

CAPTAIN SCARLET

AND THE

MYSTERONS

"PROBE OMEGA"

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"Probe Omega"

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Teleplay based on the mini-album
Captain Scarlet of Spectrum

FADE IN:

EXT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE - DAY

It is heavily snowing. A futuristic rocket (more advanced than Thunderbird 3) is preparing for launch, near a set of buildings and towers.

SIBERIA BASE CONTROL (V.O.)
Navigational satellite blast off minus ten. Final countdown begins. This is Siberia Base Control handing over to Sub-Station 2 for launch procedure. All personnel clear area.

We hear multiple sirens - numerous vehicles, from patrol cars to trucks, drive away from the scene as far as possible.

CUT TO:

INT. SUB-STATION 2

A controller is at the console, about to contact Siberia Base Control through the mike. Multiples panels and terminals are installed all over the walls, and near the windows.

CONTROLLER 1
Sub-Station 2 to Base, acknowledged. We are A-OK. Preparing for countdown in five minutes. All incoming aircraft will require pending delays on landing, until further notice.

The door slowly opens, making a creaking sound. The controller turns round.

CONTROLLER 1
Hello? Did I just hear something?

He resumes working.

HUMAN HAND: A man, wearing black gloves, holds a pistol. He fires at the controller, killing him.

We reveal the assassin. It's Captain Black.

The green Mysteron rings slide over the controller who lies on the ground. We reveal the reconstructed version, now sitting down and in charge.

CAPTAIN BLACK

This is Captain Black, relaying instructions from the Mysterons. You know what you must do.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

A Spectrum Transporter flies through the snowy sky.

CUT TO:

INT. SPECTRUM TRANSPORTER

Lieutenant Green pilots the aircraft at the wheel. Colonel White uses his binoculars to look out for Siberia Base.

COLONEL WHITE

There's the rocket base, dead ahead, Lieutenant Green. Contact Sub-Station 2 for permission to land. Though I think they'll ask us to circle. By my calculations, they should be firing the navigational satellite any minute.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Yes, sir.

He flicks a switch on the console.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Calling Siberia Sub-Station 2... Sub-Station 2, this is Spectrum Transporter 14A requesting permission to land. Colonel White aboard, reporting for Probe Omega pre-launch security conference.

CONTROLLER 1 (V.O.)

Sub-Station 2 to Spectrum
Transporter, navigational
satellite blast-off delayed 20
minutes. You are clear to land
- repeat - clear to land.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Acknowledged. Spectrum is
Green.

He turns to the window to view
the rocket.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Say, there's the satellite
rocket now, just over to
starboard. Looks impressive.

COLONEL WHITE

It certainly does, but not
half so impressive as the
Probe Omega vehicle. See it?
Way over there, about a mile
beyond the main control
buildings.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

It's gigantic, the biggest
space probe man's ever built.
Is it right that 90% of its
bulk is fuel tanks?

COLONEL WHITE

Correct. And it'll need every
drop to reach the exploration
area way out of the Mexican
Hat galaxy. It's unmanned, of
course. Entirely remote-
controlled once it gets off
the ground.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Hence the navigational
satellite. That's the box of
tricks that will guide Big
Brother on its journey.

Orange flames and billowing
smoke start clouding the jet. It
is ignition vapour, coming from
the rocket.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Colonel! Look at the base of
the satellite rocket! Ignition
vapour!

COLONEL WHITE

You're right, but control said the shot was delayed.

Green struggles to control the wheel.

COLONEL WHITE

Peel off, Lieutenant!

LIEUTENANT GREEN

The blast wave! We're out of control. I can't hold her, Colonel.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

White and Green eject from the burning aircraft. It continues to descend -

CUT TO:

EXT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE

- towards the ground, and explode. BOOM!

Both men remain strapped in their undamaged seats, covered in snow and unconscious, but not dead.

STACCATO CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

MYSTERON (V.O.)

This is the voice of the Mysterons.

We know that you can hear us, Earthmen.

Our revenge for your attack on Mars will continue, and this time the whole of Earth will taste our vengeance.

We will destroy your Moon.

STACCATO CUT TO:

INT. BASE MEDICAL CENTRE

Green rests on a hospital bed, with a few cuts and bruises to his face and body. Dr. Lavelle, French (accent similar to Destiny Angel's) late 20s, stands next to him.

DR. LAVELLE

Oh dear. Your Colonel is a lucky man, Lieutenant, and so are you. To eject at such a low altitude is usually suicidal.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

I... I... guess the snow cushioned our impact, Dr. Lavelle. Is Colonel White...

