

DEFENDERS OF THE EARTH

"ROOT OF EVIL"

(SCRIPT)

MP#900-06

by Cinnamon & Wengrod

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MARVEL PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

KING FEATURES ENTERTAINMENT

CAST LIST

KIT WALKER

JEDDA

L.J.

FLASH GORDON

THE PHANTOM

MANDRAKE

LOTHAR

KSHIN

FUZZY

DYNAK X

DR. WINSTON WHITESTEAD - 50 year-old, silver haired, socialite/botanist.

BRIDGET WHITESTEAD - Dr. Whitestead's beautiful, 16 year-old daughter.

MING

OCTON

ICE ROBOTS - 3 speaking roles

MEN OF FROST - 2 speaking roles

ROBOPILOTS - no dialogue

SOPHISTICATED PARTY-GOERS - no dialogue

MALE GUEST #1

SUBJECT

CHINESE CITIZENS - no dialogue

FRENCH CITIZENS - no dialogue

WHITE HOUSE GUARDS - no dialogue

DEFENDERS OF THE EARTH

"ROOT OF EVIL"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MONITOR

KSHIN (V.O.)
Homework! Yech!!! I hate
homework ...

INT. MONITOR - LIBRARY - WIDE

PAN ACROSS the floor to ceiling book shelves of this high-tech, modular room. L.J. and JEDDA sit at desks, reading. KSHIN, with notebook in hand, is at an oversized table, upon which is a fluorescent light directed at four potted PLANTS. Open textbooks and lots of crumpled papers are strewn about. FUZZY looks on.

KSHIN (CONT'D)
... don't you, Fuzzy?

FUZZY
(chirps in agreement)

ANGLE ON KSHIN

Kshin picks up a TUNING FORK and taps it against the table (SFX). He then holds it over one of the plants and makes a notation.

KSHIN
I mean why should I ruin a
whole Saturday afternoon
working on some dumb plant
experiment for science class?!

FUZZY
(chirps in agreement)

ANGLE ON L.J.

Looking up from his book.

L.J.
C'mon, Kshin. Schoolwork's
very important.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA
You don't become a Defender
just because of your bravery,
strength, skill ...

WIDEN SHOT - JEDDA AND L.J.

L.J.
...and good looks!

Jedda pointedly ignores L.J.'s wisecrack.

JEDDA
It takes lots of study, too!

ANGLE ON KSHIN

KSHIN
I'd still rather be out saving
the world!

MED WIDE ON FUZZY

Hopping on top of the table, then around Kshin's potted plants.

FUZZY
(buzzes with support)

WIDEN SHOT

KIT runs into the room waving a metallic LASER DISC.

KIT
Jedda! L.J.! Wait'll you see
what I've developed!

CU ON KSHIN

KSHIN
A cure for homework?

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
(chuckles)
No, Kshin.

WIDE ANGLE FAVORING KIT AND JEDDA

Kit turns to Jedda.

KIT (CONT'D)

I've written a program that may
increase your powers!

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA

(excited)

That's great! When can we try
it?

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT

Right now! The Battle
Simulation room's all set up!

ANGLE ON JEDDA AND L.J.

L.J.

What are we waiting for?

WIDE SHOT - PANNING

Kit, Jedda, and L.J. rush out the room. The door remains open.

ANGLE FAVORING KSHIN AND FUZZY

Still seated at the table. Fuzzy looks at Kshin. Kshin looks at
the open door.

KSHIN

What are we waiting for?

ANOTHER ANGLE

Fuzzy hops on Kshin's shoulders. They rush out after their
friends.

WIPE TO:

HIGH ESTABLISHING SHOT - WHITESTEAD ESTATE

This palatial English Tudor home is almost hidden behind lush,
verdant shrubbery and vibrant flowering plants. Behind the main
structure is a large greenhouse. PUSH DOWN INTO ...

INT. WHITESTEAD GREENHOUSE - WIDE

In addition to the large planters filled with exotic vegetation,
this huge room is equipped with a sophisticated laboratory.
Famous socialite-botanist, DR. WINSTON WHITESTEAD, holds a vial
of white powder over a Bunsen burner. He is disheveled and
unshaven.

DR. WHITESTEAD

(to self)
... Imagine feeding the entire
world. No more hunger!

ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

An exhausted Dr. Whitestead removes the vial from the flame,
looks at it, and ...

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)

(determined)

A super plant food'll be the
greatest scientific discover of
all time! I'll perfect it if
it takes a hundred more
sleepless nights! I know I'm
close to a breakthrough ...

ANOTHER ANGLE

Pours it into a large mixing bowl.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)

I know it!

CU ON MIXING BOWL

The white powder turns the mixture a brilliant red.

HIGH ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

He accidentally fumbles with the bowl.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)

Oooops!!!

The blood red powdery substance flies every which way.

MED WIDE ON WHITESTEAD

Covered with the red powder.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)

How clumsy of me! I suppose I
really should get some rest.

ANOTHER ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

He wipes his brow. Suddenly, his tired expression turns to
shock.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)

Wh -- Wha -- What's happening?!!!

CU ON WHITESTEAD

Holding both hands in front of his face. The tips of his fingers sprout long, dangling ROOTS!

WIDE ANGLE

Dr. Whitestead looks down at his sandaled feet.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)
The formula...it's all wrong!
What have I done?

ANGLE ON FEET

They too are covered with spindly roots!

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D - V.O.)
In the wrong hands, this powder
could ... could destroy the
world!

ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD - PANNING

Dr. Whitestead, with hands and feet now thickly covered with spindly roots, stumbles toward a nearby TEST GARDEN.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)
I feel so weak ... I must have
nutrients to ...

MED ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

Burrowing himself into the cold, damp dirt of the test garden.

DR. WHITESTEAD (CONT'D)
(wiped out)
... survviiiivvvve.

WIPE TO:

EXT. WHITESTEAD ESTATE - WIDE

The idyllic atmosphere of this exclusive neighborhood is suddenly interrupted by loud rock MUSIC (MFX) coming from a little red convertible (with license plate that reads BRIDGET) careening up the winding driveway. The driver is beautiful 16-year old BRIDGET WHITESTEAD.

WIDE ANGLE FAVORING BRIDGET

She stops her car (MUSIC STOPS) at the front door, grabs her schoolbooks, and enters the house.

BRIDGET
(calls out)
Hi ...

CUT TO:

INT. WHITESTEAD MANSION - PANNING

The impressive foyer lined with expensive art and stained glass windows.

WIDE SHOT

Bridget enters through an arched doorway.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
... I'm home!

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Peering into one of the rooms off the foyer.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
Father?! Hmm ... not in the
study - he must still be in the lab.

CUT TO:

EXT. WHITESTEAD BACKYARD - WIDE

Bridget walks down the brick path, past all sorts of trees and flowers, and heads for the greenhouse.

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Opening the door to the greenhouse. Her eyes are open wide in disbelief.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
Father?

