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MEGAZONE 23
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ROYAL
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PREVIEW:
ST. SEIYA

STAR BLAZERS
25 NEW EPISODES!

2





宇宙戦艦ヤマト III

YAMATO 3

Framed by the glare of a sun gone mad, space cruiser Yamato once more takes off to rescue mankind from yet another interstellar conflict. In the intervening years from 2199 to 2203, the constant struggles took their toll on the Yamato's ranks. Of the hundreds of men and women who made the ship their home...there were many who would never return home...Now, a new group of cadets has been called up to augment Yamato's crew.

Against the enemies they face there can be no margin for error. On one hand there is the Bolar Federation. A deep space counterpart to the U.S.S.R., the Bolar are ruthless and totally without honor. They crush all who stand in the way of their conquest of the Milky Way Galaxy.

On the other hand--opposing them is the Garuman Empire led by Leader Desslar of Gamiras (Leader Desslok of Gamilon). When last the Yamato crew saw him, he was on his way to unite his scattered people wherever they may be. To his horror, he found them living in slavery under the Bolar! In the time it takes to say "Prepare the Desslar cannon", he has liberated them, renamed the new world Garuman-Gamiras (for the two branches of his race) and its sister world Starsha (after his dead lover) and declared war upon the Bolar Federation.

It is because of one of these skirmishes that Earth finds itself caught between the two warring factions.

"WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD (SPACE) MEN..." AN INTRODUCTION TO YAMATO III'S CAST

SUSUMU KODAI (Derek Wildstar)-Having served as a deputy captain under 3 flag officers, Kodai is finally promoted to command the Yamato.

YUKI MORI (Nova)-Head of Life and Environment departments, this very competent young woman shares a quiet romance with Kodai.

DAISUKE SHIMA (Mark Venture)-Level-headed realist. Chief navigator and pilot.

SHIRO SANADA (Sandor)-Genius. Chief Engineer.

ANALYZER (I.Q.9) Robot.

DR. SADO (Dr.Sane)-Yamato's boozy but capable doctor.

GIICHI AIHARA (Homer) Communications officer.

NAMBU (Dash)-Chief Gunnery Officer.

SHIRO KATO (Cory Conroy) Cosmotiger Squadron Leader. Younger brother of the space cruiser's first squadron leader.

OTA (Eager)-Radar technician.

The new crew members are:

RYUSUKE DOMON-a young hothead cut from the Susumu Kodai (Derek Wildstar) mold. His dreams of space heroics are

dashed to bits when he finds himself assigned to life support-cooking division. Domon's attitude changes due to two events in his life. First, he learns of his parents' deaths, then he is taken under the wing of Ichi Hirata, who guides his learning process in a positive direction. This forges his warriors' destiny, and makes him willing to sacrifice anything for the sake of the Earth...even his life. He is best friends with Takeshi Ageha.

TAKESHI AGEHA-Ageha's wealthy father opposes his choice of a military career and exercises his considerable influence to get him removed from active duty. Ageha's ailing mother is on total life-support. Ageha possesses a natural flying ability and an aerial aggressiveness in total contrast to his introspective personality. Seemingly unflappable, the young Black Tiger finds his world turned upside down with the coming of Princess Ruda Shalabart. The fledgling goddess affects Ageha on various emotional levels. He develops a worship/love attachment for her, devoting every ounce of himself to her protection.

JOE YAMAZAKI-Yamato's new chief engineer. Trained under the watchful eye of Hikozaemon Tokugawa (Orion), Yamazaki was the logical successor for the chief engineer spot. A seasoned pro, Yamazaki projects an ice-cold exterior.

TASUKE TOKUGAWA (Orion)-Engineering unit crew member. Tasuke is the youngest son of Hikozaemon Tokugawa and is eager to live up to the reputation of his father. Although he always seems to be in the doghouse with the chief engineer, Yamazaki has the belief that Tasuke will someday be a great man.

HITO HIRATA (Hardy)-Life support: cooking division. A veteran crew member, Hirata is a philosopher. He knows that in the full scheme of things, a cook's job is just as important as a fighter pilot's. Hirata is solemn in the execution of his duties and teaches this to Domon, as well as the mental attitude of the warrior.

ROKI SAKAMAKI-Artillery unit #1 turret captain. Despite his slick look, Sakamaki is a solemn, stern gunnery officer. He takes his position very seriously. He also has a friendly side that he shows to those he takes a liking to.

