WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME -- NOW RULE THE APES!

PLANET OF THE APES

ATTACK AND BATTLE ON A "KINGDOM ON AN ISLAND OF THE APES!"

36 PEERLESS PAGES
I'D JUST UNSADDLED MY OPPONENT, THE KNIGHTLY GORILLA CALLED SAWAIN, WITH NOTHING MORE THAN A ROPE AND A FLASHLIGHT—AND I DON'T THINK HE WAS ANY TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT!

I'M DEREK ZANE, TIME-TRAVELER FROM THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, AND IN MY WILDEST DREAMS OF TRAVELING INTO THE FUTURE, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE FIGHTING DEMONS OR TAKING PART IN A REAL-LIKE MEDIEVAL JOSTING TOURNAMENT—LET ALONE WITH A BUNCH OF TALKING APES!

DOUG MOENCH  |  WRITER
RICO RIVAL  |  ARTIST
IT WAS LIKE YANKEE STADIUM WHEN BABE RUTH HIT HIS LAST HOME RUN.

I RODE SLOWLY THROUGH THE CHEERS TOWARD ARTHUR'S BOX...

SIR DEREK, I PROCLAIM THEE THE CHAMPION OF THIS TOURNAMENT.

...AND WHEN THE NOISE SUBSIDED TO A MILD ROAR...

...AND DECLARE THEE A FULLY CHRISTENED KNIGHT OF THE---

DEREK-- LOOK OUT!!

IT SEEMED GAINE WAS SOMETHING OF A SORSE LOSER...

SEIZE THE VILLAIN--!!

AND BRING HIM AT ONCE TO THE--
--THRONEROOM.

THY ONEROUS AND UNCHIVALROUS CONDUCT HAST RENDERED THEE UNFIT TO DWELL IN THIS COURT A MOMENT LONGER, GAWAIN...

THUS, I HEREBY CAST THEE INTO PERMANENT EXILE!

A PRETTY STIFF SENTENCE... EVEN FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER...

WHERE WILL HE GO?

'TIS NOT A SMALL ISLAND, SIR DEREK...

THERE ARE VILLAGES... AND MANY OTHER PLACES...

...WHERE A SHAMED HERMIT MAY ABIDE...

THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS PASSED SWIFTLY.

THERE WERE SUMPTUOUS FEASTS...

...ELEGANT DANCING...

...LAUGHTER...

...AND EXHILARATING HUNTS...
But most of all, there was the fair Lady Andrea...

In fact, I saw quite a bit of Lady Andrea those few weeks.

I suppose you might say--

--I courted her.

There is where we will find Xirinus’ murderer!

There, General Gordon--across the water? But how could a human cross that much water? By floating, you fool.

Wood floats. Those stumps there... the trees were felled recently--by the human...

He made a platform of wood, and floated across the water on it...

You will ride to the city at once. I want a full regiment of warriors on this shore within the day--!

Y-yes, sir... They will be armed with axes as well as rifles--and they will be prepared to fell trees...
The scout had burst into the throne-room out of breath and full of a story about gorillas felling trees on the mainland. The day had come...

Arthur, this is the brute Gorden I've told you about—and it's my fault your castle will soon be under siege. If I hadn't come here, they'd never even bother this island...

My raft is still beached on your shore. Send some knights with carts to retrieve the barrels they'll find on that raft...

...and maybe we can surprise Gorden.

I supervised the knights in the planting of the gunpowder barrels...

...and then retreated to the castle for the siege.

They showed up some five or six hours later—an entire regiment of them, in full warrior leather-regalia...

The siege lasted all of five minutes. Gorden was anxious.
CHAPTER 6 BATTLE
They had grappling hooks—and used them under the covering rifle fire provided by their buddies...

And they scaled the ropes like you-know-whats.

It seemed as though Gorodon had succeeded in becoming the top banana of his city...

Who else would be powerful enough—or crazy enough—to sacrifice an entire regiment to pursue a personal vendetta?

I ran out of bullets within ten minutes—

Blam blam blam blam blam

Snap

Snap

--and traded my pistol for a sword...

We were taking losses, but Gorodon's group was being slaughtered. The explosions had crippled them...

There was little doubt that we would win. The only question was when...

But still they swarmed over the parapets, like demons in a frantic race to hell...

Then Satan himself crested the bastion... bristling hatred glared from his single eye...

We froze—both of us—for a single timeless instant... knowing that this was the moment for which all the death around us was but a prelude...
HE MUST'VE RUN OUT OF AMMUNITION TOO, FOR HE HELD HIS CARBINE LIKE A CLUB AS HE SNARLED AND LUNGED...

THIS IS THE DAY YOU DIE, HUMAN!!

...AND A MOST EFFECTIVE CLUB IT WAS...

