

INTERPLANETARY INVESTIGATIONS HEADQUARTERS UNCOVERS AN INCREDIBLE UNDER-WORLD SCHEME WHICH WOULD LAUNCH A WEIRD ARMY OF CRIMINALS UPON THE UNIVERSE, STARTING WITH...

"OPERATION phobos"



AT THE SPACEWAYS TOY PLANT ON EARTH, IT IS JUST ANOTHER ROUTINE DAY TO ALL THE WORKERS-- ALL, SAVE ONE ...

... AGENT JAN VERN WHO IS ON AN UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENT FOR INTERPLANETARY INVESTIGATIONS--
IPI!

CLICK!



THROUGHOUT THE DAY, VERN'S ALERT EYES SCAN THE PLANT-- UNTIL ...

ODD... WHY SHOULD THAT SMALL BATCH OF TOY METALLIC SUNS BE GETTING SPECIAL TREATMENT? I WONDER ...

SECONDS LATER, AS THE SECRET AGENT PASSES BY THE WORK BENCH ...

GOT WHAT I WAS AFTER! WELL, THAT'S ALL THE SLEUTHING FOR THE DAY-- IT'S NEARLY QUITTING TIME!

THAT NIGHT, THE LIGHTS BURN BRIGHT AT IPI HEADQUARTERS WHERE ...

I HAD THE PAINT SAMPLE I STOLE WITH MY SUCTION RING ANALYZED, CHIEF BROCK-- IT WAS ACTUALLY MELTED-DOWN GOLD!

THEN, AS WE SUSPECTED THIS INTERPLANETARY TYCOON, GRAGA, IS USING ONE OF HIS PLANTS, AS A FRONT FOR SMUGGLING! BUT I BELIEVED SOMETHING BIGGER WAS GOING ON IN THERE ...



PERHAPS THERE IS-- THIS X-RAY PICTURE I TOOK OF A MARKED CRATE SHOWS HOLLOW TOPS INSIDE PACKED WITH A STRANGE POWDERY SUBSTANCE!



THAT'S ODD! TELL ME, JAN, WHERE IS THAT MARKED CRATE TO BE SHIPPED?



MYSTERY IN SPACE



IT ALREADY WAS, SIR-- TO ONE OF THE MARTIAN MOONS, **PHOBOS...**

CHIEF! THE MARTIAN SYNDICATE AGENT I'VE BEEN TAILING-- **TARG**--I TRACKED HIM TO THE SPACEPORT WHERE HE BOARDED A SHIP TO **PHOBOS!**



PHOBOS! HMMM... ALL ROADS SEEM TO BE LEADING THERE! I'M SURE THERE'S A BIG CRIMINAL OPERATION UNDERWAY-- AND THE KEY IS ON THAT SATELLITE!



YOU'RE BOTH TO GO TO **PHOBOS** AT ONCE AND INVESTIGATE! I'LL HOLD OFF THE RAID ON THE TOY PLANT--IT COULD SNARL UP YOUR OPERATIONS!

WE'LL HOP ONE OF OUR HYPER-DRIVE SPACE-SHIPS TO THE SATELLITE AND BE WAITING FOR TARG WHEN HE ARRIVES! HE'S OUR BEST LEAD TO THE OPERATION UNDERWAY THERE!



HOURS LATER, AS THE TWO AGENTS MELT INTO THE CROWD AT **PHOBOS** SPACEPORT...

THE TRANSPORT FROM EARTH'S DUE ANY MINUTE, VERN...

DAMOS--LOOK! IT'S **EDDIE KARP**, ONE OF **GRAGA'S** BOYS! HE APPEARS TO BE WAITING FOR SOMEONE...



EARTH SHIP # 207 ARRIVING...