HYOSHI BANDO (Beaver)-Scientific research unit member. Bando takes the place of Hyota Arakome (Royster) as Sanada's (Sandor's) second-in-command. The young Buddhist signed up in an attempt to repent for a sin he committed with his old mentor. He allows himself no rest or relaxation. When offered shore leave, he refuses and decides to make adjustments to the ship's computer.



DAIROKU AKAGI (Ace "Tuffy" Diamond)-New engineering group leader. Once a transport ship engineer, Akagi's ability to find trouble lost him his position and forced him to seek employment in the military. His personal history is a roller-coaster ride of good and bad assignments. He fancies himself like an old Earth truck driver, i.e., a knight of the road. A quick-tempered but rather likable fellow.

GORO RAIDEN (Buster Block)-Navigation unit, new crew member. As wide as a bulkhead and half as subtle. Raiden is also the navigation unit Sumo wrestling champion as well as being a top-notch pilot.

BEN MAKUNOUCHI-Life support: cooking division chief. Makunouchi graduated in the same class as Sanada (Sandor). This veteran crew member possesses an artisan spirit and views each meal as a work of art. (Note: In the first series there was a bespectacled cook in one episode and though he had no name, I'd like to think he and Makunouchi were one and the same.)

GARUMAN-GAMIRAS EMPIRE

The combined Garuman-Gamiras Empire exemplifies the aristocratic Prussian qualities not truly apparent in the first season. Reminiscent of Germany in the years prior to WWI, the warriors followed a strict code dictated by Leader Desslar (Desslok). Not perfect, but what military society is?

GENERALISSIMO DESSLAR (Leader Desslok)-Originally from the dying planet Gamilas (Gamilon), he invaded Earth to gain a new home for his people. Defeated by Yamato, he joined the Comet Empire's war on Earth but found more in common with Earth, so he made peace with Kodai. Later he joined forces with Yamato to defend Iskandar from the Dark Star Empire. An honorable man of overwhelming presence and great destiny.

GENERAL TALAN (Sergeant Masterson)-Desslar's longtime aide-de-camp. This very competent Gamilon has long served as Desslar's second-in-command. Personally fearless, his chief worry is usually keeping his royal charge from excessive danger.

GENERAL DAGON-Eastern Division, Army Attack Squadron, Fleet 18 Commander. The first enemy that the Yamato encounters is this aggressive and determined general.

CAPTAIN FRAKKEN-(Cmdr. Luchner von Farrel)-Warp Sub Fleet Commander. His ships create subspace "faults", concealing them from all forms of detection. This dashing and daring officer is also known as the "Garuman Wolf".

ADMIRAL GAIDEL-(General Smeedom)-Eastern Division Army Commander. This full-of-himself officer sends Dagon and Frakken against the Yamato without authorization from Garuman. A decision he regrets once Leader Desslar finds out.

FRAUSKY (Crenshaw)-Technical Skill Major. This scientist, who developed the Proton missile which destabilized Sol, is placed in charge of coordinating with Sanada in trying to tame our out-of-control sun.

HELMYER (Major Nazemayo)-Investigation Fleet Commander. Desslar's representative on the phantom planet. Once there, this geologist discovers a mind-shattering secret.

KEELING-Garuman Chief of Staff. The man at the heart of the Empire's offensive against the Bolar. A cold-hearted, subtle soldier.

HISTENBERGER-Western Division Commander. His repeated setbacks led to a provisional death sentence from Leader Desslar. With his life on the line, this commander is easily one of the most dangerous threats in the Milky Way.

GUSTAF-Imperial Guard Squadron Commander. He first finds himself in battle against the Yamato, then he finds himself in charge of escorting it safely.

CAPTAIN RAM-A native of planet Berth, allied to the Federation. Ram commands the Berth Star Fleet Flagship "Rojendora". A battle-scarred old veteran, Ram possesses a samurai's soul and mortality. Thanks to the co-operation of the Yamato, he is able to die with honor.

HAWKINS-Commander of the #8 Bolar Guardian Shock Troop Squadron.

GOLSAKOF-Bolar Federation Chief of Staff and later commander of Shalabart occupation forces.

BROZOF-Barns Star Military Governor. Also warden of the Bolar Federation penal colony.

BALSKY-Barns Star Garrison Commander

BALKOM-Bolar Home world main force Commander.

