

CAPT. AMERICA

MARVEL COMICS GROUP



25¢ 175 JULY 02453



CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON



SHOWDOWN
--IN THE SHADOW OF THE WHITE HOUSE!

STAR-SPANGLED DOG! YOU'VE SMASHED THE SECRET EMPIRE-- PULVERIZED MOONSTONE--

BUT NOW YOU FACE THE DEADLIEST **MAN-MENACE** OF ALL!!



Stan Lee PRESENTS: **CAPTAIN AMERICA** AND THE **FALCON**™

A MONUMENTAL, MIND-BLASTING MASTERWORK TO CLIMAX CAP'S MOST CATASTROPHIC CAPER, BY
STEVE ENGLEHART * SAL BUSCEMA * VINNIE COLLETTA * ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER * ROY THOMAS
AUTHOR ARTIST INKER P. GOLDBERG, COLORIST EDITOR

...BEFORE THE DAWN!

SO--CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON JOINED FORCES WITH THE MUTANT X-MEN TO DESTROY THE SECRET EMPIRE, EH?

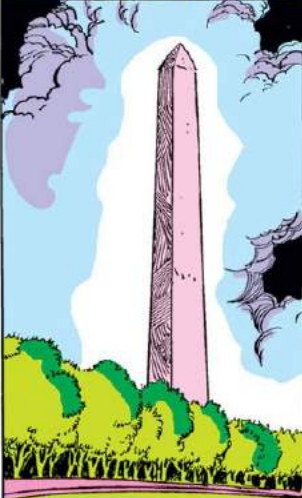
BUT WHEN THEY ATTACKED US, THEY COULDN'T KNOW OF THE POWER AT OUR DISPOSAL-- THE POWER OF THE ATOMIC ANNIHILATOR--

--THE POWER THAT HAS SLAUGHTERED THEM ALL!



...

A AMERICA! TWO CENTURIES
REMOVED FROM THE GOLDEN LAND
THE FOUNDING FATHERS ENVIS-
AGED-- NO LONGER YOUNG OR
INNOCENT--



--YET STILL A PLACE
WHERE FREEDOM IS
NOT JUST ANOTHER
WORD.

THOUGH THERE ARE THOSE
WHO WOULD LIKE THAT
CHANGED.



MAN! TO THINK
I'D BE THE STAR
OF A CONGRESSIONAL
HEARING!

YES, IT WENT
SMOOTHLY
MOONSTONE.

YOUR POSITION AS **PUBLIC
HERO #1** IS **SECURE**, THANKS
TO MY GENIUS AT MANIPULATING
THE TRUTH--

--AND THANKS TO
CAPTAIN AMERICA'S
BLUNDERING DEFENSE
OF HIS NAME!

"LIES ARE NEAT,
TRUTH IS MESSY!"
ISN'T THAT
WHAT YOU
ALWAYS SAY?

HE NEVER
HAD A
CHANCE!



MAYBE THE TRUTH GOT
OUT ON **WATERGATE**,
BUT THAT'S THE **EXCEP--**



WROOM!

HUH?

THEY'RE
HERE!

LOOK, MOONSTONE!
LOOK AND YOU
SHALL SEE **HISTORY
IN THE MAKING!**

EVERY CAREFULLY-
CHOREOGRAPHED
APPEARANCE
YOU'VE **MADE** UNTIL
NOW IS FINALLY
ABOUT TO **PAY OFF!**



ACROSS THE
STREET--

ON THE
**WHITE HOUSE
LAWN--**

--OUR **ALLIES**
HAVE ARRIVED!



WOOM!

IN SECONDS, THE SECRET EMPIRE'S SAUCER COMES TO REST, ITS SULLEN BULK RESEMBLING NOTHING SO MUCH AS A MONSTROUS MUSHROOM DEFILING THE BRIGHT GREEN GRASS.

MANY SHIPS, ANY OF THEM MORE CONVENTIONAL, COULD HAVE BROUGHT THESE INVADERS HERE-- BUT COULD ANYTHING ELSE HAVE THE SICKENING IMPACT OF A TRUE "FLYING SAUCER"?



NO, THE FEAR OF FLYING SAUCERS RUNS DEEP IN MANKIND.

AND FEAR IS THE NAME OF THIS GAME!

FROM ALL SIDES, MANKIND WARILY CONVERGES-- FIRST, IN THE FORM OF WHITE HOUSE PRESS CREWS, WHOSE CAMERAS DEVOUR THE SIGHT--



-- AND THEN THE ARMY ROLLS UP, PISTOLS AND CANNONS AT THE FORE!



AND WHEN MANKIND IS GATHERED AND READY-- WHEN MANKIND HAS ALL OF ITS ATTENTION RIVETED ON THE SHIP--



-- THE SECRET EMPIRE BEGINS THE SHOW!



AMERICA, I AM NUMBER ONE!

I DEMAND IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER!



THE ARMY GIVES HIM ITS EXPECTED ANSWER!

...

...

