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KING KONG

SPECIAL PHOTO FILMBOOK ISSUE

BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES

where men & manapes
die like cattle...

long "battle" lines

IT looked like one of those legendary lines snaking round the block and queuing up to see **THE EXORCIST** if you lived in a big city the day they had the fantastic quintuple play of all 5 of the supersimian sagas:

The original **PLANET OF THE APES**.

The mutant-menaced doings **BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES**.

The humor-laced **ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES** till the heart-rending ending with the brutal murders of Zira & Cornelius. (It was reminiscent, for moms & pops, of **TARZAN'S NEW YORK ADVENTURE** of a quarter century earlier, from the comedic hotel scenes to Tarzan & Jane in the courtroom.)

The violent **CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES**, with its half-hour climax of riflebutts & blowtorches, bullets & blood.

And then, the last of the series, **THE BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES** with its ferocious finale of manapes & mutants in mortal combat.

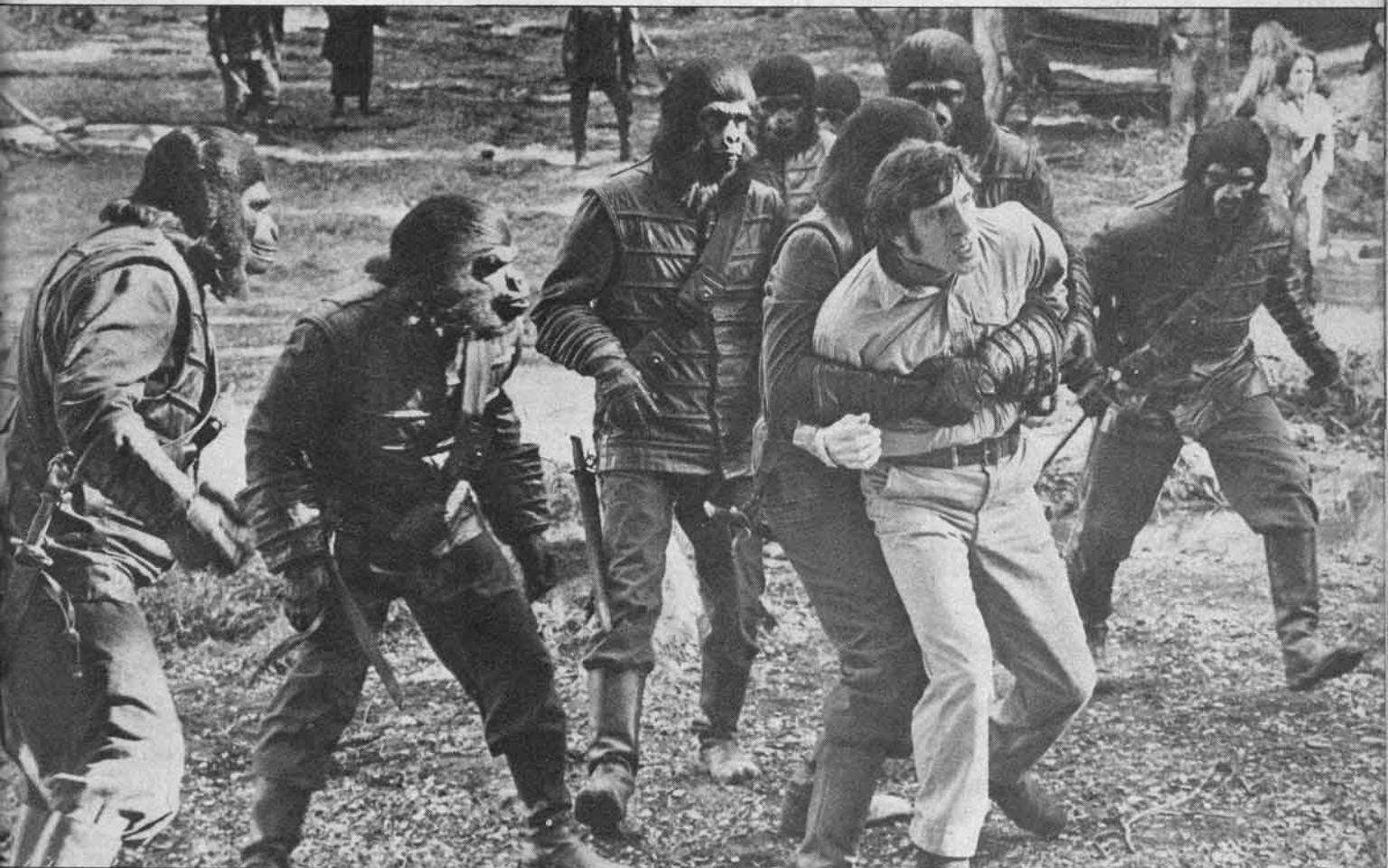
In all, approximately 6 hours of the Ape Epic!

hail, caesar!

When Zira & Cornelius were killed in **ESCAPE**, they left behind a legacy of leadership in their infant son Caesar (Roddy McDowall), who was recognized for what he was by the kindly circus owner Armando (Ricardo Montalban) and raised to apehood. Caesar led his enslaved ape-people in a rebellion against the human masters and, after the race of man had been bested by the beastmen, Caesar reversed his role from that of battle commander to peacelord. A kind of Perry Rhodan of the Ape People.



