THE SCENE IS NORTH AMERICA IN 1991. A TIME AND PLACE IN WHICH HUMAN WORKERS HAVE BEGUN TO PROTEST AGAINST THE INCREASING PROLIFERATION OF SLAVE LABOURERS.
ONCE, WHEN TIMES WERE MORE SIMPLE (AND PERHAPS MORE PRIMITIVE), THESE SLAVE LABOURERS WERE COMMONLY KNOWN AS APESES. BUT TIME—and capricious evolution—have granted intelligence to former BEAST OF THE JUNGLE, INTELLIGENCE ENOUGH TO PERFORM SIMPLE TASKS...

... AND OCCASIONALLY, TO EXERCISE RUDIMENTARY FORMS OF REBELLION, AN INCIDENT OF THE LATTER HAS JUST OCCURED ON THE STEPS OF APE CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS. IT IS NOW BEING QUelled...

STUPID BEAST! IF YOU CAN'T LEARN TO OBEY A SIMPLE COMMAND—

YOU'LL GET IT BEATEN INTO YOUR HAIRY HIDE!!

STOP IT! YOU STINKING LOUSY HUMANS—!!

UNKNOWN TO GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ALIKE, THE SON OF THE TALKING APE ZIRA AND CORNELIUS STILL LIVES. HIS NAME IS CAESAR, AND HAS JUST COMMITTED A GRAVE MISTAKE, HE HAS SPOKEN... A SIMPLE ACT FAR BEYOND THE CAPABILITIES OF EARTH'S NORMAL SLAVE LABORERS...
ACTING
UP AGAIN,
EH---?

KRACK

LOUSY
HUMAN--

WHO
SAID
THAT?

UNFAIR
TO
WALTERS

I DID--!

AND
WHAT KIND
OF APE IS
THIS?

A PERFORMING
APE--FOR MY
CIRCUS--!

ARMANDO'S
OLD-TIME CIRCUS

NOV. 11-23
PARADE C
A TALKING APE?

NO -- OF COURSE NOT. THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

I'M THE ONE WHO SPOKE --.

DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S A CRIMINAL OFFENCE TO SHOW DISRESPECT TO A STATE OFFICIAL?

THAT WAS UNINTENTIONAL, I ASSURE YOU, BUT BEING SENTIMENTAL ABOUT ANIMALS, I --

WHY DID YOU YELL "LOUSY HUMAN"?!

THAT IS NOT WHAT I SAID --

IT'S WHAT WE HEARD. ARE YOU SURE THIS APE CAN'T SPEAK?

OF COURSE I'M SURE. HOW COULD AN APE SPEAK --? IT'S ABSURD...

MAYBE AND MAYBE YOU'RE LYING.

LOOK OFFICERS -- I ADMIT MY BEHAVIOUR WAS INEXCUSABLE, AND I'M DEEPLY SORRY, BUT I ASSURE YOU--

I THINK WE'D BETTER TURN THEM OVER TO HEADQUARTERS FOR INTERROGATION.

-- OF WRINGING THE TRUTH FROM ANYONE.

RIGHT. THEY'VE GOT WAYS --.
NEXT TIME SEE THAT THE BRUTE'S SEPARATE BEFORE YOU BRING HIM OUT IN PUBLIC.

"WHAT'S THAT?"

"THEM THEY DID HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE."

"THEY'RE GONE."
ARMANDO... 
FORGIVE 
ME... 
I...

NO... YOU 
ONLY 
SAID 
ALoud 
WHAT 
I WAS 
THINKING...

Yes... I might 
HAVE 
BLUFFED 
IT 
THROUGH 
IF 
YOU 
HADN'T 
RUN...

THEN LET'S 
GO 
BACK 
TO 
THE 
CIRCUS...

THE FIRST 
PLACE 
THEY 
WOULD 
LOOK. 
NO, HE 
SHOULD 
NOT 
HAVE 
RUN.

I MUST 
GO 
BACK 
TO 
THE 
POLICE.

IT IS THE 
ONLY 
WAY 
CAESAR.

I WILL SAY 
I 
COULD 
NOT 
FIND 
YOU, 
THAT 
YOU 
RUN 
AWAY 
BEFORE... 
CITIZEN 
FRIGHTEN 
YOU...

But where 
CAN I --

RIGHT HERE 
IF THIS 
WORKS-- I 
WILL 
BE 
BACK 
BY 
NIGHTFALL.

AND WHAT IF 
YOU 
AREN'T-- 
IT'S TOO 
RISKY. 
ARMANDO, 
SUPPOSE 
THEY 
DON'T 
LET 
YOU 
GO?

They 
WILL...

But just 
IN 
CASE... 
IF I'M 
NOT 
BACK 
BY 
THEN...
This tunnel leads to the harbour. Ape shipments are frequently unloaded at night. You must try to infiltrate one of them and—

But I don't want to—

You would want to be captured even less, so we must have an alternate plan, and right now the only safe hiding place for you is among your own kind.

