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MARVEL™ ALL-COLOUR COMICS

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ASTONISHING TALES™ FEATURING



DEATHLOK

THE DEMOLISHER!



THIS IS IT!!
THE
**FINAL
BATTLE!**

IT'S **CYBORG**
VS. **MADMAN**--
AND ONLY
ONE SHALL
SURVIVE!



A man locked in DEATH, No—not a MAN—a mockery of a man, an amalgam of flesh and computer-circuitry that is the cyborg-designate DEATHLOK. Luther Manning has died and now, RESURRECTED in the year 1990, he searches with the fragment of humanity LEFT in him for a way to save both HIMSELF and his very SANITY.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

DEATHLOK THE DEMOLISHER!

TM

...and once
removed
from
NEVER

THIS...IS...
INSANE, 'PUTER!
ONE MINUTE
THERE'S A BIG
LAUGHIN' FACE
OF RYKER
LOOKIN' DOWN
AT ME--

--THE NEXT I'M IN
FREE-FALL, ROLLIN'
THROUGH THE STARS
LIKE A LIVIN' PIN-BALL!

WHERE
ARE WE,
'PUTER?

WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

AN' HOW
DO WE
STOP
IT?!

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SYSTEMS-CHECK ESTABLISHES THAT TOTAL MIND-LOCK SUCCESSFULLY EFFECTED...WE ARE NOW INSIDE THE OMNI-COMPUTER AS A RANDOM FREQUENCY SCANNING-WAVE... TRACKING AT A RATE OF .3 CYCLES PER MILLISECOND...



I'M NOT REAL??



ALL RIGHT, THEN... NEITHER IS RYKER!

LOCK ON TO HIM, 'PUTER!

HE'S WHAT I CAME IN HERE FOR!!

JUST GET ME RYKER!!

WELCOME, DEATHLOCK.

YOU FLOW WITHIN THE MATRIX OF (MY) (YOUR) BEING.

THE FACE, 'PUTER! IT'S BACK AGAIN!

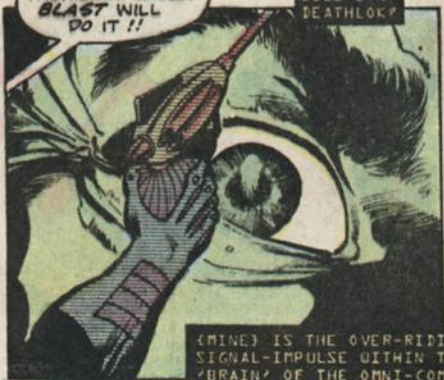
PHOTONS ARRANGED IN 'SENSE-PATTERN' TRANSLATION FOR OUR BENEFIT ONLY...

...VISUALS NOT 'REAL'...REPEAT...



A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED LASER-BLAST WILL DO IT !!

WILL IT, DEATHLOCK?



...AS EASILY AS (I)
NEGATE THE ILLUSION
THAT IS YOUR WEAPON.

SHATTERED...??

NEGATIVE. MOLECULAR
PATTERN DISRUPTED.

CORRECT, COMPUTER! AND
DONE AS EASILY AS THE
CREATION OF THIS PHOTONIC
EARTH!

A SIMPLE
REARRANGEMENT
OF LIGHT SO THAT I
MAY SHOW YOU,
DEATHLOK, THE WORLD
YOU MISSED WHILE
THE BODY AND MIND
OF LUTHER MANNING
LAY DEAD FOR
FIVE YEARS!

THE SAME WORLD
YOU TURNED INTO
A NIGHTMARE,
RYKER?

NO, DEATHLOK!
A NIGHTMARE I AM
GOING TO RE-STRUCTURE
AS A PARADISE!

FOLLOW ME,
DEATHLOK! DOWN
TO EARTH, 1985!

DO I
HAVE ANY
CHOICE?

NOT
REALLY!

I HAVE BOUND
YOUR ELECTRONS
TO MY MOLECULAR
STRUCTURE.

FOR NOW,
AT LEAST--

--WE ARE
ONE!

LIKE YOU
SAID,
MATOR--

--FOR
NOW!!