ANGLE ON DR. WHITESTEAD

Firmly rooted, leaves beginning to sprout from under his collar.

BRIDGET (CONT'D - V.O.)
(bone chilling scream)
Father!!!!

WIDE ANGLE

Bridget rushes over to Whitestead who is firmly embedded in the test garden's soil.

Suddenly the CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal that we have been watching this on Ming's giant view screen inside Ice Station Earth. OCTON is standing near Ming.

MING
Excellent! Excellent!

ANGLE - MING

MING (CONT'D)
OCTON! Have Dr. Whitestead and his daughter brought here to me at once!

ANGLE - OCTON

The computer's lights begin flashing in a definite pattern.

OCTON
Yes, My lord Ming!

DRAMATIC ANGLE - MING

His eyes are ablaze with evil.

MING
I'm sure the good doctor won't mind giving us a few gardening tips!!!
(dastardly cackle)

WIPE TO:

ANGLE ON BRIDGET - INT GREENHOUSE

(SFX: KRASHHH!) Startled, she looks OS.

WIDE ANGLE

Four ICE ROBOTS crash through the greenhouse's glass walls.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
(shocked)
What -- what do you want?!

ANGLE FAVORING ICE ROBOTS #1 AND #2

They grab a squirming Bridget by each elbow.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
(screaming)
Help!!! Helppppp!!!

ICE ROBOT #1
(processed voice, to cohorts)
Prepare the other human for the
trip to Ice Station Earth!

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

She tries, in vain, to kick her abductors.

BRIDGET
Don't you dare touch my
father!!!

WIDE ANGLE FAVORING DR. WHITESTEAD

Ice Robots #3 and #4 lift Dr. Whitestead out of the soil - with
roots dangling - and put him in a large planter.

ICE ROBOT #3
(processed voice)
The specimen is prepared.

WIDE ANGLE

The two Ice Robots carry Dr. Whitestead, in planter, out the door.

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - ICE STATION EARTH

TRACK IN TO ...

INT. ICE STATION EARTH - HALL OF INQUISITION - WIDE

The INQUISITOR dominates this dark and eerie room, as the
Ice Robots deliver Bridget and Dr. Whitestead (in planter) to Ming.

MING
(pleased)
Ah - our guests of honor have
arrived.

ANGLE ON ICE ROBOTS

Setting Dr. Whitestead down in a corner.

ANGLE ON MING

He leans forward toward Bridget.

MING (CONT'D)
Welcome to my Room of
Inquisition! Please, make
yourself comfortable! I would
question your father, but
unfortunately --

ANGLE - DR. WHITESTEAD

His leaves are shaking as if in fury, but he is silent.

MING (CONT'D - V.O.)
-- he's no longer very
talkative!

WIDE ANGLE FAVORING BRIDGET

Although still held by two Ice Robots, she begins to claw and
scratch.

BRIDGET
(to Ming)
I demand you release us!!

LOW ANGLE ON MING

He shakes his head in disapproval.

MING
Tsk. Tsk. My Inquisitor will
soon...change your mind, my
dear!
(he chuckles evilly)

WIDE ANGLE

Ming motions to the Ice Robots.

ANGLE ON ICE ROBOTS - PANNING

They drag Bridget over to the INQUISITOR.

BRIDGET
Whatever you do ...

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Being attached to the circuitry.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
... I'll never tell you what
you want to know! Never!!!

CU ON MING

MING
As you earthlings say ...

WIDE ANGLE

Ming nods to one of the Ice Robots. He flips a switch on the INQUISITOR'S panel.

 MING (CONT'D)
... I wouldn't bet on it!

ANGLE ON INQUISITOR

Its circuits GLOW (Appropriate SFX).

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

As a cylindrical electrical current (SFX) swirls around her head.

ANGLE ON MING AND BRIDGET

Ming stands opposite her.

 MING
Now, my dear, what are the
ingredients in your father's
formula?

Bridget shakes her head.

 BRIDGET
 (dazed)
No! I won't tell you!

ANGLE ON MING

He comes closer to the INQUISITOR.

 MING
Let's try again, shall we?

MED CU ON INQUISITOR

Ming turns up a dial on the INQUISITOR'S panel (SFX). Several cylindrical currents - glowing more intensely - swirl around Bridget's head.

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Trying hard to resist. Suddenly, her eyes open wide, her pupils grow small.

 BRIDGET
 (monotone)
One part sodium nitrate...

ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

His leaves shake in silent fury.

BRIDGET (CONT'D - V.O.)
(monotone)
... one part nitrous oxygen -
and 10 parts Loba.

ANGLE ON BRIDGET AND MING

CU ON MING

MING
Loba? What is Loba?

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

BRIDGET
(monotone)
Secret ingredient ... rare
herb. Only my Father and his
oldest friend know....

REVERSE ANGLE ON MING

MING
Oldest friend?

CU ON BRIDGET

BRIDGET
(monotone)
Mandrake. Mandrake the
Magician.

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON MING

MING
Mandrake, heh? One of the so-
called "Defenders of the
Earth!"

WIDEN SHOT

Ming moves menacingly closer to Bridget.

MING (CONT'D)
Your job, my dear, will be to
convince Mandrake to reveal the
location of the herb I need!

ANGLE ON DR. WHITESTEAD

Rooted and very plant-like.

MING (CONT'D - V.O.)
... unless you want your father
to end up as a dinner salad!!!
(maniacal chortle)

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MONITOR

INT. BATTLE SIMULATION ROOM - WIDE

A laser sharp BEAM of light suspends a huge boulder in mid air,
just above Kit and L.J. PULL BACK to reveal that the light
emanates from Jedda's eyes as she concentrates with all her might.

JEDDA
I can't hold it up any longer!
Watch out!!!

WIDE ANGLE

The boulder comes crashing down toward Kit and a startled L.J.

L.J.
Duck!!!

CU ON THE BOULDER

It vanishes into thin air, just before it's about to squash the
young Defenders.

WIDE ANGLE

KIT
Hey, don't worry - it's only a
simulation!

CU ON L.J.

L.J.
(relieved)
Oh sure. I knew it all along.

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
(to Jedda)
With a bit more practice,
you'll be able to increase both
your telekinetic and
telepathic powers!

ANGLE FAVORING JEDDA

Rubbing her forehead.

JEDDA

The program is incredible, Kit!
But I don't want to get too
exhausted before tonight's big
dance.

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT

Dance?

WIDEN SHOT TO INCLUDE JEDDA

JEDDA

I can't believe you forgot, Kit
Walker! Our first high society
function - the Blue Moon Soiree!

ANGLE ON L.J.

Trying to prompt his buddy.

L.J.

You remember - the coming out
party Mandrake and Dad are
giving for us.

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT

(embarrassed)

Oh, that Blue Moon Soiree!
Sure, I'll be there.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

Shakes in head in frustration.

