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CHALLENGER CLASS

CLASS: CHALLENGER

LAUNCHED: 24th C

LENGTH: 390 METERS

MAX SPEED: WARP 9.6

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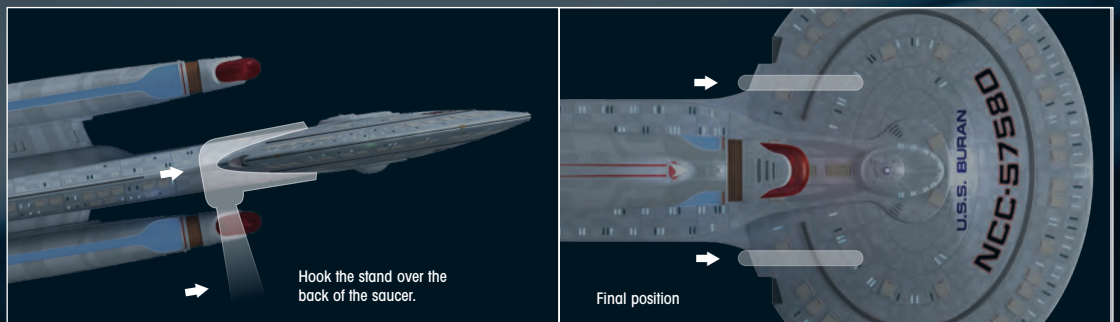
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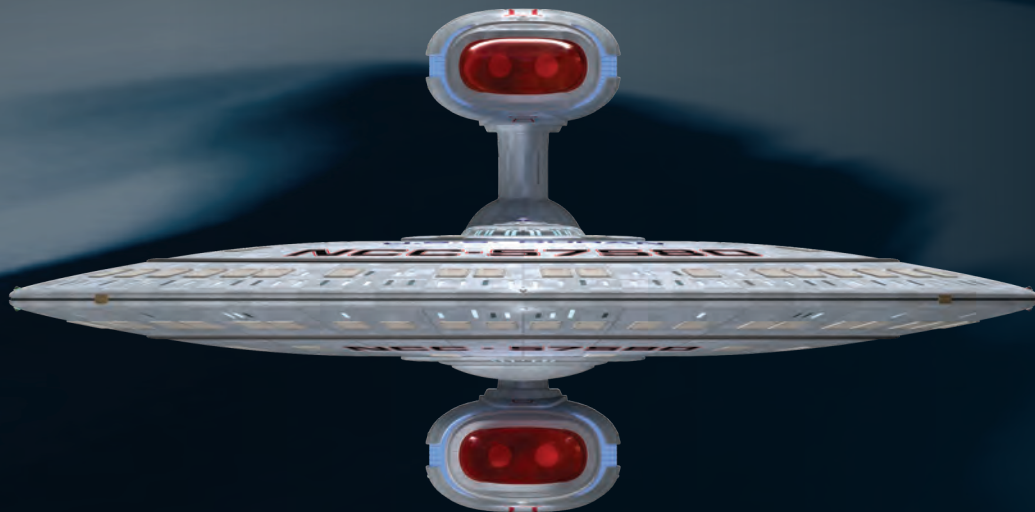
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CHALLENGER CLASS

SPECIFICATION



CLASS: CHALLENGER

AFFILIATION: STARFLEET

LAUNCHED: 24th CENTURY

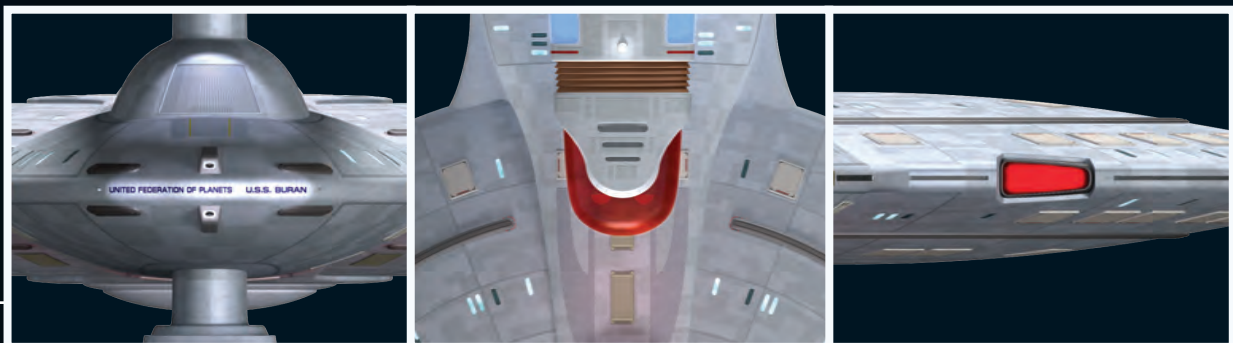
LENGTH: 390 METERS (APPROX.)

CREW: 300 (APPROX.)

TOP SPEED: WARP 9.6

WEAPONRY: PHASER EMITTERS,

PHOTON TORPEDOES





STARFLEET

CHALLENGER CLASS

With its unique positioning of warp nacelles, the *Challenger* class stood out among Starfleet ships in the 24th century.



◀ The *Challenger* class was unique for a Starfleet vessel in that it featured a single nacelle above the saucer section and another single nacelle below. The saucer and warp nacelles were almost the same design as those found on the *Galaxy* class, but slightly smaller.