DR. LAVELLE

Oh no, no, no. A couple of clean fractures, mild concussion. No. A couple of weeks sedation, and voila, he will be as good as new.

The door opens. Professor Volochek, Russian, late 50s, bearded, enters in a hurry.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Excuse me, I have some most important news that must be passed to Spectrum immediately.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Have you discovered why we were given clearance to land, Professor Volochek?

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

The launch of the Probe Omega satellite has been postponed. We've discovered the controller of Sub-Station 2, Lieutenant. One of my best men. The poor fellow is dead, murdered. Someone else gave you that clearance. Someone who deliberately tried to kill the Colonel and yourself.

Green reacts in surprise. He hesitates to even respond.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Then... then this can only have been the work of the Mysterons...

TITLE: "PROBE OMEGA"

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. CLOUDBASE

Establishing.

CUT TO:

INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL

Captain Blue sits at Lieutenant Green's console. Captain Scarlet stands next to him.

CAPTAIN BLUE

I think I got a lead on how the Mysterons might make their attempt to destroy the Moon. I needn't tell you what will happen if they succeed, Paul. Violent earthquakes, tidal waves, perhaps even deviation of the world into a new and dangerous solar orbit. Now just what would it take to destroy the Moon? A bomb more powerful than anything man has yet devised... Or perhaps a rocket.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

You mean Probe Omega?

CAPTAIN BLUE

Exactly. Now it's my opinion that the attempt on the lives of Colonel White and Lieutenant Green was made with the objective of retrometabolising them into Mysteron agents. They would have been the Mysteron means of aiming the rocket direct at the Moon.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

The entire Lunarville colony would also be caught in the impact, Adam.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN SCARLET (CONT'D)
 We can't allow over 4000
 humans to die. Get me Linda
 Nolan.

Blue flicks a switch on the
 console.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 Calling Lunarville 6. This is
 Captain Scarlet of Spectrum,
 do you read?

NOLAN (V.O.)
 Captain! It's good to hear
 your voice again.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 You need to evacuate all
 personnel at once. Return to
 Earth.

NOLAN (V.O.)
 Will do.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 And good luck. SIG.

NOLAN (V.O.)
 Thank you.

Scarlet flicks the switch.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 I'll be needing a Spectrum
 Transporter for my flight to
 Siberia, with escort from the
 Angels.

CAPTAIN BLUE
 Captain Blue to Destiny and
 Rhapsody Angels, immediate
 launch.

DESTINY ANGEL (V.O.)
 Destiny Angel, SIG.

RHAPSODY ANGEL (V.O.)
 Rhapsody Angel reporting, SIG.
 Ready for launch.

CUT TO:

STOCK FOOTAGE

Angel launch sequence.

CUT TO:

INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL**CAPTAIN BLUE**

It's up to you, Captain Scarlet. If you can unearth the next point of Mysteron attack, when you get to Siberia, then the whole of Earth is doomed.

STACCATO CUT TO:

INT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE

Scarlet, in full winter gear and covered in melting snow, walks through the entrance. He is greeted by Volochek.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Welcome to the Siberian Rocket Base, Captain Scarlet. Volochek, professor in charge of the Project Omega project.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Glad to know you, Professor.

They both stand on a moving walkway. It travels along the hall, covered with a dome full of snow on top.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

This moving walkway will take us directly to Colonel White's sick room. He's recovering, thank goodness. Lieutenant Green is with him.

The walkway stops. Scarlet and Volochek walk towards the door leading into -

CUT TO:

INT. SICK ROOM

- where White lies in his hospital bed. The room has a narrower perimeter than the medical centre. Green sits next to him, wearing his Spectrum outfit.

COLONEL WHITE

Come in, Captain Scarlet. It's good to see you.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

And you, sir. Lieutenant Green.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Eh... How do you feel, Captain?

Scarlet touches his forehead. He could be having one of those senses when a Mysteron is nearby.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I, er... I feel fine. Both you and the Colonel are clear.

Volochek seems puzzled by Scarlet's actions.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Gentlemen, I don't quite understand.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

It was a sort of demonstration for you, Professor. You see, though the Colonel and I were apparently unharmed by our crash, it could have been that we had been killed and brought back to life under Mysteron control. We know we weren't, but Captain Scarlet has proved it conclusively.

COLONEL WHITE

You see, Professor, Captain Scarlet reacts to the presence of Mysteron agents. Headache, roaring in the ears for example. This is why he is here.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Oh, please excuse me.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

If the Mysterons take over anyone of the personnel on this base, Professor, then I'll know instantly.

STACCATO CUT TO:

ACT BREAK

FADE IN:

EXT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE

Establishing.