OBSERVATION: VISUALS CULLED FROM MAIN MEMORY-BANKS OF OMNI-COMPUTER...TIME-RETRIEVAL PERIOD DATED AT EARLY NINETEEN-EIGHTIES. LOCATION: MANHATTAN.





--AND CHAOS!

LOOK BELOW...
AT LONG ISLAND!

GAZE UPON
A NEW
METROPOLIS,
POPULATED BY
THE PEOPLE WE
EVACUATED
FROM NEW YORK
CITY AFTER THE
DISRUPTION!



YOU MOVED EVERYONE
IN MANHATTAN?

IT WAS ESSENTIAL! THE
ENEMY HAD DISRUPTED DAY-
TO-DAY FUNCTIONING!

WE HAD NO
OTHER CHOICE!



BULL! THERE
WAS NO ENEMY,
RYKER!

YOU JUST WANTED CONTROL...
TOTAL, COMPLETE ORDER!

AND THE
ONLY WAY TO
GET IT WAS
TO GET RID
OF THE
CAUSES OF
DISORDER:



PEOPLE, RYKER!
PEOPLE CAUSE DISORDER!

SO YOU GOT RID
OF THE PEOPLE!



ROUNDED 'EM UP
AN' HERDED 'EM OUT
TO LONG ISLAND... INTO
A CITY THAT'S REALLY
A MILITARY COMPLEX
...SO YOU COULD KEEP
YOUR DAMNED COM-
PUTER EYES ON
'EM--

--ALL FOR
THE SAKE OF
ORDER!!

THEY WENT
WILLINGLY,
DEATHLOK--

--ONCE THEY
WERE MADE
TO SEE!



SEE
WHAT??

THAT IT WAS FOR
THEIR OWN GOOD!
PEOPLE NEED SOME-
ONE TO WATCH
OVER THEM!

SO YOU
ELECTED
YOURSELF!



DICTATOR AND
GOD ALL ROLLED
INTO ONE!

YOU'RE,
MAD
RYKER!



YOU'RE
INSANE!!



WHY, DEATHLOK?

I MERELY BROUGHT OUR SOCIETY TO A LOGICAL CONCLUSION, ALONG A PATH IT HAD LONG AGO CHOSEN FOR ITSELF:

NOT FOR THIS, RYKER!

I NEVER FOUGHT FOR THIS!!

BENEVOLENT CONTROL BY AN IMPASSIONATE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX--

--OF WHICH YOU WERE A PART... BEFORE YOUR "DEATH"!

SYSTEMS-ALERT: CONTACT BETWEEN OPPOSING PHOTONIC CHARGES MAY LEAD TO POSSIBLE SYSTEMS-DISRUPTION...

MANIFESTED IN TOTAL SYSTEMS DEADLOCK.

THE CHARGE IS BUILDING UP TO KEEP US APART, DEATHLOK!

YOU CAN'T HURT ME!

I CAN SURE AS BLAZES TRY, MAJOR!

IONIC CHARGE INCREASING... MOLECULAR STRUCTURE BECOMING UNSTABLE...



BREAK OFF, DEATHLOK!

BREAK OFF BEFORE YOU DESTROY US!

NO!!

YOU'RE SCARED, AREN'T YOU, RYKER? I'VE GOT YOU FACIN' DEATH... THE SAME DEATH YOU DRAGGED ME BACK FROM==

-- AN' YOU'RE SCARED, MAJOR!

'CAUSE THERE AIN'T NO WAY TO CONTROL DEATH -- YOU JUST TAKE IT AS IT COMES!

IT'S CHAOS, RYKER!

IT'S THE ENEMY!!

AND WE'RE BOTH A PART OF IT, RYKER!

THE ENEMY IS US!!

STOP IT, YOU FOOL!

YOU'LL KILL US BOTH!

OPPOSING FIELD-CHARGES BUILDING-PROBABILITY OF SYSTEMS- OVERLOAD: 97.699%.

DESTRUCTION OF ENTITY-DESIGNATE 'RYKER' IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESENT PROGRAMING. SURVIVAL OVER-RIDE EFFECTED.

