

The JAPANESE GIANTS FAN LETTER is produced bi-monthly by Brad Boyle of 1758 Michigan Ave. in Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 and by me, David Milner at 34-16 86th. Street in Jackson Heights, N.Y. 11372. JGFL is published by Brad Boyle. This issue is: no.11 vol. 1.

Welcome to my page of JGFL. As you've probably noticed by now, this is a very special issue of JGFL. Why? Because it's purpose is to introduce you to both JGFL and JG, Brad's annual fanzine. In the future, however, JGFL will be two or so pages long, contrary to what Brad printed in JG #3.

Those of you who subscribed to Rich Campbell's The GODZILLA FAN LETTER will recognize a few similarities between TGFL and my page of JGFL. Why did I "swipe" TGFL's format? I had been thinking of doing TGFL on my own, when JG #3 arrived in the mail. I read Brad's editorial about a bi-monthly news-sheet, and wrote him with the idea. He liked it, and here it is, in print.

I'd like to hear from you, about this page and the GODZILLA VS. MEGALON critique, elsewhere in this issue. Also, I'll be more than happy to print any artwork or articles you can send in. Hope to see you in two months.

NEW NEWS

1974's GODZILLA VS. MECHA-GOD-
ZILLA, released here by Cinema Shares
under the title of GODZILLA VS. THE BI-
ONIC MONSTER will be showing in New
York City on July 27th. Those of you in
Pittsburg should get to see the film in
early July.

Marvel Comics, publisher of the "GODZILLA, KING OF THE MONSTERS" comic, is trying to get the rights to do other Japanese monsters in comics form. I suggest writing to Marvel at 575 Madison Ave. in N.Y.C., N.Y. 10022. Tell Marvel that you think getting other Japanese monsters in comics form is a good idea, and that you think it would sell well.

1972's GOJIRA TAI GAIGAN has been bought by Cinema Shares! The deal took place in early May. It will be released in Charlotte, N.C. on August 19 under the name of GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND (don't ask me why). Stills, pressbooks, and one-sheets will soon be available from Donald L. Velde, Inc.

egg on Sotgel Island. He then returned to his home, Japan, and found millions of insect-sized people. Infuriated because of what they had done to his home, Godzilla began destroying them. In 1955 he shrank from 120 to 50 meters because the effects of the radioactivity partially wore off. Godzilla continued his wave of destruction until 1965 when Mothra convinced him that Man wasn't his enemy. In 1967 Minya hatched, and the two now live on Ogasawara Monster Island.

GODZILLA'S ORIGIN

In TGFL, issue #5 (its last) Rich Campbell printed Stan Timmon's theory as to the origin of Godzilla. It says that Godzilla was trapped (by Chidrah) in lava and Minya was to, until 1954 when they were freed by nuclear tests. The "Godzilla..." comic differs with this theory, and using the information in the comic, I've developed a theory of my own.

Godzilla is the intermediary animal, between the sea and land living reptile. He hatched during the Permian Period, 230-280 million years ago. He grew to a size of 4 meters, and mated. His spouse laid several eggs on Solgel Island. A massive earthquake took place and Godzilla and Minya's egg were trapped beneath the ocean's floor in an air-tight pocket. In 1954 a nuclear test took place and the two monsters were released. They had been enlarged by the radioactivity and Godzilla buried the

If you are looking for a correspondent, write me with a list of what you have, and what you're looking for, and I'll see if I can match you up with someone who has what you're looking for. Also, if you have anything for sale, ad rates are a mere one penny per word- addresses are five cents. Prices count as one word.

GHIDRAH, THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER

Ghidrah, also known as King Ghidorah and Monster Zero, has appeared in five different films to date. They include GHIDRAH, THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER, MONSTER ZERO, DESTROY ALL MONSTERS, GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND, and GODZILLA VS. THE BIONIC MONSTER. In this article I'll be talking about two things: Ghidrah himself, and his role in the films he has appeared in.

Ghidrah is 100 meters (328.1 feet) tall. This measurement is to the tips of his wings. His heads, when extended upright, are about 70 meters (229.67 feet) high. Ghidrah has a wingspan of 150 meters (492.15 feet) and he has a flying speed of mach 3 (1,950 mph). Ghidrah weighs 30,000 tons.