Believe me, Caesar. We have no choice.

Agreed...?

Agreed.

Apes imported from overseas arrive nightly so you'll have to get rid of your—

Good. Stay here until dark then... I should not be long.

Goodbye, Armando...

Goodbye.
THE CIVIC CENTRE: A SINGLE LIGHT BURNS IN THE OFFICE SUITE OF GOVERNOR BRECK...

HUMAN'S AN ODD THING FOR ANOTHER HUMAN TO SAY...

BUT WHY DID YOU SAY HUMAN?

MR. GOVERNOR, I DID NOT SAY "HUMAN."

I SAID "INHUMAN." STINKING LOUSY INHUMANS.

AND BY THE BLESSED SAINT FRANCIS WHO LOVED ALL ANIMALS, I MEANT IT.

YOU SEE, I RUN A CIRCUS, I--

FROM THE YEAR SENOR ARMANDO, WHEN THE TWO TALKING APES ARRIVED ON EARTH FROM THE FUTURE AND CONCEIVED A BABY WHOSE SURVIVAL COULD HAVE THREATENED THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE.

YOU REMEMBER?

OF COURSE BUT--

MR. GOVERNOR, IF I MAY INTERRUPT... WHAT IS IT, MACDONALD?
IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BABY APE WAS SHOT DEAD WITH IT'S PARENTS.

OR SO IT WAS BELIEVED MR. MACDONALD...

BUT SINCE THIS MORNING, I'VE BEEN WONDERING IF IT WAS THE RIGHT BABY.

THE APES COULD HAVE SWITCHED THEIR BABY WITH A STOLEN BABY FROM THE ZOO.

OR... A CIRCUS?

I DO NOT WISH TO LAUGH MR. GOVERNOR, BUT SURELY YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS...

LET ME REMIND YOU OF THE REASONS WHY I CAN, SENOR ARMANDO.

THE CASSETTE.

THIS IS A RECORDING OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO THE THEN-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION.

IT'S TWENTY YEARS OLD -- A BIT SCRATCHY... BUT YOU'LL GET THE GIST OF IT!

AND PERHAPS STOP LAUGHING.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE MALE AND FEMALE TALKING APES, CORNELIUS AND ZIRA, HAVE COME TO US OUT OF THE FUTURE...
WE BELIEVE THEIR SPOKEN TESTIMONY THAT SOME TWO-THOUSAND YEARS HENCE, THEIR DESCENDANTS WILL HAVE SUBJUGATED AND ALL BUT EXTERMINATED THE HUMAN RACE FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

WE BELIEVE THAT UNDER APE SUPREMACY, THE EARTH ITSELF WILL ULTIMATELY BE DESTROYED.

AND WE KNOW THAT THE FEMALE APE IS NON-PREGNANT WITH CHILD.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO ALTER THE FUTURE--AND SOME OF OUR SCIENTISTS IT IS--IT IS OUR DUTY TO DO SO.

THE COMMISSION THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT THE BIRTH OF THE FEMALE APE'S UNBORN CHILD SHOULD BE PREVENTED...

... AND THAT AFTER ITS PRENATAL REMOVAL BOTH THE MALE AND THE FEMALE SHOULD BE RENDERED INCAPABLE OF BEGETTING OR BEARING ANOTHER.

KLIK!
WELL, SENOR ARMANDO... BUT EVERY ZOO IN CALIFORNIA--PUBLIC OR PRIVATE WAS SEARCHED BY THE POLICE AND EVERY CIRCUS INCLUDING MY OWN.

WHERE THEY FOUND A BABY CHIMPANZEE.

I HAVE TOLD YOU... I WISH I KNEW WHERE HE IS.

I HAVE SEARCHED EVERYWHERE AND--

SENOR ARMANDO...!!

LET ME TRY TO IMPRESS UPON YOU THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS PROBLEM.

YOUR CIRCUS TRAVELS MAINLY IN THE PROVINCES, DOES IT NOT?

YES, SIR...
THEN YOU ARE UNAWARE OF THE RISING TIDE OF DISOBEDIENCE--OF DOWRIGHT DEFIANCE--AMONG THE SERVANT APES IN OUR CITIES.

MR. GOVERNOR--ON INVESTIGATION, MANY OF THE REPORTED OFFENSES HAVE PROVED TO BE MINOR...

THAT APE THAT WAS KILLED WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM THE CITY JUST LAST NIGHT--WOULD YOU CALL HIS OFFENSES MINOR, MR. MACDONALD?

NO, SIR. I WOULD NOT... BUT I...

WHICH HE NO DOUBT RICHLY DESERVED--!