I FIGURED I'D HAD IT. WHAT KIND OF A MATCH WAS I FOR A FULL-GROWN SAVAGE GORILLA??

BUT I WAS DETERMINED TO GO DOWN TRYING...

THE KICK WAS GOOD.

BUT THE PUNCH--

...DIDN'T EVEN SLOW HIM. HE LEERED AND PREPARED FOR AN EASY KILL...

DEREK...!!

IT WAS LADY ANDREA, AND I'D TOLD HER TO STAY DEEP INSIDE THE CASTLE WITH ARTHUR...

BUT SOMEHOW, I DOUBTED WHETHER I'D REPRIMAND HER FOR DISOBEDIENCE...

AGHK-K--!!
IT WAS JUST ABOUT OVER. NOTHING LEFT BUT THE MOP-UP...

I WAS RELIEVED. YEAH, BUT I WAS ALSO JUST A LITTLE SICK...

AMAZING WHAT A FEW DAYS OF THINGS BACK TO NORMAL. "NORMAL" IS IN THE CRAZY COURT OF KING ARTHUR WILL DO FOR A MAN... OR EVEN FOR AN APE...

EVEN MORE AMAZING IS WHAT A FEW DAYS WITH THE LADY ANDREA CAN DO FOR ME... ANDREA, I'VE BEEN THINKING...

YES, DEREK?...

...WITH THY HAND IN MARRIAGE, MILADY?

YOU SEE, I'D FOUND WHAT I WAS REALLY SEARCHING FOR, I'D FOUND MY TIME -- MY DREAMS... AND THAT WAS ALL THAT MATTERED...

BESIDES, I PLAN TO DO A LITTLE EXPLORING IN THE FUTURE. MAYBE I'LL RUN INTO TAYLOR AND THE OTHERS YET...

I WONDER IF THEY'RE WILD-EYED DREAMERS TOO...
POTA 4.

Dear Stan,

While reading your mag, Planet of the Apes, (which I think is fab) I found all your fans writing to the Apes Forum were Male! Well, here's one that ain't.

Now, to get back to the mag. Must congratulate you, it's GREAT, FAB, WIZARD, WAYOUT, man.

Next, my opinions of the contents.

Keep all the pin-ups going. (I've still got a lot of bedroom wall to fill!)

Feature, brilliant. Keep that going, too, with plenty of info.

The story bit at the front, I think, is short. Especially when you put the stories at the back in. I think the Apes should have the mag completely to themselves.

Finally, I want some answers, so get ready, I'm gonna fire the questions!
1. Have you heard if the apes are appearing on TV in the future.
2. Why don't we ever see a photo of you?
3. Is it true you were on Pebble Mill at one a few months ago?
Questions finished.

Well, that's the end of my letter, so it's farewell from me!

Love

Melanie, Oxenholme, Cumbria.

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Dear Sirs, (to be formal) Stan and Co.,

While I was glancing at the crime files in my office recently, I was suddenly shaken by a cry of dismay from my compatriot and dear friend, Dr. Watson. Rushing to his aid, I saw him gazing box-eyed through his magnifying glass at page 5, panel one of his well-treasured “Planet of The Apes” no. 1. Wondering why he had removed it from the vault, I inquired why he had cried out a few seconds since. “A mistake!” he exclaimed. “Surely everybody knows that the American space research association is known as NASA and not ANSA as it is printed in this collector’s item!”

I, too, was horrified at your error and I have forthwith written to you.


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When your letter was received and read a whisper went round the Bullpen. “The game’s up!” Yep—we plead guilty to getting our A where our N should have been. But we promise not to let it happen again. (Of course, it could have all been the work of that devilish Moriarty!)

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Melanie, you’ve gotta be kidding! Female fans of Planet of The Apes are legion, and we’ve lost count of the number of letters we’ve published in Apes Forum that have come from girl readers. And having got that off our chests we’re happy to receive your congratulations and happy to answer your questions. 1. Regrettfully, we don’t know if and when Apes will be making a TV comeback. 2. You did! In the first issues of “Super-Heroes” and “Savage Sword of Conan!” Could it be you weren’t paying attention? 3. Guilty. And here’s a little item of late news that you may be interested to have. A semi-animated Planet of The Apes film is currently being made in the U.S.A. It’s due to run on NBC in America in September and it could well be shown in Britain later.

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One week a reader’s request, the next week implementation of it? Hoooroo Boy! How we wish we could get the wheels of response turning as rapidly as that! No—what happened in ishes 23 and 24 was sheer co-incidence!

