

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



**MARVEL**  
COMICS  
GROUP

NO. 79

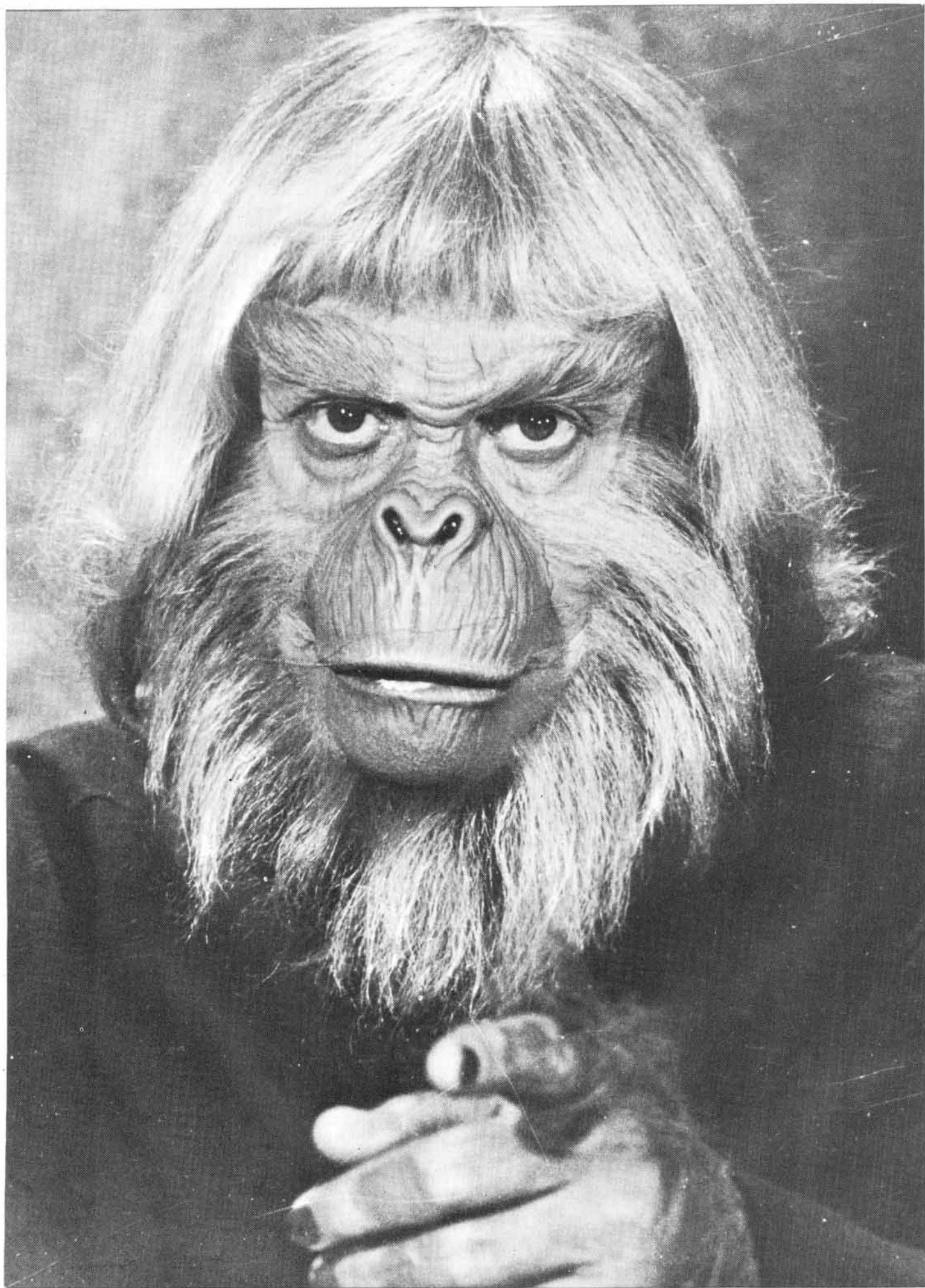
WEEK ENDING  
APRIL 24, 1976

8p

# PLANET OF THE APES







# WHEN THE LAWGIVER RETURNS...

THEY SEEM TO GLOW UNDER THE SOFT MOONLIGHT, THESE CRAGGY DWELLINGS OF SUN-DRIED CLAY, AS THOUGH EMANATING A COOL NIMBUS OF SOLIDITY AND TIMELESS PEACE...