NO!!
WE'RE BEING BROKEN
OFF FROM OUTSIDE...!



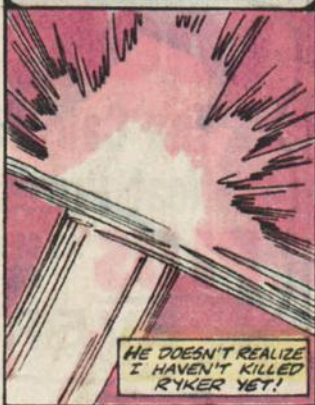
'PUTER...
WHAT--?

IT'S WILCOX! THE DOC
IS TRYIN' TO GET US
BACK OUT... BACK INTO
OUR BODIES!



RETRIEVAL EFFECTED.

LOCKED ON BEAM-SCANNER
FROM EMISSION POINT ZERO.



HE DOESN'T REALIZE
I HAVEN'T KILLED
RYKER YET!

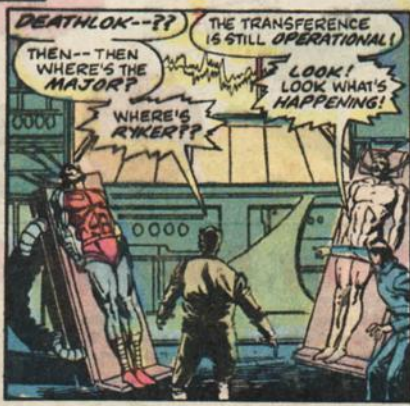
PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS SUG-
GESTS WAVE-INTERFERENCE
PROBE AT TERMINAL POINT
OF MIND-LOCK...



HE DOESN'T
REALIZE--!

'PUTER! THAT
ISN'T MY VOICE
TALKIN'! IT'S
RYKER'S!

OH MY GOD... I'M
IN RYKER'S BODY!



DEATHLOK--??

THE TRANSFERENCE
IS STILL OPERATIONAL!

THEN-- THEN
WHERE'S THE
MAJOR?

WHERE'S
RYKER??

LOOK!
LOOK WHAT'S
HAPPENING!



PULLED...
OUT OF THE
OMNI-
COMPUTER...

PULLED
...OUT...

...OUT
OF MY...

MIND



GOOD LORD!
IT-- IT'S RYKER!
IN DEATHLOK'S
BODY!

AND IT SOUNDS
AS IF THE SHOCK
HAS DRIVEN HIM
MAD!!

REVERSE
THE MOLECULAR
FLOW!

BLAST IT,
MAN! MOVE!!



FLOW REVERSED,
DR. WILCOX!

BOTH BODIES ARE
DORMANT!

ALL RIGHT,
DOCTOR, WE'LL
TRY AGAIN!

AND
THIS
TIME--



-- LET'S GET
IT RIGHT!

AARRGGGHHH!!

THE...
PAIN...



... HANDS... STRANGE...
METAL... COIL... ?

I CAN'T
HEAR MY
HEART-
BEAT...

... NOT
ALIVE!



I-- I'M
DEATHLOK!!

I'M
DEAD--

-- I'M A
CYBORG AND
I'M DEAD!!

HE-- HE'S GONE
COMPLETELY MAD!
RAVING LIKE A
LUNATIC!

IT WAS THE
TRANSFERENCE--!
HE STILL THINKS
HE'S THE CYBORG!

AND HE'S JUST
LEARNED WHAT
IT MEANS TO BE
A WALKING
"PATCHWORK-
MAN"--

--SHARING HIS
"LIFE" WITH THE
COLD CIRCUITRY
OF A
COMPUTER--

MAY THE
LORD HELP
HIM!



WE'RE
BACK,
'PUTER!

AFFIRMATIVE.

COLD METAL
HANDS
REACHING
FOR ME!

TRYING TO TAKE
MY MIND AWAY!



KEEP THEM
BACK!

DON'T HURT ME,
DEATHLOK!