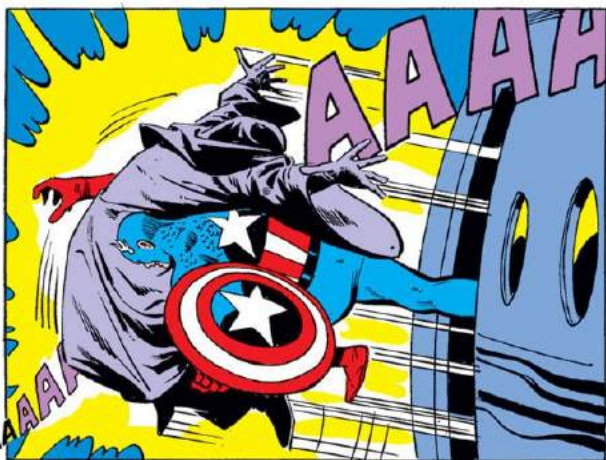
...

OUTSIDE, THE LUST FOR DOMINATION HAS LEFT NUMBER ONE, FOR IT IS A LUST HE IS SATISFYING!

NOW HE RIDES THE WARMING TIDE OF TRIUMPH!



MARK THIS DAY, AMERICA! TODAY THE SECRET EMPIRE --THE INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT TURNS VISIBAA



THE SOUND OF CHIN MEETING DIRT IS A SOUND SO SWEET AS TO DEFY DESCRIPTION!



SUDDENLY, CAPTAIN AMERICA'S FRUSTRATIONS-- HIS HATE-- YES, AND EVEN HIS HURT-- DESERT HIM! SUDDENLY-- AT LAST-- HE KNOWS PEACE.

WE GOT THE BOMB SITES, PARTNER! WE'LL GET THE WORD TO SHIELD!

HIS IS WHERE HE SHOULD BE-- DOING WHAT HE SHOULD BE DOING!

CAPTAIN AMERICA IS FULFILLING HIS HERITAGE!

SO--THE RENEGADE VIGILANTE SHOWS UP TO JOIN HIS SECRET EMPIRE FRIENDS!

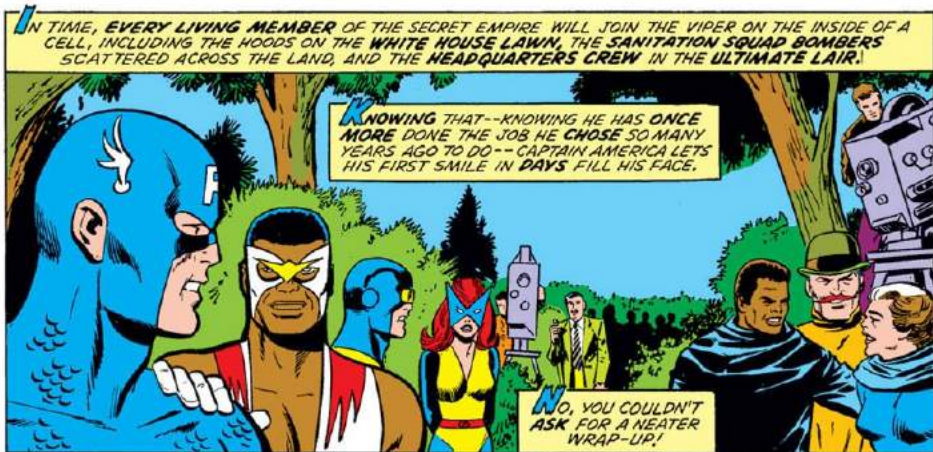


MISTER... THAT'S THE LAST LIE YOU'RE EVER GOING TO TELL ABOUT ME!











BEGINNING: THE MOST AMAZING STORY YOU'LL READ ALL YEAR! CAPTAIN AMERICA NO MORE??

...

...

...

CAPT. AMERICA

MARVEL COMICS GROUP



25¢ 176
AUG
02453

CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON



HOLD, STEVE ROGERS!
THOU KNOWEST
NOT WHAT
THOU DOST!

WRONG, THUNDER GOD!
I KNOW EXACTLY
WHAT I'M DOING!
I'M RENOUNCING MY
CAPTAIN AMERICA
IDENTITY--
FOREVER!

