



MIKE W. BARR TOM SUTTON & RICARDO VILLAGRAN

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STAR TREK



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EMPIRE...

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SPOCKS
MUST
DIE!

Ensaten
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Based on the series created by Gene Roddenberry

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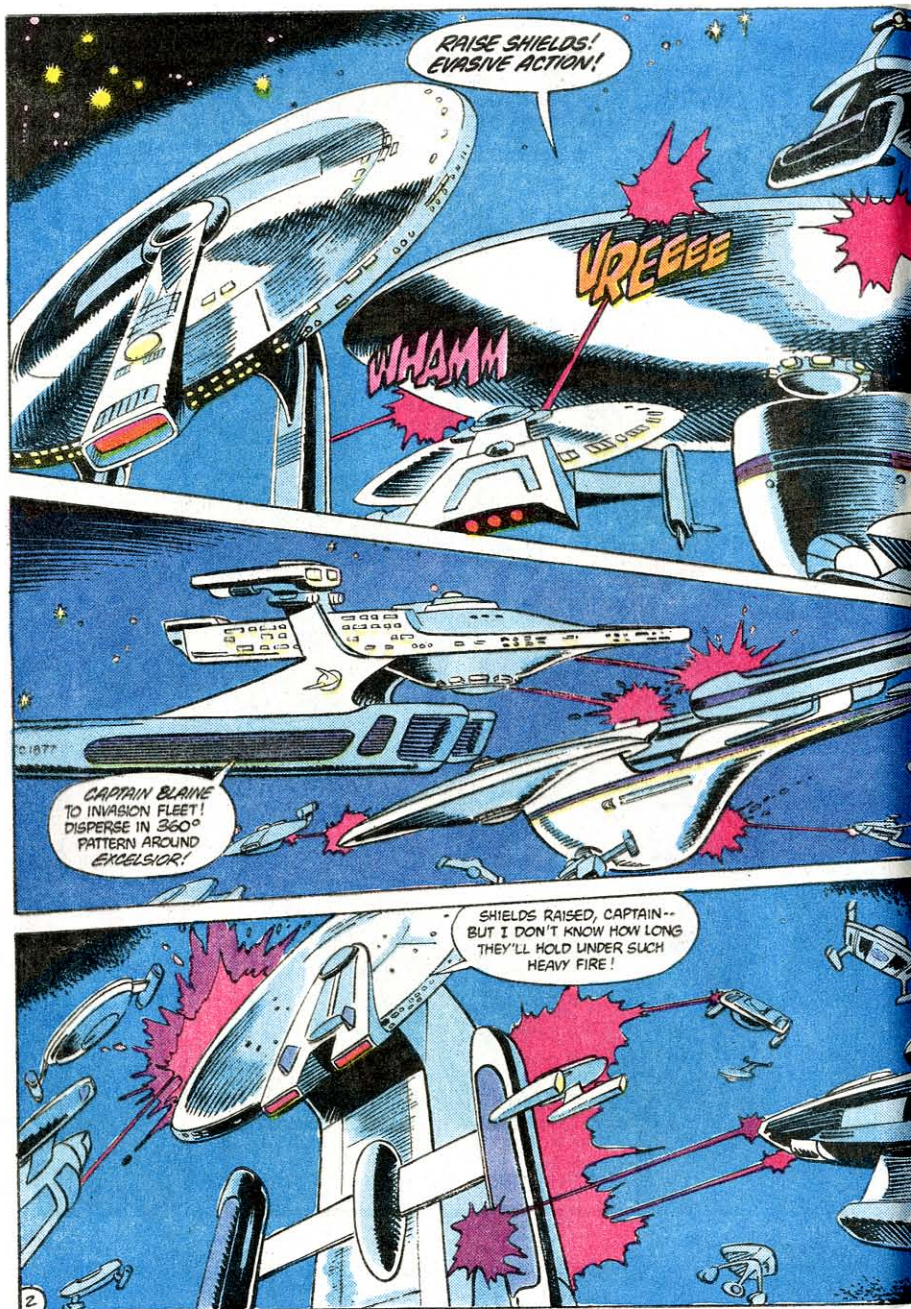
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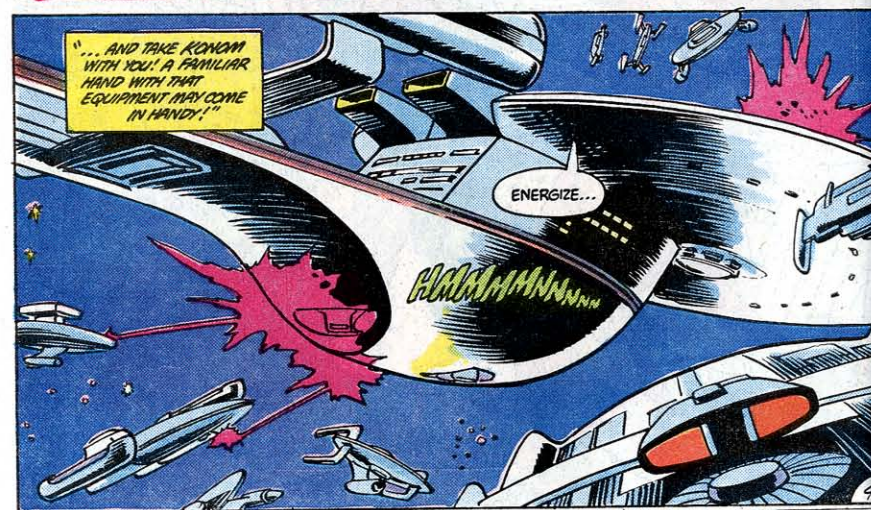
NEW FRONTIERS CHAPTER 6