BOLAR COMMONWEALTH-An interstellar expansionist nation. This race is totally devoid of any redeeming social values. These cosmic commies rain down upon any unsuspecting world to ravage it and enslave its people. They then keep order with their awesome weapon: the Black Hole Gun.

PREMIER BEMLAYZE-Bolar Federation Premier. A cruel, heartless dictator. Possessing all the emotions of a rock, Bemrerse rules with an iron hand. Murder is his code and devastation his lifeblood. A true barbarian in every sense of the word.

From left: Yamazaki, Nambu, Shima, Dr. Sado, Yuki, Sanada, Kodai, Analyzer, Kato, Ota and Aihara.



Ryusuke Domon

SPECIAL PEOPLE

PLANET SHALABART (Gardiana)-Ages ago, Shalabart conquered the galaxy by force but could not maintain peace. Its people forever renounced violence and disappeared overnight. Actually, they moved their planet into another dimension. Rumors persist of the fabled super-weapons stockpiled on this world, making it a top priority objective for the military empires.

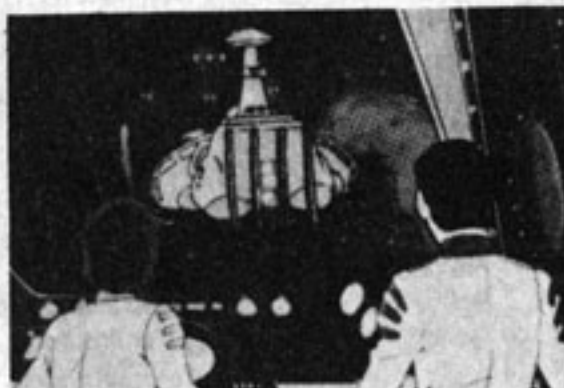
RUDA SHALABART-Princess of Planet Shalabart. The Bollar exiled her to planet Phantom, believing it to be lifeless. Her knowledge of Planet Shalabart's location makes her the most valuable person in the galaxy. For the sake of peace in the Milky Way Galaxy she must forsake the love of Takeshi Ageha and assume her destiny as a guardian deity of space.



1. THE SOLAR SYSTEM FACES DESTRUCTION

A Garuman Proton-Missile goes astray during a battle in the Milky Way. Ryusuke Domon's parents are killed as the planet-destroying missile rams their cruise ship before it plunges into the sun. Back at the academy, outstanding cadets are graduated a year early to augment Yamato's crew. Susumu Kodai assigns a rebellious Domon to the ship's kitchens. Professor Simon concludes that the sun will nova, killing all life on Earth in a year, then Supernova in three years, destroying the solar system. Laughed down by his fellow scientists and the civilian authorities, Simon alerts the military. General Todo promotes Kodai to Captain of Yamato and orders the ship to search for a planet for mankind to emigrate to. Another Proton-missile strays into the solar system and destroys an asteroid base. Domon arrives at Yamato's dock in the Japan Alps and balks at having to take orders from a woman (Yuki). Analyzer chastises Domon, who clobbers the robot. Kodai interrupts, "I'll buy this fight!", and the two have it out on the deck. The fight is interrupted as Solar flares cause world-wide radio jamming. Kodai tells Domon he led the search party looking for bodies after the space crash that killed the cadet's parents. Both orphans, they have a lot in common.

MOTHER SHALABART (Queen Gardiana)-The symbol of hope to her oppressed followers everywhere in the galaxy. Her pacifistic followers try to impede war efforts, making them less popular with the warring empires. After thousands of years of maintaining love and peace in the Milky Way, Mother Shalabart now prepares to turn over the mantle of Godhood to Ruda-the Chosen One.



2. THE GREAT BATTLE IN THE MILKY WAY Takeshi Ageha test-pilots Yamato's new shuttlecraft, the Cosmo Hound. Kodai and Shiro Kato praise Ageha's skill, but the young pilot is removed from the ship's crew by his string-pulling father. Garuman General Dagon pursues planet Berth's fleet to Alpha Centauri and attacks the Earth colony there. Professor Simon is fired from the university. An electromagnetic pulse from the sun causes plane crashes. Ageha saves his mother's life by switching her faltering life-support machine to manual. Ageha argues with his father, who wants him to stay on Earth. His mother disengages her Dialysis tube, saying "I won't live seeing you spend a life you don't wish to..."