JEDDA

(to self)

Men!

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - ROLLING HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

The moon glistens brightly. PAN DOWN to austere sign which reads
ROLLING HILLS COUNTRY CLUB. MEMBERS ONLY. PAN ACROSS to flashy
cars and fancy limousines pulling up to the entrance.
Sophisticated COUPLES, dressed in tuxedos and ball gowns, walk
inside. PUSH IN TO:

INT. ROLLING HILLS COUNTRY CLUB - WIDE PAN

It's pure elegance - freshly cut flowers, crystal chandeliers, champagne floats. The ORCHESTRA plays (SFX).

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR

Looking exceedingly dapper, they stand by the entrance ready to greet their guests.

MANDRAKE

Lothar, I love elegant affairs.
The music, the delectable food,
the beautiful ladies ...

LOTHAR

(looks OS)
...and handsome young gentlemen.

ANGLE ON KIT AND L.J.

Dressed in tuxedos, they enter.

L.J.

Good evening, Dad, Mandrake.

Kit fumbles awkwardly with his jacket.

KIT

Uh, hi!

ANGLE ON L.J.

Giving Kit a look. He then points OS.

L.J.

Kit! Look!

ANGLE ON KIT

Doing a double-take.

KIT

Wow!

WIDE ANGLE

PAN ACROSS ROOM to a very radiant Jedda, in a lovely ball gown, on the arm of FLASH GORDON.

KIT (CONT'D - V.O.)

It's Jedda! I almost didn't
recognize her!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jedda leaves her father and approaches Kit. (MFX: ORCHESTRA)

ANGLE ON KIT AND JEDDA

KIT
(very awkward)
Hi Jedda. Would you like to
ah, ... to ah ...

WIDE ANGLE

JEDDA
(amused)
Dance. The word is dance, Kit.

ANGLE ON KIT

He nods shyly.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA (CONT'D)
I'd love to.

ANGLE ON KIT AND JEDDA

They begin to dance.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROLLING HILLS COUNTRY CLUB - WIDE

A red convertible, with rock music (SFX) blaring, speeds up to the entrance. MUSIC STOPS.

INT. ROLLING HILLS COUNTRY CLUB - WIDE PAN

Bridget, in a trance-like state, wearing a magnificent gown and large diamond TIARA, enters the party.

PULL BACK to reveal Ming is watching this scene on the viewscreen in his throne room at Ice Station Earth.

MING
The Monitoring device I planted
in her tiara is working
perfectly!

POV - MING - ON VIEWSCREEN

From the perspective of the TIARA on Bridget's head, Ming watches as many of the guests turn to look at Bridget, a ravishing beauty.

MALE GUEST #1
(filtered)
She's gorgeous! Who is she?

PUSH IN on view screen and DISSOLVE THRU TO:

SAME SHOT - PARTY

We are actually at the party, no longer viewing on Ming's view screen.

The dance floor is crowded. The orchestra plays (SFX).

ANGLE ON KIT AND JEDDA

Kit, with his attention shifting O.S., steps on Jedda's feet as they dance.

POV - KIT - ON BRIDGET

As she looks around the room.

JEDDA (V.O.)

Ouch!

ANGLE ON KIT AND JEDDA

Jedda rubs her foot.

KIT

Sorry, Jedda.

Kit is entranced by something O.S. Jedda follows his gaze and frowns.

POV - JEDDA - ON BRIDGET

Approaching Mandrake.

ANGLE - KIT - JEDDA

Kit is still entranced by O.S. Bridget. Jedda turns Kit away from Bridget and dances away with him. Kit looks back over his shoulder at O.S. Bridget one last time.

ANGLE ON BRIDGET AND MANDRAKE

MANDRAKE

Bridget! Bridget Whitestead!
What a surprise! I'm so glad
you've come. Tell me, how is
your father?

CU ON BRIDGET

Her eyes are dazed.

BRIDGET

(monotone)

He's on the balcony. He must
speak with you immediately. Come!

ANGLE ON - MANDRAKE - BRIDGET

Mandrake is unsure what is happening, but he follows the
zombie-like Bridget as she leads him toward the balcony off
the dance floor.

ANGLE - LOTHAR

Lothar's eye misses nothing. He watches, concerned.

MED WIDE - BALCONY - BRIDGET - MANDRAKE

The balcony is empty. Mandrake looks around, perplexed.

MANDRAKE

Dr. Whitestead?

A SOUND (SFX) from above causes Mandrake to look up -- and
REACT!

ANOTHER ANGLE

As two Ice Robots drop from above. One of them releases a
pellet of gas (SFX). As the cloud of gas reaches Mandrake
his head slumps down!

CU - MANDRAKE

He appears almost dead in the arms of the two Ice Robots!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

REPEAT OF END SHOT FROM ACT ONE. WIDEN SHOT. The Ice Robots start to move away with Mandrake but they are stopped by Lothar's O.S. VOICE.

LOTHAR (V.O.)
You aren't leaving the party so soon, are you?

WIDE SHOT

As Lothar CROSSES INTO SHOT, grabs one Ice Robot in each of his massive hands, lifts them high into the air --

LOTHAR (CONT'D)
But then, I can't say I'm sorry to see you go!

-- and tosses them off the balcony.

ANGLE - PAVEMENT - ICE ROBOTS

They hit the pavement, unharmed, and dash O.S.

LOTHAR (CONT'D - V.O.)
Dem Ice Robots are harder than steel!

ANGLE - LOTHAR - MANDRAKE - BRIDGET

Lothar is holding Mandrake in his arms. Mandrake coughs, opens his eyes.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)
(to Bridget)
Don't just stand there, girl, get some water for the man!

CU - BRIDGET

Her eyes are glassy. She appears not to have heard a word Lothar has said.

LOTHAR (CONT'D - V.O.)
What's the matter, girl? Did you not hear me?

ANGLE - MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR

Mandrake shakes his head and stands.

MANDRAKE

I'm afraid she can't hear you,
old friend!

LOTHAR

Ming?

MANDRAKE

Unquestionably! Assemble the
Defenders!

CUT TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MONITOR

JEDDA (V.O.)

You want me to help her?

INT. MONITOR - LABORATORY - WIDE

PAN ACROSS room to a glassy-eyed Bridget, still in her formal outfit, sitting near Kit and Jedda. L.J., Mandrake, Lothar, and Flash stand nearby. (Defenders are in their usual dress).

KIT

(to Jedda)

It's just like the exercise in
the Battle Simulation Room.
Your enhanced telepathic powers
should be strong enough to
break Ming's hold on her mind!

ANGLE ON JEDDA

Grimacing.

JEDDA

(resistant but polite)

All right. I'll do it.

MED ANGLE ON JEDDA AND BRIDGET

Jedda looks directly into Bridget's glazed eyes.

KIT (V.O.)

Now, concentrate, Jedda ...

CU ON JEDDA

Concentrating.

KIT (V.O.)

