

See the "Cosmic Beings & The Universe" document for explanations of the following : superintelligences, Cosmic Fortresses, Matter Sources/Sinks, Laire, Spore Ships, Swarms, Barys, Cosmocrats/Chaotarchs, Knights of the Deep, Incarnations, the Seven Powerful Ones, and other names below in [brackets].

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The Third Power (#1 to #49) ; 1971-1984

[Note : in these summaries, the issue numbering follows the German series. The numbering of the old American series published by Ace Books differed somewhat because a few issues were skipped and/or combined.]

On June 19, 1971, major Perry Rhodan took off as commander of the atomic-powered spaceship STARDUST on the first manned Moon landing expedition. He reached the Moon with three other astronauts, among them his best friend Reginald Bell.

On the far side of the Moon, the men discovered an extraterrestrial race's scientific research vessel that had made an emergency landing. Rhodan made contact with aliens *named Khrest and Thora*, who closely resembled human beings and called themselves Arkonides. *Khrest is suffering from leukemia, for which a cure was recently found.* Rhodan returned to the Earth with their superior technology, including a force field generator, a video broadcast set for communicating with the Arkonide ship on the moon, and a gravity neutralizer. But he decides not to land as planned in the United States. Instead, he touches down in the Gobi Desert in central Asia. Rhodan didn't want to hand the unimaginable power of Arkonide technology over to a single country or people, *instead deciding to set up a neutral third power between the Western bloc, the Eastern bloc, and the Asiatic bloc of countries.* *Khrest boosts Rodan's and Bell's brainpower by using hypnotraining.* *The Arkonides give the humans psychoradiators, which can influence a person's will or even paralyze them (which are used extensively in the first few cycles).*

Despite great difficulties, in the following weeks he was able to prevent World War III *by neutralizing the atomic missiles with Arkonide technology* and bring the Earth's political blocs closer together. Rhodan proclaimed the establishment of the New Power, which he envisioned as a neutral force that owed its allegiance to all of humanity. He declared that from now on he would consider himself to be a Terran (from the Latin Terra, meaning Earth), and thus a citizen of the planet Terra.

He soon had a constantly growing number of allies, among them a group of parapsychologically gifted people called mutants, who became an important factor in his plans because of their astonishing abilities : in Australia, telepath John Marshall stops a bank robbery before it can begin. In America, the telekinetic mutant Anne Sloan is recruited by Mercant to help in the fight against Rhodan, but she recognizes the renegade astronaut as a force for good. Deep in the heart of Africa, Ras Tschubai longs to see his family and finds himself abruptly transported to their home. In Germany, Ernst Ellert finds he can teletempore to the future for brief periods. Among the personnel working for the intelligence agencies is another teleporter, Tako Kakuta. The Mutant Corps was born.

The first extraterrestrial invasion from space came early in 1972 with the attack of the Mind Snatchers, wasp-like creatures who could take over and control other *creature's* bodies *from a distance.* *Rhodan commandeers the Arkonides' "auxiliary" spaceship (160 feet in diameter!) and calls it the GOOD HOPE.* The attack was fought off, *but mutant Ernst Ellert's mind is separated from his body and ends up wandering thru space and time.*

Rhodan discovers an ancient Arkonide base on Venus (which is depicted as a jungle-like planet full of strange and large predators), with a giant Arkonide computer inside, which grants its allegiance to Rhodan, and a fleet of small Arkonide fighting spacecraft. *He uses these and the Mutant Corps to repel another Mind Snatcher invasion attempt.* Perry makes a major announcement to the nations of Earth about the threats facing the world from other invaders. The people of the Earth force their leaders to accept Rhodan and his New Power.

In 1975, events shift to the Vega system, 27 lightyears away. The GOOD HOPE hyperjumps (an entry into fifth-dimensional “hyperspace” of limited distance that generates shock waves in spacetime upon entry and exit) there, and Rhodan helps the local Ferrons, who were being menaced by the lizard-like Topsides who were using Arkonide ships. The GOOD HOPE defeats them easily, but then an Arkonide battle cruiser appears and severely damages Rhodan’s smaller ship. Seeking refuge on the Ferronian planet, he discovers they have matter transmitters (a teleportation device which needs a sending platform and a receiving platform), which are well beyond their technology. Using the mutants, Rhodan captures the 2600 foot diameter battle cruiser, naming it the STARDUST II. He stumbles across the apparently very old “Galactic Riddle”, which was linked to the matter transmitters. It was discovered that the plans for the matter transmitters were hidden behind a 5-dimensional lock, which the Terrans eventually open, with help from the mutants. They also hear tales from the Ferronians about “beings who live longer than the sun”, which led them thru many puzzles to solve and dangers to face, which also involved some time travel, and introduced the existence of the fictiv transmitter (a teleportation device that needs neither a sending nor a receiving platform).

