

D. W. BRADLEY'S

CYBERMAGE™

DARKLIGHT AWAKENING™



EDEN
MATRIX
PRESS

ORIGIN®

EA 1008505

D. W. BRADLEY'S

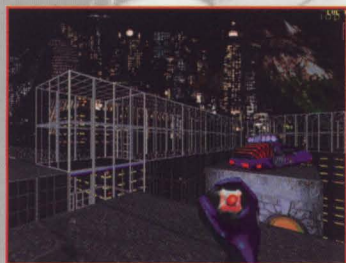
CYBERMAGE™



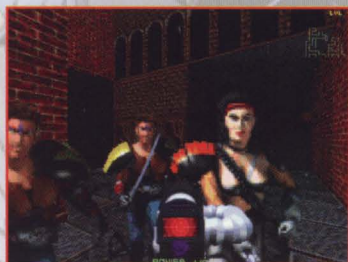
This comic is based on the computer game *CyberMage: Darklight Awakening* by D. W. Bradley — the newest adventure from one of the world's most popular and successful computer game designers. These *CyberMage* comics chronicle the CyberMage's adventures outside of the events of the game.

D. W. Bradley is an internationally acclaimed author and designer, and has won numerous gaming awards for his creations *Heart of the Maelstrom*, *Bane of the Cosmic Forge*, and *Crusaders of the Dark Savant*, the three epic adventures that form the capstone to the best-selling *Wizardry*® series, from Sir-tech Software.

Now D. W. Bradley has combined his talents with the resources of ORIGIN Systems, the company that produces the legendary *Ultima*® and *Wing Commander*® series, to create an entirely new fantastic action-adventure. In *CyberMage: Darklight Awakening*, you become a cyber-hero, using your strange, alien powers to survive in a dangerous, futuristic world. Now, more than ever



before, you can immerse yourself in the game action, through first-person perspective and the game's simple but powerful control interface. In *CyberMage*, fans will find all the strange and unexpected plot twists, exotic and mysterious characters, challenging puzzles and (most of all) non-stop action that are the hallmark of a D. W. Bradley game.



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A.D. 2000

BY THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, PROFIT HAS BECOME THE ONLY LAW.

HUGE CORPORATE STRUCTURES BEGIN TO REPLACE GOVERNMENTS AS THE REAL WORLD POWERS ON PLANET EARTH.

TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES UNCHECKED, WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF FUELING THE CORPORATE POWER MACHINE.

A.D. 2005

THREE PERMANENT SPACE STATIONS ARE LAUNCHED INTO ORBIT, EACH CONTROLLED BY A COMPETING CORPORATION...



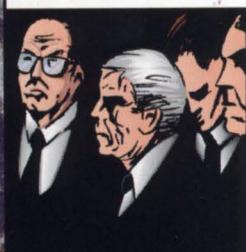
... IN THE SAME YEAR, THANOS CORP. SETS THE TONE FOR THE FUTURE BY PROCLAIMING ITSELF TO BE A SOVEREIGN COUNTRY.

THANOS CLAIMS ALL TERRITORY WITHIN A 200-MILE RADIUS OF ITS CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS AND ENLISTS ITS OWN FUSION-POWERED AIRCRAFT AND TANKS TO PROTECT THESE NEW BORDERS.

RATHER THAN CHALLENGE THE MOVE, 27 OTHER LEADING CORPORATIONS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW SUIT.

A.D. 2010

THE WORLD'S FIRST PERMANENT MOON BASE IS ESTABLISHED BY TEVAR ENTERPRISES.



TWO GENE BANKS ARE CREATED BY RIVAL CORPORATIONS. THE FIRST CLONING AND REGENERATION HOSPITAL, DESIGNED FOR HUMAN BODY REPLACEMENT, OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE PUBLIC.

GLOBAL RELIGIOUS LEADERS JOIN FORCES IN A DESPERATE LAST ATTEMPT TO REGAIN SOME OF THEIR FORMER POWER.

THEY LAUNCH A FANATIC CAMPAIGN OF SPIRITUAL RETRIBUTION AND DIVINE SCARE TACTICS, BUT THEIR EFFORTS EVENTUALLY SPLINTER INTO LITTLE MORE THAN A SCATTERING OF MANIACAL CULTS AND SECRET COVENS.



