

GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN



SPOTLIGHT ON... "Doc" Tor



WAIT!
HOLD ON!
I CAN FIX
THIS...



PARAGON CITY: THE CITY OF HEROES! THE ONLY PLACE IN THE WORLD WHERE THE HERO-TO-PROBLEM RATIO IS ALMOST ONE-TO-ONE. IF YOU NEED A HERO IN THIS CITY, YOU JUST HAVE TO LOOK AROUND THE CORNER.

BUT NOT ALL HEROES ARE THE SAME. SOME ARE MORE MERCENARY THAN THE OTHERS. BUT THERE ARE SOME WHO SEE THE CALLING AS A SIGN OF BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD FOR ALL MANKIND. THESE ARE THE HEROES WHO FIGHT FOR SOMETHING BETTER. THEY ARE THE...

GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN



NAME:
DOC TOR

REAL NAME:
UNKNOWN

STATUS:
REGISTERED
SUPERHERO

ARCHETYPE:
CONTROLLER

PRIMARY POWER:
ILLUSION
CONTROL

SECONDARY POWER:
EMPATHY

OF ALL OF THE "EXILES" IN THE GUARDIANS, ONLY ONE HAS A PAST THAT CANNOT BE READILY EXPLAINED.

HE WEAVES IN AND OUT OF MYSTERIES, ASKING ALL THE RIGHT QUESTIONS, FIGURING OUT ALL OF THE SECRETS... AND ALL THE WHILE HE HIDES THE GREATEST SECRET OF THEM ALL.

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EARTH.

OF ALL OF THE PLANETS IN THE UNIVERSE... OF ALL OF THE PLANETS IN THE WHOLE OMNIVERSE OF MULTIVERSES... EARTH IS A RARE JEWEL.



NOT *GREAT* IN ANY COSMIC SENSE, MIND YOU. I'VE PRETTY MUCH SEEN ALL OF THE GREAT POINTS IN THE COSMOS.

IT'S GREAT, BECAUSE OF ALL THAT IT CAN PRODUCE, THE ONE CONSISTENT AND FINEST PRODUCT OF THIS PLANET IS A CREATURE CALLED HOMO SAPIENS.

HUMAN BEINGS.

OF ALL OF THE BEINGS, HUMANS HAVE SOME OF THE GREATEST POTENTIAL TO DO BOTH GREAT AND HORRIBLE THINGS.

"UNEXPLAINED"

- A CITY OF HEROES STORY
BY DAVID 2

THIS IS PARAGON CITY, A METROPOLITAN CITY IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, IN THE COUNTRY CALLED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ON THE CONTINENT LOCALLY KNOWN AS NORTH AMERICA.

PARAGON CITY STANDS AS THE MONUMENT TO HUMANITY'S GREATNESS, HUGE STATUES HONOR THOSE WHOSE DEEDS DWARFED THEIR ABILITIES. THIS IS A CITY THAT HAS REPEATEDLY EARNED ITS NICKNAME "THE CITY OF HEROES".

AND YET THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH ALL OF THIS, SOMETHING FUNDAMENTALLY WRONG.

THE STREETS ARE SILENT, NO CARS, NO BIRDS, NO PEOPLE WALKING, NO SOUNDS OF GUNSHOTS OR SIRENS, NO CELLPHONES RINGING OR PAGERS SOUNDING, NOT EVEN INSECTS CHIRPING AND BUZZING ABOUT.

THE WHOLE CITY IS... EMPTY.

PARAGON CITY, RHODE ISLAND
POPULATION: ZERO

GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN CHARACTERS BY DAVID 2.

JUSTICE-KNIGHTS AND SIN STALKER CREATED BY JOSEPH COHEN.
CYCORP AND MR. CYRIL CREATED BY AARON NELLIS

CORRECTION... POPULATION: ONE

ALTHOUGH TECHNICALLY I'M REALLY JUST A "VISITOR" RIGHT NOW, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

ONE MINUTE I'M GOING TO THE POCKET D NIGHTCLUB, AND THE NEXT I'M STANDING HERE IN AN EMPTY CITY.

CLEARLY SOMEONE WANTS ME TO INVESTIGATE THIS. I JUST WISH THEY WOULD HAVE ASKED ME FIRST.

 **DOC TOR**

IT'S NOT LIKE I WOULD HAVE SAID "NO".

THE AIR SMELLS CLEAN, NO AFTER-EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL ATTACK.

IF IT WAS RADIATION I WOULD HAVE FELT IT IMMEDIATELY.

A NEUTRON BOMB WOULD KILL THE BODIES, BUT IT WOULD ALSO KILL THE GRASS AND THE TREES.

MIGHT AS WELL START LOOKING AROUND THE AREA.

THE WAR WALLS ARE INTACT. I CAN HEAR SOME AUTOMATION STILL AT WORK.

STILL, WHAT COULD CAUSE THE EXTERMINATION OF ALL LIFE IN THE CITY?

HELLO... WHO'S THIS?

POPULATION: TWO

Ah! You must be the investigator that I was told would be here. My name is Talmyia of the Kheldians.

HELLO. MY NAME IS DOC TOR... AND I'M A LITTLE CONFUSED... WHO TOLD YOU THAT I WOULD BE COMING?

KHELDIANS ARE SYMBIOTIC ENERGY BEINGS THAT NEED TO INHABIT CORPOREAL FORMS TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS.

THIS ONE MUST BE A RECENT ARRIVAL, OTHERWISE IT WOULD HAVE MERGED WITH A HUMAN HOST.



When I arrived, I first sought out my brothers and sisters.

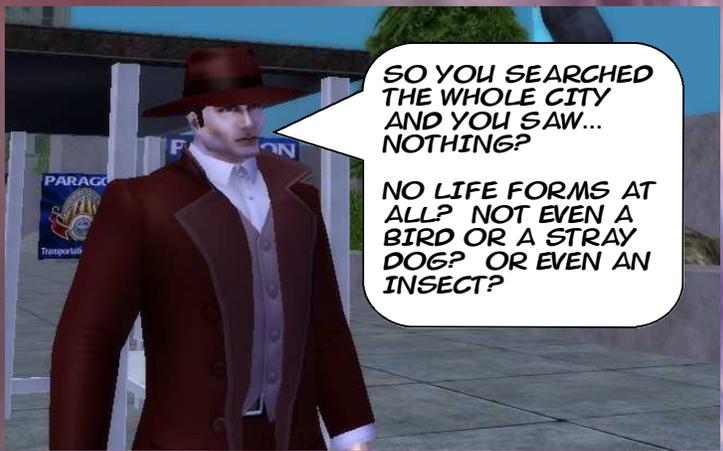
When I saw no life, I contacted the home world. They said to wait for you.



OH, I SEE... "THEY" BEING TOLD TO WAIT BY ANOTHER "THEY".

SO YOU WERENT HERE WHEN "IT" HAPPENED, RIGHT? NO ALARMS OR ANYTHING ON THE WAY HERE?

No, Doc... Tor...



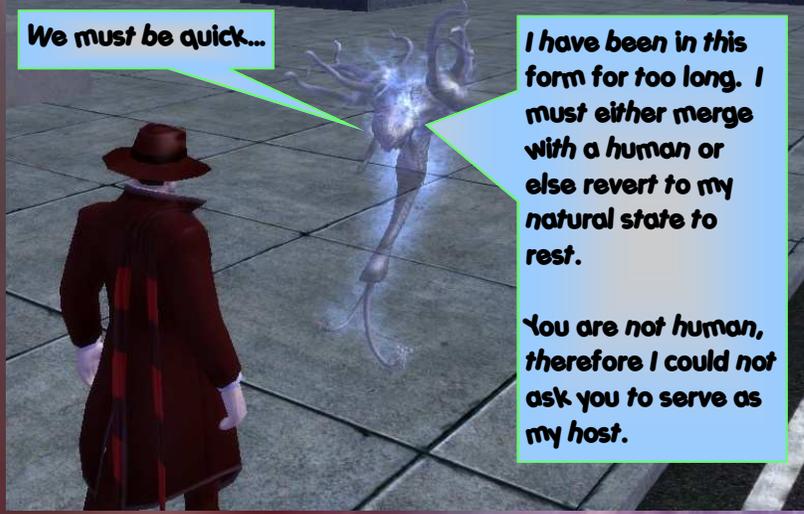
SO YOU SEARCHED THE WHOLE CITY AND YOU SAW... NOTHING?
NO LIFE FORMS AT ALL? NOT EVEN A BIRD OR A STRAY DOG? OR EVEN AN INSECT?



No, Doc... Tor... no life at all.

Not in the city, not on the planet.

Aside from us, this planet is devoid of all sentient life.



We must be quick...

I have been in this form for too long. I must either merge with a human or else revert to my natural state to rest.

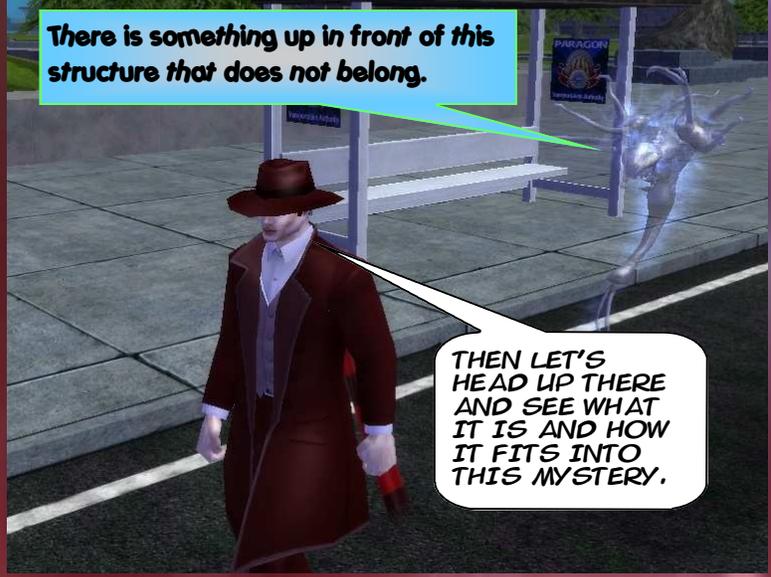
You are not human, therefore I could not ask you to serve as my host.



JUST THE SAME, I WOULDN'T MAKE FOR A GOOD HOST ANYWAY. I'M SORT OF HERE ON BORROWED TIME.

I ASSUME, THEN, THAT YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME HERE BECAUSE OF SOME SPECIFIC REASON.

Correct.



There is something up in front of this structure that does not belong.

THEN LET'S HEAD UP THERE AND SEE WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT FITS INTO THIS MYSTERY.



May I ask what kind of species you really are, Doc.. Tor?

IT'S A LITTLE... COMPLICATED, TALMYIA. SUFFICIENT TO SAY I AM... UNIQUE... TO THIS UNIVERSE.

AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE TO LIE ABOUT THAT.



'ELLO...

THAT
STATUE
IS JUST
A BIT
OFF...



There...

WILL YOU
LOOK AT
THAT!



That object is not
of the planet.

THAT'S
PUTTING
IT MILDLY.

THERE'S A PART OF ME
THAT WANTS TO CRY AT
WHAT I SEE.

EVERYTHING INSIDE ME SAYS
THAT THIS IS IT. THIS IS WHAT
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
DESTRUCTION OF ALL SENTIENT
LIFE ON THIS PLANET.

THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF
HUMAN PROGRESS... ALL
BROUGHT TO AN END BECAUSE
OF A ROCK FROM SPACE.



Do you recognize it,
Doc... Tor?

WELL IT RESEMBLES AN ARCOSIAN
TRANSPORT POD, WHAT IS REFERRED
TO ON THIS PLANET AS A "SHIVAN",
BUT THIS ONE... THIS ONE LOOKS
MORE RECENT.

AND IT DIDN'T JUST CRASH HERE.
A METEOR STRIKE THE SIZE OF
THIS ONE WOULD HAVE DECIMATED
THE WHOLE CITY, NOT JUST CAUSE
LOCALIZED DAMAGE.

SOMEONE... SOMEONE CAUGHT
THIS AS IT WAS COMING IN,
AND THEN DROPPED IT, FOR
WHATEVER REASON.

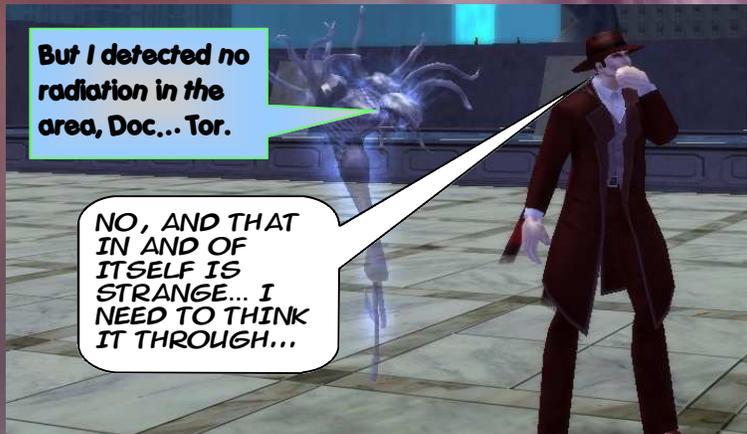


ODD... I'M NOT HEARING THE USUAL SINGING. THESE PODS NORMALLY MAKE A DISTINCT SOUND, EVEN AFTER BEING HERE FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME.



I do not understand.

VIBRATIONS OF THE ROCK AS ITS RADIATION BEGINS TO DETERIORATE.



But I detected no radiation in the area, Doc... Tor.

NO, AND THAT IN AND OF ITSELF IS STRANGE... I NEED TO THINK IT THROUGH...



I GO THROUGH ABOUT NINE CENTURIES WORTH OF COSMIC KNOWLEDGE IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.



WAIT...

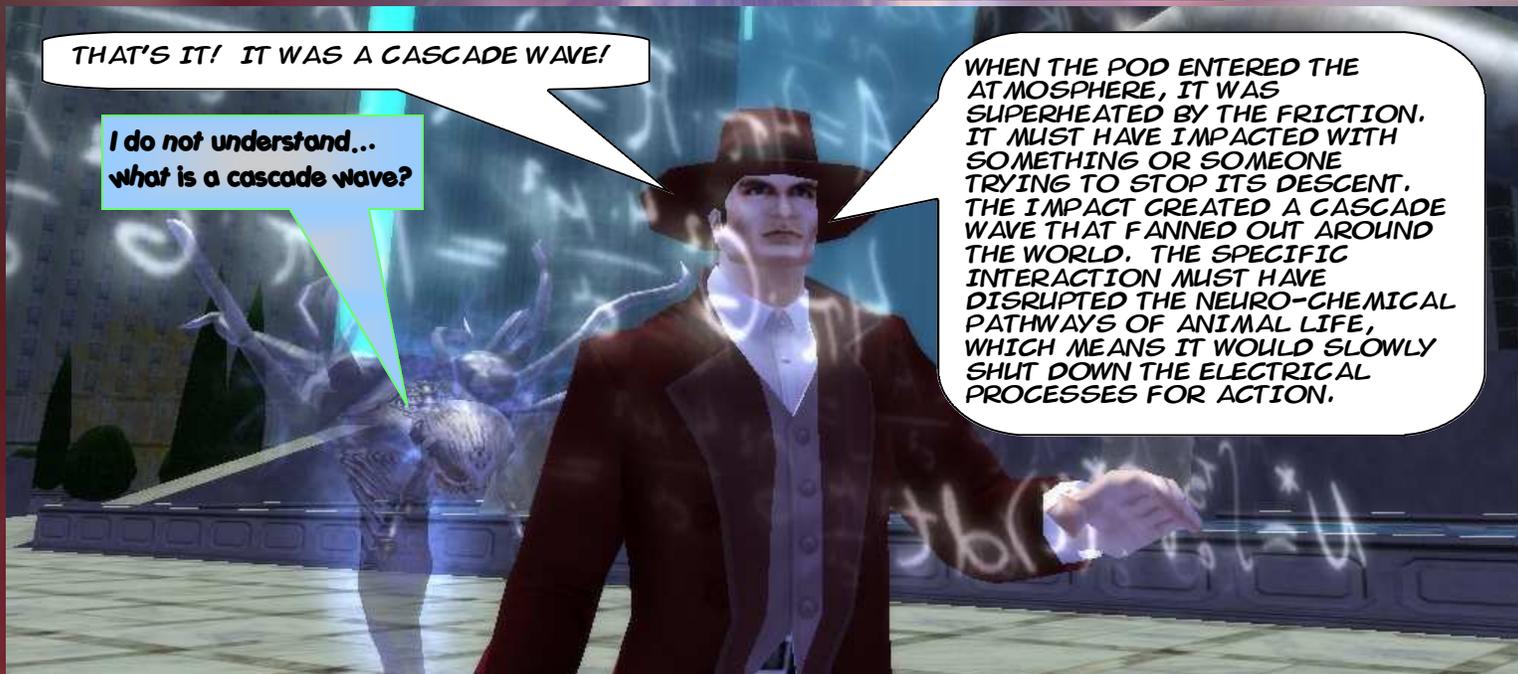
YES...