UPON CLOSER INSPECTION, HOWEVER, THE MANTLE OF PEACE GROWS TRANSPARENT--REVEALING A MERE ILLUSION CAST BY SOMBER DARKNESS AND EERIE DESOLATION...

I...I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, PHAITON...

AS MY OFFICIAL SCRIBE, YOU MUST HELP ME--BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...!

HUMAN RIGHTS

END GIRILLA TERRORISM

STOP THE PERSECUTION OF HUMANS

NOWHERE IS THE ILLUSION OF PEACE MORE TRANSPARENT THAN IN THE AVENUE LEADING TO THE CITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING... WHERE DESOLATION IS SPOILED BY THE DISCARDED REMNANTS OF NOW SLUMBERING ANGER.





BUT *HOW* MAY I HELP YOU, XAVIER?  
AS *SCRIBE*, IT IS MY DUTY TO  
*RECORD* THE EVENTS OF THE CITY...

...NOT TO  
*CONTROL*  
THEM.

I... I  
*KNOW*  
THAT,  
PHAITON...

...BUT PERHAPS  
YOU COULD  
*COUNSEL* ME...



I HAVE WATCHED THE  
TROUBLE *GROW*, XAVIER,  
AND I HAVE RECORDED  
ITS *PROGRESS*. BUT I  
STILL DO NOT *UNDER-*  
*STAND* IT.

IT IS NOT MY PROBLEM.



BUT IT IS *MINE*. THE *LAWGIVER*  
APPOINTED ME TO *GOVERN* THE  
CITY IN HIS *ABSENCE*... BUT FROM  
THE VERY MOMENT HE *LEFT*, THE  
GOVERNMENT HAS *FAILED* TO  
KEEP THE PEACE. I HAVE  
*FAILED*...

I HAVE DONE LITTLE MORE THAN  
*WATCH*, AND *FRET*, AS THE SITUATION  
BECOMES *WORSE* WITH EACH PASSING  
DAY. HOW LONG BEFORE THERE IS  
*OPEN HOSTILITY* BETWEEN OUR  
CITIZENS...?

HOW LONG BEFORE A *SINGLE*  
*INCIDENT* FLARES INTO *CIVIL DISOBE-*  
*DIENCE* AND *ULTIMATE STRIFE*?



NOT LONG AT *ALL*, XAVIER--  
IF YOU DO NOT HALT IT *NOW*.

IS IT NOT THE  
*HUMANS* WHO  
ARE CAUSING  
THE GREATEST  
*DISTURBANCE*...?

YES...YES, OF  
COURSE IT IS.  
BUT WHAT IF  
THERE IS A  
*BASIS* FOR  
THEIR PROTESTS?

PERHAPS THEY ARE  
BEING MISTREATED...



AT *THIS* POINT, THAT  
IS NOT THE *ISSUE*,  
XAVIER. YOU ARE THE  
CITY'S *ADMINISTRATOR*. IT IS YOUR DUTY  
TO PUT AN *END* TO  
THE DISTURBANCES

YES... BUT AT THE  
COST OF *ALIENATING*  
THE *HUMANS* FURTHER...?  
AT THE COST OF POS-  
SIBLE *INJUSTICE*?



THAT IS A QUESTION FOR  
YOUR DECISION, XAVIER.  
BUT REMEMBER THAT YOU  
ARE ABOVE ALL AN *APE*...  
AND THAT IF THE *HUMANS*  
ARE ALLOWED TO *CONTINUE*  
THEIR PROTESTS, THE ONLY  
POSSIBLE RESULT IS *WAR*.  
IN SUCH EVENT, WHICH SIDE  
WILL YOU *TAKE*...?

I WILL LEAVE  
YOU NOW, TO  
*PONDER* THE  
QUESTION...

GOOD NIGHT,  
XAVIER... AND  
DECIDE WITH  
*CARE*.



THE DOOR CLOSSES  
QUIETLY, SEALING XAVIER  
ALONE WITH HIS DESPAIR...

IF ONLY THE *LAWGIVER*  
WOULD RETURN... OR  
PEACE OFFICER *BRUTUS*...