Ghidrah has three heads, each displaying a pair of eyes, a pair of nostrils, a mouth containing spike-shaped teeth and a tongue, and several cornute projections. Inbetween Ghidrah's heads and his necks Ghidrah displays a clump of hair. Thus, he must be classified as a mammal-reptile, since Ghidrah exhibits scales on the remainder of his body. Ghidrah's three necks display a scaly exterior, a row of fins on top, and a closely-packed row of rectangular-shaped scales on the underside. Each neck is approximately 15 meters (49.215 feet) long.

Ghidrah's necks lead to his chest; he has no shoulders. There he displays two bumps, extending outward to the side. Ghidrah has two massive wings. They are connected to his body at a point on his back; not his sides. Ghidrah's legs are thick, and they are connected to his body at a relatively low point. His feet are extremely small, and each foot displays four toes. Ghidrah has two tails- each is 25 meters (82.025 feet) long. At the ends of his tails, Ghidrah displays sets of spikes.

Ghidrah's epidermal layer is scaly, and it is gold-colored. The hair behind Ghidrah's heads and his wings are brownish in color. Ghidrah can emit deadly electrical rays from his three mouths.

was GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND. In it aliens from Space M use Ghidrah and Gigan to take over the Earth. Godzilla and Angilas, after a tremendous struggle, defeat the two alien monsters.

Ghidrah's latest, GODZILLA VS. THE BIONIC MONSTER, involves ape-like aliens. Ghidrah is in this one, but since I haven't seen it yet I don't know how he fits in. Forrest Samples, a fellow fan, says that Ghidrah is in a woman's vision of destruction to come. According to Forry, he doesn't fight anyone. -----Hope you've liked my page, see you soon.

GHIDRAH, THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER (1965) was the first film to star Ghidrah. Ghidrah appears on the Earth in a meteor. It is discovered that he had appeared on Mars millions of years ago and that he had destroyed the highly advanced civilization that had flourished on that planet. Ghidrah begins destroying Japan. Mothra prepares to fight the mighty three-headed alien, but Ghidrah blasts him into the air with his electrical ray. Godzilla and Rodan soon join in the battle against Ghidrah. Godzilla keeps Ghidrah busy on the ground, while Mothra (atop Rodan) traps him in his silk cocoon-stuff. Ghidrah flies off into space.

MONSTER ZERO (1969) was Ghidrah's second film. In it, it is discovered that the people of Planet X are being pestered by Ghidrah. They ask our help: send Godzilla and Rodan to defeat Ghidrah. It is later discovered that the Kians are using Godzilla (Zero-One), Rodan (Zero-Two), and Ghidrah (Zero) to aid in their attack on the Earth. We break the Kians' control over the monsters, using sound. Godzilla and Rodan soon drive Ghidrah off the Earth, again.

Next was DESTROY ALL MONSTERS (1969). In it, the Kilaaks (another group of aliens trying to take over the Earth) use Ghidrah to fight the "good" monsters of Earth. Mothra and Spiga trap Ghidrah in their webs while Godzilla and Gorosaurus beat two of Ghidrah's heads to pulp. Minya finishes the job by strangling Ghidrah's last head with his radioactive smoke-rings.

Number four in the series was GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND. In it

Hello! Welcome to the first issue of the Japanese Giants Fan Letter. Hopefully, JGFL will serve as an outlet for excess articles and art sent to me. Also, it is to keep you up to date with the most current happenings in the realm of Godzilla and Co.

About issue four. It will be out later this year and will contain features like: MOTHRA cover by Tim Johnson, a comparison and critique between GODZILLA VS. MEGALON & GODZILLA VS. THE BIONIC MONSTER by Mark Rainey, a chart of monster footprints by Bill Gudmundson, YUSHA RAIDEEN: the best animated Japanese cartoon? by Dan Briggs, a review of the RODAN model by Peter Brothers, Part two of the MOTHRA filmbook, reviews of the first three issues of Marvel's GODZILLA comic, an article on the Japanese cartoons, a two color centerfold of GODZILLA VS. MEGALON, letters, news, trivia, great art, and more. So if you haven't reserved it, you can for \$1.00.

Speaking of #4, I'm going to be offering free classifieds in it (well, almost) Just send me your classified and a 13¢ stamp, and I'll see it reaches the pages of JG. Hurry though, if you want it in #4.