AND I'LL BET MY **IPI** CARD IT'S THE SAME PARTY WE'RE WAITING FOR-- **TARG!**

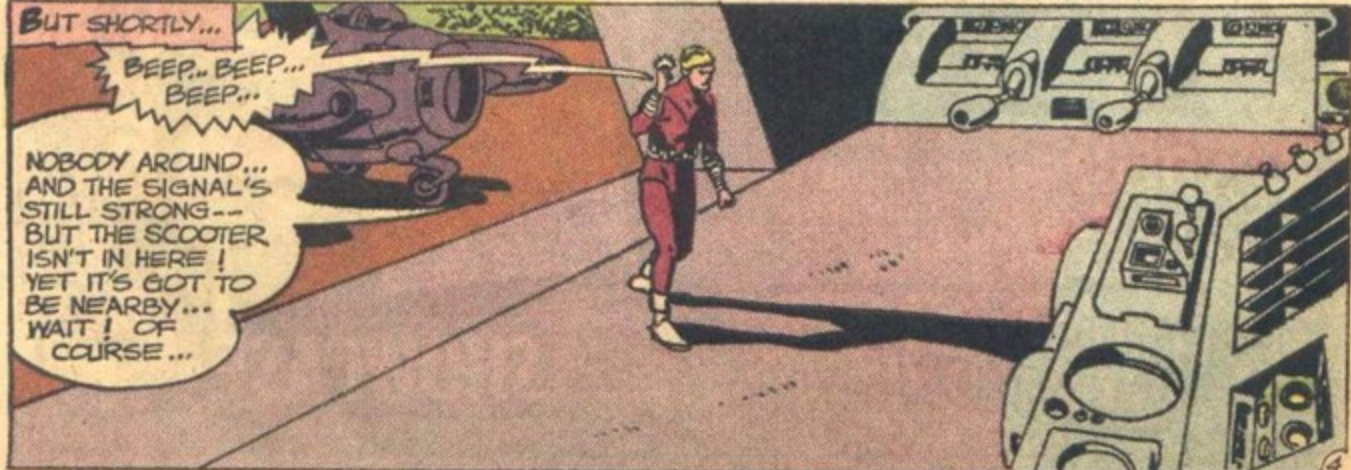
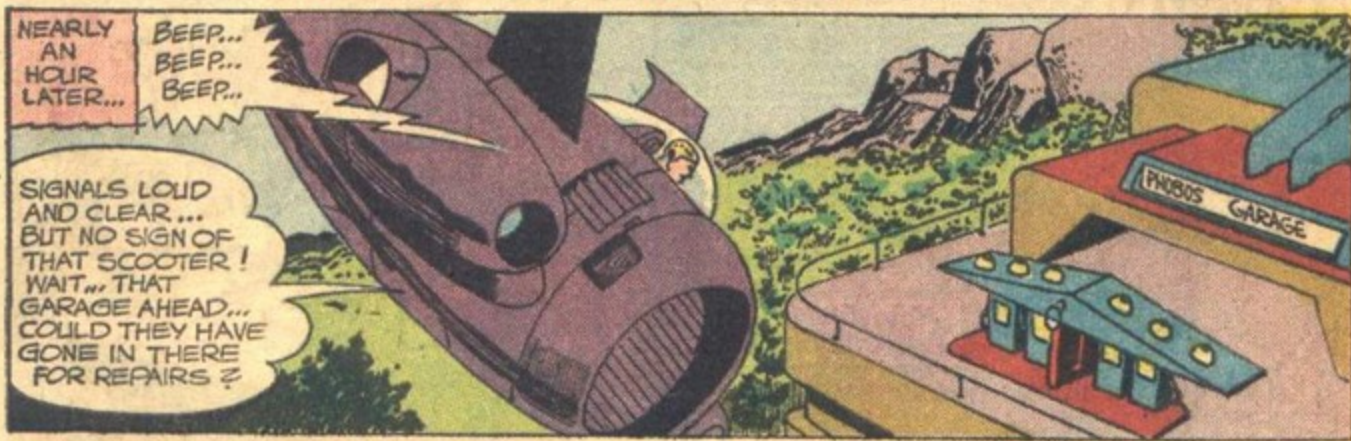
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT! **TARG'S** LANDING NOW...



MINUTES LATER, IN THE PARKING LOT...

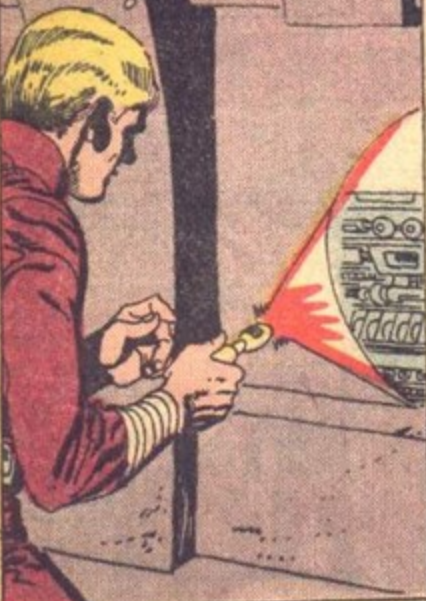
YOU WIN THE BET, PAL--THOSE TWO LINKED UP LIKE A PAIR OF ATOMS!

STAY HERE, **DAMOS**... WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY'RE GOING WITHOUT BEING SEEN...



