

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

I.M.A.N.C.©1976 MARVEL COMICS INTERNATIONAL LTD.



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

No.73

WEEK ENDING
MAR 13 1976

8p

PLANET OF THE APES



ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE ^{IN THE} PENULTIMATE CHAPTER OF
CONQUEST of the **PLANET** of the **APES!**

HAIL CAESAR! HAIL THE KING!

THERE IS CONFUSION THIS DARK NIGHT, A SWARM OF CHAOS WRAPPED IN SHRILL ALARMS AND GARISHLY SWEEPING SEARCHLIGHTS... AN EXPLOSION OF EMOTIONS RANGING FROM PANIC AND FEAR TO EXUBERANCE AND WRATH...

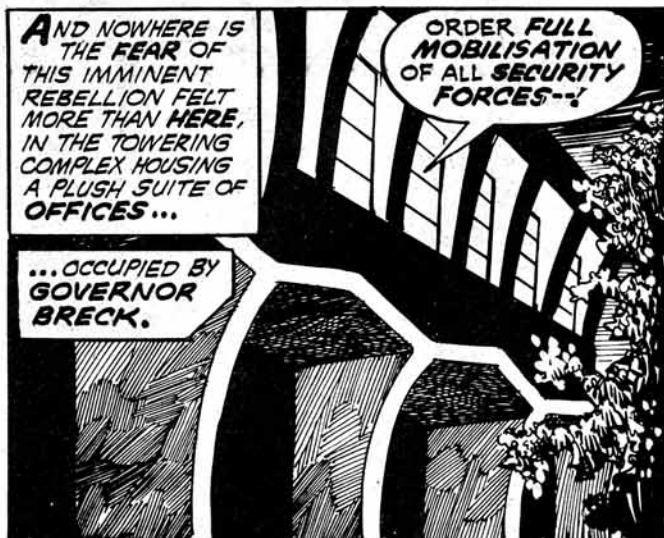
SOME WOULD CALL IT A DISORGANISED RIOT... A FORM OF PANDEMONIUM AKIN TO THAT INSPIRED BY FIRE RAGING UNCONTROLLED THROUGH A MENAGERIE OR ZOO.

AND OTHERS WOULD SWEAR IT IS FAR MORE THAN THAT-- SOMETHING TANTAMOUNT TO AN UPRISING, AN ANGRY REVOLT... A FULLY COORDINATED AND RUTHLESSLY ORGANISED PRISON BREAK.

ONE OF THOSE OTHERS IS CAESAR, THE INTELLIGENT APE WHO HAS ENGINEERED THE ESCAPE, WHO HAS SUNDERED THE SHACKLES OF OPPRESSION... AND WHO NOW LEADS HIS ENRAGED FELLOWS INTO THE CITY...

... INTO OPEN, BLOODY REBELLION.





AND NOWHERE IS THE FEAR OF THIS IMMINENT REBELLION FELT MORE THAN HERE, IN THE TOWERING COMPLEX HOUSING A PLUSH SUITE OF OFFICES...

ORDER FULL MOBILISATION OF ALL SECURITY FORCES--!

...OCCUPIED BY GOVERNOR BRECK.



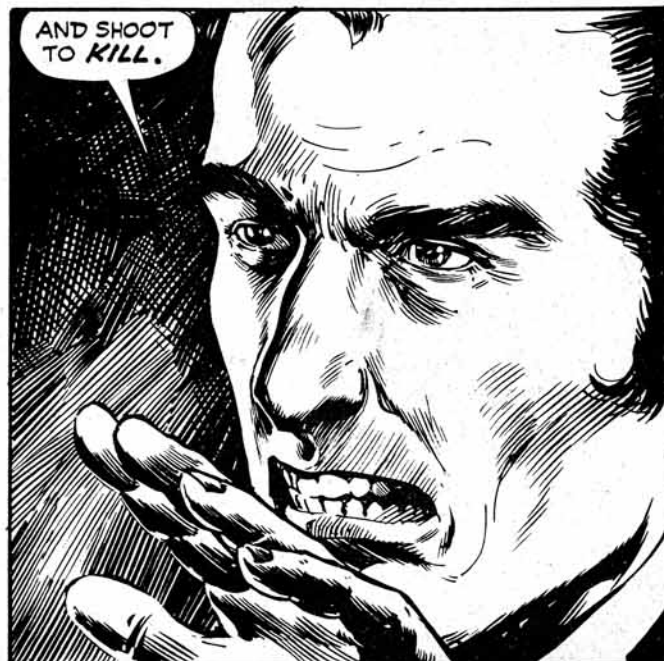
-- AND THAT INCLUDES THE POLICE, MILITIA, AND ALL RESERVE DEFENCE UNITS.