A.D. 2015

WARS CEASE TO BE FOUGHT BETWEEN NATIONS. CORPORATIONS WITH THE MOST MONEY, THE MOST TECHNOLOGY, BECOME THE NEW PATRONS OF THE REMAINING NATIONAL MILITARY FORCES.

THE FORMER GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD ALL BUT VANISH, LEAVING CIVILIZATION TO FEND FOR ITSELF AGAINST THE CORPORATE MACHINE.



BETWEEN THE CORPORATE NATIONS, WARS TAKE THE FORM OF ESPIONAGE AND MARTIAL LAW.

LESS DEVELOPED NATIONS BECOME THE TESTING GROUNDS FOR THE NEW CORPORATE MILITARY FORCES.



CORPORATE GREED FULLY REVEALS ITS AWFUL CAPACITY FOR DESTRUCTION IN THE MARS WAR. THE TEVAR MOON BASE, WHICH HAD BECOME A SELF-SUSTAINING COLONY, CLAIMS EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OVER MARS, BUT TEVAR'S BITTER RIVAL, GENDYNE TECHNOLOGIES, LAUNCHES A PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE BY ESTABLISHING ITS OWN SETTLEMENT ON THE RED PLANET.

TEVAR RETALIATES AGAINST GENDYNE'S PRODUCTION FACILITIES ON EARTH, DESTROYING TWELVE MAJOR CITIES IN THE PROCESS. MILLIONS DIE BEFORE THE COMPANIES SETTLE INTO AN UNEASY TRUCE.

HOPING TO AVOID SUCH COSTLY CONFLICTS IN THE FUTURE, THE CORPORATE NATIONS FORM A GLOBAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND GIVE LIP SERVICE TO AN ALLIANCE CALLED THE CORPORATE STATES.

ELECTRONIC NEURAL IMPLANTS ARE INTRODUCED TO AUGMENT HUMAN BRAIN CAPACITY.

SURGICALLY ATTACHED MECHANICAL ENHANCEMENTS TO THE HUMAN BODY BECOME FASHIONABLE, SPAWNING THE FIRST GENERATION OF CYBERWEAR.



A.D. 2020

MOST MAJOR INNER CITIES BECOME WAR ZONES - BASTIONS OF RESISTANCE AGAINST CORPORATE CONTROL.



CORPORATE WARS FOR DOMINANCE OF ELECTRO-MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGIES FADE AS GENETIC ENGINEERING BEGINS TO DEFINE VAST NEW TERRITORY FOR ADVANCEMENT.

HYBRID BEINGS - KNOWN AS "EXOTICS" - ARE FIRST ENGINEERED TO LEAD THE CORPORATE RACE FOR POWER.



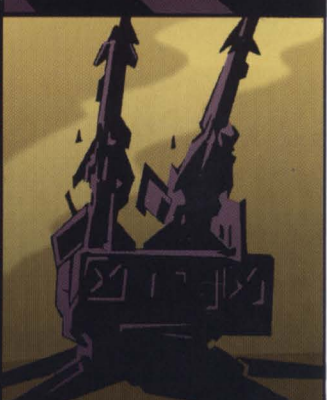
A.D. 2025

SARCORP LAUNCHES THE FIRST INTERSTELLAR ROCKET, WITH A CREW OF SIX NEUTRONIC BRAIN ROBOTS.



THE CORPORATE STATES
BEGIN WAGING ALL-OUT WAR
UPON INNER-CITY REBELS.

IT IS A CONCERTED EFFORT
TO CAUTERIZE THE FESTERING
POCKETS OF POVERTY-
STRICKEN DISCONTENT THAT
REFUSE TO BE HEALED BY
THE GLEAMING PROMISE OF
CORPORATE STERILITY.



REBELLIOUS FACTIONS DIG IN
DEEPER, THEN RETALIATE
WITH A BARRAGE OF
COORDINATED INDUSTRIAL
AND ELECTRONIC SABOTAGE.