A MOMENT MORE OF  
SILENCE AND *THOUGHT*...



THEN, THE RAPID DRUMMING  
OF MANY *HOOVES*... THE  
LURID GLAZE OF TORCHES  
BURNING DARKNESS...

WHO...WHO  
CAN IT BE... AT  
THIS *HOUR*...?







AND XAVIER CRUMPLES AT THE FEET OF TERROR...  
HIS DECISION NOW MADE...

DAWN BEYOND THE FORBIDDEN ZONE: WHERE A RIVERBOAT NAMED SIMIAN PLIES MURKY WATERS LAID OPAQUE BY THE RISING SUN...



WAL, STEELY DAN, THAT THERE'S TH' END O' THE RIVER. LOOKS LIKE YOU KIN GIVE YORE SHOULDERS A REST NOW...

...LESS'N YOU WANT TUH POLE THE SIMIAN CLEAR THROUGH THAT WEIRD SPOOK-GROUND O' PURPLE MIST.

NO THANKY, GUNPOWDER JULIUS--THREE DAYS AGAINST THE RIVER-CURRENT IS ENOUGH FER ME.



BYE-BYE, MALAGUENA... TRIPPO MISS YOU... MISS YOU MUCH-MUCH...

I'LL MISS YOU TOO, TRIPPO... MORE THAN I EVER THOUGHT I COULD.

NOW, JASON-BOY, I WANT YUH TUH TAKE GOOD CARE O' LITTLE MISS MALAGUENA...

SHE'S A RIGHT PURTY GAL, SHE IS... PURTIEST ONE I'VE EVER SEEN ALL UP AN' DOWN THIS HERE MIGHTY RIVER.

YEAH... I KNOW, JULIUS.



JULIUS, WILL YOU PROMISE TO BE GOOD TO TRIPPO...? EVER SINCE SARABAND DIED...

WELL, HE'S NEVER BEEN ALONE BEFORE...

DON'T YOU WORRY NONE ABOUT THE FEISTY LIL VARMINT. ME AN' DAN GET COCKEYED BORED WITH NO ONE BUT EACH OTHER TO CUSS OUT ALL DAY LONG. BE A RIGHT PLEASURE TO HAVE TRIPPO ABOARD... RIGHT, LIL FELLER?

ME TAKE CARE TRIPPO...NOT NEED HELP...TRIPPO TAKE CARE TRIPPO...



WATCH OUT FER THET ARM O' YORES, LAWGIVER--AIN'T COMPLETELY HEALED YET, Y'KNOW.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN, STEELY DAN.

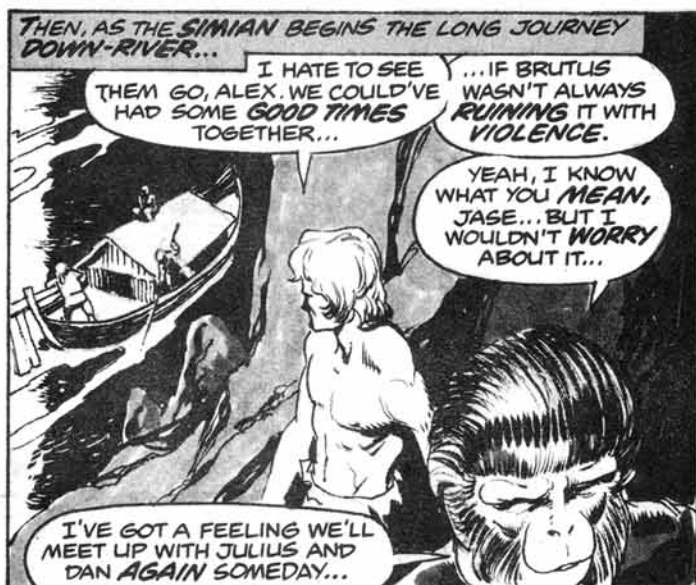


NOW THEN, FOLKS, THIS HERE'S YORE LAST CHANCE. YUH SHORE YUH DON'T WANT US TUH LEAVE TH' SIMIAN HERE AN' GO WITH YUH ALL THE WAY--?

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, JULIUS. OUR TROUBLES WILL END JUST AS SOON AS WE GET THE LAWGIVER BACK TO THE CITY.

