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NAM *[Signature]*

"U.F.O."

"CONFLICT"

Dialogue Continuity Script.
FEBRUARY 1970.

Ep. 6

STRAKER
HENDERSON Right.
And I'm saying while I'm running this
commission I'll fight you on this every
inch of the way.

"CONFLICT"

FREEMANOh, you've been practising...

MADDOX What are you working on anyway, Alec?

FREEMAN One of Straker's projects. It's a beautification
campaign.

MADDOX Well I won't deny you could use it...

FREEMAN Space junk. Straker wants it all cleared.

MADDOX Well the Astrophysical Commission takes care
of any space junk. Anything with hazard
potential.

FREEMAN Straker has an idea it could be used by the
Aliens to crack our defence system. I'm
beginning to think he may be on to something.

MADDOX Well your report shows it's a possibility, the
junk gets cleared. So what's the problem.

FREEMAN James L. Henderson is the problem.

HENDERSON Cost...Time...Personnel...Resources...
You want reasons...why not? I can give you
a hundred.

STRAKER Listen, Henderson. Every item of space junk
could be cleared in a matter of weeks... if
the Commission gave its full support. As to the
cost, I admit it would be high but safety factors
alone would justify it.

HENDERSON Safety factors?

STRAKER Yes. My organisation uses space more than any
other. My pilots take more risk with that junk
in one month than ...

HENDERSON ...my men do in a year?
No, we need facts, Straker. Details, statistics.
You just don't have them.

STRAKER Don't I?

HENDERSON Of course you don't.

STRAKER I have my report.

HENDERSON Your report!

STRAKER You promised that the commission would not take
a final decision on the clearance programme
until my report had been fully considered.

HENDERSON And so it won't. However, I must confess I
don't think it will have that much influence.

STRAKER Well if that's so, Henderson, it must be because
you've already swung the commission against it.

HENDERSON We've just completed the annual clearance of all items of space junk we consider a menace to navigation. v/o The cost was more than double that of last year's operation.

STRAKER And worth every penny.

HENDERSON Do you realise what a full clearance programme would cost?

STRAKER Look, I'm not gonna swap dollar signs with you, Henderson. Mens lives are at stake. Now I want that junk cleared! Every last piece!

STRAKER Well where is he?

FOSTER On his way, sir. Commander Straker.

FREEMAN Freeman.

STRAKER Alec, I want that space clearance report.

FREEMAN I only just got here and there's data still missing.

STRAKER I don't care what's missing. It looks like Henderson's commission have already decided against a major space clearance project. We have to convince them otherwise.

FREEMAN Will you give me twenty four hours? It can't make any difference to you. But it could make a heck of a difference to the report.

STRAKER I want that report, Alec. I don't care what shape it's in. Just get it back here.;

JOAN Shado lunar module 32 cleared for take-off at 14.1. 34. Stand by.

MADDOX Roger, Moonbase. Confirm T.E.T.

JOAN Affirmative. Trans-Earth trajectory green. Lift off, 32.

MADDOX Check Delta co-ordinates.

STEVENS Co-ordinates correct, sir. Earth orbit insertion, two hours thirteen minutes, eight seconds, sir.

MADDOX Contact Shado H.Q. and Moonbase. Tell them we're going for EOI in 43 minutes, 29 seconds.

STEVENS Right, sir.

JOAN 32 reports Earth Orbit Insertion at thirteen zero eight - 21, sir.

FOSTER Contact SID. Tracking procedure green. Has Shado H.Q. been alerted?

JOAN Yes, sir.

FREEMAN So everything's fine?

FOSTER Straker's not gonna think so. He's expecting you.

MADDOX Re-entry angle 6 decimal 58 degrees. EOI... 4 minutes, 12 seconds.

STEVENS A sighting, sir. At 7 zero three five.

MADDOX =That's in behind us. Confirm sighting.

STEVENS Affirmative, sir...and it's closing fast.

MADDOX Contact Moonbase.