C. Jameson, RFO, KOF South Shields, Tyne-Wear.
OF THE PLANET OF THE APES
masks to join in the game with featured players in full foam-rubber appliances, during a break in the filming of 20th-Century's CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES. At the head of the players' circle sat Roddy McDowall, who quipped, "Pictures will be fifty cents apiece, if you please!" As we began clicking our camera shutters, we replied, "How much is that in bananas?"

Already the illusion of unreality was stealing over us.

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Fittingly enough, the impersonal, neo-futuristic structure that is Century City was being cast by the studio as

Move over, Hugh Hefner & Co.! Natalie Trundy as "Lisa" the chimpanzee becomes Marvel's own pin-up girl in this specially posed "glamour" shot!

Awaiting the director's cue to "Action!" Roddy McDowall prepares to enact the film's final scene.

Exclusive behind-the-scenes report, with words and photographs
by
Al Satian and Heather Johnson

[with field assistance by Don & Linda Glut, Bill Warren, and Donald Hanvey]

The bleak austerity of Century City Plaza, a massive complex of stores and offices built over what were once the backlots of 20th-Century Studios, conveyed an appropriately alien atmosphere in the chill of the mid-February night as we approached the main shopping mall in its centre. Well past normal business hours our footsteps on the granite pavement echoed from the darkened, vacant monoliths surrounding us.

The first signs of life to greet our eyes were at once as other-worldly as a lunar landscape and as commonplace as a Sunday afternoon at the ballpark: a poker game being played in an off-moment by workers in overalls, some human, some apes!

Thick lines of black greasepaint surrounded the eyes and mouths of the more human players—they were extras who had temporarily doffed their full-head ape
the 1990 city-state, self-contained habitat of a future generation and their subservient apes, for this fourth entry in the series. The film’s earlier sequences—recounting the 1982 virus which killed off the lower animals and led to the gradual evolution and enslavement of the apes, and introducing Caesar, ape-child of the future who incites the apes to rebellion—had been filmed several weeks earlier in and around Century City and the University of California at Irvine. Now, after a couple of weeks of intensive interior shooting at the studios, the cast and crew had returned to Century City and the

revolution was in full swing.

The tableau of a motion picture being filmed, whether on location or in the studio, is sufficiently strange in itself. Contrary to the fast pacing and split-second timing that appears in the finished product on the screen, the actual shooting proceeds at a snail’s pace, each scene being the result of slow, careful deliberation on the part of the film makers. As we entered the spacious square surrounded by the various buildings of the structure, cameras were being rolled into position, lights set into place and properly shaded, and stand-ins providing the focal points for the upcoming scene. Scattered about were the paraphernalia of mock-warfare—shopping carts filled with arsenals of wooden weapons of every description, battered mannikins in police and civilian clothing, “victims” of the rebel apes, and gas-fueled pipelines to provide the artificial walls of flame that would shortly cover the city background.

In the midst of all this activity, featured players, unoccupied crew members, and extras alike roamed the set freely, relaxing and chatting among themselves or with visitors to the set, posing for pictures, signing autographs, and answering questions about the film. The several hundred extras in full-head masks of three varieties of apes—chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutan—lent the only colour to the forbidding background of the location with their green, red, and yellow coveralls.

For the cast and crew of the film, waiting is what making a movie is all about. In any one night of filming, perhaps only two or three brief scenes will be completed to satisfaction and put “in the can,” and the many hours

Extra poses for exclusive shot of one of the few orangutans seen briefly in the movie.

Left: A chimpanzee never looked so menacing! Ape-man Lars Hensen poses for exclusive close-ups.
of off-camera time between these segments provides ample opportunity for chatting with many of the people involved in the production, and taking photographs for magazines. In addition, the theme of this production afforded the basis for no end of practical jokes and clowning around between takes. As our photographs testify, we were witness to more apish shenanigans than might occur in a score of after-hours parties!

The extras, in particular, seemed to be having a field day with this assignment, since playing apes made them virtually indistinguishable from the stars whose roles they were supporting. One extra in chimpanzee make-up apparently didn't realize that being an ape of any kind accorded him “instant celebrity” status with the fans—“Oh, honey, I'm nobody,” he assured a young lady asking for his autograph, “here, let me see if I can find somebody for you!” With that, he disappeared into the crowd leaving a rather disappointed girl wondering...
how a real-live APE could be “nobody!” A more perceptive gorilla-extra nearby was only too happy to fill the young autograph-seeker's request, reminding her, “I'm a gorilla, you know, and gorillas can't write. So I'll sign 'X.' okay?” His anthropoid “X” filled the bill perfectly, and fortunately the girl didn't think to ask how a gorilla who couldn't write could talk!

However, once all had been readied on the set and the call to “Places!” went out, cast and crew quickly assembled and the playing was for keeps. Re-shoot-ing is enormously expensive, so every move must be timed to the second. Spectators assumed a cooperative silence as police and apes faced each other for the film’s major riot scene.

