

And to the REPUBLIC

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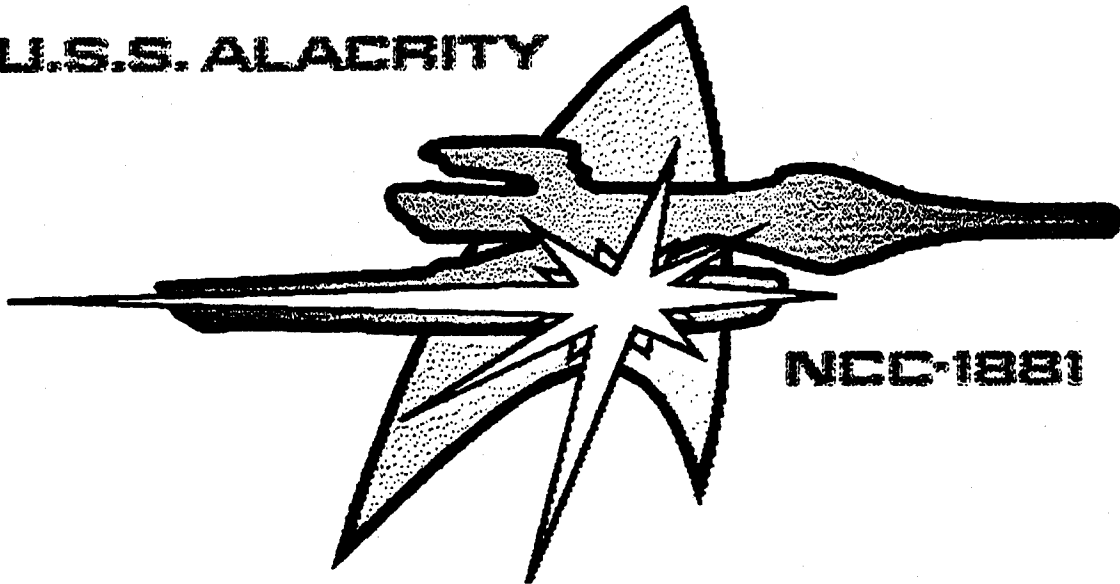
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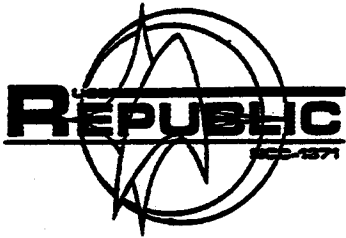
NEWSLETTER STAFF

Chief of Communications

Edmund Trafford

Editor

Dan Carson



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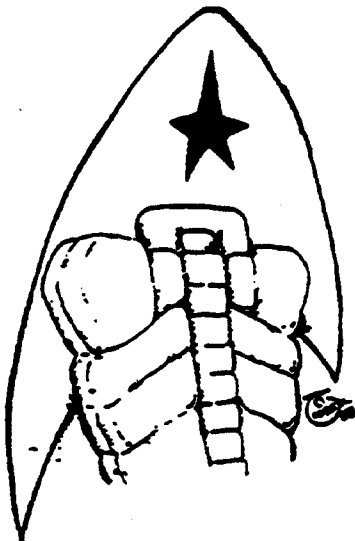
USS REPUBLIC

844 Parkstone Dr.

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FROM THE CENTER SEAT

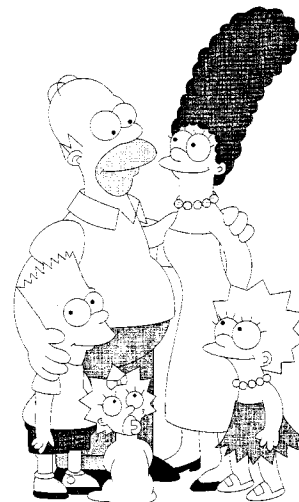


by *Captain Kelly Hilliard*

Well, this is a momentous occasion for the USS Republic. Our first shuttle, the Alacrity, will be commissioned at the February Vulkan. I can't say how proud of them I am. Today, they number over 50 active members who have chartered a bus to bring them down for this and they have reserved 16 rooms to hold them all. They have not only completed their training period, they have exceeded many established ships including their mother ship in the pursuit of excellence. Let everyone give them a big round of applause!