JOAN Thirty two reports unidentified sighting, sir.

FOSTER Signal red alert!

MADDOX V/O What's happening? Angle increasing.

FOSTER His angle of re-entry is too steep. Tell him to correct angle of re-entry.

JOAN Loss of signal, sir.

MADDOX V/O Still increasing...Something's pulling us off course. We've got to correct. Pitch actuator, one decimal three burn.

JOAN Earth Orbital Insertion now.

STEVENS No response. We're in trouble.

STRAKER Look, Henderson. All I need is another 48 hours.

HENDERSON V/O Another 48 hours?

STRAKER Yes.I can have a summary o f the completed report in your desk by then.

HENDERSON You know I can't hold up the commission any longer. Why don't you let me tell them you've decided to withdraw your proposals? I'd get you off the hook.

STRAKER I intend to hold you to your word to consider my report before making a decision on the clearance programme.

HENDERSON All right, Straker. I think I'm reading you. You want an alibi for that pilot of yours who killed himself and his crewman. You want to blame it on the presence of uncleared junk.

STRAKER I want your word, Henderson.

HENDERSON On one condition. You consider your space craft was in a collision re-entry collision with an item of space junk?

STRAKER It's a possibility.

HENDERSON It's a possibility..yes.
So you suspend all lunar flights until
we've fully investigated the er...incident.

STRAKER Do you realise what you're doing?

HENDERSON Yes, Commander, I do. I'm proving to
the Commission that your organisation in
it's present form is an expensive and
unworkable luxury.

STRAKER Ah, Miss Ealand. Hard at it?

MISS EALAND I'm always hard at it. Sometimes you notice.
How did it go, sir?

STRAKER Go? D'you know the code word "Washington
Square", miss Ealand?

NORMA Not without looking it up. It's not one
we use regularly.

STRAKER It's one I thought we'd never use...

MISS EALAND What does it mean, sir?

STRAKER It means shut down. Cancel lunar flights.
The virtual isolation of Moonbase.

V/O Shado Control to all unit commanders.
Washington Square. I say again...
Washington Square.
Immediate compliance Washington Square.

JOAN Colonel Foster? Sorry to disturb you,
sir. Code message from Shado. Washington
Square. I'll check it right away.

FOSTER There's no need. It means shutdown.

FREEMAN What?

FOSTER More specifically it involves
complete ban on all orbital flights.

NORMA v/o Colonel Freeman for you.

STRAKER Put him on.

FREEMAN Why the ban on moon flight?

STRAKER Henderson.

FREEMAN But why? What about the report?

STRAKER Forget it. The Commission are gonna believe
that it's an attempt to blame space junk
for the Maddox crash.

FREEMAN When in fact you think it was....

STRAKER Maddox. Pilot error. Take a rest,
enjoy the scenery, Alec.

FOSTER What's Straker going to do?

FREEMAN I don't know.

FOSTER He doesn't usually take a thing like this lying down.

FREEMAN You couldn't call it typical.

FOSTER And then there's Maddox. What do we do about him? Forget all about it?

FREEMAN Well what else can we do? Any pilot can make a mistake and you're only allowed one!

FOSTER Not Steve Maddox.

FREEMAN Anyone can make a mistake.

FOSTER Not Steve Maddox! He's too experienced.

FREEMAN What caused the re-entry error?

FOSTER He reported an unidentified sighting just before loss of signal.

FREEMAN But the Trackers couldn't pick up anything.

FOSTER Well there must have been something. Space debris...

FREEMAN Maybe.

FOSTER Maybe... And we just sit back and do nothing about it?

FREEMAN No. We make sure it doesn't happen again.

FOSTER Get me 32's electronic log.

JOAN Captain Maddox's flight?

FOSTER Yes.

FREEMAN What's going on here? What the devil's going on? V/O Who's in that module?

JOAN V/O Colonel Foster.

FREEMAN Why didn't you tell me? Any of you?

JOAN Colonel Foster's orders. On no account were we to tell you until take-off was imminent.