In the arsenal of the apes, Mandemus, Virgil & MacDonald arm themselves to fight.



WHEN APES "APE" MAN'S MILITANCY



journey to the city of the dead

In the future time when BATTLE takes place, the Mutant City with which we have become familiar in previous pictures is now a place of ruins.

Devastated, destroyed by the God of War—who seems to wreak his destructive will upon manape as well as mankind.

Or man unkind.

Caesar has learned of the moldering mutant city and his natural monkey-like curiosity is aroused.

Is it possible old tape recordings might remain there?

Could he conceivably hear the voices of his dear dead parents, so cruelly butchered by men of an earlier time?

Or—a greater hope—perhaps he could even see his slaughtered mother & father!

How?

Via newsreel footage which may miraculously still remain in projectible form.

So Caesar starts out to seek out the mutant city.

3 heads better than 1

But Caesar does not undertake his exploration



Gorilla Leader Aldo (Claude Akins) drills his rebel troops.

alone.

With him go:

Virgil, a wise Orangutan played by Paul Williams.

And a black human friend, MacDonald (Austin Stokes).

the discovery

Some mutants are surviving underground.

When Caesar & his simian & human friend arrive at the city of the scarred & disfigured humans, tho their visit is intended as a peaceful one the main mutant there (leader Kolp played

by Severn Darden) reacts suspiciously.

"We must destroy the village of the apes before they decide to destroy us!" he tells his people.

aldo the ignorant

There is a subplot involving a stupid, belligerent gorilla (Aldo, played by Claude Akins).

The warlike gorilla creates a band of followers around him, intent on wresting Caesar's hard-won "kingdom" from him.

As if there were not enough tragedy in Caesar's life already, the life of his own son is taken

by Aldo.

behind the simian scenes

Veteran actor John Huston was the Lawgiver whose facial features were hard to disguise even behind John Chambers' masterful makeup and whose distinctive voice was heard to advantage as, in a flashforward to a future day, he was seen telling a generation to come the story of **THE BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES**. His listeners, a rapt audience of ape & human children. (The theater where I saw the picture

also had a mixture of both.)

Lew Ayres, who goes way back in imagi-movies to **DONOVAN'S BRAIN** in 1953, was seen as the apeman Mandemus.

It was, unfortunately, to be the last picture for its producer, Arthur P. Jacobs, whose death we had regretfully to announce in **FM #103**.

revenge of the apes

Young **FM** fan John Landis; who wrote, directed & played the incredible apeman in **SCHLOCK**; escaped typecasting by appearing



The gorilla guerillas prepare to attack the mutants.

as a *human* in *BATTLE*.

"Before I was thru with my part, tho," he confided to FM in an exclusive interview, "I was thinking nostalgically of the days when I was portraying a Schlockthropus."

FM: "Why, wasn't it awfully hot & uncomfortable in the suit Rick Baker created for you?"

Landis: "Yes, but at least they only shot fake bullets at me."

FM: "You mean the mutants shot *real* bullets at you in *BATTLE*?"

Landis: "No, but when I got mixed up with the rebel gorillas, my scenes got pretty violent. They were jumping on me, stomping me, grabbing me by my long hair—and that was just in the rehearsals!

only had Godzilla squashed me or King Kong had put his foot down on me like in one of the censored scenes in the native village which has now been put back but like the entire population of Tokyo and a few people in from the suburbs had run over me—and I don't mean with rickshaws."

FM: "Isn't it the Chinese who use rickshaws?"

Landis: "Don't get technical or I'll show you my kung fu chop."

FM: "With the price of meat what it is now days, it would be the first chop we've seen in months."

ape-pauling discovery

With 8000 people (?) milling around at the 1973



Underground survivors: Mendez & Alma, mutants, played by Paul Stevens and France Nuyen.

"A director never knows just how much violence he'll want in his completed cut or how much will be allowed by the time his film reaches the screen or if a toned-down version will be required for television so they shot my scenes several ways.

"Each more violent than the last!

"The European version was bad enough but when they shot it for Japan—"

FM: "Bloody, eh?"

Landis: "Well, let me ask you—have you ever seen *GODZILLA MEETS BAMBI*?"

FM: "You mean the short shown in the *Horror Hall of Fame* special recently on TV?"

Landis: "The same. When I struggled painfully to my feet after *that* scene, I felt like not

Star Trek Con in Los Angeles, you'd think it would be difficult if not impossible to recognize a face in the crowd but FM's argus eyes espied a female who looked familiar.

FM: "Pardon us—but haven't we seen you somewhere before?"

Paula Crist: "Did you see *BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES*?"

FM: "Of course."

Paula: "I was in it! One of the prisoners in the compound!"

So that makes 2 fans of FM who fought on the side of the humans in *BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES*!

PLANET OF THE APES

PLASTIC HOBBY KITS!

Now, there are four great PLANET OF THE APES plastic hobby kits. General Ursus, the brave gorilla leader who starred in **BE-NEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES**, and General Aldo, the rebellious monkey soldier from **BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES**, join the wizened orangutan Dr. Zaius and chimp scientist Cornelius as carefully molded collector's item models. All four kits are authentically detailed and lifelike, snap together easily, and have movable parts. Pose them in all kinds of exciting positions. Display them on your desk or shelves. But hurry! These dynamic kits are sure to be a sell-out. Order yours today!

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