A couple of things I would liked cleared up. First, I'll be happy to answer your questions on or about Japanese monsters. All I ask is that you send a S.A.S.E (I'll get to that later). And your questions are even needed! I've been thinking about using them in a sort of information center where your questions are answered in the pages of JG. OK, thats settled. Now, it seems I've been using the abbreviation S.A.S.E. thinking readers knew what it meant. But as I've found, a lot don't. It simply means a self-addressed stamped envelope. Another abbreviation people have been having problems with is LOC. It means letter of Comment. OK?

Has anybody seen or heard anything about the movie INFRAMAN? I saw it about a year ago and haven't heard any more of it.

A couple of new fanzines on the Japanese genre have surfaced, and I feel it is every Japanese movie fans duty to support them. The more fanzines, the more variety. They are:

JAPAN'S GIANT MONSTERS-60¢
Don MacGillivray
P.O. Box 285
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

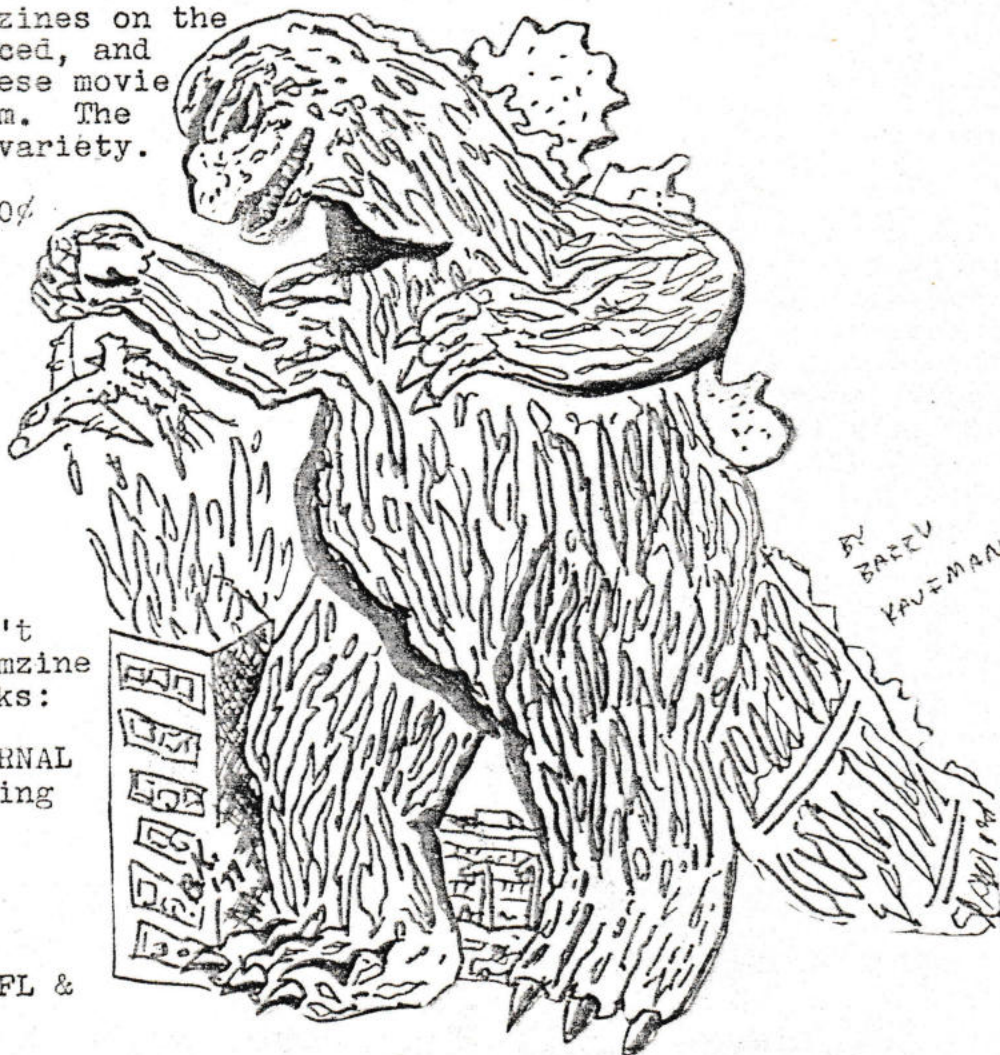
-and-

GIANT JAPANESE MONSTERS
\$1.25
Dan Murray
41 Maple Street
Gardiner, Me., 04343

And for you who don't know about the best filmzine on Japanese monster flicks:

JAPANESE FANTASY FILM JOURNAL
\$1.00 for the upcoming
issue #12
Greg Shoemaker
3235 Collingwood Blvd.,
Toledo, Ohio 43610

See you next issue of JGFL & JG four.



