Andrew W. Laubacher PSC #1, Box 129 Lackland A.F.B., TX 78236

Dear Mary, Mike, Tom, and Ricardo:

Although I missed the last three issues of DC's STAR TREK I did pick up #6 at a local comic book store this week I'm happy to say that the quality of both writing and artwork has not deteriorated since the first couple of issues appeared last year. Both are still superb. I'm especially impressed with the warmth you bring to the Star Trek characters. something that was missing from the Gold Key and Marvel series. I also applaud your policy of reintroducing old friends and enemies like the Organians, Robert Fox, and, of course, the ruthless Klingons.

> Robert Parrin 16 Oakview Ave. Nepean, Ontario K2G 3A1

Dear Mike, Tom, and Marv,

After five wonderful issues in a row. I'm afraid that your STAR TREK title took a very slight turn for the worse with #6. Oh, it wasn't really a bad story or anything, but it had enough problems to knock it out of the "excellent" category and down to merely "very good."

Now, you may be wondering what these "problems" were. Glad you asked. First of all, the premise. We've seen shape-shifter stories before and we've seen doubles of Jim Kirk before too. Both at the same time is too much. Secondly, much of this issue looked rushed. Pieces of dialogue here and there didn't make too much sense either at times. For example, what was that whole bit on page 9, panel 87 Then, during the search for Scotty, we can see members of the search party armed with lights and phasers. Phasers? Why? And where are their tricorders? Then, the worst part of all, over on page 20. Why did Enigma's change in appearance to Captain Kirk confuse everybody? Everyone was watching the alteration take place, right? So why didn't anybody know which was the real Kirk and which was the impostor? I'd ask for a No-Prize. but (1) you are the wrong comic company and (2) I don't have a plausible explanation for your obvious boo-boo. I would be very interested to see if you have an explanation.

To wrap up ... nice try, but better luck next time.

> Conrad P Felber 1319 Rose Marie Avenue Sudbury, Ontario Canada, P3A 4E4

You weren't the only person to catch that goof. We could say that the transformation happened so quickly that people were confused, but let's face it, we made a mistake. Why phasers? The very nature of an alert requires security forces to carry phasers.

....

Dear Mike.

What are you trying to do? Drive me more crazy than I already am? (Or worse yet, drive me sane?) Or are you trying to see how many times you can try and make me retract something I've written

After STAR TREK #'s 5 and 6, you've come close. Earlier I complained about continued stories lasting four issues being too long. I asked for shorter stories. Now that you've given us two here I'm almost ready to say go back to continued stories. (Note that I said almost.) The stories aren't bad. They just don't capture the Trek "feel" the way the overlong four-parter did.

TREK #6 surprisingly had a problem with the art. Who was this fellow masquerading as Robert Fox? He didn't bear even the slightest resemblance to the Ambassador Fox I last saw on Eminian 7. Where were the bags under the eyes with the exhausted look in them? The story was good, even including a rare appearance in Star Trak annals of a non-bipedal humanoid, the Rigellian Decaped, By the way, what does Lieutenant Richardson look like? Or are there more than one of them?

> Jef Perkham 503 Marlatt Hall Kansas State University Manhattan, KS 66506

The other day, I picked up ST #6 off the comic book stand in my favorite grocery store, and shelled out the usual \$.75 for the copy. I thereupon trucked it home, sat on the couch with my favorite junk food, and proceeded to read it. Let me tell you I was delighted!

.....

It was very good to see the am-

bassador. Robert Fox, and to see that even in the 23rd century, people still have family disagreements. If they didn't, i don't suppose they'd still be humans, huh?

I can't wait for THE SEARCH FOR SPOCKI With Tom doing the art, and Mike doing the story, it's bound to be good By the way I am assuming it will cost in the neighborhood of \$1.25 and be on the same stand as the regular comic that as Spock said it is always dangerous to assume). At least I hope it is. Could you fill us in as to the price?

Now-yes, here they come, folksi-a few gripes I have about the art. Tom is great, and in my book ranks right up there with Curt Swan, but I have reservations about the control panels of the ship. In the show, they were very good-looking, and not as bulky as what you have now. YECK! Please, let's see some compaction here! Also, the transporter bugs me a bit, and I like the TV's version better. I don't mean to blame anyone, cause no other comic of ST has ever shown a good-looking dematerialization of crewmembers. I do. however, have a solution. Why not use the "inking-out" process to make the sparkling, vallow figure of a guy beaming down? Of course, the figure must be yellow, like the show.

And why is it that the insides of the ship are that yecky, dingy, depressing prown? I mean, gimmie a break! Who'd wanna sign aboard a depressing ship like that?! Now, if you look closely at the backgrounds on the ship, you may see a wall colored red, yellow, and/or green from a reflected light (actually, I think it was only during the restperiod, or night cycle on the ship), but the most was colored white or light blue.

One more small gripe I have is the continual use of those funny-shaped doors. Any fan will tell you most doors were red (or blue) and rectangular. Please, fix them!

> Merk Savery Box 452 Ashland, ME 04732

Weil, Mark, Tom is bringing a certain amount of interpretation to his rendition of the control panels, doorways, and corridors just as Michele Wolfman is trying to make all the colors mesh without distracting the eye.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Next issue things pick up in high gear as we explore what has transpired in the last 15 years in the "Mirror Mirror" universe and we see what lies in store for Kirk, Spock, and company, Stick around because we're certain it's going to entertain you.

And if you're still lucky enough, our adaptation of THE SEARCH FOR SPOCK is still on sale, it's by Barr-Sutton-Estrada-Villagran and just nifty.

Hopefully, by next issue we'll have something special to announce. See you in 301 (I always wanted to write

-- Bob Greenberger