NO...

UNLESS...

YESSS...



THAT'S IT! IT WAS A CASCADE WAVE!

I do not understand... what is a cascade wave?

WHEN THE POD ENTERED THE ATMOSPHERE, IT WAS SUPERHEATED BY THE FRICTION. IT MUST HAVE IMPACTED WITH SOMETHING OR SOMEONE TRYING TO STOP ITS DESCENT. THE IMPACT CREATED A CASCADE WAVE THAT FANNED OUT AROUND THE WORLD. THE SPECIFIC INTERACTION MUST HAVE DISRUPTED THE NEURO-CHEMICAL PATHWAYS OF ANIMAL LIFE, WHICH MEANS IT WOULD SLOWLY SHUT DOWN THE ELECTRICAL PROCESSES FOR ACTION.

I do not understand... how does it destroy all life but plants?

WELL, THINKING IS AN ELECTRO-CHEMICAL PROCESS. PLANTS OPERATE THROUGH CHEMICAL PROCESSES ONLY.

AND IT WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE AN IMMEDIATE PROCESS EITHER. IT COULD HAVE HAPPENED ON IMPACT AND SLOWLY SHUT DOWN NEURAL IMPULSES. PEOPLE WOULD JUST FEEL TIRED AND GO TO SLEEP.

So your theory is that it was merely... an... accident?

YES.

That will be in my report.

SO... THE NEXT QUESTION IS... WHO TRIED TO STOP THIS POD FROM CRASHING DOWN?

That does not matter, Doc... Tor. The person responsible is most likely dead along with all of the other lives on this planet.

YES, BUT FIGURING OUT WHO WOULD GIVE US AN IDEA OF HOW THEY CREATED THE INTERACTION THAT CAUSED THE CASCADE WAVE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

PLUS, LIKE I SAID, I'M HERE ON "BORROWED TIME". I CAN ALWAYS FIGURE OUT WHO DID IT AND CHANGE THE EVENTS SO THAT THIS TRAGEDY DIDN'T HAPPEN.

BY THE WAY, I SHOULD ASK WHAT YEAR THIS IS...

According to the local devices still in operation, it is the year two-zero-one-one, as measured on this planet.

WAIT... TWO-THOUSAND-ELEVEN?

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!

THIS PROCESS COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED IN LESS THAN A YEAR!

WELL, GRANTED THE MINIMAL STATE OF DISREPAIR IN THE AREA WOULD SUGGEST THAT, BUT THERE SHOULD STILL BE ANIMAL REMAINS SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY!

There are animal remains outside of the city that correlate to the theory.

AT LEAST LET ME FIGURE OUT WHO IS...

It appears that your "borrowed time" is up. Thank you for your assistance Doc... Tor...

WAIT! NO! DON'T DO IT! GIVE ME JUST A LITTLE MORE TIME... JUST A LITTLE MORE...

I will rest... then tell my superiors to claim this planet as a new Kheldian colony.

I.. CAN... FIX.. THIS...

ATLAS PARK - AE BUILDING

WELCOME BACK TO THE PRESENT, GALEN.

MENDER ROEBUCK

YEAR: 2010

I'M SORRY, BUT YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN. MY NAME IS DOC TOR.

RELAX, MISTER TOR... ONLY WE CAN HEAR THIS CONVERSATION BETWEEN US.

YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH PEOPLE KNOWING THAT NAME. NOT TO MENTION THAT THIS IS BEING HELD IN A PUBLIC PLACE INSTEAD OF... OH, I DON'T KNOW... MAYBE OUROBOROS?

THIS IS NOT A MATTER THAT OUROBOROS WANTS YOU INVOLVED IN.

IN FACT THEY WOULD EXPEL ME IF THEY KNEW I WAS EVEN TALKING WITH YOU.

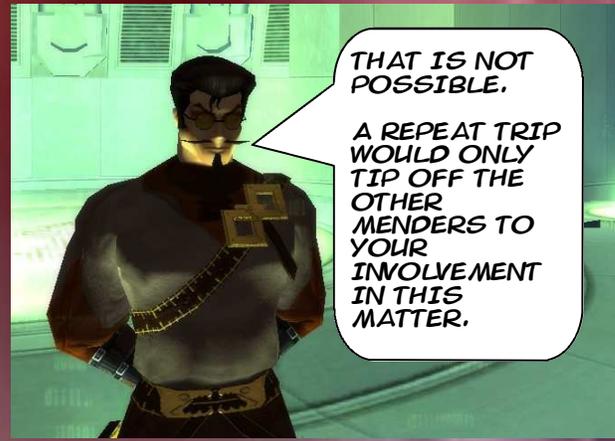
THAT I KNOW YOUR FIRST NAME SHOULD LET YOU KNOW THAT YOU AND I HAVE A CERTAIN... MUTUAL CONTACT*... THAT HAS ASKED THAT YOU INVESTIGATE THE MATTER YOU JUST WITNESSED.

FIRST, I DON'T APPRECIATE BEING SHANGHAIED ACROSS TIME WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.

I DIDN'T LIKE IT WHEN IT WAS DONE TO ME BY MY OWN PEOPLE, AND I LIKE IT EVEN LESS NOW AS AN EXILE IN THIS UNIVERSE.

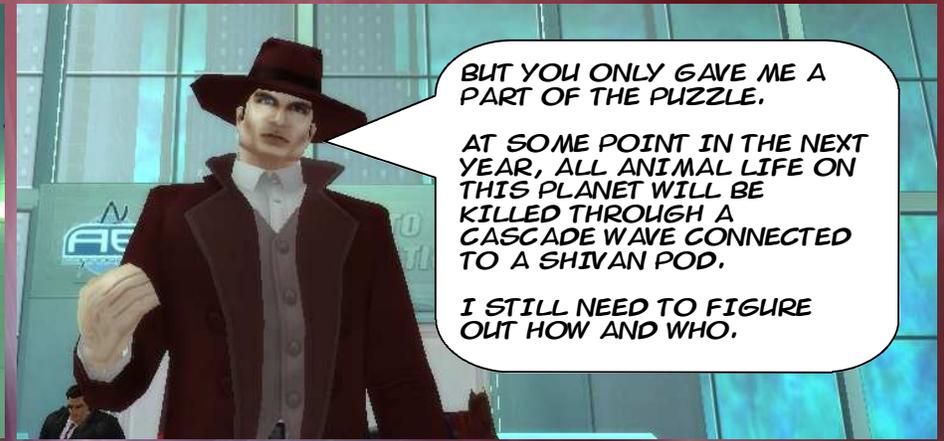
SECOND, I NEED TO GO BACK TO THAT FUTURE WITH MORE EQUIPMENT TO FIGURE OUT WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAGEDY THAT KILLED EVERYONE.

(*SEE "GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN" #0 FOR DETAILS)



THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE.

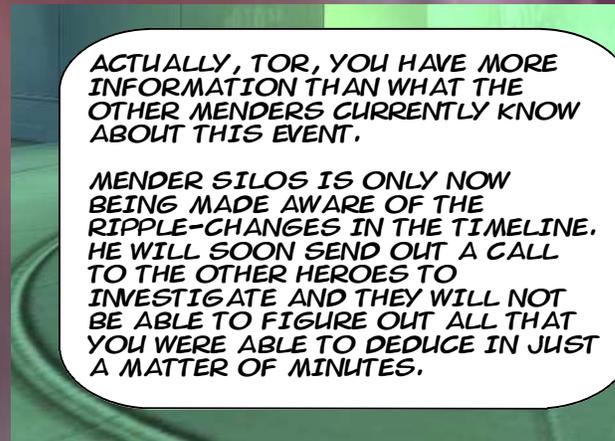
A REPEAT TRIP WOULD ONLY TIP OFF THE OTHER MENDERS TO YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THIS MATTER.



BUT YOU ONLY GAVE ME A PART OF THE PUZZLE.

AT SOME POINT IN THE NEXT YEAR, ALL ANIMAL LIFE ON THIS PLANET WILL BE KILLED THROUGH A CASCADE WAVE CONNECTED TO A SHIVAN POD.

I STILL NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW AND WHO.



ACTUALLY, TOR, YOU HAVE MORE INFORMATION THAN WHAT THE OTHER MENDERS CURRENTLY KNOW ABOUT THIS EVENT.

MENDER SILOS IS ONLY NOW BEING MADE AWARE OF THE RIPPLE-CHANGES IN THE TIMELINE. HE WILL SOON SEND OUT A CALL TO THE OTHER HEROES TO INVESTIGATE AND THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT ALL THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO DEDUCE IN JUST A MATTER OF MINUTES.

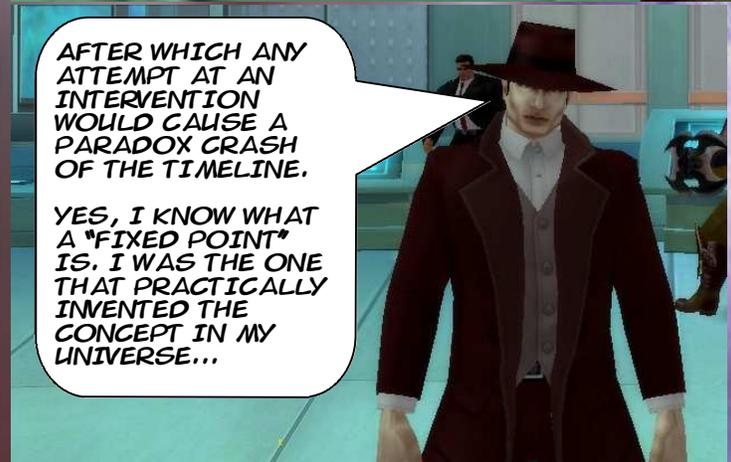


AND YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT THE TIMEFRAME.

THIS WON'T HAPPEN AT SOME POINT NEXT YEAR.

IT WILL HAPPEN THIS YEAR. IN FACT, IT WILL HAPPEN THIS WEEK.

YOU ONLY HAVE THREE DAYS BEFORE THIS EVENT BECOMES A FIXED POINT IN TIME.



AFTER WHICH ANY ATTEMPT AT AN INTERVENTION WOULD CAUSE A PARADOX CRASH OF THE TIMELINE.

YES, I KNOW WHAT A "FIXED POINT" IS. I WAS THE ONE THAT PRACTICALLY INVENTED THE CONCEPT IN MY UNIVERSE...



GOOD. THEN I'M GLAD THAT YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IS AT STAKE.

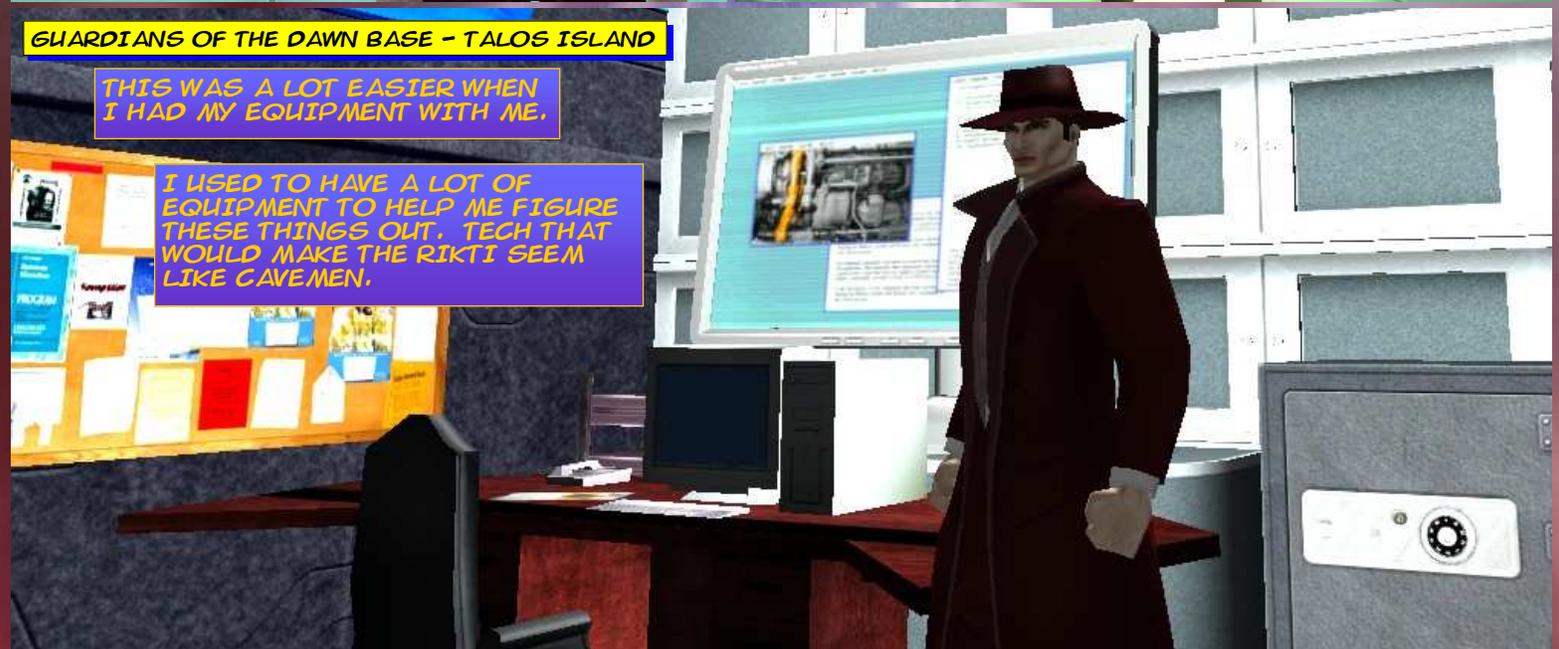
OH, AND DO NOT LET ANYONE KNOW THAT YOU'RE INVOLVED WITH THIS, ESPECIALLY THOSE GUARDIAN MEMBERS WITH ACCESS TO OUBOROBOS.

GOOD LUCK.

GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN BASE - TALOS ISLAND

THIS WAS A LOT EASIER WHEN I HAD MY EQUIPMENT WITH ME.

I USED TO HAVE A LOT OF EQUIPMENT TO HELP ME FIGURE THESE THINGS OUT. TECH THAT WOULD MAKE THE RIKTI SEEM LIKE CAVEMEN.

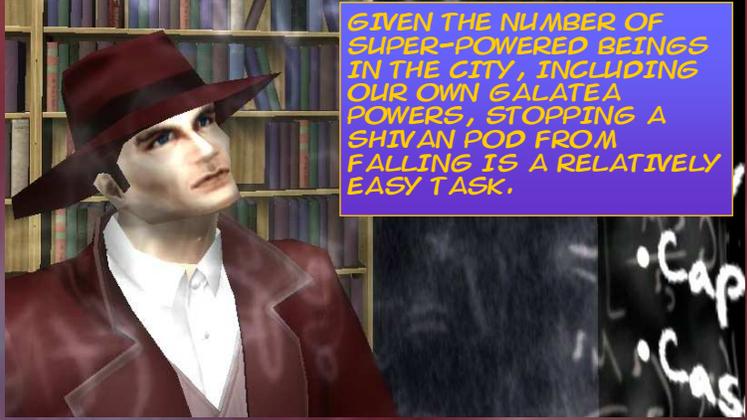


IT'S TIME TO GO OLD-SCHOOL.



QUITE LITERALLY.

GIVEN THE NUMBER OF SUPER-POWERED BEINGS IN THE CITY, INCLUDING OUR OWN SALATEA POWERS, STOPPING A SHIVAN POD FROM FALLING IS A RELATIVELY EASY TASK.