Though we are losing our first shuttle, we have two other shuttles. That's right--we have another new shuttle in addition to the Perth! The Werner von Braun is based in Huntsville, Alabama. The founders of this club knew von Braun personally. As kids, they used to visit his home and play with his kids on a regular basis. Through the efforts of Cindy Krell and Deborah Nelson, we were able to get them processed before the old administration left office. For that reason, we are in their debt. So, let us welcome Shuttle von Braun to our fold.

On January 29, we helped SciTrek open the new exhibit Star Trek: Federation Science. As of this report, five members of the Republic have volunteered for long-term support of this exhibit. This means that they will volunteer to work the exhibit, sell tickets, and many other duties that are needed. Dianne Fisher was at the orientation meeting January 23 and afterward was shown the exhibit. Her response was that of a child in the world's largest toy store. I take that to mean that this is a **MUST SEE**. So I would like to encourage all who can to help volunteer for this exhibit. Remember, SciTrek is our main charity. See the calendar in this issue for when the Republic will have an away team to SciTrek to see this exhibit in February.



NOTES FROM NUMBER ONE

by *Commander Dawn Williams*

Well, this is my last report for the ATTR. This month, I am stepping down as First Officer of the USS Republic. Due to a new job, my activity in the KDC (K.L.A.W.), and the fact that I have returned to school with a commute to UGA, I simply don't have enough time to fulfill my duties any more. I've enjoyed serving you and Capt. Hilliard for the past year. Though I'm stepping down, I will remain a member of the Republic and an acting liaison for K.L.A.W. for the Republic. I would like to encourage all of you to step forward and participate more in the operation of your club--it is a rewarding experience. Since my leaving will create a vacancy, I call on you to come forward if you are interested in the position as First Officer. Please contact Capt. Kelly Hilliard at 985-5720 if you are interested. Once again, thanks for the opportunity to have served you.

Engineering

by *Lt. (jg) Shane Shadrix*



Hello, everyone. Well, another year has come and gone, which means another con season is fast approaching (didn't the last one just end?). I am looking forward to seeing you at the cons. I hope to have some nice badges designed for the club to wear and possibly sell. The ones for the crew of the Republic I hope to personalize. Also, this month the Federation Science Exhibit will be arriving. SciTrek will need help to set it up and strike Mission to Mars. So if you can't put in a lot of time working the exhibit, this is another option to help them. Also, they are looking for extras to give the exhibit atmosphere--a Next Gen uniform will be required. For more information, call SciTrek. Before I close, I

would like to extend a hearty welcome to the von Braun, the newest shuttle in the bay of the Republic, and wish a safe voyage to the soon-to-be USS Alacrity. May the wind always be at your back and the road rise up to meet you . .

Live long and prosper. Chief Engineer out.

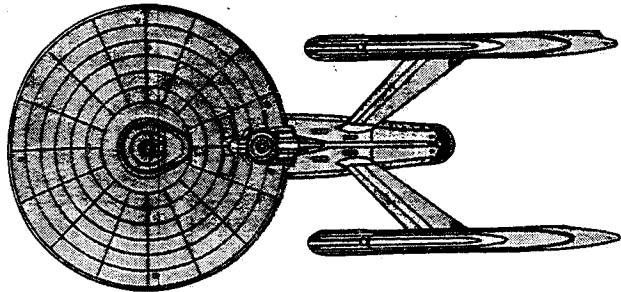
Communications

by
Lt. Cmdr. Edmund Trafford



We are already updating our recruiting literature for the beginning of the '93 con season which kicks off with Vulkan this month--it hardly seems possible that con season is upon us already, does it? Highlights of the season (in Atlanta) will be Vulkan, Dixie Trek, and probably Fantasy Fair, plus any out-of-town cons where we can make a significant "presence"--anyone else going to MOC in Greenville in April?