FREEMAN And irreversibly. Paul, cut your motors. I said cut your motors! v/o Paul, this won't help.

FOSTER What won't?

FREEMAN Taking out a module...If you're doing it for the reasons I think you are.

FOSTER I'm gonna fly the same course Maddox flew.

FREEMAN Under precisely the same condition.

FOSTER V/O Yes.

FREEMAN You're crazy! What will it prove?

FOSTER For one thing, that Maddox wasn't responsible for the loss of his ship.

FREEMAN V/O What if you do make it? It won't mean much.

FOSTER It depends on how I get through.

FREEMAN And if you don't?

FOSTER Then I don't...

OPERATOR Roger. Three... Roger.

JOAN What is it?

FOSTER Two nine calling Moon base.

FREEMAN V/O Everything under control?

FOSTER So far... EOI in two hours... thirty eight minutes, twenty two seconds.

FREEMAN Roger. Have you contacted Straker yet?

FOSTER No. But I've a feeling he'll be contacting me soon...

OPERATOR Sighting at Galactic latitude 43 decimal one seven. Altitude 14 decimal five three.

2ND OPERATOR But that's Moonbase operations area.

OPERATOR Right. Call Commander Straker.

STRAKER V/O You'll turn back right now!

FOSTER EOI in one hour precisely. I've gone too far for that.

STRAKER You're right, Foster. Much too far!

FOSTER Module two nine to moonbase.

JOAN Go ahead two nine.

FOSTER Re-entry in 6 minutes, 9 seconds.

JOAN Roger.

FOSTER Moonbase...

FREEMAN V/O Receiving two-nine.

FOSTER EOI in 4 minutes, 3 seconds.

FREEMAN Re-entry angle, 5 decimal seven three degrees. Confirm. v/o 2-9 confirm re-entry angle. Stay on 2-9!

OPERATOR 2-9's re-entry angle, sir. It's...

FREEMAN Paul, adjust re-entry angle. Cut back to five. v/o Cut back to five, Paul. You're far too shallow.

FREEMAN If he doesn't adjust, he'll bounce off the Earth's atmosphere out into space.

STRAKER Colonel Foster?

FOSTER Foster here, I'm happy to say.

STRAKER v/o Congratulations.
But don't let my delight at your survival blind you to the fact that we have a few matters to discuss.

HENDERSON Oh, you've gone too far this time, Straker.

STRAKER I don't see it that way.

HENDERSON You authorised a lunar flight!

STRAKER I authorised nothing.

HENDERSON Look, Straker, I don't want to argue with you. You are responsible, whatever the circumstances.

STRAKER I agree. But Colonel Foster has proved that there is interference with out inter-orbital flights.

HENDERSON Has he?

FOSTER Yes. And I almost got killed doing it.

HENDERSON So you say...

FOSTER Yes, I say!!

STRAKER My apologies.

HENDERSON Thank you.

STRAKER I think it's time we laid our cards on the table, Henderson.

HENDERSON All right. I'll tell you what I think of Colonel Foster's so-called proof. You knew the Commission was going to turn down your space junk clearance programme so you instructed Foster to make that flight.

STRAKER Now why would I do that?

HENDERSON Because you were desperate for evidence.

STRAKER Go on...

HENDERSON You authorised the flight to rig this information. But you won't get away with it. The Commission convenes the day after tomorrow. By the time I get through, you'll be out of a job.

STRAKER Is that all? I'll see you at the Commission meeting.

HENDERSON Indeed you will, Commander.

FOSTER Can he really do it?

STRAKER Do what?

FOSTER Ease you out.

STRAKER He can try.

FOSTER What about our evidence? They've got to take notice of that.

STRAKER Evidence! What's it gonna look like when Henderson claims that we manufactured it just to get a space clearance programme.

FOSTER But we're right!

STRAKER Sometimes, Colonel, that's not quite enough.

JOAN The tracking data's been processed, sir.

FREEMAN Anything?

JOAN Not that we can see.

