

# SPIDER MITES

DIGITAL REMASTER 2009



# SPIDER MITES



## **- A LITTLE SLICE OF ANARCHY -**

**SPIDERMITES** was a 24 page graphic zine spawned in September 1990 and completed/printed in August 1991. It was never initially intended as a publication, starting out as a drawing exercise with the aim of building up confidence in the use of rapidograph draughting pens for small scale work. Up until this point I had produced mainly A3/A2 inked work - and prior to that, it was all pencil - biro - marker teen-scrrawl territory!! A swelling interest in fanzine culture necessitated looking at approaches to artwork that would reproduce well when photocopied as I was about to venture into half arsed punk journalism with **NOSEBLEED**.

For anyone who may be unfamiliar, spider mites are a common microscopic urban pest. I spent a lot of my early years watching these busy bright red dots ( and probably trying to burn them ) through the sort of cheap square kids magnifying glass that folds into itself. These were the influence for a graffiti tag, a small black scarab split down the centre, that I began decorating every available inch of space with ( esp. awkward ceiling corners etc.. ) in order to vex the irritating simpleton staff I had to endure while stuck in the basement warehouse of a small supermarket in the summer of 1990. From there it worked it's way into nearly every drawing I would do for the next 4 years or so and remained a subliminal logo for **NOSEBLEED PRESS** until the title folded in 2002.

As is habitual of scrawlers, I began a sequence of panels one evening on folded A3 sheets with the sole aim of inking the results. The set up was a futuristic street scene containing a man on a mission holding ( and eventually crumpling ) a slip of paper with the spider logo on it. Although not much of a follower of comics, there's little doubt that years reading and rereading my older brothers early 80's 2000ADs impacted this directly. Matt Wagner's Pope Innocent XLII storyline in **GRENDAL** was a definite influence and there's probably a bit of the famous underground Tintin farce **BREAKING FREE** in there too! I can't go into the thought process behind how this was scripted into an actual story because there wasn't one. It pretty much unfolded on a page by page basis and the tone of the content filtered down through the orange sponges of the cheapo walkman-thing I had at the time. This is very apparent and can even be attributed to the influence of specific albums - Crass's **STATIONS OF & BEST BEFORE** 1984, Black Flag's **DAMAGED & MY WAR**, Bad Religion's **SUFFER & NO CONTROL** and in particular, early Chumbawamba. In the case of the Chumba's **PICTURES OF STARVING CHILDREN SELL RECORDS**



album, it was not only my first exposure to a lot of these ideas, but a novel approach to disseminating them. Where Crass were wonderful but didn't sound like they allowed any fun into their lives, Chumbawamba took the blueprint and mangled it into interesting anarcho vaudeville, venturing way beyond shouty, screaming, ranting diatribes..... ( not that there's anything wrong with that either .... the progenitors are all great... but when facsimiled it eventually becomes strict rules about having no rules.... which serves no purpose!! ). I had initially even called the main character Henry - after Rollins ( still a very underground figure at the time ) - when the strip was just meandering, but omitted it from this edit as it made little sense in retrospect to appropriate anything from reality once the final story was in place. As a futuristic saga, I think at some point the idea was to give them all pseudo-names of people in notable 20th century underground punk bands... it was ill-conceived and fell by the wayside in any case. Digital editing resolved this and the issues of ham-fisted hand lettering, sporadic examples of atrocious spelling and general syntax. All the trappings of youthful anarchic enthusiasm of a 17 year old with no tippex!!!

The Spidermites themselves were not necessarily likable - their assault garb and some of their tactics were obviously influenced in some way by Irish paramilitaries - but their sense of purpose was that of cornered dogs. Bob Walt, the "Face" of the Ganter Corp was conceived an evangelistic TV face rather than an actual person... a humanoid trademark like a demonic Milky Bar kid holograph.... and it's interesting that in the time period spent remastering and digitizing this zine ( early June 2009 ), some of his fictional evil corporate spew has a very blatant high profile presence in reality from bloodbath protests in Bagua in Amazonian Peru to right wing mercenary private security in Rossport. Of course, this sort of "corporate etiquette" is far from new, but we're now at a watershed where there's little or no effort made to cover up bullying, malpractice or lack of "informed" consent with indigenous populations in the grab for commodities. On the other hand, sabotage, piracy and terrorism are making their own headlines more than ever so It seems like a fitting climate for this reissue!!!!

Somewhere around the 9-10 page mark, I realised I had the makings of a fanzine ( I was probably on NOSEBLEED 3 at this point ) and set about loosely plotting something that would run for 20-22 pages, although it wasn't really penciled ahead to wind down to an ending until the final 4 pages. A print run of 500 was published in August 1991 ( in between Nosebleed 4 and 5 ) at a cost of £70 and sold steadily, especially through



**distros in England like DS4A who took batches of 30 off me at a time and seemed to get rid of them very quickly!!!!**

**Probably the main reason for this digital remaster / reissue is that I was never happy with the print job. As I was new to inking for print, I used a lot of loose hatching in a technique carried on from pencil shading.... this is fine if you're simply producing original art, but is a disaster to reproduce well. To compound problems this was printed in 1991 which meant zero access to desk top publishing. The printing plates were exposed directly from photocopied paste-up art when they should have been dot-screened on a repro-camera and shot onto positive film, but this was a very expensive process ( on a zero budget ) and would render the whole project a financial impossibility. It's worth noting that we were also a couple of years away from cheap high quality photocopying here!!**

**Because of this, and through no fault of the printer who ran a small operation in a shed in Donnycarney, it looked horrible. This was with the exception of the cover which was drawn last and at a point where I had a better understanding of cleanly inked graphics for print. It all seems very primitive now. Pulling out the originals to look at after very many years sitting in an envelope at the back of a folder, I realised that my memory of the zine had been the muddy print version and not the cleaner originals. This little slice of anarchy deserved a proper archiving.....**

**SPIDERMITES - AFTERMATH - continued as a small half page strip for 4 issues of NOSEBLEED ( issues 6-9 ) before being axed. My idea for these strips was to have a bit of fun with it in a dragged-out-syndicated-cartoon sort of way ( where it takes years for any sort of story to unfold ) and develop the drawing at the same time. My style had improved somewhat over the course of the comic's execution ( 11 months ) but for the sake of clarity I had to keep the final pages similar to the first few. This is another reason why the cover is stronger than the rest of the artwork. The AFTERMATH strips set up one interesting aspect - the exposure of both evil Bob Walt and the renegade Spidermite as cyborgs, giving them something in common. Based on this, a case could have been made for a fully blown sequel but by the time NOSEBLEED 10 came around, I had lived with it long enough, saw no purpose in dragging it further and quietly hung their balaclavas up for good!!!**

**- BOZ MUGABE - 19/6/2009**

**[www.bozgallery.com](http://www.bozgallery.com)**

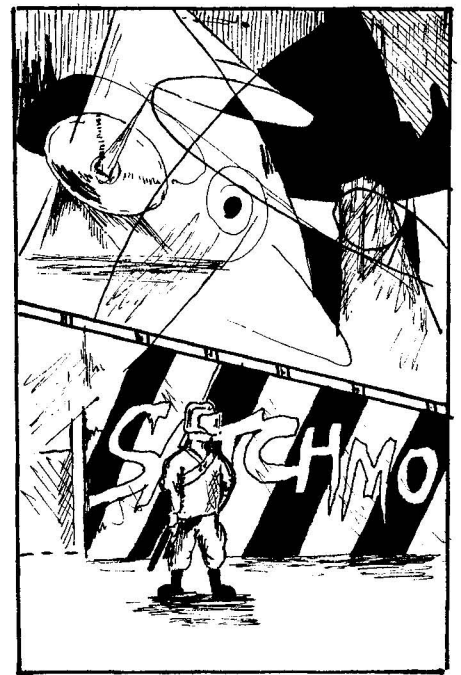
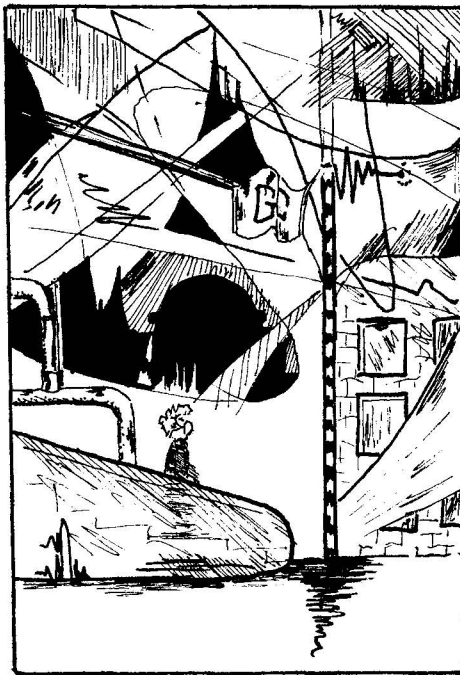




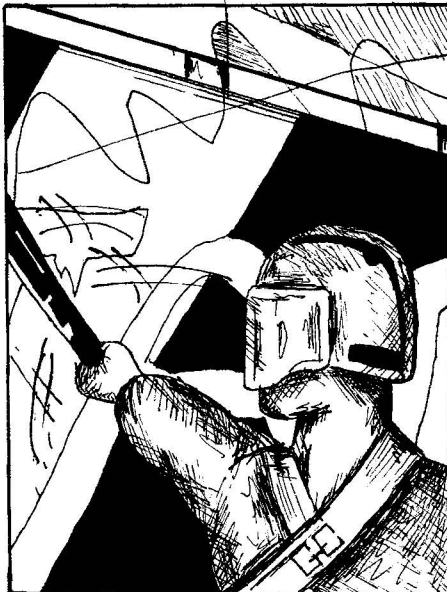
.....WITH THE RISING POWER OF  
WORLD CORPORATIONS, A HUGE INFLUENCE  
ON POLITICAL MATTERS BECAME ACCEPTED AS  
NORMAL TO THE POINT THAT A CONTINUED  
GUARANTEE OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY WAS  
DEPENDENT ON THE MUSCLE OF SUCH FINANCIAL GIANTS AS  
THE SPECTRA CORP, THE CLEARWATER COMPANY,  
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH INC., THE PLASMA CORP AND THE GANTER CORP,  
THE LATTER FAMOUS FOR THEIR PIONEERING MINING COLONIES  
ON THE MOON.

MONEY WAS EVERYTHING, MOST OF IT IN THE HANDS OF 3% OF  
THE 8 BILLION GLOBAL POPULATION AND WITH LAWS MORE OR LESS  
UNDER THE CONTROL OF BUSINESS MINDS, HUMAN RIGHTS STEADILY  
WITHERED AWAY UNDER THE PRESSURES OF CAPITALIST POLICY.

IT WAS THE BLATANT ABUSE OF THESE RIGHTS BY THE "BIG 5"  
CORPORATIONS THAT SPAWNED THE REACTIONARY HUMAN LIBERATION  
FRONT AND NEO-ANARCHIST MOVEMENTS, REPRESENTED BY MILLIONS OF  
SMALL INTERLINKED ORGANISATIONS. UNDER THE ALL ENCOMPASSING  
WING OF THE "BLACK CIRCLE", THESE UNITS MADE SMALL BUT CONSTANT  
ATTACKS ON THE CORPORATIONS IN THE HOPE THAT SOME DAY THEY  
MIGHT CHANGE SOMETHING.....



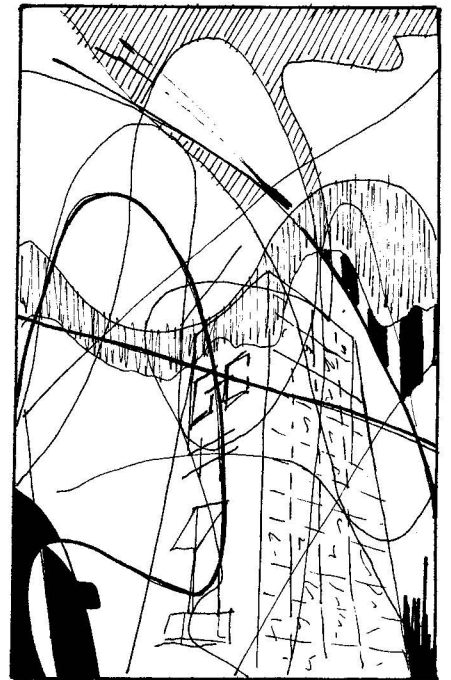
"... YA KNOW..... ... SOMETIMES I WONDER... WHY DID CRABS WALK



SIDEWAYS ACROSS THE ...SANDd...?... MAYBE THE DANGERS AHEAD



WERE ALREADY SEEN AND AVOIDED??... GOING BACKWARDS IS SAFER...