Gaining the ideal vantage point at the top of the plaza staircase, just a little to one side of the cameras, we caught all of the action as police and apes met in a mock-battle-to-the-death below. This scene, in which the badly outnumbered apes barely overcome their human “superiors,” is the most spectacular in the entire film.

Flames shot forth, firearms blazed, and apish war whoops that made KING KONG seem soft-spoken by comparison rended the stillness, and the scene was completed in two takes. The chaos subsided as abruptly as it had begun at the director's call of “Cut!” and the mood again became one of leisure and frivolity.

Relaxing on a stairway with extra Bill West following one of the scenes, we suddenly became aware of the volleys of hooting and howling which continued to echo from the far side of the square, long after the scene had ended. "Listen to them!” Bill exclaimed. "What are those idiots making all that racket for now? They're not getting paid for it!"

Bill himself, however, was still very much in character in spite of himself as he donned his gorilla mask and put on his fiercest face to pose for some ape "portrait" shots.

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Perhaps our greatest pleasure during the filming was meeting two of Hollywood's finest stuntmen. Dave
Ape-man Lars Hensen gives Heather Johnson a lift during her tour of the Century City location.

Natalie Trundy leafs through Marvel photographer Al Satian's proofs.

Stuntman Tom Steele and friends on location.

Roddy McDowall between takes of final scenes.
Roddy McDowall (with cigarette) engages in an other-worldly poker game with cast and extras during a break in filming.

Dummy policeman used for riot scenes.

Shopping baskets prove convenient mobile storage bins for arsenal of prop weapons used in film.

Futurian officer and ape ham it up for our cameras.
ly the same thing.

It was also through such off-the-cuff conversation that the latest words on the studio's plans for this series came to light, including the news that there would be one more feature film, after which the property would be sold as a weekly series to television. Speculation was that the forthcoming BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES would "sew up" the saga by closing with Charlton Heston's arrival on the ape-dominated earth, but—as later developments would show—many "loose threads" were to be left hanging, possibly to be picked up in the teleseries. As with such film series as Universal's FRANKENSTEIN features, gaps and inconsistencies such as these would prove irresistible subject matter for countless magazine articles and chapters of book-length studies.

Easily the most dramatic scene we were to witness was the final scene of the film, in which Roddy MacDowal as Caesar confronts Hari Rhodes as MacDonald (Governor Breck's chief aid and the man who paves the way for the apes' takeover of the city) on the steps of the Civic Centre. Being on the location, it was our special privilege to watch the filming of this fiery sequence both from afar and close-up, since the final version of the scene required that it be shot several different ways, in long-shot and close-up both, from several different angles.

Poised defiantly atop the staircase, amidst leaping shadows cast by the smouldering flames behind him, McDowall presented a larger-than-life image while awaiting the cue for "Action!" We were fortunate in deed to be standing only a few feet from him during the close-up shooting and to have captured this emotionally-charged image in our own photos between takes.

The seriousness, however, quickly ceased the moment the cameras stopped rolling. Later on during the shooting, as Roddy led his ape-platoon down a
thoroughfare to a subway tunnel during the height of rioting, “Cut!” was called and the awe-inspiring commander of the ape army turned to the cameras with a mischievous grin and a loud, boyish “Rat-tat-tat!” sending the entire crew into hysterics.

This prevailing air of “anything goes” seemed to leave no one untouched, as all involved continued to ham it up in off-camera moments. Natalie Trundy, wife of APES producer Arthur P. Jacobs, and who played the chimpanzee Lisa in CONQUEST, was having a very straight-laced conversation with one of the production staff, when we spotted her in a corner of the mall. The minute she saw our cameras, all seriousness vanished from the discussion and she slid right into character, curling her lip and putting her best ape-face forward for our benefit.

Posing for some ape “glamour shots” for us a few minutes later, she told us of the intense interest her producer-husband had always had in fantasy and science-fiction, both in literature and in film, and of the vast book and film library and collection of memorabilia he had amassed over the years, making their home a veritable museum of fantastic artifacts. Ms. Trundy-Jacobs had starred previously as one of the humans in ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES, and as a mutant in BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES.

The final proof, however, that the contagious clowning on the set had reached full-scale epidemic proportions was the moment director J. Lee Thompson called the extras to their places to supply the vocal background for the film’s climax on the Civic Centre steps.

With a perfectly straight face, he asked: “Will the Mormon Tabernacle Choir please assemble?”

“T’m a gorilla, and gorillas can’t write, so I’ll just sign ‘X,’ okay?” Youth admirers seek simian signature for their autograph collection.
BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES

THE SECOND GREAT APES THRILLER STARTS NEXT WEEK!