GODZILLA

VS

MEGALON

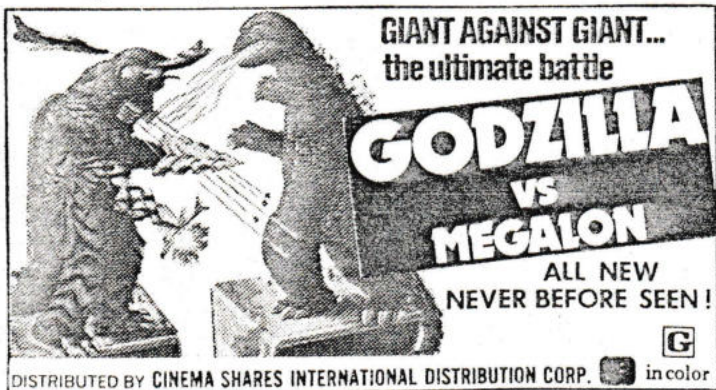
A VISIT TO THE
PREMIER

BY TONY P.

I couldn't believe that right in front of me, on Wednesday night of July 14th, was a newspaper ad as big as life sponsoring Godzilla vs. Megalon. I carefully read the ad and I noted that the film would premier on the 21st, just one week away. And so, I began to patiently wait out the week. Soon, a television commercial appeared showing scenes from the movie. ANTICIPATION!!!! The 19th, the 20th, and finally the 21st. I woke up very early that morning and ran to my local store to buy a newspaper. Locating the movie listings, I stumbled upon another ad, bigger than the last one. Running my finger down the page, I noticed that the closest movie theatre the film was playing at was the Grand Avenue Cinema in Baldwin, New York. And so, I called up the theatre and recieved this recorded message: "This is a recorded message from the Grand Avenue Theatre. This week we are proud to give a science fiction presentation of Godzilla vs. Megalon and our second feature, King Kong Escapes. Godzilla will be shown at one o'clock and four-fifteen. Kong will be shown at two thirty. The exit for the matinee is five-forty. Godzilla will be here in person for the matinee performance. Godzilla vs. Megalon will be shown tonight at seven-fifteen and ten twenty-five. King Kong Escapes at eight forty-five. This show is rated PG. If you desire further info, please call two-two-three-two-three-two-four after one PM, and thank you for calling."

So, a double feature. I rushed right over to the movie house, armed with my camera. Immediately, I began to take photographs. The line started forming with me at the front! Once the doors opened, I went inside and began to look for any free merchandise being given away. No sooner had I started looking when I heard a commotion at the door. I turned and was met with the mighty sight of Godzilla. I couldn't unmask him because I might have disapointed all the little kiddies that were actually frightened by this pale faced imatation. It didn't even look like Godzilla; it had a hairy body and its head was from none other than Star Trek (a Gorn Mask). It had a chain around its neck (meaning it had escaped from somewhere -- probably Monster Island). Never the less, it was a great publicity stunt, and I have to admit that the fellow looked

kinda cute standing in his paper mache cave. The kids were asking all kinds of embarrassing questions like: "Why are you wearing shoes?" The ushers would interject and say "They're not shoes, they're Godzilla feet!" The admission price was great; only a buck for a double feature. I sat down in the center section and waited....



in Japan's arsenal. Tanks, lasers, rockets, and missiles are all brought up to stem the upcoming tide. The troops are assembled, the machines ready. All they have to do now is wait.....

The gargantuan body of Megalon appears in the distance. Filled with anticipation, the men crouch in their trenches, fingering their weapons. FIRE! Megalon is met with a lethal greeting of bombs and shells. Lasers open up on him, and dig into his unholy flesh. Megalon can take no more. Summoning his last bit of energy, he attacks. Deadly rays flash from his antennae. From his gaping maw comes fire bombs. The entire military operation is wiped out.