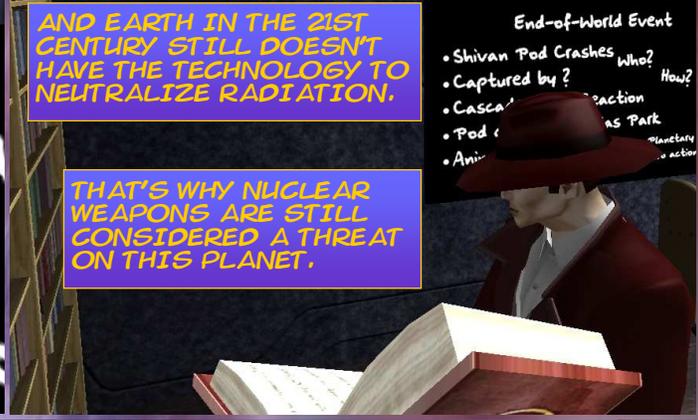


BUT THAT WOULDN'T CAUSE A CASCADE REACTION BY ITSELF, NEVER MIND ONE THAT WOULD NEUTRALIZE THE RADIATION THAT WOULD COME FROM A SHIVAN POD THAT WAS SUPERHEATED FROM ENTERING EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.



AND EARTH IN THE 21ST CENTURY STILL DOESN'T HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY TO NEUTRALIZE RADIATION.

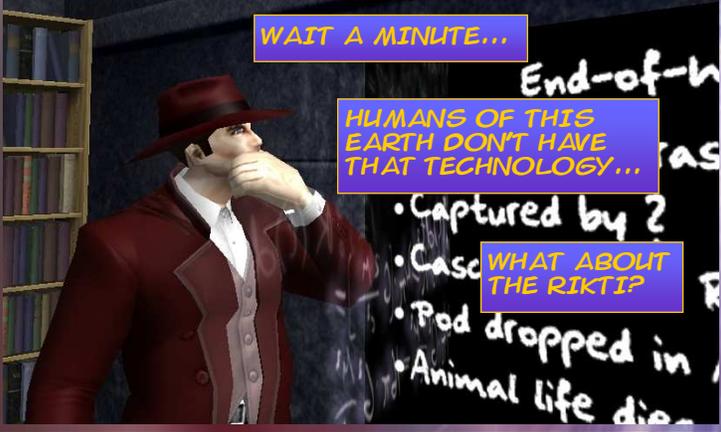
THAT'S WHY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE STILL CONSIDERED A THREAT ON THIS PLANET.



WAIT A MINUTE...

HUMANS OF THIS EARTH DON'T HAVE THAT TECHNOLOGY...

WHAT ABOUT THE RIKTI?



THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE THAT WOULD HAVE THAT KIND OF INFORMATION.



TIME FOR ME TO PAY THE VANGUARD A VISIT.

ATLAS PARK - VANGUARD BRANCH OFFICE



THIS IS A RESTRICTED AREA. YOU MUST SHOW PROPER IDENTIFICATION TO PASS THROUGH THESE DOORS.

THAT'S OKAY, I'M JUST HERE TO SPEAK WITH SOMEONE...

NOT REALLY FOND OF THE MILITARY, EVEN THOUGH SOME OF MY FORMER FRIENDS WERE SOLDIERS.





SIR, I'M GOING TO NEED TO SEE SOME ID...

DON'T CARRY ANY... GIVES TOO MUCH INFORMATION.

MAYBE IT'S JUST THE CONTROLLING ASPECT OF THE MILITARY THAT TURNS ME OFF.



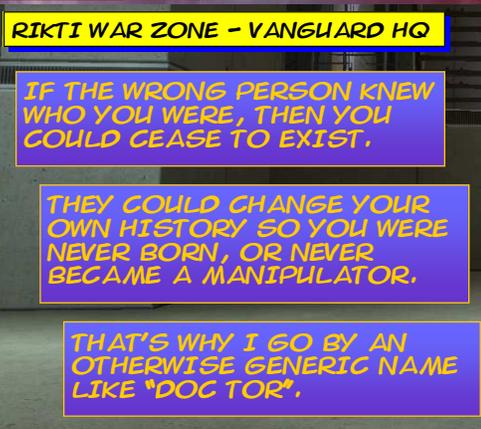
SIR, IF YOU DON'T SAY WHO YOU ARE AND WHY YOU ARE HERE THEN WE WILL HAVE TO STOP YOU.

OH, WELL THEN THAT'S DIFFERENT. I AM DOC TOR, AND I AM HERE TO SPEAK WITH ONE OF YOUR SUPERIORS.



PORTAL TO RIKTI WAR ZONE

NAMES ARE POWERFUL TOOLS, ESPECIALLY TO A TIME MANIPULATOR.

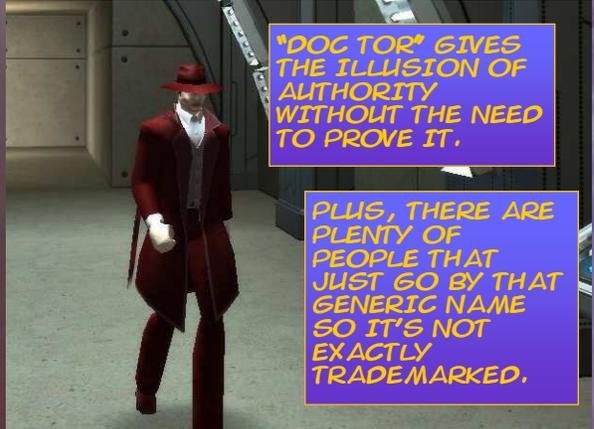


RIKTI WAR ZONE - VANGUARD HQ

IF THE WRONG PERSON KNEW WHO YOU WERE, THEN YOU COULD CEASE TO EXIST.

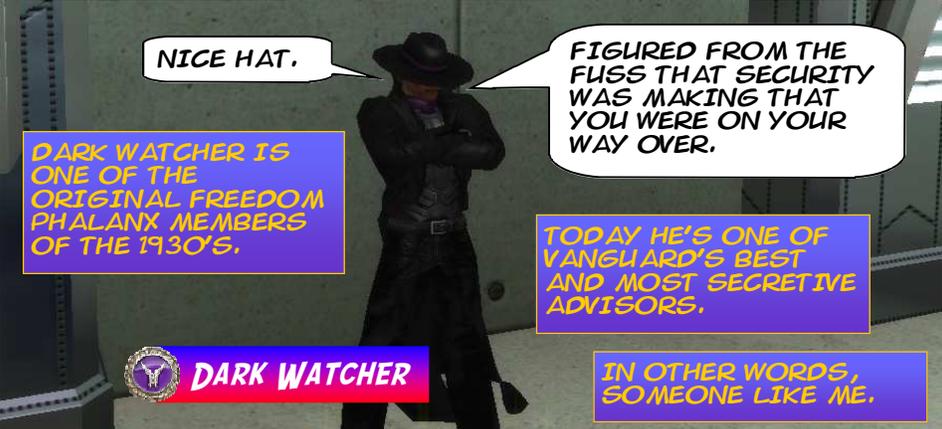
THEY COULD CHANGE YOUR OWN HISTORY SO YOU WERE NEVER BORN, OR NEVER BECAME A MANIPULATOR.

THAT'S WHY I GO BY AN OTHERWISE GENERIC NAME LIKE "DOC TOR".



"DOC TOR" GIVES THE ILLUSION OF AUTHORITY WITHOUT THE NEED TO PROVE IT.

PLUS, THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE THAT JUST GO BY THAT GENERIC NAME SO IT'S NOT EXACTLY TRADEMARKED.



NICE HAT.

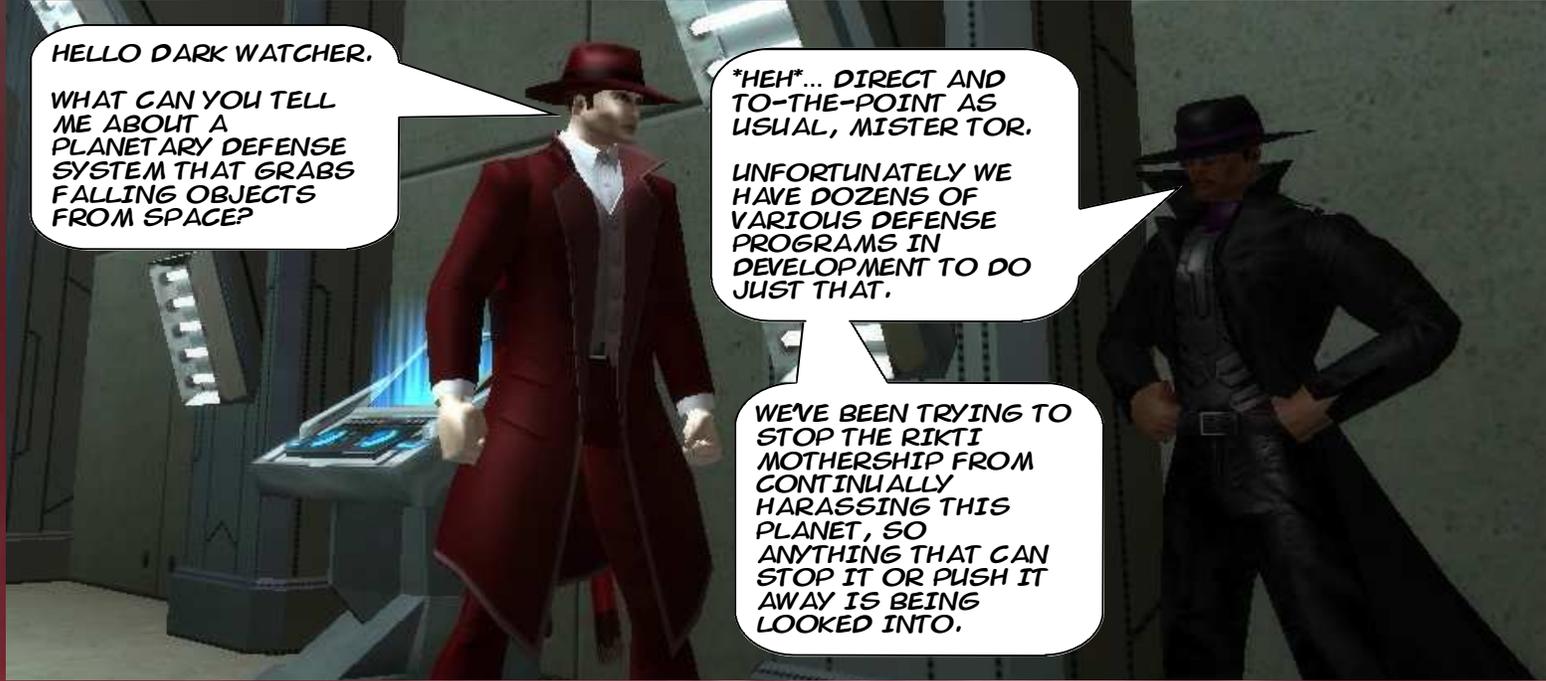
DARK WATCHER IS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FREEDOM PHALANX MEMBERS OF THE 1930'S.

FIGURED FROM THE FUSS THAT SECURITY WAS MAKING THAT YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY OVER.

TODAY HE'S ONE OF VANGUARD'S BEST AND MOST SECRETIVE ADVISORS.

IN OTHER WORDS, SOMEONE LIKE ME.

 DARK WATCHER



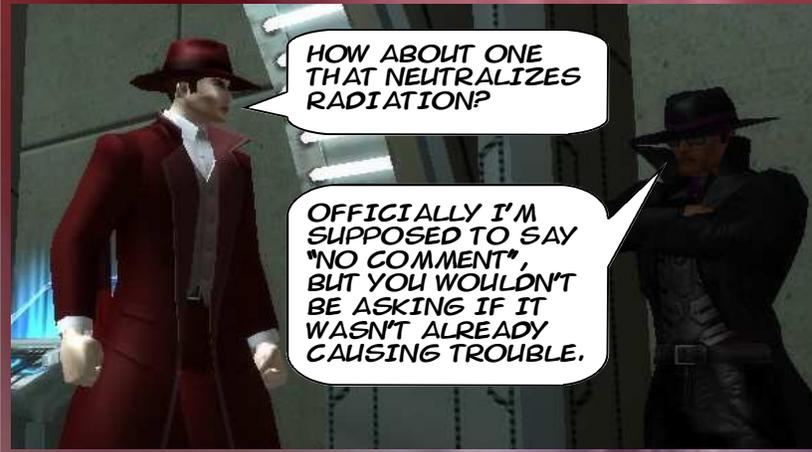
HELLO DARK WATCHER.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT A PLANETARY DEFENSE SYSTEM THAT GRABS FALLING OBJECTS FROM SPACE?

HEH... DIRECT AND TO-TO-POINT AS USUAL, MISTER TOR.

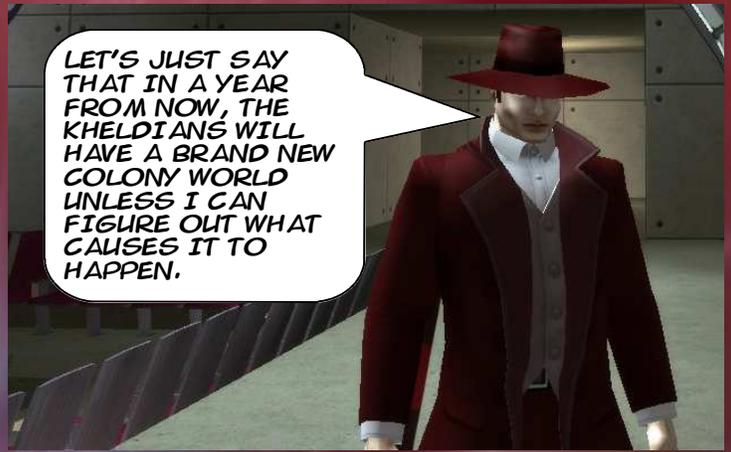
UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE DOZENS OF VARIOUS DEFENSE PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT TO DO JUST THAT.

WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO STOP THE RIKTI MOTHERSHIP FROM CONTINUALLY HARASSING THIS PLANET, SO ANYTHING THAT CAN STOP IT OR PUSH IT AWAY IS BEING LOOKED INTO.



HOW ABOUT ONE THAT NEUTRALIZES RADIATION?

OFFICIALLY I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY "NO COMMENT", BUT YOU WOULDN'T BE ASKING IF IT WASN'T ALREADY CAUSING TROUBLE.



LET'S JUST SAY THAT IN A YEAR FROM NOW, THE KHELDIANS WILL HAVE A BRAND NEW COLONY WORLD UNLESS I CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT CAUSES IT TO HAPPEN.

THAT BAD, HUH?

OKAY, THEN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE NEUTRON PROJECT, A JOINT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BETWEEN VANGUARD, CYCORP, AND AN INTELLIGENCE THINK-TANK CALLED THE ROCINANE GROUP.

THE PROJECT IS SUPPOSED TO NEUTRALIZE THE REACTOR CORE OF A RIKTI MOTHERSHIP AND ANY OTHER KIND OF SHIP USING THAT KIND OF POWER.

THE PROJECT ITSELF IS BEING OVERSEEN BY ONE OF GALAXY GIRL'S FORMER PROTÉGÉS, NOVAPRIMA, SO SHE SHOULD BE OPEN TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.



WELL THAT MAY ONLY ANSWER HALF OF THE PROBLEM...



THE OTHER HALF IS WONDERING HOW A SHIVAN TRANSPORT POD FITS INTO THE WHOLE MESS. YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE TRACKING ANY NEW PODS IN SPACE BY ANY CHANCE?

WISH I COULD TELL YOU "NO COMMENT" FOR THAT AS WELL.

BUT THEN I GUESS THAT WOULD MAKE THINGS A LITTLE TOO EASY FOR YOU.

IF YOU DO FIND IT, THOUGH, LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY.

RIGHT... WOULDN'T WANT ANOTHER BLOODY BAY SITUATION, AN' ALL.

EXACTLY.



GOOD LUCK, DOC TOR... FOR US ALL, I SUPPOSE.

ATLAS PARK - VANGUARD HQ

EXCUSE ME... SIR? WOULD YOU MIND STOPPING AND ANSWERING SOME QUESTIONS?



SORRY, I ALREADY GAVE AT THE OFFICE.

D@MN CAPES...



I DON'T MEAN TO BE CRUEL, IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THE BUREAUCRACY.

THAT WASN'T ALWAYS THE CASE, THOUGH.