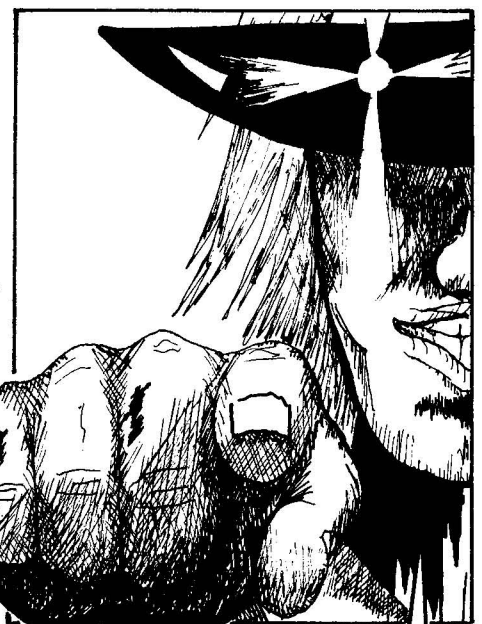
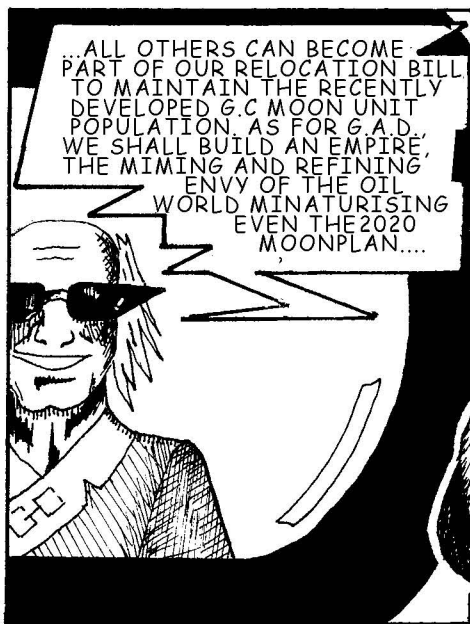
BUT THEN..... YOU HIT THE ROCKS..... THAT'S WHEN YOU'RE LOST.....



..... I MEAN.....

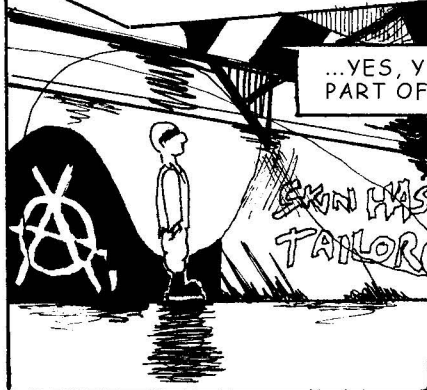


...EVERYTHING IS MISLEADING... REALITY IS YOUR WORST ENEMY...



SLIMY DECEIVING SEAWEED... THE BIGGEST COVER-UP OF THEM ALL..

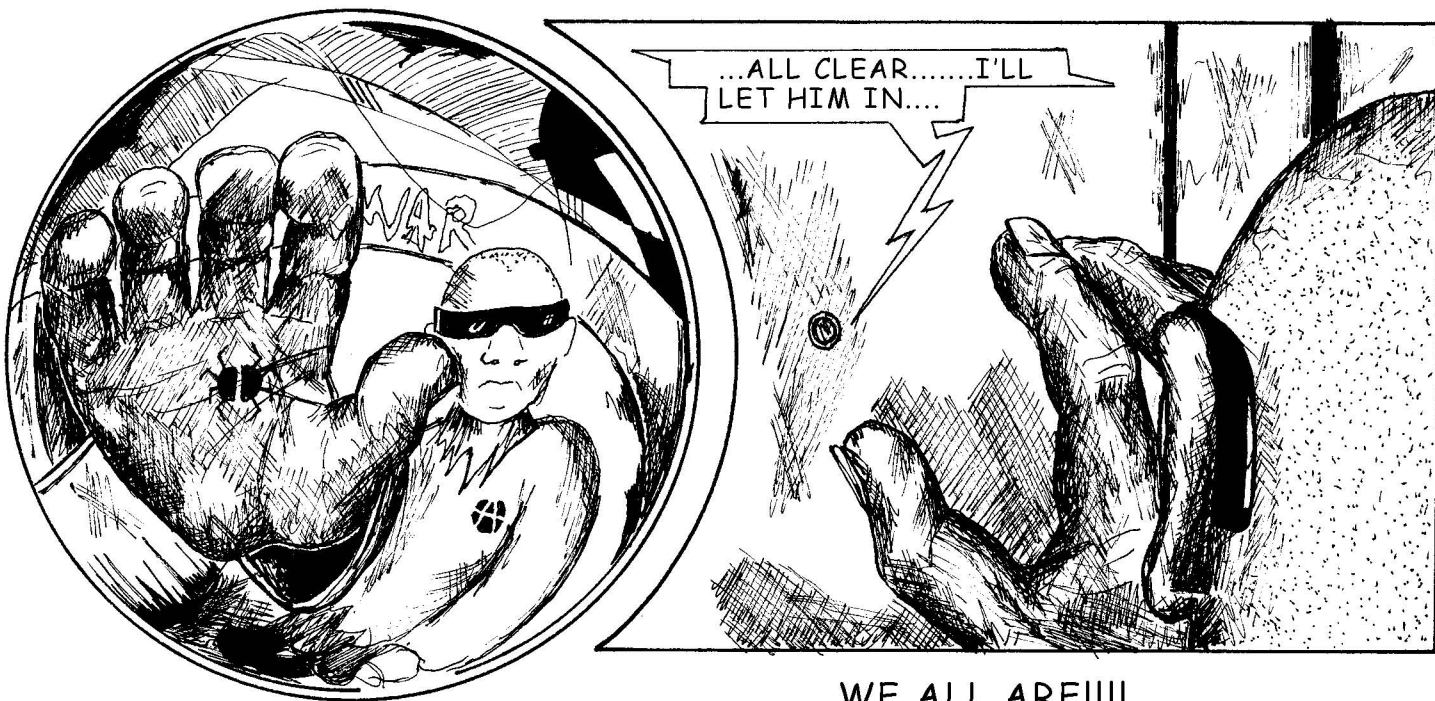
# GANTER CORP IS THE FUTURE..... YOUR FUTURE!...



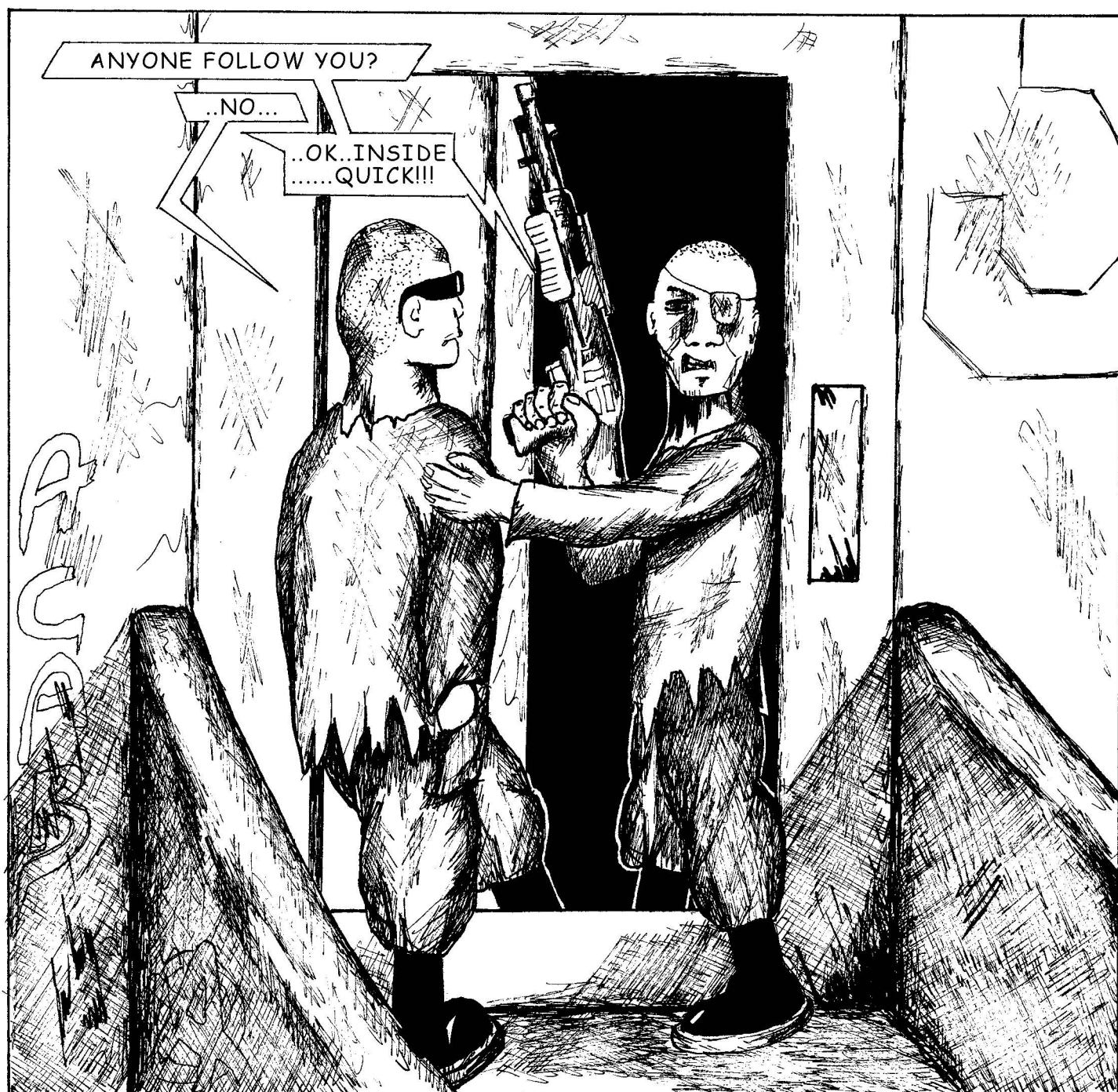
...THE CRABS HAD IT ALL SUSSED... MORE INTELLIGENT THAN MAN...



...ARMOUR IS ALWAYS THERE... ALWAYS READY TO FIGHT THE SYSTEM...



...WE ALL ARE!!!!.....



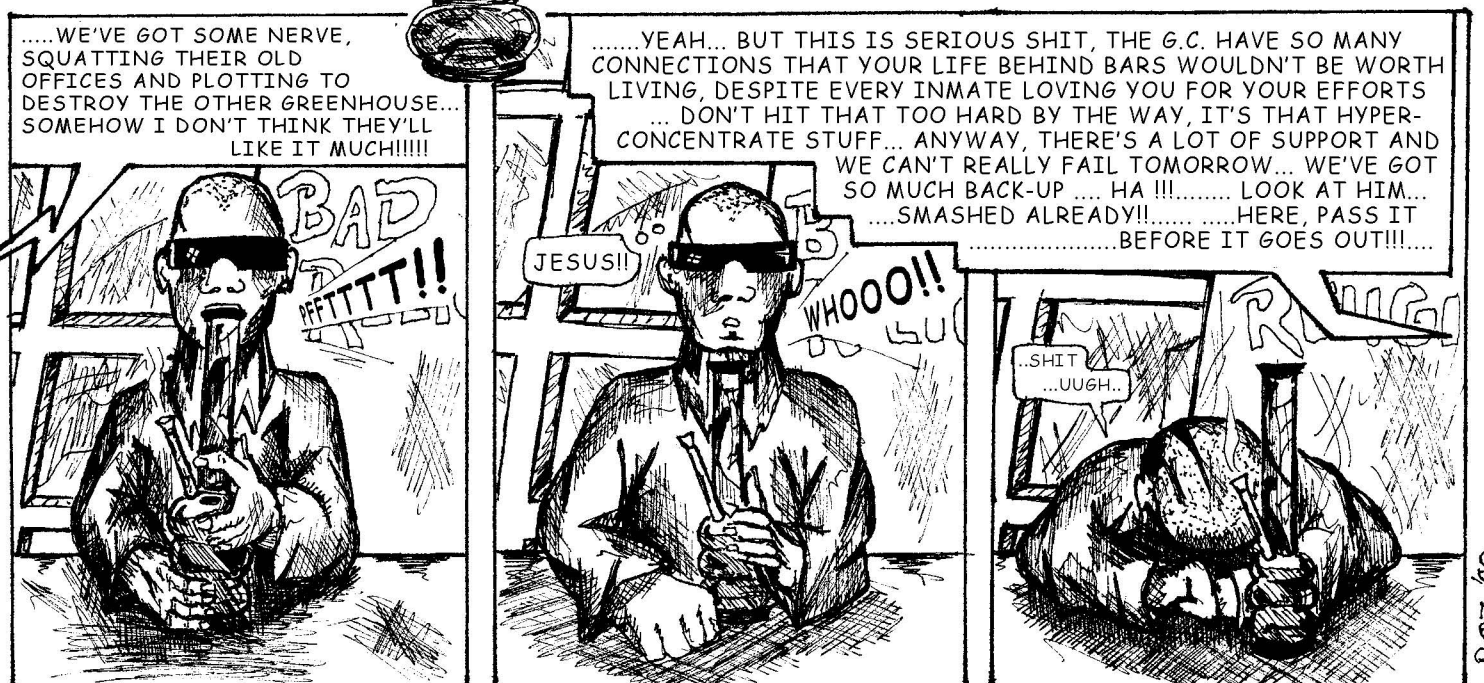
...DEPRESSION, MULTINATIONAL POWER, THE RICH, THE PIGS...



