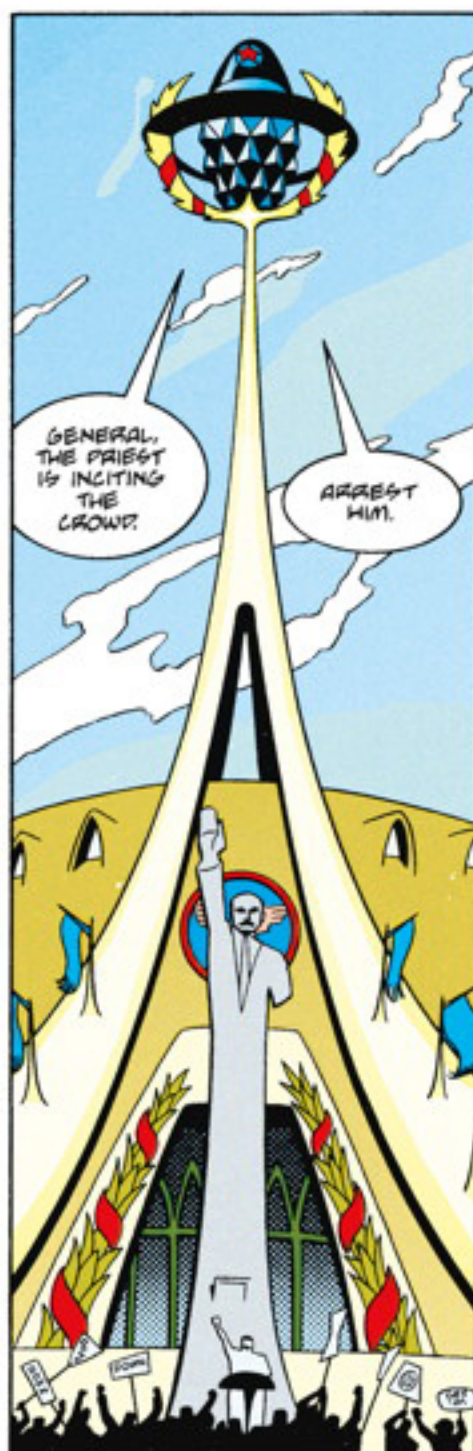
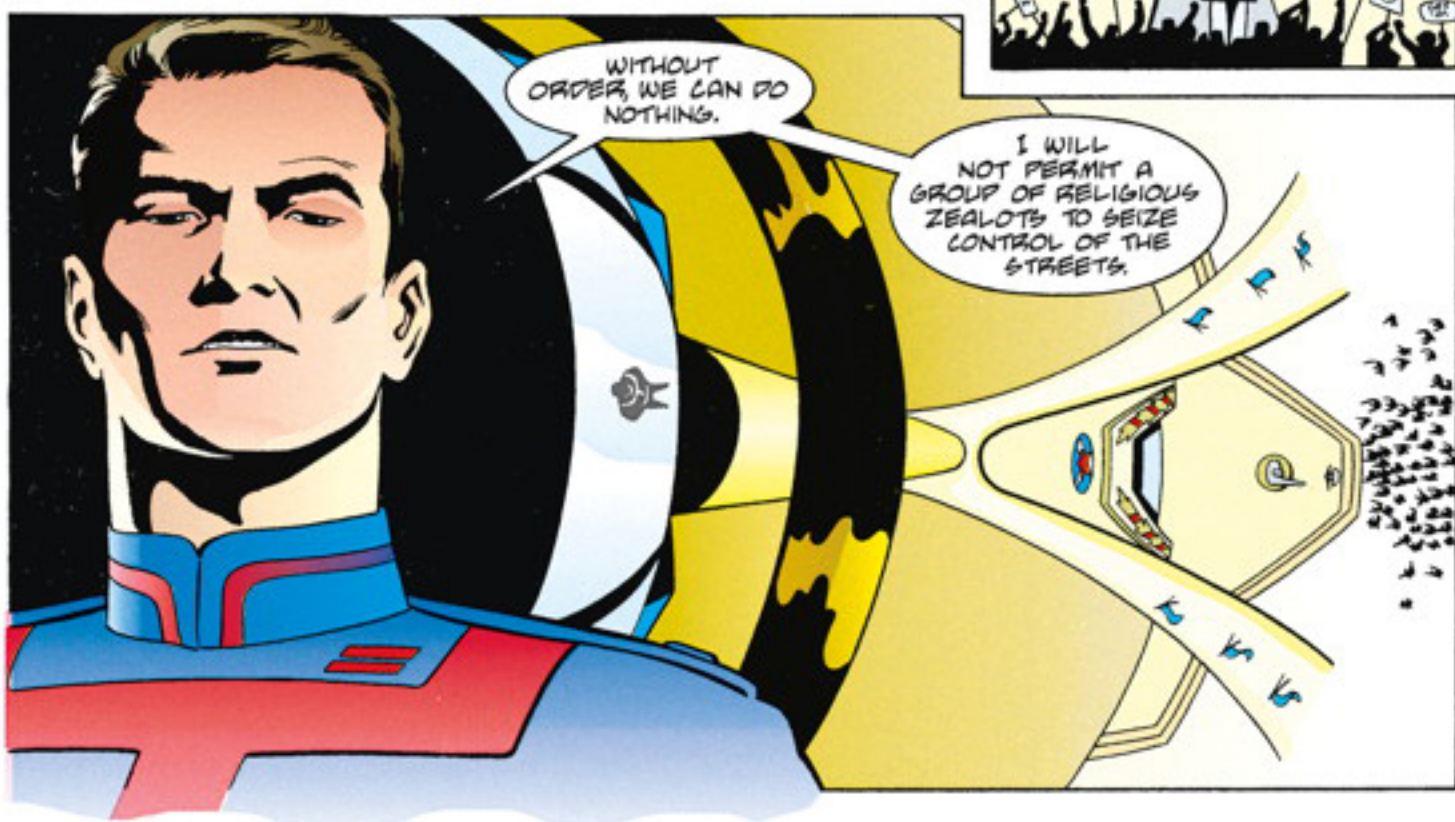
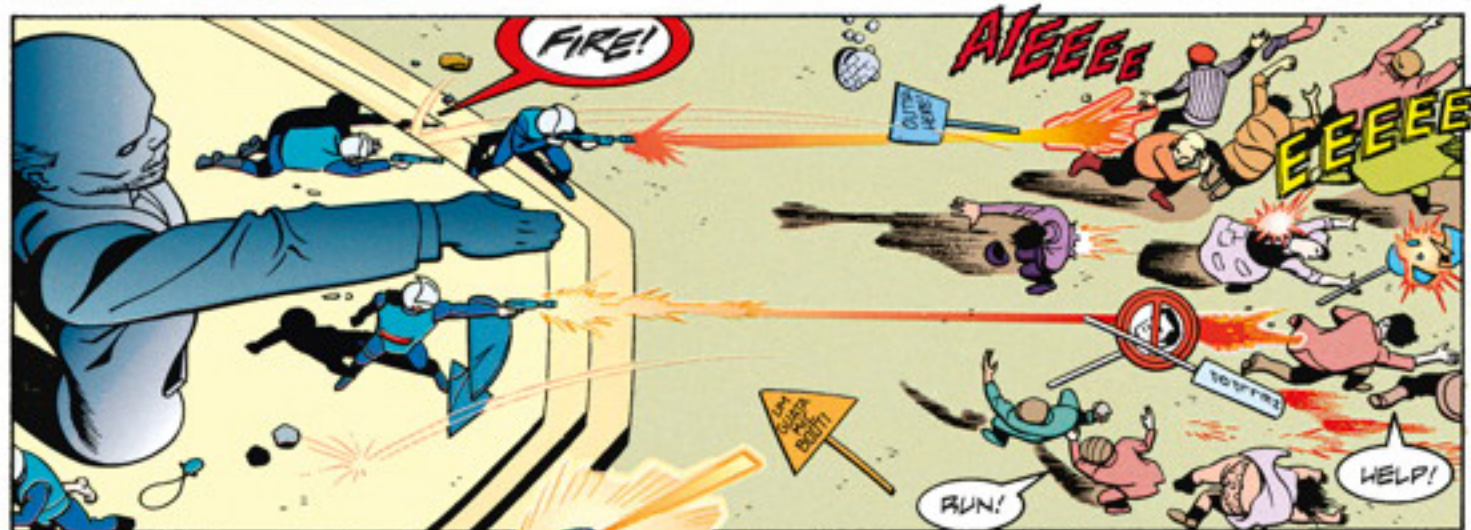