ONCE I HAD ALL THE TIME IN THE OMNIVERSE.

CONSIDER THE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES OF THE MULTIVERSE. DOZENS OF DIFFERENT UNIVERSES, EACH WITH PLANETS MUCH LIKE THIS ONE.



WHEN MY PEOPLE FIRST DISCOVERED THE MULTIVERSE, THEY WERE IN SHOCK. THEY HAD ALREADY MASTERED THE RULES AND LIMITATIONS OF TIME, AND THEN FOUND OUT THAT THE UNIVERSE COULD HAVE TURNED OUT DIFFERENTLY, AND IN SOME INSTANCES IT DID.

BUT THEY APPROACHED IT IN THE SAME WAY AS THEY DID WITH TIME. THEY LOCKED IT DOWN AND TOLD US WE COULD ONLY OBSERVE, NOT INTERACT.

IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE YOU COULD BE EARTH'S GREATEST HERO...

AND ANOTHER WHERE YOU ARE EARTH'S MOST RUTHLESS DICTATOR*.

AND NOW ASK YOURSELF WHAT WOULD THESE GROUPS DO WITH THE POWER OF TIME AT THEIR DISPOSAL. WOULD YOU JUST SIT BACK AND WATCH THEM FUMBLE ABOUT WITH IT?



★ STATESMAN



TYRANT

(*SEE "CITY OF HEROES: GOING ROGUE")

UNFORTUNATELY I DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT VERY LONG TO FIND OUT THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION.

A VERY POWERFUL BEING CALLED ALOR DISCOVERED THE EXISTENCE OF OTHER UNIVERSES. THE REALIZATION OF OTHER, EVEN LESSER, VERSIONS OF HIMSELF DROVE HIM INSANE.

IN HIS MADNESS, HE TRAVELLED THROUGH TIME AND DIMENSIONS, CREATING TIME PARADOXES THAT DESTROYED WHOLE UNIVERSES, AND MAKING HIMSELF EVEN MORE POWERFUL IN THE PROCESS.

HIS FIRST MULTIVERSE VICTIM WAS THE UNIVERSE DESIGNATED QXCS-7, WHERE ALOR EXISTED AS A FEEBLE-MINDED GARDENER. HE KILLED HIS ALTERNATE SELF, NOT REALIZING THAT DOING SO WOULD DESTROY A KEY POINT IN THAT EARTH'S DEVELOPMENT.

THAT EARTH WAS RIPPED APART BY ENTROPY. THE UNIVERSE SOON FOLLOWED.

AND I COULD ONLY WATCH IT HAPPEN.



I PLEDGED AT THAT MOMENT THAT I WOULDN'T JUST BE AN OBSERVER ANY MORE.



I WASN'T JUST GOING TO HIDE IN MY TASMACH* CHAMBER AND JUST WATCH THE EVENTS AS THEY UNFOLD.

(*TASMACH - TIME AND SPACE MACHINE)

I WAS GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE WOULDN'T BE ANOTHER THREAT LIKE ALOR. I WAS GOING TO PREVENT OTHER TYRANTS FROM BECOMING A THREAT.



I KNEW THAT REASON AND CONFRONTATION WOULD NOT DISSUADE THE TRULY DETERMINED FROM GETTING THIS POWER.

SO I WORKED SUBTLY. I TRAVELLED INTO THEIR PASTS AND MADE SMALL CHANGES TO THEIR NATURES.

I INSTILLED DOUBT AMONGST THE MILITANT. I BROUGHT QUESTION TO THE EVANGELICAL.

MINOR CHANGES THAT WOULD BE WRITTEN OFF BY MY PEOPLE AS CASUALTIES OF OUR ROLES AS "OBSERVERS".

FOR A WHILE IT WORKED. THOSE THAT WOULD BECOME THREATS TO TIME AND SPACE WERE NEUTRALIZED. THEY WOULD STILL BE MONSTERS, BUT ONLY FOR THAT PERIOD OF TIME.

THEN I GOT CARELESS...



I WAS VISITING ONE OF THE UNIVERSES THAT FELL VICTIM TO ALOR'S ATTACK.



IT HAD NOT YET FALLEN INTO FULL ENTROPY, AND I WAS EAGER TO LEAVE BEFORE IT DID.

A LITTLE TOO EAGER...

Warning! Warning!
Debris trailing
TASMACH path.

SCAN AND
DETERMINE
NATURE OF
DEBRIS.

Debris is inert organic
material from remains
of Planet Earth in
Universe SUB1-6661.

PROCEED ON COURSE
TO THE UNIVERSE
DESIGNATED XHT-S7.

WE'LL APPEAR OVER THE
PLANET AND LET IT
BURN UP HARMLESSLY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

I WAS AN IDIOT.

I DIDN'T TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT HOW LARGE THE
DEBRIS WAS, OR WHETHER
OR NOT ALL OF IT WOULD
BURN UP HARMLESSLY.

UNIVERSE XHT-S7...

OCTOBER 30TH, 1938

DURING THE RADIO DRAMA
"WAR OF THE WORLDS", A REAL-
LIFE METEOR SHOWER RAINED
ON THAT PLANET, DOING TWO
THINGS I DIDN'T FACTOR IN...

FIRST, IT GAVE PEOPLE POWERS.



STARTING WITH
TWO BROTHERS
FROM NEW JERSEY
NAMED "POWERS".

Analysis of fallout from
Universe SUB1-6661 into
Universe XHT-S7 complete.
Quantum radiation on the
populace has altered the
course of human events.

SEND THE UPDATE REPORT
TO THE WATCHERS. THEY
SHOULD REVISE THEIR
RECORDS ACCORDINGLY.

I TRACED THEIR REVISED
FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND
I DETERMINED THEY
WOULD NOT BE A THREAT
TO THE TIMESTREAM.

I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING
OF IT. I WROTE THE
WHOLE THING OFF AS A
CASUALTY OF WORKING
BETWEEN UNIVERSES.

IN FACT, TWO OF THEIR
IMMEDIATE CHILDREN
WOULD GO ON TO
BECOME THAT PLANET'S
GREATEST CHAMPIONS.

I ALSO DIDN'T REALIZE
THAT THE DEBRIS WOULD
ALSO LEAVE A QUANTUM
TRAIL, LINKING THE TWO
UNIVERSES TOGETHER.

THAT WAS THE SECOND
CONSEQUENCE I DIDN'T
TAKE INTO ACCOUNT...

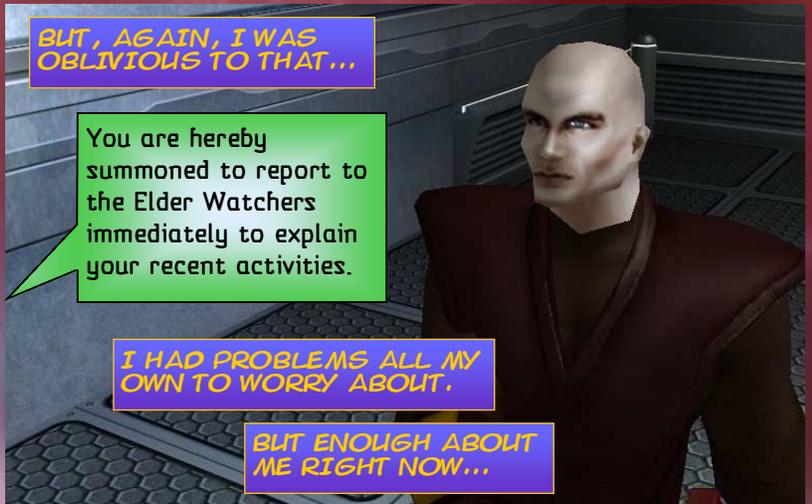
I INADVERTENTLY LED ALOR RIGHT TO THEM.



THEY TRIED TO MOUNT A RESISTANCE*, BUT ALOR HAD BECOME JUST TOO POWERFUL FOR THEM.

(*AS DOCUMENTED IN GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN ISSUES 0-3)

BUT, AGAIN, I WAS OBLIVIOUS TO THAT...



You are hereby summoned to report to the Elder Watchers immediately to explain your recent activities.

I HAD PROBLEMS ALL MY OWN TO WORRY ABOUT.

BUT ENOUGH ABOUT ME RIGHT NOW...

NEUTRON PROJECT CONTROL



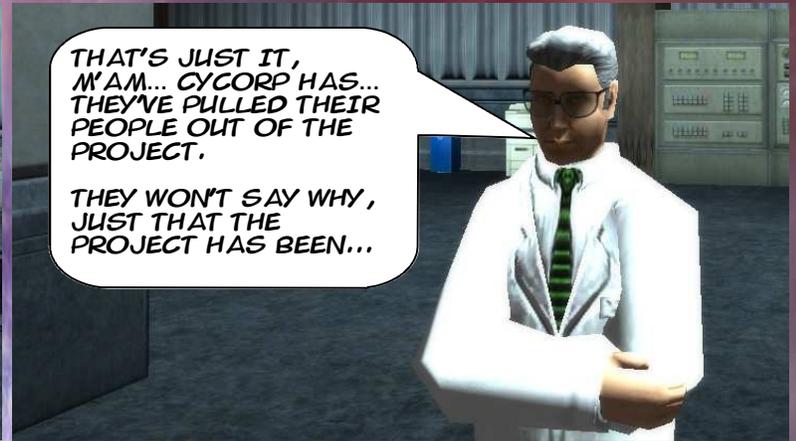
M'AM...

YOU BETTER EXPLAIN WHY NOBODY'S HERE BUT US, CHRIS, AND YOU BETTER MAKE IT GOOD. WE'RE JUST THREE DAYS AWAY FROM A LIVE FIELD TEST.

NOVAPRIMA

THAT'S JUST IT, M'AM... CYCORP HAS... THEY'VE PULLED THEIR PEOPLE OUT OF THE PROJECT.

THEY WON'T SAY WHY, JUST THAT THE PROJECT HAS BEEN...



... "HAS BEEN" WHAT?
OUT WITH IT!



IT'S BEEN COMPROMISED, M'AM. OUR TARGET SATELLITE HAS BEEN... IT'S BEEN HIJACKED.



AS SOON AS WE DISCOVERED THAT THE TARGET SATELLITE WAS MISSING, THE CYCORP REP MADE A PHONE CALL AND THEN ORDERED THEIR PEOPLE TO EVACUATE.



I WASN'T HAPPY WITH CYCORP COMING IN TO BEGIN WITH.

I'VE HEARD SOME... UNFAVORABLE THINGS ABOUT THEM FROM A FEW YEARS BACK* WHILE I WAS STILL IN A COMA.

STILL, IT WASN'T MY CALL TO MAKE ON THIS.



(*AS DOCUMENTED IN THE "JUSTICE-KNIGHTS" SERIES)



THEY'RE RIGHT...

THE TARGET SATELLITE IS NO LONGER IN ORBIT.
SO WHERE IS IT GOING?
AND WHY?

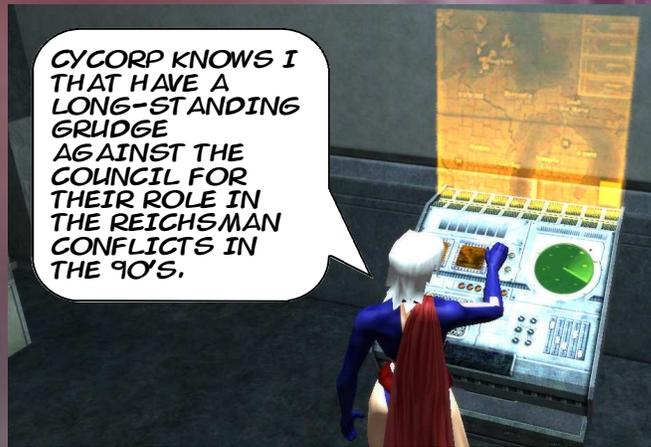


OH \$#/T...



THE COUNCIL!

THAT EXPLAINS IT ALL RIGHT...



CYCORP KNOWS I THAT HAVE A LONG-STANDING GRUDGE AGAINST THE COUNCIL FOR THEIR ROLE IN THE REICHSMAN CONFLICTS IN THE 90'S.



BUT WHY DIDN'T CYCORP JUST ADMIT THAT THEY WERE USING TECHNOLOGY SEIZED FROM THE COUNCIL?

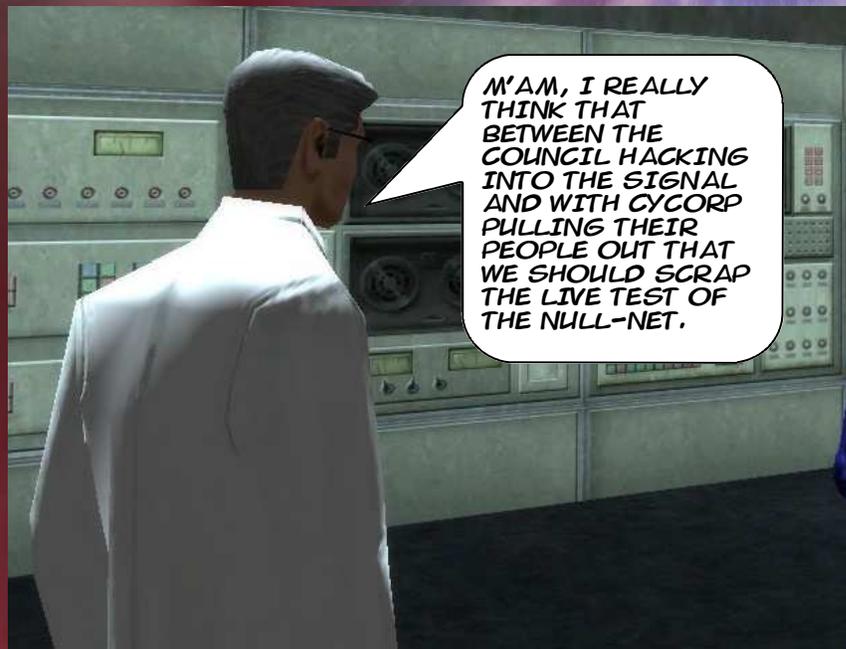
BECAUSE CYCORP PROBABLY DIDN'T REALIZE THE COUNCIL STILL HAD BACK-DOORS TO THEIR TECH.



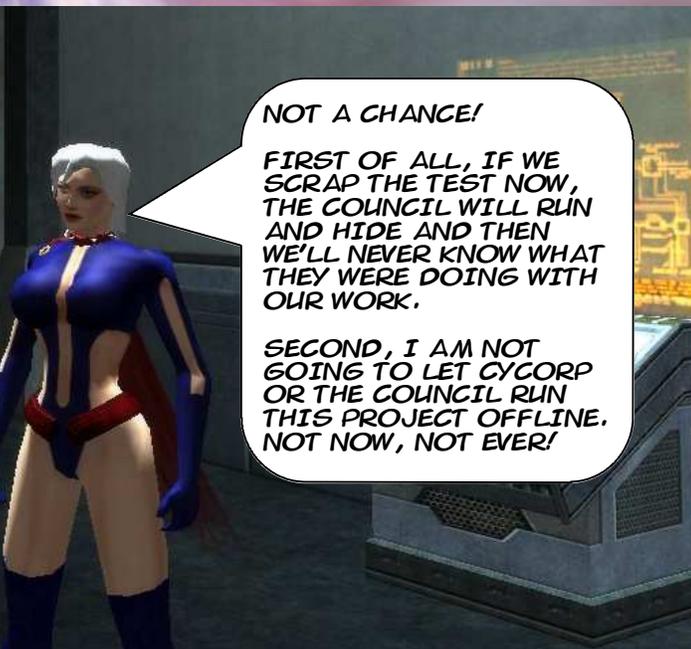
THIS IS NOVAPRIMA. I NEED AN ACCESS TRACE FOR TELEMETRY PANEL AER-40.



NO, DO NOT LOCK OUT THE CONSOLE! I JUST NEED TO KNOW WHERE THE DATA IS BEING DIVERTED TO.



M'AM, I REALLY THINK THAT BETWEEN THE COUNCIL HACKING INTO THE SIGNAL AND WITH CYCORP PULLING THEIR PEOPLE OUT THAT WE SHOULD SCRAP THE LIVE TEST OF THE NULL-NET.



NOT A CHANCE!
FIRST OF ALL, IF WE SCRAP THE TEST NOW, THE COUNCIL WILL RUN AND HIDE AND THEN WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT THEY WERE DOING WITH OUR WORK.
SECOND, I AM NOT GOING TO LET CYCORP OR THE COUNCIL RUN THIS PROJECT OFFLINE. NOT NOW, NOT EVER!