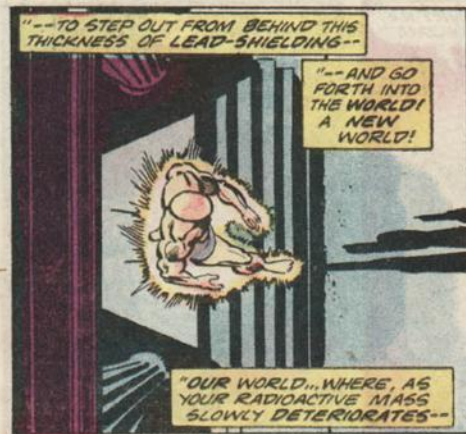
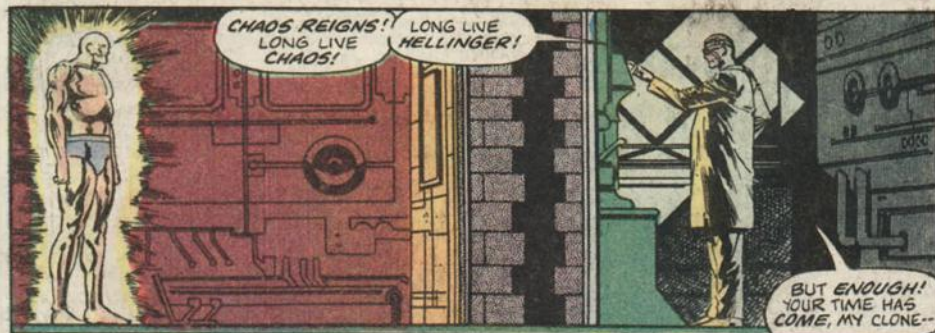


I-- I DIDN'T...
DO ANYTHING! I--

--I DIDN'T
WANT IT
TO BE THIS
WAY!

-- NOT
LIKE--
THIS!

HELLINGER TERMINAL-EYE READ-OUT: ENTITY-DESIGNATE 'SIMON RYKER' HAS BEEN NEUTRALIZED...FUNCTIONING OF MASTER COMPUTER DISRUPTED...REPAIR SYSTEMS SHUT DOWN...SUBJECT DESIGNATES 'DEATHLOK' AND 'WILCOX' STILL FUNCTIONING AND STILL IN CONTROL...



2 THE RESURRECTION AND THE DEATH!

MAJOR SIMON RYKER
NO LONGER IMMINENT
THREAT.

WELL, THREAT
OR NOT I DON'T
QUIT UNTIL HE'S
STONE-COLD
FINISHED--
PERIOD!

ANOMALOUS.
PRIME
DIRECTIVE
INDICATES
INTERDICTION.
REACTION IS
PURELY AN
EMOTIONAL
ONE...

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL TAKE
OVER NOW. ANY INJURIES
HERE? SPEAK UP MAN!

OBSERVATION: FOUR
MEN ARMED WITH AUTO-
MATIC WEAPONS. PROBL-
EM ANALYSIS...

I AIN'T INTERESTED
IN YOUR PREDICTIONS,
PUTER. I FEEL LIKE
TAKING SOMEBODY
APART-- IT MIGHT AS
WELL BE THESE
TURKEYS...

WE'RE
OKAY.
I THINK.
SPEAK
FOR
YOUR-
SELF,
DOC!

