



I DON'T KNOW WHY I AGREED TO THIS MISSION, FLASH...



...BUT IF I KEEL OVER AND DIE, I'M COMING BACK TO HAUNT YOU FIRST!

FAIR ENOUGH, BUT I THINK WE'RE ALMOST THERE! YOU CAN DO IT, HANG!



SUL A E OTAL MUDRAY DY TD, DALU EEB, ER YA CEEL RHO GEN E GENUL!

IR NEVU JADZIES MNOUD-AGIJ!



I CAN'T GET OVER HOW DIFFERENT THEIR TWO LANGUAGES SOUND! BY THE TIME WE FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY'RE SAYING, WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE FOUND A WAY BACK TO EARTH.

HOPFULLY I CAN FIX THE GLOBAL TRANSLATOR BEFORE THE RACES OF MONGO GO TO WAR AGAIN!



I GUESS THIS IS THE "TUNNEL OF TERROR" THAT YOU WERE TELLING US ABOUT YESTERDAY.

YES, AND NOW I SEE WHAT VULTAN WAS TALKING ABOUT. I JUST HOPE--

GROOOOOWWWWLLLLLLL

UM... FLASH... PLEASE TELL ME YOU DIDN'T HEAR THAT...



GAH!

FWUMP!

A dynamic comic book illustration of Flash Gordon in a cave. Flash Gordon, a blonde man in a red tunic and brown boots, is in the foreground, looking up with a determined expression. Behind him, a large, golden dragon with glowing green eyes and wings is roaring. The dragon's mouth is open, showing sharp teeth. In the background, other smaller dragon-like creatures and a man in a blue uniform are visible. The scene is lit with a warm, golden light, suggesting a fire or a bright opening in the cave.

RARRRWWIK!!!

**FLASH
GORDON**

**INVASION OF THE RED SWORD
CHAPTER ONE: TERROR**

A DAY EARLIER...

"I WASN'T ENTIRELY CONVINCED THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA, **BARIN**, BUT NOW THAT I SEE IT ACTUALLY COMING TOGETHER..."

...I HAVE TO ADMIT... I'M IMPRESSED.

I TOLD YOU, FLASH. I TOOK PART IN THE TOURNAMENTS, YEARS AGO... BACK WHEN MING USED THEM AS A VETTING PROCESS FOR HIS LEGION OF THE DOOMED.

THAT WAS SOME COMPETITION, PRINCE **BARIN**. YOU'RE THE ONLY MONGON I CAN REMEMBER EVER WALKING AWAY FROM THE LEGION AFTER WINNING THE TOURNAMENT.*

BAH. IF NOT FOR MY TRAITOROUS ONE-EYED UNCLE, WHO KNOWS WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED THAT DAY.

* AS SEEN IN FLASH GORDON: THE SECRET HISTORY OF MONGOL, NOW ON SALE! -- KLEINER.

SPOKEN LIKE SOMEONE WHO WAS WATCHING FROM THE COMFORT OF THE AUDIENCE, KING THUN.

I WILL GLADLY FACE YOU IN THE ARENA TOMORROW! PICK YOUR CHALLENGER!!

YOU TWO HAVE BEEN BICKERING LIKE CHILDREN EVER SINCE MING'S DEMISE! IT'S STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES!

AT LEAST THEY'RE NOT ACTIVELY TRYING TO KILL EACH OTHER ANYMORE. THAT'S GOOD FOR SOMETHING, RIGHT?

ABSOLUTELY. IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW WEEKS SINCE WE DEFEATED MING.

YEP. AND THE ARENA IS LOOKING GREAT...

...I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE TOURNAMENTS TO START TOMORROW.



SO, ZARKOV... I'VE BEEN SO BUSY HELPING PLAN THE GAMES, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN DAYS. HOW'S THE RESEARCH GOING?

SLOWLY. EVERY TIME I THINK I'VE MADE PROGRESS ON REPLICATING THE WORM HOLE THAT BROUGHT US HERE, SOMETHING CATCHES ON FIRE OR EXPLODES. OR BOTH. IT'S VERY FRUSTRATING.

AT LEAST MS. ARDEN HAS PROVEN HERSELF TO BE AN ADEPT SCIENCE STUDENT.



WELL... DON'T FORGET, HANG, I WAS RESEARCHING YOU FOR MONTHS BEFORE OUR... UH... ENCOUNTER AT MOUNT DRAKENBERG*.

SO, I HAD A BIT OF A HEADSTART ON UNDERSTANDING YOUR TECHNOLOGY.

* AS SEEN IN FLASH GORDON: THE MERCY WARS, ALSO ON SALE NOW. -- KRUGGER.



I'M EXCITED TO GET BACK TO WORK WITH YOU GUYS. ALL THIS TOURNAMENT PLANNING IS MAKING ME ANTSY.

YEAH, RIGHT. LIE TO YOURSELF, FLASH, BUT DON'T LIE TO US. EVERYONE KNOWS YOU'RE GOING TO END UP COMPETING TOMORROW.