VERN TAKES A SMALL DEVICE FROM HIS BELT AND...

JUST AS I FIGURED -- MY FLURO-BEAM IS REVEALING A SLIDING WALL PANEL WITH A BUILT-IN ALARM! THAT'S WHERE THEIR SCOOTER WENT -- INTO THE CRIMINAL HIDEOUT!



I'VE GOT TO FIND ANOTHER WAY TO BREAK IN -- IF I TRY TO GET THROUGH THAT SLIDING WALL, I'M BOUND TO TRIP THE ALARM! FIRST, BETTER TIP OFF DAMOS IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME...



AFTER CONTACTING DAMOS, JAN VERN SWINGS INTO ACTION...

THE DISSOLVER LIQUID WILL BURN A HOLE BIG ENOUGH FOR ME TO ENTER THROUGH... AND THERE ARE NO ALARM SYSTEM WIRES IN THIS SECTION OF THE WALL...



TENSE SECONDS LATER...

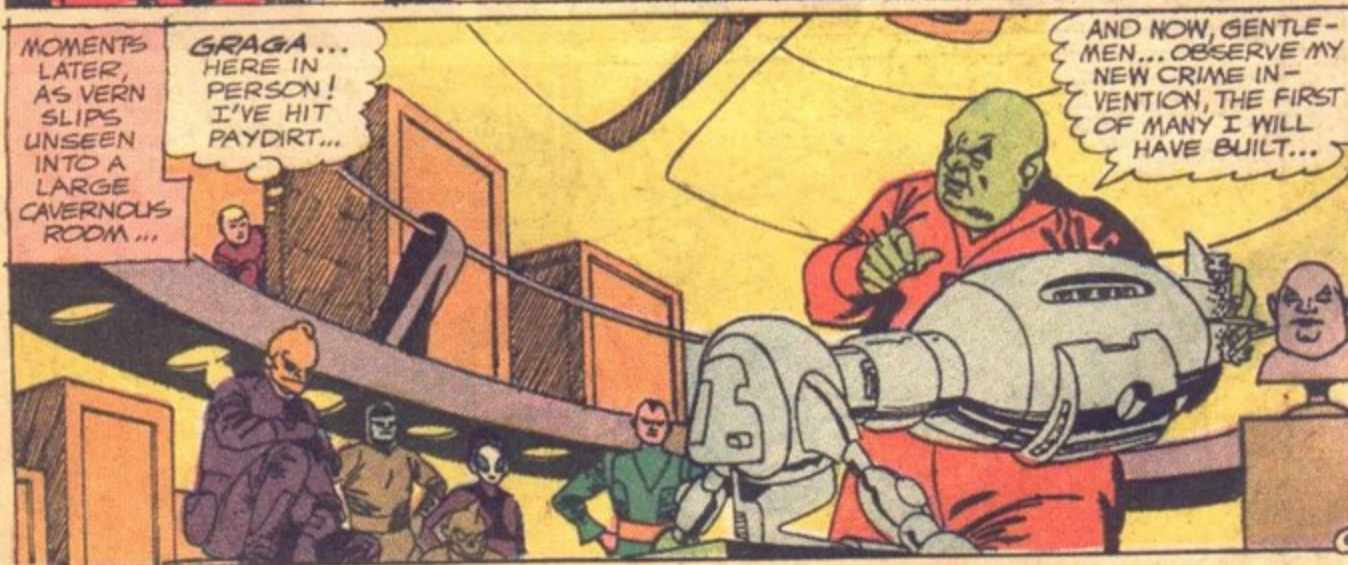
LADY LUCK'S STILL ON MY SIDE... NOBODY AROUND... AND THOSE PARKED SPACE SCOOTERS... LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL HOLDING AN IMPORTANT MEETING INSIDE! I'LL INVITE MYSELF IN!