I'M NOT AS SURE ABOUT THAT AS ALEX IS, BUT I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE ALREADY DONE, JULIUS...AND YOU TOO, DAN.









LATE AFTERNOON: FOUR WEARY FIGURES FINALLY EMERGE FROM THE RADIATION-SMOTHERED FORBIDDEN ZONE... AND, AS ONE, THEY LOOK TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP...







...AND THE OUTCOME IS A VICTORY FOR HOPE, AND THE BEGINNING OF A BIZARRE TREK BACK TOWARD LINGERING UNCERTAINTY...



SOON, THE CITY LOOMS IN THE NEAR DISTANCE, ONCE AGAIN EVOKING AN ILLUSION OF TRANQUILITY AND PEACE...



...SHREDDED BY THE SHARP EDGE OF INTERNAL CONFLICT...

BACK OFF--!  
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO  
BOXED US INTO THIS  
END OF THE CITY--!

NOW YOU CAN JUST  
LEAVE US ALONE  
AND GO BACK TO  
YOUR OWN  
SECTOR--!!



RIGHTEOUS WORDS TO  
BE COMING FROM THE  
MOUTH OF A MURDERER--!!

I SAY FLAY  
THEIR HAIRLESS  
HIDES AND LEAVE  
THEIR MEAT FOR  
THE SCAVENGERS!!

IT'S APES LIKE YOU WHO ARE  
THE MURDERERS AND YOU KNOW  
IT! YOU'RE USING XAVIER AS  
AN EXCUSE TO FIGHT!

AND IF THAT'S WHAT  
YOU WANT, YOU DON'T  
NEED AN EXCUSE!  
WE'RE READY AND  
WILLING ANY TIME AND  
ANY PLACE--!

YEAH--  
LIKE RIGHT  
HERE AND  
RIGHT NOW!!



THEN, AS CONFRONTATION THREATENS TO CLOSE IN VIOLENCE--



I COMMAND YOU TO STOP-- ALL OF YOU!!

WHO--?!

THE LAWGIVER--!!

I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MY DEPARTURE RAISED CRITICISM AMONG YOU-- FOR IT OCCURRED AT A TIME WHEN THE SEED OF UNREST WAS JUST BEGINNING TO BLOSSOM INTO THE WEED OF HATE--!!

BUT THAT IS PRECISELY WHY I CHOSE THAT TIME TO LEAVE-- FOR I KNEW THAT THE GROWTH OF HATE WAS BEING COAXED FORTH BY AN OUTSIDE AGENCY-- BY MUTANTS DWELLING IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE-- AND BY ONE OTHER HERE WITHIN OUR CITY...!



YET EVEN IF THE GROWTH OF HATE WAS NURTURED BY AN OUTSIDE FORCE, I NOW SEE THAT THE SEED WAS EVER PRESENT-- WITHIN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU-- WAITING, JUST WAITING TO SPRING INTO HIDEOUS LIFE!!

I WILL SPEAK MORE ON THIS TONIGHT-- IN A FORMAL SPEECH. FOR NOW, I ORDER YOU TO DISPERSE! TAKE YOUR HATRED AND RETURN TO YOUR HOMES! AND HATE YOURSELVES IF HATE YOU MUST--



FOR THERE IS NONE MORE DESERVING OF IT.

NOW GO!!

YES-- THE LAWGIVER-- RETURNED FROM A MISSION OF PEACE TO FIND HIS OWN CITY VERGING ON THE TURMOIL OF WAR--!!

YES, I AM THE LAW-GIVER-- AND I AM DIS-GUSTED! THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THE WORDS AND THE HATRED YOU HAVE TRADED TODAY-- TRADED, I SUSPECT, EVERY DAY I HAVE BEEN GONE!



WHEN I LEFT YOU, I REQUESTED THAT YOU RESPECT THE DOCTRINES OF PEACE IN MY ABSENCE-- THAT YOU ADHERE TO THE STATE OF COEXISTENCE BETWEEN OUR TWO SPECIES--!

NOW I RETURN TO FIND THIS-- AND I AM SHAMED-- SHAMED BY ALL OF YOU!!