I want to make one more appeal for fan member feedback in the form of articles, artwork, etc. for ATTR. Please feel free to submit anything you think would be of interest--con reviews, book reviews, TNG/DS9 reviews, computer bulletin board gossip/rumors/comments, anything original at all, poetry, short stories, science items, current space program items, etc. etc. etc.--Lt. Carson and I with some help from a small group of other occasional contributors have carried the ball for too long. Let us hear from the rest of you out there!



Sciences

by Lt. (jg) Jeff Kirkland



and

SICK BAY

by (rank?) Dianne Fisher
Chief Medical Officer



This is a combined report from the Science and Medical Departments. Creation Conventions presented James Doohan at the Inforum on January 16. Jeff Kirkland, Dianne Fisher, and James Fisher had the privilege of working security, and it was great fun! We all three took turns working at the door and at the autograph table, where "Scotty" signed for over two hours. We also helped elsewhere as needed, i.e., the ticket table, the dealers' table, with the video equipment, and stage. The turnout was pretty light, due to a lack of publicity, but there were over 400 fans there.

We are all looking forward to the Vulkan Convention February 19-21 featuring Mr. DeForest Kelley and Mrs. Majel Barrett Roddenberry. It will be a "homecoming" for De, and hopefully we can have a lot of people there to show our support and appreciation. We will have a recruiting table there also for prospective new club members.

The Fox Theatre is presenting the play "Every Good Boy Deserves Favor" on April 17. This "musical drama" is the story of a steel-willed political prisoner, his lunatic cell mate, and the struggle of these two men to keep their wits under extraordinary circumstances. It stars Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, Brent Spiner, Gates McFadden, Colm Meaney, and John Graas and has a symphony orchestra. This should be quite a departure from their roles in Star Trek! It has the one performance only, so get your tickets early!

Hope to see you at Vulkan!

From the Editor

by Lt. Dan Carson



Well, Trekkers, it is time once again for the very infrequent, once-in-a-blue-moon, only-when-he-feels-like-it, column from the editor. The Atlanta con season is gradually coming upon us, and I am sure many of you are waiting with baited breath for that time when you can cram into your closet and dig that Starfleet (or Klingon or Borg or...) costume out of mothballs so you can put it on, only to find out how much weight you gained during the holiday season! Yes sir, it's con season again!

In between conventions, you will want to go to a few Republic meetings to find out exactly which cons are coming up. You could read about it in the monthly ATTR, but where else besides these fun-filled meetings can you find out about all the latest activities regarding the Republic and Starfleet in general, and all the gossip about ST:TNG, ST:DS9 and the Star Trek movies. In addition to all this stuff, there is always a possibility of going on an occasional away team expedition, either to SciTrek, The World of Coca-Cola (at Underground Atlanta), movies, putt-putt, or any number of exciting places. However, we can only go to these places if enough people show up to the meetings, which hasn't been happening for quite sometime. So, "COME ON DOWN!!" and have a great time with fellow REPUBLICans. (Note: No political affiliation required.)

Finally, a short note on Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. THIS IS A FANTASTIC SHOW!!! I see no reason why the Star Trek franchise should not last another seven years (or mre). 'Nuff said!!



SPECIAL REGION 2 FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Sunpetals Express, a Florida-based florist, has made an agreement with Starfleet to donate a percentage of all sales made to Starfleet members back to Starfleet for eventual disbursement to scholarship funds and other good causes. This is a virtually "painless" way to support Starfleet--it doesn't require lugging boxes of candy or gift wrap to the office and circulating order forms or canvassing the neighborhood door-to-door selling magazines. Whenever you need flowers, for whatever occasion, order them from Sunpetals Express--even the call is free, at 1-800-947-9700, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They offer a range of bouquets from mixed displays to tropical flowers to the ever-popular roses and even a "masterpiece" bouquet for \$45. Next-day delivery by Federal Express anywhere in the continental US is part of the service. When ordering flowers from Sunpetals, mention that you are a member of Starfleet and give them the special "code number" (510). Region 2 Coordinator Vice Admiral Deborah Nelson has stated that the first several months that this program is in operation, all funds generated within Region 2 will be set aside for use in the event that Region 2 is selected to host the 1994 International Conference. AND (here's the neat part!) the Region 2 chapter which generates the most orders by July 1, 1993 will receive a \$50 gift certificate for Starfleet merchandise. (Think of the ways we could use this!! Either to benefit our own members or to be resold--at a profit--at our con tables.) The second-place chapter will receive a \$25 gift certificate, and both chapters will receive a regional award for fundraising. Give Sunpetals a call on the very next occasion you need flowers--their prices are as competitive as you will find anywhere, and you will know that your purchase directly benefits Starfleet (that's us, in case you've forgotten). Call them soon (what's that number again? 1-800-947-9700) to discuss your needs for Valentine's Day or ask for a brochure.