3. YAMATO SETS SAIL AT DAYBREAK Analyzer, fresh from an argument with Sanada, pulls up Yuki's skirt. General Dagon routs the Berth fleet toward the solar system. Interceptors destroy a Garuman ship that blunders into Earth's atmosphere. Kodai gives anyone with doubts a chance to stay home. Aihara, obsessed with finding a girl he met at the airport, leaves. General Todo and his granddaughter, Masako, arrive to see the Yamato off. The government refuses to acknowledge the crisis, so he is dispatching Yamato on his own authority. Aihara returns and learns the mystery girl, Masako, is here. The young lovers are formally introduced. Yamato takes off next morning.



4. HIT THAT MARS

At a Garuman staff meeting, Leader Desslar sentences Histinberger to death-if the general fails two more times. The Yamato crew undergoes 16 grueling hours of training maneuvers near Mars, then destroys three incoming Proton-missiles.

5. S.O.S. ROGENDOR

The heavily damaged flagship "Rogendor" is all that remains of the Berth fleet. Cpt. Ram requests supplies and a repair port. Mindful of Earth's neutrality, General Todo grants him non-military supplies and 24 hours for repairs. Dagon's fleet arrives and demands the Rogendor. Yamato escorts Rogendor out of Earth's territorial space. Before Captain Ram can warp, Dagon attacks the Rogendor and Yamato.

6. FIERCE BATTLE NEAR PLANET 11

Captain Ram thanks Yamato and Earth for the chance to die a soldier's death. The Garuman fleet destroys the Rogendor. Yamato counterattacks. Leaving his fleet behind to cover his escape, Dagon warps away. A damaged Garuman ship rams Yamato and its crew boards. Domon kills an enemy soldier and is grieved that Hirata, his mentor, was killed during the fighting. Kodai holds a funeral for the Yamato crew who died in battle.

7. THE ROUGH SEAS OF ALPHA

The temperature on Earth begins to rise as Yamato arrives at the battered colony in Alpha Centauri and half the crew gets shore leave. A bar-room brawl is cut short by a missile attack.



11. YAMATO IN DANGER NEAR THE CYGNUS

Yamato pulls free of the "space tornadoes" but is attacked, surprised by enemy fighters appearing by instant teleportation--another Gamilon technology. Dagon brings up his main fleet and orders Yamato to surrender but his carriers cannot stand up to the battleship's guns. Dagon tries to push Yamato into the black hole near Cygnus, Yamato breaks free and Dagon goes spinning into the black hole.



14. THE SUBSPACE SUBMARINER: GARUMAN WOLF

Gidel sends Captain Frakken after Yamato. Yamato cannot detect Frakken's "submarines", and fires blindly at the subspace faults the "submarines" attack from. The bridge is hit and Kodai is wounded.

15. YAMATO A PRISONER

Dr. Sado operates on Kodai while Domon takes command. Frakken lures them toward Admiral Gidel's fortress, which captures the Yamato. Gidel calls Desslar and reports his triumph. When Desslar finds out that Gidel has been fighting Yamato, he is enraged. "I thought I told you not to touch any planets near the Orion!" Desslar apologizes to Kodai for his subordinates' unauthorized actions. "I consider you, Yamato and the Earth as my eternal friends." Desslar invites them to his new planet.



8. THE LAST PIONEER

An attempt to cool the sun with feedback fails when the relay stations overload and explode. Yamato arrives at Barnard's Star, the crew investigate a signal and find a pioneer family, dying of fever, but the father refuses to give up and go back to Earth. Yamato is attacked by reflex guns--a Gamilon weapon which bounces lasers off battle-mirrors.

9. BATTLE AT BARNARD'S STAR

The crew of the Cosmo Hound discovers why Yamato couldn't locate any reflex satellites--the battle mirrors are mounted on fighters. With the reflection fighters all shot down, Yamato locates and destroys the Garuman base. Dagon flees. The stubborn old pioneer dies. The sole survivor, Tomoko, is pregnant. Kodai decides to send her and all the female Yamato crew (except Yuki) back to Earth for safety.

10. DAGON'S NEW FLEETS ATTACK'S BACK

Admiral Gidel gives General Dagon one last chance--and a new carrier fleet--to destroy Yamato. Near a black hole, Yamato encounters an Earth exploration ship commanded by Captain Dan, who reports seeing a large fleet and requests escort from Yamato. The request is denied, regrettably. Yamato leaves. Captain Dan is inspecting a remote satellite when Dagon destroys it. Dan's ship crashes on a nearby planet. Yamato investigates and Dan dies in Ageha's arms. Dagon's fleet drives Yamato toward a group of gravity-wells.