THE CROWD STIRS IN UNEASY SILENCE, NERVOUS AND INTIMIDATED UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE LAWGIVER'S WRATH. EVENTUALLY THEY OBEY HIS SHRILL COMMAND...



...BUT EVEN AS THEY LEAVE, THERE ARE SOME WHO EXCHANGE DARK GLANCES OF MERELY REPPRESSED MENACE...



# APES FORUM

Dear Bullpen (I have no favourites)

The first thing I would like to do is give my opinion on the current Old or New covers argument. For me the old covers are definitely IN. They allowed better use of colours and made the mags look better. Could you please stop printing those ridiculous adverts that always seem to pop up in your Marvel comics Mart? Adverts that offer to pay 5p for MWOM ish 1, POTA 15 for SMCW No. 1 and so on. Surely any serious comic reader must realise that early issues of certain mags are worth much more than their original cover-price? 3 early Avengers issues, for example, have swapped hands in my school for £2.50. While in London recently, my dad met Charles Murray, a keen comic collector who writes for the New Musical Express. He told my dad that to buy the 1st 100 issues of Fantastic Four would cost you £3,000!

My advice to comic collectors who want to fill-in gaps in their collections is to look around second-hand book-shops where you can pick up some real bargains.

In last week's Sunday Observer, I read about Stan visiting Jim Campbell's shop in London. I order comics every month from Jim, and he has some really good buys.

Mark Carricker, RFO, KOF  
Lancaster, Lancs.

*Tolerance, Mark. Tolerance, because not every Marvelite appreciates the market values of those early issues as keenly as you do. But give 'em a little time, and they'll become as Marvel-educated as the best. You're right in all you say, of course, but maybe we ought to make it clear that the 100 FF issues you were referring to would be the American issues. And that's going back quite a while.*

Dear All Stars Who are Working on Marvel Mags,

YUK! YUK! After you've read this piece of scrappy writing Hang Loose, Stan. S'pose ya think I'm gonna clobber ya, well I'm not. You're gonna clobber me, cause I haveta tell ya that I never got down to sending away for any superb Marvel mag offers (posters, shirt transfers, etc.), and oh, my—not even FOOM. In my scrappy piggy bank I've got at least 70 pence in a cold dusty corner, but I suppose next time fabulous Foom-time comes around it'll be either seventy-five or eighty pence. Ah, no! I don't have enuff! But through my three years of pain and hardship I've collected over 200 Marvels, American and British, and I'm gonna knock myself out over your latest super team-up Cor Man, SUPERMAN and SPIDERMAN. Since Power comics, your office has earned a lot of publicity, and I'm crying in my corner cause I wanna join Foom. Stan—tell my dainty ears I can still get a Foom kit from some dark corner of the Bullpen.

Comment time. POTA 64. Smart story from Doug Moench and Alfredo Alcalá, and Avengers No. 121 Conan has gone better with Roy Thomas as Ed. (No offence, Stanley ol' man.) SMCW ish 150, Spidey's the best with Stan Lee as Ed, and John Romita's art's smart. Not to mention Super-Heroes 44, scarecrow story fairly good, Ruben Yandoc's art's good as nought, so thus would say Thor. Last but not least, Dracula Lives 63, artists Gene Colan and Tom Palmer are smart, and Gene Colan's smart's art's goody smart. Yuk. And Marv Wolfman's writing's smart. See ya, and happy landings!

David Searles,  
Milnrow, Nr. Rochdale.

*So your heart's aching to be there for the next FOOM BOOM, huh? Well, here's what you have to do. Just keep watching this space (and the space we're talking about could be anywhere in the mag) and just as soon as we figure you're off-guard we're gonna sneak in a FOOM enrolment form. What YOU have to do is keep one or two eyes sufficiently open to spot what we're up to. The you haveta MOVE, man! And we mean MOVE! You've gotta fill in that form and rush it to us while the ink's still wet. We're not making any promises, mark you. But you could just be lucky. It's been known to happen!*

Dear Stan,

While I was looking at this week's TV Times I found that PLANET OF THE APES is back on TV with a new series. It is called "Return to The Planet of The Apes" and is on TV on Thursday at 4.50 and is half an hour long. The first episode is entitled "Flames of Doom" and is about three astronauts who land on an unknown Planet. Of course, they discover that the planet is ruled by Apes. By the time this is printed in your mag most people will know about it. This letter is mainly for people who don't get the TV Times.