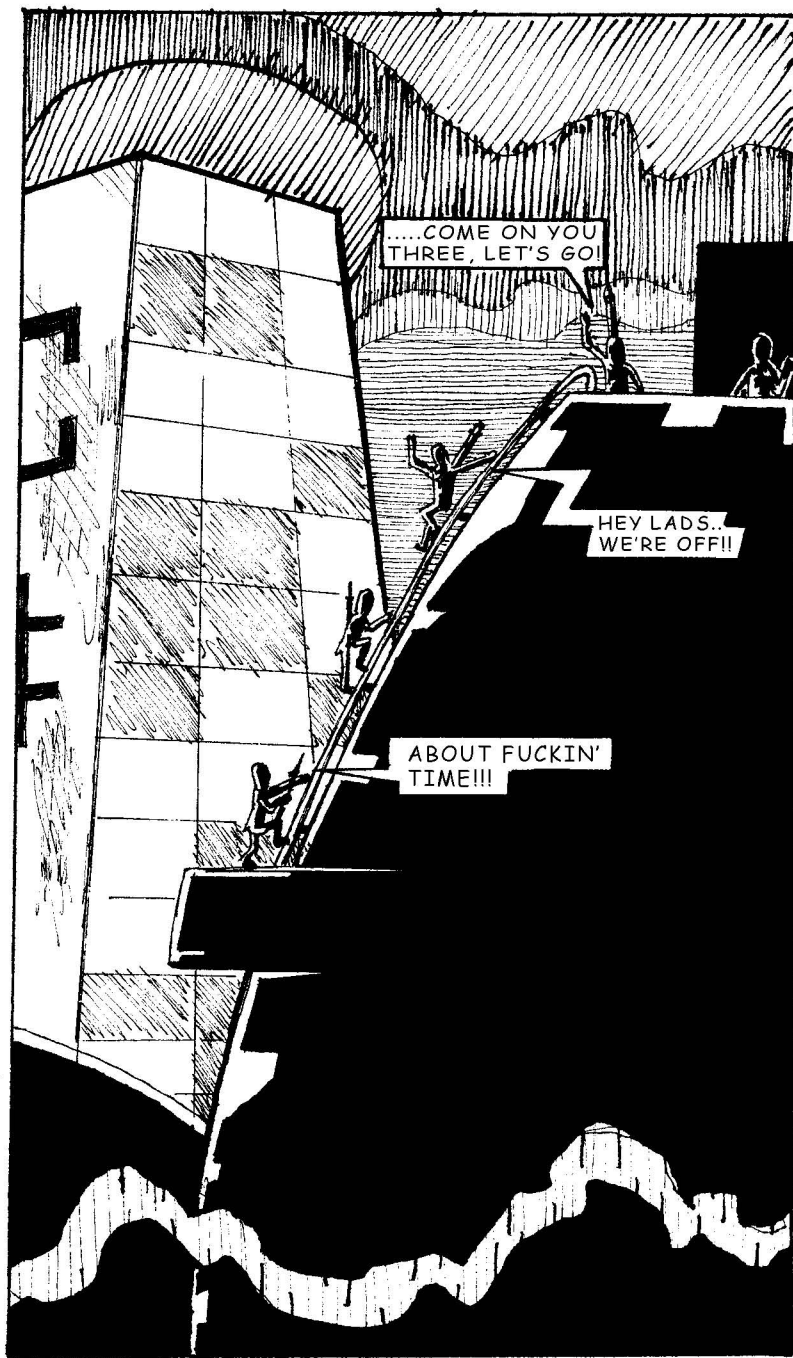
...THEN THERE'S MONEY..... CRABS NEVER HAD THAT PROBLEM....



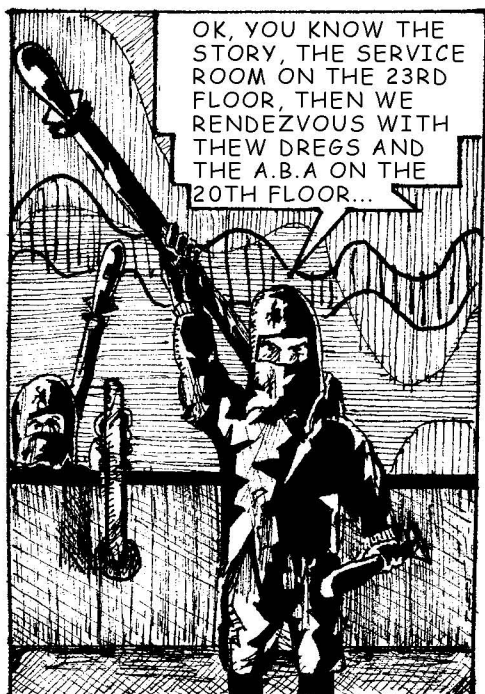
..BUT THEN.... THEY NEVER HAD VISIONS OF SOLIDARITY...



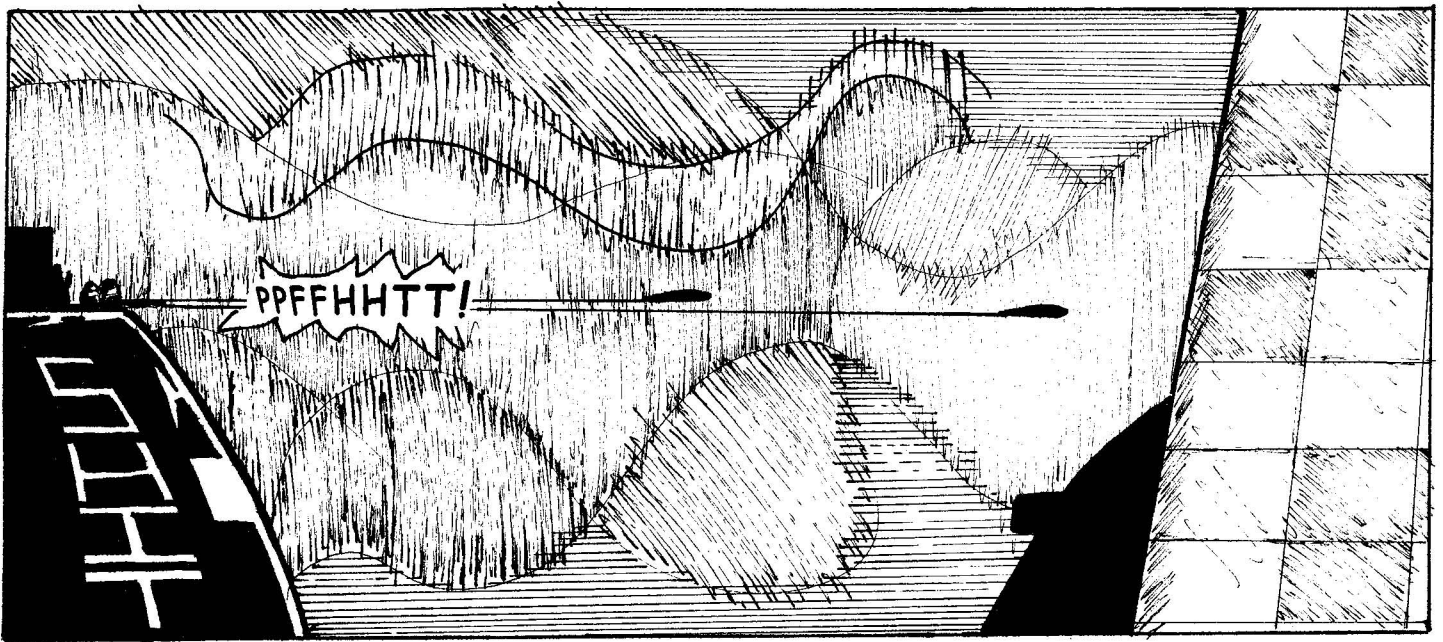
.....IT LOOKS LIKE... LIKE WE GET ALL THE BAD HABITS!



....WE SHALL ALWAYS FIGHT CORRUPTION DIRECTLY....

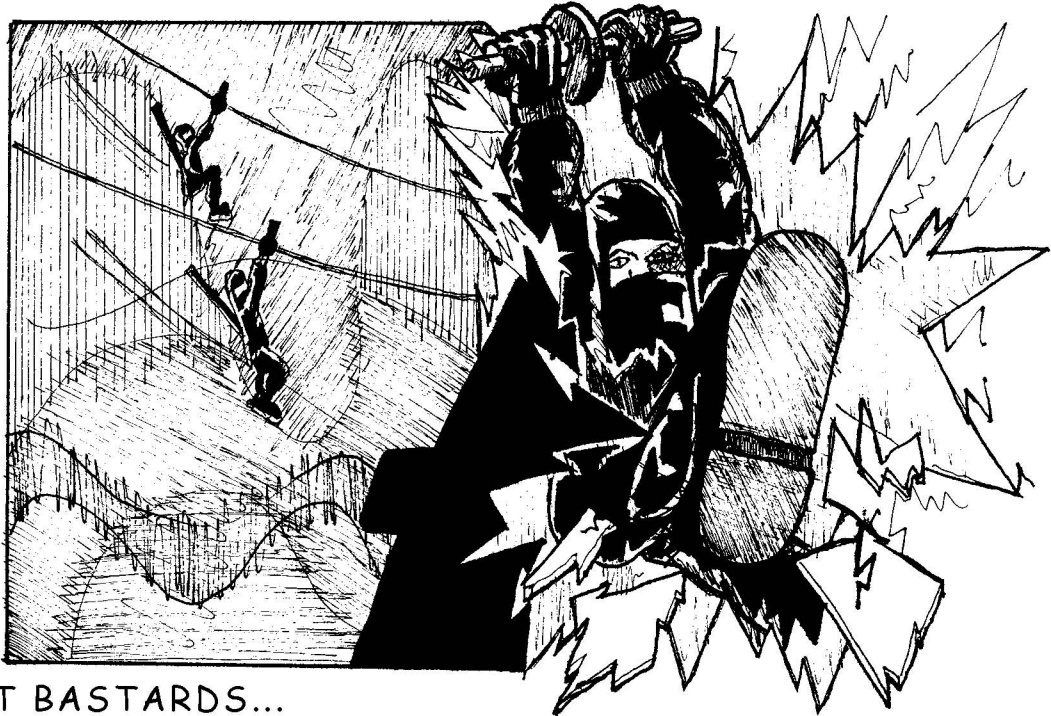


...THE SPIDERMITES..... FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE SYSTEM.....



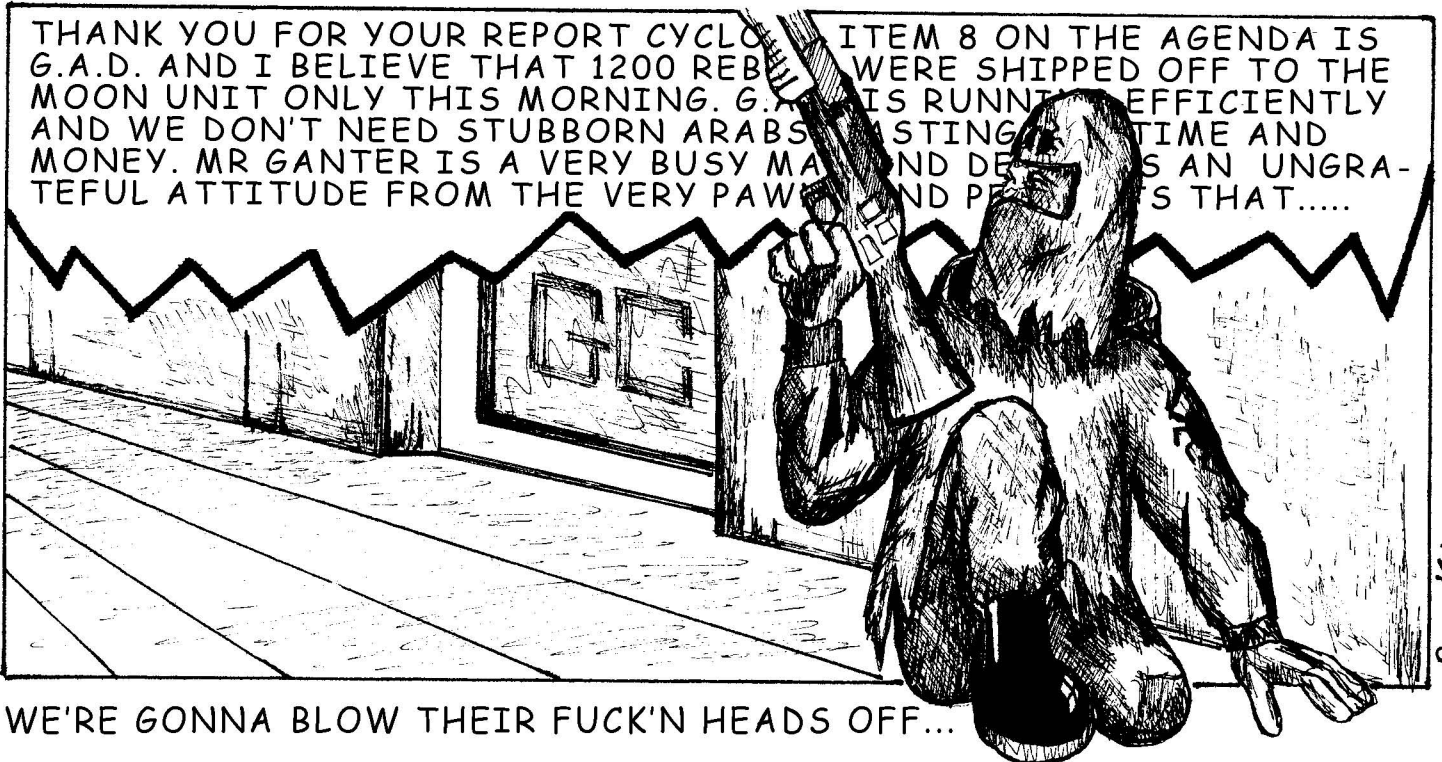
.....NOW THE GANTER CORP..... THE GATHERING OF ALL THE

AND THE HERD OF REBEL  
NEGRO HAVE BEEN DEALT  
WITH... THE CONGO OIL  
SPILL WILL LET THE REST  
KNOW NOT TO STAND IN  
THE WAY OF PROGRESS...

