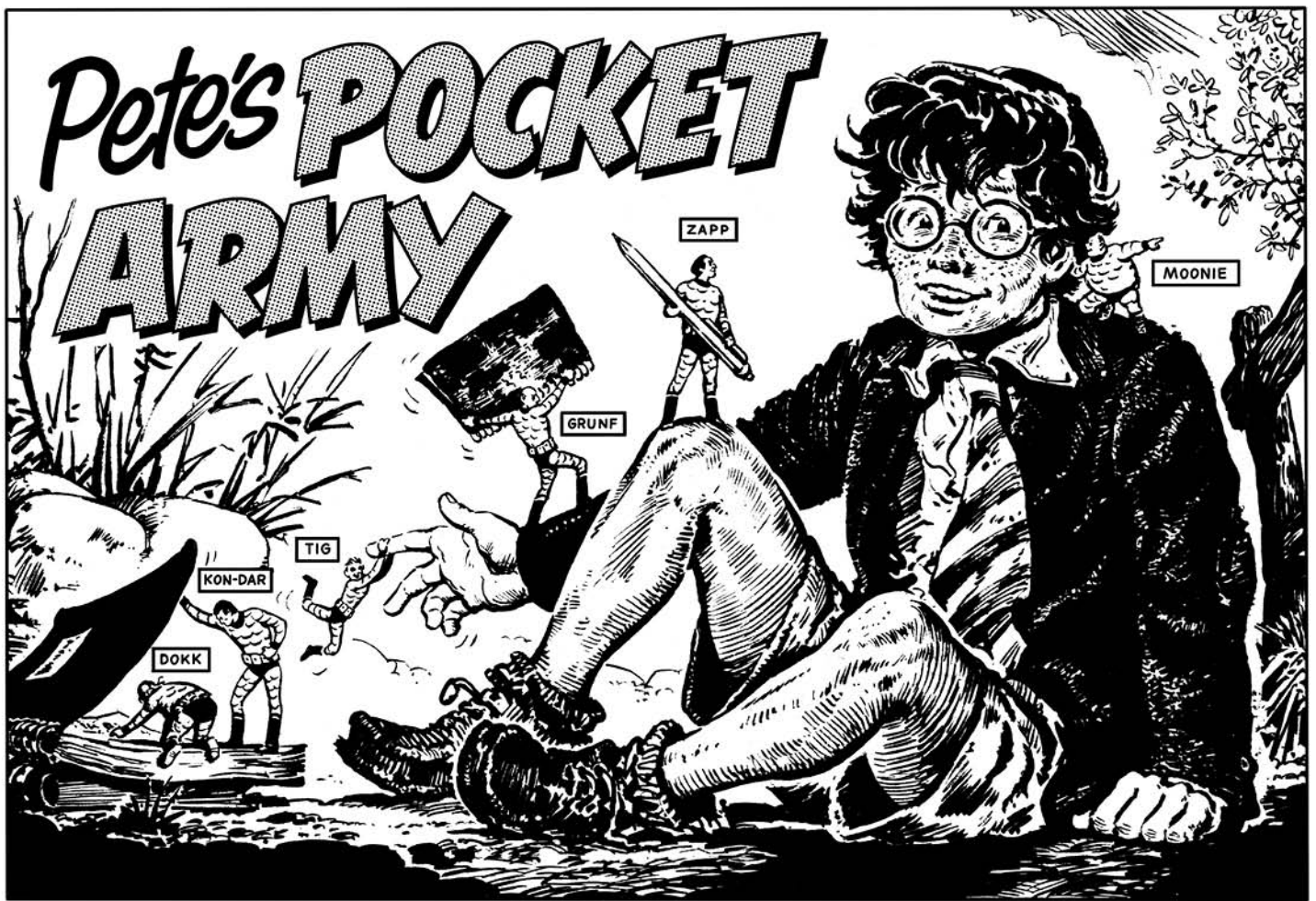


WHO ARE **THE** **VIGILANT**?

IRREPRESSIBLE! UNSTOPPABLE!

PETE'S POCKET ARMY | Buster 1973 | Script: **TOM TULLY** | Art: **FRANCISCO SOLANO LOPEZ**





IT CAME WOOSHING OUT OF THE SKY LIKE A GIGANTIC COMET! CRIES OF ALARM FILLED THE STREETS OF WHITFORD AS THE MYSTERIOUS, GLOWING SHAPE SEEMED TO SCRAPE THE VERY ROOFTOPS...



BUT WHITFORD WAS TO BE SPARED FROM THE AMAZING EVENTS THAT WERE SOON TO FOLLOW...



UPROOTING TREES LIKE MATCHSTICKS, THE VAST SHAPE SLAMMED TO A SKIDDING, WRENCHING HALT IN A DESERTED ORCHARD...