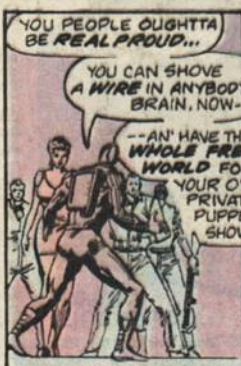
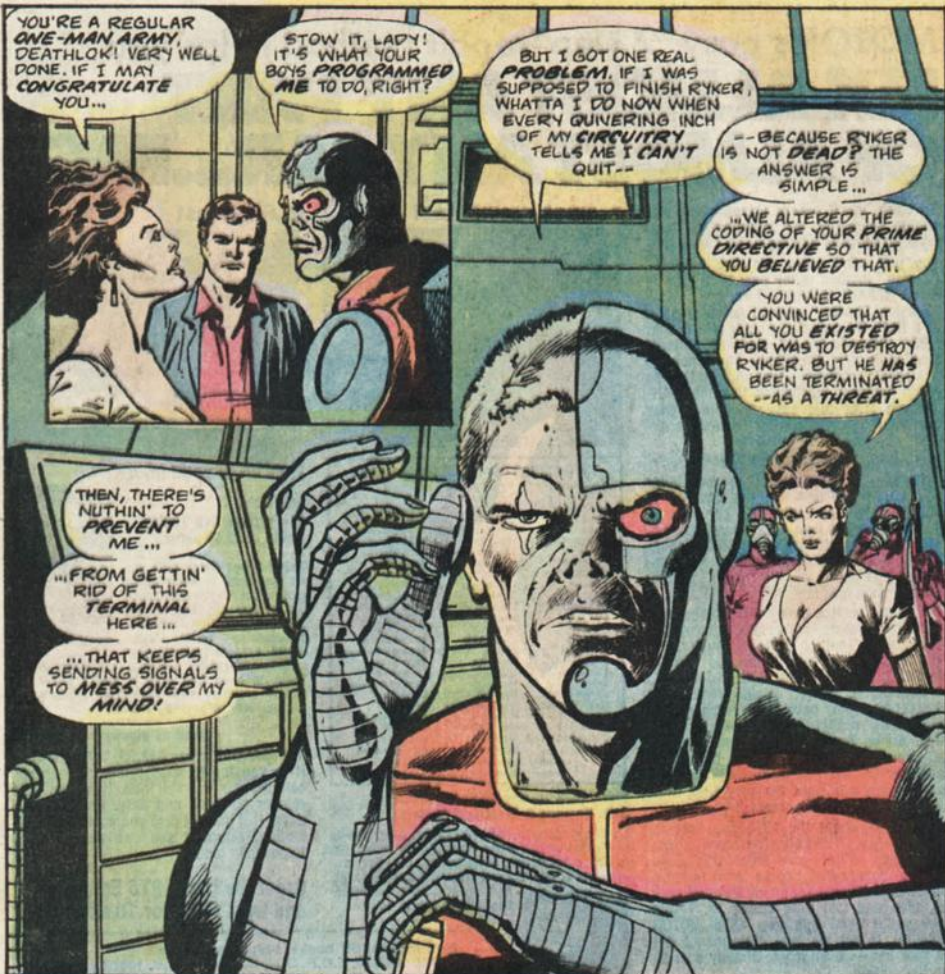
YOU GUYS
GOT THREE
SECONDS TO
IDENTIFY YOUR-
SELVES.

WELL, THE
PROVISIONAL
REVOLUTIONARY
ARMY, WE AIN'T!

YOU CAN BACK
OFF NOW, DEATHLOK.
THESE MEN ARE
FIELD AGENTS.

THEY WORK
FOR ME!

HEY, I
THOUGHT THIS
ROBOT-GUY
WAS ON OUR
SIDE?





DEATHLOK! YOU DON'T JUST WALK OUT OF THIS WITH YOUR HANDS UNSOILED..

IT'S STILL RYKER'S WORLD OUT THERE. THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE.

SURE, SURE. AND I'M THE WORK HORSE, RIGHT? I GET THE DIRTY END OF IT. STILL... N-O.

THERE'S MORE. YOU REMEMBER NINA, THE WOMAN RYKER WIRED TO HIS OMNI-COMPUTER? SHE'S SUPPLIED US WITH NEW INFORMATION!

SO.

SHE'S NOTHING TO ME.



MAYBE. BUT WE HAVE PROOF -- THERE IS A THREAT EVEN MORE SERIOUS...


RYKER'S BROTHER, DEATHLOK! HELLINGER!



SUBJECT: HELLINGER. NO AVAILABLE DATA. ACTIONS IN PAST SEVENTY TWO HRS INDICATE HELLINGER IS A THREAT. LOGICAL ACTION...

I KNOW WHAT THE LOGICAL ACTION SHOULD BE. THIS JERK ALMOST GOT ME KILLED WHEN I DELIVERED HIS LITTLE PACKAGE THAT BLEW UP THE P.R.A.