YES, SIR. ARE CONTROL METHODS TO INCLUDE THE USE OF TEAR GAS AND SEDATION DARTS?



THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE CONTROL METHOD.

SHOOT EVERY APE ON SIGHT--!



AND SHOOT TO KILL.



BUT EVEN AS THE POLICE FEVERISHLY WORK TO CORDON OFF EVERY ENTRANCE INTO THE CITY--

-- CAESAR LEADS THE APES INTO A SELDOM USED BUILDING DEEP WITHIN THE METROPOLIS...



... A BUILDING WHOSE DINGY BASEMENT HAS LONG BEEN RESTRICTED TO FORMER "SERVANTS..."

... AND WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN OCCUPIED BY ONE WHO WILL NOT ACCEPT A FATE OF MINDLESS SERVICE...



... AND WHO HAS TRANSFORMED IT INTO A SECRET ARSENAL OF IMPROVISED WEAPONRY.



THE APES ACCEPT THE LETHAL IMPLEMENTS READILY... ALMOST GREEDILY...

HERE. TAKE.



... AND GREED SOON SHATTERS PATIENCE, AS THE APES PRESS FORWARD TO SNATCH AT THE WEAPONS.

ALL RIGHT-- GO AHEAD AND GRAB IF YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR ORDERLY DISPENSATION...

BUT I'M WARNING YOU-- IN THE FUTURE YOU'LL LEARN SOME MANNERS.



NOW--THE KEROSENE CANS...

TAKE THEM TO THE CIVIC CENTRE --



"-- AND PLACE THEM WHERE I SHOWED YOU..."

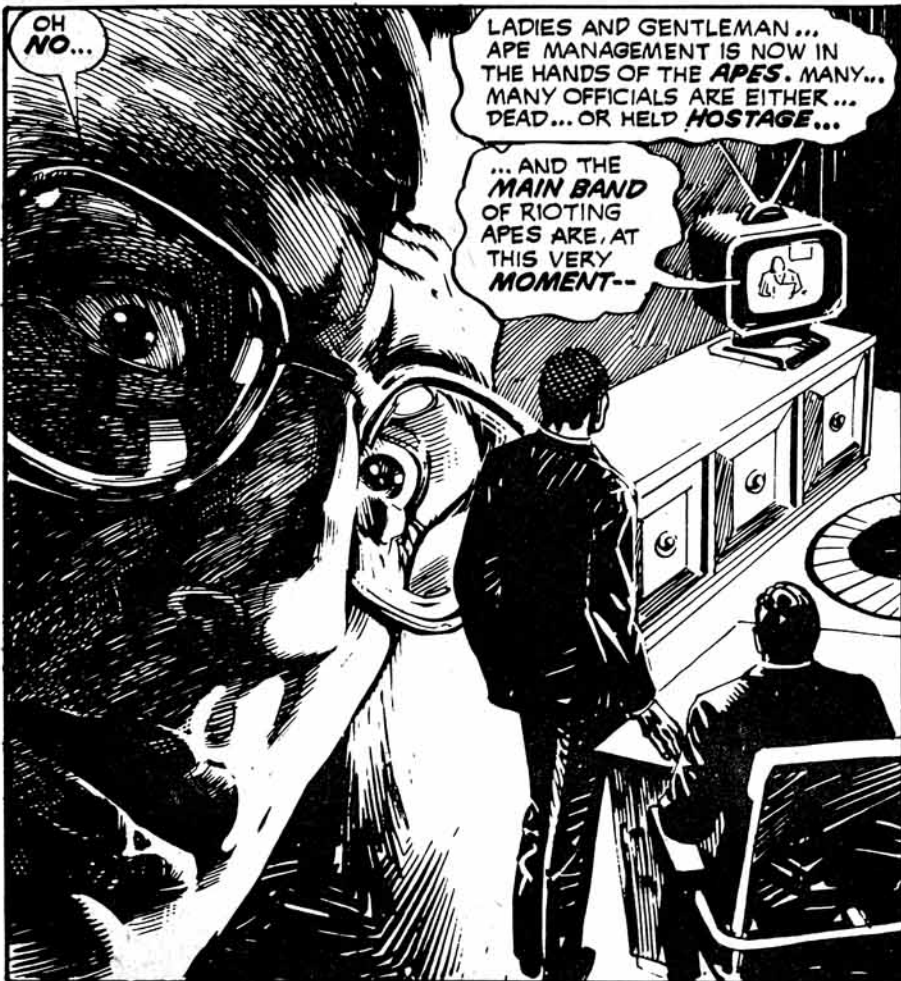
"... WITHOUT BEING SEEN."