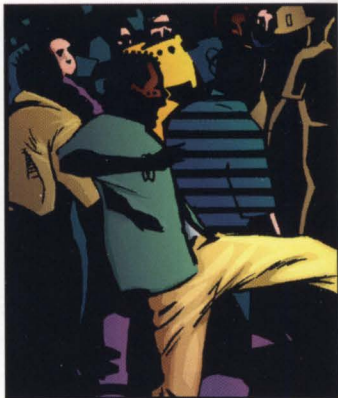




A.D. 2028

SARCORP ROCKS THE SCIENTIFIC ESTABLISHMENT WITH PHYSICAL PROOF THAT TELEKINETIC AND TELEPATHIC ABILITIES EXIST AND CAN BE TAPPED.

BY SETTLEMENT OVERNIGHT MORE THAN 6,000 YEARS OF DEBATE OVER SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA OF ALL KINDS, THE SARCORP EXPERIMENTS DRAW THOUSANDS OF FANATIC VOLUNTEERS.



MANY OF THESE TEST SUBJECTS COME BACK AS RAVING MADMEN. SEVERAL OF THESE DEMENTED GRADUATES PROCLAIM THEMSELVES TO BE MESSIAHS AND LEAD THEIR FLOCKS INTO THE WILDERNESS.

IN AN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, SARCORP OFFERS REVOLUTIONARY NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO THE CORPORATE STATES IN EXCHANGE FOR RAW RESOURCES FROM THE MEMBER STATES.

A.D. 2030

SARCORP FORMS A NEW ALLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE STATES TO HELP "ERADICATE ALL POVERTY" THROUGH NEW TECHNIQUES DEVELOPED AT A TOP SECRET RESEARCH LABORATORY ...



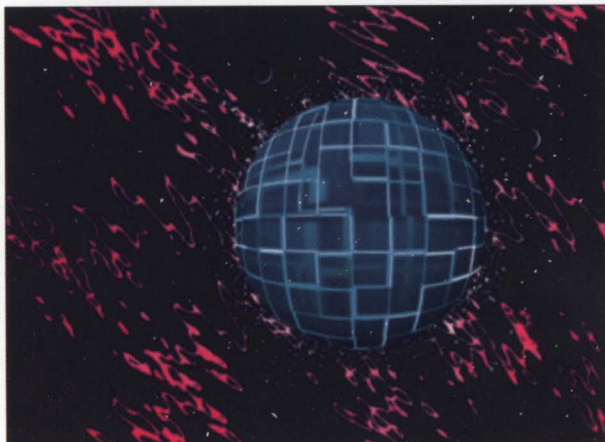
... IT IS A THINLY VEILED LICENSE FOR THE USE OF TELEPATHIC POWERS TO FERRET OUT THE REMAINING INNER-CITY REBELS.



A.D. 2040

RUMORS OF A SPECTACULARLY SUCCESSFUL RAID ON THE SARCORP MATRIX QUICKLY SPREAD AND ARE AS QUICKLY STIFLED. ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THE RUMORS ARE BASED ON AN ACTUAL SECURITY BREACH OR REBEL-PLANTED MISINFORMATION, SEVERAL WELL-KNOWN REBEL HACKERS CLAIM TO HAVE ACQUIRED BOTH POWERFUL TECHNOLOGY AND "HORRIFYING" DETAILS ABOUT HOW SARCORP IS GAINING ITS TECHNOLOGY FROM AN EVIL RACE OF ALIENS CALLED THE SRI-FENG.

THE INCIDENT, KNOWN AS THE BLACK SUN AFFAIR IN THE HIGHEST CORPORATE CIRCLES, IS LATER DEEMED TO BE THE SINGLE GREATEST FEAT IN COMPUTER INFILTRATION EVER ACHIEVED.





DATELINE MARCH 22, 2044
THE BROADCAST BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
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REPORTED BY
RUBREY MCAULEY
BASED ON INVESTIGATIONS BY
D.W. BRADLEY
FILMED BY
ASHLEY UNDERWOOD
ENBELLISHED BY
CHAD TOWNSEND
LIGHTING AND COLOR EFFECTS BY
ASHLEY UNDERWOOD
EDITED BY
DAVID LADYMAN

ALTHOUGH FEW DETAILS ABOUT LIFE ON MARS MAKE IT TO EARTH THESE DAYS, SOURCES SAY THAT MARCH 22 IS CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT THE RED PLANET AS INDEPENDENCE DAY.