The *Challenger* class was a type of vessel that was in service with Starfleet in the 24th century. It was a contemporary of the *Galaxy* class, and its saucer and nacelles were very similar in design to that class, but roughly two thirds of the size. The *Challenger* class was about 390 meters in length, and mainly used for exploration and diplomatic duties.

The most distinctive feature of the *Challenger* class was that although it had two warp nacelles, one was positioned above the saucer and one was located below. It was the only known class of Starfleet vessel that had this configuration.

Another unusual aspect of the design was that the secondary hull was attached directly to the rear of the saucer. This contained the engineering section, and it was slightly longer than the saucer hull, but thinner.

NACELLE PYLONS

A small thin pylon attached the warp nacelle to the bottom of the secondary hull, but a longer, wider, more substantial element connected the top nacelle to the ship. This part was far more than a pylon, and resembled the 'neck' section found between the saucer and secondary sections on other Starfleet vessels.

The *Challenger* class had similar abilities and facilities as the *Galaxy* class, meaning it could attain a top speed of warp 9.6 for short periods, and it was armed with multiple phaser arrays and at least two photon torpedo launchers.

The *U.S.S. Buran* NCC-57580 was a *Challenger*-class vessel, and it fought the Borg at the Battle of Wolf 359 where it was destroyed along with 39 other Starfleet ships.



◀ The *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D arrived at the aftermath of the Battle of Wolf 359 in time to still see the fire that raged through the *U.S.S. Buran* after it engaged the Borg cube. Its remains could just be seen in the bottom right of the viewscreen, while other Starfleet ships had already burnt out and hung lifelessly in space.

CARNAGE AT WOLF 359

In 2366, all contact with the New Providence colony on Jouret IV was lost. The *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D was sent to investigate what had happened to this settlement on the border between the Alpha and Beta Quadrants. When it got there, the crew discovered that the entire outpost had been scooped from the planet's surface, just like the earlier attack by the Borg on System J-25. This was the first sign that the Borg were on the doorstep of Federation space and were planning an invasion.

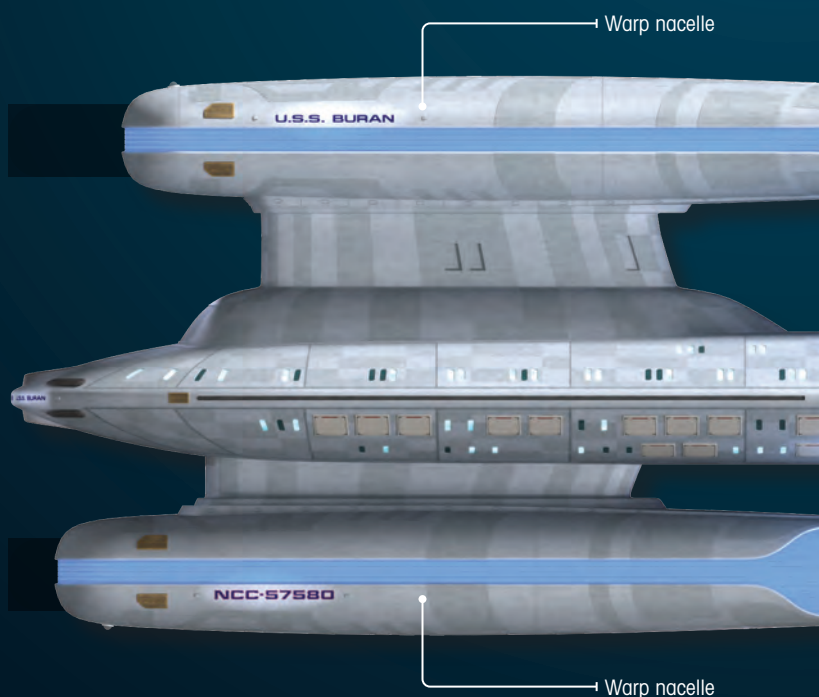
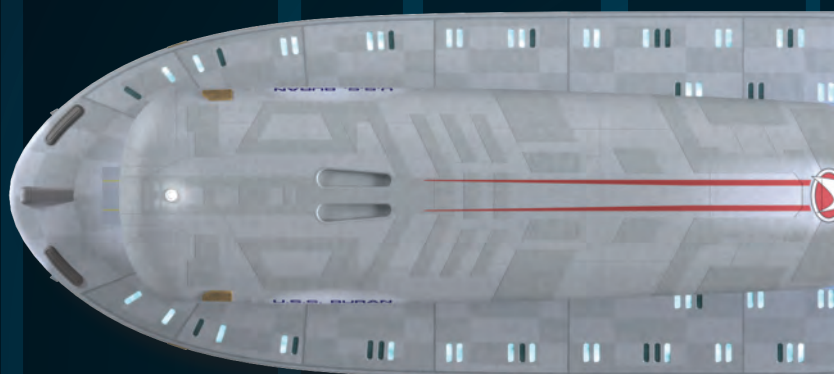
Admiral Hanson, who had been working on countermeasures for just such an attack, made his way to Starbase 324 to discuss strategy with Starfleet Command. He put together a fleet of 40 starships, and led them into battle against the Borg cube at Wolf 359, a star system about eight light years from Earth.