THERE IS A RIKTI MOTHERSHIP OUT THERE TAKING POT SHOTS AT EARTH.

IN 2002, THEY DROPPED A FUSION BOMB ON MY HEAD THAT PUT ME IN A COMA FOR SEVEN YEARS.

I'VE BEEN LOOKING TO REPAY THEM IN FULL FOR THAT.



NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND, THE VANGUARD GAVE ME THE LOCATION OF WHERE THE COUNCIL IS DIVERTING THE SIGNAL AND I'M GOING TO LOOK INTO IT MYSELF.

IT'S ONE OF THOSE THINGS WE "CAPES" DO.

ATLAS PARK - CITY HALL



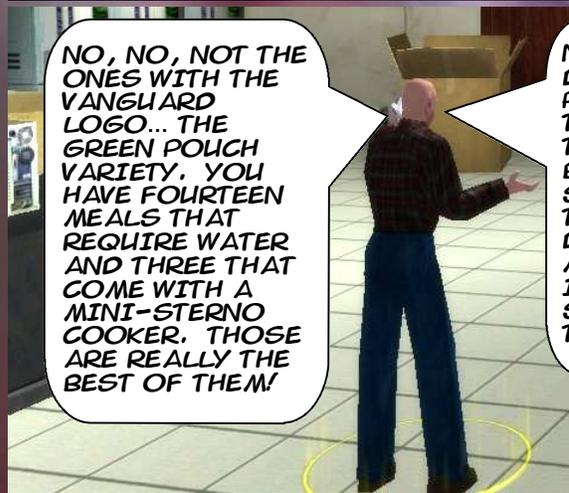
RIGHT, SO I WAS TELLING LADY GREY...



PEOPLE ARE IDIOTS TO JUST GO BUY BREAD AND MILK BEFORE A RIKTI INVASION, OR FOR ANY OTHER CRISIS.

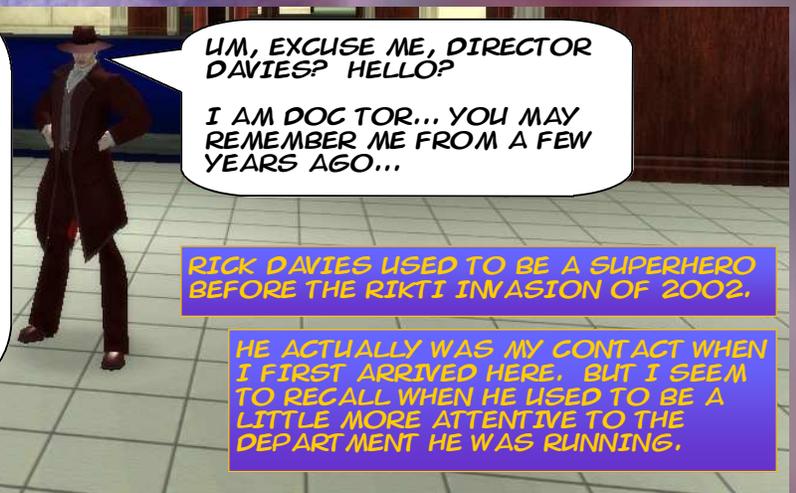
NO, SERIOUSLY. BREAD AND MILK? MILK SPOILS WHEN THE POWER IS CUT OFF AND BREAD GETS MOLDY. IT'S BETTER TO BUY BOTTLED WATER, CANNED FOODS, AND PRE-FAB MILITARY MEALS. THOSE WILL LAST!

RICK DAVIES



NO, NO, NOT THE ONES WITH THE VANGUARD LOGO... THE GREEN POUCH VARIETY. YOU HAVE FOURTEEN MEALS THAT REQUIRE WATER AND THREE THAT COME WITH A MINI-STERNO COOKER. THOSE ARE REALLY THE BEST OF THEM!

NO MY WIFE DID NOT PUT ME UP TO SAYING THAT! JUST BECAUSE SHE'S ON THE BOARD DOESN'T MEAN THAT I HAVE TO SHILL FOR THEM!

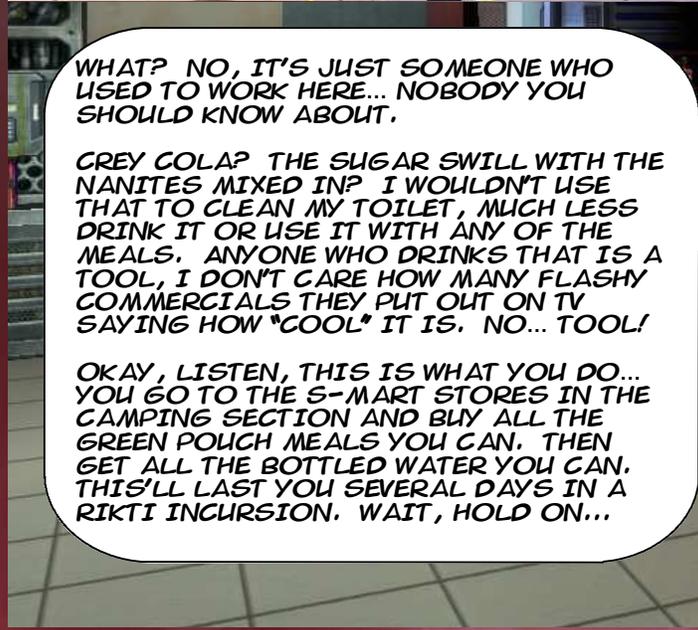


UM, EXCUSE ME, DIRECTOR DAVIES? HELLO?

I AM DOC TOR... YOU MAY REMEMBER ME FROM A FEW YEARS AGO...

RICK DAVIES USED TO BE A SUPERHERO BEFORE THE RIKTI INVASION OF 2002.

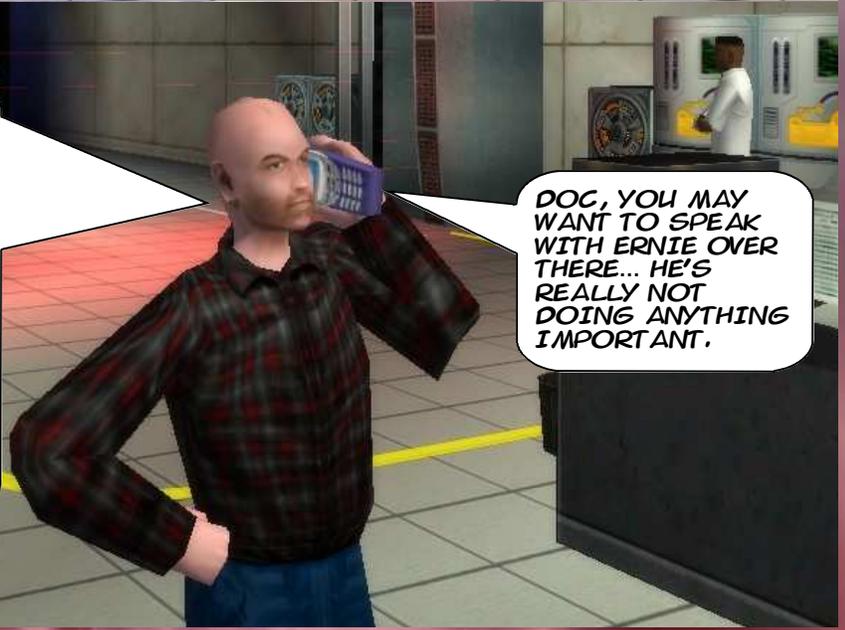
HE ACTUALLY WAS MY CONTACT WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED HERE. BUT I SEEM TO RECALL WHEN HE USED TO BE A LITTLE MORE ATTENTIVE TO THE DEPARTMENT HE WAS RUNNING.



WHAT? NO, IT'S JUST SOMEONE WHO USED TO WORK HERE... NOBODY YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT.

GREY COLA? THE SUGAR SWILL WITH THE NANITES MIXED IN? I WOULDN'T USE THAT TO CLEAN MY TOILET, MUCH LESS DRINK IT OR USE IT WITH ANY OF THE MEALS. ANYONE WHO DRINKS THAT IS A TOOL, I DON'T CARE HOW MANY FLASHY COMMERCIALS THEY PUT OUT ON TV SAYING HOW "COOL" IT IS. NO... TOOL!

OKAY, LISTEN, THIS IS WHAT YOU DO... YOU GO TO THE S-MART STORES IN THE CAMPING SECTION AND BUY ALL THE GREEN POUCH MEALS YOU CAN. THEN GET ALL THE BOTTLED WATER YOU CAN. THIS'LL LAST YOU SEVERAL DAYS IN A RIKTI INCURSION. WAIT, HOLD ON...



DOC, YOU MAY WANT TO SPEAK WITH ERNIE OVER THERE... HE'S REALLY NOT DOING ANYTHING IMPORTANT.



RIGHT... SO AS I WAS SAYING...

WAIT... ASCENDANT TOLD YOU THAT? AND YOU BELIEVED HIM? THIS IS THE SAME GUY WHO ONCE MARKETED HIS OWN WEAKNESS AS A BREAKFAST CEREAL! NO, SERIOUSLY, ASCENDANT-O'S. DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED ON WHAT HIS PEOPLE WERE TRYING TO CALL THE "ACTION CAVE PLAYSET".

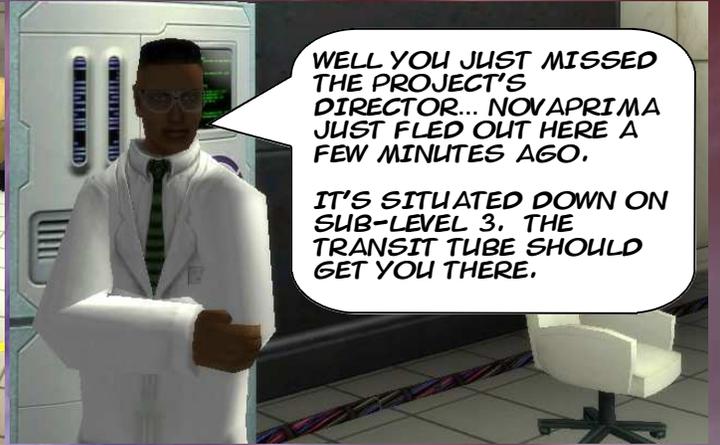
AND YOU WANT TO TRUST WHAT HE SAYS ABOUT DISASTER PREPAREDNESS?



I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, DOC... RICK'S BEEN HITTING THE CELLPHONE PRETTY HEAVY SINCE CAITLIN LINED HIM UP WITH A MEDIA CONSULTING SERVICE.

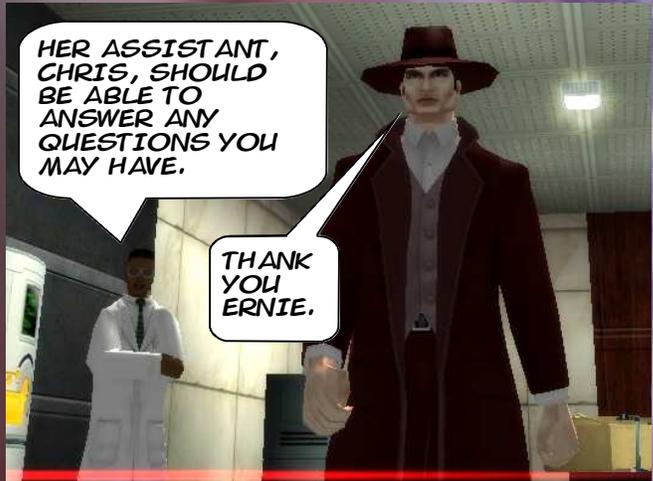
HOW CAN I HELP YOU TODAY?

WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE NEUTRON PROJECT?



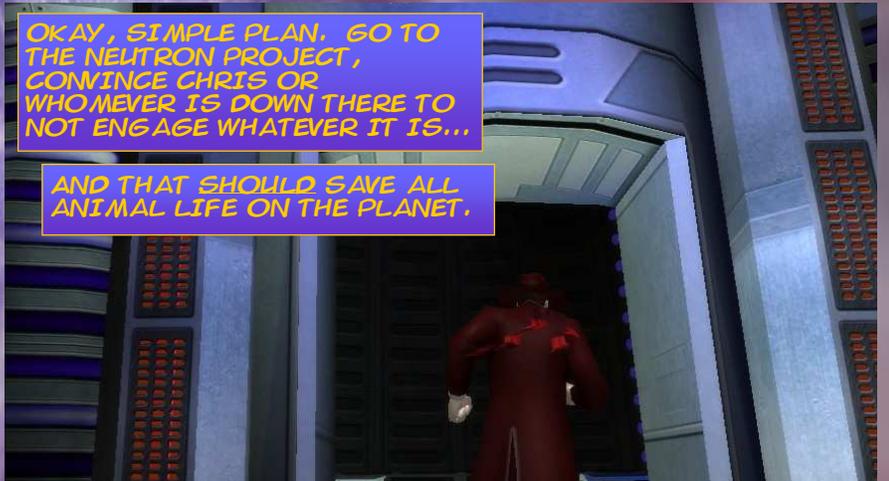
WELL YOU JUST MISSED THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR... NOVAPRIMA JUST FLED OUT HERE A FEW MINUTES AGO.

IT'S SITUATED DOWN ON SUB-LEVEL 3, THE TRANSIT TUBE SHOULD GET YOU THERE.



HER ASSISTANT, CHRIS, SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

THANK YOU ERNIE.



OKAY, SIMPLE PLAN, GO TO THE NEUTRON PROJECT, CONVINCE CHRIS OR WHOEVER IS DOWN THERE TO NOT ENGAGE WHATEVER IT IS...

AND THAT SHOULD SAVE ALL ANIMAL LIFE ON THE PLANET.

ATLAS PARK - YEAR: 2011



OR... AT LEAST THAT WAS THE PLAN.

I'VE GONE FROM BAD TO WORSE.



THIS IS NOT GROUND ZERO, BUT IT IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF EVERYTHING IN THE CITY.

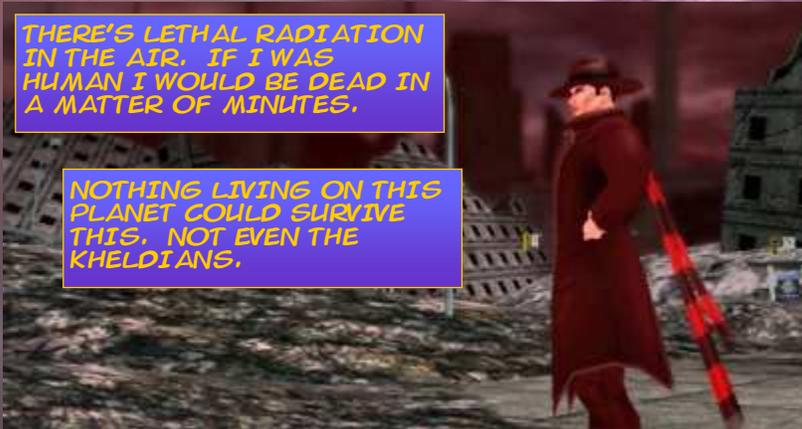
AND THE PRESENCE OF THE SHIVANS LETS ME KNOW THAT THE POD IS STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS DESTRUCTION.

THERE'S LETHAL RADIATION IN THE AIR. IF I WAS HUMAN I WOULD BE DEAD IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT TIME IS STILL FLUID, OTHERWISE I WOULDN'T BE HERE.

NOTHING LIVING ON THIS PLANET COULD SURVIVE THIS. NOT EVEN THE KHELDIANS.

THE BAD NEWS IS... IF I DON'T FIX WHATEVER IT IS THAT CAUSED IT, THIS WILL BE THE NEW FIXED POINT IN THE TIMELINE.



ALRIGHT I GET IT!
MENDER ROEBUCK OR WHOEVER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING ME ABOUT IN TIME, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO TELL ME! I GET THE MESSAGE!
JUST GET ME BACK TO WHERE I NEED TO BE AND I'LL FIX THIS! YOU WOULDN'T BE SENDING ME HERE IF I COULDN'T FIX THIS!

IT'S RARE THAT I GIVE THE DIRECT APPROACH A TRY, BUT I REALLY DON'T LIKE BEING HAILED AROUND LIKE THIS.