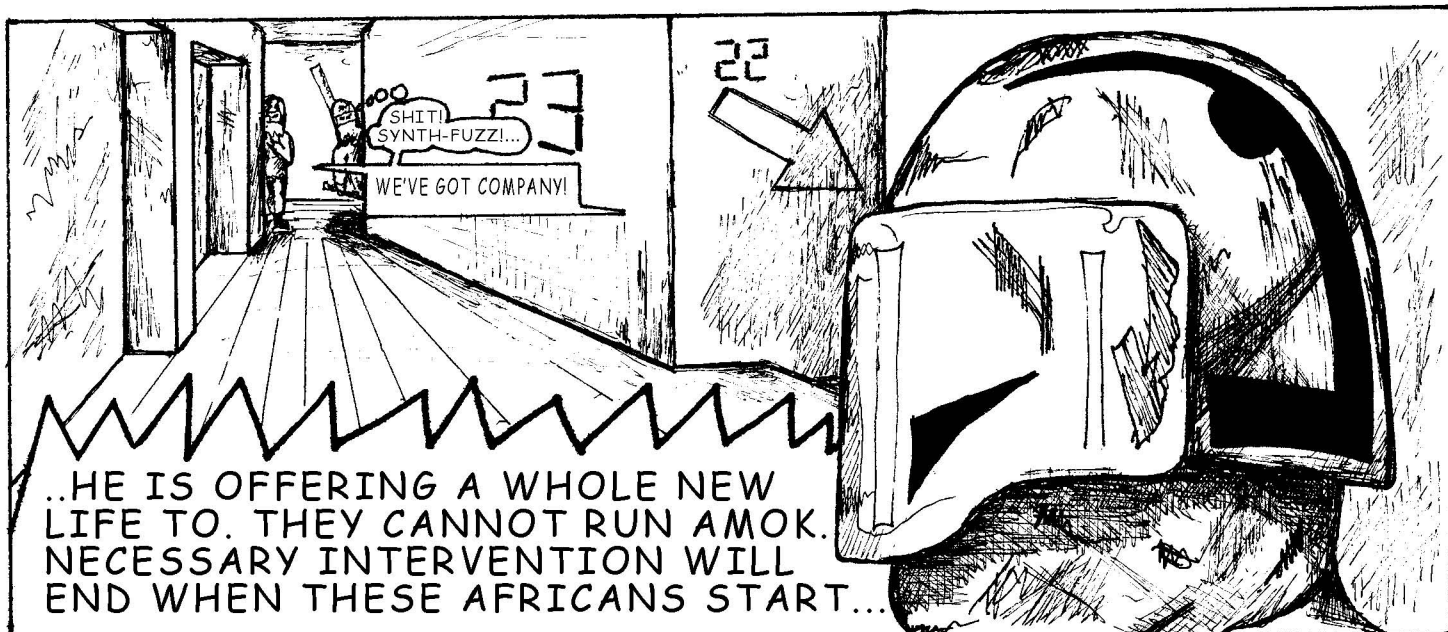


FAT RICH CAPITALIST BASTARDS...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT CYCLO... ITEM 8 ON THE AGENDA IS  
G.A.D. AND I BELIEVE THAT 1200 REBELS WERE SHIPPED OFF TO THE  
MOON UNIT ONLY THIS MORNING. G.A.D. IS RUNNING EFFICIENTLY  
AND WE DON'T NEED STUBBORN ARABS WASTING TIME AND  
MONEY. MR GANTER IS A VERY BUSY MAN AND DOES AN UNGRA-  
TEFUL ATTITUDE FROM THE VERY PAW AND PANTS THAT.....

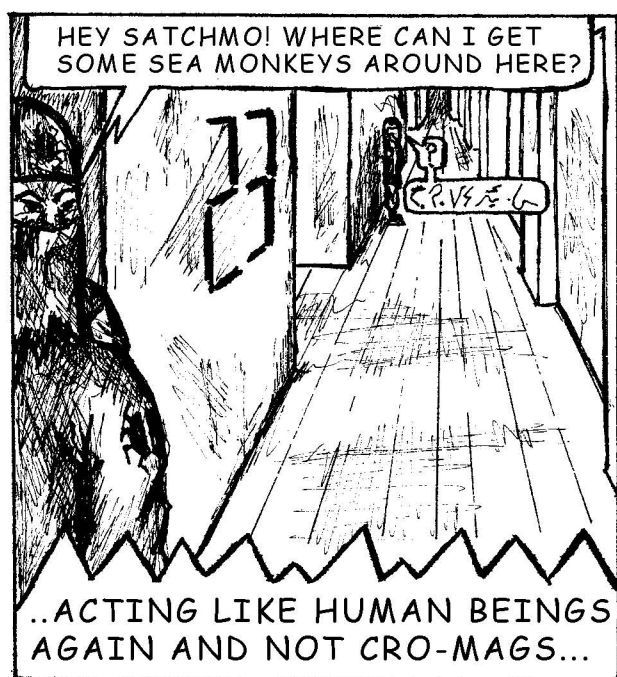


WE'RE GONNA BLOW THEIR FUCK'N HEADS OFF...

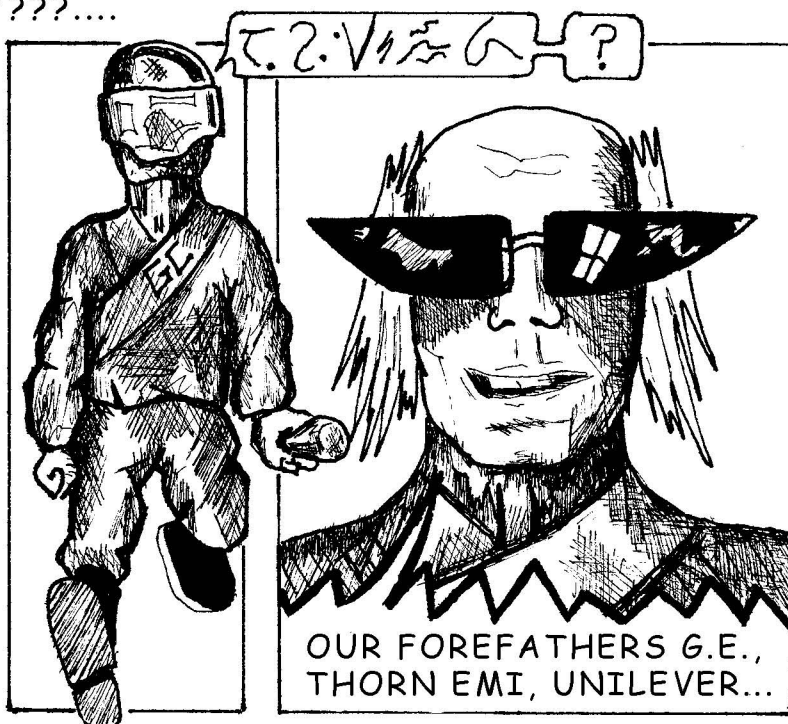


..HE IS OFFERING A WHOLE NEW LIFE TO. THEY CANNOT RUN AMOK. NECESSARY INTERVENTION WILL END WHEN THESE AFRICANS START...

....VIOLENCE DOESN'T PAY???....



..ACTING LIKE HUMAN BEINGS AGAIN AND NOT CRO-MAGS...



OUR FOREFATHERS G.E., THORN EMI, UNILEVER...

.....I SAY FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE..... OUR FOUNDERS PASSED

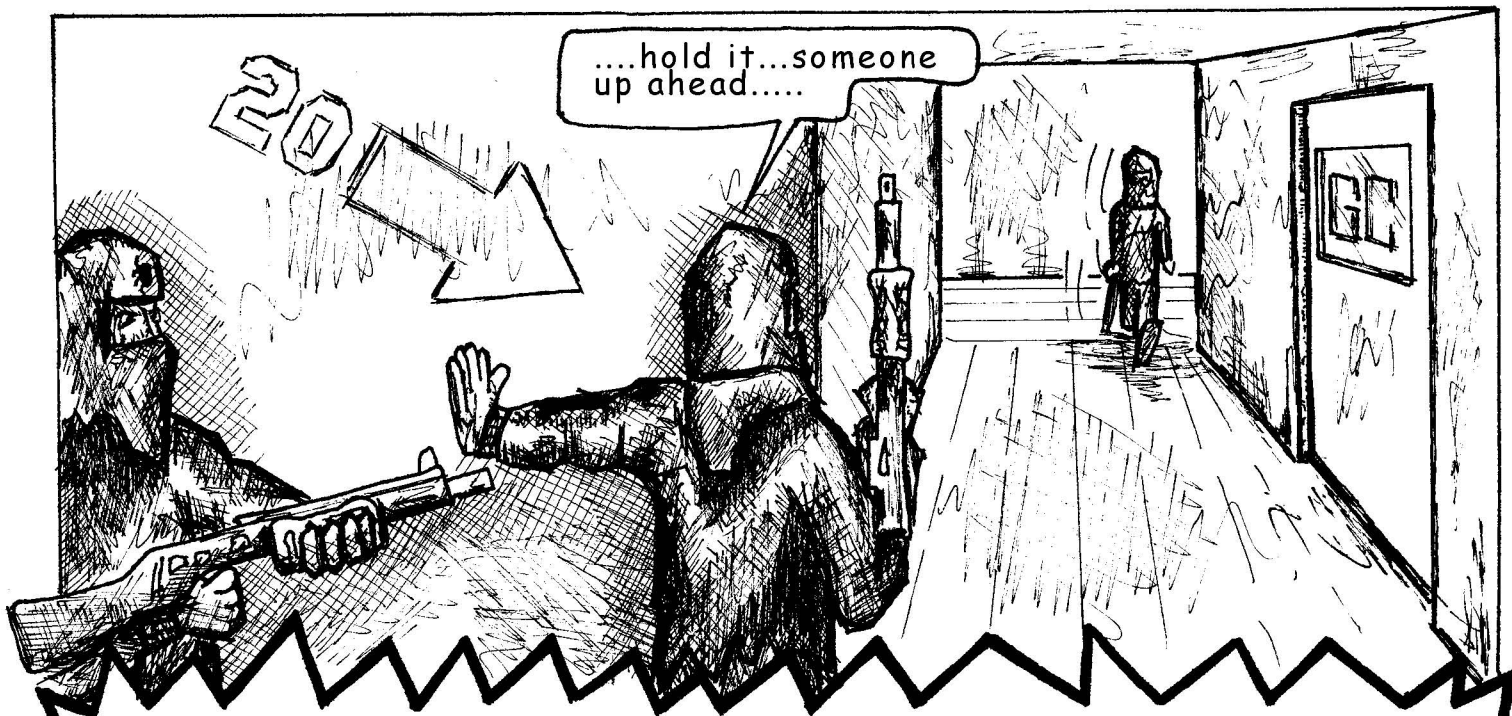


...WERE ONLY TOO RIGHT!!!



.....THIS IS NO DREAMLAND... WE LIVE FOR REALITY, HOWEVER UGLY IT MAY BECOME..... WE'VE STILL GOT A COMPANY TO RUN...

WITHOUT LIVING THEIR DREAMS..... WE WON'T!!!!.....