The fleet did not stand a prayer and all the Starfleet ships, including the *U.S.S. Buran*, were sliced apart in a matter of minutes by the Borg cube. It was only the heroic efforts of the crew of the *Enterprise-D* that eventually brought the Borg incursion to an end.

The wreck of the *Buran* was later towed to Surplus Depot Z15 near the planet Qualor II, where it was seen by the crew of the *Enterprise-D* in 2368.

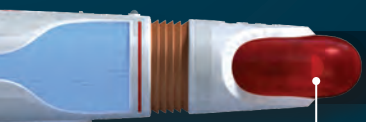


▲ Damage to its deflector dish meant that the *Enterprise-D* arrived late to the Battle of Wolf 359. When it reached the star system, the entire fleet had already been wiped out by the Borg cube.





→ Main bridge



→ Bussard collector



→ Dorsal phaser strip



→ Ventral phaser strip

RUSSIAN NAME

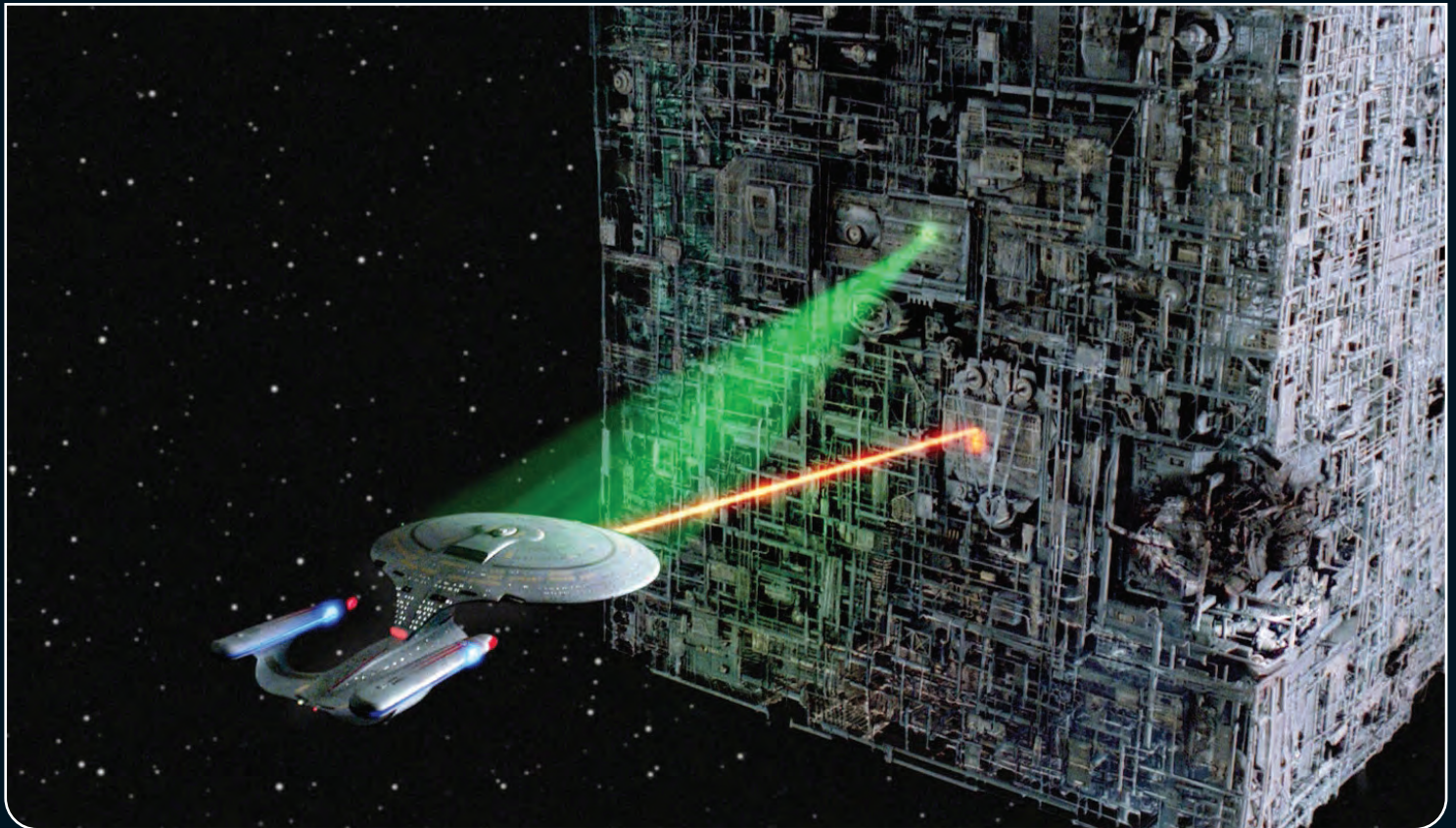
The *U.S.S. Buran* NCC-57580 was named by Ed Miarecki, who designed and built the filming model. He named it for the Russian space shuttle, and 'Buran' in Russian means 'snowstorm.'

UNEVEN NACELLES

The *Challenger* class was the only known type of Starfleet vessel where the warp nacelles did not exactly line up. Although the nacelles were the same length, the top nacelle was mounted several meters further forward than the bottom nacelle.