BEHIND ENEMY LINES!

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Writer Artists
John Costanza * Michele Wolfman * Mary Wolfman
Letterer Colorist Editor

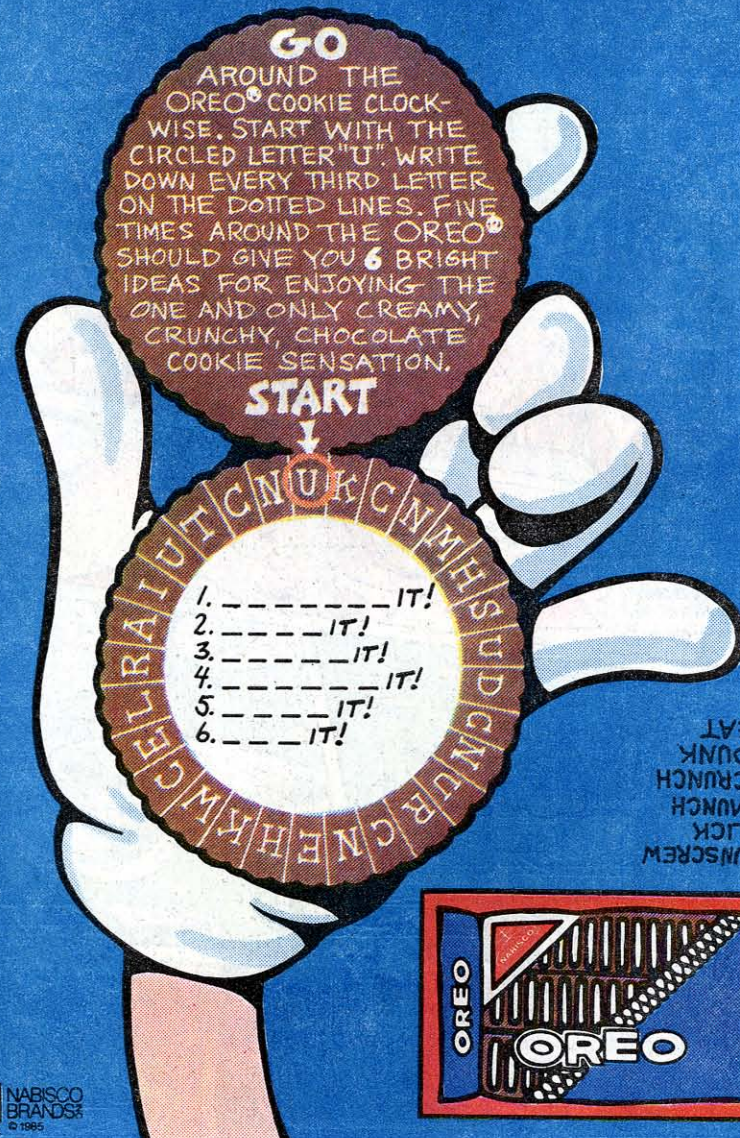
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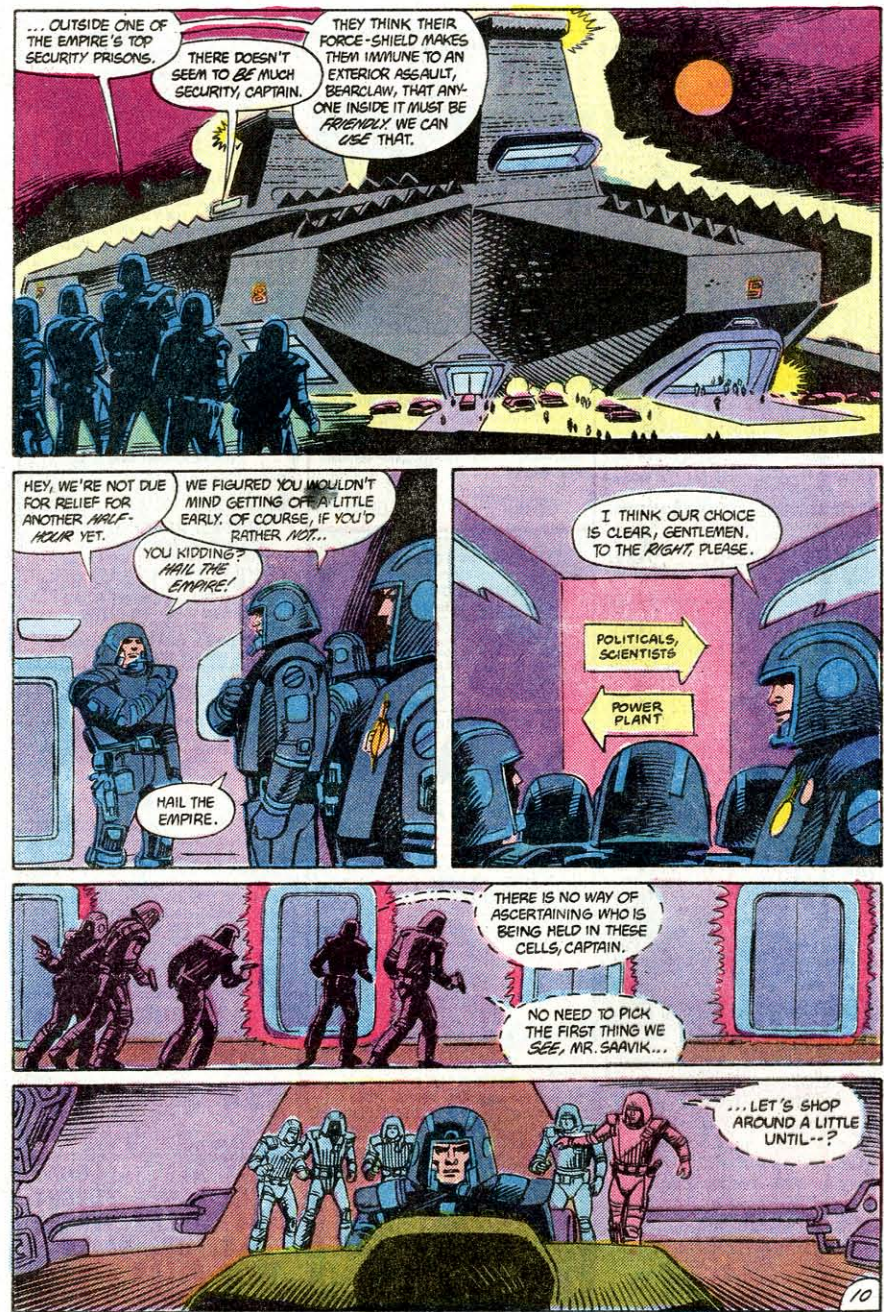