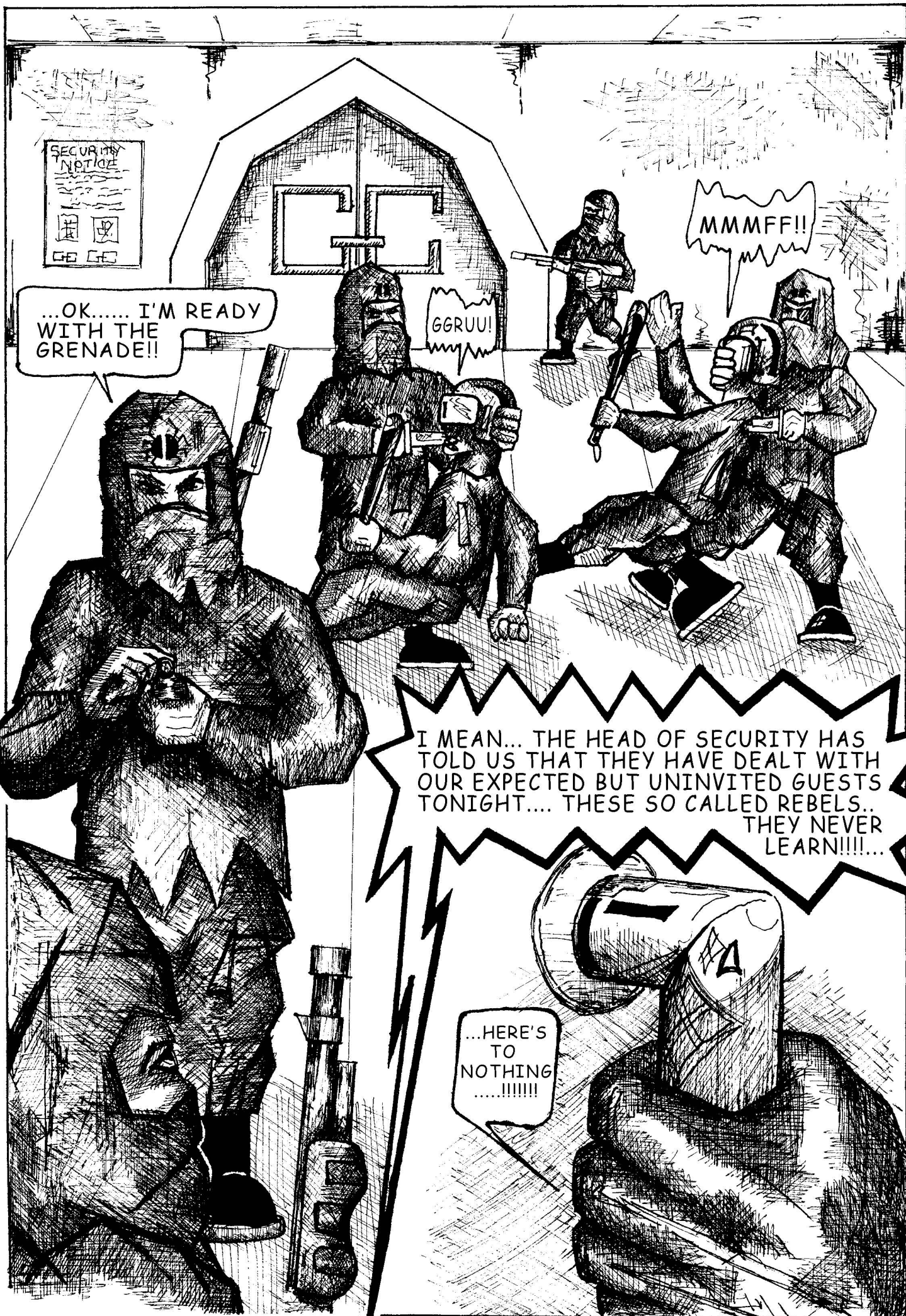
EVEN AS WE SPEAK, REBEL FORCES ARE BEING KEPT AT BAY BY OUR EXCELLENT SYNTH-POLICE. ... THESE TRAMPS, ANARCHISTS, BLACKS AND OTHER NON-CORP BEINGS ARE FALLING LIKE FLIES.....



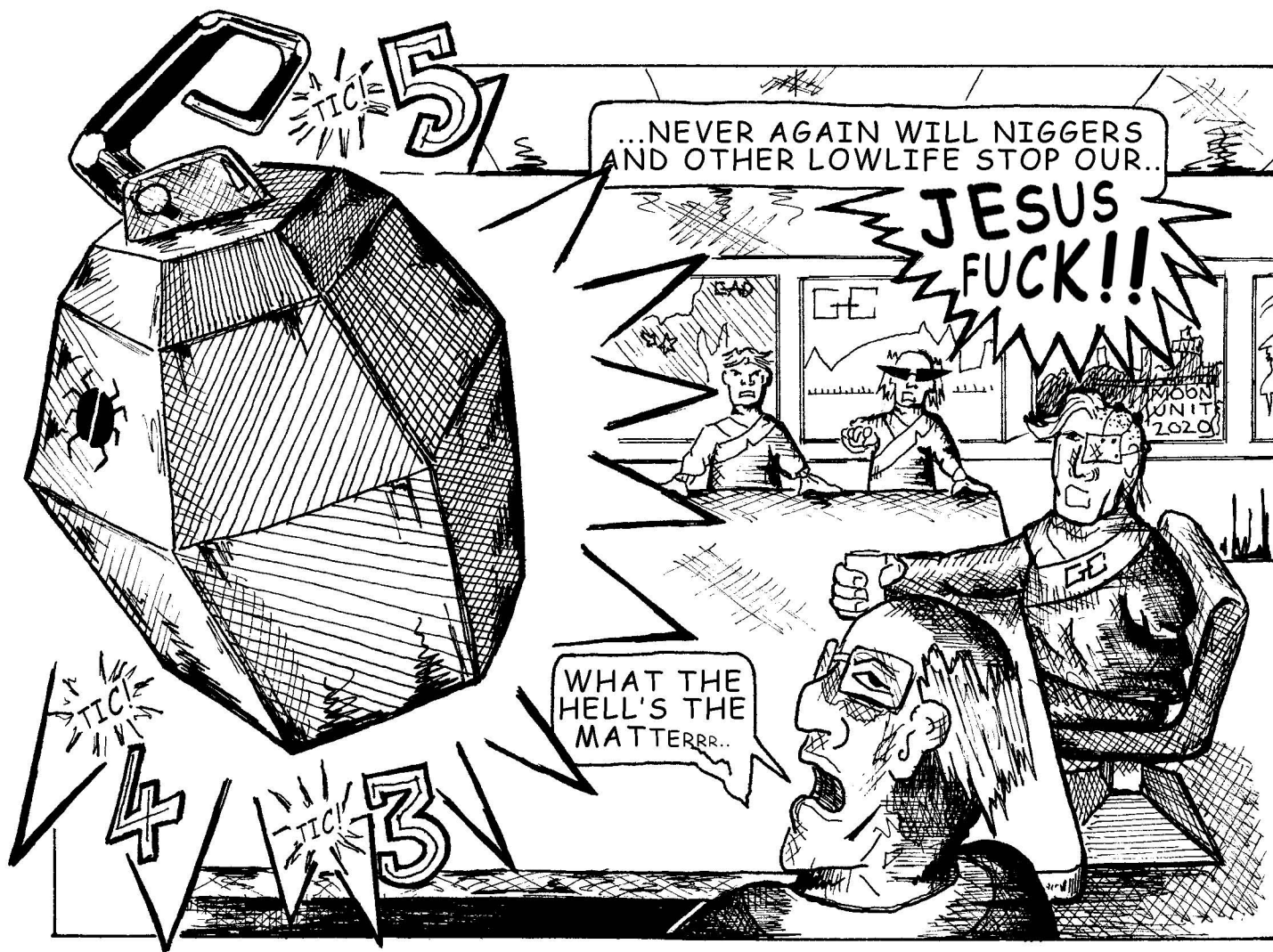
...WHEN YOU GET THIS FAR..... IN THIS DEEP.....



.....THE WORD "STOP" IS WORTHLESS..... JUST A DROP



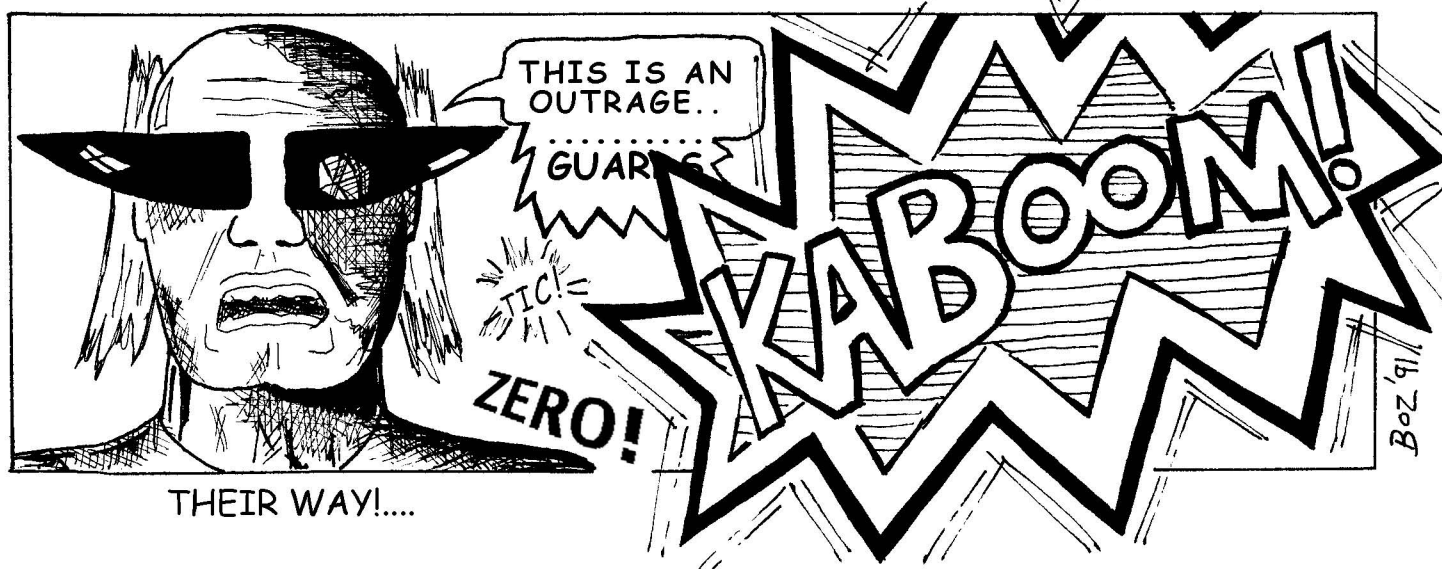
.....IN THE OCEAN..."



"... IT'S JUST LIKE A HORRENDOUS NIGHTMARE COME TRUE.....



.....FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ALWAYS HAD IT.....



THEIR WAY!....

# EMERGENCY ALERT : CONFERENCE SECTOR!!!!

COME ON, LET'S  
SPLIT.....THIS  
PLACE WILL BE  
SWARMING IN  
SECONDS!!

SHIT, THEY'RE  
HERE!!!.....

BUDDAA!!!  
BUDDAAA!!!

ALL  
SECURITY PERSONNEL ON.....