WHY DON'T PEOPLE CARE ABOUT ANYTHING IMPORTANT ANYMORE?



LIVEFEED

NEWSNET

IT WAS EXACTLY FOUR YEARS AGO THAT MARS NATION PROCLAIMED ITS SEPARATION FROM THE PLANET EARTH, AND BACKED THE MOVE WITH DEADLY FORCE.

WITHOUT PROVOCATION, MARS NATION ANNOUNCED ITS COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CORPORATE STATES, CLAIMING ITS FUTURE GENERATIONS WOULD BETTER OFF UNDER SELF-RULE.

MARS NATION DECLINED TO ENGAGE IN ANY FURTHER DIALOGUE ALONG WITH THE CORPORATE STATES, EVEN IF ANY ACTION WAS TAKEN.

EVERYONE'S TOO CONSUMED BY GREED TO CARE ... UNLESS THERE'S SOMETHING IN IT FOR THEM.

PRERECORDED

NEWSNET

THE CITIZENS OF MOON COLONY WAITED NERVOUSLY DURING TWELVE HOURS OF INTENSE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EXECUTIVES FROM EARTH AND MARS, THEIR LIVES HANGING IN THE BALANCE.

FEW PEOPLE COULD FORGET THE BENTAL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION THAT RESULTED WHEN MARS NATION'S FIRST ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH IN 2015.

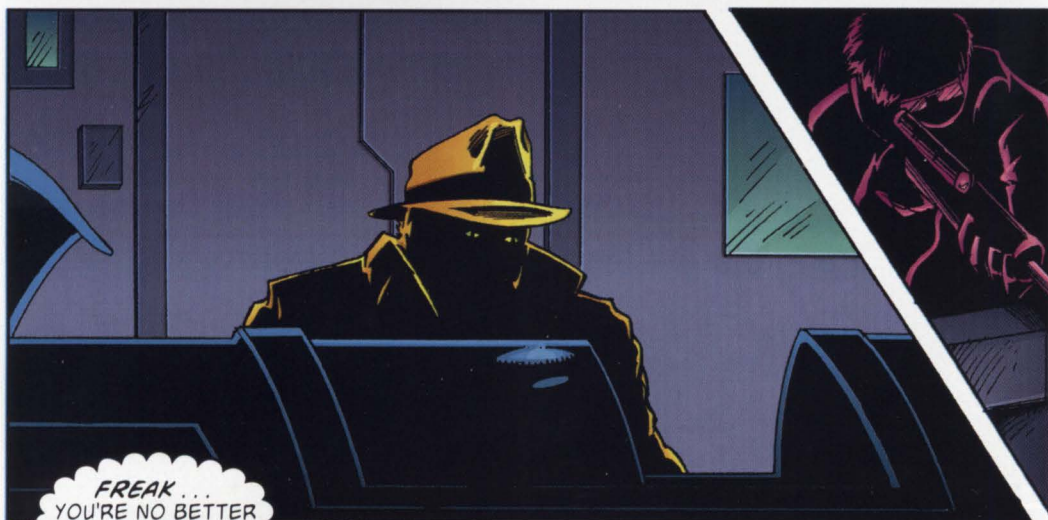
IN THE END, THE EXECUTIVES FROM BOTH PLANETS AGREED TO TERMINATE THE ATTEMPT AND GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS WITHOUT FURTHER CONFLICT.

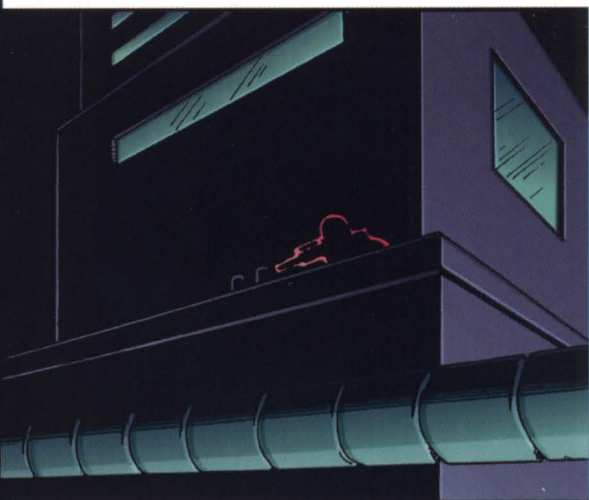
I'M SO TIRED OF THIS MARS STORY I COULD PUKE.