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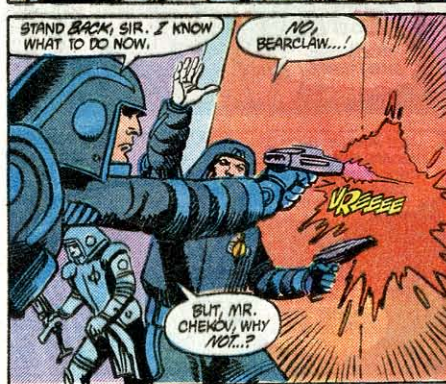
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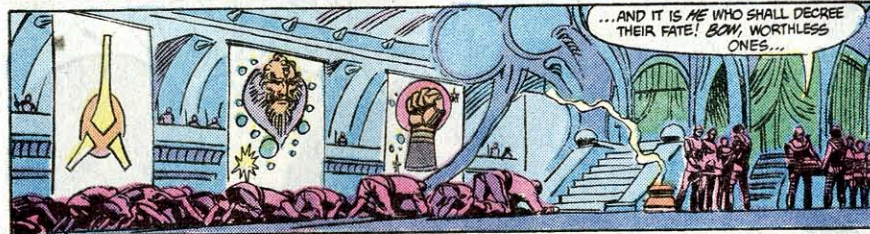
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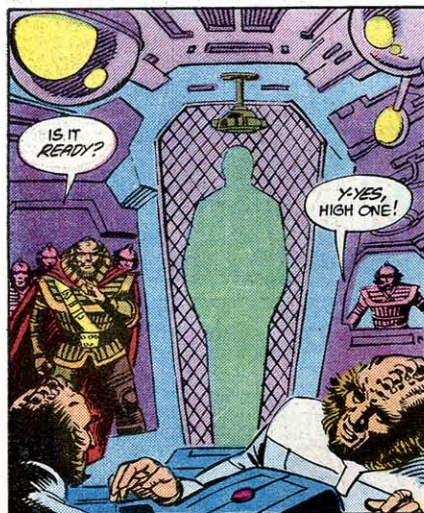


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IS IT READY?

