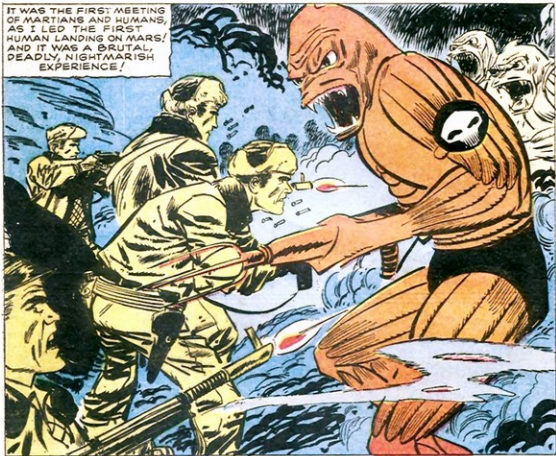


ONLY ONE IS HUMAN!

IT WAS THE FIRST MEETING OF MARTIANS AND HUMANS, AS I LED THE FIRST HUMAN LANDING ON MARS! AND IT WAS A BRUTAL, DEADLY, NIGHTMARISH EXPERIENCE!



AFTER HOURS OF BITTER FIGHTING, THE MARTIANS FINALLY RETREATED!

WE STOPPED 'EM, BUT SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL BE BACK -- ARMED TO THE TEETH!

I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THEIR WEAPONS...IT'S THE OTHER THING THAT BOTHERS ME!

THE OTHER THING! A DEADLY VIRUS--VIRUS X--WHICH THE MARTIANS CONTAINED WITHIN THEIR BODIES! THE MARTIANS THEMSELVES WERE IMMUNE TO THE VIRUS, BUT IF EARTHMEN WERE IN CONTACT WITH IT FOR 24 HOURS, THEY WOULD PERISH!

HURRY WITH THE GLASS DOME! IT WILL BE OUR ONLY PROTECTION AGAINST VIRUS X!



IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, THE GREAT GLASS DOME PREVENTED US FROM COMING IN CONTACT WITH OUR ENEMIES AND WITH THE DANGEROUS GERM THEY CARRIED!



THE MARTIANS HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHANGE THEIR APPEARANCE AT WILL! ONE GERM-CARRYING MARTIAN IN OUR MIST, DISGUISED AS AN EARTHMAN, COULD CONTAMINATE US ALL, IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS!



AWARE OF THE GRIM SITUATION, WE WERE CONSTANTLY ON GUARD AGAINST MARTIAN INFILTRATION... BUT IN SPITE OF OUR VIGILANCE, ONE DARK NIGHT...



THE SHIP LANDED AND ITS CARGO WAS TAKEN INTO OUR GLASS ENCLOSURE...



SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS WENT OUT...!



MOMENTS LATER, WHEN THE EMERGENCY LIGHTS TOOK OVER...