SCITREK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Well, the Star Trek: Federation Science Exhibit is off and running (did y'all see the great coverage in the Thursday and Saturday papers during the week of January 25?). Several members have continued their participation with SciTrek from the Festival of Trees and are helping out with this as well. From first-hand experience, this is a fantastic exhibit, and we will have an away team to it during this month. See the calendar in this issue for all events during the month. Volunteers are still needed. You need to contact Ginny Plumber at SciTrek. The number is 522-5500. Call today! Let them know you are a USS Republic member volunteering to help.

CREWMAN OF THE MONTH

by Capt. Kelly Hilliard

This month's Crewman of the Month is Shane Shadrix. Shane, recently promoted to Chief of Engineering, has been putting alot of his own free time to design and produce new all-color division badges to help raise money for the club. Shane has also been adding to a store of graphic artwork and some of his artwork has been used in our covers (though a bit modified). So I'd like to give a big round of thanks to Shane for all his hard work! Also, be sure to check out the new badges at the table at Vulkon February 19-21--they're awesom!

"Relics" vs. "Unification"--A Rebuttal

by Lt. Cmdr. Edmund Trafford

This is a response to Bill Mason's recent review (Dec/Jan Communique) of two Next Generation episodes featuring Classic Trek characters. The basic premise of the review is that "Relics" was a successful episode because Scotty was at the center of it, and "Unification" was



not a successful episode because Spock was relegated to a secondary story line. My response is that comparing the success of these two episodes based on the amount of feature time given to Scotty or Spock is like comparing apples and oranges; the two episodes are different and so are the roles of the Classic characters in them. "Relics" was obviously "about" Scotty, and so certainly the episode focused on him. But "Unification" is not "about" Spock—it is "about" a potential Vulcan-Romulan detente; Spock's involvement is only one of several threads woven into this episode.

In my opinion, "Unification" is by far the richer story, bringing together and resolving several previous plot lines (Spock's relationship with his father, Sela's parentage, the ancient Vulcan-Romulan animosity). On the other hand, "Relics" is simply built on a brand-new situation, that of Scotty being stranded on the Dyson sphere and escaping by way of a transporter loop. This is certainly an effective idea, but it does not in any way continue or resolve an established story line or provide insight into previous action. And it is a heart-wrenching moment at the close of Part II of "Unification" when Spock communes with his father in the only way left open to him, through Picard's previous mind meld with Sarek—yet another great tie-in to a prior episode. (Bill Mason expresses disappointment that "While we KNOW that something significant has happened in the meld, we cannot SEE it." I beg to differ strongly: we see pride and honor in Picard's face and quiet pain in Spock's—we don't need to know anything else.) And the "supporting" moments of "Unification" are unforgettable—Riker flirting with the bar singer, Worf getting carried away with an excerpt of Klingon opera, among others.

While "Relics" is an admirable episode on its own merits, it is limited in scope compared to "Unification" (and there's nothing wrong with that—it's still a good episode). And while merely being ambitious in scope does not guarantee "Unification's" success, the significance of the plot lines (and Spock's contribution to their development even if he is not at the center of the overall episode), the wealth of "continuing" material (tying in and resolving a number of conflicts), and the high caliber of the "supporting" details make it the runaway winner.