In the course of this exploration, the Terran landed on the planet Vagabond. There, the mousebeaver Pucky stowed away on his spaceship. A furry creature three feet high with a prominent incisor tooth and gifted with the psi-abilities of telepathy, teleportation, and telekinesis, Pucky became a valued member of the Mutant Corps. While on Vagabond, Rhodan finds a map to the location of the immortal.

This led in 1976 to the discovery of an artificially created world shaped like a disc, named Wanderer. There, the Terran met the immortal [superintelligence] called IT, a mysterious being of pure mind containing the collective consciousness of an entire race millions of years old, who had selected Rhodan and a few of his chosen companions for relative immortality. By means of a cell renewal process, normal aging was halted for 62 years. Then another cell renewal was required, or else a rapid aging process would set in that would soon lead to senility and death.

Upon arriving at Earth in 1980, Rhodan found the New Power’s authority weakened, with Russians attempting to take over the Venus base, but quickly re-asserts authority, forming a world tribunal. Knowing that IT gave the human race a period of 20,000 years in which to prove its abilities, Perry Rhodan started to devote all his energies to leading Terra further in the direction of becoming a galactic power that had to be taken seriously.

From the data banks in the Arkonide research ship that had landed on the Moon and from what the two Arkonides Khrest and Thora (later Perry Rhodan's first wife) told him, it was known that the Milky Way Galaxy was inhabited by numerous races and interest groups. Mankind was still too weak to move among them openly, however.

In 1981, a new, unknown mutant appears who can mentally control the actions of others, including mutants. His unwilling minions wreak havoc on Earth in different ways, until they are captured and freed from his mental control by Rhodan’s mutants. He escapes to Mars, then to the asteroid belt, where his ship crashes into a large asteroid, killing him.

In 1982, a Terran world government finally exists which had long been demanded by Perry Rhodan. He himself was elected administrator. Thus he now officially has the responsibility for the whole planet Terra.

In the years that followed, Perry Rhodan and his fellow warriors battled the Springers, a race of merchants descended from the Arkonides, and in particular one clan called the Mounders, who want to turn the Earth into one of their colonial planets. Rhodan eventually travels to Wanderer, to ask IT for weapons against the Springers. While he’s there, IT takes him to the planet Barkon, which had just exploded in an attempt to return to the Milky Way. On Barkon, IT surreptitiously repairs the error that would have caused the engine’s reactors to overload and destroy the planet.

IT asks Rhodan to tell him what he came to IT for. He tells IT that he needs the ultimate weapon to remove the threat to Earth. IT states that only Rhodan has the strength to unite the galaxy, so he will give him the weapon on the condition that it only be used in defense, never attack. IT is going to give him two *fictive transmitters (transporters that don't need a station at either end of the journey)*, to teleport atomic bombs and whatever into enemy ships. *These transmitters allow Rhodan to defeat the Springers.*

In 1983, while fighting the Springers over an abandoned Springer base with a new type of spaceship, the Terrans encounter Harno, which has the form of a dazzling ball, about twice as big as a football and seems to be made of metal. It can talk telepathically and can show images from distant places - for example, the approaching Springer ships. The entity claims to be about 5 million years old and supposedly knows everything about Perry Rhodan. It feeds on energy and needs some more so it can continue its journey. It helps itself and Perry by sucking the energy from the 13 Springer ships currently attacking Rhodan. It is completely renewed by the Springer ships' energy, and continues on its journey. *Rhodan acquires the prototype cylindrical ship (2500 feet long, 600 feet in diameter), which has a new "structure compensator" which does not emit hyperspace waves upon entering or exiting hyperspace (thus making it undetectable at long-range), and calls it the Ganymede.*