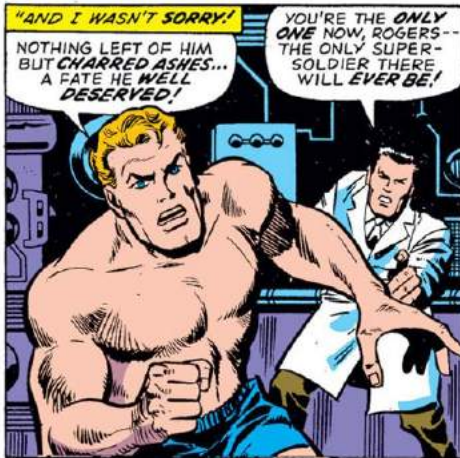
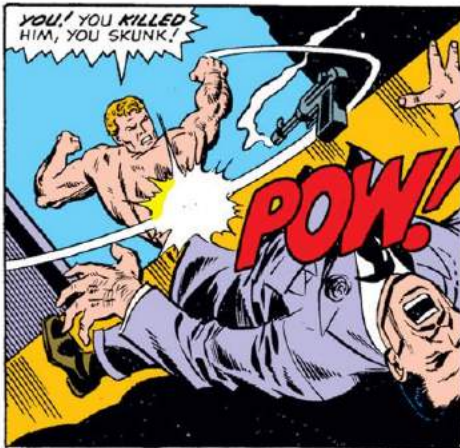
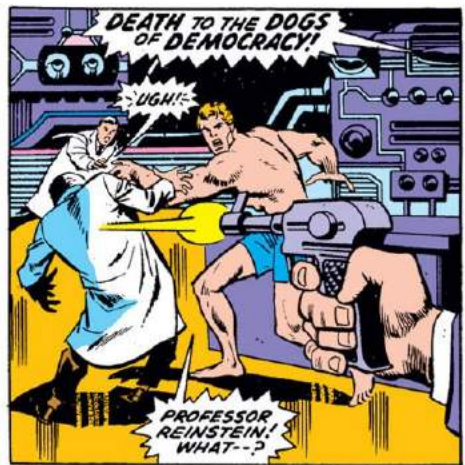


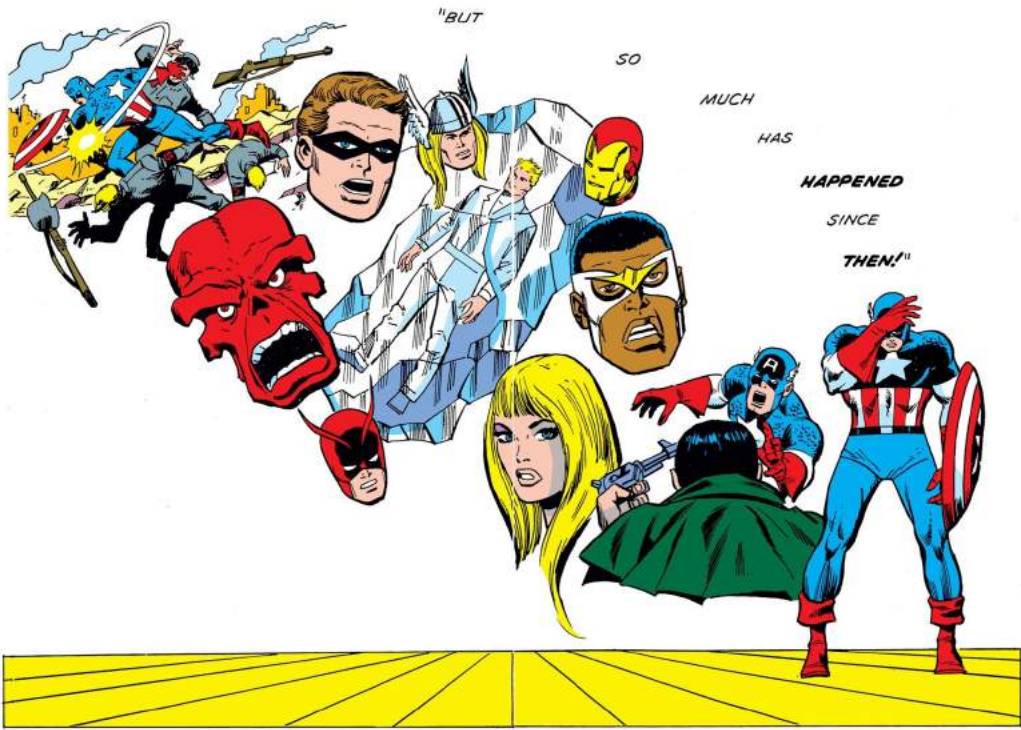


...

...

...





"BUT

SO

MUCH

HAS

HAPPENED

SINCE

THEN!"



LOTS OF PEOPLE FIGHT CRIME, OR PROVIDE INSPIRATION-- BUT ONLY YOU DO IT FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM WITH THAT ARGUMENT, PEGGY...



AMERICA IS NOT THE SINGLE ENTITY YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

IT'S CHANGED SINCE I TOOK MY NAME.



"THERE WAS A TIME, YES, WHEN THE COUNTRY FACED A CLEARLY AIDEOUS AGGRESSOR, AND HER PEOPLE STOOD UNITED AGAINST IT!"



BUT NOW, NOTHING'S THAT SIMPLE. AMERICANS HAVE MANY GOALS--SOME OF THEM QUITE CONTRARY TO OTHERS!

IN THE LAND OF THE FREE, EACH OF US IS ABLE TO DO WHAT HE WANTS TO DO--THINK WHAT HE WANTS TO THINK.

THAT'S AS IT SHOULD BE--

--BUT IT MAKES FOR A GREAT MANY DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF WHAT AMERICA IS.



"SO WHEN PEOPLE THE WORLD OVER LOOK AT ME--

"--WHICH AMERICA AM I SUPPOSED TO SYMBOLIZE?"