SAME CLASS

According to the *STAR TREK Encyclopedia*, the *U.S.S. Armstrong* NCC-57537 and the *U.S.S. Kearsarge* NCC-57566 were both *Challenger*-class vessels. The *Armstrong* suffered heavy casualties in 2373 when it was ambushed during the Federation/Klingon war.



BORG TIMELINE

Little is known about the origins of the Borg, but by combing through *STAR TREK* canon, a history of this species can be pieced together.

▲ From the moment the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D made official first contact with the Borg, the cybernetic creatures became the most feared and powerful enemies of the Federation. The Borg appeared in roughly 30 episodes of the TV franchise and one movie.

The true origins of the Borg have been lost in the mists of time, but it is known that they existed centuries ago. In the *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION* episode *Q Who*, Guinan stated that the Borg “are a mixture of organic and artificial life that has been developed over a thousand centuries.”

The Borg certainly existed as early as 1484, as in the *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* episode *Dragon’s Teeth*, Gedrin, who was a member of the Vaadwaur race, said that he had encountered the Borg before his people were put into suspended animation 892 years earlier. He also stated that at that time the Borg were considered a “minor nuisance” and had assimilated “only a few colonies.” After being awoken in 2376, Gedrin was

shocked to discover that the Borg controlled a vast area of the Delta Quadrant.

In the *VOYAGER* episode *Hope and Fear*, Arturis, a member of a race known by their Borg designation – Species 116 – claimed his people had “managed to elude the Borg for centuries.”

It is therefore known that the Borg have existed for at least hundreds of years, but it would appear that for much of that time they were a fairly minor species in the Delta Quadrant without much influence. It would seem they only became truly powerful sometime in the 22nd century, and this led them to become the almost unstoppable, assimilation machine of the 24th century.

What follows are the major events in Borg history as learned from Starfleet’s interaction with them ...

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT YEAR: 2063

Chronologically speaking, the first encounter the Borg had with humans was in 2063 when they created a temporal vortex to go back in time to assimilate Earth. The date of April 4, 2063 was chosen by the Borg because it was the day before Zefram Cochrane was due to make his pioneering warp powered flight in the *Phoenix*, which would lead to first contact with the Vulcans. The Borg hoped to stop this event as it was one of the most pivotal moments in Earth's history, which would usher in a new era of peace and prosperity for humankind.

It was only the fact that the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-E followed the Borg back in time that prevented the cybernetic race from assimilating the entire population of Earth.

The Borg incursion into this time was never recorded by the people from Earth of the 21st century. Lily Sloane was the only human from that time who saw the Borg up close. Other humans only saw the Borg sphere firing upon them, and it was too far away in orbit to see clearly. Even Zefram Cochrane never saw the Borg, although he was told about them by the crew of the *Enterprise-E* and presumably Lily Sloane.

Later, Cochrane made mention of "a group of cybernetic creatures from the future" at a speech he gave at Princeton, but his remarks were dismissed as the utterings of an eccentric scientist who was often under the influence of too much alcohol. In fact, a few years later Cochrane recanted the whole story of the "cybernetic creatures," and this was why the Borg never made it into the history books of the time.



▲ A Borg sphere created a temporal vortex and traveled back in time to 2063, where it attempted to destroy the launch site of Zefram Cochrane's *Phoenix*.

STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE EPISODE: REGENERATION YEAR: 2153



▲ Although they did not know they were Borg, an Arctic research team discovered two drones in 2153, and subsequently thawed them out.

Ninety years after the Borg attempt to stop Zefram Cochrane's first warp flight, remains of the Borg sphere, which was shot down by the *Enterprise-E*, were discovered under the snow and ice in the Arctic Circle.

A research team was sent to investigate the crash site, and they uncovered two Borg drones frozen under the ice. Of course, the researchers did not know that they were Borg, and when they thawed them out, the drones came to life. The drones assimilated members of the research team and stole their *Arctic One* transport ship in order to leave Earth.

The crew of *Enterprise* NX-01 were ordered to intercept the stolen ship, and they eventually caught up with it. Several members of *Enterprise's* crew encountered these drones, but at no time did they know that they were Borg. The closest they came was when Captain Archer suspected that they were the same cybernetic creatures that Zefram Cochrane had mentioned in his Princeton speech.

The *Arctic One* that the Borg drones had assimilated was destroyed by *Enterprise*, but not before the drones had transmitted a subspace signal to somewhere deep in the Delta Quadrant that gave Earth's spatial coordinates. Commander T'Pol worked out that it would take about 200 years for the message to reach its destination.

STAR TREK: VOYAGER EPISODE: DARK FRONTIER YEAR: 2353 & 2375

The events of the *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* two-part episode *Dark Frontier* took place in 2375, but it also looked back at the experiences of Seven of Nine's parents in 2353. Based on accounts related by species such as the El-Aurians, Magnus and Erin Hansen set out to find the Borg. Leaving Earth in the *U.S.S. Raven* NAR-32450, the two exobiologists took their young daughter Annika with them in the hope of tracking down these cybernetic creatures.

Up to this point, the Borg's existence was based on second-hand accounts and rumors. Federation scientists were skeptical, but agreed to support them. Eight months later, the Hansens were beginning to think the Borg were nothing more than a fabrication when they came across a Borg cube. Studying it at close quarters, the *Raven* was pulled into a transwarp corridor created by the cube and emerged in the Delta Quadrant.