YEAR: 2010

OKAY... THIS DOES NOT LOOK LIKE A CONTROL ROOM OF A VANGUARD-RUN PROJECT.

IT ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE A COUNCIL BASE.



WHICH MEANS I PROBABLY SHOULD PLAY THE BUMBLING FOOL.



HELLO...

SCANTILY-CLAD WOMAN WITH A CAPE... I'M GUESSING THAT SHE IS NOVAPRIMA.



SO BRAVE YET SO HELPLESS...

COME ON... TAKE YOUR SHOT!

YOU'LL SEE JUST HOW "STUNNED" I REALLY AM...



PIPE IT DOWN, WE GOT A GUEST.

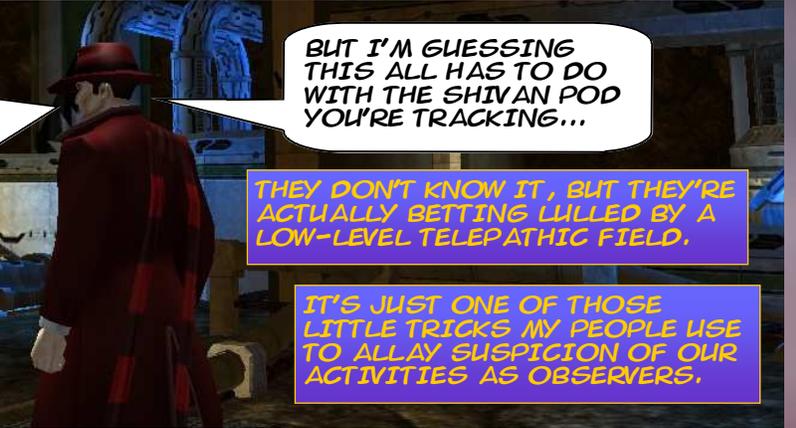


WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

HELLO. MY NAME IS TOR... DOC TOR TO BE PRECISE...



AND TO BE COMPLETELY HONEST WITH YOU, I SORT OF... POPPED IN... SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE "HERE" IS.



BUT I'M GUESSING THIS ALL HAS TO DO WITH THE SHIVAN POD YOU'RE TRACKING...

THEY DON'T KNOW IT, BUT THEY'RE ACTUALLY BETTING LULLED BY A LOW-LEVEL TELEPATHIC FIELD.

IT'S JUST ONE OF THOSE LITTLE TRICKS MY PEOPLE USE TO ALLAY SUSPICION OF OUR ACTIVITIES AS OBSERVERS.



NOT SO LOUD! DON'T WANT THE CAPE TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING!

THEY BELIEVE THAT I'M REALLY ON THEIR SIDE, SO THEY'LL DROP THEIR GUARD.



SO SHE'S NOT WITH... UH... US?

OF COURSE NOT! WE SNARED HER WITH A STUN GRENADE AND ASKED THE LEADER FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

THEY SAID TO WAIT FOR YOU TO ARRIVE.



NOVAPRIMA, RIGHT?

BE VERY STILL, AND DON'T MAKE TOO MUCH NOISE RIGHT NOW.

I HAVE TO TIME THIS RIGHT.



WHEN I GIVE THE WORD, THEN YOU CAN HIT AS MANY OF THEM AS YOU CAN.

I HAVE TO DISTRACT EVERY COUNCIL SOLDIER HERE TO MAKE IT FAIR FOR HER.



IT'S CALLED A PSIONIC FEEDBACK OVERLOAD.

AND...
NOW!

I CAN'T SEE!!

THAT LOW-LEVEL TELEPATHY BURSTS OUT ALL AT ONCE, BLINDING THE SENSES OF THOSE AFFECTED.



THE DOWNSIDE IS I GET A REALLY BAD MIGRAINE FOR AN HOUR WHEN I DO IT.



ARE YOU INJURED?

ONLY MY PRIDE.

THESE GOONS, ON THE OTHER HAND...



THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT RESPECTS WHAT SHE'S DOING.

HERE SHE IS, PARTIALLY NUMBED FROM A STUN GRENADE, AND SHE IS STILL ABLE TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE COUNCIL.

OF COURSE IT HELPS THAT I'M USING MY OWN LIMITED ABILITIES TO KEEP THEM DISTRACTED.

AND YET I STILL CAN SMELL THE STENCH OF DEATH IN THAT POSSIBLE FUTURE THAT I JUST CAME BACK FROM. THE RUBBLE, THE BURNING TINGLE OF LETHAL RADIATION, THE SIGHT OF THE SHIVAN CREATURES ROAMING THE RUINS OF ATLAS PARK...



WELL, THAT TAKES CARE OF THE COUNCIL...

DOC TOR, RIGHT? CATCHY NAME.

MAYBE YOU CAN EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE REALLY HERE, BECAUSE I DON'T THINK IT WAS JUST TO SAVE MY SPANDEX-COVERED BUTT.



I WISH IT WAS THAT SIMPLE. I'M HERE FROM VANGUARD.

NOT EXACTLY THE TRUTH... BUT IT'LL DO.



I HEARD DARK WATCHER HAD A FRIEND THAT WAS JUST LIKE HIM.

SO I'M GUESSING THE SHIVAN POD THAT YOU MENTIONED WAS WHY THE COUNCIL HIJACKED MY PROJECT.



SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

COME ON, WE STILL HAVE TO FIND IT.

SOMETHING LIKE WHAT?

HEY, WE'RE STILL ON THE SAME SIDE HERE, RIGHT?

RIGHT?

I HATE HAVING TO KEEP THE TRUTH FROM HER.



HEY... DOC? DOC TOR? WAIT UP!

BUT HOW CAN I TELL HER THAT SHE COULD SOON BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING ALL ANIMAL LIFE ON THE PLANET?



WELL... LOOKS LIKE YOU FOUND THEIR CONTROL CENTER.



THIS IS MORE THAN JUST A CONTROL CENTER.

THEY'VE HACKED INTO VANGUARD'S DEFENSE GRID AND NASA'S LONG-RANGE SPACE OBSERVATION NET.

IT'S A BRILLIANT TECHNOLOGICAL FEAT CONSIDERING NOBODY ELSE KNEW ABOUT IT UNTIL NOW.

NO... NO, NOT BRILLIANT... IT'S DIABOLICAL!

THIS TECHNOLOGY COULD BE USED TO FIND THE RIKTI MOTHERSHIP THAT'S BEEN TERRORIZING THE PLANET. THIS COULD BE USED TO FIND OTHER KHELDIANS, OR WHERE THE NICTUS ARE HIDING.

INSTEAD THEY'RE USING IT TO FIND AND RETRIEVE SHIVAN PODS.



WHY?

WELL THAT'S THE REAL QUESTION.

THERE ARE A LOT OF OTHER WAYS TO DESTROY THE PLANET.

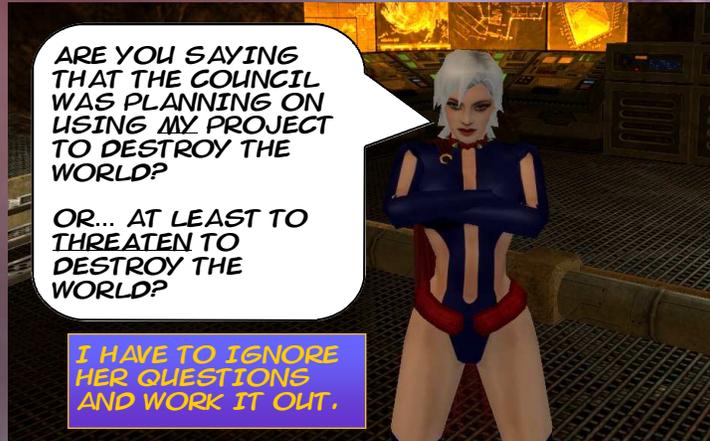
METEORS, COMETS, EVEN THE JUNK IN LOW-ORBIT CAN BE USED TO...



WAIT... DID YOU JUST SAY "DESTROY THE PLANET"?

WELLLL... NOT IN A "LITERAL" SENSE. THEY COULD USE IT TO HOLD THE WORLD HOSTAGE.

WHOOOPS! ALMOST GOT CAUGHT.



ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE COUNCIL WAS PLANNING ON USING MY PROJECT TO DESTROY THE WORLD?

OR... AT LEAST TO THREATEN TO DESTROY THE WORLD?

I HAVE TO IGNORE HER QUESTIONS AND WORK IT OUT.



BUT WHY SHIVANS? THEY'RE JUST INCOMPLETE ARCOSIANS LATCHING ON TO HUMAN REMAINS IN A FUTILE EFFORT TO STAY MARGINALLY ALIVE.

WHAT COULD BE SO IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNCIL TO USE THE NEUTRON PROJECT IN THIS WAY?



YOU KNOW THE NEUTRON PROJECT WASN'T DESIGNED TO RETRIEVE OBJECTS IN SPACE.

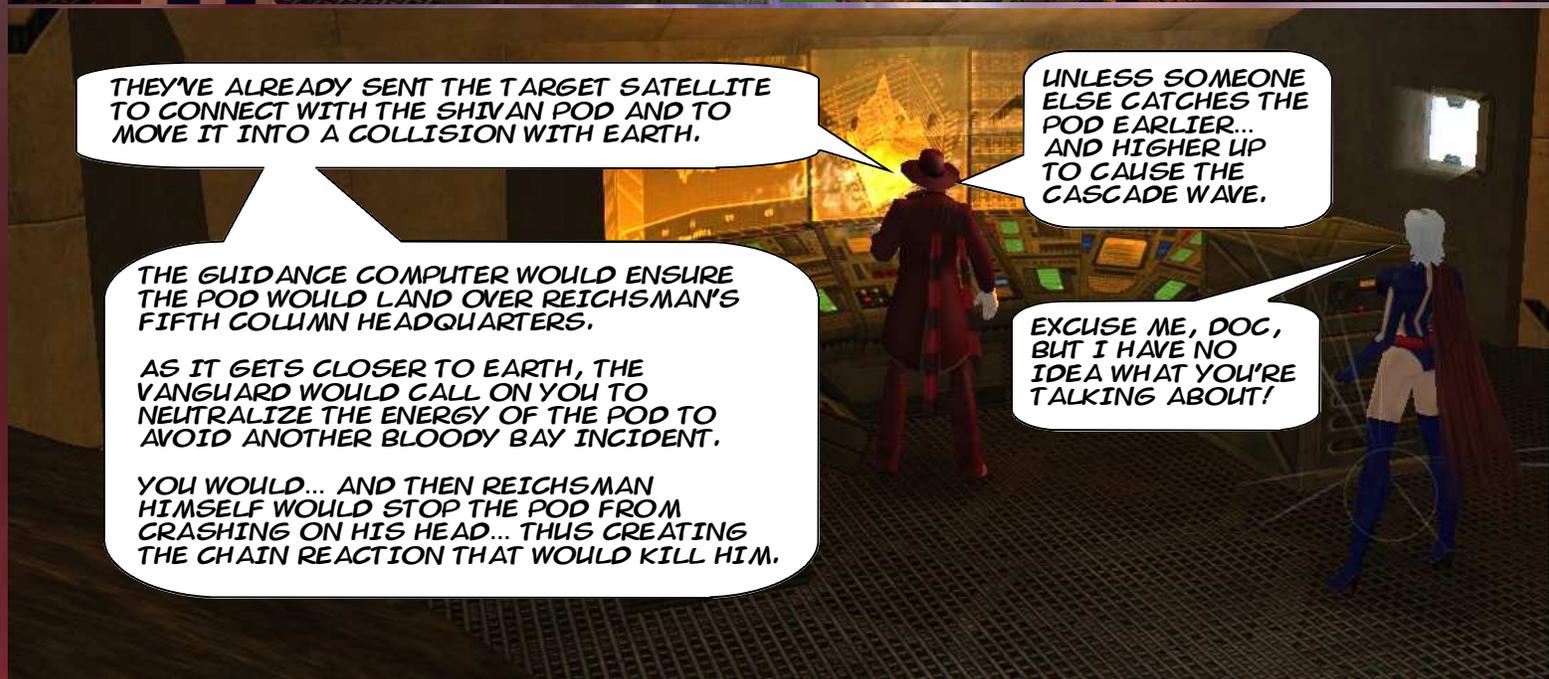
IT WAS DESIGNED TO NEUTRALIZE ENERGY REACTIONS.



OF COURSE! BRILLIANT!

THEY WEREN'T GOING TO TRIGGER A CASCADE REACTION IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

THEY WERE GOING TO USE IT TO KILL REICHSMAN FOR BETRAYING THEIR CAUSE.



THEY'VE ALREADY SENT THE TARGET SATELLITE TO CONNECT WITH THE SHIVAN POD AND TO MOVE IT INTO A COLLISION WITH EARTH.

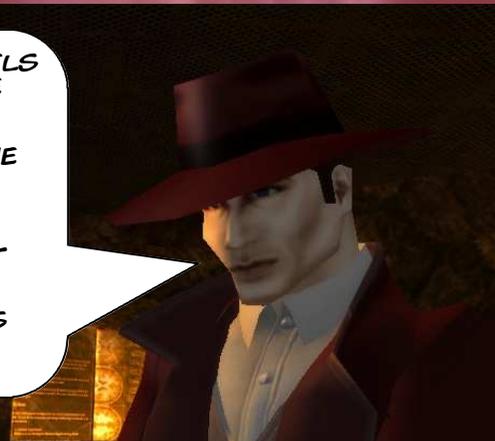
THE GUIDANCE COMPUTER WOULD ENSURE THE POD WOULD LAND OVER REICHSMAN'S FIFTH COLUMN HEADQUARTERS.

AS IT GETS CLOSER TO EARTH, THE VANGUARD WOULD CALL ON YOU TO NEUTRALIZE THE ENERGY OF THE POD TO AVOID ANOTHER BLOODY BAY INCIDENT.

YOU WOULD... AND THEN REICHSMAN HIMSELF WOULD STOP THE POD FROM CRASHING ON HIS HEAD... THUS CREATING THE CHAIN REACTION THAT WOULD KILL HIM.

UNLESS SOMEONE ELSE CATCHES THE POD EARLIER... AND HIGHER UP TO CAUSE THE CASCADE WAVE.

EXCUSE ME, DOC, BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!



SO THEIR PLAN FAILS
BECAUSE SOMEONE
BEATS THEM TO IT.

SHUTTING DOWN THE
PROJECT STILL
SENDS THE SHIVAN
POD TO EARTH AND
CREATES A PLANET-
WIDE BLOODY BAY.

SO THE ONLY THING
LEFT TO DO IS...



WHY NOT JUST LET THE
D@MN THING DROP ON
REICHSMAN'S HEAD AS
THE COUNCIL HAD
PLANNED?

I FOUGHT HIM WITH
THE FREEDOM PHALANX
IN THE 90'S. HE'S A
MONSTER. IF ANYONE
DESERVES TO DIE, HE
CERTAINLY DOES!



AS SIMPLISTIC AS
THAT MAY SOUND...
THE UNIVERSE
DOESN'T WORK THAT
WAY. SOMEONE ELSE
WOULD ALWAYS STEP
IN TO STOP THAT POD
FROM CRASHING.



WE NEED TO DESTROY
THE TARGET SATELLITE
BEFORE IT REACHES
THE POD TO DIVERT IT.

NO POD, NO THREAT,
NO ACTION NEEDED.

SO... WHERE'S THE
SATELLITE'S
CONTROL PANEL?



I WAS
WONDERING...
WHY DESTROY
THE SATELLITE?
WHY NOT JUST
SEND IT BACK?



BECAUSE THE
COUNCIL COULD
JUST REPEAT THE
WHOLE PROCESS
AGAIN AS LONG
AS THE KEY
COMPONENTS
ARE STILL IN
PLACE, AND
THAT INCLUDES
THE SATELLITE.



ACCESS DENIED
Self-Destruct in
60 Seconds

OKAY, I DIDN'T SEE
THAT COMING...

UHM... RUN!

**DANGER: Self-Destruct
has been engaged!**



WHERE ARE
WE GOING?

THE ONLY OTHER
PLACE TO
DESTROY THE
SATELLITE IS AT
YOUR CONTROL
CENTER.

NEUTRON PROJECT

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!



SIR!

YOU SHOULD... AFTER WE ACCIDENTALLY BLEW UP THEIR BASE THEY WOULD WANT TO GRAB YOUR EQUIPMENT AND TRY IT AGAIN.