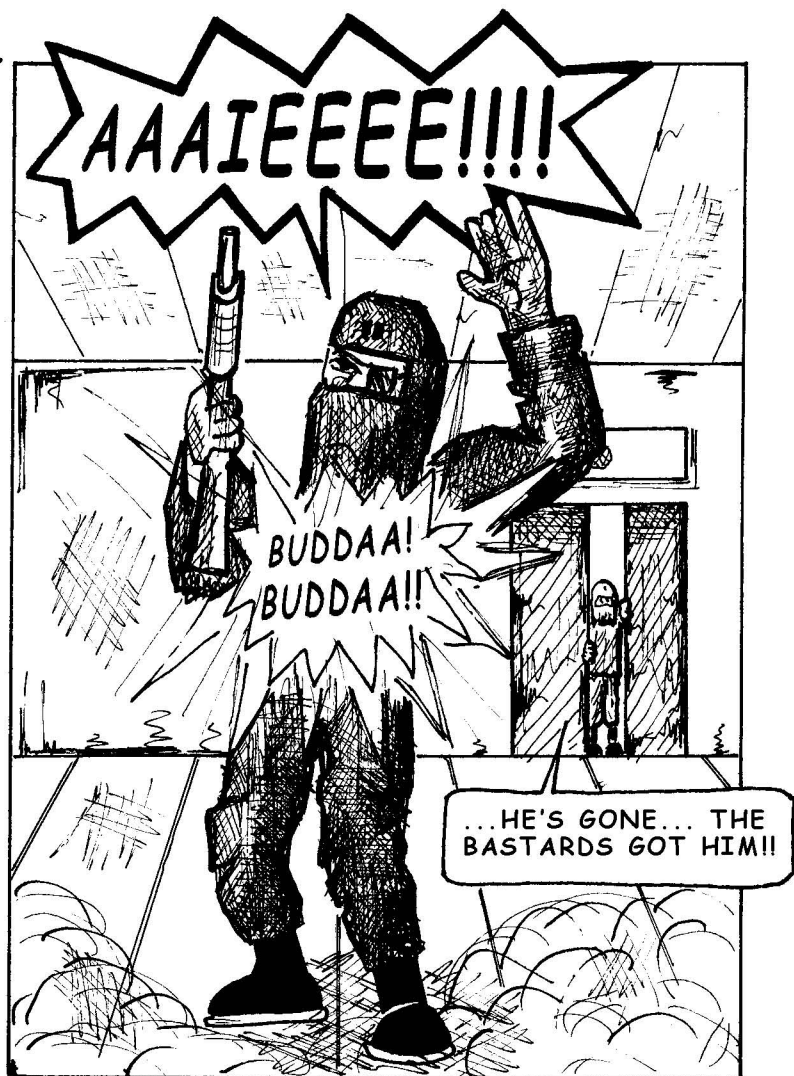
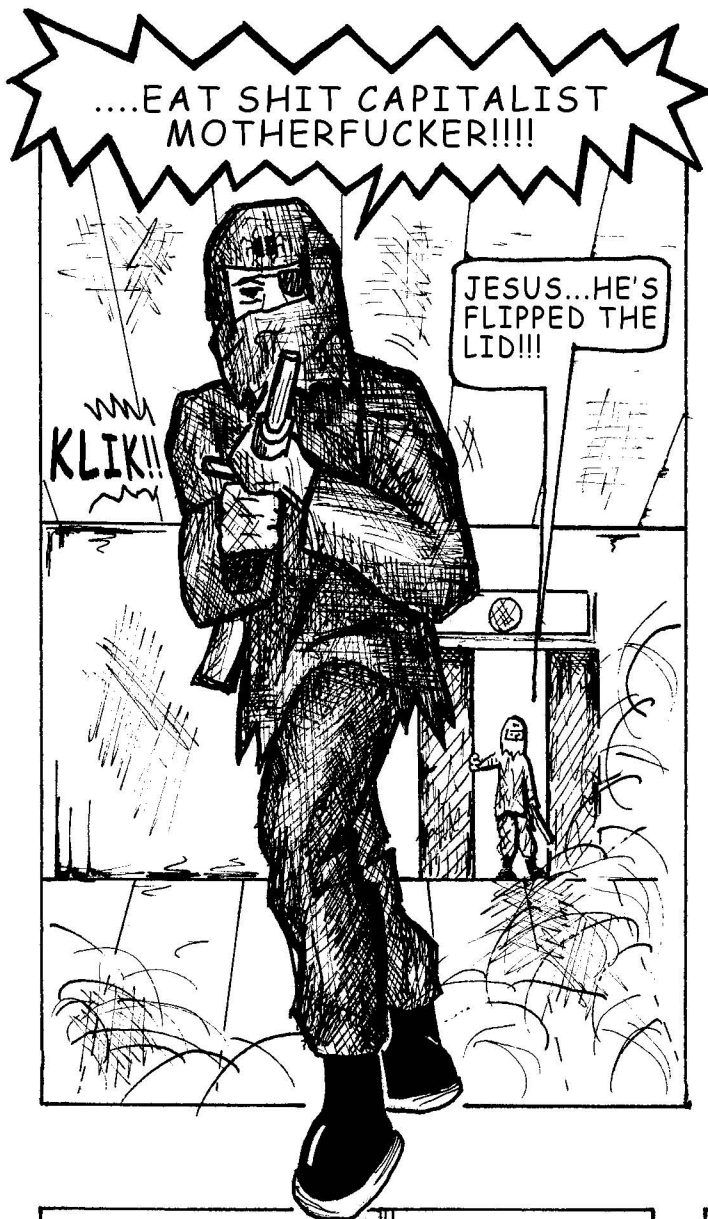
GUYS!!..THIS WAY..  
...THE ELEVATOR!!!  
....QUICK!!!!

WHA... HEY ...  
MAKE A MOVE..  
WHAT THE FUCK'S  
WRONG WITH YOU???

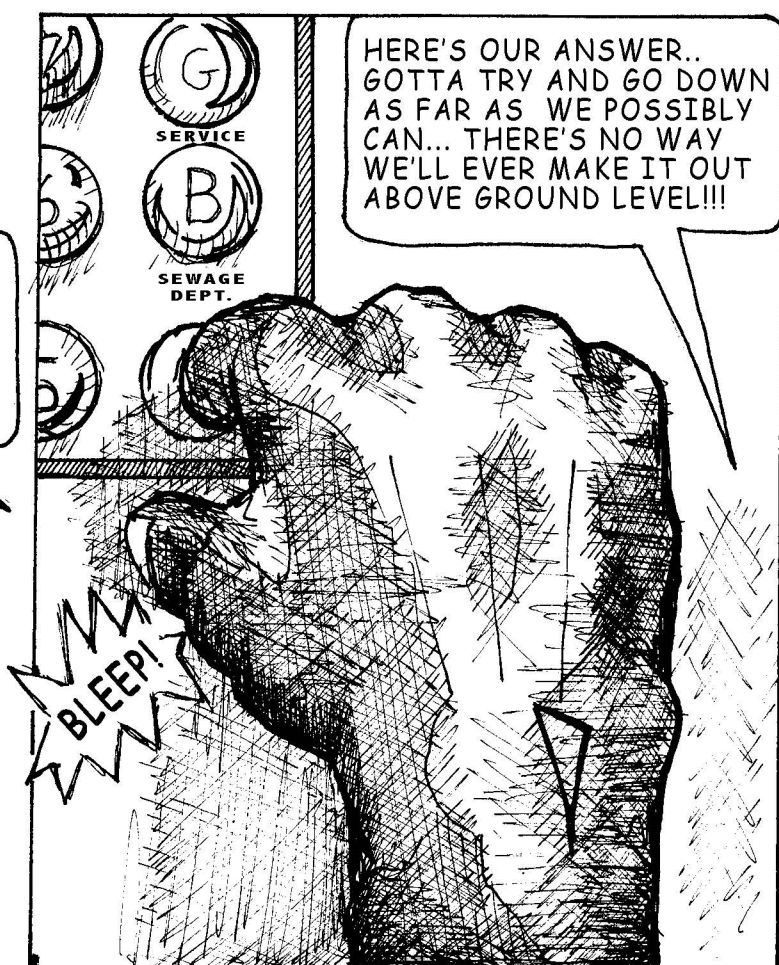
BUDDAA!!!  
BUDDAAA!!!

DING!!

.....LOOKOUT FOR INTRUDERS!!...

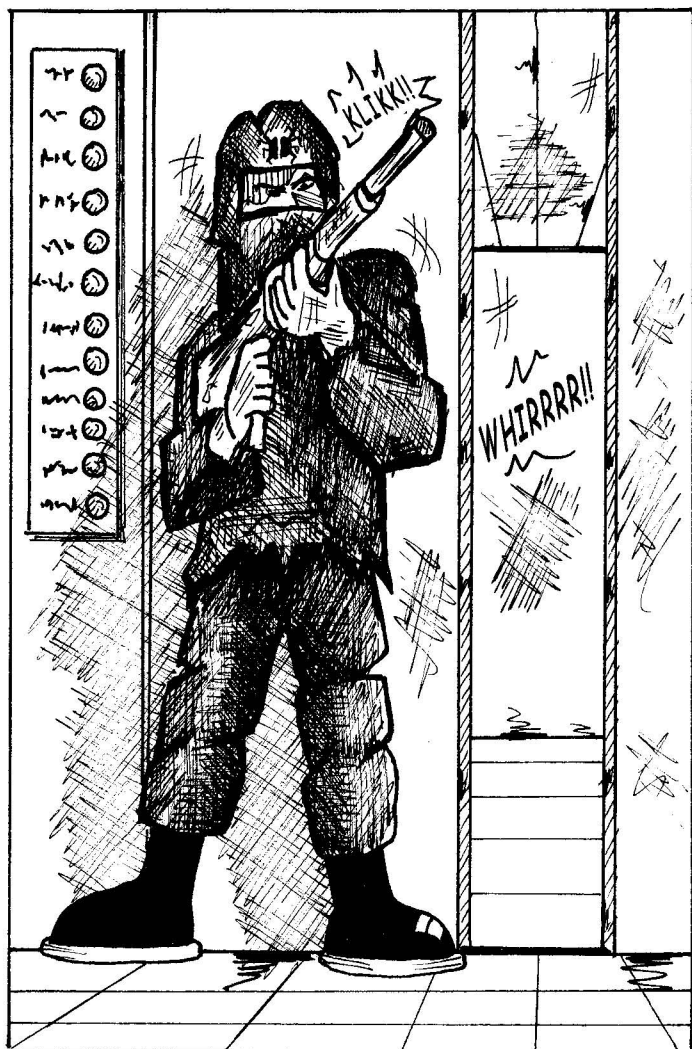
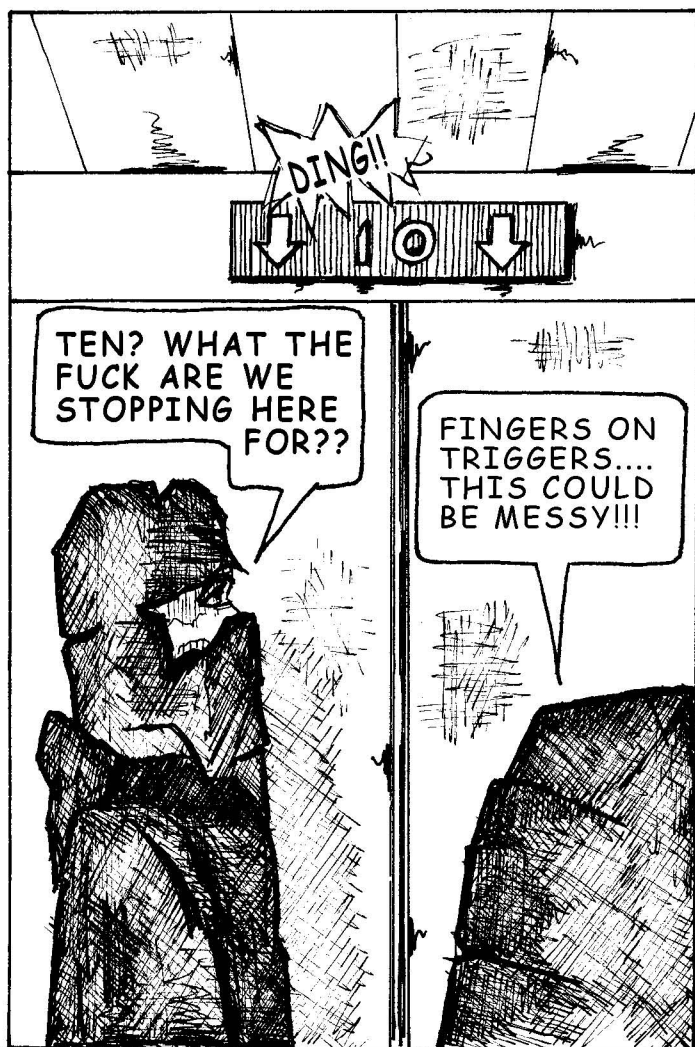


....GONE!!!"



Boz'91

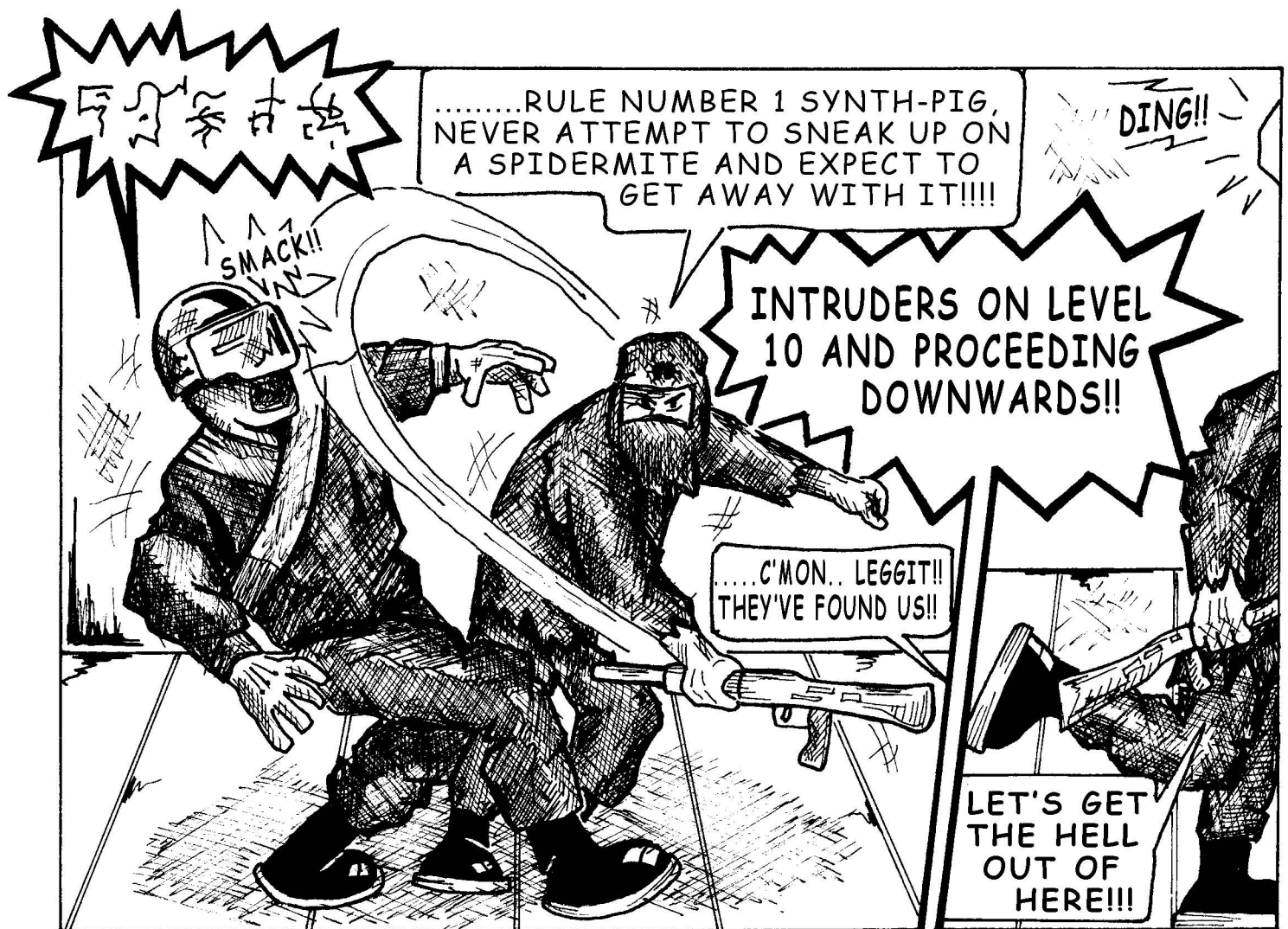
"..... I HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF ACTUALLY.....



