



MAGGOG

8
JUN '10

GIFFEN
DERENICK
RAMOS

HUMAN SHIELD!



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**FEAR NOT!
MAGGOG'S BREAKING
HEADS IN THIS
ISSUE, TOO!**



I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK SUPERMAN HOW HE DOES IT; HOW HE MANAGES TO PINPOINT EXACTLY WHERE IN THE WORLD HE HAS TO BE AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT.

PROVIDED HE DOESN'T ORBIT ME WITH A LEFT HOOK.

YEAH, MY STANDING AMONG MY SO-CALLED PEERS HAS GOTTEN THAT BAD.

BREAKS MY HEART, THAT DOES.



TARGET 32 KILOMETERS AND CLOSING.

HUMAN SHIELDS

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THE O.P.S. WAS
AXEL'S IDEA.

BEATS THE HELL OUT
OF TRYING TO MATCH
MAP TO TERRAIN.

NOT TO MENTION FINDING
ONE PARTICULAR CRUISE
SHIP IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE MEDITERRANEAN.

TARGET
4 KIL--



THE MEDITERRANEAN
QUEEN, DARLING OF CNN'S
LATEST NEWS CYCLE.

HIJACKED AT 0400 HOURS
BY PERSONS UNKNOWN.
THEIR WORDS, NOT MINE.

I GAVE IT
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS.

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF
MISGUIDED NEGOTIATIONS
DURING WHICH "HOSTAGES"
BECAME THE OPERATIVE
WORD--

--AND DAMN-ALL WAS ACCOMPLISHED
SHORT OF GIVING THE NEWS
NETWORKS THE KIND OF AUDIENCE
BOOST THEY LIVE FOR.



AN HOUR AGO, THEY SHOT
AND DUMPED A HOSTAGE.

I OWN THAT
DEATH.



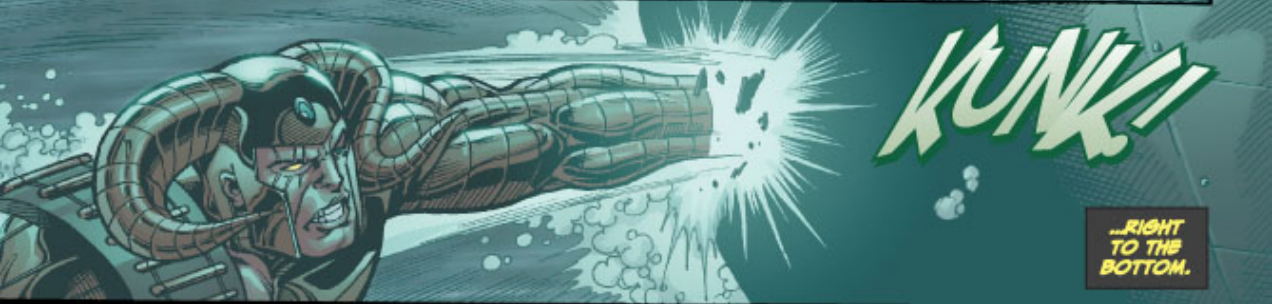
I HALF EXPECT AGUAMAN TO SHOW UP AND WARN ME OFF... EVEN THOUGH, LAST TIME I CHECKED, AGUAMAN WAS DEAD.

THEN AGAIN, DEATH HASN'T COUNTED FOR ALL THAT MUCH LATELY.

PRESENT COMPANY INCLUDED.



P24 SWIFT BOAT CHASSIS MODIFIED UP THE WAZOO. SWEET RIDE...



KUNK!

...RIGHT TO THE BOTTOM.



AS DIVERSIONS GO, THAT OUGHT TO HOLD THEIR ATTENTION LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO GET ABOARD WITHOUT HUMAN SHIELDS BECOMING AN ISSUE...



...IN THEORY.



BOOYEAH.

DEMETRI,
KANSAS



OKAY. IN HINDSIGHT, MAYBE NOT THE BEST IDEA.



THEN AGAIN, HINDSIGHT IS 20/20.
I'M TEMPTED TO SAY I AIN'T IN KANSAS NO MORE...

... BUT KANSAS IS EXACTLY WHERE I AM.

ENOUGH'A THAT, AXEL, OL' BOY. YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT FOLKS START IN TALKING TO THEMSELVES.

GOT A FOOL DOING THE TALKING AND A BIGGER FOOL DOING THE LISTENING.