SPY NETWORK UPDATE

From our undercover sources deep within the Neutral Zone, here are a couple of secret, highly confidential "top ten" surveys. Eyes only--burn after reading!

Top 10 Worst Computer Voices

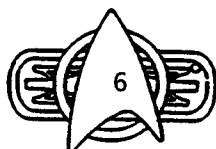
10. Elmer Fudd ("Computer, identify alien lifeform." "Cwazy wabbit!")
9. Richard Nixon ("Computer, what is our present status?" "Let me say this about that...")
8. Rosanne Arnold ("Computer, enhance sensor scan." "Oh, say can you see...")
7. Arnold Schwarzenegger ("Computer, terminate interface." "Hasta la vista, baby!")
6. John Wayne ("Computer, define options." "Wa-al, what I say is, the only good Klingon is a dead Klingon.")
5. Margaret Hamilton ("Computer, what is the current bridge temperature?" "I'm melting-g-g-gg!")
4. Eddie Murphy ("Computer, would you please---" "Aw, \$%#@** man!")
3. Ethel Merman ("Computer, open a priority channel--" "There's no business like show business... ." "No, not the entertainment channel!")
2. Bugs Bunny ("Computer, recognize Jean-Luc Picard." "Eh-hh, what's up, Doc?")

And the number one worst computer voice:

1. The telephone lady ("Computer, locate Mr. Data." "We're sorry, but that number has been changed. The new number is...")

Top 10 Rejected Hallmark Christmas Ornaments

10. Ferengi ship: Plays the message "Merry Christmas, human--I paid retail for my presents, do I look stupid!"
9. "Time's Arrow" Data's head: Does nothing, but the eyes light up.
8. USS Enterprise NCC 1701-C: Press a button and it appears on your tree 22 years in the future.
7. USS Bozeman: Plays message "Hey, is that a ship in front of us, try to dodge it! Hey, is that a ship in front of us?..."
6. Borg ship: Plays the message "Your life as you know it is over. Resistance is futile. Happy holidays."



5. Klingon warbird: Plays the message "Klingons do not celebrate holidays with gifts, they celebrate with pain sticks."

4. From TOS, Nomad: It plays "I am Nomad. I am perfect. Happy holidays."

3. Cloaked Romulan warbird: A hook attached to nothing.

2. Exocomp ornament: Automatically repairs burned-out Christmas lights.

And the number one rejected Hallmark ornament:

1. TNG shuttlecraft, with Montgomery Scott saying "Happy holidays, lad!"

WHO SAID IT?

Here are some more great TNG dialogue excerpts. Can you identify the characters and the episode? (Answers elsewhere in the issue.)

1. "Shuttle occupant, identify yourself."
"Don't try to talk me out of it."
"Return to the ship immediately!"
"I just can't get used to following orders."
2. "Klingon species, a warrior race. You too will be assimilated."
"The Klingon Empire will never yield!"
"Why do you resist? We only wish to raise the quality of life for all species."
"I like my species the way it is!"
3. "They are inquisitive. They want to know how you would endure."
"Endure what?"
"Them."
"One, or both?"
4. "It's been almost ten years, but seeing you again like this makes it seem like fifty. Do you know what I'd like to do if there weren't so many people around?"
"Break a chair across my teeth?"
"After that."
"Oh, ain't love grand?"
5. "Believe it or not, I always considered

myself a moderate."

"What changed your mind?"

"Being stationed here for six months. Watching the body count grow. The three assassination attempts on my life."

"Well, that'll change your point of view."

(Answers to "Who Said It?")

1. Picard to Q, "Deja Q"
2. Picard (as Locutus) to Worf, "The Best of Both Worlds, Part II"
3. Klag to Riker, "A Matter of Honor"
4. Picard to Philippa Louvois, "The Measure of A Man"
5. Devos to Riker, "The High Ground"

VISIT TO A STRANGE PLANET

(Capt. Hilliard pulled this parody off the computer net. Enjoy!)

Captain's Log, Stardate 54324.5: Starfleet Command has directed the Enterprise to do a preliminary exploration of a new planet in advance of a full research team. Scanners report the atmosphere to be breathable, but are receiving some confusing readings with regard to life forms. I am beaming down with a landing party composed of all of our chief officers except for poor Scotty.