....HAVING ANY SPECIFIC THOUGHTS AT THE TIME....



...EVERYTHING HAPPENED SO DAMN FAST.....



...WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK...



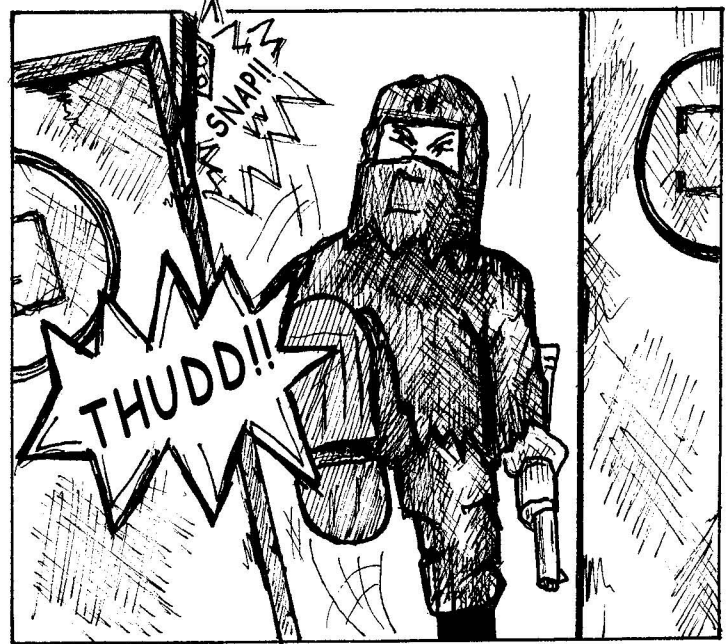
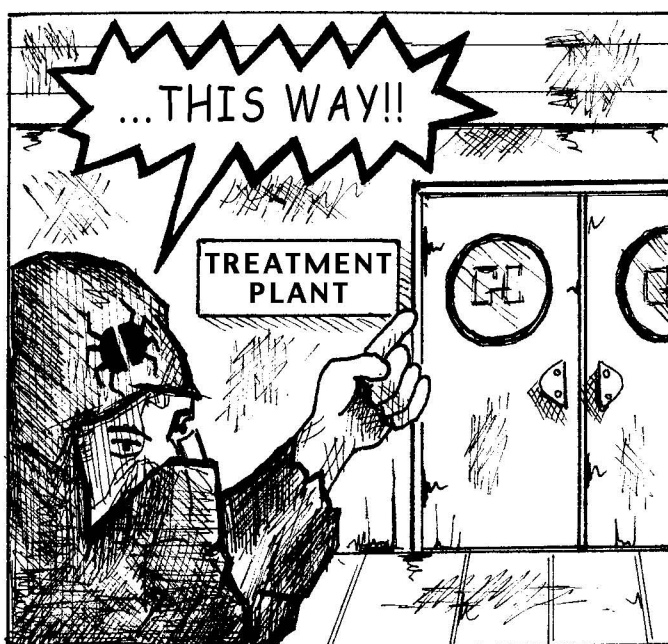
.....EVEN ABOUT OUR OWN CASUALTY.....



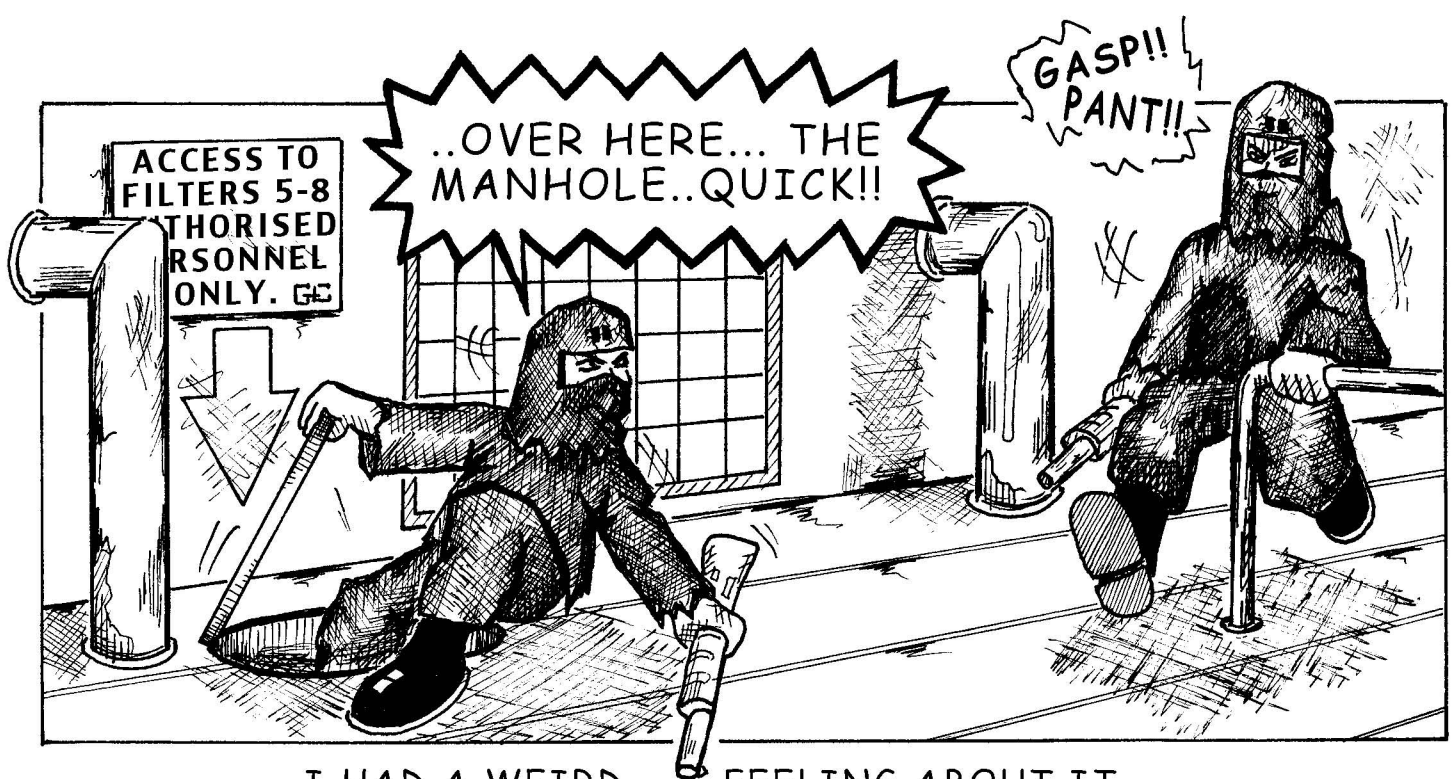
..... I MEAN..... THE GUY WAS ONE ON US.....



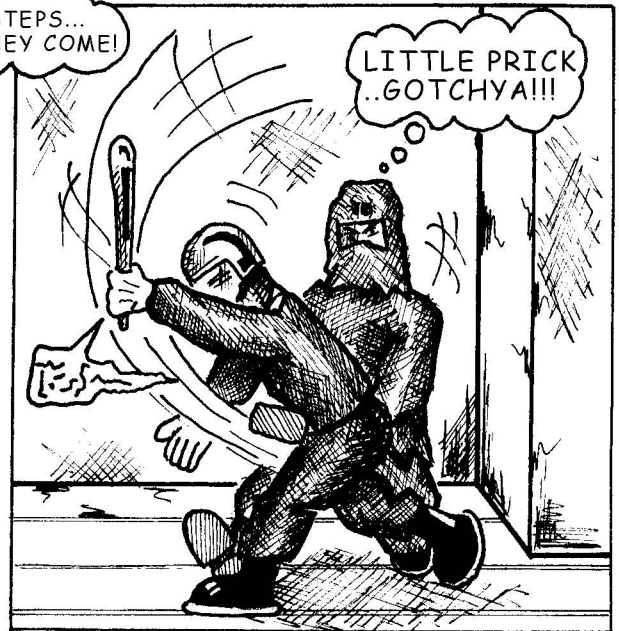
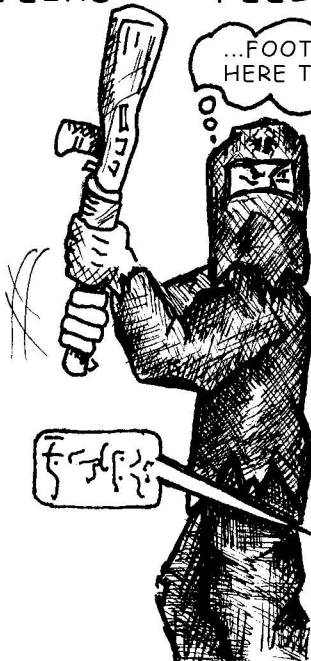
....AND WE PRACTICALLY RAN OFF ON HIM.....



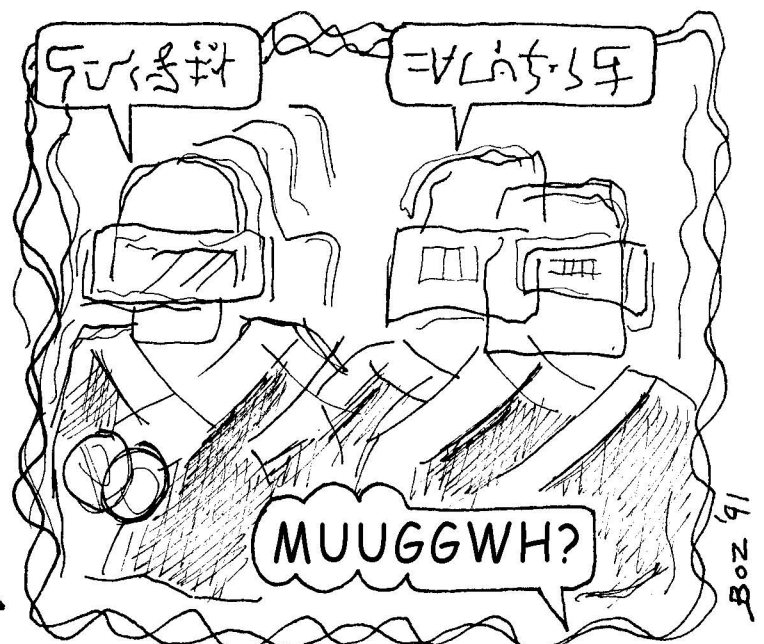
....DIDN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT LEAVING HIM BACK THERE.....



.... I HAD A WEIRD FEELING ABOUT IT.....



....ALL THE TIME .....IT WAS LIKE.....



....A STRANGE PREMONITIONARY FEELING THAT.....



**YOU!!?**

...WE WERE WALKING STRAIGHT BACK...

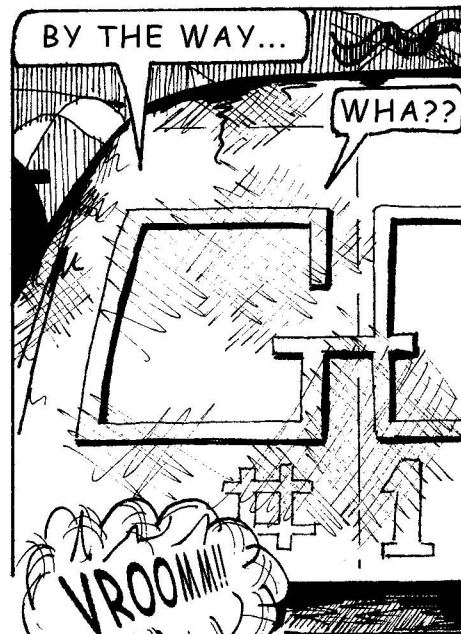
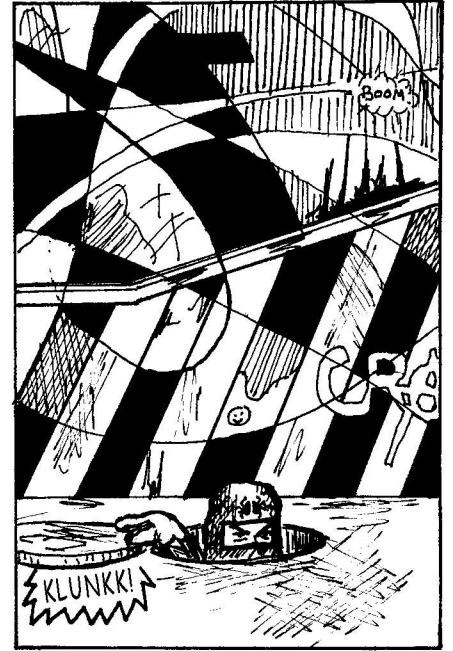


.....INTO OUR OWN TRAP!!!!"