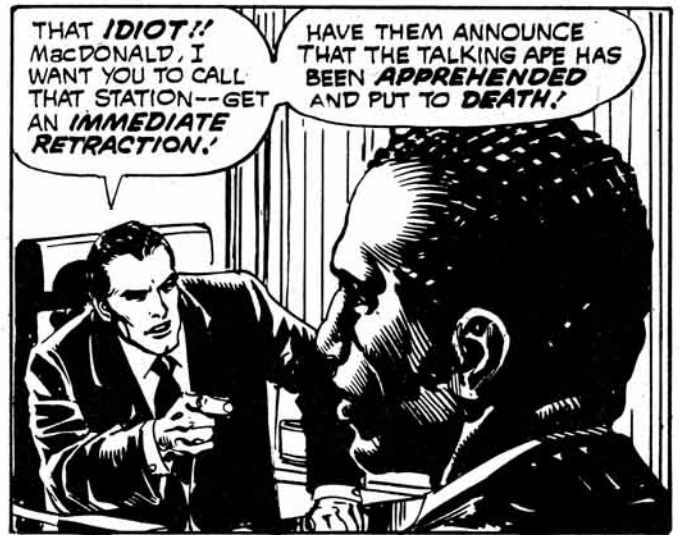


... AND WE REPEAT: A SMALL MIXED GROUP OF APES SCHEDULED FOR RE-CONDITIONING--



-- HAVE ESCAPED FROM THEIR DETENTION QUARTERS AT THE APE MANAGEMENT COMPLEX...





NOW THE EERIE HUSH OF EVACUATED STREETS BEGINS TO ASSUME AN **OMINOUS FORBODING** AS POLICE AND FIREMAN STAND **TENSELY**, PEERING INTO THE **GLOOM...**



... WAITING ...



... WAITING ...



... WAITING FOR SOMETHING WHICH HAS NEVER OCCURED IN HISTORY BEFORE ...



... WAITING FOR A PITCHED BATTLE LAUNCHED BY FORMER SERVANTS ...



... BY THE APES ...

ALL RIGHT... QUIET NOW...



SEEMS DESERTED THIS WAY... SAFE ENOUGH...

COME.

YES... DESERTED... EXCEPT FOR A LONE ROOFTOP POLICE SNIPER...



REACHING A BUILDING, CAESAR PAUSES, CONTEMPLATES, DIRECTION...



... THEN DECISIVELY SHIFTS COURSE TO THE SIDE ...



... AS THE SNIPER FIRES ...



... AND A GORILLA PITCHES FORWARD IN DEATH, THE BULLET MEANT FOR CAESAR LODGED IN HIS HEART.



THUS, HIS LIFE SAVED BY INSTINCT, CAESAR NOW LEADS HIS FORCE OF APES IN RETREAT DEEPER INTO THE CITY...



THE REVERBERATING ECHO OF THE RIFLE SHOT STILL RINGS THROUGH THE AIR ...

... AND IS HEARD ELSEWHERE
IN THE DESERTED CITY...



... BY A GROUP OF APES
STATIONED AT THE CIVIC
CENTRE ...



... BY APES WHO HAVE BEEN
WAITING TO ACT.



RETURNING HOME UPON RECEIVING ORDERS TO EVACUATE THE **STREETS** MANY (IF NOT ALL) CITIZENS WILL BE PERTURBED TO FIND THEIR SERVANTS AND MAIDS **MISSING**... AND WILL WONDER WHERE THE APES HAVE GONE...



THEY WILL SOON FIND OUT.

THE GROWING FLAMES LEAP HIGHER OVER THE CIVIC CENTER, SPREAD TO BUILDINGS, FLICKER ABOVE ROOFTOPS... AND SHOW THEMSELVES TO THE CITY EVERYWHERE...



... AND EVERYWHERE, SERVANTS AND MAIDS POUR FORTH FROM THE **SHADOWS**. THEY HAVE SEEN THE LURIDLY BLAZING SIGNAL...