...remember this afternoon --
the boulder...

ANGLE ON JEDDA AND BRIDGET

A laser sharp BEAM of light shines from Jedda's eyes into Bridget's. A moment, then ... Bridget jerks her head back.

MED CU ON BRIDGET

Her eyes are no longer cloudy. She looks around the room.

BRIDGET
Where, where am I?

WIPE TO:

INT. MONITOR - MAIN COMPUTER CHAMBER - WIDE

Mandrake and Lothar stand near a world MAP hanging on the wall. Flash, Jedda, Kit, L.J., and Bridget are seated around a large table. Bridget is still wearing her ball gown and tiara.

LOTHAR
Okay, let's go over the plan one more time. Bridget - still pretending to be under his mind control - will tell Ming he can find Loba there.

ANGLE ON LOTHAR

With a pointer, he refers to Siberia on the map.

BRIDGET (V.O.)
Siberia!

MED ANGLE ON LOTHAR

LOTHAR
Right! But what Ming doesn't know --

CU OF MAP

Lothar's pointer lands on southwestern Peru.

L.J. (V.O.)
-- is that the Loba herb only rows here! In the remote KenKar jungle of Peru.

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE

Nodding his head.

MANDRAKE

And that, my dear Defenders, is where the Phantom is now standing guard ... as a precautionary measure.

WIDE ANGLE ON LOTHAR, MANDRAKE AND BRIDGET

LOTHAR

While Ming is out on his wild goose chase, Mandrake and I are gonna take a little trip to Ice Station Earth.

MED ANGLE FAVORING MANDRAKE.

He turns to Bridget.

MANDRAKE

We'll get your father back, Bridget ... I promise.

Bridget throws her arms around Mandrake in a big hug. CAMERA PUSHES IN on the center stone of her tiara, which FLASHES.

PULL BACK to reveal a gloating Ming in his throne room at Ice Station Earth, witnessing the Defenders' meeting through the lens in Bridget's tiara.

MING

Never make promises you can't keep, Mandrake!

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - PERUVIAN JUNGLE

PAN ACROSS the thickets of tropical grass, reeds, and vines. Exotic birds caw (SFX) as hazardous snakes hiss (SFX). TRACK IN TO ...

EXT. JUNGLE OF KENKAR

The PHANTOM looks over a dense, red-orange field of LOBA - flowery, vine-like herbs. He holds a high-tech walkie-talkie.

L.J. (V.O.)

(filtered)

Monitor to Phantom ... any sign of trouble?

MED ANGLE ON PHANTOM

PHANTOM

(into walkie-talkie)

No L.J., it's as quite as a ...

SFX: Loud static over walkie-talkie.

ANOTHER ANGLE ON PHANTOM

Shaking walkie-talkie.

PHANTOM (CONT'D)
Come in, Monitor ... L.J., can
you hear me?!

SFX: Loud static.

CU ON PHANTOM

Suddenly turning his head O.S.

POV - PHANTOM - WIDE ON LOBABIAN FIELD

Being overrun by a dozen ICE ROBOTS carrying huge SACKS and
strange laser scythes.

PHANTOM (V.O.)
Ming's Ice Robots! How'd
they find out the Loba is
here?!

MED CU ON PHANTOM

He places the tips of his fingers to his temples and
concentrates.

PHANTOM (CONT'D)
Give me the...strength of the
Rhino!

SPECIAL EFFECTS of the Phantom/Rhino!

WIDEN SHOT

The Phantom, the light EFFECT still encircling his body, runs
toward the Ice Robots.

ANGLE ON ICE ROBOTS

Using their laser scythes, the Ice Robots are quickly
cutting and gathering large quantities of the plant.

MED WIDE ANGLE ON ICE ROBOTS

ICE ROBOT #1
(processed voice)
The Phantom. Just as Ming
informed us!

WIDE ANGLE

Almost simultaneously, the Ice Robots shoot jagged edged ENERGY BEAMS (APPROPRIATE SFX) from their scythes at the Phantom.

ANGLE ON PHANTOM

As he dodges the ENERGY BEAMS, still bearing down across the huge field toward the Ice Robots!

WIDEN SHOT

With the LIGHT EFFECT still encircling his body, the Phantom charges toward a Ice Robot.

PHANTOM

Let's see what you Ice Robots
are really made of!

LOW ANGLE ON ICE ROBOT #1

The Phantom collides with it and it shatters like glass (SFX: SHATTERING ICE)!

POV - PHANTOM - ICE ROBOTS

Some distance way, the remaining Ice Robots stuff Loba into their already over-filled bags.

PHANTOM (V.O.)

The Loba! They've gotten most
of the Loba!!!

WIDE ANGLE

The field of Loba is practically picked clean.

ICE ROBOT #2

(processed voice)

Return to Ice Station Earth!

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Phantom looks on helplessly as Ming's Ice Robots, with bags overflowing with Loba, FLY O.S.

PHANTOM (CONT'D)

It's too late.

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - ICE STATION EARTH

TRACK IN TO ...

INT. ICE STATION EARTH - LABORATORY - WIDE

Large cauldrons are in the center of this dark, glossy room. Ming watches THE MEN OF FROST fill the cauldrons with a fiery red powder. In the background sits Dr. Whitstead in the oversized planter.

ANGLE ON THE MEN OF FROST

Stirring the cauldrons.

MAN OF FROST #1
It's ready, O Great One.

ANGLE FAVORING MING

Standing near a cauldron.

MING
We must be sure. Bring me a subject!

CUT TO:

EXT. ICE STATION EARTH - WIDE

Several of the Men of Frost guard at the main entrance. PAN ACROSS to Mandrake and Lothar hiding behind a large snow drift.

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR - PANNING

MANDRAKE
Now to make us a little less
conspicuous...

Mandrake waves his hands...a bright light encircles both Mandrake and Lothar...when the light subsides, the two Defenders appear to be covered with a veneer of frost!

LOTHAR
Amazing! Me own mother would
swear I was one of Ming's Men
of Frost!

CAMERA TRACKS as they leave their cover and casually approaching the main entrance.

ANGLE ON THE MEN OF FROST

They look up to see "Mandrake" and "Lothar".

CU ON "MANDRAKE"

"MANDRAKE"
(to Men of Frost)
Ming demands our presence.

CU ON MAN OF FROST #2

MAN OF FROST #2
(to other guards)
Open the gates!

WIDE ANGLE

The thick gate DOOR opens (SFX). Mandrake and Lothar walk through.

LOTHAR
(impressed)
You've gotta teach me that sometime!

CUT TO:

INT. ICE STATION EARTH - WIDE PAN

Two Ice Robots escort an emaciated SUBJECT into the central chamber. They come to a halt in front of Ming.

LOW ANGLE ON SUBJECT

He bows before Ming.

SUBJECT
(voice cracking with fear)
Yes, Master?

HIGH ANGLE ON MING

MING
I have something for you.