FREEMAN We should have been able to pick up something.

JOAN There's nothing on Colonel Foster's log except a record of manouvres.

FREEMAN All right. Send it down to Shado Headquarters.

FOSTER So what do we do now?

STRAKER Any suggestions?

FOSTER No, but we can't just sit around.

STRAKER I've solved quite a few problems by "just sitting around" as you call it, Colonel. I suggest you try it yourself sometime.

OPERATOR Commander, the tracking report on Colonel Foster's flight has just come in from Moonbase.

STRAKER And...?

OPERATOR Nothigg unusual, sir.

STRAKER All right.

FOSTER Well that leaves the MV3 detector.

STRAKER Yes. They're processing the data now. Well we haven't had much luck so far. Maybe we're due for a break.

OPERATOR The MV3 data, sir.

STRAKER Ah, thank you. Looks like an SPS rocket of some sort.

FOSTER Like the limpet rockets used in debris destruction.

STRAKER Yeah. But it doesn't make sense. I mean, why would the Aliens put a device like this into earth orbit.

FOSTER It could be programmed to attack moonship flights.

STRAKER A blockade on Moonbase? Maybe...
Why hasn't our radar picked it up?

FOSTER Space debris! It's based in one of those burnt-out rockets over there.

STRAKER Well assuming your right...which one could it be?

FOSTER Well considering Maddox and I flew practically identical flight paths, it would have to be... one of these two here...or Apollo eight here... or B47...

STRAKER Four possibilities....I think we're on to something.

FREEMAN That should be okay...

Freeman...

STRAKER Alec, I have an assignment for you. I want you to launch the interceptors. The MOssion... to destroy four pieces of space junk. I'll have control relay the co-ordinates direct to the astronauts.

FREEMAN You mean space junk in Earth orbit?

STRAKER Right. And I mean use all three interceptors.

FREEMAN All three?

STRAKER V/O Yes, I know. It'll leave Moonbase undefended. Nevertheless, do it, Alec. v/o At once.

FOSTER Now wait a minute! D'you know what's gonna happen when Henderson finds out about this?

STRAKER Ah yes...Henderson. Why don't you go over and tell him, Colonel?

FOSTER What? He'll go berserk!

STRAKER Yes... Take a nice slow drive. Give me about half an hour.

FOSTER I hope you know what you're doing.

FREEMAN Control to interceptor leader. Steer programmed course to earth orbit. You will receive destruct details direct from earth.control. ...out.

STRAKER Miss Ealand, when James Henderson calls tell him I'm unavailable.

MISS EALAND And when he arrives, sir?

STRAKER Show him right in. The red carpet treatment, he's a very important man. You can expect him at three o'clock.

HENDERSON I want to see Straker immediately. And before you try to fob me off with some damn fool excuse, I'm telling you I won't take no for an answer.

MISS EALAND But of course you may see him, Mr. Henderson. He's expecting you...Go straight in.

HENDERSON Oh.Thank you.

HENDERSON Straker!

STRAKER Ah, Henderson. You're late. Won't keep you a moment. Studio business. Well I think it's a great script, Mr. Steiner. There we are. Cleared for shooting.

STEINER Thanks. You know, I like the way you operate.

STRAKER Thank you.

STEINER Your policy of non-interference... Some executives crawl all over you.

STRAKER Well I can assure you, Mr. Steiner, you'll see very little of me.

STEINER And I'll give you a film the studio will be proud of. Thanks again. Nice guy. Goodbye...

STRAKER Goodbye.

HENDERSON All right, Straker.... You know I never touch them

STRAKER Voice identification.

HENDERSON James Henderson.

V/O Identification positive. Henderson James L.

STRAKER Thank you.

HENDERSON I tried to call you, Commander. I was told you were not available. Were those your instructions?

STRAKER Yes.

HENDERSON I see... A very high-handed attitude. However, one more question. Is it true you ordered all three interceptors to destroy certain items of space junk?

STRAKER Correct.

