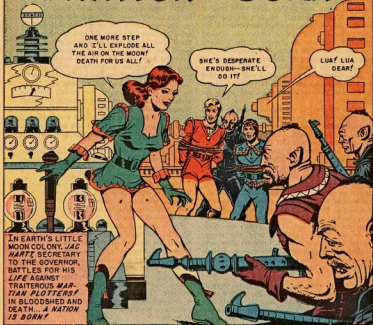


a NATION is BORN



ONE MORE STEP AND I'LL EXPLODE ALL THE AIR ON THE MOON! DEATH FOR US ALL!

SHE'S DESPERATE ENOUGH-- SHE'LL DO IT!

LUA! LUA DEAR!

IN EARTH'S LITTLE MOON COLONY, JAG HART, SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR, BATTLES FOR HIS LIFE AGAINST TRAITEROUS MARTIAN PLOTTERS! IN BLOODSHED AND DEATH... A NATION IS BORN!

JAG HART, SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR OF EARTH'S LITTLE MOON COLONY, IS WORRIED!

THE PEOPLE ARE SMOULDERING WITH REBELLION! PLOTTERS ARE AT WORK, TO OVERTHROW OUR EARTH GOVERNMENT!

NONSENSE, HARTT! YOU'RE JUST IMAGINING THINGS. JUST A FEW LUNITES ARE DISSATISFIED!



REBELLION! REVOLUTION! IS IT THREATENING NOW? THE LITTLE LUNITE RACE-- ALL DESCENDENTS OF THE ORIGINAL EARTH COLONISTS OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO-- ARE A DOCILE, KINDLY PEOPLE! BUT LATELY ANIMOSITY TOWARD GOVERNOR BLAK IS OBVIOUS...

SOMEONE IS STIRRING UP THE TROUBLE, GOVERNOR BLAK! MAYBE SOME AGENT OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT!

NONSENSE, MY BOY!



HARTT GOES TO SEE HIS FRIEND GINO, A YOUNG LUNITE WORKER IN THE RADIUM MINES! HERE ON THE AIRLESS MOON, ALL THE LITTLE CITY IS UNDER GLASSITE ROOFS, WITH NORMAL AIR PRESSURE STEADILY MAINTAINED BY THE ELECTRONIC CURRENT. SUDDENLY...

...IF THE POWER HOUSE SHOULD BE ATTACKED, THE WHOLE MOON COLONY COULD BE THREATENED WITH ASPHIXIATION... WNA---?!



AND THEN...



THE ASSAILANT IS CLOAKED WITH ELECTRONIZED INVISIBILITY...

NO YOU DON'T!



GOT YOU, YOU MURDEROUS VILLAIN!



THE ELECTRONIC MECHANISM IS WRECKED! AND HARTT SEES...

A MARTIAN!



THAT EVENING, HARTT HAS SUPPER IN THE HOME OF GINO, AND HIS YOUNG WIFE LUIA!

IT WAS A MARTIAN WHO TRIED TO MURDER ME!

MARTIAN AGENTS ARE SENT HERE TO CAUSE TROUBLE! THEY TELL THE PEOPLE WE SHOULD BE INDEPENDENT, AND SET UP OUR OWN GOVERNMENT!



IT WOULD ONLY BE A PUPPET GOVERNMENT, OF COURSE. THEY WOULD USE IT AS A BASE FROM WHICH TO ATTACK EARTH!

YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING, JARA?

I HAVE HEARD OF THE PLOT! MARTIANS CAUSE THE TROUBLE! I HAVE SEEN THEM WHISPERING-- PLANNING!







TWENTY THOUSAND FEET ABOVE THE MARE IMBRIUM, THE POWER HOUSE SITS ON A CLIFF OF ARCHIMEDES MOUNTAIN. AND AS HARTT AND GINO APPROACH, SUDDENLY...

LOOK! THERE'S ONE OF GRANTLINE'S GUARDS!

MAYBE IT ISN'T! WATCH YOURSELF, GINO!



BRIEF, WEIRD COMBAT! AND AS HARTT'S KNIFE-BLADE STRIKES... GOT YOU!



WITH HIS AIR GONE, HE'S ASPHOGATED! A MARTIAN!

MALO MUST HAVE ALREADY CAPTURED THE POWER HOUSE!



AND A MOMENT LATER...

LOOK, THERE'S ONE OF THE PRESSURE ENTRANCES! WE'LL TRY AND GET INSIDE!



IN THE LITTLE ENTRANCE...

GINO! LOOK HERE! QUIET!

YOU CAN SEE INSIDE WHAT IS IT?



SO YOU CAME UP HERE TO HELP ME, BECAUSE YOU HATE THE EARTHENIN? IS THAT WHAT YOU SAY, LITTLE BOY?

Y-YES SIR!

JAC! THAT-THAT'S MY WIFE, LUA!



FROM HER SERVANT, JARA, LUA HAD LEARNED OF MALO'S PLOT TO CAPTURE THE POWER HOUSE! SHE HAD TRIED TO LOCATE GINO AND HARTT, BUT COULD NOT! THEN WITH HER OWN DESPERATE PLAN, SHE DISGUISED HERSELF AS A MINE-WORKER, AND ARRIVED.

YOU WORK HARD IN THE MARE IMBRIUM RADIUM MINES?

YES SIR! AND THE EARTH-MAN OVERSEER-- I HATE HIM! I WILL TELL MY PEOPLE THAT YOU ARE THEIR BEST RULER!



BUT LUA'S DISGUISE IS NOT AS GOOD AS SHE THINKS! SUDDENLY MALO REACHES...

A GIRL! A VERY PRETTY GIRL! BY THE STARWAYS, WHAT LUCK FOR ME!

OHNN!



AND AT THE ENTRANCE, THE DESPERATE GINO AND HARTT OPEN THE SLIDE...

GIVE ME A KISS, AND THEN WE'LL TALK ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP ME! IN AN HOUR GOVERNOR BLAK WILL HAVE TO SURRENDER! IF HE DOESN'T, I'LL OPEN THE CITY VALVES AND LET OUT ITS AIR! HE AND EVERYONE ELSE DOWN THERE WILL SUFFOCATE!

OH!

LUA! LUA!



DESPERATELY HARTT AND GINO BATTLE THE VILLAINOUS MARTIANS, BUT THE ODDS ARE TOO GREAT!

HO! WHAT HAVE WE HERE? MORE VISITORS! DON'T KILL THEM, ROK! TIE THEM UP-- I WANT TO TALK TO THEM!



SO IT'S THE GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY? I GUESS YOU KNOW THIS GIRL AND WHAT SHE'S DOING HERE? SUPPOSE YOU TELL--

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'M DOING HERE!



LUA'S DESPERATE PLAN! SUDDENLY SHE LEAPS FOR THE MAIN AIR-SWITCH OF THE BIG CONTROL BOARD!

NOW YOU'LL DO WHAT I TELL YOU OR I'LL PULL THIS SWITCH! WITH ALL THE AIR GONE, WE'LL ALL DIE, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...