Ming gestures upward.

MED ANGLE ON MING AND SLAVE

A small cauldron suspended over the Subject spills a red powdery substance on the Subject.

CU ON SUBJECT

Transforming into a mass of roots.

SUBJECT
(screams)

MING (V.O.)
Ah ... an excellent recipe!!!
(cackles)

ANGLE FAVORING MING

He notices something O.S.

ANGLE ON TWO MEN OF FROST (Mandrake and Lothar)

Picking up Dr. Whitestead's planter.

MANDRAKE

(disguised voice)

By your leave, Excellency!

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON MING

MING

Ah...Mandrake and Lothar! I've
been expecting you!

CU ON MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR

Stunned at being recognized.

MING (CONT'D)

(screams)

Guards! Fire!!!!

WIDE ANGLE

The Men of Frost start emitting CHILL BEAMS at our friends, who
are now back in their own identities.

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR

Ducking to avoid getting hit.

LOTHAR

I guess it's time for plan #2.

MANDRAKE

Well, the gentleman did say
"fire"!

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE

Concentrating, he makes a strange series of gestures toward the
Men Of Frost.

WIDEN SHOT

Giant FIREBALLS hurl toward the MEN OF FROST.

MEN OF FROST

(ad lib cries)

ANGLE ON MEN OF FROST

Scurrying away from the FIREBALLS.

MING (V.O.)
Stop you fools! It`s only an
illusion!!! An illusion!!!

ANOTHER ANGLE ON MEN OF FROST - PANNING

They continue to run.

ANGLE ON MING

MING (CONT'D)
(furious)
Fools!

POV - MING - PANNING ROOM

There`s no sight of Mandrake, Lothar, or Whitestead.

MING (CONT'D)
Surrender, Magician! There's
no escape for you!

MED WIDE ANGLE - PANNING

Of an empty area near the central chamber door.

LOTHAR (V.O.)
(whispers)
Mandrake, how long can you keep
up this illusion of invisibility?

MANDRAKE
(whispers)
Hopefully long enough to get us
and Dr. Whitestead out of here!

MED CU OF MING

Frantically looking about the room.

MING
(screaming)
You'll never escape Ice Station
Earth! Never! I promise you that!!!

ANGLE ON CENTRAL CHAMBER DOOR

Nothing else can be seen.

MANDRAKE (V.O.)
(whispers)
Never make promises you can't
keep, Ming.

CU ON DOOR

Opening ever so slightly.

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MONITOR

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

The young Defenders, Flash, Kshin, Fuzzy, and Bridget crowd around a weary Phantom.

PHANTOM
(shaking head)
... if only I could have stopped them.

ANGLE ON FLASH

FLASH
You did your best, old friend!

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE AND LOTHAR

Entering. They carry in Dr. Whitestead in a planter.

BRIDGET (V.O.)
Father!!!

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Running over to her father, who is a mass of tangled roots and leaves.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
(tearful)
Thank you. Thank you for
bringing my father back!!

ANGLE ON LOTHAR

LOTHAR
We almost didn't. Ming was
expecting us.

CU ON JEDDA

JEDDA
He also knew the real location
of the Loba plants. What's
going on?

MED ANGLE ON KIT

Seated at DYNAX X.

KIT
I don't know. But now that
Ming has all the ingredients to
Dr. Whitstead's formula, we're
in trouble.

ANGLE ON L.J.

L.J.
Serious trouble!

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
That's why we've got to find
out what what his next step is.
I have an idea involving DYNAX
X ... but it's risky.

CU ON DYNAX X SCREEN

An image of a woman's face appears on the screen.

DYNAX X
Let me guess. You want me to
interface with OCTON. Correct?

ANGLE ON KIT

He nods.

WIDE SHOT - JEDDA AND L.J.

Surprised.

L.J.
That's more than risky, Kit!
OCTON could blow DYNAX X's
microprocessors to bits!

CU ON DYNAX X SCREEN

DYNAX X
I am willing to take that chance.

MED SHOT ON KIT AND DYNAX X

He puts his hand on the screen.

KIT
We'll be with you all the way.

CUT TO:

INT. ICE STATION EARTH THRONE ROOM - WIDE

Ming is seated on the ice throne. Suddenly, OCTON'S display screens start BLINKING wildly; his lights FLASH at random. SFX: High-pitched squelch.

OCTON

Owww!

ANGLE ON MING

MING

OCTON, what is it?!

CU ON OCTON'S MAIN DISPLAY SCREEN

Its panel lights grow more intense, then suddenly fade.

OCTON

(strained)

I don't know.

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON OCTON

A loud alarm goes off (SFX). OCTON'S legs give out and the body of the computer CRASHES (SFX) to the floor!

OCTON

Intruder in my memory circuits!

(BEAT) DYNAX X!!!

CUT TO:

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

All watch as DYNAX X's screen flashes in spurts.

DYNAX X

(strained)

I'm inside OCTON'S memory bank now.

HIGH ANGLE FAVORING DYNAX X

Her display screen lights up to full intensity ...

DYNAX X (CONT'D)

My presence has been detected!

CU ON KIT

KIT

(very alarmed)

Get out! Get out of there now!!!

CU ON DYNAX X'S DISPLAY SCREEN

It goes black.

CUT TO:

INT. ICE STATION EARTH - THRONE ROOM - OCTON

His screens flash zig-zags of lights. OCTON stands again, back to full strength.

OCTON
Internal security at full
strength, Sire. I have forced
DYNAX X to retreat.

ANGLE ON MING

MING
Did she get any information?

MED SHOT ON MING AND OCTON

OCTON
No, Sire. I was too fast for her.

CUT TO:

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

Mandrake, Lothar, Flash, L.J., Jedda, Kit, Kshin, Fuzzy, and Bridget are gathered around DYNAX X, whose screen displays a revolving earth.

DYNAX X
I was too fast for him! I
copied the data before he even
knew I was there!

KIT
Good work, Dynak! According to
this information, Ming plans to
use his Robopilots to blanket
earth with Dr. Whitstead's plant food!

ANGLE ON L.J.

L.J.
And everyone coming in contact
with the formula will --

CU ON BRIDGET

BRIDGET
(cuts in, upset)
Be like my father.

ANGLE ON FUZZY

He hops on Bridget's shoulder and nuzzles her.

FUZZY
(sighs sadly)

WIDE ANGLE FAVORING FLASH

FLASH
We're not beaten yet!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Mandrake, Lothar, L.J., Kit, Jedda, Kshin, Bridget with Fuzzy on her shoulders, gather round Flash.

FLASH GORDON (CONT'D)
All I've got to do is stop
Ming's Robopilots from dumping
Dr. Whitestead's formula in the
upper atmosphere!

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - SPACE

The Defenders' SPACE STATION orbits high in earth's atmosphere.

JEDDA (V.O.)
(filtered)
Dad, I really wish you would
have let me come with you.