'COURSE THE BIGGEST FOOL'S THE ONE GOES HARING OFF TO KANSAS 'CAUSE HIS PRIDE 'N' JOY'S TAKEN TO COVERING IN A CORNER WHENEVER HE TRIES TO TAKE HER ONLINE.



DON'T YOU FRET NONE, MIRAGE, DADDY'LL--



HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT?

!!



UH... KINDA?



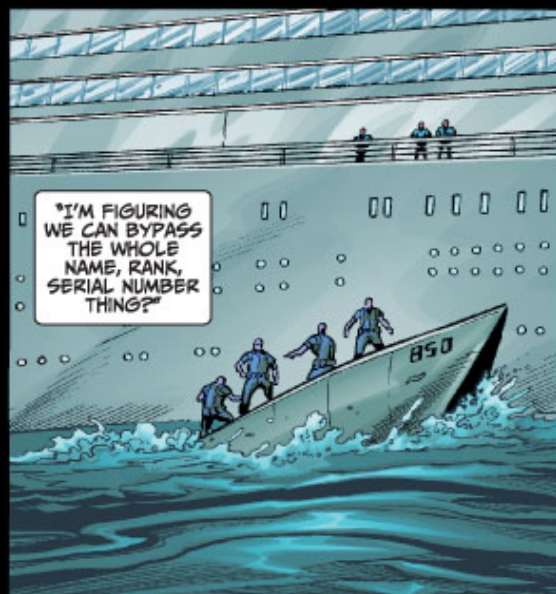
DO I HAVE TO SAY IT?

I THINK I GET THE PICTURE.

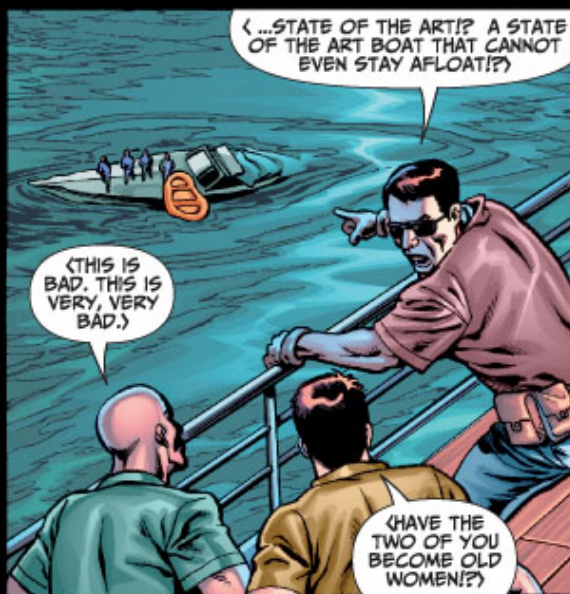
I DON'T THINK SO. YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE IF YOU DID.

SHOWS HOW MUCH YOU KNOW.

START TALKING.



"I'M FIGURING WE CAN BYPASS THE WHOLE NAME, RANK, SERIAL NUMBER THING?"



<...STATE OF THE ART!? A STATE OF THE ART BOAT THAT CANNOT EVEN STAY AFLOAT!?!>

<THIS IS BAD. THIS IS VERY, VERY BAD.>

<HAVE THE TWO OF YOU BECOME OLD WOMEN!?!>



<OUR ONLY MEANS OF ESCAPE IS SINKING!>

<THEN WE FORCE THEM INTO PROVIDING A REPLACEMENT MEANS. WE HAVE A SHIP FULL OF HOSTAGES, OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?>



<WITHOUT THE BOAT TO HOLD THEM BACK, THEY COULD MOVE WITHIN SNIPER RANGE!>

<AND TAKE ALL SIXTEEN OF US DOWN WITH ONE SHOT?>

DECK CLEAR OF COLLATERAL DAMAGE...CHECK. BAD GUYS DISTRACTED...CHECK.



SHOW TIME.

UHHH... HK-NNNN... SICK... AHH, GOD...

<YOU!>

<NO! HOLD YOUR WEAPON!>

GLAHH-HHT!



<WHERE DID HE COME FROM!? ALL OF THE HOSTAGES ARE-->

<FLUSHED FROM HIDING BY THE SHIP'S MOTION. A COWARD'S CONSTITUTION, NO?>

(GET HIM BELOW WITH THE OTHERS. IF ANYTHING, WE HAVE FOUND OUR NEXT EXAMPLE, SHOULD ONE BECOME NECESSARY.)

HEAR THAT, "CITIZEN"? BETTER YOU HAD STAYED IN HIDING AND CHOKED ON YOUR RISING GORGE, EH?

AND MISS THE PARTY?