Y-YES, HIGH ONE!



THEN PLACE THE OFFENDER IN THE PROPER POSITION; SEE THAT ALL CIRCUITS ARE IN WORKING ORDER...



AND LET THE TEST OF TRUTH BEGIN!

IT HAS BEGUN, HIGH ONE!



MORE POWER! I DO NOT WISH THE OFFENDER TO BE DEPRIVED OF HIS HERITAGE!



WELL, SCIENTISTS? WHAT DO YOU TELL US?

ACCORDING TO OUR READINGS, THE SUBJECT TELLS THE TRUTH, HIGH ONE!

WHAT?



THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE; HE IS A LIAR, WE HAVE PROCLAIMED IT SO!

ADVANCE THE MIND-SIFTER ANOTHER THREE SETTINGS!

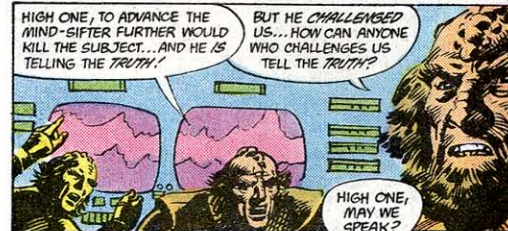
THREE...? YES, MY FATHER!



AGHAAAA!

IS THERE NOTHING WE CAN DO?

NOTHING NOW, BUT THERE MAY BE A TIME...



HIGH ONE, TO ADVANCE THE MIND-SIFTER FURTHER WOULD KILL THE SUBJECT...AND HE IS TELLING THE TRUTH!

BUT HE CHALLENGED US...HOW CAN ANYONE WHO CHALLENGES US TELL THE TRUTH?

HIGH ONE, MAY WE SPEAK?

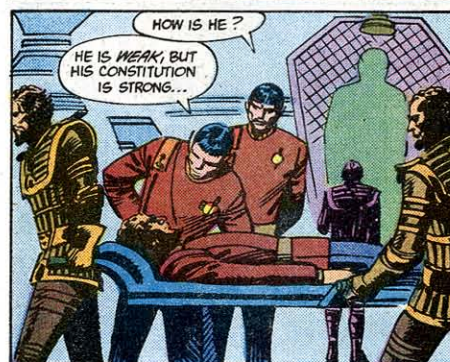


BE BRIEF.

HIGH ONE, YOUR SUBJECT BRINGS INFORMATION... INFORMATION THAT WILL ENABLE YOU TO CRUSH THE EMPIRE, AND FURTHER THE RULE OF LAWLESS!

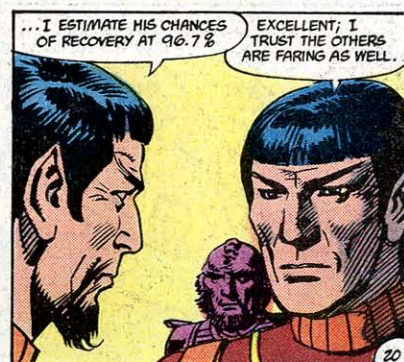


FURTHER OUR RULE...?



HOW IS HE?

HE IS WEAK, BUT HIS CONSTITUTION IS STRONG...



...I ESTIMATE HIS CHANCES OF RECOVERY AT 96.7%

EXCELLENT; I TRUST THE OTHERS ARE FARING AS WELL.



STAY BACK! GIVE THEM THE SMALLEST POSSIBLE TARGET!



...MR. SAAVIX, TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

STILL WORKING ON SEPARATING THE CIRCUITS, ADMIRAL; I AM AWARE THAT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.



SCOTTY, ANYTHING YOU CAN DO FROM UP THERE?

NO, ADMIRAL, OUR TRANSPORTERS CANNA BRING YOU BACK THROUGH THEIR FORCE-SHIELDS! I WARNED YE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN!

RECOMMENDATION NOTED, MR. SCOTT, KIRK OUT!



WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THEIR FIRE OFF US!

I'M OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS, DAVID!