INT. DEFENDERS' SPACE STATION - FAVORING FLASH

He sits in the cockpit, communicating with Monitor.

FLASH
(through intercom)
Jedda, getting rid of Ming's
Robopilots is gonna be such a
cinch ...

ANGLE ON FLASH

FLASH (CONT'D)
(through intercom)
... you'd have been bored!

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

Kit sits at DYNAK X's control panel as Jedda, L.J., and Bridget stand by.

KIT
(through intercom)
Okay, Flash - as soon as DYNAK
X picks up any alien presence, she'll --

SFX: Alarm.

ANGLE FAVORING DYNAK X

Her panel lights BLIP wildly as Kit glances at the readouts.

KIT
(through intercom)
This is it, Flash! Enemy ships
headed your way!

CU ON DYNAK X DISPLAY SCREEN

Several of Ming's SPACECRAFT are approaching the Defender's Space Station.

FLASH (V.O.)
(filtered)
Piece a' cake!

INT. DEFENDERS' SPACE STATION

FLASH braces for action as he views the cross hairs of the holographic gun sight.

CU ON CROSS HAIRS

A dozen of Ming's space ships are headed for dead center.

FLASH (CONT'D, V.O.)
(to self)
O.K., boys and girls, it's...

CU ON FLASH'S HAND

Hitting the FIRE button.

FLASH (CONT'D, V.O.)
... fireworks time!!!

SFX: Loud buzzing.

MED ANGLE ON CONTROL PANEL

The female computer face materializes on the screen.

DYNAK X
Warning! Laser weapons
malfunctioning! All weapons
are useless!

MED WIDE ANGLE ON FLASH

Hitting the FIRE button furiously.

FLASH (CONT'D)
Come on, come on ...

ANGLE ON KIT - INT MONITOR

Pulling a lever at the control panel.

KIT
It's no use! All circuits are blocked!

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

She points toward the viewscreen.

BRIDGET
Look!

POV - ALL - ON VIEWSCREEN

Just below the Defender's Space Station, Ming's ships release the fiery red powder.

DYNAK X (V.O.)
Within three hours and twenty
two minutes ...

EXT. SPACE

A fiery red mass begins to slowly descend on the revolving earth.

DYNAK X (CONT'D, V.O.)
... all of earth will be
covered with Dr. Whitestead's formula!

FADE OUT

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE

The fiery red powder approaches earth.

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

PULL BACK to reveal Kit, L.J., and Bridget watching this on DYNAX X's display screen while Jedda comforts Flash.

JEDDA
(to Flash)
Thank goodness you were able to
abandon the Space Station in time!

ANGLE ON FLASH

Shaking his head.

FLASH
I'd like to know how Ming is
staying one step ahead of us.

ANGLE - JEDDA

JEDDA
First he found out about the
real location of the Loba.

ANGLE - L.J.

L.J.
Then he was waiting for Dad and
Mandrake at Ice Station Earth.

ANGLE - KIT

KIT WALKER
And now ... sabotaging the
Space Station and Monitor's
weapon's systems!

ANGLE ON JEDDA AND BRIDGET

The light reflects off Bridget's TIARA and hits Jedda in the eye.
She holds her head.

JEDDA
I'm getting a weird sensation
... as if there's a, a spy among us.

She reaches for Bridget's TIARA.

CU ON TIARA

Jedda pulls out an optical and sound transmitter from behind the center diamonds.

JEDDA

This explains it! A transmitter, sending every word we've said directly to Ming!

CU ON BRIDGET

Shocked.

BRIDGET

But how --

ANGLE FAVORING JEDDA

She gives Bridget a cold look.

JEDDA

(cuts in)

How? It's easy if you're a Ming spy!

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT

C'mon, Jedda - that's not fair.

ANGLE FAVORING BRIDGET

BRIDGET

(embarrassed)

I don't know how that got in there - honest!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Kit puts his arm around Bridget.

KIT

We know that, Bridget.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

Reacting with a jealous look.

DYNAK X (V.O.)

Excuse the interruption...

WIDE SHOT

All draw closer to DYNAK X.

DYNAK X
...but a partial analysis
reveals just one way to
neutralize the plant food ...

CLOSER SHOT

DYNAK X (CONT'D)
... water.

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
Water! That's brilliant!

WIDER

KIT WALKER (CONT'D)
If we can dilute the powder
before it reaches the ground,
it'll be too weak to do any harm!

ANGLE FAVORING MANDRAKE

MANDRAKE
But how do you propose watering
an entire planet?

DYNAK X
Please observe.

POV - ALL - ON DYNAK X

A HOLOGRAPHIC SIMULATION appears. The red powder, about to
blanket the earth, is diluted by a gigantic worldwide rainstorm!

DYNAK X
Specially charged ion particles
released at a key point will
stimulate rain clouds worldwide!

REACTION SHOT - GROUP

DYNAK X (V.O.)
However -- This plan is based
upon incomplete data. It may not work.

ANGLE FAVORING FLASH GORDON

FLASH
There's only one way to find out.

WIPE TO:

EXT. MONITOR - ON FLASH'S SPACE SHIP

A large, transparent HOSE pumps colorful, glowing ion particles into its tank. L.J. shuts the tank.

L.J.

Ion tanks filled! Just remember, you've gotta release the particles at the exact coordinates!

ANGLE ON FLASH AND L.J.

Standing near the door of the ship.

FLASH

Hey...I could do it with my eyes closed! Don't worry!

Flash climbs on board.

ANGLE ON L.J.

As he shuts the hatch.

L.J.

Good luck!

ANGLE ON FLASH

Through the cockpit window, he gives the A-OK sign.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SPACE - WIDE - PANNING

The fiery red powder continues to approach earth's atmosphere. Below it are the stratospheric air currents. Flash's space ship GAINS ON PAN, entering the powerful winds.

FLASH (V.O.)

Ah, just where I like to be - right on target.

SFX: Whammmmm!

ANGLE ON FLASH'S SHIP

CAMERA SHAKES as an ENERGY BLAST (SFX) zips by.

CUT TO:

INT. FLASH'S SHIP

Flash looks out the side portal.

FLASH
Ming's Robopilots?! Again!?
Gimme a break, guys!

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - WIDE

ENERGY BLASTS (SFX) flash across the front of Flash's ship.
CAMERA PIVOTS as his ship is forced into a steep nose dive by a
half dozen of Ming's ships.

FLASH (CONT'D, V.O.)
Oh yeah? Watch this, suckers!

INT. FLASH'S SHIP - ON FLASH

Hitting the accelerator lever.

EXT. SPACE

With ENERGY BEAMS (SFX) flashing all around, Flash's ship
maneuvers up and above Ming's Ice Robots.

INT. FLASH'S SPACE SHIP - ON FLASH

FLASH (CONT'D)
Too bad, fellas ...

He hits the RELEASE button.

FLASH (CONT'D)
... you blew it!!!