12. A PENAL COLONY IN SPACE

Conditions on Earth worsen. General Todo is put in charge of the Space Emigration Ministry. The space cruisers "Prince of Wales", "Bismark", and "Arizona" are mobilized to aid the effort. Yamato encounters ships of the Bollar Commonwealth, who heard of Yamato from Captain Ram. Captain Balsky escorts Yamato to Planet Berth for repairs and resupply. While Yamato's crew attend a party given by General Brozof, Domon and Ageha stumble across a concentration camp holding followers of Mother Shalabart. It is obvious that the Bollar conquered this planet. The prisoners riot and storm the Yamato, demanding to go to planet Shalabart.

13. DREADFUL BOLLAR COMMONWEALTH

Yamato's crew recaptures all the prisoners. Premier Bemlayze, enroute to Berth, orders all Shalabart-worshipping prisoners executed saying "I am the only god in space!" Desslar is advised of a plot by General Hiegel to have the Shalabart worshippers in Garuman revolt. Desslar shoots him, saying "We don't need two gods on Garuman". Kodai, outraged to see the prisoners executed, complains to Bemlayze. Bemlayze orders Yamato and Earth to become subjects of the Bollar Commonwealth--or its enemies. The Yamato officers fight free of the guards and flee to the ship. Cosmotigers strafe Balsky and free the prisoners. Bemlayze takes off and destroys the planet with mammoth missiles, killing his own people.

16. A FETE DAY FOR DESSLAR

Dessler tells Kodai and Yuki how he liberated Garuman from harsh Bollar rule and was acclaimed leader by its people, ancestral cousins of the Gamilons. He named Garuman's sister world Starsha, "I deeply loved her." And set about taking other planets from Bollar rule. Then they view a massive military parade in honor of the first anniversary of the Garuman Empire. Desslar dedicates the parade to Kodai's late brother, Mamoru, who also held Starsha's love.

17. DESSLAR'S EMPIRE AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR

Dessler and Talan visit Yamato's bridge, and Kodai tells Desslar of the sun. Desslar offers Garuman's scientific aid as compensation for what his subordinates have done. Sanada approves of Major Frauski's plan to cool down the sun. Kodai asks Desslar why he doesn't use his power for peace. Desslar says he is working toward peace in a united galaxy, but he must oppose the aggressive Bollar. They are interrupted by an attack from Bollar warp missiles. Desslar orders Frauski's fleet to take off. A mammoth planet-killer missile brushes past the defense satellites but Yamato intercepts. Domon destroys the missile with the wave-energy cannon. Desslar thanks Kodai, who admonishes the Gamilon for having too much faith in his weapons.

18. THE ANGRY SUN

Frauski's fleet arrives at Earth and is greeted by General Todo. Aihara and Masako spend some time together. On Garuman/Gamilas, Kodai, Yuki and Desslar watch as Frauski's fleet sets up a magnetic field around the sun. Asteroid rocks create pathways for specially modified proton-missiles to reach the sun's core. The sun cools down—then wildly heats up, blowing away the magnetic field. Frauski orders his crew to abandon ship, then suicides by plunging into the sun. Kodai and Yuki see some Garuman police break up a group worshipping Mother Shalabart. Desslar tells Kodai of an Earth-like planet his astronomers have discovered. Yamato sets out toward Phantom.

19. ON THE WAY TO PLANET PHANTOM

Earth people retreat to the underground cities and speed up construction of the space arks. Domon and Nambu tease Aihara about his affair with the General's granddaughter. Responding to an S.O.S., Domon and Ageha find a derelict ship with starving pilgrims aboard who had been searching for Planet Shalabart for 25 years. Sanada repairs the Pilgrim's ship. A Bollar fleet under General Hawkins approaches. Kodai warns them off. Hawkins responds "Drop Dead!" Yamato destroys Hawkins fleet. Mother Shalabart appears to the Yamato's crew.

20. PLANET PHANTOM IT IS

Yamato arrives at Phantom which looks exactly like Earth, even to its flora and fauna. Earth people rejoice. Desslar toasts Kodai, "Don't thank me, I'll do anything for my good old war friend." Analyzer warns of danger he cannot articulate. Phantoms of dead relatives appear to the crew.