Together with Khrest and Thora, in 1984 Rhodan makes a voyage to Arkon, the homeworld of the Arkonides and the heart of the Great Imperium in Globular Cluster M-13 in the *Ganymede*. There, *they discover that an enormous computer called the Robot Regent now rules the empire. Over the centuries, the Arkonides had degenerated and grown mentally weak, and were no longer able to rule over their mighty interstellar empire themselves. The Terrans and the Arkonides are captured; Thora demands an audience with the Robot Regent, but it refuses and detains the Ganymede on the fifth planet of the Arkon system. Rhodan decides to use the fictive transmitter to teleport directly to Arkon I, the planet where all inhabitants live (Arkon II is dedicated to commerce, and Arkon III is dedicated to war and is where the Robot Regent is). After meeting with the Emperor, and discovering that he has no power at all, they find the Arkonide High General and talk. He agrees to recruit Rhodan and his crew into the Arkonide military. They are assigned to a Universe class spaceship measuring one mile(!) in diameter. Rhodan eventually steals the ship, frees the Ganymede, and renames the new spaceship the TITAN. During his tortuous escape route, half of his crew is poisoned with a gas that makes them so euphoric they become useless. The poison is identified by Khrest as being developed by the Aras, an offshoot race of the Springers, who have specialized in medicine and disease (and often create diseases to sell the cures). Rhodan goes to Aralon, the home planet of the Aras, and manages to find the antidote, and imposes Imperial restrictions on the Aras to make them act morally. But some Aras decide to attack Earth with the help of the Springers; however the first plot is foiled, and although the second plot is implemented, the location of Earth is changed in the Springer's ships to be the third planet around Betelgeuse.*

In 1984, Rhodan had to simulate the destruction of the Earth in order to get rid of the ever more intrusive Springers once and for all, and give humanity the time it needed to develop into a Galactic power. Believing it to be Earth, the Springers attack the third planet of the giant star Betelgeuse and destroy it.

Atlan and Arkon (#50-#99) : 2040-2045 (56 year gap from previous cycle)

By the year 2040, the old Third Power had now become the Solar Empire. Mankind had not only conquered its own solar system and settled on all the suitable planets and moons, but now had a respectable and above all very powerful space fleet.

The Arkonide Atlan went into suspended animation in a deepsea dome on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean when World War III threatened to break out, and so did not realize Rhodan had unified humanity. Upon returning to the surface, once the conflict that erupted between him and Perry Rhodan was settled, the two men became close friends. During this process, Rhodan reveals he has a son by Thora.

During one of Rhodan's many missions, the Arkonide Robot Regent discovers that Rhodan is still alive, and asks for his help. It turns out that entire planets in the Arkon empire have been stripped of all animal life. Investigation discovers that they are being taken to a different space-time continuum, where time passes 72,000 times slower than in our universe. Taking this information to the Robot Regent, it gives Rhodan command of 75% of all Arkonide battle squadrons, and unlimited access to Arkon III (the battle planet) and other Arkonide bases.

Upon hearing the details of the disappearances, Atlan tells Perry some of his history :

Some 10,000 years before, during a battle against the *aliens from the other continuum*, an Arkonide colony was founded on Venus, but later Atlan was marooned on Earth. At that time, IT gave Atlan a *cell activator (a device which stops aging)*, without revealing itself to him. Without any possibility of being able to return to his home world, he spent most of the time that followed in suspended animation in his deepsea dome.

Meanwhile, behind Rhodan's back, the Robot Regent is plotting with the Springers to discover the true location of Terra by building "*structure anticomensators*" that can detect the hyperspace entry and exit of the Terran ships, despite their structure compensators. Rhodan discovers the race in charge of the project, called Swoons, who are the most talented micro-technicians in the galaxy, and convinces 20,000 of them to work for him.

In 2041, Perry's scientists build a device called the *Warp Field Generator, which opens a two-way portal to the other continuum*. On a recon mission to the other continuum, they discover that by travelling faster than the speed of light in this alternate universe, its inhabitants (including creatures poached from our universe) are brought into the Terran's rate of time. They name the creatures in the other continuum behind the attacks Druufs.

While rescuing Thora from a kidnapping orchestrated by the Robot Regent, *Thomas Cardif, Perry's and Thora's son, learns his true identity and swears vengeance on his father*. He is eventually court-martialed.

In 2042, during their search for Wanderer in order to renew their cell showers, Rhodan and Bell enter the other continuum and discover a new species which can dissociate its mind from its body that are enslaved by the Druufs. Upon freeing one of them and returning to our universe with it (naming it Nathan), they discover that Wanderer is not where it should be, but detect an anomalous reading indicating that something is constantly trying to come out of hyperspace, trapped in something between 4-D space and 5-D space dubbed "*semispace*" (later called "*linear space*"). Rhodan and Bell take separate routes in separate ships to arrive on Wanderer, and manage to get their cell showers just in the nick of time. Their ships' energy, combined with Nathan's, allows Wanderer to re-emerge fully into our universe. But IT withdraws to rest from its recent incursion into Druuf space, and being stuck in semi-space.