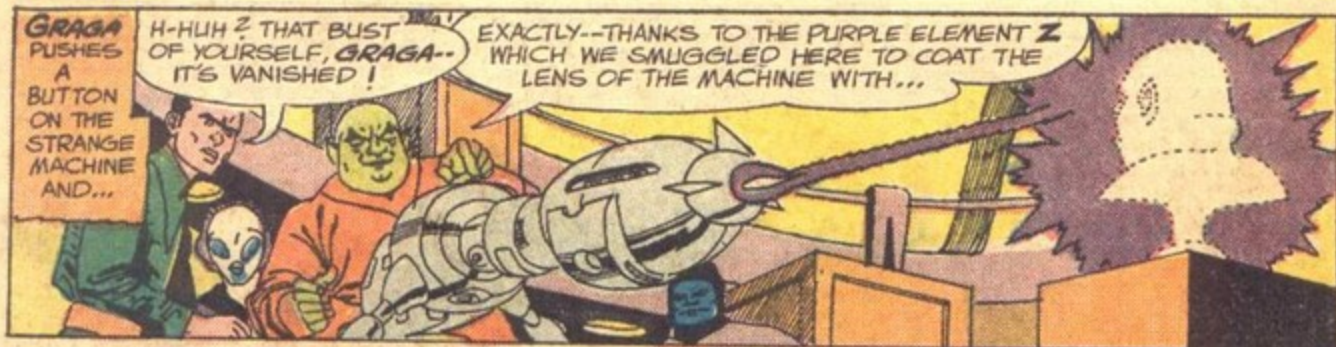


MOMENTS LATER, AS VERN SLIPS UNSEEN INTO A LARGE CAVERNOUS ROOM...

GRAGA... HERE IN PERSON! I'VE HIT PAYDIRT...

AND NOW, GENTLEMEN... OBSERVE MY NEW CRIME INVENTION, THE FIRST OF MANY I WILL HAVE BUILT...





GRAGA PUSHES A BUTTON ON THE STRANGE MACHINE AND...

H-HUH? THAT BUST OF YOURSELF, GRAGA-- IT'S VANISHED!

EXACTLY--THANKS TO THE PURPLE ELEMENT Z WHICH WE SMUGGLED HERE TO COAT THE LENS OF THE MACHINE WITH...

ONE BUST-- SHATTERED... EVEN THOUGH IT IS INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE! THINK WHAT IT WILL MEAN IN OUR PURSUIT OF CRIME, GENTLEMEN!

YEAH-- BUT A BUST CAN'T PULL OFF A ROBBERY, GRAGA! WHO SAYS THAT INVISIBLE RAY WORKS ON LIVING BEINGS?

I ANTICIPATED YOUR SKEPTICISM! OBSERVE THIS NEXT DEMONSTRATION, MY FRIENDS, WITH MY PET PLUTONIAN DOGA...

ONCE AGAIN, GRAGA'S FINGER PUSHES THE BUTTON--AND...

T-THE ANIMAL-- IT'S VANISHED! I-I MEAN... IT'S BECOME INVISIBLE!

JUST AS YOU OR ANY OF YOUR HENCHMEN CAN BECOME! THINK OF IT-- A CRIME WAVE COMMITTED BY INVISIBLE MEN-- AN UNSEEN ARMY PLUNDERING THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE... AND ITS WEALTH!



AND WE COULD EVEN PLANT AN INVISIBLE MAN RIGHT IN IPI-- HE'D BE ABLE TO TIP US OFF TO RAIDS... AND WHAT THEY'RE UP TO...

YEEKER!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, PAL! I'VE GOT TO DESTROY THAT MACHINE... H-HUH?

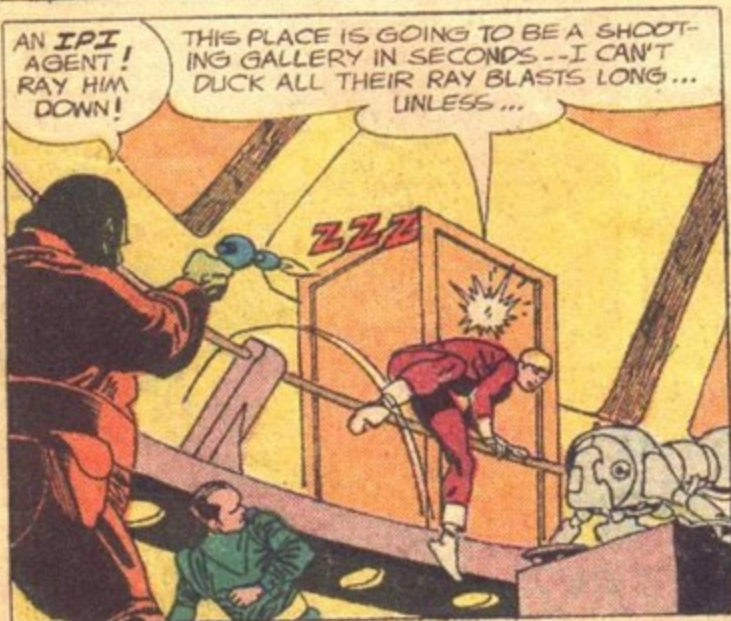




WHAT'S THAT...?
THE DOCA-- AND
AN EAVESDROPPER...