By developing new technologies, such as multi-adaptive shielding, the Hansens were able to continue their study of the Borg for nearly three years without being detected. They amassed over ten million teraquads of data on the Borg, but in 2356 a subspace particle storm damaged the *Raven's* multi-adaptive shielding and they were detected by the Borg. This led to the assimilation of Magnus and Erin, and of their daughter Annika, who became Seven of Nine.

All the Hansen's field notes were lost and never seen until 2374, when the *U.S.S. Voyager* NCC-74656 came across the wreckage of the *Raven*.



▲ Magnus and Erin Hansen became the first humans to study the Borg, but they were assimilated before they could pass their research on to Starfleet.

STAR TREK: TNG EPISODE: Q WHO YEAR: 2365



▲ The *U.S.S. Enterprise-D* was almost destroyed by the Borg during their first encounter, and it was only the intervention of Q that saved the ship.

The seemingly omnipotent character Q turned up on the *U.S.S. Enterprise-D* in 2365 and asked to join the crew. When Captain Picard refused, Q demonstrated how much they needed him by flinging the *Enterprise-D* 7,000 light years to Sector J-25, where Starfleet had their first official encounter with the Borg.

Evidence that the Borg had begun to encroach on Federation space before this had been hinted at, but never proven. The *U.S.S. Tombaugh* had gone missing in 2362, and in 2364 Federation and Romulan outposts along the border of the Romulan Neutral Zone had been scooped from the ground. At the time, the cause of these events remained a mystery, but it was later known that the Borg was responsible.

Q wanted to show Captain Picard and his crew how ill-prepared they were to meet some of the powerful forces in the Galaxy. At first, Picard believed he could reason with the Borg, but he soon realized he was hugely mistaken. The Borg cube pursued the *Enterprise-D* relentlessly, killing 18 crew members during one attack. Unable to destroy the Borg cube, or outrun it, Picard was forced to appeal to Q to save them. Picard admitted that his ship and crew were hopelessly out of their depth against the Borg, which delighted Q. With his point proven, Q whisked the *Enterprise-D* back to Federation space and out of harm's way. Picard realized, however, that now the Borg had studied their technology, it would only be a matter of time before they invaded Federation space.

STAR TREK: TNG EPISODES: THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS YEAR: 2366

The Borg invasion of Federation space came much sooner than Starfleet expected in 2366. When the *Enterprise-D* encountered the Borg cube, Captain Picard was captured and partially assimilated. Now calling himself "Locutus of Borg," Picard acted as the Borg's mouthpiece, as the cube headed for Earth.

At Wolf 359, a fleet of 40 Starfleet vessels engaged the Borg cube, but in a matter of minutes they were destroyed. The cube continued on its seemingly inexorable path towards Earth, with the future of humanity at grave risk.

The *Enterprise-D* staged a daring rescue of Picard, and using his inside knowledge of the Borg, the crew managed to find a way to defeat the Borg cube.



▲ Captain Picard was partially assimilated during the Borg invasion of 2366, and the Borg were able to use his knowledge to defeat Starfleet defenses.

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT YEAR: 2373



▲ It was during the Borg's second attempt to assimilate Earth in 2373 that Starfleet learned that the Borg were controlled and directed by a Borg Queen.

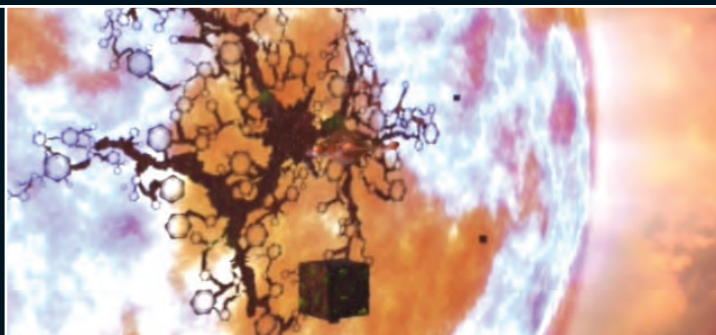
The Borg's second invasion took place eight years later in 2373 at the Battle of Sector 001. This time an armada of Starfleet vessels was much more prepared and put up stronger resistance. Nevertheless, a Borg cube broke through the lines and reached Earth, but it was stopped by the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-E*.

Before the cube exploded, it released a smaller sphere, which generated a temporal vortex and traveled back in time. Fortunately, the *Enterprise-E* followed it, and Picard and his crew were able to stop them too. It was here that the Federation learned of the Borg Queen's existence. She functioned like the queen of an insect hive to coordinate the drones, and in her own words brought "order to chaos."