The Greatest Ape fan in the World,  
Rotherham, Yorks.

*Wouldya believe that sensational news HAS found its way around since you penned that letter, hero. (Just can't keep ANYTHING secret these days.) But accept thanks from us for your Marvel-spirited action!*

Dear Marvel,

BEYOND ANTARES.

I have noticed, recently, that considerable numbers of your readers have expressed interest in various aspects of science-fiction. I would be very grateful, therefore, if you could mention the club I am running.

The BEYOND ANTARES club is concerned with everything and anything to do with Science Fiction, especially on TV and in the cinema. Anyone can join and membership is entirely free, my only condition being that a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed when writing. A few examples of the club's activities are as follows:—

A newsletter containing brief articles, reviews, news, competitions etc., correspondence, chat-box. Readers' questions will be answered and pen-pals put in touch with each other. I also hope to be able to contact other clubs. Applicants need only write to me at 41 Cedar Avenue, Torbrex, Stirling, Scotland FK8 2PQ.

Ian Garbutt.

*Any club with a name like "Beyond Antares" deserves support. So you're in our pages, Ian. Er — how about a sample copy of the newsletter some time?*





Dear Stan,

Cor! Aren't we lucky over here, because on London Weekend Television on Saturdays there's a cartoon version of Planet of The Apes. It's called "Return to the Planet of The Apes" and it's fantastic. Also, we've just had the re-run of the "Planet of The Apes" series.

If people in other areas write to the TV stations maybe they'll be lucky enough to see the Apes back in action, too.

I did not think much of The Scarecrow and the "Bloodstone the Monster Slayer", but I do like Giant-man and The Thing.

Uran Goyal,  
East Ham, London E6.

*Your letter could be an inspiration to deprived Ape-lovers everywhere, tiger!*

Dear Stan,

After reading Apes Forum in issue 65 I was shocked. Peter Labrow stated that the covers of POTA are, quote, "horrible". The covers of POTA are sometimes the best part of the mags. They may sometimes be a bit off, but consider all the work on the other mags as well as POTA.

So I think Peter Labrow is making a mountain out of a mole-hill, and if he dares write again I hope you will publish his letter as I would like to hear what he has to say. LONG LIVE "THE PLANET OF THE APES".

John Caddick,  
55a Hardwick Rd., Eynesbury,  
St. Neots, Cambs.

*In the red corner, Pete Labrow. In the blue corner, John Caddick...*

Dear Stan and Crew,

My brother Michael gets your mag "Planet of The Apes" each week, and our entire family, including mum and dad, enjoys the TV series and the two films that we have seen. Also, of course, your mag. It's great! I especially like reading "Apes Forum" and have noticed that several people have written to you, asking if anyone has any spare POTA bubble-gum cards. Well, I have!

So if anyone wants them all they have to do is send a stamped addressed envelope to me, along with a note saying which ones they want. I don't need or want these cards as I already have a complete set, and I don't want anything for them, either.

Keep up the good work on your fantastic mag!

Wendy Bosberry,  
6 Fareham Park Rd., Hill Park, Fareham,  
Hants.

*In case anyone hasn't yet noticed, this really IS the Magnificent age of Marvel Magnanimity!*

Dear Marvel,

An idea. Howsabout reprinting some U.S.A. black and white material? This would give added splendour to your already stupendous mags. Perhaps to strips such as Conan, Kazar, Kull, Dracula, etc.

The art from these B/W monthlies is drawn FOR black and white mags. It should, therefore have more technique, detail and individual skill. So please think about it.

Onwards. Okay, so now you've published a horror mag, sword and sorcery mag, a science-fiction mag and various Superhero mags. So why not bring out a humour mag? In this you could star the one-and-only HOWARD THE DUCK, the cigar-loving, Cleveland-based adventurer. I'm sure you can find suitable back-up material.

I agree with 'what's-his-name' who said that American letter-writers are more mature than British letter-writers. For a start, Marvel in America is aimed at a higher, more mature age-group than Marvel in Britain. So-o-o-o... I guess I'll sign off with those now immortal words, first spoken by M.S. Kingscott: "Howard the Duck Rules!"