... AN ORCHARD THAT WAS SOON THROGGED WITH ASTOUNDED GOGGLE-EYED PEOPLE!



WATCHING FROM A NEARBY TREE, WAS YOUNG PETE, PARKER AND SOME OF HIS PALS FROM WHITFORD SECONDARY SCHOOL...

GOSH, LADS! IF THERE IS ANYONE INSIDE IT, I DON'T SEE HOW THEY COULD HAVE SURVIVED THE IMPACT OF THE CRASH!

YOU KIDS WON'T SURVIVE THE IMPACT OF MY **FIST** IF YOU DON'T COME DOWN OFF THAT BRANCH! I WANT TO HAVE A LOOK!

OH, HECK... IT'S "**BADGER**" MORRIS!

THE YOUNGER BOYS KNEW BETTER THAN TO DEFEY THE LOCAL TOWN BULLY AND THEY HASTILY SCRAMBLED DOWN!

... AND THAT'S FOR NOT MOVING FAST ENOUGH! NOW, SCAT, YOU LITTLE PESTS! THE **SPACE-MEN** MIGHT GET YOU!

YA, HA, HAAAR!

OWWWCH!

PETE'S EARS WERE STILL RINGING AS HE STUMBLED AWAY...

THE ROTTEN BIG APE! HE ONLY PICKS ON YOUNGSTERS LIKE ME BECAUSE HE KNOWS I'M NOT BIG AND **STRONG** ENOUGH TO HIT HIM BACK...

A SUDDEN DIN OF BARKS AND SNARLS MADE PETE FORGET ALL ABOUT BADGER MORRIS!

RR-RAAAARFF!
GNAARG!

THAT DOG... SCUFFLING AT THAT OLD BIRD-HOUSE! MAYBE IT'S TRAPPED A RABBIT, OR SOMETHING!

GO ON... SHOO! LEAVE IT ALONE, YOU BRUTE! YOU'RE AS BAD AS BADGER MORRIS!

IT WAS THEN, AS THE DOG MADE OFF... THAT PETE PARKER GOT THE SHOCK OF HIS LIFE!

AH, QUIXORTA NEB! IT'S SAFE TO COME OUT NOW, MEN! THE EARTH-CREATURE'S GONE!

HUUUUUUH?

THE BOY STOOD ROOTED IN UTTER AMAZEMENT AS MORE TINY FIGURES CAME SCRAMBLING FROM THE BIRD-HOUSE!

I'M SEEING THINGS... I **M-MUST BE!** IT... IT'S FULL OF **LITTLE 'UNS**!

BY SIRIUS, THAT'S RIGHT... WE ARE **LITLUNS**! FROM THE PLANET LITURNUS!

BUT HOW DID HE KNOW? OUR INFORMATION SUGGESTS THAT MOST EARTHLINGS HAVE A VERY PRIMITIVE BRAIN-STRUCTURE!

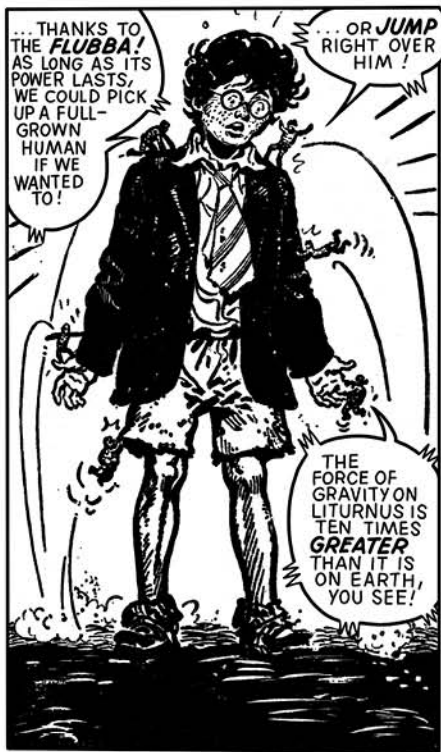
BY NOW, THE FLABBERGASTED PETE REALISED THAT HE WAS GAZING AT THE CREW OF THE **SPACE-SHIP**!

B-BUT HOW... WHERE...?

I'M KON-DAR, THE CREW LEADER! IF YOU'D BE KIND ENOUGH TO PICK US UP, YOUNG MAN, I'LL DO MY BEST TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS!

I THINK WE CAN TRUST HIM! AFTER ALL, HE DID SAVE US FROM THE DOG-THING!





ENCOUNTER PETE'S POCKET ARMY
15th August 2018



THE **IRREPRESSIBLE! UNSTOPPABLE!**
VIGILANT