



MISSED ME! JUST AS I HOPED YOU WOULD

AND WHEN I DUCKED-- YOU TOUCHED THE **DESTRUCT** CONTROL INSTEAD

WHAT DOES IT MATTER? I'LL GET YOU **SOONER** OR LATER

BUT IN THE MEANTIME, I DID WHAT I HAD TO



YOU THINK YOU'VE SAVED YOURSELF? HOW? HOW?

WITH THE AUTOMATIC COMPUTER TURNED TO **STONE**--THE **DESTRUCT** ACTION WILL BE HALTED

THAT MEANS--THE SHIP WON'T BLOW



FALCON! STOP HIM! SEIZE HIM! I'LL TURN HIM TO **STONE**--FOREVER

I MUST DO AS THE GARGOYLE COMMANDS



BUT, WHY IS MY MIND SO CONFUSED?

WHY DO I HESITATE? WHY CAN'T I ACT--AS I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO?



IT'S BECAUSE **NO ONE** CAN MAKE YOU DO WHAT YOUR **BRAIN**--AND YOUR **HEART**--TELL YOU **NOT TO**

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, YOU FOOL! GRAB HIM!

I'VE GOT TO LEAP PAST HIM--HAVE TO KEEP MOVING



NO TIME TO STOP! IF HE SHOULD TOUCH ME--

BUT--OUTSIDE THE WINDOW--! OH NO! NO! IT MUSTN'T BE!

THE AUTOMATIC PILOT HAS BROUGHT US TO SHIELD'S MOUNTAIN **STRONGHOLD**--THE SECRET PLACE WHERE THE DEADLY **ELEMENT X** IS HIDDEN

EVEN AS I WATCH--THE CAMOUFLAG PORTALS ARE STARTING OPEN



THEY SUSPECT NOTHING! --IF THE GARGOYLE SHOULD GO INSIDE-- HE SHOULD SEIZE **ELEMENT X** HE COULD CONTROL THE WORLD!