While this is going on, Ibuki regains control over the robot by means of a special transmitter he had built into the pendant he wears. He instructs the robot (which he has named Jet Jaguar) to go to Monster Island and seek out Godzilla for help. The Seatopians learn of Jet Jaguar's mission and they ask for assistance from the Hunter Nebula. The beings there decide to send Gigan to assist Megalon in his coming battle with Godzilla. Megalon is now working blindly towards Tokyo. Suddenly, Jet Jaguar takes off without orders. Ibuki suspects that the creature's special independent thinking unit is in operation against the evil Seatopians. Jet Jaguar flies to Megalon and lands directly in front of the monster. Suddenly, Jet Jaguar begins to grow and grow! Soon he is the size of Megalon and the two creatures begin to battle. Jet Jaguar is more than a match for Megalon, but when Gigan arrives, the tables are turned. Jet Jaguar is badly beaten, and it looks like he has met his doom when all of a sudden, Godzilla arrives to assist in the crusade against Seatopia. Once again the tables are turned and Godzilla and Jet Jaguar emerge victorious over the forces of evil. Megalon retreats to Seatopia and Gigan returns to the Hunter Nebula in defeat. The monster heroes shake hands. Godzilla then returns to Monster Island, and Jet Jaguar shrinks back to normal size and returns to Ibuki's lab. Earth is at peace again.

GIANT AGAINST GIANT... the ultimate battle!



RIGHT: The cover of the GODZILLA VS. MEGALON comic book released with the movie.



Nuclear bomb explosions in the mid-Pacific region is not uncommon. The last such shock occurred on a tiny atoll. The shock waves were felt far and wide. Even Monster Island, the home of Godzilla, Rodan, and Angilas is disturbed. How long can man play with the fire of the Gods? What will be the aftermath?



In Japan, Goro Ibuki, his brother Roksa, and their friend, who is a race car driver, are enjoying a picnic lunch on the bank of a lake. Suddenly, the earth starts to tremble and quake. A great whirlpool appears in the middle of the lake. All of the water soon disappears into great cracks formed in the lakebed. What was once a proud lake is now little more than a puddle.

On the way home, the trio learn that the quake was caused by the powerful atomic explosion in the Pacific. Ibuki is disgusted by mankind's cruel abuse of Mother Earth, and the folly of atomic tests. Upon their arrival home, Roksa discovers that the door to their home is open! BURGLARS! They sneak into the house and turn on the lights and find the house in shambles. Then two caucasians appear from the next room and gas the three into unconsciousness. Ibuki's friend pursues the two in his car, but loses them when they throw an incendiary grenade into the road.

Meanwhile, Ibuki and Roksa begin the task of cleaning up. Roksa discovers a funny powder under a book. Ibuki's friend has this analyzed, as well as a button one of the intruders left behind. Both are discovered to be made of the same substance; a sand from a strata of rock millions of miles below the surface of the sea. Ibuki then goes on to finish his greatest creation; a robot cyborg! On the day of completion, his friend comes over to view this fantastic product of a genius. Little do they know, however, that Ibuki's lab had been bugged by the intruders on the night of their raid. They arrive at Ibuki's house, and once again gas the three heroes. They then report back to their base of operation- SEATOPIA! It seems that nuclear bomb tests in the Pacific have been damaging the underwater world of Seatopia, and so the Seatopians are now taking action. They have decided to attack the surface in retribution for the vast damage caused by surface-living mankind. In order to do this, they are summoning their guardian, Megalon, to the surface of the earth. Ibuki's cyborg will guide the beast to Tokyo, and Megalon will begin its career of death and devastation

Meanwhile, Ibuki and his brother have been sealed inside a metal container and are going to be dumped into the Pacific where Seatopian agents will pick them up and take them to their underwater dominion. The racing car driver is tied up in Ibuki's house, where one of the Seatopians is guiding Megalon to Tokyo by means of the cyborg. He escapes, and heads out to save his friends. Seatopian agents are dispatched to catch him, but he eludes them all. The truck carrying Ibuki and Roksa has come to a halt near a dam. Megalon arrives, as does the race car driver.

The truck drivers panic, and force the race car driver to hand over his car. He is now faced with the

problem of moving the truck, which is stalled.

Megalon destroys the dam, and swats the metal container into the air. It lands several hundred yards away, breaks open, and releases an unconscious Ibuki and Roksa. Meanwhile, Megalon is following

the cyborg to Tokyo. The military begin to prepare to halt the beast before he reaches

Japan's number one metropolis. To do this, they are going to employ some of the most powerful weapons



REVENGE

OF THE BIONIC MONSTER

Bill Gudmundson

Japan is attacked by the robot Godzilla, Mecha-Godzilla 2, who destroys all in his path. Godzilla appears in the city and attacks the robot. He manages to blow it to bits with his radio-active fire.