21. SHATTERED HOPE

Dessler dispatches Major Helmeyer to help investigate Phantom. A beautiful girl beckons to Ageha. To Helmeyer, Phantom is exactly like Garuman/Gamilas. The Garuman geologist drills for a crust sample and ground ripples. People flee the grass that rises up to engulf the landing ships. Ageha and Domon pursue Ageha's visionary maiden.

22. FAREWELL PLANET PHANTOM

Phantom is a living planet which emits hypnotic psycho-energy. It asks Ageha to look after Princess Luda, an exile whom it has been guarding. The Cosmo Hound retrieves Domon, Ageha and Luda. Lt. General Gustaf destroys Phantom with a proton-missile.

23. BATTLE AT THE SCALAGECK STRAIT

Two months later Yamato finds the wreckage of Arizona on the last planet within evacuation range of Earth, apparent victim of Bollar attack. Gustaf catches up with Yamato and demands Luda be turned over to Garuman. Before the battle can erupt, Desslar calls Gustaf and orders him to protect Luda and Yamato from the Bollar until reinforcements can arrive. Hawkins arrives, demands Luda, and attacks. Ageha stays with Luda. Gustaf's ship kamikazes into the Bollar fleet. The main Bollar armada

attacks. Yamato destroys it with wave-energy cartridges. Ageha prays to Mother Shalabart to save Earth. Luda promises to lead Yamato to Shalabart.

24. THE SECRET OF PLANET SHALABART

Luda opens the gateway to Planet Shalabart—which lies in another dimension. Desslar's main fleet follows Yamato, and is followed by Golsakof's Bollar fleet. Domon suggests occupying the Earth-like Shalabart for mankind to emigrate to. The thought occurred to Kodai "but it would make us the same as Bollar and Garuman." Desslar arrives, followed by Golsakof, who attacks the Garuman fleet and Shalabart. Yamato's crew repulses the paratroopers, while Desslar destroys Golsakof's forces with the Hyper-Dessler Cannon. Luda and Old Man show Kodai and company the hidden super-weapons from the days when Shalabart ruled the entire cosmos. But Shalabart has become pacifist. They give the Yamato the Hydro-Cosmojin, a weapon for cooling down stars. Luda says goodbye to Ageha, then merges with Mother Shalabart, giving up material existence.

25. YAMATO, HIT THE SUN

Earth's surface is scorched, the underground cities cooling systems are starting to fail. General Todo collapses. Yamato arrives and prepares to use the Hydro-Cosmojin on the sun but is attacked by a Bollar fleet. An armored dome closes over the Hydro-Cosmojin. Bemlayze appears in a mammoth fortress which creates small black holes, trapping the Earth ship. Desslar arrives and destroys the Bollar fleet. The black hole menacing Yamato disappears, and Desslar tells Kodai to concentrate on the sun. Bemlayze's fortress absorbs the wave-energy Desslar's escort ships fire at it. Bemlayze gloats over Desslar falling into his trap. Desslar asks "Do you want your funeral conducted in any specific religious style?", but Bemlayze fires the black hole gun. Only Desslar's gigantic flagship has power enough to resist the black holes, but it cannot counterattack. While the Cosmotigers try to hold off Bollar fighters, Domon races out to manually open the jammed armored dome. Domon is strafed by a Bollar fighter before Ageha can down it. Ageha is anguished that he couldn't save his friend. Desslar decides to use the Hyper-Dessler Cannon, even though he'd be vulnerable to the black hole gun. Ageha, guided by Luda/Mother Shalabart, kamikazes into the black hole gun, giving Desslar a chance to destroy Bemlayze fortress. Domon manually opens the dome, deploying the Hydro-Cosmojin, then collapses from his wounds. Yuki and Kodai fire the Hydro-Cosmojin, returning the sun to normal. Domon lasts long enough to say goodbye. Luda/Shalabart appears, bearing Ageha's spirit and tells Kodai "War leaves only grief behind..." Desslar congratulates Kodai on Earth's survival, then leaves. Yamato heads home...





YAMATO III: T-MINUS 52 AND COUNTING MARTIN KING

Fresh from the 1979 theatrical success of *BE FOREVER YAMATO*, Yoshinobu Nishizaki's Academy Pro in conjunction with Reiji Matsumoto decided to send the Yamato on yet another television voyage. Nishizaki and Matsumoto wished to explore deeper into the Yamato Universe to tap character mines hitherto untouched. Their goal was to achieve some of the depth they had in the comic book adaptations and spin-offs while keeping within the general television Yamato formula. Their hope was that the network and viewing public still believed in that formula and so *YAMATO III* was scheduled for the upcoming series.

