

MACROSS DISC 6, EPISODES 21 – 24

Episode 21 - "Micro-Cosmos" (January 2010)

The director of Shao Pai Loon ("Little White Dragon") is named Shoo Blackstone after the Macross chief director Ishiguro Noboru. ("Shoo" is an alternate reading of the kanji for Noboru, and Ishiguro literally means "stone, black.") The real-life director even voiced his fictional counterpart.

Like elsewhere in the series, the main creators took time off on this episode. Still, creator Kawamori Shoji notes that Hikaru and Misa's mutual discomfort in watching the movie creates another opportunity for the two become closer.

Episode 22 - "Love Concert" (January 10, 2010)

The creators planned the debut of the Destroid Phalanx for this episode. Since the Phalanx was developed on the Macross itself to answer the need for space defense, only the four other Destroids appeared previously.

Kawamori Shoji says that the Zentraedi, with only a fragmented understanding of Protoculture, fear Humans ever more now. He also notes that Hikaru's attempt to save Minmay reveals his real motive for enrolling in the military -- even as he subconsciously pines for Misa now. Minmay is just as confused, thanks to Kaifun's heavy-handedness.

Episode 23 - "Dropout" (January 2010)

When Macross finally debuted after over two years of pre-production, the staffers only planned for 23 episodes. Two months after the premiere, the sponsors greenlighted an extension to 36 episodes. (This episode would have aired earlier in the original plan since several filler episodes were inserted into the series after the extension was approved.) The original production title for this episode was "Fire Storm" -- a reference not only to the Zentraedi infiltration of Macross, but also perhaps to a scene that the creators had to cut from the episode.

According to creator Kawamori Shoji, the creators were planning to end Minmay and Hikaru's relationship here, and even wanted Hikaru to symbolically burn his fanracer. However, they changed their plans when the green light was given to extend the series. The creators also wanted the three Zentraedi refugees to see the devastation caused by war.

Episode 24 - "Good-Bye Girl" (January 20-21, 2010)

"Booby Duck" is the codename for the VF-1 Valkyrie with FAST Pack parts (a.k.a. "Super Valkyrie"), although it is only used in this episode.

While camera pans inside the game center, it pauses on a fellow with black sideburns at a driving simulation game. On the video game screen, a miniature yellow sedan with a black-hatted marksman weaves and swerves in traffic. Chris Meadows points out the uncanny resemblance to Rupan and Jigen of Rupan III fame. We'll leave the whole Rupan/Lupin argument for the liner notes for the movies we released.

As the saying goes, "absence makes the heart grow fonder." Creator Kawamori Shoji notes that this episode proves Hikaru and Misa's unrequited feelings for each other.