The Terrans develop a *frequency damper, which counteracts the Arkonide structure anticomensators*.

The Terrans are finally able to manufacture the matter transmitters they found in Ferronia some 63 years ago, and all major Terran spaceships are outfitted with one. The latest battleships are 1 mile in diameter!

The Druufs begin to enter our universe in spaceships and attack mercilessly, but are held at bay at the rift between universes by the Robot Regent's massive spacefleet. The appearance of the Druufs is finally revealed : they are massive creatures, presumably insect descendants, 9 feet tall, with columnar legs, a spherical head 1.5 feet in diameter, a triangular mouth and four eyes. While setting up a secret base within the Druuf's home planetary system, the Terrans are helped by a telepathic message from an unknown source.

Harno is located and recruited to help the Terrans with its long-range distance viewing ability. The mysterious helper is discovered to be a disembodied mind of tremendous knowledge trapped in a Druuf scientist's body.

This turns out to be Ernst Ellert, who during his mental travels thru time and space, happened to get trapped in the Druuf scientist's body. Communicating further with Rhodan, he tells the Terrans of a time-freezing device and a new, "linear drive" space-propulsion (also later called Kalups, which allow a ship to move smoothly thru hyperspace instead of making jumps thru it, and has range of 300,000 light years before burning out) of the Druufs, and recommends the destruction of the Druuf's central computer. Ellert compels the Druuf scientist to prepare the plans for the time-freezing device and the linear propulsion drive (a technology far in advance of the hyperspace transition drive used by the rest of the galaxy) for delivery to the Terrans.

In 2043, Thora, who had reacted badly to the Aras life-prolonging serum, is sent on a mission to Arkon to negotiate with the Robot Regent about providing ships for the Druuf war. The thrill of the mission healed her completely, but she was suddenly killed by an Ara prisoner. Upon hearing of his mother's death, Cardif becomes convinced that Rhodan wanted her dead.

During 2044, Rhodan and his team perform multiple cons on both the Robot Regent and the Druufs, causing them to fight each other all the more fiercely, producing a high loss of ships on both sides. But the Robot Regent is now manning many more of its space ships with living personnel, including Springers, Aras, and Topsides (who know the location of the Earth to within 27 light-years). On a mission to Topside to remove all records of Terra's location, one of the fictive transmitters from IT is destroyed.

At this point, the Robot Regent on Arkon is about to reveal Earth's still secret location. After a complicated plot to get smuggled into Arkon III which almost fails, Atlan announces himself to the Regent, who recognizes him as Emperor Gonozal VIII of the Great Imperium, and stands down. When the Druufs attack the Earth directly, Rhodan asks Atlan for help, who sends Arkonide and Springer battleships, thus revealing the existence and location of Earth to all.

Cardiff deserts the Terran spaceforce, and joins forces with the Springers, who have occupied Mars and Venus after repelling the Druufs. He attempts to replace Rhodan as Solar Administrator by acts of terrorism and misinformation about Thora's death, while the Springers are angling for a trade monopoly with Earth. With the arrival of 2500 Arkonide cruisers, along with the Springers learning that Atlan now rules the empire, the Springers leave the solar system, taking Cardif to their homeworld. There, the Springers, their bankers, and the Aras conspire to bring down Atlan by creating inflation, removing access to medications, and causing the space fleet to splinter.

The Terran's research on the Druuf linear drive is almost sabotaged by the Springers and Aras, but their plans are discovered in time. A linear propulsion detector is created to root out the last of the Druufs. Rhodan agrees to lead them to the rift back to their own universe, in exchange for making an appearance around the Springers homeworld. They do, but on their own they ravage the planet, and in return the Arkon fleet destroys them. All rebellions within the Empire cease since it is realized that the Arkonide Fleet, controlled by Atlan, is still needed to protect all planets of the Arkonide Imperium from the ongoing Druuf threat.

Ernst Ellert acquires the plans for the linear drive and is re-united with his body.

Atlan asks Rhodan to return an ancient Arkonide generation ship to Arkon which Pucky had discovered some time ago, in order to have an infusion of 100,000 mentally energetic Arkonides into the Imperium.

