

INTERGALACTICAL PIRATES

-Battleship nr 8 here. We're transmitting. Shall we start attack?

-Base here. Don't start attack yet. We're going to destroy satellites first. Battleship nr 5 is starting laser at the very moment. You have enough time to have your speech. Over.

-Mission accepted. We're going to do it. Over.

Commander of assault battalion nr 8 turned around and went to the great hall where his soldiers were dining.

He went "As you know, we're going to attack planet Earth. We're going to take the command of this planet and colonize it. Our plan is simple. First, we destroy satellites. Then, we send a message that they need to go. Then we attack. People will defend of course. They will fight you. They will ask you why it's just them moving out. They will say man and animal are the same. They will try to convert you."

He stopped. The hall was so quiet you could hear breathing.

"And remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter. No argument must lead you astray. Never listen when they tell you that Man and the animals have a common interest, that the prosperity of one is the prosperity of others. It is all lies. Man serves the interests of no creature except himself."

Meanwhile, on battleship nr 5 engineers were starting the laser. When it was ready they targeted satellites. First, they aimed at the International space station. Then they shot spy satellites, so that satellites, which shouldn't exist at all, stopped existing. They went on and on.

At NASA centre in Houston everything went wrong. The International space station stopped transmitting. Engineers and scientists were running around as mad animals. Problems were occurring at other places, too. In Florida, TV stopped working. Some drunk men started a fight because they thought one of them broke it.

A baby started crying somewhere because his cartoon stopped playing.

A very rich girl angrily threw her iPhone through the window because there was no Wi-Fi.

Control panel made noise. A message from base. Commander looked at it. It said:

-Start attack. Over.

He gave orders "Get in landing modules! Colonels, take command! Captains, sort soldiers! Corporals, lead them! Engineers, start modules! Prepare your spacesuits! Start weapons! FAST!"

They were ready in an instant. Engineers tested everything and modules disconnected from battleship nr 8. They started their fatal trip to planet Earth.

A lonely farmer in Russia was planting wheat. Suddenly, he saw something falling down. It was quite far, so he couldn't see what it was. He slowly followed its path and went where he thought it landed. After a few minutes he was on the edge of a huge crater in the middle of his corn field.

He mumbled "*O, moya kukuruza ya budu golodat' bez etogo,*" which meant "Oh, my corn. I'm going to starve without it." Suddenly the rocky thing he thought was an asteroid started moving. It opened and unknown jelly, bubbly, yellow things in iron suits jumped out. He said "*Bozhe moy!*" which meant "Oh my God!"

Aliens moved in his direction saying "*Gvntzxiqfghfvuyldiufhv!*" which meant "Surrender, you wicked creature!" The poor farmer couldn't understand a thing. He fainted. Darkness took over. Aliens grabbed him and put him in their ship. They took him as a hostage.

In the White house the President of the USA was talking to the Director of NASA. He couldn't believe his ears.

“We are totally sure. Aliens are attacking us. Our last satellite sent us a photo of them. It’s quite amateur but it’s the only one we have.”

The President stuttered:

“L-l-l-last satellite?”

“Yes, they destroyed all of them. This means no Internet, no phone calls, no mails, NOTHING.”

“What? What can we do?”

A discussion was developing.

“We must notify the public!”

“We have no Internet, remember? People are going to revolt because they also don’t have it. ”

“I’m going to hire lots of people to write and distribute this data on paper. The White house will cover all costs. And we're going to send people on horses to inform other countries! Christ, it’s a matter of survival of the human race!”

Someone came in the room screaming:

"We’ve got him! One of the aliens! It’s red, bubbly and jelly, wearing metal clothes and saying *svtrlsgdilhglpdsjk* all the time, whatever it means, and and ..."

The President's face shone with enlightenment.

“Call the best scientists! We need to dissect it and find out their weaknesses!”

When the public was informed, they ran amok. Everyone was going here and there, the shops were emptied.

Meanwhile, scientists finally dissected the poor alien and found out it was very sensitive to silicon. It died after suffering in agony. Its last words *uvtncdhfnkskj* could be translated into words that shouldn't be in a children’s novel. Trust me, I know.

The President was ecstatic because of this finding. He ordered that a special rocket full of silicon be built and sent to space to crush the alien command ship.

People of different countries worked together to build the special silicon rocket. However, it was going very slowly because they needed to deliver all the supplies with horses as electronics were out of order. It took two months to bring enough fuel. They transported fuel in kegs which were leaking, so aliens had time to send more and more expeditions to Earth. But people were patient. They paid attention and observed the sky. This is why aliens were successful in kidnapping only about 20 people, like the poor Russian farmer for example, while people caught more than 1000 aliens. Human hostages were imprisoned in space-jail but the human race had not forgotten them. On the silicon rocket there would also be expert astronauts, who were going to save the hostages.

A year later the rocket was finally finished. It looked like a great pile of junk. Imagine building a rocket nowadays without any help of technology! Launch was like it came from a science-fiction movie. NASA didn't have the Internet, so they hoped all would work properly. They also weren't connected to the rocket, so they couldn't know if anything was going wrong in space. But they had faith. Every single person on our planet had faith. And collective faith is a very powerful force, I tell you!

Launch was due for 8 a.m. when they started countdown. At 3, motors started. At 2, noise was incredible. At 1, the rocket lifted. It soon reached stratosphere. The silicon part and the part with expert astronauts each went their own way. The part with silicon, which looked like two old bathtubs glued together, turned to alien ship (note: the truth was, it WAS really made of two baths). The astronaut part turned to space-jail and everything went pretty well there. It connected to the jail ship and astronauts disabled aliens and their weird alarm (it was saying *uvtncdhfnkskj* - swear words, remember?). All the hostages boarded fast, except the old farmer. He lost his consciousness again, poor him... can you imagine an old soul of a farmer going through so many perils? But they held him up, put him in the rocket and started a long but joyous journey back to Earth.

Meanwhile, everything was going wrong with the silicon part. One of the baths started sinking due to the big pressure. All the silicon flew out. So when it crashed with the alien ship, nothing happened. HOWEVER, aliens thought something happened. They didn't want to risk anything, so they ran away very fast. The astronauts thought aliens were destroyed by silicon and aliens thought that people would bring destruction upon them if they came back. So no one ever found out that the silicon just flew out. But if you are very attentive (it's a wonder nowadays, I know!) and close your eyes just enough to see a thin line and you wait patiently, you might spot blurry drops of unknown greyish metal.

The end is everyone living happily ever after of course. Well, everyone, except the poor Russian farmer. He became non compos mentis, or to put it in plain English he was deprived of his wits, and lived in a sanatorium until the end of his days counting those drops of silicon up in the sky.