VADIC, AN OUTPOST
OF THE CRUMBLING
SOV EMPIRE.

"MY CHILDHOOD WAS A
PERIOD OF WAITING FOR
THE MOMENT WHEN I
COULD SEND EVERYONE
AND EVERYTHING
CONNECTED WITH IT
TO HELL."
—IGOR STRAVINSKY.







SIX MONTHS LATER...

GENERAL
HELLPOP, BOTH GRIEPP
AND DAVIS HAVE VOTED
TO SECEDE.

LET
THEM
VOTE.

THEY CAN
VOTE ALL THEY
WANT.

HAVE
THEY TAKEN
ACTION?

GRIEPP'S FORMED
ITS OWN MILITIA. THEY
DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL
OF ALL SOV TROOPS.

ORDER THE 12TH
IN, AND CONFISCATE THEIR
WEAPONS.

SIR, THE
12TH IS COMMITTED
TO THE BORODIN
REPUBLIC.

?Sigh! ...WHAT'S
AVAILABLE?

ONE
THOUSAND
MEMBERS OF
YOUR ELITE
GUARD.

SEND
THEM
IN.

ALL OF THEM? WHAT
ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL
SECURITY?

IF I
PERMIT AN
INSURRECTION,
MY PERSONAL
SECURITY WON'T
BE WORTH
MUCH.

CHOOSE
TEN SOLDIERS
TO REMAIN
WITH ME.

YES,
SIR.

GO ON,
CAPTAIN.
HAVE THE
SECRETARY
HOLD MY
CALLS.

"GO TO VRADIC,"
THEY TOLD ME. WHAT A
WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY
FOR A YOUNG MAN.

A
FEW YEARS
OF MANAGING
THIS PEACEFUL
FARMING
COMMUNITY,
AND I COULD
RETURN IN
TRIUMPH.