M.S. Kingscott, QNS.  
Workington.

*We agree with most of the arguments you put in favour of us reprinting material from the U.S. Black and Whites. Which is why we've already had such material appearing in*

*some of our British mags, particularly in Planet of The Apes. And more will follow - if for no other reason that we're far too economical to allow it to go to waste! AND we've had Howard the D. under the microscope for possible use in Britain for quite some time. So, a little patience, and all kinds of things could be happening!*

Dear Stan and Gang,

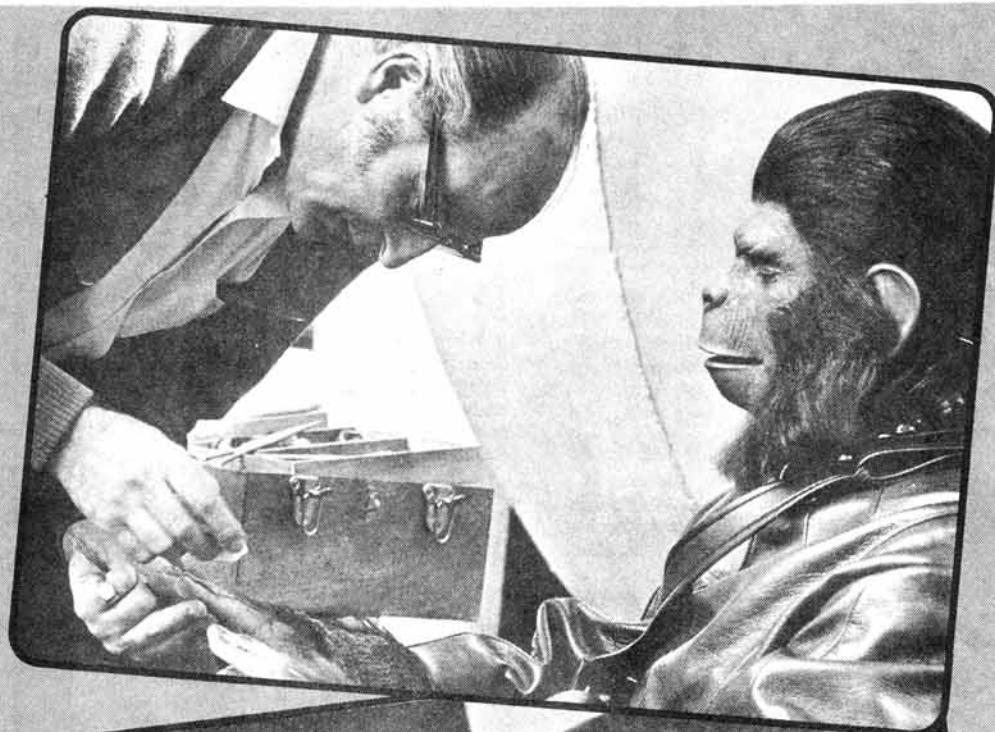
First of all, congrats on your adaptation of "Conquest on the Planet of The Apes". (Chapter 6 already? Doesn't time fly when you're onto a good thing!) Your choice of Alfredo Alcalá as artist was a good one, but as he did "Beneath..." I really think you should have another artist for this one. Oh yeah, speaking of artists, any chance of Jack Kirby drawing an "Apes" story in the future? I, and I'm sure many other readers, would love to see his interpretation of the apes. Also, the British covers are improving, and you seem to be reprinting quite a few American covers on the "Apes" mag. But what I really want to ask is this. Do you intend to do anything on "Jaws"? After seeing it twice I can really say it must be one of the best movies ever made, and after seeing what you did with the "Apes" movies, I'm sure you could do a fantastic adaptation of it.

Tim Briggs,  
7 Holly Parade, Feltham, Middx.

*Thanks for the bouquets you've tossed our way for "Planet". We'd dearly like to show our gratitude by telling you that Jack Kirby will immediately be switched to the drawing chores. But, with our forward planning already laid out, we have to break the news that the chances of Jack exercising his unique talents on an apes series are slim indeed. And equally slim are any hopes of us being able to run "Jaws" as a picture serial. The cost of obtaining the rights would probably put us into the red for the next decade!*







ON THE  
SET.

SCENES  
FROM THE  
MAKING OF  
THE FILM.