BLAAX!

YOU MEAN AFTER YOU ACCIDENTALLY BLEW IT UP.

SIGH YES, ALL RIGHT, AFTER I DID THAT.

I'M NOT A FIGHTER. I'M NOT USED TO HITTING PEOPLE. THAT'S SOMETHING OTHER PEOPLE DO.



I AM A MANIPULATOR. I CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR OTHERS TO THEN TAKE ACTION.



OKAY, YOU SEE NOTHING, YOU HEAR NOTHING, YOU KNOW NOTHING...

I SEE NOTHING, I HEAR NOTHING, I KNOW NOTHING...

I SEE NOTHING, I HEAR NOTHING, I KNOW NOTHING...

ALL THAT WAS MISSING FOR THESE TWO WERE THE GERMAN ACCENTS...

HERE IN PARAGON CITY, THAT'S CALLED LIVING UP TO THE CONTROLLER ARCHETYPE.

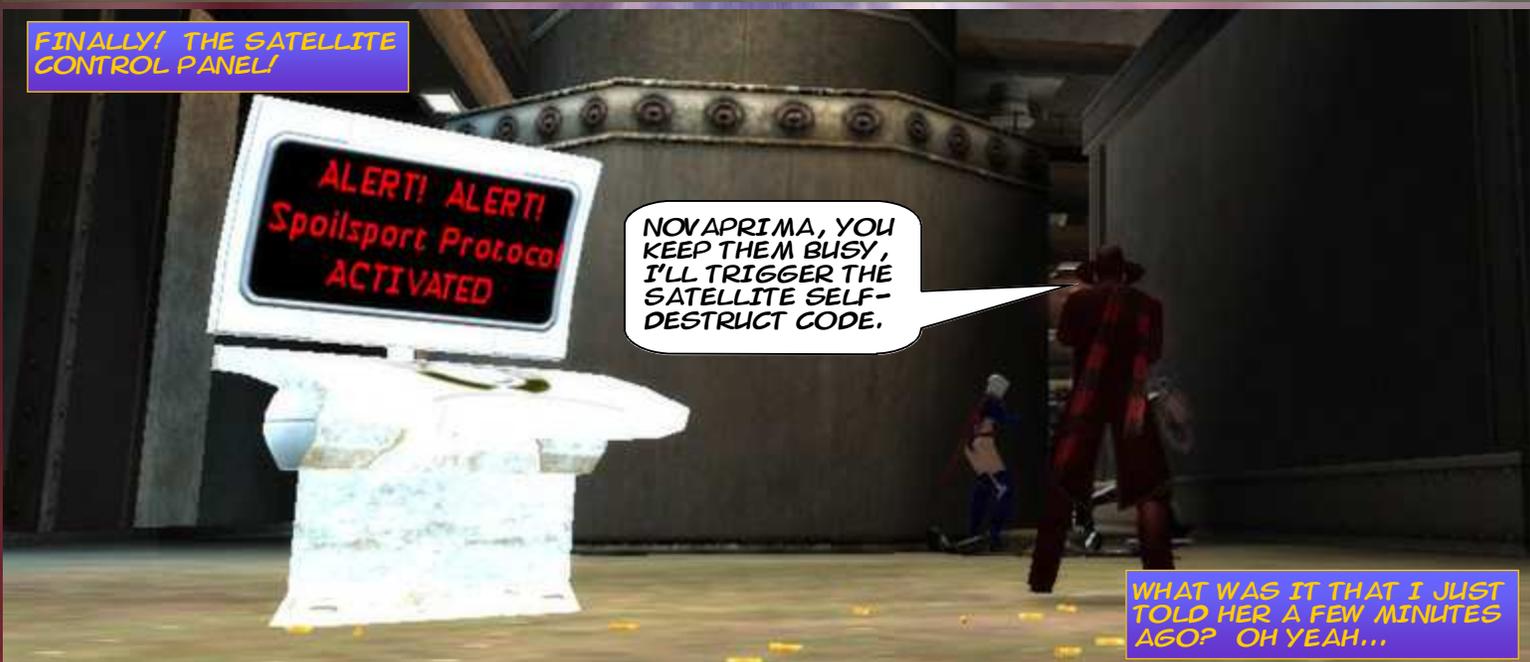


FINALLY! THE SATELLITE CONTROL PANEL!

ALERT! ALERT! Spoilsport Protocol ACTIVATED

NOVAPRIMA, YOU KEEP THEM BUSY, I'LL TRIGGER THE SATELLITE SELF-DESTRUCT CODE.

WHAT WAS IT THAT I JUST TOLD HER A FEW MINUTES AGO? OH YEAH...





THE UNIVERSE JUST DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY.



I HATE IT WHEN THE UNIVERSE REMINDS ME OF THAT.

IT'S JUST SO GOOD AT DOING IT...

LIKE WHEN I WAS SUMMONED HOME.



HOME BEING THE LTOS UNIVERSE.



GALEN, YOU ARE CHARGED WITH VIOLATING YOUR OATH AS AN OBSERVER...

... OF INTERFERING WITH THE COURSE OF NATURAL DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER WORLDS.

AND FINALLY, OF THE MOST GRIEVOUS OF ALL CHARGES ANY OF OUR OBSERVERS COULD EVER COMMIT...
TEMPORAL HUBRIS!

YOU WILL EXPLAIN YOUR ACTIONS BEFORE US AND WE WILL JUDGE YOU ACCORDINGLY.

TO A TIME OBSERVER, THE CHARGE OF TEMPORAL HUBRIS IS AKIN TO BEING ACCUSED OF BLASPHEMY.

IT IS ESSENTIALLY BELIEVING YOURSELF TO BE A GOD OF TIME.

THIS IS WHY THE ELDER WATCHERS MAKE YOU STAND BELOW THEM TO EXPLAIN YOUR ACTIONS.

ELDERS, I ASK THAT MY TASMACH LOGS BE ENTERED FOR MY DEFENSE.

FOR WHAT YOU WOULD MEASURE AS HOURS, THE TASMACH SHOWED THE ELDERS MY ACTIONS.



YOU CANNOT LIE TO THE ELDERS. HOW CAN YOU LIE WHEN YOUR OWN HISTORY IS USED AGAINST YOU?

SO I COULD ONLY WATCH AS MY HISTORY IS UNFURLED BEFORE THEM.



AND THEN I TALKED.

I EXPLAINED EVERY OBSERVATION THAT I MADE, AND EVERY ACTION THAT I TOOK.

I TALKED ABOUT THE TYRANTS AND THE DICTATORS, OF THE PLOTS, PLANS, AND SCHEMES OF KINGS AND QUEENS AND COMMONERS ALIKE.



I POINTED OUT THE THREAT THAT THEY EACH POSED TO ALL TIME, NOT JUST THEIR OWN.

I SHOWED THAT I DID NOT DIRECTLY ACT TO CHANGE THINGS, ONLY MANIPULATED THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THEM.

I DID NOT STOP THE MONSTERS; I ONLY LIMITED THEIR SCOPE.



AND THEN I TALKED ABOUT ALOR...

YOU SAW THE FOOTAGE OF WHAT HAPPENED WHEN HE KILLED HIS OTHER SELF, ELDERS. BUT I WAS THERE. I SAW IT ALL.

I WATCHED AS A PARADOX RIFT FORMED OVER THE SMOLDERING BODY OF ALOR'S ALTERNATE SELF, CONSUMING IT AND ALL IT TOUCHED. THE BODIES THAT TURNED TO ASH. THE ASH THAT TURNED INTO NOTHINGNESS.



WHEN I RETREATED TO THE SAFETY OF MY TASMACH, I COULD ONLY WATCH AS BILLIONS SCREAMED IN AGONY AS THEY WERE OBLITERATED. I COULD ONLY WATCH AS THAT EARTH AND THEN THAT WHOLE UNIVERSE DEGRADED INTO ENTROPY.

I HAVE BEEN AN OBSERVER FOR ALMOST A WHOLE MILLENNIUM NOW, BUT EVEN I COULD NOT WATCH A WHOLE UNIVERSE BE UNMADE AND NOT FEEL A NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO CORRECT IT!

THESE ACTIONS MAY SEEM JUSTIFIED TO YOU, GALEN... BUT THEY DO NOT EXPLAIN HOW YOUR OWN NEGLIGENCE CAUSED THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE DESIGNATED AS XHT-57.

WHAT???



THE ELDERS SHOWED ME WHAT I COULD NOT SEE BEFORE...



I SAW ALOR'S ARRIVAL IN THE UNIVERSE THAT I HAD RECKLESSLY DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF AN ALTERNATE EARTH ON AND THEN JUST RECORDED THE CHANGES.

ELDERS, PLEASE, I BEG YOU, GIVE ME A CHANCE TO FIX THIS!

PLEASE DON'T LET THIS UNIVERSE SUFFER FOR MY MISTAKE!

JUST LET ME FIX THIS!



NO, GALEN, YOU HAVE DONE FAR TOO MUCH ON YOUR OWN.

WE ARE ALREADY TAKING THE UNPRECEDENTED STEP OF RESOLVING THE THREAT POSED BY ALOR. A TEAM IS BEING GATHERED TO CONFRONT ALOR, INCLUDING ONE FROM THAT VERY UNIVERSE.

XHT-57 WILL BE AVENGED AND ALOR'S THREAT WILL COME TO AN END.

BUT BY YOUR OWN WORDS AND BY YOUR OWN DEEDS, WE FIND YOU GUILTY OF TEMPORAL HUBRIS.

THIS IS THE JUDGMENT OF THE ELDER WATCHERS...

GALEN, YOU ARE HEREBY REMOVED AS A TEMPORAL OBSERVER. YOU WILL NO LONGER TRAVEL THROUGH TIME, NOR WILL YOU BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE DEVICES THAT WOULD ENABLE YOU TO DO SO.

YOU WILL BE SENT TO A UNIVERSE OF OUR CHOOSING, WHERE YOU WILL STAY THERE UNTIL YOUR NATURAL DEATH. A DEATH WHICH, FOR YOU, THERE WILL BE NO REPRIEVE.

UNDERSTAND, GALEN, THAT THIS DECISION DOES NOT COME LIGHTLY FOR US. WE DO THIS TO PREVENT OTHERS FROM FOLLOWING YOUR EXAMPLE.

SENTRIES, ESCORT GALEN TO THE PORTAL CHAMBER.

YOU WOULD THINK THAT WOULD BE IT, RIGHT?

DEFROCKED, EXPELLED, REMOVED FROM MY TASMACH, DEPRIVED OF ALL KNOWLEDGE OF TIME TRAVEL, BANISHED TO A SINGULAR UNIVERSE...

A LIFETIME PRISON SENTENCE OF MEDIOCRITY.

EXCEPT THE UNIVERSE HAD ANOTHER TWIST TO PLAY.

AND IT INVOLVED WHERE THE ELDERS WOULD SEND ME TO...

THE ELDER WATCHERS WOULDN'T JUST LET SOMEONE LIKE ME RUN LOOSE IN ANY RANDOM UNIVERSE.

IT WAS OF THEIR CHOOSING AFTER ALL, AND THEY CHOSE THE UNIVERSE XHT-57... JUST MINUTES BEFORE IT IS DESTROYED.

BUT THEY HAD NO IDEA THAT SOME OTHER FORCE HAD DIFFERENT PLANS FOR ME.

MY ARRIVAL AND QUICK DEPARTURE ALSO SAVE THREE NEARBY LIVES FROM ALOR'S GRASP. LIVES THAT I WAS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR.

GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN HQ - TALOS ISLAND

I'M IN THE INFIRMARY.

I WHEN THE PANEL EXPLODED IT TRIGGERED THE MEDICAL TELEPORTER TO BRING ME HERE.

THAT MEANS I ONLY HAVE ONE OTHER WAY TO DESTROY THAT TARGET SATELLITE BEFORE IT REACHES THE SHIVAN POD.

CPCU: IS THE TACTICAL ROOM ONLINE?

Affirmative. Temporary Tactical Room is now online and active.

THANK YOU MIDNIGHT X AND ICON POWERS!

CPCU: USE VANGUARD AUTHORIZATION CODE OMEGA-OMEGA-SEVEN ON MY ID, LINK TO NASA AND VANGUARD DEFENSE GRID.

I HAVE TO RE-CREATE THE NETWORK THAT THE COUNCIL HAD SET UP TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE SATELLITE.

Authorization approved. Links established to NASA and Vanguard.

I JUST HOPE I CAN REACH THE SATELLITE IN TIME.

BEGIN NEAR-EARTH SCAN FOR ALL SATELLITES.

LOOK FOR ANY ON A DEPARTURE COURSE.

Tracking... listing 43255 orbital bodies designated as satellites. Stand by..

Satellite designation VGX458 is on departure from Earth. Listed as Rikti-based repair drone re-purposed by the **Justice-Knights** for Vanguard use.

THE PERFECT TOOL TO TEST AN ANTI-RIKTI DEVICE, AS WELL AS TO BRING IN CELESTIAL BODIES LIKE AN ASTEROID OR A SHIVAN POD.

Satellite has now exceeded range for direct data communication using Vanguard and NASA networks.

WHAT? HOLD ON... THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OF BOOSTING THE SIGNAL TO LINK WITH IT...

ESTABLISH DATA-LINK TO VGX458.



THERE MUST BE...

CPCU: IDENTIFY THE LARGE OBJECT IN ORBIT OVER THE ATLANTIC.

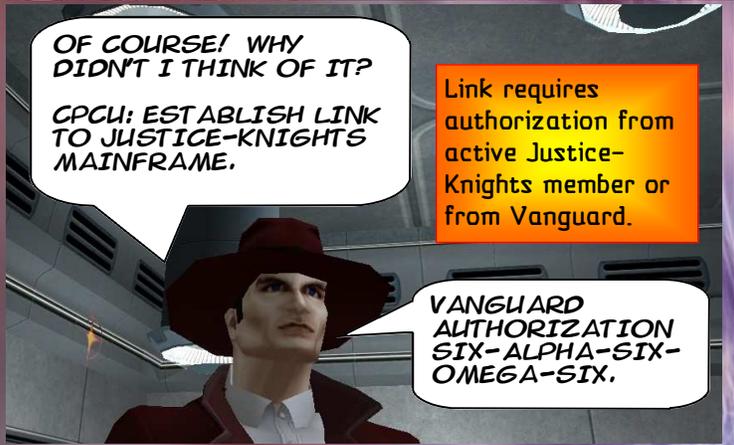
Researching...

Analysis complete and confirmed.



Object is a Rikti Mothership re-purposed into the orbital headquarters of the **Justice-Knights** supergroup.*

(*SEE GUARDIAN LOG FOR DETAILS.)



OF COURSE! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT?

CPCU: ESTABLISH LINK TO JUSTICE-KNIGHTS MAINFRAME.

Link requires authorization from active Justice-Knights member or from Vanguard.

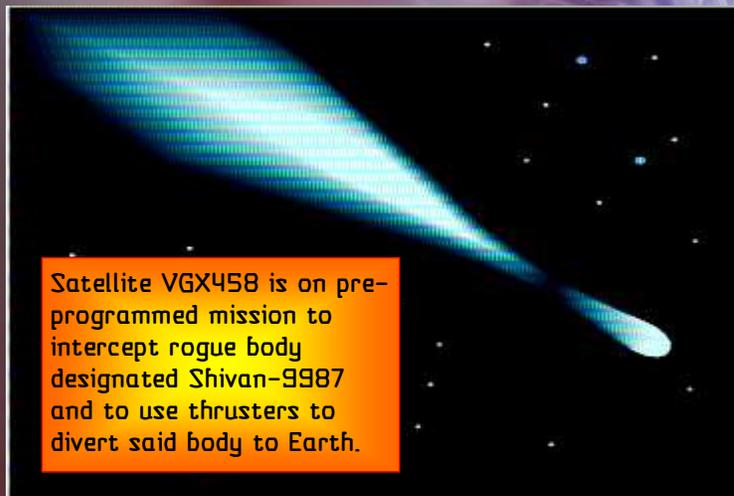
VANGUARD AUTHORIZATION SIX-ALPHA-SIX-OMEGA-SIX.