OKAY, I GOT MY OWN REASONS. I'M STICKING WITH IT, FOR NOW.



"WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?"

"BACK TO FORT DIX. RYKER IS PRECEDING US IN ANOTHER COPTER."

"DAGGER" OPERATION IN PROGRESS. COMPUTING ELEMENTS TO DETERMINE RELEVANT DATA FROM...

YOU MEAN YOU'RE CONFUSED RIGHT, PUTER? DON'T ANSWER THAT. SO AM I. I'D LIKE TO KNOW, ONCE AND FOR ALL WHO'S TELLING THE TRUTH AN' WHO'S LYIN' THROUGH THEIR TEETH!

THIS IS THE ADMINISTRATION CLUSTER, DEATHLOK. WE WILL PROCEED TO THE DEBRIEFING SECTION...

... WHERE WE WILL ALSO LEARN THE RESULTS OF CERTAIN TESTS WHICH I AM SURE WILL INTEREST YOU.



THE ONLY THING I'M INTERESTED IN IS RUNNING FROM MYSELF, LADY!

ANYTHING ELSE IS JUST BIDDING TIME!

I UNDERSTAND... MORE THAN YOU THINK!

READ-OUT: HAVE COMPENSATED FOR ADDITIONAL WEIGHT OF CYBORG FORM. LANDING COMPLETE. AN AREA SCAN REVEALS...

--THAT WE'RE NOT IN THE DEBRIEFING SECTION. I SORTA NOTICED THE SAME THING, 'PUTER.

THIS WAY. WE HAVE TO PASS THE CRYOGENICS SECTION ON OUR WAY SECURITY THERE IS TOP-LEVEL--

--SO WE CAN SPEAK FREELY.



SOLDIERS ALL OVER THE FREAKIN' PLACE. THE STENCH OF CARBINE-OIL IS STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE ME PUKE.

ILLOGICAL. SENSE OF SMELL NOT A CYBERNETIC FUNCTION OF THIS UNIT. SENSORY ANALYSIS...



I HEARD IT ALL BEFORE YOUR CIRCUITS WERE RATTLIN' AWAY EVEN BACK WHEN WE HADDA BUST OUR WAY OUT OF HERE!

EVERYTHING WAS CONFUSING, MADDENING--ESPECIALLY THE GUNFIRE COMIN' FROM THE RIFLES OF MEN I HAD SERVED WITH.



IT--IT'S RYKER'S CYBORG!



HE'S GONE BERSERK!

FROM CYBORG RUN AMOK TO COOL, SMOOTH AS POLISHED-STEEL MURDER-MACHINE--WE'VE COME A LONG-WAY, EH 'PUTER?



THESE CORRIDORS LEAD TO SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

--THERE IS SOMETHING I THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW, DEATHLOK...



LIKE, THAT I'VE BEEN SET UP LADY? AWRIGHT, WHO'S BEHIND THE DOOR?

YOU DON'T TRUST ANY-ONE, DO YOU? I...I CAN'T REALLY BLAME YOU FOR THAT...



"AS FOR WHAT LIES AHEAD --IF I REALLY INTENDED TO HAVE YOU KILLED, IT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE A DOZEN TIMES ALREADY.



"I'M AFRAID IT DOESN'T BREAK DOWN TO ANYTHING QUITE THAT SIMPLE. YOU'RE BEING BRIEFED ON A NEED-TO-KNOW BASIS--STANDARD FOR C.I.A. OPERATIONS.

"LIKE FOR EXAMPLE: THE FLOOR BENEATH YOUR FEET IS PRESSURE-SENSITIVE. IF ANY OTHER THAN WE TWO--ANY MORE, OR LESS--HAD ATTEMPTED TO TRAVERSE THESE HALLS--

--THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN VAPORIZED IN SECONDS!"

SENSORY DATA: NO VISUAL THREAT PRESENT.

YEAH, BUT ANYTHING COULD BE HIDIN' BEHIND THESE WALLS.

WHAT IN HOLY--?