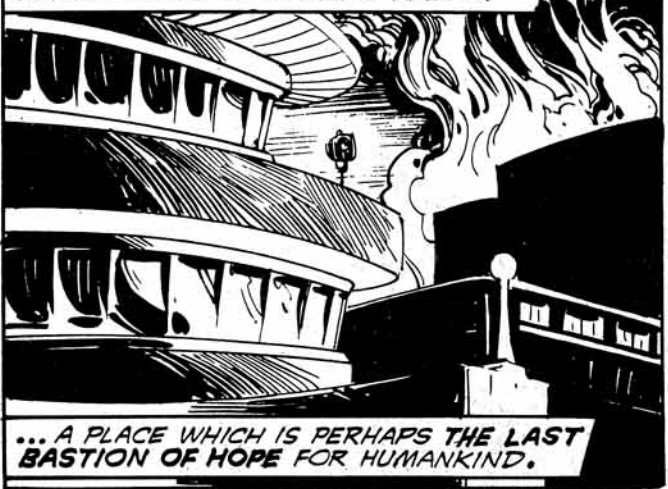
... AND THEY SURGE FORWARD TO **ANSWER** IT, GATHERING FORCE WITH EVERY PASSED **STREET CORNER**, COALESCING INTO A ROLLING TIDE OF **INEXORABLE RAGE**...







THE GOVERNOR'S COMMAND POST: LOCATED IN ONE SECTION OF THE STRICKEN CITY WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RAVAGED BY THE BERSERK MOB OF HOWLING APES...



... A PLACE WHICH IS PERHAPS THE LAST BASTION OF HOPE FOR HUMAN KIND.

RIOT CONTROL REPORTS THAT THE APES HAVE BROKEN THROUGH THE OUTER CORDON, MR. GOVERNOR. THERE ARE ALSO INDICATIONS OF SPORADIC FIRES...





THOSE STINKING ANIMALS ARE BURNING THE CITY DOWN AND ALL I GET ARE INDICATIONS--?!



WHY IN HELL DON'T I HEAR GUNFIRE OUT THERE??!

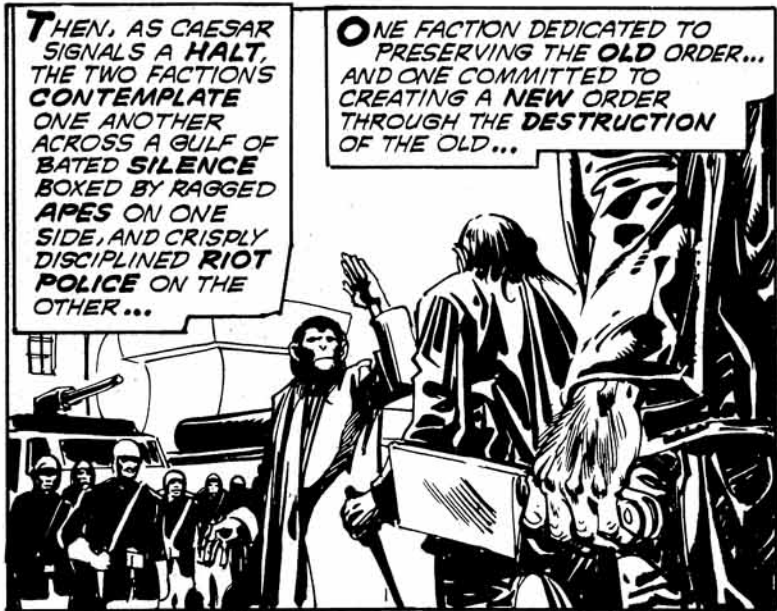


HERE THEY COME, SIR. SHOULD WE OPEN FIRE...?

NOT YET...



I'LL TRY TO... "REASON" WITH THEM FIRST...



THEN, AS CAESAR SIGNALS A HALT, THE TWO FACTIONS CONTEMPLATE ONE ANOTHER ACROSS A GULF OF BATED SILENCE BOXED BY RAGGED APES ON ONE SIDE, AND CRISPLY DISCIPLINED RIOT POLICE ON THE OTHER...

ONE FACTION DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE OLD ORDER... AND ONE COMMITTED TO CREATING A NEW ORDER THROUGH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE OLD...



THE RIOT SQUAD COMMANDER STEPS FORWARD, RENDING THE SILENCE WITH A SINGLE WORD...

NO!

IT IS A WORD THE APES HAVE OFTEN HEARD IN THE PAST...