YEEKERR!

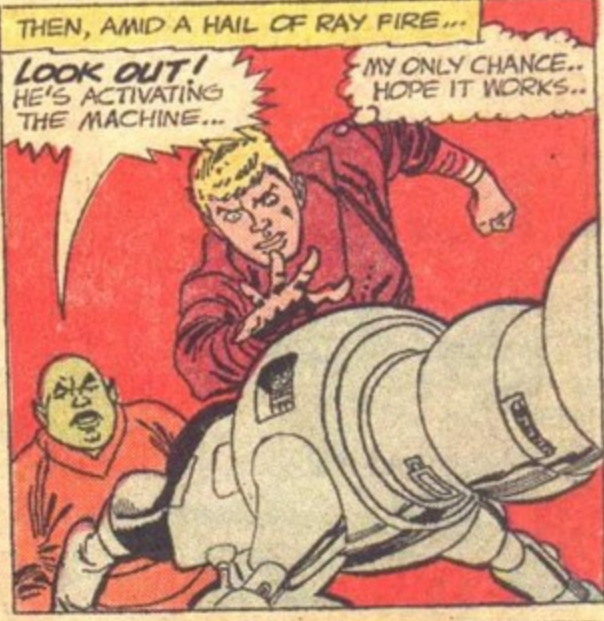
THAT PET... IT'S BECOMING VISIBLE AND
IT'S GIVEN ME AWAY! THAT GUARD'S
GOING TO FINISH ME OFF IF I DON'T
MOVE FAST...



AN IPI
AGENT!
RAY HIM
DOWN!

THIS PLACE IS GOING TO BE A SHOOT-
ING GALLERY IN SECONDS--I CAN'T
DUCK ALL THEIR RAY BLASTS LONG...
UNLESS...

ZZZ



THEN, AMID A HAIL OF RAY FIRE...

LOOK OUT!
HE'S ACTIVATING
THE MACHINE...

MY ONLY CHANCE...
HOPE IT WORKS...



AND A SPLIT SECOND LATER...

YOU FOOLS...
HE'S USING MY
MACHINE TO
MAKE HIMSELF
INVISIBLE!
STOP HIM!

I'M... FADING! THAT
GIVES ME AN EVEN
CHANCE TO PUT THEIR
OPERATIONS ON THE
ROCKS... IF A LUCKY
RAY BLAST DOESN'T
CATCH UP WITH
ME!



AS THE INVISIBLE AGENT SWINGS INTO ACTION...

HE'S OVER THERE...
ATTACKING TRAG
AND KARP!
SHOOT!
SHOOT!

BUT... AT
WHAT,
GRAGA...?

BUT THEN, THE UNFORESEEN HAPPENS...

HUH...? I'M... BECOMING VISIBLE... MY EXPOSURE TO THE RAYS WAS EVEN BRIEFER THAN THE DOCA'S... I'M A GONER NOW!

THERE HE IS---
BLAST HIM!



SUDDENLY...

CRASH!

THE PLACE IS SWARMING WITH IPI AGENTS! GET IN FRONT OF THE INVISIBLE BEAM... IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

HUH! CHIEF BROCK AND DAMOS... WITH AN IPI SQUAD!



BUT THE ACE IPI AGENT HAS OTHER IDEAS...

THE D-FLUID WILL INSTANTLY DISINTEGRATE THE MACHINE-- AND THEIR ESCAPE PLANS!

AFTER YOU MADE RADIO CONTACT AND REPORTED THIS HIDEOUT LOCALE, CHIEF BROCK ROCKETED HERE WITH AN IPI SQUAD! HE WASN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES!



IF YOU HADN'T DESTROYED THAT MACHINE, VERN, THEY WOULD HAVE SLIPPED THROUGH OUR FINGERS...

TOO BAD I HAD TO DISINTEGRATE IT, CHIEF-- IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT WEAPON FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT! BUT AT LEAST WE WON'T HAVE IT WORKING AGAINST US!



DC 12

STRANGE ADVENTURES

I WAS the MAN with ANIMAL POWERS!

I COULD SPEAK LIKE AN ANIMAL... I WAS AS STRONG AS A GORILLA...

Now I'm good enough to slay the LIVING NIGHTMARE!

NOW ON SALE

For The VERY BEST



in COMICS READING

DC 12

HOUSE of SECRETS

TWO OF DC'S GREATEST CHARACTERS!

AND THE NEW ORIGINAL AND MORE!

ECLIPSO

HERO AND VILLAIN IN ONE MAN OR THE NEGATIVE ECLIPSO

NOW ON SALE