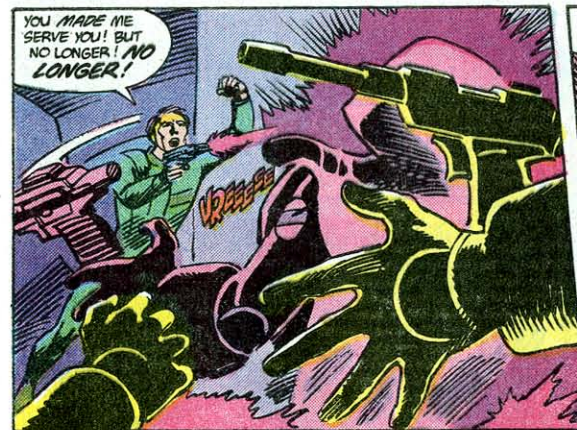
HERE'S ONE! THE REBELLION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY ONE MAN! I'M GOING TO--

NO! I REFUSE TO LET YOU SACRIFICE YOURSELF! IF ANYONE GOES, IT'LL BE--



MURDERERS! YOU KILLED MY FAMILY!

MY PHASER! DR. PEDERSEN, DON'T--



YOU MADE ME SERVE YOU! BUT NO LONGER! NO LONGER!



AGGGH!



DR. PEDERSEN?

HE BROKE THEIR RANKS, HE BOUGHT US SOME TIME, DAVID...



...LET'S USE IT!



SAAVIX TO EXCELSIOR: THE FORCE-SHIELD IS DOWN, MR. SCOTT...



"...YOU MAY ENLARGE."

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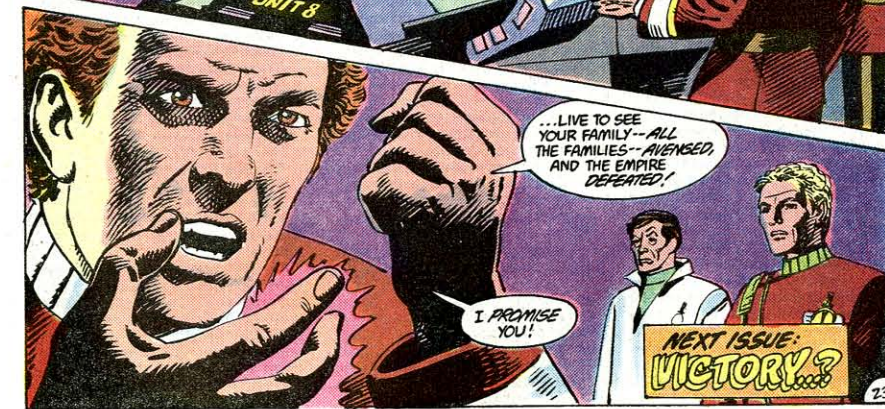
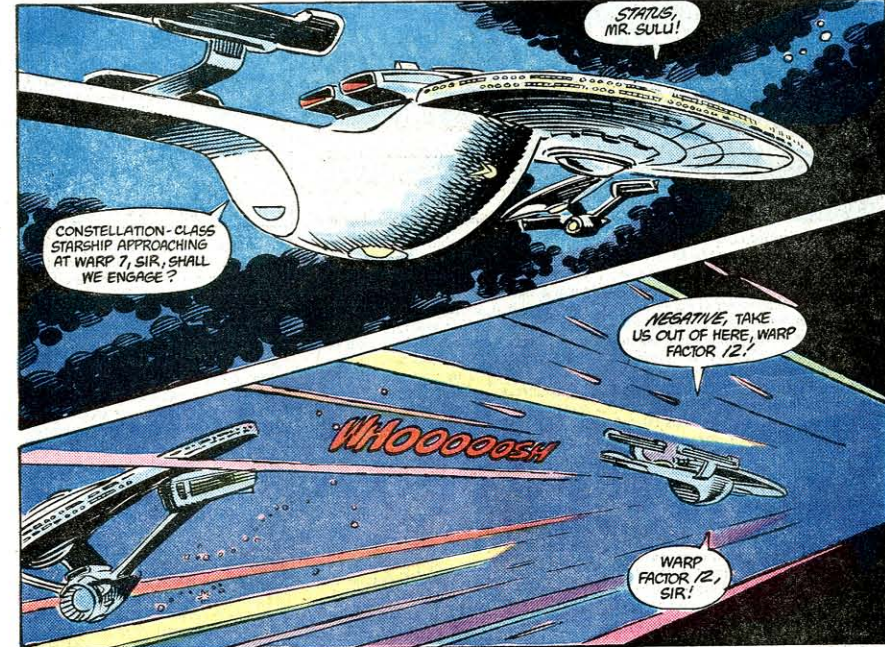
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STORES!



HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN



Before we get into the letters, here's the current word on plans for the fourth *Star Trek* feature film. Despite all the reports in gossip columns and the changes in management at Paramount Pictures, we have been told by unimpeachable sources that enthusiasm runs high for *Star Trek IV*. Currently, a script is being polished up and shooting is expected for the summer of 1985 with a summer of 1986 release date planned.

As for what we're going to be doing until then, Mike just got his plans approved by no less an authority than Harve Bennett. The two talents spoke with each other briefly while Mike was in Los Angeles on vacation and each expressed praise for what the other is doing with the *Star Trek* myths.

Now is as good a time as any to publicly thank Paramount's Licensing and Merchandising Manager, Gene Katona, for keeping us informed. It's up to Gene to approve the artwork and plots for each issue and he helped give us a quick approval for Mike's plans for the next few storylines. As for what they will be... stay tuned.

The mail on issue 10 was certainly, er, interesting. Especially these first two letters:

Dear Editor,

At last! You are finally starting to portray the adventures of the real *STAR TREK*! In issue #10 (hereafter known as issue #1 of *STAR EMPIRE*) you finally have the sense to include the True Warriors of the Empire: Captain Kirk and his "loyal" crew.

I've had more than my fill of the milksops of the Federation. How they've remained so popular over the years is beyond me! But now that the pseudo-Kirk has disgraced himself by living after destroying his ship (though that destruction was one of the few hints of real guts we've seen from him), it's time for your universe to bow down to a real man—the real Kirk, the real warrior, the emissary from the real and true Empire!

Of course, we may have to find some new writer for *STAR EMPIRE*, since Mike Barr obviously doesn't have the stomach to portray the true power and glory of the Empire. For one thing issue #1 contains a lot of deaths (I'll give you that much credit) but none of them are shown. Neither I nor your other readers had the chance to glory in the agony of a slow and painful death or even marvel at the skill of a quick, efficient demise. Why, even the chance of depicting some mild torture was passed up when Mr. Chekov's time in the Booth was not

shown! For another thing, Mr. Barr tries to put across the deception that the only changes to the *Enterprise*'s crew have been additions. With all the necessary infighting and scheming that goes on aboard a starship (necessary, you fops, to maintain hardness and efficiency), there would clearly have been a few deletions from the crew (through death, incapacitation, or even, sad to say, cowardice). I won't coddle you by revealing these changes—figure them out yourself.

And if you think that our *Enterprise* crew is tough, wait until you meet our Klingons! Oh, we've beaten and subjugated them, and we're more ruthless than them—but they lack our social graces.

Mirror-Maple
Canadian Sub-Empire

My Dear Mr. Greenberger,

So the day has finally come when you reveal your childish Prime Directive as the idealistic drivel that it is. What does it matter if a race sacrifices its sons and daughters to some meaningless carved stone? What does it matter if they carve Dilithium crystals into toys to amuse their children? The mighty Prime Directive demands you look away. That foolish directive may kill with kindness. We of the Empire, at least, know when it is kinder to kill.

You say that we are brutal? I say not. I say, instead, that we are practical. There are thousands of inhabited planets in the Empire. Do you think we have time to twitter and bray with the niceties of diplomacy while other planets, other opportunities, may be forever lost? Those that are willing to be assimilated into the Empire will prosper. Those petty priests, princes, and presidents that can hardly see beyond their own borders deserve to perish, and their subjects are better off dead. Of course, the survivors do not show gratitude as you define it, with idiot smiles and suffocatingly sweet words. Their gratitude is unquestioning loyalty; all else is bootlicking!

And now you will show us the ways of a true conqueror, our Captain Kirk, our *Enterprise*, as they bring peace to two universes, the only true, lasting peace: that peace enforced under the titanium boot of the Empire. Yes, peace, for with the ships and power from the sickly Federation universe, the Empire shall finally absorb the weak, soft Klingon Republic and other enemies of order.

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L-1924

Total conquest, and absolute rule, is the only way, not for survival, but for prosperity, and the sooner the spoiled-brat worlds of the Federation and their anarchistic, chaotic systems of "self-determination" learn that, the better off they'll be!

We will expect more of you in service to the cause. Tales of conquest by the *ISS Enterprise* will continue. We will expect the Dark Destroyer to gain his own title and the criminals of Atari Force must lose theirs. This will be done immediately. Darkseid and others will follow.

You and yours shall be rewarded for your loyalty. But if you become disloyal to the Empire, this will not go unrecognized. Traitors are paid what traitors are due!

Mirror-John Henry Sain
Lesser Empire of the Americas
(In cooperation with the loyal
Compatriots of the Empire,
the Mirror Maple.
Hail Victory!)

And now for some mail from the regular universe...