Rhodan is summoned to Wanderer, where IT informs him that it can no longer detect the Barkonides that it and Rhodan had previously saved from destruction some 63-odd years ago. They discover that the planet had been attacked by invisible aliens, which Rhodan repels. Upon returning to Wanderer, Rhodan requests cell showers for his closest co-workers.

Cardif instigates a plot to steal Atlan's cell activator, leading Rhodan back to the Springer's home planet which survived the Druuf attack, and the capture of Cardif. He is submitted to an intense hypnotic block making him forget his identity and his origins.

The year 2045 saw the death of Khrest, the great Arkonide scientist to whom Perry Rhodan and all of mankind owed so much.

The Posbis (#100-#149) : 2102 to 2114 (57 year gap from previous cycle)

By 2102, the Moon has become a gigantic spaceyard, in the image of Arkon III. *The research cruiser FANTASY, the first Terran starship equipped with a now-improved Linear Drive lifts off. During its flight, the Blue system, home of the Akons is discovered by accident. The Akons, a proud race with a nearly perfect matter-transmitter technology and the ability to manipulate time, were the forefathers of the Arkonides. They tried several times over the following years to obliterate Perry Rhodan, Atlan, and humans and Arkonides in general, but failed. In his first meeting with the Akons, Perry met the woman Auris, and they had a mutual fascination for each other.*

The Aras attempt to infect the entire population of Earth with a disease with help from the Akons, but the plot is foiled. The Springers attempt to spread opium addiction throughout the galaxy, and then blame Rhodan for it.

The Akons set up a force-field around Arkon III, preventing the Robot Regent from sending any command signals to every planet of the Imperium. It also has the effect of sending the planet 15,000 years back in time, where the Akons convince the current Imperator that aggressive Terrans are approaching Arkon, to which the standard response is to send 30,000 ships to Sol to bring its inhabitants to submission. Rhodan manages to blow up the Akon ship on Arkon III, and the planet is restored to its normal time.

As the Robot Regent is stating that the only possible course of action against the Akons is a surprise massive attack, Atlan and Rhodan are abducted by Akons who appear by means of their advanced transmitters. Auris helps them escape Akon imprisonment, and in return Rhodan takes her with them. When the satellites that produce the blue screen that protects the Akons' entire planet are destroyed, 30,000 Arkon spaceships appear, and Akon surrenders, agreeing to free trade and handing over the plans for their improved linear propulsion system.

With the Antis, direct descendants of the Akons, another power came into play. Antis could defend themselves against the psi-powers of mutants and make their own para-mental attacks. *Their collaboration with the Springers and Cardif to attempt to seize power over the Galaxy using the fiendish drug Liquitiv was frustrated, despite Cardif's impersonation of his father, ending in his death and the discovery of the Antis home system. And as a result of this, Rhodan gains a cell activator, removing the need for cell showers every 62 years.*

A Terran-made positronic robot with super-human abilities is introduced, called Mitchell "Meech" Hannigan and is sent on many of the covert missions of the Terran Empire.

The Akons, in collusion with a Arkonide noble family, plot to destroy the Robot Regent and overthrow Atlan, and are at first prevented from doing so, but they do manage to re-program the Regent to consider all Terrans enemies, and to ignore all commands from Atlan, at which point it stops broadcasting all orders, paralyzing the Arkon Empire. The Akons convince the Regent to attack Earth.

In the year 2106, the Terrans and Atlan come up with a plan to use the Akon's "time converter" to travel back in time before the Regent's defensive screen is built, and plant a bomb set to explode in the present. During this successful attempt, the last time converter is destroyed, and Auris is killed. All Akon and Anti ships on Arkon

III are destroyed, and Rhodan seizes 20,000 Arkonide robot ships and takes control of the principal administrative centers of the Imperium. The Great Imperium no longer exists.

In 2112, the Posbis (positronic-biological robots capable of feelings) and their arch-enemies the Larens (originally called the “invisibles”, who were the beings encountered by Rhodan and IT on Barkon in the Atlan and Arkon cycle) appeared. With their gigantic fragment-spaceships, a terrible weapon - the transform cannon (a matter transmitter that can teleport something from its platform, but whose destination requires no receiving platform, thus enabling bombs to be teleported into enemy ships), and their unquenchable hatred for all organic life, the Posbis were a powerful foe. Initially their ships were susceptible to gravity bombs, and the remains of one ship were captured for study by the Terrans. Their presence was kept secret from the rest of the galaxy, until a Springer ship sent by Akons engaged them and sent a hypercom (faster-than-light) message describing the danger.