WHAT YOU SEE IS THE DYING FORM OF DOCTOR WILCOX. BECAUSE HIS HOST-BODY WAS A CLONE OF LUTHER MANNING-- YOUR BODY BEFORE YOU BECAME DEATHLOK-- HIS MIND TRANSFERENCE WAS TEMPORARY.

I WANTED TO TELL YOU, DEATHLOK-- BUT I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME, THAT YOU'D HAVE TO SEE IT.

YOU DON'T NEED TO SPELL IT OUT, LADY. WHEN WILCOX DISCOVERED HE WAS DYING OF RADIATION POISONING--

--MY PEOPLE PERFORMED AN OPERATION WHICH SAVED HIM, BUT AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS, THE INEVITABLE REJECTION OF THE DOCTOR'S BRAIN PATTERNS HAS BEGUN.

THEN, WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS-- THERE'S NO WAY TO CURE ME.

ON THE CONTRARY, YOU SEE, THIS TAPE CONSOLE--

--IS WHERE HIS MIND IS GOING-- ONTO A SPECIAL TAPE CARTRIDGE TO BE STORED IN OUR MIND BANKS.

WE EVEN HAVE A BLANK ON WHICH THE PRESIDENT IS STORED--

THE PRES--! DEAD? I--I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.

SEE FOR YOURSELF.

TACTILE ANALYSIS CORROBORATES SUBJECT'S STATEMENT...

OKAY, OKAY. I GET THE IDEA.

PLEASE BELIEVE ME, DEATHLOK. WHEN I TELL YOU--

--THAT ALL WE NEED DO IS DECODE YOUR BRAIN PATTERNS--

--MATCH THEM WITH THE CLONES--

--AND WE CAN CURE YOU.

"CHANGES IN VARIABLES
RECORDED. INCREMENTAL
COMPUTER CODING AND
PROCESSING. ALL PERIPH-
ERAL UNITS ON ZERO
ACCESS STORAGE !!!
COMPUTING..."

"GOOD. ALGORITHM OF DESIGNATE
ONE FILED. ACTIVITY RATIO ESTAB-
LISHED. HAVE A DUMP-CHECK RUN
THROUGH, GENTLEMEN -- I DON'T
WANT ANYTHING GOING WRONG!"

"FALSE-DROP PREVENTING
PROPER DATA SELECTION.
SIR. STILL CHECKING..."

"I WANT A NON-
DESTRUCT READOUT
ON THAT--IMMEDIATELY!"

"AN AREA SEARCH
HAS TURNED UP THE
PROBLEM SOURCE.
SIR. THERE SEEMS
TO BE A--A DUAL
OPERATION. WE--
WERE LOOKING AT,
IN EFFECT, TWO
OPPOSING FORCES
OR PERSONALITIES.
IF YOU WILL--"

"WELL, BREAK
IT DOWN AND
PROCESS IT!
THERE'S NO TIME
FOR AIRLESS!
RHETORIC!"

"DONE."

"GOOD. NOW DUMP
AND RE-START!"

"AFFIRMATIVE.
ATTENDED TIME:
39 SECONDS."

IF THIS WORKS, LUTHER
MANNING WILL BECOME
HIMSELF AGAIN--NO
LONGER A MONSTER!

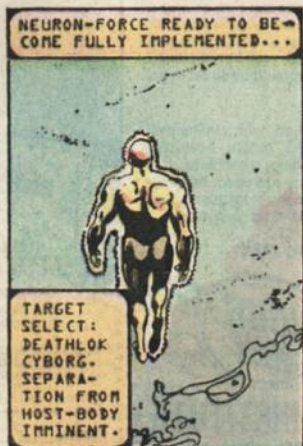
AND WE WILL BE
LOSING PERHAPS ONE OF
THE BEST OPERATIVES
THE AGENCY HAS
EVER HAD.

I THINK
I'D RATHER
HAVE THE
MAN BACK--

--WHATEVER
THE PRICE!

THAT IS WHAT
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR.
ISN'T IT, TOM?

THE RIGHT FOR
US ALL... TO BE
HUMAN AGAIN!



THE DEATHLOK TRANSCRIPTS!