Dear Mike, Tom, and Ricardo,

By George, I think you've got it! At last, I feel that you guys have truly captured that elusive quality known as the "*Star Trek* spirit." This is no mean feat, believe me, and no empty compliment.

TREK #10 really "felt" like *Star Trek*. The characters were in character, the storyline was consistent with past *Star Trek*, and everything seemed to click. I think your familiarity with *Trek*, and your ability to capture it on paper, was best expressed on page 22, when McCoy said, "What in blazes is goin' on here? Feels like Jim's driving!"

That was wonderful, guys.
That was 100% McCoy.
That was 100% *Star Trek*.
Thank you. I hope you keep it up.
Some final comments:

1. On page 17, you put the Mirror Universe insignias on our universe's Kirk and Styles.
2. I love seeing the evil from the Mirror Universe again. These sequels to the original series are great, and I definitely want more. Don't go to extremes, though. I still want some original stories and new characters mixed in thoroughly.
3. Harry Mudd. That's all I'll say.
4. Thanks for showing what happen-

ed to the rest of the crew after *Star Trek III*. I particularly enjoy the character of Konom, and would like to see more of him in the future. He's very interesting and his personality has been barely scratched. Give him a solo story and show us some of the undoubtedly complex personality that makes him tick.

5. I just finished watching "Wink of an Eye" on TV. In one scene, it's implied that Kirk and an alien woman, whose molecules are accelerated at a super-speed, make love. You know, an interesting sequel might come of this, folks.

Robert T. Jeschonek
No Address Given

Dear Mike,

I don't know what to say about *STAR TREK* #9 and 10.

You ran my letter (I always wondered about you), you brought in the Mirror Universe crew, and with everything (the words, part of them, anyway) to the *Star Trek* theme, pompous Styles, Carol Marcus... I'm somewhat at a loss for words. Don't you dare say, "That's a switch!"

I LOVE IT! It's great! The only problem is that it's still continued.

Jef Peckham
4303 Pearl, #4
Kansas City, KS 66103

You know, we were going to say that's a switch but we suddenly thought better of it. Wonder why.

Dear Mr. Wolfman,

"New Frontiers" is your best *STAR TREK* yet. In issue #10, Mike delivers a superbly crafted segment, told with excellent pacing, crisp dialogue, and more twists than a Denobian slime-devil. I hope, though, that he doesn't get carried away with his inventiveness (tracing phasers and anti-matter energy?). I also hope that "New Frontiers" continues, at least, to your first anniversary issue.

The art is fabulous! The *ISS Enterprise* is as graceful as a swan; the characters practically breathe life. Especially nice is page 13, panel two, where the *Enterprise* is firing on the space station. Tom, Ricardo, and Michele may rise now to take their bows.

Miscellaneous: You know, Fasa's *Star Trek: The Role-Playing Game* has the right idea about Klingons. They postulate three Klingon races: the Imperial Klingons from *Star Trek I* to the present are the "real" ones—and have produced two subspecies via genetic engineering. The Human/Klingon fusions are familiar from the television series and are more human in appearance; the other is a Romulan/Klingon fusion. The idea is that the fusions could deal more effectively against the two great threats to Klingon expansionism. Under this concept, Koloth should have been consigned a Human/Klingon fusion and should have been drawn as

he originally appeared in "The Trouble with Tribbles."

Andrew W. Laubacher
PSC #1 Box 129
Lackland AFB, TX 78236

The subject of incorporating other parts of the *Star Trek* myths into these pages is one that crops up every so often. Mike tries, whenever possible, to integrate previously published material into his own stories. As we have stated before, we are not bound by anything that goes beyond the three features, 79 television episodes, or 22 animated episodes. The Fasa Klingon theory has been reinforced by John M. Ford's excellent *Trek* novel, *The Final Reflection*, and it may be something we too will use in the future. Mike has tried to conform Saavik's origin to what Vonda McIntyre established in her adaptation of *Star Trek II*, but the two writers differ as to whether or not she was ever on Vulcan before *Star Trek III*. With Paramount approving both versions, it's hard to say who is the "official" version. We tend to let the readers decide for themselves. Of course, it always makes for lively discussions at *Star Trek* conventions around the country.

J. Alexander Hall wrote in asking if we will use the continuity established in the *Gold Key* or *Marvel Star Trek* comics. Even though both Marv and Mike wrote a number of the *Marvel Treks*, and our colleague Len Wein scripted many of *Gold Key*'s, we are ignoring all of those stories. He also asks which books Mike uses for reference on the comic. Mike has a fairly complete library of *Trek* books, including the long out of print *Concordance* by Bjo Trimble, *The Making of Star Trek*, *The World of Star Trek*, *The Trouble with Tribbles*, *The Star Trek Compendium*, *The Making of Star Trek II* (the last two written by fellow DC staffer Allan Asherman), *The Star Trek Technical Manual*, and numerous articles from fanzines and professional magazines like *Starlog*. Mike also relies on the office braintrust consisting of Len, Marv, Allan, and your letter column compiler, Bob Greenberger.