LIVEFEED

NEWSNET

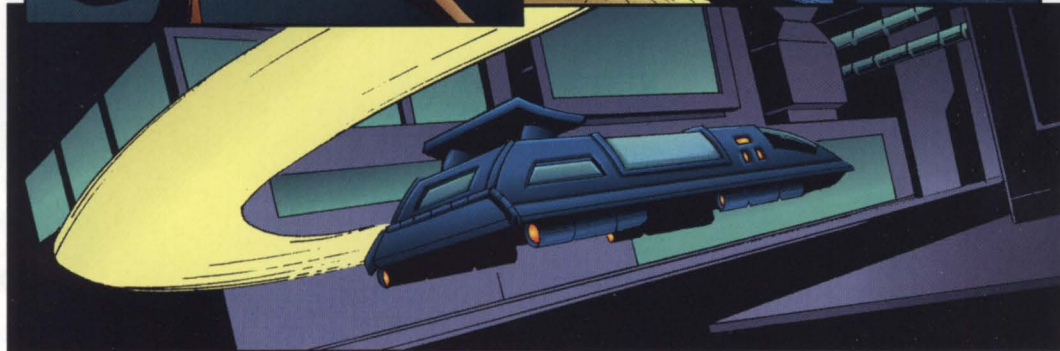


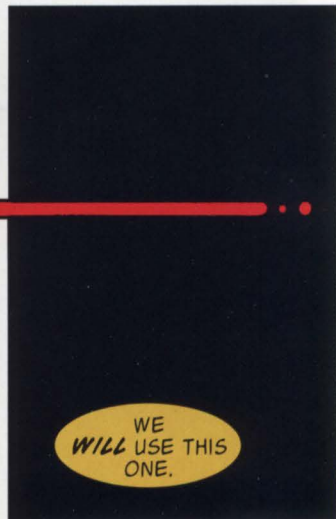
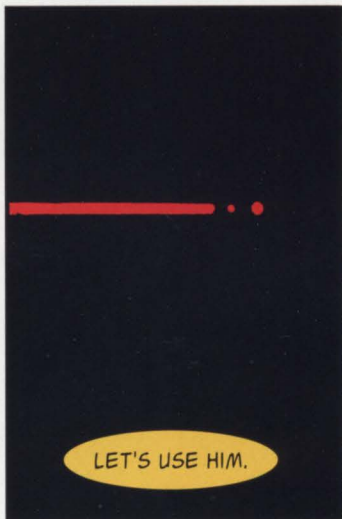
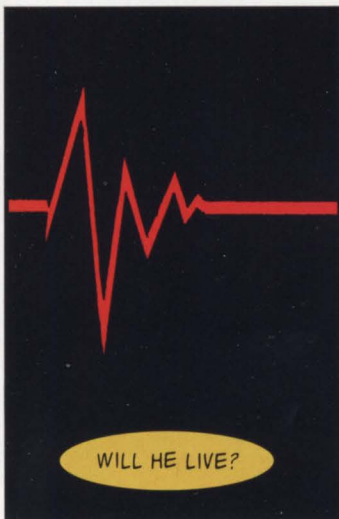
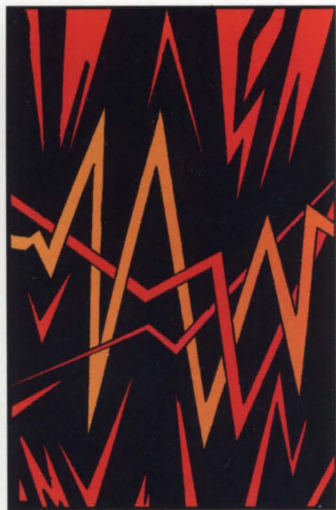