Supplement: Redshirt Riley has received a head injury, apparently while exploring under a high rock shelf. He reports only hearing a loud sound and jumping before being struck. After examination by Dr. McCoy, he has been judged capable of continuing duty.

Supplement: We have encountered an alien creature on this planet. While it does not itself seem menacing, an unfortunate occurrence took place when it was present. Specifically, on my orders, Lt. Sulu drew his phaser. The creature disappeared, leaving a puff of smoke, immediately following which a loud noise was heard next to Sulu. Sulu fired, hitting Ens.



Chekov. Oddly enough, although Sulu's weapon was set to stun, Chekov was also covered with a black powder similar to soot. Mr. Chekov has been sent back to the ship for examination and quarantine.

Stardate 54326.2, Mr. Spock reporting: Tricorder readings indicate that the creature we encountered earlier is constantly moving at great speed over the surface of the planet. In an attempt to slow down the creature for study, I attempted to fire on it. The creature, however, appeared to move faster than the phaser beam. Regretfully, the beam struck an outcropping of rock above the Captain's head, causing it to break off and fall. It appears that several tons of rock fell squarely on the Captain driving him straight into the ground. Apparently, he was not seriously injured, though stunned. The Captain has been beamed up to Sickbay, leaving me in command of the research party.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54326.1: The creature is still at large on the planet surface. While Mr. Spock continues to lead a research party, I am currently at work with Mr. Scott on an Acme Pressure Cooker for our lab, for when the creature is finally apprehended.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54342.3: The strange occurrences that have dogged the landing party since our arrival at this planet have led me to believe that the creature is in some way directly responsible for them. Mr. Chekov and I have both been declared fit for return to duty, though Dr. McCoy has entered in his medical log that he feels we should be kept under observation. Mr. Spock has constructed a device which he suspects should be able to counteract the creature's incredible speed as follows: We have placed a dish of birdseed out in the open, with several signs with arrows pointing to it, "Free Birdseed." The dish is atop a cleverly concealed trap door, which will

open when any weight falls on it. The creature will then travel on a slide, eventually being deposited in a cage constructed of sheets of transparent aluminum. We will then be free to analyze it at our leisure. Meanwhile, I have forbidden all beaming down to the surface of the planet except on my or Mr. Spock's direct order.

Captain's Log, Supplemental: The plan failed. The creature was indeed lured by the birdseed, as expected. It sped to the dish, consumed the bait, and sped off without setting off the trap. Mr. Spock is as puzzled as I am, and has begun tests to discover the flaw in the design. I have sent out three search parties to see if we can box the creature in, one headed by Mr. Sulu, one by Mr. Chekov, and one by sociologist Xontel.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54342.8: Sociologist Xontel has been temporarily incapacitated. In pursuing the creature, he and his men somehow managed to cross the place where Mr. Spock's trap was set just as he completed corrections to it. The trap was sprung, and all four of my men were suspended for a moment in mid-air, puzzled, just before they fell one by one into the cage we had constructed. We are now trying to release them with phasers, as the lock was inadvertently smashed by the impact from sociologist Xontel's head as he fell. I consider this a major setback. Mr. Spock considers it "fascinating."

Captain's Log, Stardate 54343.4: In an all-out attempt to stop the creature once and for all, I have had a phaser rifle beamed down from the Enterprise. The creature has behaved in an extremely cunning manner, yet I am unsure whether this is a sign of actual intelligence. Lt. Uhura has been unsuccessful in her attempts to raise Starfleet Command. Meanwhile, Mr. Scott informs me that our dilithium crystals are deteriorating at an alarming rate. He has juryrigged a system that will prevent the decay for a time, but it is imperative that we find new crystals soon.