EXT. EARTH - WIDE

In Flash's space ship's wake, a SPARKLING TRAIL of ion particles fall.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The winds blow the pixie dust every which way, immediately
creating huge, glimmering CLOUDS.

MED WIDE ANGLE

Ming's Ice Robots retreat, flying O.S.

INT. FLASH'S SHIP - ON FLASH

He looks out the front viewing window.

FLASH
Leaving so soon?!

WIPE TO:

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

PULL BACK to reveal Flash, Phantom, Mandrake, Lothar, Kit, Jedda, L.J., Bridget, Kshin, and Fuzzy standing near DYNAX X's viewscreen.

KIT
But I still don't get it,
Flash. Ming's Robopilots
outnumbered you six to one but
they ran away!

ANGLE ON FLASH

FLASH
They must have figured out who
they were dealing with!

ANGLE ON BRIDGET

Pointing to DYNAX X's view screen.

BRIDGET
Look, it's taking effect!

CU ON DYNAX X VIEWSCREEN

A worldwide blanket of clouds encircles the earth just as the red powder falls into the atmosphere. PUSH IN ...

Sprinkles ... rain ... then torrents of water pour from the sky. The red powder turns into gooey blue pellets.

PULL BACK to reveal the Defenders rejoicing.

DEFENDERS
(ad lib)
Yeah! It worked! Rain!
All right!!!

FUZZY
(chirps of joy)

MING (V.O.)
(cacophonous, evil shrill)

MED CU ON DEFENDERS

Their faces drop.

CU ON DYNAK X`S VIEWING SCREEN

The frequency changes. Ming suddenly appears.

MING
(filtered)
Why don't you take a closer
look!

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
What's he talking about?

POV - ALL - ON VIEWSCREEN

Again, the frequency changes. The new picture reveals PEOPLE atop the Great Wall of China in a panic as the blue rain falls. PUSH IN to see INDIVIDUALS sprouting roots!

L.J. (V.O.)
It can't be!

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

The Defenders look at each other in disbelief.

KIT
They're sprouting roots! What
went wrong?

CU ON DYNAK X`S VIEWING SCREEN

Another change of frequency. The Eiffel Tower comes INTO VIEW amidst a flurry of blue pellets. PAN DOWN to PEOPLE people ... rooted!

MING (V.O.)
(filtered)
Wrong? Everything went right!

The frequency changes one last time. WHITE HOUSE GUARDS run around in desperation as roots grow on their extremities!!

MING (V.O., CONT'D)
(filtered)
... Your worldwide rainstorm
helped me immeasurably!

INT. MONITOR - WIDE ANGLE FAVORING DYNAK X`S VIEWING SCREEN

Ming's face reappears.

MING (CONT'D)
(filtered)

It increased the formula's
potency, accelerating the
transformation process! Give
my special thanks to Flash
Gordon, will you?!!!

The transmission fades out.

ANGLE ON DEFENDERS

Staring at the blank viewscreen.

FLASH
So that's why Ming's Ice Robots
turned tail. They wanted me to
drop the ion particles!

KIT
I can't believe it. We helped
Ming take over the world!

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA
C'mon, Kit! I refuse to
believe that! There's gotta be
a way to stop him - there just
has to be!!!

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE

He picks up two plants from Kshin's experiment earlier. One
plant is large and healthy, the other is scrawny. Mandrake
holds them up and examines them.

MANDRAKE
Kshin! These plants from your
school experiment...weren't
they the same size this morning?

ANGLE - KSHIN

He pulls a tuning fork out of his pocket and strikes it (SFX).

KSHIN
Yeah! But when I exposed one to
the sound from this tuning
fork, it got smaller!

WIDE ANGLE ON KIT, L.J., AND JEDDA

Kit looks at L.J. L.J. looks at Jedda. They both look at Kit.

KIT
Are you thinking what I'm
thinking?!

Jedda and L.J. nod.

ANGLE ON KIT AND L.J.

KIT
There's no time to lose! We'll
run the sound wave formula
through DYNAX X's emergency system!

ANGLE ON KIT AND DYNAX X

Kit sits down and fits his special RING within a small scanner on
the console.

CU ON DYNAX X

A new display screen lights up in bright yellow. In bold, black
letters the words EMERGENCY SYSTEM appears.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

Kit is seated at DYNAX X's console. Jedda, L.J., Flash, Bridget,
Mandrake, Lothar, Phantom, Kshin, and Fuzzy stand nearby.

ANGLE ON KIT

KIT
Okay, I think we've got it.
DYNAX X has calculated the
exact pitch that might save the
world!

ANGLE ON PHANTOM

PHANTOM
But how do we get this sound to
everyone on Earth? It's impossible!

ANGLE ON KSHIN

He strikes his tuning fork on the edge of the console (SFX).

KSHIN
(joking)
To bad we don't have a gigantic
tuning fork!

WIDEN SHOT TO INCLUDE KIT

KIT
That's it, Kshin! We can use
Flash's space ships to form a
huge tuning fork ...

ANGLE ON L.J.

L.J.
(catching on)
And then pass an electrical
impulse through them! It would
cause a huge sound wave
covering the entire planet!!!

ANGLE ON FLASH

FLASH
Let's do it!

WIPE TO:

EXT. MONITOR

Four of Flash's SPACE SHIPS are on the ground. TRACK IN TO ...

INT. FLASH'S SHIP

Flash sits in the cockpit.

FLASH
(through intercom)
Ready, Defenders?

INT. KIT'S SHIP

KIT
(through intercom)
Ready.

INT. L.J.'S SHIP

L.J. tightens his seat belt.

L.J.
(through intercom)
Ready.

INT. JEDDA'S SHIP

Jedda fixes her helmet as she turns to Bridget, who's seated next to her.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA

(curt)

Last chance to bail out.

MED SHOT OF JEDDA AND BRIDGET

BRIDGET

I want to help, Jedda.

She turns on the intercom ...

JEDDA (CONT'D)

(through intercom)

We're ready, Dad!

And starts the engines.

EXT. MONITOR

The four ships lift off! (SFX)

WIPE TO:

EXT. SPACE

A brilliant blue earth revolves below as the four Defender ships maneuver themselves into the tuning fork formation.

FLASH (V.O.)

Good ... good ... we're almost
in position!

CUT TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - ICE STATION EARTH

SFX: Beep! Beeeeppp!!

INT. ICE STATION EARTH - ON OCTON

Red lights flash! (SFX:Beep! Beeeep!).

MING (V.O.)

OCTON -- what is it?

WIDER - FAVORING MING

OCTON

My lord, the Defenders are
attempting to save the Earth!

CU ON MING

MING

(livid)

No! This time they can't stop
me! Launch the battle fleet!

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

The Defenders are in the tuning fork formation. PUSH IN TO ...

INT. FLASH'S SHIP - ON FLASH

Referring to a small on board computer.