In 2113, after the last fictive transmitter is destroyed in an encounter with the Posbis, Harno is summoned, and shows the Terrans a planet near the center of the Milky Way that used to be settled by Akonides, but is now completely occupied by Posbis, so Rhodan goes to the Akonide homeworld to ask for the coordinates of the planet. They refuse, but agree to send Terran troops to the planet. By sending out a distress signal, Arkonide spaceships eventually arrive and destroy the Posbis. Harno disappears.

The Akons negotiate an alliance with Terra in order to fight the threat posed by the Posbis. It is revealed that they have obtained some of the Posbi protoplasm that gives them emotions, which is delivered to the Terrans. Scientists and telepaths come to the conclusion that the protoplasm isn't inherently hateful, but that there may be an inherent conflict between the protoplasm and the positronics. Testing this by connecting some of their protoplasm to the protoplasm in charge of a Posbi ship, they discover that the impulses of hate don't come from the protoplasm but from the domes of biomaterial that make command decisions and relay the orders to the Posbi robots, and after destroying them, the Posbi ships stop attacking the combined fleets of the Terrans, Arkonides, Akons, and Springers. Then a Laren fleet appears and broadcasts a message making it sound like the Terrans are in league with them, and the Posbis start attacking again. Rhodan goes to a Posbi planet covered with protoplasm, and after removing large quantities of it, the Posbis stop attacking.

The Galactic Alliance that unites Terrans, Akonides and Arkonides, is signed. With the help of Ernst Ellert, the Terrans acquire two transform cannons from a Posbi ship, but his body is destroyed, and his mind is projected to an unknown location in spacetime. The Larens are found to be in alliance with the Antis. Larens are brought to Earth by the Akons and Antis, resulting in millions of deaths. Atlan recruits some Posbis, who come to Earth and wipe out the Larens. A Posbi device capable of seeing Larens is captured by some Terrans.

In 2114, the Terrans finally discover the Hundred-Sun World, the home of the Posbis. They not only succeed in freeing the robots from their hatred of living beings and making them valuable allies of the still weak human race, but also acquire the designs of the Transform Cannon. The Laren forces in the Milky Way are destroyed.

The Posbi/Laren backstory is finally revealed :

Forty thousand years earlier, the Larens crossed the abyss between the Andromeda and Milky Way galaxies and discovered the Outside System with its second planet - Mechanica. They forced the natives to construct robots that were nearly perfect. These robots were modified on the planet of the Larens, with the protoplasm being coupled to the positronic brain by means of an interaction hypercircuit. They were programmed to feel hate towards all forms of life other than the Larens. The process failed and instead, the Posbis developed a hate towards the Larens. They returned to Mechanica and subsequently settled on many planets and stations along the fringes of the Milky Way. The Larens then depopulated Mechanica but by then the Posbis had reached total independence. The central protoplasm on the World of a Hundred Suns had a gigantic robot brain constructed in order to relieve it of much of its workload. A circuit, which included the hatred device, was constructed to send to the brain a feeling of hate towards the Larens but a secondary signal provoked a hate towards all forms of

The Second Empire (#150-#199) : 2326 to 2329 (212 year gap from previous cycle)

By 2326, the Galactic Alliance between Akon, Arkon and Terra that was originally established in 2113 to combat the threat of the Larens has existed for over 200 years and now includes the Posbis as well. In 2115, the Solar Imperium and the Great Imperium of the Arkonides merged into a single "United Imperium". Perry Rhodan was elected the "First Administrator". Atlan becomes the Lord-Admiral of the United Stars (Worlds) Organization (USO) that serves as the interstellar police force, a sort of intervention squad of carefully trained specialists, which was closely allied with the United Imperium. The headquarters of the USO is a hollow moon named Quinto-Center in memory of Nike Quinto, the chief of the legendary Division III.

Four hundred sixty-two planets have been colonized by Terrans, *who have already started adapting to their new environments*. Terran colonies receive political independence after thirty years, but they are required to remain in the United Imperium and the Galactic Alliance. The fleet of the United Imperium amounts to three hundred thousand combat vessels and three million trade vessels. In addition, there are ten thousand ships that explore the unknown regions of the galaxy. On the Moon a gigantic biopositronic brain, named Nathan, has been constructed with the help of the Posbis.