AND GOD KNOWS HOW MANY MORE OUT THERE ARE JUST LIKE HIM--ALL BURNING WITH RESENTMENT... ALL PRIMED AND READY...

ALL WAITING SENOR ARMANDO... WAITING FOR AN APE WITH ENOUGH WILL AND INTELLIGENCE TO LEAD THEM--!

AN APE THAT CAN THINK... AND TALK...

TELL ME, SENOR ARMANDO... DID YOUR APE EVER TALK...?

...EVER SHOW ANY SIGNS OF BEING ARTICULATE IN YOUR PRESENCE?

-NEXT WEEK-

CAESAR THE SLAVE!
Dear Stan,

Thank you very much for creating the comic "Planet of the Apes". Firstly because of the tremendous, wonderful, fab stories, and secondly because of the past features on the TV series, "Planet of The Apes".

CBS broke my heart by taking the series off our screens, as I have fallen in love with Pete Burke. I have heard that there has been a second series made. Do you think it will be shown on TV?

Anyway, thanks ever so for doing all those interviews and printing the pics. If you have any more please show them.

Christine Findlay,
Stranraer, Scotland.

Aw — there's no call for you thanking us for producing "Planet". Christine. We enjoyed it — every pressured, deadline missing, finger-biting moment of it! And if we had to, we'd do it all again. Just as (as you so rightly say) a TV Apes series has been made all over again in the US. As far as we know there are no final plans for bringing that second series to British TV screens, but we'll be a very surprised Bull Pen if it doesn't come about. Entertainment opportunities such as that come all too seldom.

Dear Stan,

My boy-friend and I have bought every comic of "Planet of The Apes" and I would like to say that the comic is fantastic and we like the jokes you put in.

I would like to say to the girls who are reading this comic that they do not need to feel ashamed of the "Planet of The Apes". I have been called many things because I read "Planet of The Apes", so girls, if you think you are too old, well you are not. I will tell you that when you are past 80 you will not be too old even then. My grandad reads them and he's 82 years old.

Linda and Kevin,
Bolton, Greater Manchester.

We're delighted to have your support, Linda. Yours too, Kev. Because, in your own way, you're saying what we've always been saying. That there are no barriers to the enjoyment of Marvel. A Marvelite is a TYPE of person and class, creed, race, colour or age don't come into it. Not in any way.

Dear Stan.

After reading "Planet of The Apes" from its very beginning without uttering a word, I think it's time I broke my silence.

Inside, your comic is very good, the stories are ace, and, up to a point, so is the artwork.

But the covers! The covers! The covers are, in a word, HORRIBLE!

You absolutely spoil your comic with the covers. They are shoddily drawn, the apes don't look like apes, and more often than not they have nothing to do with the story inside. Even I can do better, and to prove it I have enclosed a picture I drew of an ape.

Peter Labrow,
Bury, Lancs.

First off, we'd like to tell the world that the ape drawing you sent in with your letter was first-class. Every member of the Batty Bullpen was impressed. But doncha think you're being a little over-harsh in your criticism of the POTA covers? There must have been a little merit somewhere. Yes?

Dear Marvel,

Congratulations for turning out such a splendid magazine. Your adaptations of the Apes films are very good, as is the art work involved. What I really enjoy, however, are the features on the Apes films, their stars, the TV series, etc. They're first rate. I have some criticisms to make. First of all, I don't like the inclusion of "Sinbad" specials. Secondly, the stories that back up the Apes are weak compared to the Ape adaptations. Still, I must not over-criticise you as I do enjoy your mag, since it keeps me in touch with something I discovered I loved too late. For me there isn't enough "Planet of the Apes" about. I fear that something which has such a wide following should be let slip away. "Planet of the Apes" must return. And I'm very grateful to Marvel for keeping the torch burning. I urge all mad ape-fans (like me) to write to the TV companies and plead with them to restore the beloved Apes series. Long live "The Planet of the Apes."

Jackie Wilton,
11 Mangerton Rd., Drimmagh,
Dublin 12, Eire.

"Planet of the Apes" IS scheduled to return to the TV screen this year — on London Weekend. And its return could be partly due to the letter-writing activities of some of our Merry Marvel Ape fans. Which means that a similar letter-writing drive in Eire might just produce the same effect. It must be worth a try!
Dear Marvel,

“Kick the Can” by Bruce Jones in “Planet of the Apes” No. 53 was a very interesting story. Bruce, as both writer and artist, has produced a very thoughtful and poignant story. The method of presentation is interesting, because of the lack of characters’ dialogue, and Bruce’s use of continuity boxes to tell the story.

“Kick the Can” raises many questions. It touches upon the motivation of people, and why one sometimes feels compelled to do something. The story also illustrates how memories are so important to everyone. Bruce has also coupled these ideas with extremely good art.