CUT TO:

INT. FUELLING POINT

The rocket is undergoing last-minute checkups. Engineers, technicians, and scientists are hard at work. It is quite a busy but noisy environment.

Scarlet observes, as Volochek gives him a tour.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Probe Omega's fuelling point, Captain Scarlet. It is some sight, no?

CAPTAIN SCARLET

It certainly is. Now, Professor, we must assume that the Mysterons will attempt to influence the course of the rocket on blast-off. Who exactly on your staff could interfere with the course settings without arousing suspicion?

They approach one of the technicians named Corrigan, early 40s, Australian.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Luckily, only two people, the senior technicians Banda and Corrigan. And speak of the devil, at least one of them. Corrigan, can you spare a minute?

CORRIGAN

What's up, Prof? I'm right in the middle of the flaming fuelling.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Won't keep you. Just like you to meet Captain Scarlet.

(MORE)

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK (CONT'D)
He's er... here on special security duties.

CORRIGAN

Ah, glad to know you, sport. You don't mind if we save the chit-chat till later. I got a tight schedule if I'm gonna make tomorrow's blast off.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Come, Captain, we'll take the elevator to Banda's department.

Scarlet and Volochek walk towards an elevator, then enter.

CUT TO:

INT. ELEVATOR

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Tell me, did you... did you detect anything?

CAPTAIN SCARLET

No, nothing. Corrigan's clear... at the moment. But if anything happens to him, or this woman Banda, let me know at once. A accident, anything.

CUT TO:

INT. BANDA'S DEPARTMENT

Volochek opens the door, leading to a room more compact than the fuelling point. It has a fewer number of technicians.

Banda, early 30s, turns to greet both Scarlet and Volochek. We hear background chatter, as they speak.

BANDA

Oh, Professor, what can I do for you?

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Sorry to interrupt your work, Dominique. Captain Scarlet, this is our navigational expert: technical superintendent Banda.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Hello, I'm just taking a look around, sort of general security snooper for Spectrum. But how are the final stages going?

She shows a portrait of Probe Omega, displayed on the wall.

BANDA

Oh, absolutely fine. Just look at her. That rocket's a thing of beauty, Captain. She'll go right on schedule, and she'll go smooth and sweet.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

When are the final course settings going to be made, Dominique?

BANDA

Oh, half an hour's time. If I can drag that fanatic Corrigan away from his precious fuelling. And now please, gentlemen, if you'll excuse me.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

We'll be on our way, see you later.

Scarlet and Volochek leave the room, the latter closes the door shut.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAYPROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Banda, Captain?

CAPTAIN SCARLET

No, Professor, incredibly no. The Mysterons have got at neither Corrigan nor Banda. That means that the Martian attempt on them must take place within the next half hour. We got to keep them under constant watch from this moment on.

CUT TO:

INT. FUELLING POINT

Corrigan and Banda evaluate the final checkups of the rocket. Scarlet and Volochek observe.

CORRIGAN

Well that's it. Blast-off course plotted and set on the nose cone.

BANDA

Yes, it's the final stage of preparation. Now we can all relax and wait for the countdown to start. Tell me, Captain Scarlet, how do you like the electrically-sealed door over the gyro hatch?

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Well, it's solid enough. Is it true it's impossible to reopen it now?

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

That right, it has to stand such tremendous stresses, you see.

(beat)

Well, Captain, we have been privileged to see these men complete their work. Shall we return to your quarters?

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Yes, but I think we better call on Colonel White first.

CUT TO:

INT. SICK ROOM

Scarlet stands next to White's hospital bed.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I can't understand it, Colonel. Corrigan and Banda are A-OK, the rocket's A-OK. Nothing can alter Probe Omega's blast-off course.

COLONEL WHITE

Then there's no telling how the Mysterons are going to strike.

(MORE)

COLONEL WHITE (CONT'D)
 Captain, you've got to get in touch with the World Government on my authority. Convince them Probe Omega's launch must be cancelled. Do you hear me? Cancelled!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE - NIGHT

Scarlet sits on a couch, talking on his cap mike.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 ...yes, alright. SIG.

CUT TO:

INT. SICK ROOM

White, with his cap on, listens to Scarlet's message.

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)
 Colonel White, I'm sorry, sir, but I've spent all night trying to convince them. Even the President himself refuses to cancel Probe Omega. He says... he says our evidence means nothing.

Beat. He turns to Volochek, figuring something out.

COLONEL WHITE
 Wait. Professor Volochek. Sub-Station 2, what's going on there now? Is it still operational?

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK
 What... no. After the navigational satellite went into orbit, it was closed down. But why?