The superintelligence IT *destroys Wanderer and leaves the Galaxy, fleeing an unknown danger, thus removing the possibility of life-extending cell showers*. Before leaving, however, IT hides 25 cell activators in different places around the Galaxy. An unprecedented hunt for immortality begins, but most of the activators are found by Perry Rhodan and the USO, *despite an attempt by the Aras to create fake activators to confuse others while they look for the real ones*.

A new and deadly menace appeared in the form of the Hornterrors, *which resemble four-inch long scorpions*. In their feeding frenzy, the nearly invulnerable Hornterrors turn entire planets into forever uninhabitable deserts of barren rock. *They also secrete an acid that can dissolve any material*. A single egg producing indefinitely multiplying Hornterrors (*thru biological fission*) was enough to doom a world to destruction. *During their fission, they secrete a substance later called Molkex, which is impervious to all known kinds of damage*.

Then a larger version called *Terrorworms* are discovered : *a 60 foot worm, 10 feet in diameter, with a 15 foot diameter head, and 2 clawed arms behind its head. Their natural armor could absorb tremendous amounts of energy, and so were virtually indestructible. In addition, they could re-emit some of the absorbed energy in concentrated beams. They communicate with the HornTerrors thru hyperwaves. It is later discovered that they are intelligent*.

Their lifecycles are intertwined : Hornterrors devour the surface of a planet, and cover it in a thick layer of Molkex, which forms into a Terrorworm. After laying 100,000 Hornterror eggs, it dies.

Planets infested with Hornterrors are discovered to be often visited by unknown spaceships by a race eventually called the Blues, with a highly protective physical armor, which is later determined to be Molkex. Their large empire is in the east sector of the Milky Way, far from Terra and Arkon.

Elsewhere, scientists exploring a planet larger than a star receive an automatic message from Barkon, warning them of a creature called the Suprahet that destroyed a few whole galaxies in the Milky Way 1.2 million years ago. The scientists determine that the planet is composed of Molkex and that it is about to consolidate and take the shape of a Suprahet. Rhodan explodes eighty five thousand gravity bombs and three hundred thousand

Arkon bombs (*which ignite an unstoppable nuclear fire on the target planet*) on the gigantic planet, which is hurled into hyperspace with its sun.

A Terrorworm which has befriended some Terrans takes them to its homeworld in the east sector, which has been almost completely consumed by generations of Hornterrors. The Terrorworm says that they had to depend on the Blues to transport their eggs to other planets for their species to continue, but in exchange, the Blues would take up to half of the Molkex, which is a considerable impediment to the Terrorworms life cycle. The Terrans agree to transport the eggs for nothing if only the Terrorworms remain neutral in the conflict between the two Imperiums.

In 2327, the Terrans begin to infiltrate the Blues worlds, to discover tactical information. They discover the location of their main homeworld, and how the Blues are able to shape Molkex into armor for their ships.

A group of Antis betrays the coordinates of many of the worlds of the United Imperium to the Blues. The Akonides also play with the idea of becoming allies of the Blues, promising a hundred planets to the Blues if they treat Akon as a neutral power that is separate from the United Imperium. As the Blues attack Arkon, the Terrans attack them with rockets containing a Molkex softening solution, which forces the Blues fleet to flee. Then the Terrans go to the Blues homeworld, and set off bombs in their entire stock of Molkex, forcing the Blues to sign a peace treaty with Earth.

Meanwhile, the Akons attack the Terrorworm home planet, completely destroying it in an attempt to get rid of the source of Molkex, not knowing that many planets in the galaxy have been infested with Hornterrors.

The first rebellion of the Terran colonies begins, pitting the Plophosers, under the dictator Iratio Hondro, against the United Imperium. The capture of Rhodan, Bell, and Atlan by Hondro fractures the United Imperium : colonies separate themselves from the Earth, the Akonides and Antis begin to conspire with the Blues, and the Springers take advantage of the newborn conflicts by smuggling weapons. In 2329, Perry Rhodan dissolves the United Imperium and the Galactic alliance, and cancels all treaties between the Solar Empire and the other nations. An alliance of the Akons and the Blues attacks the Arkon home system during Perry's wedding to the Plophoser Mory Abro, resulting in the destruction of Arkon III, the War World, but the Blues and Akonide fleets are ultimately annihilated.

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