When the original "go-ahead" came from Tokyo Doga and Yomeri TV, Academy Pro decided to go for a 52-episode extravaganza, twice the length of Yamato's two previous series. The emphasis was to be heavy on characterization, as secondary and new cast members would not just be the focus of subplots, but have whole episodes devoted to them. The feeling seemed to be that if *NEW VOYAGE* and *BE FOREVER* did well due to character interplay, why not do it again?

A 52-episode synopsis was prepared that, in retrospect, would have been an event to behold. In the context of the story were such elements as:

- A penal colony in space and a space Auschwitz.
- An empire patterned after America (Be great to see how they view us.)
- The U.S.S. Arizona—a tragic battleship story reminiscent of Captain Harlock's farewell to his ship, *Death Shadow*.
- A sense of desperation never before felt as the Yamato's search for a cure or a new home becomes more helpless.
- A child born aboard the Yamato.
- A rivalry with Desslar, who also seeks a new home.

Other concepts included Aihara (Homer) nearly sacrificing the ship for personal reasons, and Domon, instead of Ageha, falling in love with Ruda Shalabart. Financial problems, schedule conflicts (Matsumoto was tied up with *MY YOUTH IN ARCADIA* and *ADIEU GALAXY EXPRESS* so his input would be next to nothing), Nishizaki's legal problems as he sought to dissolve Academy and re-form it into West Cape Corporation, all took their toll on production. The 52 episode epic was whittled down to an average 25-episode series. Storylines were dropped and combined in an effort to make the deadline. The final product was a rushed, quirky story that starts strong but is fundamentally weak. It may have its moments but it's only one third the product that it could have been. The original 52-episode run of *YAMATO III* breaks down as follows:





EPISODE	STORY	LOCATION	MAIN CHARACTERS
PART I COMMENCEMENT			
Yamato Launch	1.THE SUN BEGINS TO EXPAND/START OF THE YAMATO PROJECT	EARTH	RYUSUKE DOMON
High Wave to Space	2.REMODELING COMPLETED/CREW BOARDS YAMATO	EARTH	CHOJIRO AGEHA
	3.LAUNCH	EARTH	KODAI, YUKI
	4.THE TRAINING OF THE NEW MEMBERS	MOON BASE	HIRIGATA ICHI & DOMON
	5.THE COMING OF DAGON OF THE RAJENDORA	NEPTUNE	CAPT. RAM
	6.THEN A BATTLE WITH A GOA EMPIRE SQUADRON	PLANET BASE	GEN. GUDON
PART II INVESTIGATION BEGINS			
The Last Colonists	7.SHIP REPAIRS & FAREWELL PRAYERS TO THE SUN CENTAURI	ALPHA	AKAGI, SAKAMARI, RAIDEN
Revenge of Gen. Gudon	8.ENCOUNTER THE FRONTIER SETTLERS AND ICHIKA YAMAGAMI	BARNARD'S STAR	OLD MAN & SON
	9.ICHIKA DIES & TOMONO YAMAGAMI BOARDS YAMATO	BARNARD'S STAR	TOMONO YAGAMI
	10.THE ANNIHILATION OF THE FRONTIER OBSERVATION STATION	SCORPIO SYSTEM	GENSHIRO SARUDA
	11.BATTLE WITH GEN. GUDON OF THE GOA EMPIRE	SCORPIO SYSTEM	GEN. GUDON
Penal Colony of Space	12.RATLONS SEARCH IN DAGON'S TERRITORY	PLANET 1	ROBOT CASHIER
	13.PRISON REVOLT! YAMATO LEARNS OF THE BOLAR FEDERATION	PLANET 1	BEN MAKUNOUCHI

PART III DESSLAR'S INTERVENTION

Yamato Captured!	14.DORNACK OF THE GOA EMPIRE	DEEP SPACE	DORNACK
	15.YAMATO CAPTURED! DESSLAR UNSEEN AID	DEEP SPACE	DESSLAR
The Goa Empire	16.JOURNEY TO GOA EMPIRE	GOA EMPIRE	DESSLAR
	17.TRUE NATURE OF THE GOA EMPIRE	GOA EMPIRE	DESSLAR
	18.GOA'S SUN CONTROL DEVICE AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW EARTH	GOA EMPIRE	FRAUSKI
Allies and Enemies	19.DESSLAR'S ARRIVAL & JOURNEY TO NEW EARTH	PLANET 2	SHIZUKA, FUJIYA, AKAGI, NIMURA
	20.ASSAULT FROM ZENIR UNITED STATES (GOA'S ENEMY	PLANET 2	SAWATA
	21.GOA VS ZENIR-DEVASTATING BATTLE DESTRUCTION OF NEW EARTH	PLANETARY CLUSTER	GORMAN, BEMOREN