STAR TREK: VOYAGER EPISODE: ENDGAME YEAR: 2378

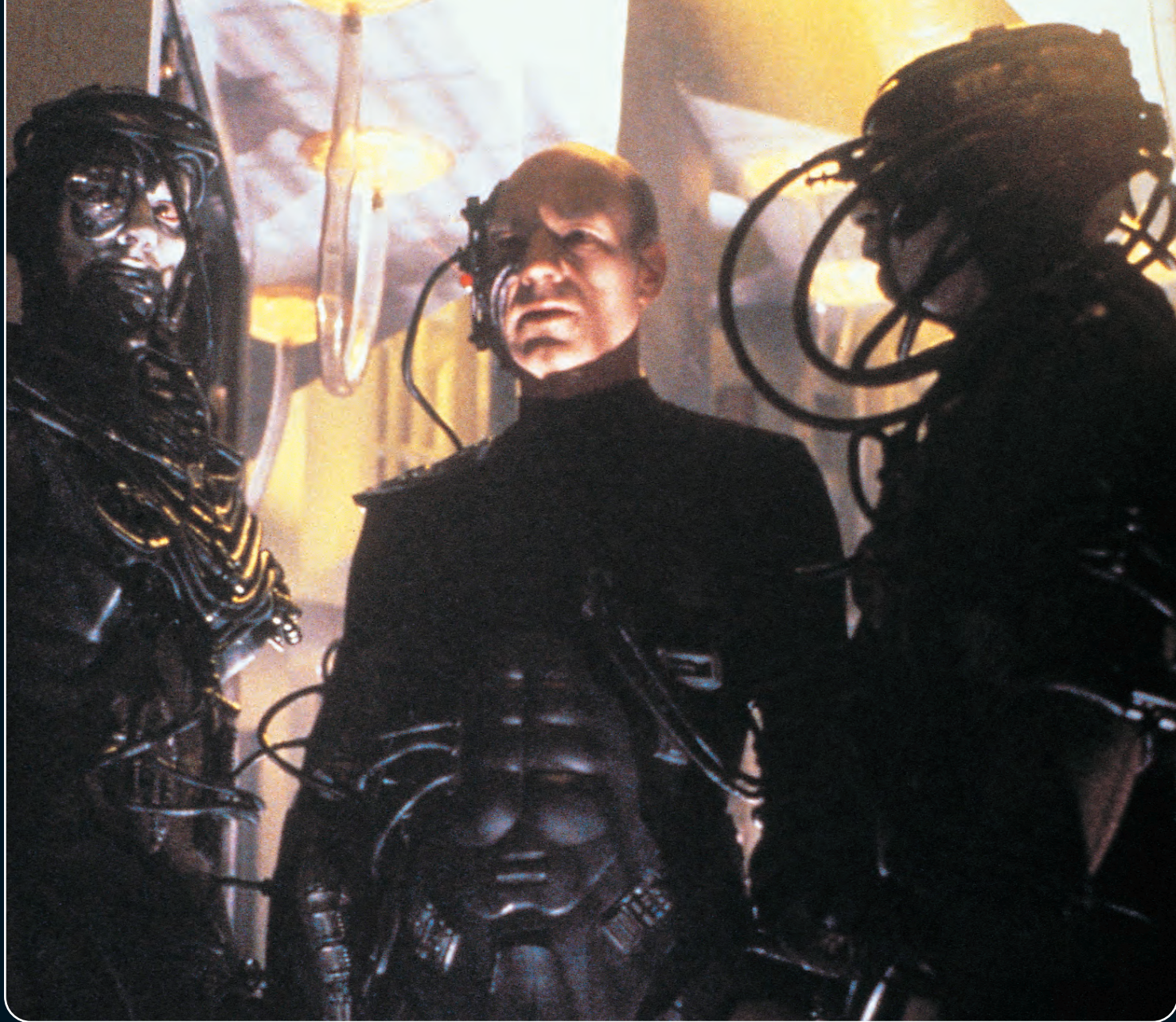
The crew of the *U.S.S. Voyager NCC-74656* had many encounters with the Borg during their time in the Delta Quadrant, but their final and most telling confrontation came in 2378. Admiral Janeway traveled back in time from 2404 with anti-Borg technology to help the *Voyager* crew infiltrate a Borg transwarp hub, as it offered them the chance to return to Earth almost immediately.

Admiral Janeway infected herself with a neurolytic pathogen and allowed the Borg Queen to assimilate her, so the pathogen was passed on. *Voyager* made it home,



▲ Thanks to the actions of a time-traveling Admiral Janeway, the crew of *Voyager* were able to penetrate a Borg transwarp hub and find a way home.

while the whole transwarp network was brought down in a chain reaction as the Queen died. In the process, the Borg had been dealt a massive blow, with one of their primary transport hubs destroyed and the Collective in chaos.



STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

FOURTH SEASON MAKEUP

Makeup supremo Michael Westmore talked about some of the stunning creations he came up with in the fourth season of the show.

▲ Season Four opened with *The Best of Both Worlds, Part II*, where the makeup department transformed Patrick Stewart into Locutus, the spokesman for the Borg.

Season Four of *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION* launched with the sequel to the show's first cliffhanger finale. 'The Best of Both Worlds, Part I' had seen Captain Picard captured by the Borg and turned into their half-Borgified spokesman, Locutus: a sinister image, and the result of the makeup department's usual ingenuity.