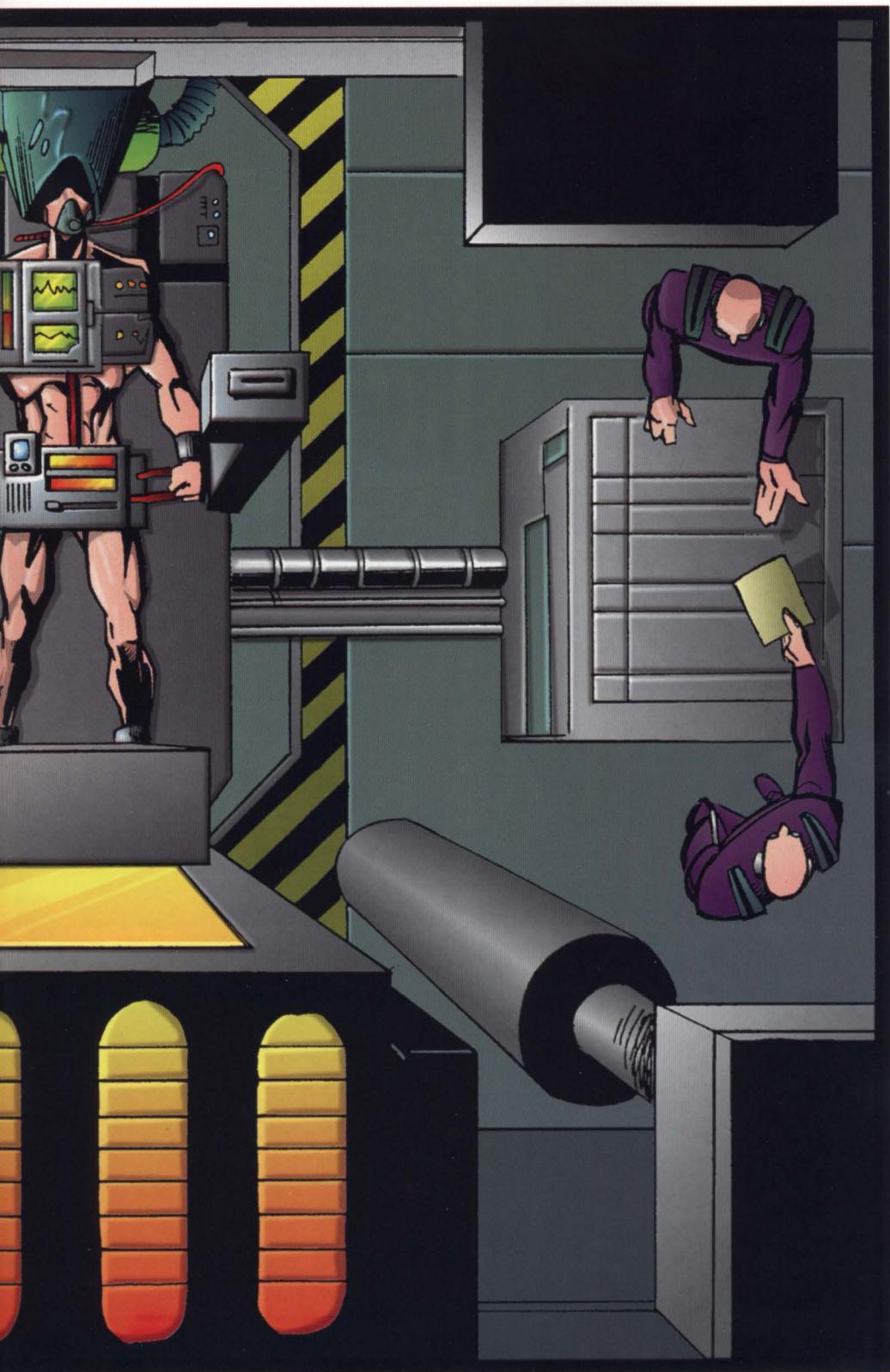


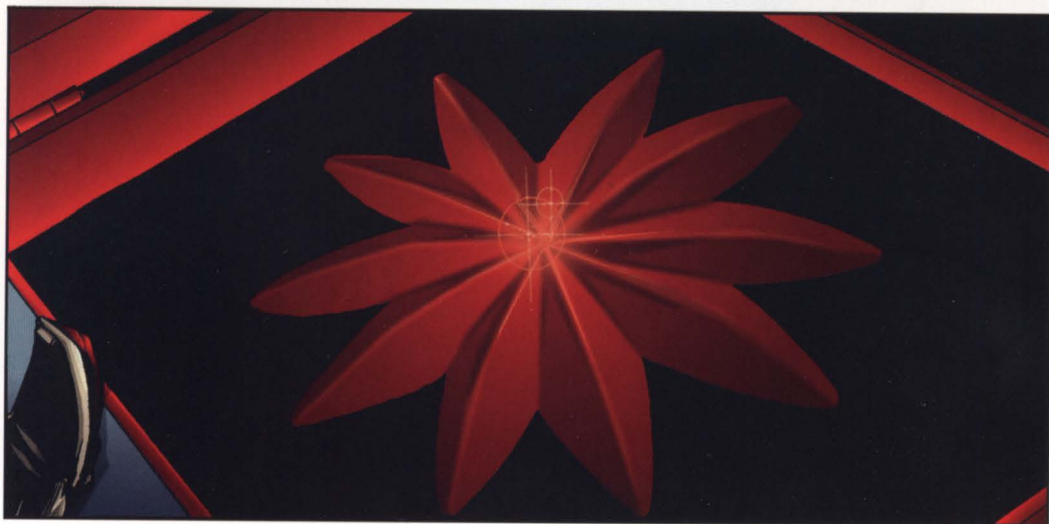
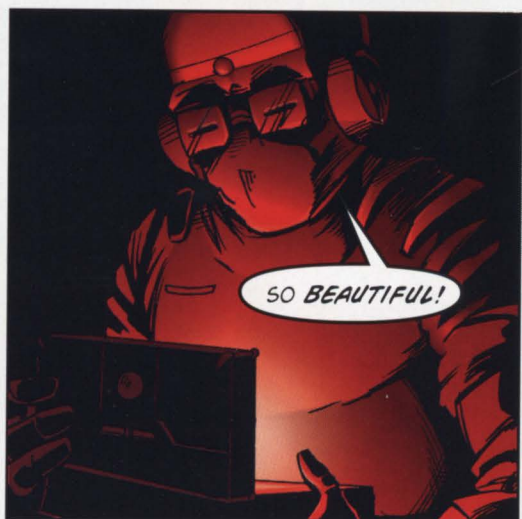


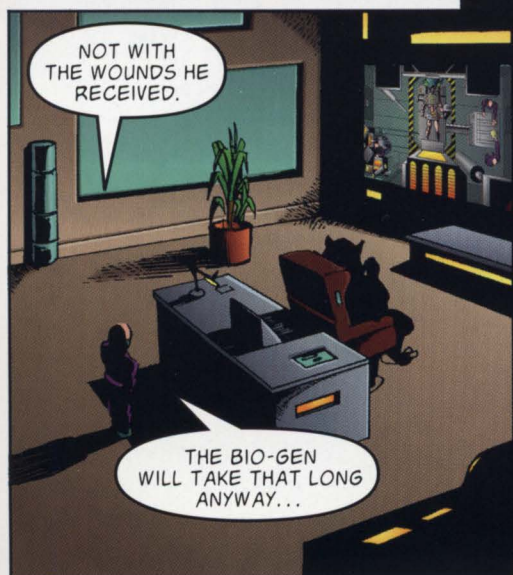













DATELINE OCTOBER 5, 2044





THERE!





WHAT HAVE
YOU FOUND?

NOTHING, SIR.
THERE'S NO TRACE
OF THE TARGET
SPECIMEN.



DAMN!

I WANT THIS
AREA SEARCHED
THOROUGHLY.



REPORT
BACK TO
ME.



IT SEEMS LIKE FOREVER.

HOW LONG *HAS* IT BEEN...?



PULSE QUICKENING...



...UUUNNGH!

KROOSH!

I AM REBORN!



*WATCH FOR CYBERMAGE #2,
COMING SOON!*

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