HAHAHA! TRUER WORDS WERE NEVER SPOKEN. YOU KNOW, DAVE, I KNEW I LIKED YOU!



ELSEWHERE...



GENERAL, WELCOME TO MONGO.

WE'VE BAGGED AND TAGGED AT LEAST A DOZEN SPECIES. DISSECTION IS UNDERWAY AND RESULTS HAVE ALREADY STARTED TRICKLING IN.

WE'VE ALSO DONE RECON ON EVERY REGION IN A THREE HUNDRED SQUARE MILE RADIUS. WE'VE ESTABLISHED CRITICAL STRIKE ZONES AND ALREADY HAVE PLANS IN PLACE AGAINST POTENTIAL AGGRESSORS. WE'RE READY TO ROCK AND ROLL, SIR.



SKIP THE SMALL TALK, SPECIAL AGENT ALEXANDER. WHAT'S THE SIT-REPT



GOOD WORK, BRAND. PHASE TWO STARTS TOMORROW.

I WANT THIS PLANET. I WANT IT NOW...



... AND NO ONE IS GOING TO STAND IN THE WAY.

HYAHH!

KLANG!

WELL, YOU WERE RIGHT. FLASH COULDN'T HELP HIMSELF.

GOOD MORNING, DALE. DOCTOR ZARKOV.

IT IS NICE TO SEE ALL OF YOU HAVING FUN, RATHER THAN TRYING TO KILL EACH OTHER.

YEP, BUT OF COURSE HE HAS TO GO AND WIN THREE COMPETITIONS IN A ROW JUST TO PROVE A POINT. I'M TELLING YOU, THAT MAN IS BEYOND FRUSTRATING.

I WASN'T SURE AT FIRST IF BASING A SERIES OF GAMES ON MING'S SICK TRADITIONS WAS A GOOD IDEA...

...BUT I THINK THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT MONGO NEEDED.

...UH OH.

WELL... THE DAY'S STILL YOUNG. I THINK I FACE OFF AGAINST THUN LATER ON, AND I'M SURE HE'S NOT GOING TO-

YO'G... CHETO GOW W'T GIAR TA THAM AIS'D IBW IB BASOS OM SWAIG IWE INT HAFT KEOT... NEM.



DI'GU...
WABOI,
IA'ITSE!

HAM'IC
FGHA HEP
AIREHT!

BIG
NETACT'S
LTAQ
OAI!



CIAB
ISB! GHICA
SAMID... AF
I'A REGAW!

TW'OH
Y'W... MYB
WIDBGS
I'GY.



NWAH!
L'MA!
Y'RAC INB
A FRAE

Y'FO!
Y'GAI STEM'D
HG'ENE!



B'T YU'FI
SKI WON MAC
M'TAL!



WHAT
THE HECK
IS GOING
ON?!

I'M NOT
ENTIRELY SURE...
BUT UNLESS
I'M MISTAKEN...
MONGO'S GLOBAL
TRANSLATOR JUST
STOPPED
WORKING!

THE
GLOBAL
WHATT?!

T'MI
I'AW OT
TIMIA! T'L'EM
AGAV AT'LIM
AN'D...
B'MON!

A FEW HOURS LATER...

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU NEVER HAPPENED TO MENTION A GLOBAL TRANSLATOR.

VULTAN TOLD ME ABOUT IT WHEN HE WAS HOLDING ME PRISONER BUT IN THE CHAOS OF OUR ATTACK ON MING AND EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED SINCE, I NEVER THOUGHT TO MENTION IT.

BESIDES, DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT ALL OF THESE SEPARATE RACES ON A DISTANT PLANET JUST HAPPENED TO SPEAK ENGLISH!

LISTEN, HANG...

WILL YOU TWO STOP BICKERING AND COME OVER HERE? I THINK BARIN IS TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING.

SO... THERE'S CLEARLY SOMETHING AT THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN - AND HE SEEMS TO THINK IT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT.

I JUST HOPE IT'S NOT THE SAME MOUNTAIN WHERE I MET UP WITH GUBEN AZURA. I BARELY GOT OUT OF THERE ALIVE.

NO... PRINCE BARIN IS TALKING ABOUT A DIFFERENT MOUNTAIN. THIS ONE IS ACTUALLY THE HIGHEST ON ALL OF MONGO. AND AT THE TOP IS THE "TUNNEL OF TERROR." DUBBED THAT BY MING, OF COURSE.

MING'S SCIENTISTS CREATED THE GLOBAL TRANSLATOR EARLY ON IN HIS REIGN AND PLACED IT AT MONGO'S HIGHEST POINT SO ITS SIGNAL WOULD HAVE MAXIMUM REACH.

I THINK HE'S SAYING HE PLANS ON HEADING TO THE TUNNEL...

...AND IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S RECRUITING THEM...

...AND YOU, TOO, HANG. LOOKS LIKE BEING THE SMARTEST GUY IN THE ROOM JUST PAID OFF.

GULP.