"There was a lot of decision-making on how

much we were going to cover Patrick Stewart," recalled makeup supervisor Michael Westmore. "The final decision was to do half a head. The headpiece actually went from the center of his nose to the back of his head. And then there were a few extra little appliances – a tube hole, and another Borg implant near his left ear. All the pieces were sculpted for Patrick. There was also

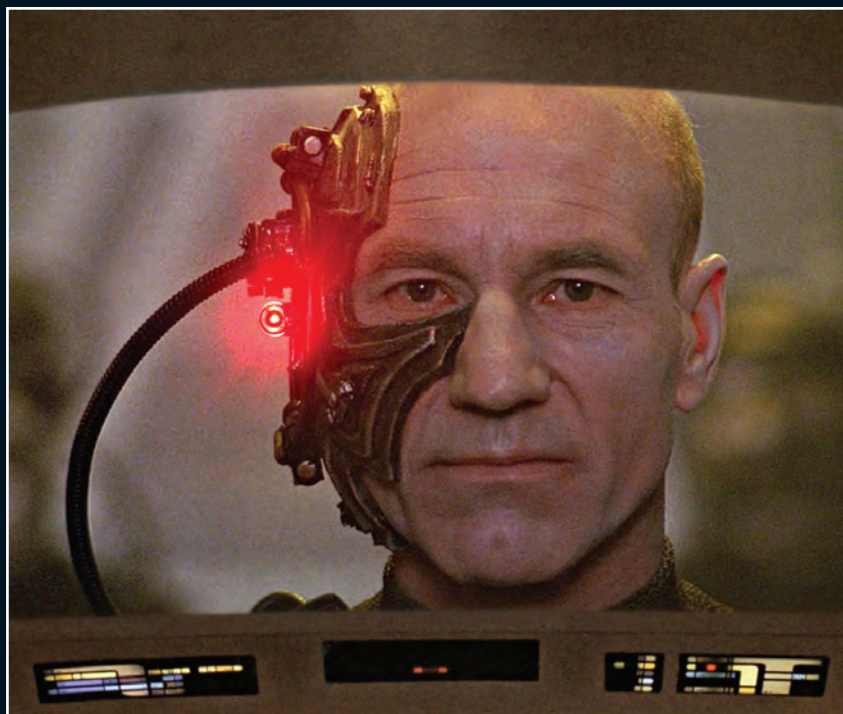
a mechanical piece that went over his left eye, almost like a little windshield wiper that would zip back and forth. It was radio-controlled, and you could hear it because the motor that ran it was concealed in a piece at the back of his head.

LASER DEBUT

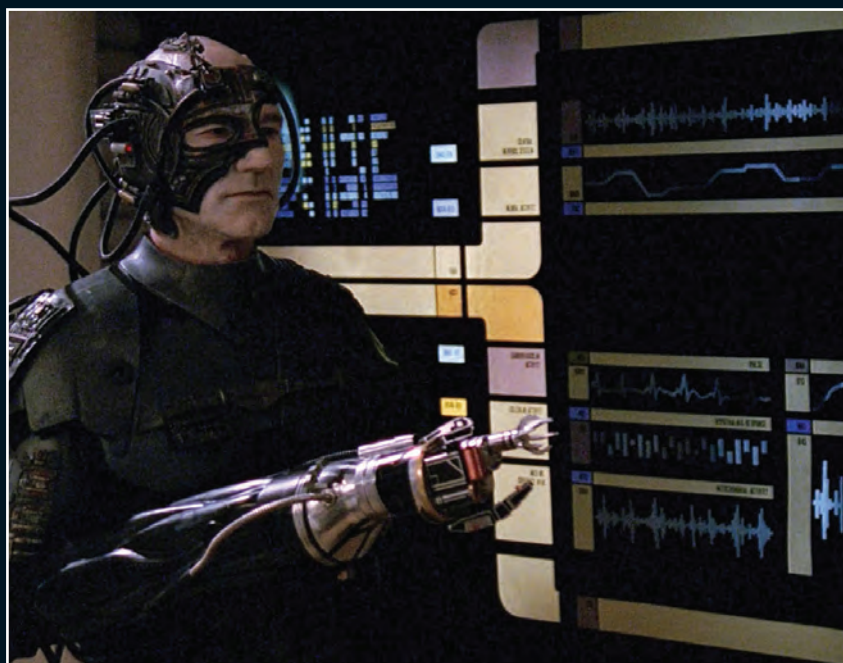
"This was also the first time that a laser had been used on screen, in the scene where Patrick swung his eye around and looked right into the lens. I heard the feature film *Predator* was using a laser (*Predator 2*, 1990), so my son, Michael Jr., who was doing all the electronics for me then, found this little laser that was only two inches long and built a mechanism so we could mount it right next to Patrick's eye. The first time we had the laser on, everybody was concerned. We wondered, 'Is it going to burn us? Is it going to blind us?' To be safe, the camera operator set the camera and didn't look into the lens. When Patrick turned and looked into the lens, it looked like it was shattering it. I got a call from (executive producer) Rick Berman, and he said, 'Oh, this is wonderful. What a neat thing!' But really, we had actually no idea what it was going to do. If we'd used a light it would have been just a kind of flare, but being a laser it actually had a beam that bounced off the mirrors in the camera. To do that now, it would be an optical (computer-generated) effect." To round off the groundbreaking effort, the show aired before *Predator 2* was released.

How did Patrick Stewart react to the unaccustomed makeup? "Oh, he loved it!" recalled Westmore. "You could keep him in the chair for 10 hours. He loved playing characters and getting out of the captain's skin and into somebody else's so that he could do something different. He would even sit there and make suggestions. Everyone enjoyed working with Patrick when he had to go into a long makeup."