To change the subject, I greatly enjoyed seeing Stan Lee and Herb Trimpe at the Roundhouse theatre recently. Stan was thoroughly entertaining at all times. I’m sure there are many people like me who’d like to see Stan (and other Bullpeners) again very soon.

David Fielder,
Stevenage, Herts.

Bruce’s story was just the kind we like to have appearing in our pages. So ‘twould seem that you and we are locked into the same wavelength, Dave. And ‘we’re happy to learn that you were right there among the throng at the Roundhouse get-together. And that, we sincerely hope, is only gonna be one of many such gatherings. See you at the next one?

Dear All,

New Ape-fans can own all five PLANET OF THE APES films to show in their own home! These are the films:

Planet of the Apes. First of the series. An astronaut crashlands on a world where apes are the masters and humans the slaves. Starring Charlton Heston.

Beneath the Planet of The Apes. A secondary spaceship lands on the Planet of The Apes. In addition to monkeys, the astronaut discovers a race of horrifying mutants. The finale, a battle between apes, mutants and astronauts is absolutely spectacular.

Escape from the Planet of The Apes. A pair of apes travel from their world to earth of 1973. Here they are pursued by hostile police and government agents. Gripping battle on board a freighter concludes this exciting film.

Conquest of The Planet of The Apes. The year is 1990, and the child of the two earth-apes grows to adulthood. He organises a rebellion of apes against humans. An awesome battle ensues that involves thousands of apes and destroys all Los Angeles.

Battle for The Planet of The Apes. The final film of this classic series. The apes take over the earth and we learn that the original planet of the apes was one other than Earth of the far future.

The price for one of these films is $9 dollars. (You either get American money from the bank or go to the post office and get an international money order.) Each film runs 12 minutes for a total screen-ape time of one full hour. Here is the address to send for these home movies: Seaboard Master Group, 717 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A.

Neil Fisher,
St. Helens, Merseyside.

You wouldn’t be on the pay-roll of the Seaboard Master Group, Neil, would ya? ‘Cos if you aren’t we reckon they’d be more than happy to offer you a job in their sales department any time!

Dear Stan,

I am a great Ape fan and have been one for about a year. My collection of Ape souvenirs consists of all British mags. 13 of the American mags and two of the American all-colour mags. I have all of the books, including an American version of “Monkey Planet”, called Planet of the Apes. One of my most-prized possessions is the original soundtrack to Planet of the Apes. I have the other books and jigsaws, cards, etc., BUT! What I haven’t got are the picture cards from the original film. I had them years ago when they first came out but threw them away later not knowing how much they would mean to me in the future. So I wonder if any other avid Ape fan who has a set of doubles, or at least some doubles, would like to sell them to me. Or I am willing to tape the soundtrack to Planet of the Apes and then swap the tape for the film cards.

In particular, a certain David Layton of Abertillery in Gwent, in a letter to Ape Forum wrote that he had a set of film cards, and if he is willing either to swap or sell them I should be forever grateful.

Richard Hunter, 15 Havelock Road, Tottenham, London, N.17.

Dick, oh Dick! You should be volunteering to stand in the corner for being such a foolish fan! Maybe someone, somewhere will take pity on you. You can but hope...

Dear Stan and Gang,

Well, I must congratulate you on a most wonderful, fabulous, super-doo-maga. I must admit, I’m a newcomer to “Planet of The Apes”. I’m collecting as much info as I can, because where I come from, we don’t have it. I live in New Zealand, and I’ll only be here for another week before I go home. Well, you had better prepare for some questions. 1. I have a friend who is now mad on this mag. He collects it every week. Does this mean I can get a KOF and when does this letter is published, can I have a QNS? 2. How come you don’t export these mags to other countries? 3. Have you any ape fans who are looking for a pen friend? If so, please tell them I’m available. 4. Do you think I could have an autograph of Zira and Cornelius?

Your mags are fantastic, “Dracula Lives”, “Spiderman” and “Hulk” are pretty good, but this one is way-out, man.

Kris Hayde, 55 Whitmore Rd, Beckenham, Kent.

We’re glad you found us, Kris—even though you had to take a trip right across the globe to do so! But what’s a few thousand miles? Now, let’s turn a few of your hopes to reality. Sure you’re a KOF, and as from now you’ll also be a QNS. What news to take back with you to the Southern Hemisphere! 2. But we DO! We export our many mags to wherever we can get ‘em—and that includes New Zealand. So-o-o-o, when you get back home start searching', Kris. 3. Our “Planet of The Apes” fans are among the most enthusiastic pen-friend hunters we know of. But how’re they gonna write to you since your didn’t put your New Zealand address? Maybe if they write to the Beckenham address the mail will be sent on, huh? 4. Lastly, we never enjoy ending a reply with a disappointment—but we don’t have any autographs of Zira and Cornelius to send. But you’ll forgive us, won’t you?

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