FLASH

(through intercom)

Brace for the electrical surge!
The impulse will travel from
me, to Kit, then over to ...

CU ON FLASH

He suddenly notices something OS.

FLASH (CONT'D)

(through intercom)

Uh oh, don't look now, but we
got company!

POV - FLASH - ON SKY

A fleet of Ming's war ships approach with LASER BEAMS blasting.

KIT (V.O.)

(filtered)

What'daya say we pull the
welcome mat right out from
under 'em!

ANGLE - JEDDA - BRIDGET - INT SHIP

They look at each other, smile, and Bridget gives the "Thumbs
up" sign.

JEDDA

Count us in, Kit! We're just a
coupla girls who wanna have fun!

EXT. SPACE - WIDE

The sky lights up as the four Defender ships fire a stream of
ENERGY BEAMS at the dozen Ming vessels.

CUT TO:

INT. L.J.'S SHIP - FAVORING L.J.

Holding on to the controls tightly. From the view window, we SEE a Ming warship fast approaching.

L.J.

This is better'n a video game!!!

ANGLE ON L.J.

Hitting the FIRE button.

EXT. L.J.'S SHIP

In a blazing burst of light, the ENERGY BEAM emitted destroys (SFX) the oncoming war ship.

L.J. (V.O.)

(to self)

Way to go, L.J.!

CUT TO:

INT. KIT'S SHIP - WIDE

Kit, looking out through the front portal, maneuvers his ship to avoid the LASER BEAMS. He spots another half-dozen Ming ships joining the battle.

KIT

(through intercom)

More Ming warships! Flash, I don't like the odds!

FLASH (V.O.)

(filtered)

Kit, L.J., Jedda - fly above Ming's warships! I'm going below!

CAMERA PIVOTS as Kit's ship goes nose up.

EXT. SPACE

The young Defenders' ships - firing away (SFX) - swoop above the fleet of Ming's warships.

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON FLASH'S SHIP

Making a 180 degree dive, going underneath the enemy fleet.

CU ON FLASH'S SHIP

Emitting rapid-fire LASER BLASTS (SFX).

FLASH (CONT'D, V.O.)

Let's see how well you can take the heat, chumps!

INT. JEDDA'S SHIP - WIDE

Two of Ming's ships approach head on.

POV - JEDDA AND BRIDGET - ON ENERGY BLASTS

Approaching their ship.

JEDDA (V.O.)
Uh oh...hold on!

SFX: BAMMMM!!!

CU - JEDDA'S CONTROL PANEL - INT SHIP

Fire erupts from the panel. A warning SOUND (SFX) goes off!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Bridget flings herself across Jedda as the panel explodes!
Bridget is struck by flying debris.

CLOSER - JEDDA - BRIDGET

JEDDA
Bridget! Are you O.K.? You
could have been killed!

Bridget sits up, manages a weak smile, shakes her head.

BRIDGET
I'm O.K. How 'bout you?

FLASH (V.O.)
(filtered)
Jedda, Bridget - are you all
right?

ANGLE ON JEDDA

Reaching for the intercom.

JEDDA
Yeah, Dad. Thanks to Bridget!

MED WIDE

Jedda smiles at Bridget.

EXT. SPACE - WIDE

Several of Ming's ships just dangle in space, incapacitated.
Others retreat.

FLASH (V.O.)
Okay, Defenders, let`s get on
with it before Ming sends more
of his toy soldiers up here!

ANOTHER ANGLE

PAN ACROSS to the four Defender ships in tuning fork formation.

FLASH (CONT`D, V.O.)
I`m generating the electrical
impulse ... NOW!!!

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON FOUR SHIPS

An electrical IMPULSE (SFX:BUZZZZ) generated by Flash`s ship,
travels to Kit`s craft ... to L.J.`s ... then over to Jedda`s
vessel. PULL BACK AS ...

CU ON EARTH

Huge, visible SOUND WAVES surround it. (SFX: LOW RUMBLING
SOUND).

FLASH (V.O.)
Mission accomplished ... we
hope!

INT. FLASH`S SHIP - ON FLASH

FLASH (CONT`D)
(through intercom)
Time to head for home! Good
job, Defenders!

He clicks off (SFX) the intercom.

WIPE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MONITOR

KSHIN (V.O.)
Look! Look!!!

FUZZY (V.O.)
(chirps of joy)

TRACK IN TO ...

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

Lothar, Mandrake, Flash, Phantom, Jedda, Bridget, Kit, L.J.,
along with Kshin and Fuzzy, are glued to DYNAK X`s viewscreen.

POV - ALL - ON VIEWSCREEN

People standing atop the Great Wall of China cheer. PUSH IN to see their roots shrinking away!

KIT (V.O.)
It's working! I can't believe it!

The frequency changes. People at the Eiffel Tower are rejoicing. PUSH IN closer to reveal no more roots!

JEDDA (V.O.)
See, Kshin, it pays to do your homework!

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

LOTHAR
Check out the White House, Kit.

ANGLE FAVORING DISPLAY SCREEN

The frequency changes. The White House Guards are no longer rooted!

L.J.
All right!

ANGLE ON MANDRAKE

He puts his arm around Bridget's shoulder.

MANDRAKE
I want to show you something, my dear.

He presses a button.

WIDE ANGLE ON A SIDE WALL

It lifts up, revealing

INT. MONITOR - SUN ROOM

PAN OVER to a stream of sunshine coming from the skylight to Dr. Whitestead's planter. PUSH IN to see his roots retracting!

WIDE ANGLE

Bridget rushes over to her father.

BRIDGET
Father!

WIPE TO:

INT. MONITOR - WIDE

A celebration is in progress. All the Defenders gather round Bridget and Dr. Whitestead, now back to normal. Fuzzy rides on Kshin's shoulders.

DR. WHITESTEAD
Bridget and I owe so much to
the Defenders! Thank you from
the bottom of my heart!

ANGLE FAVORING BRIDGET

Hugging her father. Jedda approaches.

JEDDA
(to Bridget, awkward)
I owe you an apology.

BRIDGET
Don't worry, Jedda. I
understand.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA
Well I don't. How come you
risked your life for me up there?

CU ON BRIDGET

Smiling.

BRIDGET
Because you're my friend!

MED SHOT ON JEDDA AND BRIDGET

Jedda reaches for Bridget's hand.

JEDDA
Friends!

ANGLE ON WHITESTEAD

DR. WHITESTEAD
Bridget and I will be returning
home shortly to continue our
experiments to solve world
hunger.

ANGLE ON JEDDA

JEDDA

Dr. Whitestead - I think I
speak for all the Defenders
when I offer our assistance in
your efforts.

WIDEN SHOT

Kshin and Fuzzy come up to Whitestead.

KSHIN

Me too! After all, I got an A+
on my science project!!!

GROUP

(ad lib laughs)

As our friends enjoy themselves, we ...

FADE OUT:

THE END