HENDERSON Do you realise what you've done?

STRAKER You tell me.

HENDERSON You've blatantly and openly defied the Commission. And left Moonbase and the Earth defenceless.

STRAKER It was my decision. I realise the implications.

HENDERSON You had better start packing, Straker. When the Commission hears about this you are through.

STRAKER Aren't you interested in hearing my reasons?

HENDERSON No. Let's be kind. Let's put it down to a mental aberration. The strain of command... Get those interceptors back on Moonbase, Commander, while you can still give orders.

STRAKER Sorry, Henderson.

HENDERSON Don't push your luck, Straker. If Moonbase reports....

STRAKER ... a UFO sighting? Stick around. I'm expecting it.

JOAN Possible contact 2 4 8. Zero 1-6 red. Contact confirmed. UFO 2 4 8. 136 red.

FREEMAN Red alert. Get me Shado Headquarters.

JOAN V/O UFO maintaining course 248. 204 Green.

STRAKER Get the termination.

OPERATOR Request Trajectory Termination.

JOAN V/O Predicted termination One F. 026 Southern England.

STRAKER Close enough. It's target is this studio! Maintain visual contact on countdown.

OPERATOR Yes, sir.

STRAKER Then order a complete shut-down.

OPERATOR Shut-down?

STRAKER Everything! V.B.F...Radar...the computers... Complete radio silence.

HENDERSON Straker!

STRAKER As you said, Henderson, I can still give orders. Complete shut-down. Do it!

OPERATOR Termination eight minutes, four seconds.

HENDERSON Commander Straker, I'd like to talk to you in your office. You, too, Colonel. Straker, I'm relieving you of your command. Colonel Foster will take over as of now.

STRAKER You can't do it, Henderson. You require the unanimous backing of the commission.

HENDERSON You think I won't get it?

STRAKER Yes, I think you could get it, but it'll take time.

HENDERSON And this base is due to be attacked in a few minutes! Colonel Foster, assume command. Colonel!

FOSTER I take my orders from Commander Straker.

STRAKER Now for the first time in your life, you're going to listen. The Aliens put a satellite into earth orbit, using a piece of space junk to cover it. Why? A blockade on Moonbase? A logical reason, but obvious. Too obvious. In time we would have located and destroyed it. So the satellite was a decoy, a red herring for something bigger. An attack on this headquarters. They hoped the satellite would draw the interceptors from moonbase.

HENDERSON And you fell right into the trap.

STRAKER I acted as if the plan had worked, yes. It would take a Ufo of great destructive power to destroy this underground base. I didn't want that hanging over our heads.

HENDERSON All this guesswork does not explain the shut down.

STRAKER Why make it easy for them? The Ufo is probably programmed onto our radio signals.

HENDERSON I don't buy it, Straker. I just hope you've guessed wrong. Because if you're right, we're about to be killed.

STRAKER There's still time for you to leave.

All right. We all just sit here and wait.

HENDERSON For what?

STRAKER A voice

JOAN Moonbase to Shado control. Come in control. It's no use, sir. It's a complete radio shutdown.

FREEMAN What the hell is Straker playing at?

OPERATOR Four minutes to termination.

HENDERSON Straker, if we contact the interceptors there may still be time.

STRAKER It's no good. They can't operate in the Earth's atmosphere...And the Ufo's already in the stratosphere.

OPERATOR Termination one minute, twenty seconds.

HENDERSON We're sitting ducks.

STRAKER Maybe. Yes?

MISS EALAND Sky One has just overflown the studio at zero feet.

STRAKER Thank you, Miss Ealand. Switch everything on.

OPERATOR Yes, sir.

STRAKER And get me Captain Karlin.

OPERATOR Sir.

STRAKER Nice timing, Captain. Go get it.

KARLIN Roger, control.

Sky One for Moonbase. v/o Request U.F.O. fix and attack co-ordinates.

JOAN Will relay direct to outward computer.

FREEMAN Why, Straker...The sly old....

JOAN Fox....?