A submarine traveling far below the surface of the water searches the bottom with sonar. Suddenly it is attacked by the sea monster Chitanosaurus, a huge monster who whips up storms with its tail. The fate of the submarine seems hopeless when the sonar beacon is accidentally switched on. The sound waves stun the monster and send it away. A full report of the creature is made to the Japanese scientific council.

Far beneath the sea, the Mu Empire has gained a valuable scientist, one who was rejected by the island country of Japan. The Mus, who have control over Chitanosaurus, send it to the surface to destroy Japan. Meanwhile, the repairs on Mecha-Godzilla 2 are completed.

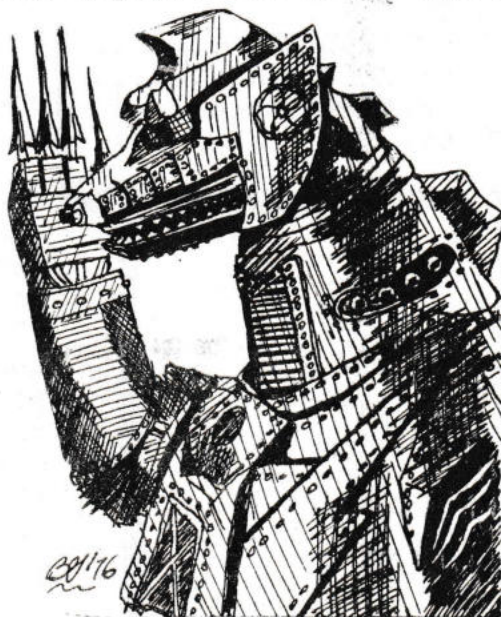
In Tokyo, Chitanosaurus wreaks havoc as he tears the city to bits. The defense force attempts to destroy the beast, but all is in vain. During the battle, a member of the defense force rescues a strange and beautiful girl. Chitanosaurus is suddenly confronted by Godzilla, who fires his lethal fire at the sea behemoth.

The science group has developed a high pitched sound machine. It is turned on and the sound waves drive the beast back into the sea. Everyone cheers in victory, but the girl who was rescued is strangely silent. She then turns and runs to the edge of a cliff overlooking the sea. The men run after her, and a beam of light comes from her eyes. One of the men fires, and she falls into the sea.

A few days later, the man who rescued the girl sees her again and follows her into the woods. Mu agents capture the hero, and take him to their underwater kingdom. The girl is stretched out on an operating table and cut open to reveal metal circuits and devices. She is an android.

Mecha-Godzilla 2 and Chitanosaurus are sent to Japan to finish their reign of terror. Mecha-Godzilla 2 fires rays from his eyes, missiles from his neck, hands, feet and kneecaps. His chest opens to let forth still more rays. In other words, he is almost invincible.

The sound device used to drive off Chitanosaurus has broken down, and the two beasts continue to destroy all in sight. Once again, Godzilla appears in the city and a titanic battle ensues. Mecha-Godzilla blasts Godzilla with the jets on his feet and the rays from his chest.



Back in Mu headquarters, the hero escapes his bonds. While trying to call for safety, a Mu agent sees him. But he is shot by the android girl, who seems to be somehow in love with the hero. As she tries to protect him, she is shot herself. She crawls to the controls to Mecha-Godzilla 2 in an effort to stop it. She flips switches and dials hoping to turn off the robot.

Godzilla has almost been defeated by the two enemys. Mecha-Godzilla 2 is poised in a position to kill Godzilla.

Meanwhile, the girl hits a self-destruct button and she is blown to bits.

Mecha-Godzilla 2 stops in mid swing, his hand poised directly above Godzilla's head. The girl android was the control for Mecha-Godzilla 2. Godzilla springs up, knocking the inert robot to the ground. However, Chitanosaurus attacks Godzilla. But the sound machine is repaired and turned on. The vibrations and Godzilla's radioactive fire defeat the creature.

The hero stands off to the side as the Mu Empire blows up in a nuclear holocaust, taking with it the android he had fallen in love with.

The preceding description was taken from my "MERA-GOJIRA NO GYAKUSHU" comic book, and is not completely accurate. This is basically what the film is about, but is based on my approximation of what is going on in the comic book. However, this should give some of you a slight idea as to what the film is like.

The new monster, Chitanosaurus, looks basically like a dinosaur with large fins on his back. His tail has a fan on the end. In color he is red and yellow, with yellow plates on his chest. Mecha-Godzilla 2 looks basically the same as the first, with only minor changes.

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