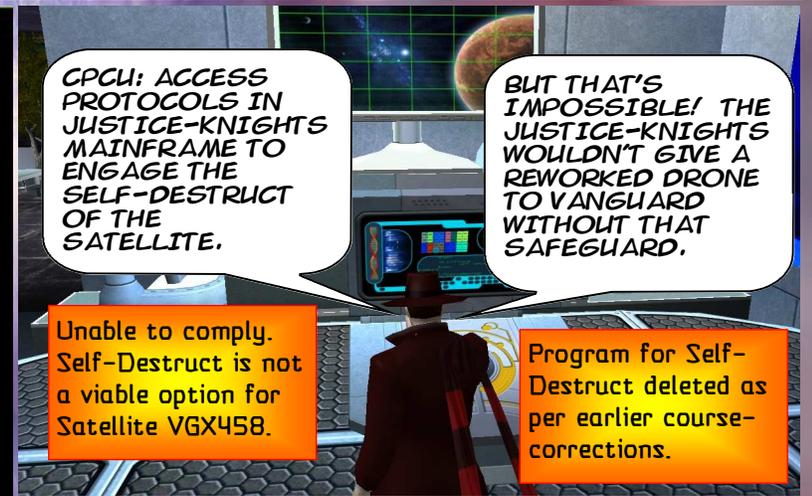
JUSTICE-KNIGHTS HQ - EARTH ORBIT

Link established.

Connecting to Satellite VGX458 via Justice-Knights transmitter.



Satellite VGX458 is on pre-programmed mission to intercept rogue body designated Shivan-9987 and to use thrusters to divert said body to Earth.

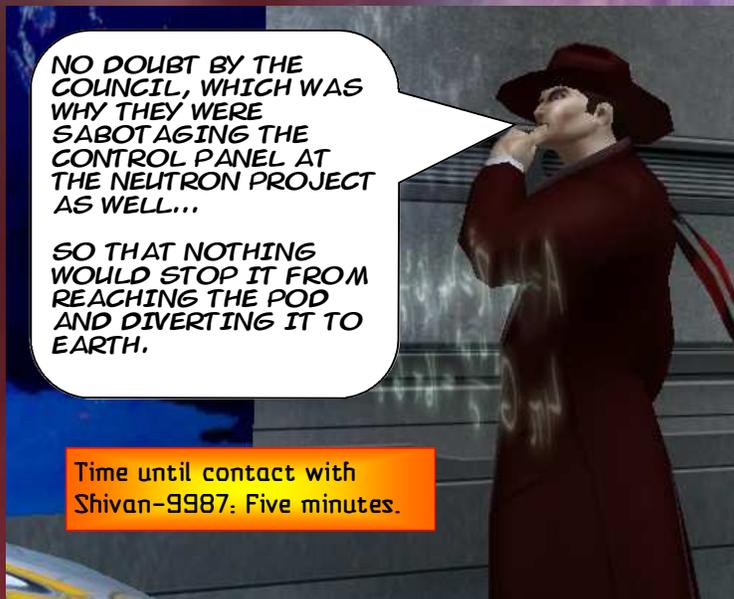


CPCU: ACCESS PROTOCOLS IN JUSTICE-KNIGHTS MAINFRAME TO ENGAGE THE SELF-DESTRUCT OF THE SATELLITE.

BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS WOULDN'T GIVE A REWORKED DRONE TO VANGUARD WITHOUT THAT SAFEGUARD.

Unable to comply. Self-Destruct is not a viable option for Satellite VGX458.

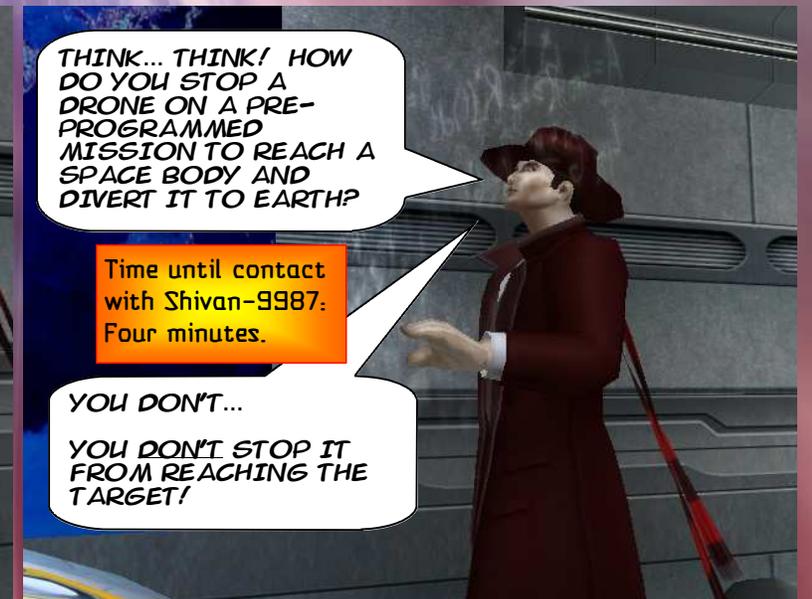
Program for Self-Destruct deleted as per earlier course-corrections.



NO DOUBT BY THE COUNCIL, WHICH WAS WHY THEY WERE SABOTAGING THE CONTROL PANEL AT THE NEUTRON PROJECT AS WELL...

SO THAT NOTHING WOULD STOP IT FROM REACHING THE POD AND DIVERTING IT TO EARTH.

Time until contact with Shivan-9987: Five minutes.



THINK... THINK! HOW DO YOU STOP A DRONE ON A PRE-PROGRAMMED MISSION TO REACH A SPACE BODY AND DIVERT IT TO EARTH?

Time until contact with Shivan-9987: Four minutes.

YOU DON'T...

YOU DON'T STOP IT FROM REACHING THE TARGET!

CPCI: I AM WRITING NEW CODES FOR SATELLITE VGX458 THAT MUST BE TRANSMITTED AND IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTED.

Justice-Knights
Transmitter ready. Contact with Shivan-9987 in three minutes.

TRANSMIT... NOW!

Transmitting.
Contact in two minutes-thirty seconds.

Stand by...

Stand by...

COME ON... COME ON!

Stand by...

One minute-thirty...

Code corrections confirmed.
Updating data now.

Satellite thrusters going to full power.

Contact.

Satellite VGX458 has impacted with Shivan-9987.

Satellite VGX458 has been destroyed. Link terminated.

INSTEAD OF DIVERTING THE SHIVAN POD, IT COLLIDED WITH IT, DESTROYING THE SATELLITE AND PUSHING THE POD FURTHER AWAY FROM EARTH.

Analysis confirmed.
Adjusted trajectory of Shivan-9987 will completely avoid Earth's orbital path.

NOW THAT THAT'S DONE...

MAYBE YOU CAN EXPLAIN WHY YOU NEEDED TO HACK INTO OUR HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

 SIN STALKER

THIS... IS GOING TO TAKE A WHILE...

PEREZ PARK

MISTER CYRIL, YOU APPARENTLY DO NOT REALIZE THE UNCOMFORTABLE SITUATION THAT YOUR PEOPLE PUT US BOTH IN RIGHT NOW.

THE ROGINANTE GROUP

NO, THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES WERE NOT ANTICIPATED. THAT WAS SOMETHING YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT WHEN USING THEIR RE-PURPOSED TECHNOLOGY.

YES, WE KNEW WHERE THE TARGET SATELLITE WAS COMING FROM, AND THIS WAS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO GET A PEEK AT THE TECHNOLOGY THAT THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS ARE USING.

 SHADOWBORN LORD

NO, IF YOUR PEOPLE HAD CONTACTED US PRIOR TO MAKING SUCH A RASH DECISION, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MANAGE THIS...

NO... I HAD FULL CONFIDENCE IN NOVAPRIMA. I WAS MORE CONCERNED WITH YOUR OWN SAFETY AS A KEY INVESTOR.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AIDED IN THE RESURRECTION OF SHADOWBORN, AND UNLIKE ITS PREVIOUS INCARNATION, WE DO REWARD LOYALTY.

NO, YOU HAVE MY WORD WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO GET CYCORP OUT OF THIS MESS. OF COURSE... THANK YOU.

WELL, MISTER BARRISTER?

I THINK YOUR OFFICE IN TORONTO WAS BETTER. THEN AGAIN, BEING IN A HAZARD ZONE LOCATION, YOU CAN'T BEAT THE PRICE.

AFTER THE COUNCIL SABOTAGED THE PROJECT'S CONTROL SYSTEMS, I TRACED THE LAST DATA SIGNAL TO THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN.

 SIMON BARRISTER

AGAIN THEY SERVE AS A THORN IN OUR SIDES.

I PRESUME, THEN, THAT SINCE YOU HAVE TRACED THE DATA TO THEM THAT YOU CAN FIND THEIR BASE OF OPERATIONS?

THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, LORD GEDDY.

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED ME TO COME TO PARAGON CITY IF I COULDN'T FOLLOW THROUGH WITH WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

THESE "GUARDIANS" ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER GROUP THAT I'VE DISRUPTED.

ALL IT TAKES IS FINDING THEIR WEAKNESS.

BY THE TIME MY BUSINESS IS DONE IN THIS CITY, THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN WILL NO LONGER BE A THREAT TO YOU OR TO SHADOWBORN.

CYCORP PROBE REQUESTED

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Sports:
Underground Baseball is the

VANGUARD PROGRAM SHUT DOWN (Paragon City) US Senator Rodney Proud (D-RI) has called on the Senate Paranormal Intelligence

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I'M GLAD THEY USED NOVAPRIMA FOR THE FRONT PAGE INSTEAD OF CYRIL.



IT COULD BE WORSE. THEY COULD HAVE USED YOUR PICTURE.
AFTER ALL, YOU WERE THE ONE THAT REALLY SAVED THE WORLD.*



TRUE, BUT NOBODY IS SUPPOSED TO KNOW ABOUT THAT.
AND AFTER THE HOURS OF EXPLAINING I HAD TO MAKE TO VANGUARD AND TO THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS AND TO CAPTAIN PARAGONNA, I'LL BE HAPPY WITH BEING ANONYMOUS RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

(THIS VERSION OF WAR WITCH HAS BEEN WORKING WITH DOCTOR FOR THEIR "MUTUAL CONTACT" SINCE GOTD #0.)

WAR WITCH

SO DO YOU MISS IT?

MISS WHAT?

THE FREEDOM.
OF JUST HOPPING INTO YOUR TASMACH AND GOING OFF INTO THE NEXT ADVENTURE.

OH.. THAT.

THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT DOES.
REMEMBER, I'VE BEEN AT THIS FOR ALMOST A THOUSAND YEARS NOW. IT'S A LITTLE HARD TO JUST TAKE A FEW CENTURIES OF TRAVEL AND MISCHIEF AND CURIOSITY-SEEKING AND JUST PUT IT ALL ASIDE.
BUT THEN AGAIN I NEVER REALLY TOOK FULL STOCK IN THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY ACTIONS BEFORE MY EXILE.
I THINK BETWEEN BEING STUCK IN A LINEAR TIMEFRAME... IN ONE UNIVERSE... AND HAVING TO KEEP AN EYE ON KARA AND JASON AND BART AS THEY ADAPT AS WELL... HAS KEPT ME SOMEWHAT HONEST ABOUT WHAT I DO.





"SOMEWHAT" HONEST ANYWAY... RIGHT, DOC?



AT LEAST YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ALOR.

THAT IS TRUE. IT TOOK AN ARMY OF HEROES LIKE ICON POWERS TO FINALLY DEFEAT HIM.



GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN BASE

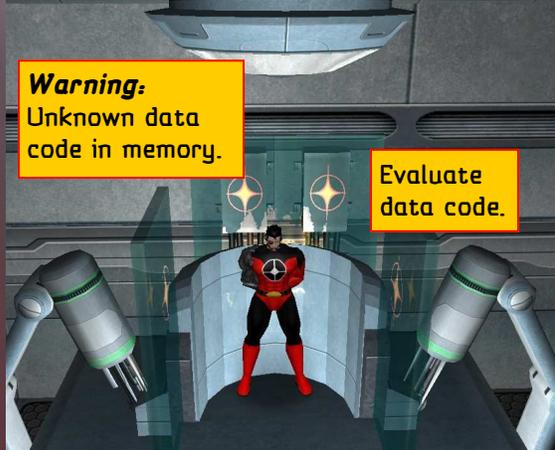
Status: Stand-By hibernation and passive monitor of CPCU systems.



Begin memory restoration Project Alpha-Zero-Seven.

"I SHUDDER TO THINK IF HE COULD SOMEHOW SURVIVE AFTER THAT."

STARCYGNUS



Warning: Unknown data code in memory.

Evaluate data code.



Data code is of alien... origin...

Alien... Origin...



Allliennn.. Orrriiii...

Allll.. Orrr...



Crash restoration engaged.

Fragmented data has been partitioned for future evaluation.

File partition name: AL-OR-O2ZZ

Resume hibernation mode and passive monitor status.

END...?



The Bloody Bay Incident

In 1989 a team of superheroes were sent into space to intercept a large cosmic body dubbed “Shiva” that was on a collision course with Earth. This object was large enough to potentially end all life on the planet. The mission was declared classified, and even though five lives were lost, the world did not know about the threat that Shiva posed.

The Shiva body itself was split into several smaller fragments that were named “Char”, “Do”, “Ek”, “Jay”, “Panch”, and “Teen” by the same Hindu scientist that discovered the original Shiva object.

Later that year, those smaller fragments rained down on the planet, landing on the island just south of Rhode Island known as Bloody Bay. The island was spared most of the deadly after-effects of such an assault by heroes with mastery over gravity and kinetic energy.

United Nations scientists quickly discovered that the fragments each possessed other-dimensional radiation which had an effect not only on all life in the area, but also on the remains of those who had died from the crash. Mystical seers then confirmed their worst fears. The fragments of Shiva carried the life-forces of alien beings called Arcosians. The Arcosians were destroyed by the same cosmic body dubbed “Shiva”, but somehow their essences were absorbed by the fragments. Latching on to any kind of animal remains in the area, they were able to partially resurrect themselves as massive creatures dubbed “Shivans”.

Bloody Bay has since been declared a Free-Fire Hazard Zone by the United Nations. Both the Freedom Corps and Arachnos maintain a beachhead front on the Island, with the Freedom Corps attempting to neutralize the threat posed by the Shivans, and Arachnos looking to exploit it for their own purposes.

Heroes can help the Freedom Corps by going to the helipad in Skyway City next to the Southgate (Faultline) tunnel. Villains can assist Arachnos by going to the Haven Airport in Cap Au Diable. Be warned: as a Free-Fire Hazard Area, you CAN BE attacked by either Heroes or Villains!

The Justice-Knights and CyCorp

Issue #10 not only reveals the true origins of the “Guardian Exiles” and how they really arrived in Paragon City, but it also makes reference to another group of heroes and villains in the world of The City of Comic Creators.

The **Justice-Knights** is a superhero group led by **Sin Stalker**, an enigmatic hero whose only super-power is to feel the pain of others. Members of this group are featured in the “Justice-Knights” comic series created by Joseph “Sin Stalker” Cohen. As mentioned in this issue, the Knights operate from a salvaged Rikti mothership in orbit over Earth. (But this is not the same one that is terrorizing Earth or the same one that is crashed in the Rikti War Zone.)

One of their adversaries is **Mr. Cyril**, who runs the Cyril Corporation (a.k.a. **CyCorp**). Both Cyril and CyCorp are currently featured in the 6-part “OBEY” storyline. But since that story takes place in 2006, you have to wonder... what’s been going on with them since?

You can find out more about Sin Stalker, the Justice-Knights, Cyril, and CyCorp by going to **JusticeKnights.net** or by visiting the City of Comic Creators website, which you can find at the official Guardians website...

<http://GuardiansOfTheDawn.wordpress.com>

NEXT ISSUE...



OI NOW! 'OW LONG DOES A GIRL 'AVE TO WAIT B'FORE SHE GITS 'ER OWN FEATURE 'ROUND HERE?

UM... HOW ABOUT
ISSUE #11?

IT'S LYON POWERS...



"It's the greatest comic
I've never seen!"
- The Nearsighted Man

"Stop calling me or
I'll call the cops!!"
- Comic Book Critic

"The Spectacular Sparky is
a thought provoking look
into the mind of a hero filled
with many layers. There I
said it, now stop zapping me!"
- Random Hellion Thug

HOW ARE THESE
STUPID REVIEWS
GOING TO GET
PEOPLE TO READ THE
COMIC?

IT'S AT
LEAST WORTH
A SHOT.

THE SPECTACULAR SPARKY

STARRING A.R.G.H.