PART IV DESSLAR'S OPPOSITION

Planet Rath	22.THE STAR OF MYSTERY AND DESSLAR	PLANET RATH	YUKI & PRINCESS
	23.FORGOTTEN GIRL OF THE AUSCHWITZ OF SPACE	PLANET RATH	PRINCESS
	24.YAMATO'S FRIEND AND YAMATO'S ENEMY	PLANET RATH	HISTENBERGER
Dessler War 1	25.YAMATO BATTLES DESSLAR'S EXPEDITIONARY FORCES	DEEP SPACE	BORTENGEN
	26.RYUSUKE AND THE PRINCESS FALL IN LOVE	DEEP SPACE	RYUSUKE & THE PRINCESS

PART V INVESTIGATION ADVANCES WHILE DESPAIR GROWS

Last Of Arizona	27.THE HONORABLE DEATH OF BATTLESHIP ARIZONA	PLANET 3	SHOGATA TOKIFU
	28.ZENIR BATTLE AMIDST ARIZONA'S MEMORIAL SERVICE	PLANET 3	SHOGATA TOKIFU
Song of Castaways	29.INTELLIGENCE CREW SHIPWRECKED	DEEP SPACE	SHOGATA TOKIFU
	30.YAMATO:AID THE SURVIVORS	DEEP SPACE	SHOGATA TOKIFU
Battle of Stellar Midway	31.INVESTIGATION OF THE LIVING PLANET	PLANET 4	YUKI, ANALYZER
	32.TO CROSS THE ENEMY'S MIDWAY	PLANET 4	YUKI, ANALYZER
	33.ESCAPE	PLANET 4	YUKI, ANALYZER
Dessler War 2	34.YAMATO BATTLES DESSLAR	PLANET 5	DORNACK
	35.YAMATO BATTLES DESSLAR	PLANET 5	DORNACK
Ageha's One Man Rebellion	36.AGEHA FINANCIAL CLIQUE'S PLOT AGAINST YAMATO	MARS	AGEHA
	37.CHOJIRO TAKES OVER THE YAMATO	THE VOID	AGEHA
	38.CHOJIRO'S BETRAYAL-YAMATO'S RESCUE	PLANET 6	AGEHA
Black Hole	39.COLONIST ESCAPE SHIP LAUNCH COUNT DOWN	SCORPIO SYSTEM	
	40.INTO THE BLACK HOLE	SCORPIO SYSTEM	
The Final Star	41.INVESTIGATION OF THE LAST STAR BRINGS DESPAIR	PLANET 7	YUKI
Last Leg of Voyage	42.BATTLE OF THE SPACE BUOY	PLANET 7	YUKI
	43.OUT OF FUEL-YAMATO DRIFTING	DEEP SPACE	AIHARA, KYOKO
	44.AIHARA'S PUNISHMENT	DEEP SPACE	AIHARA, NIMURA

PART VI THE FINAL FATE OF THE SUN

Dessler War 3	45.SUITABLE SITE FOR THE ULTRA MIGRATION	SHALABART	ELDER, SAKAMAKI
	46.BATTLE WITH THE GOA INVADERS	SHALABART	KEELING
	47.THE TRUE NATURE OF THE PRINCESS-RECEIPT OF THE SOLAR CONTROL DEVICE	SHALABART	QUEEN RUDA
	48.DESSLAR'S CHALLENGE	SPACE VOID	DESSLAR
	49.INTENSE FIGHTING	SPACE VOID	GENSHIRO,KODAI, YUKI,SAWATA
To Tame The Sun	50.TOMONO'S CHILDBIRTH AND THE DEPARTURE OF DESSLAR	SPACE VOID	TOMONO, SAKAMAKI
	51.YAMATO-THE SUN IS IN SIGHT	NEAR SOLAR SYSTEM	RYUSUKE, QUEEN RUDA
	52.SUCCESS	SOLAR SYSTEM	SANRO, BANDO