LIEUTENANT GREEN
 If anyone was there - the man who tried to kill us... Could he tamper with the satellite settings?

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

By Heaven! He *could* alter the orbit of the satellite. In a different position, its signals control Probe Omega right into the Moon!

COLONEL WHITE

Captain Scarlet, head to Sub-Station 2 and find whoever's behind this. You're gonna need your electro-ray pistol.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. SUB-STATION 2

Sirens blare. Scarlet rushes through the blizzard.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

(calls out)

Get out of here! Probe Omega's countdown is on its last minute!

A different controller stands near the entrance. He walks towards Scarlet.

CONTROLLER 2

Captain, Professor Volochek on the line. We can still cancel the countdown.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Emphatically, no! A Mysteron agent is here on Sub-Station 2. I... I can feel it. I'll deal with him.

He shoots his way through the door.

CUT TO:

INT. SUB-STATION 2

We see Captain Black right at the controls. He turns around, shocked to see Scarlet in his presence.

CAPTAIN BLACK

What the? Scarlet!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Captain Black! So you're behind this! Stand away from those controls!

Scarlet points his gun* directly at Black. The latter shoots at the the controls and attempts to make a slip.

HUMAN HAND: Scarlet fires a ray.

Black is hit on the arm. His guns falls on the floor.

* The gun is an electro-ray pistol; a smaller and compact version of the rifle seen in "Spectrum is Maroon".

CAPTAIN BLACK

Ow, blast you! But you're too late, the satellite's already in position. It will take away everything that you created, Earthman!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Don't be too confident.

Scarlet tries to reach for Black's gun. Black grabs it and struggles to point at Scarlet.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Back... back! Into the main terminals, Mysteron scum!

Scarlet touches his forehead. He can hear the Mysteron voice surrounding him.

MYSTERON (V.O.)

Captain Scarlet. This is the voice of the Mysterons. You have troubled us for too long. Now you will be destroyed.

Black fires his pistol, Scarlet is hit; he grimaces and falls on his knees.

CAPTAIN BLACK

You will never win, Scarlet. Earth will finally meet its fate, and humanity will soon cease to exist. The Mysterons will become the dominant species of the universe!

Scarlet weakly points his gun.
He struggles to talk.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I have got... no choice... but
to end your game. So long,
Conrad.

CAPTAIN BLACK

No! No!!

He fires, hitting Black's heart.
Black hits the terminals and is
electrocuted. The entire room
explodes into flames.

Scarlet falls to the ground. He
is hit by the explosions.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUB-STATION 2

BOOM! The building explodes.
Fire and debris everywhere.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM

Volochek and the controller
monitor the launch. The former
speaks into a mike.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Over to you, Colonel White.

COLONEL WHITE (V.O.)

Twenty seconds to zero...
10... 9... 8... 7... 6... 5...
4... 3... 2... 1... 0!

CUT TO:

EXT. SIBERIAN ROCKET BASE

The rocket launches. It ascends
without any fault.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOMCONTROLLER 2

Probe Omega launched, sir.
Exit altitude A-OK, all
systems are go.

PROFESSOR VOLOCHEK

Then we can only cross our
fingers that Captain Scarlet
has managed to cancel the
influence of the navigational
satellite. I'm afraid that,
whatever happens, Probe Omega
will go nowhere near its
predetermined destination. The
exploration of the Mexican Hat
galaxy will have to begin
again from scratch. I just
wonder what the World
Government is going to say...

HUMAN HAND: Volochek crosses his
fingers.

STACCATO CUT TO:

INT. WORLD SECURITY COUNCIL -
NIGHT

It is full of delegates, world
leaders, with Spectrum officers
and Angels (at the very front),
who have all taken their seats.
Captain Scarlet is
indestructible once again,
sitting between Captain Blue and
Colonel White. The World
President stands behind a
podium, about to address his
audience.

WORLD PRESIDENT

Ladies and Gentlemen, in
concluding this emergency
meeting of the World Security
Council, I can express my
regret that the Mysteron
agent, Captain Black, was able
to make his escape. However, I
can congratulate Captain
Scarlet on his magnificent
effort.

They all stand in ovation.
Scarlet remains seated.

WORLD PRESIDENT

I can also reveal that by a strange twist of fate, the eventual course of Probe Omega terminated on Mars. The blast of the collision was noted by every observatory on Earth, and it is expert opinion that thanks to Spectrum, the voice of the Mysterons will be silent - for some considerable time to come.

We focus on Scarlet, who is beyond proud of the speech.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

(slow and dramatic)
S. I. G.

FADE OUT:

END TITLES