"... I WONDER DID THEY MAKE IT?????...."

EPILOGUE:



END.

# SPIDER MITES

## AFTERMATH

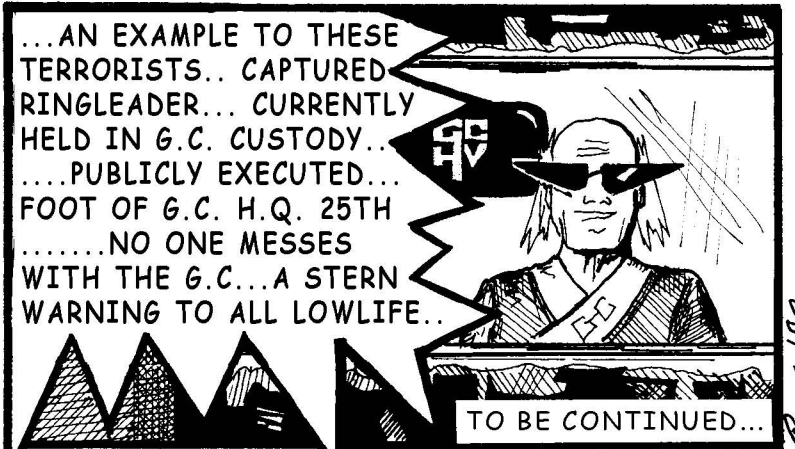
... HAVE NOW DECLARED A TOTAL CURFEW.... LOWER CLASS AREAS  
.....THEFT OF G.C. PROPERTY...  
SEARCH FOR 3 MALES... ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



TRADITIONAL ANARCHIST DRESS..... NEW G.C. WARNING.... RISE IN NEO-SOCIALISM... NOT TOLERATED.... DEEMED A SERIOUS OFFENCE...



... AN EXAMPLE TO THESE TERRORISTS.. CAPTURED RINGLEADER... CURRENTLY HELD IN G.C. CUSTODY...  
.....PUBLICLY EXECUTED...  
FOOT OF G.C. H.Q. 25TH  
.....NO ONE MESSES WITH THE G.C...A STERN WARNING TO ALL LOWLIFE..



TO BE CONTINUED...

Boz '92

# SPIDER MITES

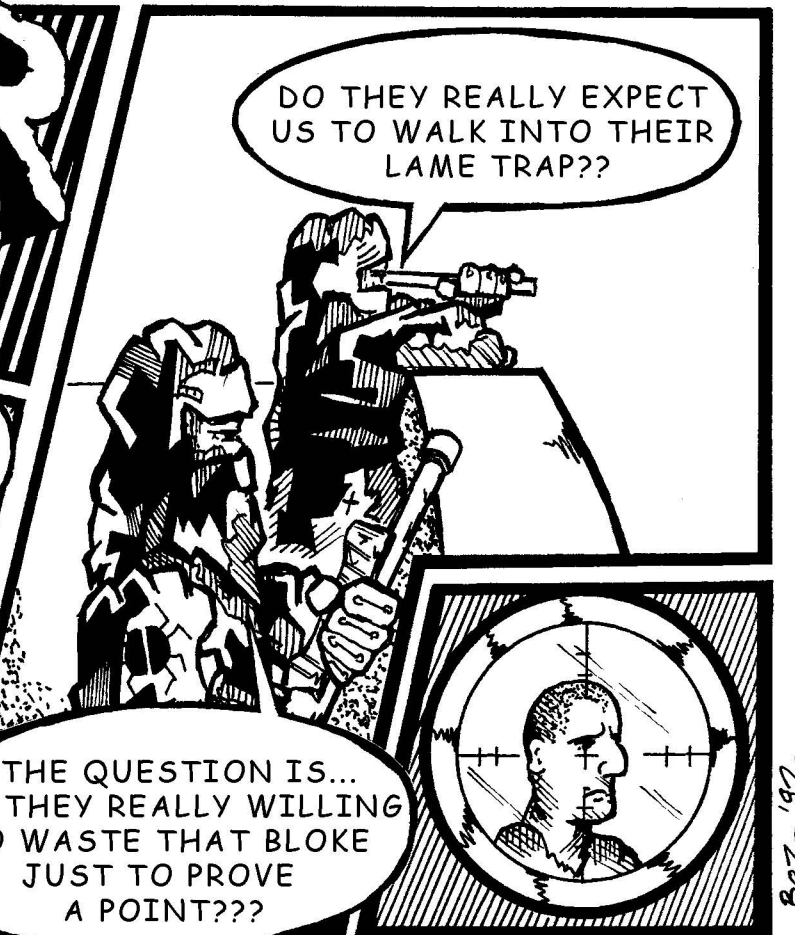
## AFTERMATH

THIS IS GOING TO BE VERY INTERESTING!!!



DO THEY REALLY EXPECT US TO WALK INTO THEIR LAME TRAP??

...THE QUESTION IS... ARE THEY REALLY WILLING TO WASTE THAT BLOKE JUST TO PROVE A POINT???

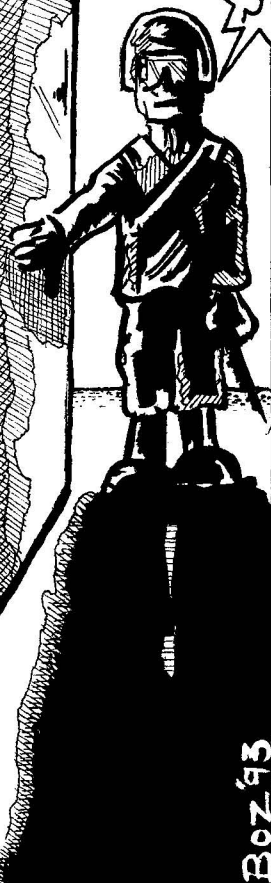
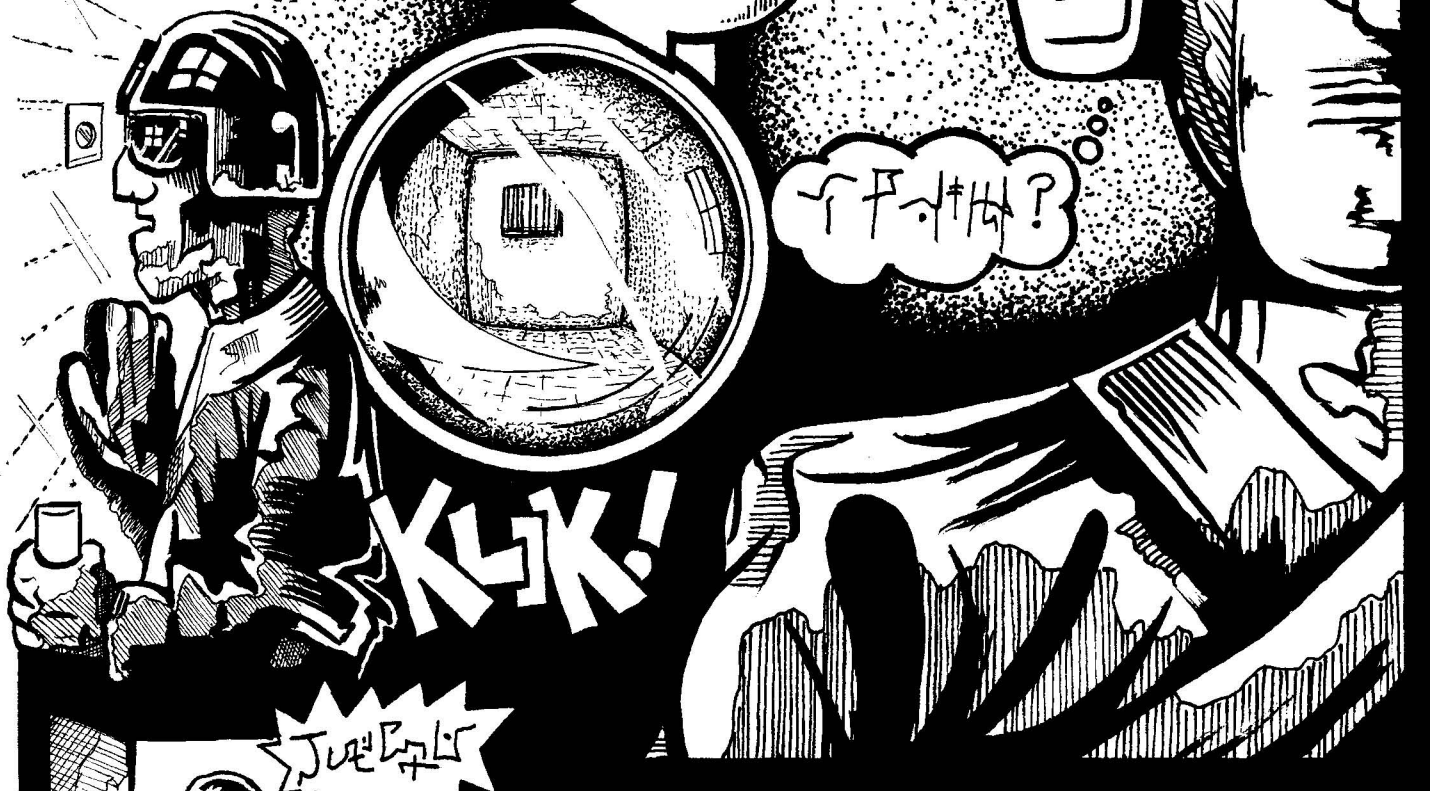


TO BE CONTINUED...

Boz '92

# SPIDER MITES

«3»



Boz'93



TO BE CONTINUED...

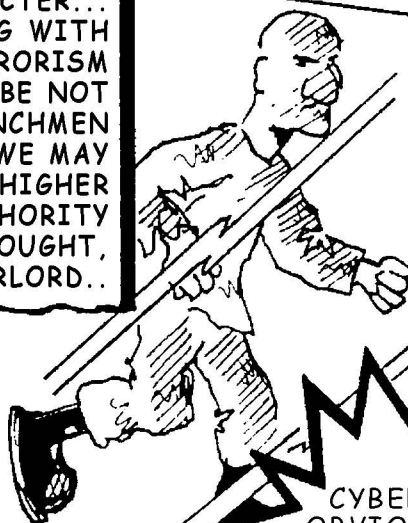
# SPIDER MITES

«4»



I'M SORRY  
B.O.B... IT..  
IT'S A NEAR  
IMPOSSIBILITY  
TO DETECT A  
PRIMITIVE  
POLY-WEAPON  
CONCEALED  
ON A CYBORG  
...UM....

.... THIS CHARACTER...  
WE'RE DEALING WITH  
ORGANISED TERRORISM  
..... NO ONE, MAYBE NOT  
EVEN HIS OWN HENCHMEN  
KNEW... I THINK WE MAY  
BE DEALING WITH A HIGHER  
CIRCLE OF ANARC-AUTHORITY  
THAN WE PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT,  
POSSIBLY A RENEGADE WARLORD..



.... FORTUNATELY, HIS  
CYBERNETICS ARE DECAYING  
... OBVIOUSLY OLD TECHNOLOGY  
..... WE'LL CATCH HIM!!

Bar 93

## NOSEBLEED PRESS



SECOND YEAR IN PRINT !

← ONLY 50P AND S.A.E

FROM : NOSEBLEED/



SPIDER MITES



"...SET IN THE FUTURE, A RAID ON A MULTINATIONAL GOES WRONG- OR DOES IT? GOOD IDEAS AND WELL PUT TOGETHER..." ( DS4A DISTRO )

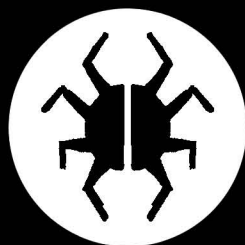
GET OUT OF  
HERE... QUICK!



" BASED IN A WORLD NOT TOO UNLIKE OUR OWN, WHICH MIXES AN  
ENTERTAINING STYLE WITH PLENTY OF STUFF TO MAKE YOU THINK.."

( DOG ZINE )

# RISE ABOVE



ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN PRINT FORM BY NOSEBLEED PRESS AUGUST 1991  
DIGITAL REMASTER PUBLISHED BY NOSEBLEED PRESS JUNE 2009  
DISTRIBUTE FREELY!!!