Captain's Log, Supplemental: Mr. Sulu reports high energy tricorder readings from an area of the planet in which the creature has not yet been sighted. He has taken a small party, including Mr. Spock, to the high-elevation spot from which the readings emanate. I have begun to analyze the creature's movements. It seems to travel consistently over a set path. Perhaps we can corner it in a tunnel it seems to pass through frequently.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54344.7: Mr. Sulu has located a cache of ACME dilithium crystals



atop a high cliff. Regretfully, while collecting them, the edge of the cliff broke off, and he and Mr. Spock plummeted several hundred feet to the ground below. Strangely enough, they both survived the fall with no more than raising a cloud of dust on impact accompanied by various sounds of china smashing. A rescue excavation has commenced, and they should be safe shortly.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54344.9: Mr. Spock has beamed up to the ship to assist Mr. Scott in the installation of the ACME dilithium crystals, as he foresees compatibility problems. Back on the planet's surface, Mr. Chekov led seven men into the tunnel in an attempt to capture the creature in transit. A loud "BEEP BEEP" was heard, and Chekov aimed the phaser rifle and commanded his men to spread out. I wish to state for the record that I would have acted similarly, and that Ensign Chekov should in no way be held responsible for the unfortunate circumstances arising from the unexpected appearance of an old Earth-style freight train. He has been beamed back up with minor injuries.

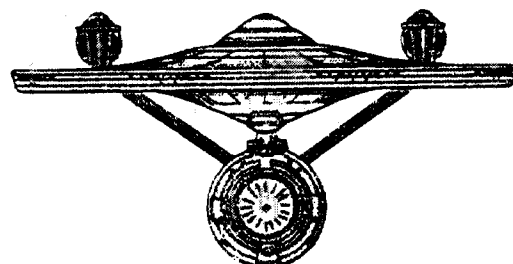
Captain's Log, Stardate 54345.1: Dr. McCoy has beamed down with a hypo containing a mixture of kyranide, tri-ox compound, Scalosian concentrate, a Theragram derivative, and some other items he found in unmarked containers in Sickbay. By injecting a small amount into each member of the landing party, he hopes to be able to deal with the creature on its own high-speed terms.

Captain's Log, Supplemental: The latest experiment to deal with the strange creature has failed. As Dr. McCoy was injecting a measured dose of the compound, the creature abruptly appeared behind him and uttered a loud "BEEP BEEP!" Dr. McCoy, understandably flustered, accidentally pressured the entire contents of the hypo into his arm. A full security team is in pursuit of him, waiting for the effects of the drug to wear off.

Captain's Log, Stardate 54345.2: I have ordered the landing party transported back to the ship. The new dilithium crystals have been successfully installed. On my responsibility, the ship is preparing to engage main phasers to

attack the creature, which continues on its semi-erratic course across the planet's surface.

Captain's Log, Supplemental: This is a warning to all other starships that may pass this way. Do not approach this planet! The illogical events occurring here are too much to overcome with simple science. If you have heard the events transcribed in the rest of this log, you will learn that this creature is nearly undefeatable. We channeled full ship's power through the phaser banks. Theoretically, the creature should have been destroyed; however, the energies were too much strain for the ACME crystals. The full force of the phasers backlashed over the Enterprise, engulfing her completely. At first, the only noticeable effect was a complete failure of all systems save emergency gravity and life support. Then a web of black lines spread through the Enterprise's superstructure. Next, the ship began breaking up, piece by piece, falling through the atmosphere to land on the surface of the planet. When the ship had collapsed entirely, my crew was left hanging in space for a short time, and finally each of us began to fall. We have no theories on how any of us survived, but every crewmember has reported nothing more than a sense of uneasiness, followed by the realization that they were several hundred miles up in the air, a sinking sensation, and then a gradual drop: first the feet, then the body, and finally the head, usually wearing a resigned expression of perplexion. We are attempting now to communicate with the creature in the hopes that it will prove intelligent. Perhaps we can communicate our peaceful intentions to it. Mr. Spock has constructed a crude rocket launcher from the wreckage of the ship, and with this we hope to send the recorder marker up into space, where hopefully someone will find it. Captain James T. Kirk, of the United Federation of Planets, Captain of the Starship Enterprise, recording.



USS REPUBLIC NCC-1371
2071 Walden Park Place
Snellville, GA 30278