Dear Marv,

STAR TREK #10—I don't know what to say about this issue. I wasn't very thrilled by it, the scenes seem to jump from place to place. I couldn't get into the characters because it was too rushed. You've got a good story going here—let's not blow it. There was one thing I did enjoy about the story, though: you are still using the characters you established in the earlier issues.

PFC Robert W. Rogers
2214 Adams
Evansville, IN 47714

Sorry you didn't like the issue. Yours was the only negative letter with the exception of people finding a few art goofs. We're letting this story run its course and it grew into a six-part saga. Hopefully, you're going to stick around for the conclusion.

Dear Mr. Wolfman,

I appreciate the news about the *STAR TREK ANNUAL*. I'm looking forward to it. This invasion by the Mirror Kirk, Spock, and company is the best idea Mike Barr's come up with yet. I don't see how he can top this.

All the movies, television shows, and stories I've ever seen that dealt with people having a double in a parallel universe explained that a person and his double couldn't occupy the same space in the same universe at the same time. You'll obviously get around to explaining how Kirk is able to face Kirk in the same universe.

The Mirror Kirk has to be acting on his own. I don't think the Empire would send just one starship into the parallel universe.

Issue #10 was certainly busy, what with the Mirror *Enterprise* entering the parallel universe and attacking Federation spacecraft and starbases, the *Excelsior* picking up Kirk and company and then being attacked. Mr. Barr handled it all quite well. I can't wait to find out what happens next.

Michael Skelly
3827 Fifth Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602

I suspect you have confused time travel stories with parallel universe stories, Mike. If someone goes back in time, the theory goes, you cannot co-exist with yourself. However, parallel versions of the same person can meet. The last 25 years of DC Comics has used that theory often, after the Earth-1/Earth-2 concept was created by Julius Schwartz. To see what happens to that concept, see our *CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS* maxi-series. We're subscribing to that theory so, no, there won't be an explanation—one isn't necessary.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

This is it. Next month we have the final chapter to the Mirror Universe storyline and it's so big, we're giving up the letters column to give you a 25-page slam-bang conclusion! Fear not, though, the letters column will be back the issue after, along with a single-part tale so we can all catch our breaths.

Will the Klingons and Romulans help Kirk bring about the fall of the Empire? Will everyone survive the final onslaught? Will we get the costume details right? There's only one way to find out and that's to come back in a month and find out for yourselves.

This month in *CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS*: The Monitor reveals Earth's dire fate if the combined heroes and villains can't save the Multiverse. Marv, George Pérez, and Dick Giordano are gaining steam and the project looks wonderful!

And in *WHO'S WHO* #3, we learn everything from Black Lightning to Byth, including Blue Devil and Blue Beetle! You can't tell the players in the *CRISIS* without this 24-issue scorecard.

Until next issue, keep those cards and letters coming and don't forget to keep smiling!

—Bob Greenberger

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ON SALE WEEK

CHECK

OF FEBRUARY 14

LIST

☐ **Batman 383:** If Catwoman is dead then who's prowling the streets of Gotham?

☐ **The Flash 345:** Kid Flash, under oath, destroys the Flash's defense!

☐ **Superman 407:** Jimmy, Lois, and Perry all share Superman's powers

☐ **Star Trek 14:** In the Mirror Universe Kirk and company find themselves betrayed!

☐ **Amethyst 5:** Amethyst and Carnelian think they've found a

What Barb didn't mention is her always sunny disposition and the marvelous nonsense language she invented, which I call Berbspeak. At best, it sounds like this: "(chirrup) dráya chiraaka numuka (chirrup)." Better yet, she keeps her own candyjar on the desk, filled with gummy bears that taste great but do nothing for my figure. Having Barbara on board has made the workload a little easier on all of us and she will be contributing to more titles in time. And, Barb, thanks for letting me stay on those ten years.

Meanwhile, Thank You and Good Afternoon.

- **Jemm, Son of Saturn 9:** Synn attacks New Bhok!
- **Arok, Son of Thunder 44:** Amid a pirate stronghold, Arok battles a man who wants to be a god of death!
- **Legion of Super-Heroes 10:** Someone is trying to kill all three candidates for President of Earth!
- **Omega Men 26:** A new creative team, a new direction, and a new back-up series! The Spider Guild strikes!



**12 WAYS TO FIGHT ACNE
WITH ONE SINGLE DROP.**

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