The design of the Borg drones dated back to their first appearance in the second season episode *Q Who?* "The head was designed so that I could open areas or close areas," said Westmore. "There were about a half a dozen spots that I could either fill up or open up so you would see skull or helmet. I'd literally have little patches, and then I'd use tubings and the other little extra pieces. But making up the Borg was very quick. As



▲ The makeup team incorporated a small laser into the eyepiece that Patrick Stewart wore as Locutus, which created a really cool shattering effect as he looked into the camera.



they wore a full helmet all we had to do was make up the front of the face and maybe put a little bullet hole there, put a tube into it, and just paint their face."

THREE CHARACTERS

Brent Spiner had a heavier makeup show in *Brothers*, where he played three roles – those of Data, Lore, and the androids' creator, Dr. Noonien

▲ Property master Alan Sims created the prosthetic arms that were worn by the Borg. He used a remote control with two control joysticks and an antenna to make the arm move and spin the various attachments.



▲ Michael Westmore's skills and Brent Spiner's endurance were put to the test in *Brothers*. Spiner played the roles of Data, Lore, and their creator Dr. Noonien Soong.

Soong. Westmore remembered, "Soong was probably the second longest makeup that we'd done, because I sculpted an entire head for him: an entire bald head that made him look smaller by making his cranium look larger. And I had backs of hands sculpted, and then we glued them on. It took two of us about four hours to put him into it every day because there was just so much



◀ Spiner spent hours in the makeup chair while Westmore added the facial prosthetics, which included an enlarged cranium, to turn him into the elderly Dr. Soong.

▶ The alien that was seen at the end of *Future Imperfect* was actually a teenage girl within a costume. She was made up to look similar to a Roswell-like alien.

work. As well as the big full head and the hands we had the eyebags, the nose, the upper lip, lower lip, chin, and throat – it took forever."

THE KLINGONS

A couple of weeks later came a very busy show for the makeup department – *Reunion*, featuring the Klingons: K'Ehleyr and little Alexander, K'mpec, Gowron, and Duras. "We tried to do something different with Gowron," said Westmore. "Most of the Klingons had goatees and Fu Manchu moustaches, and so we gave Gowron mutton chops with a little zip in the front, and a distinctive forehead. Interestingly enough, he was the only one who ever wore it. I had 35 different Klingon molds and we kind of mixed and matched and passed things around, but Gowron's design was so different that I really couldn't put it on anyone else, and nobody came along from the House of Gowron to be able to wear it."

Older Klingons didn't just get gray hair but carefully thought-out wrinkles. "The foreheads for the very old Klingons could only be used on them," said Westmore. "The forehead wrinkles and bumps were supposed to look like mountains that had worn down over a period of time." At the other end of the age range, little Alexander also got the full treatment. "He went through the whole process, except we put two people on him



▶ Westmore created a unique look for Gowron. He was the only Klingon to have a mutton chops beard, and his forehead was given a distinctive cranial pattern.



because of the limited time you get with a child," said Westmore. "He had a little forehead that was sculpted to look exactly like Worf's, and a little teeny nose about an inch and a half long."

AGEING THE CREW

Future Imperfect saw changes for two of the regular crew when they were seen aboard a Romulan vessel in an illusory future for Riker. Picard's hair was longer, and he had a small beard and moustache; Troi had a distinguished gray streak in her hair. "I don't think we used any appliances for Picard," said Westmore. "It was done with highlights and shadows as far as the makeup went. When you aged women, you took the color out of their face, and you didn't use the heavy lip liner."

Most spectacular of all was the 'real' form of the child, Barash, revealed at the end of the show as an almost classic bug-eyed alien. "They wanted to do something that was like the Roswell alien, but not that - just in that vein," said Westmore. "And it was a little girl under the makeup. When I say 'little,' I'm talking about a girl who was about 18 years old who was petite - she was a friend of mine. She was short enough and thin enough to be able to body-double for the boy. That alien head had electronics in the eyes so they could blink, and Michael (Jr.) put that together. And

there were little gloves with long fingers like tentacles. I also made little feet for her, which would have been fine if we were working on the stage but they were actually on a platform and it was all rocky and hilly where she had to walk. The toes were bouncy so we put washers on the ends of them, but I think we ended up having to take them off. And she couldn't see! All she could really do, once we got her into the costume and pointed her in the right direction, was to take three steps ahead or whatever we said. And then they'd say 'Cut' and we'd pull the mask off."

BOLIAN MAKEUP

Mot the Bolian barber appeared for the first time in *Data's Day*. "Most of the Bolians shaved their head totally," said Westmore. "The Bolian makeup, as simple as it may have seemed, took about three hours to do because the appliance had to be laid all the way from the bridge of the nose down the back of the head, then down the bridge of the nose to the front of the throat, and this was all one piece. It all had to be glued on very carefully and blended out, otherwise you'd see it. And then the entire head had to be painted blue. The blue color did change over time, depending on the artist, but I tried to keep it basically a sky blue with a watermelon pattern of the darker blue stripes coming off the head."

▲ The Bolian race returned in the form of Mot the barber in *Data's Day*. This required the whole head to be encased in prosthetics, and then painted sky blue.



▲ Marc Alaimo's long neck and chiseled features helped inspire the makeup design for the Cardassians, who were first seen in *The Wounded*.

▲► The ultimate makeup of the season was for Geordi's transformation into a lizard-like creature in *Identity Crisis*. It took six hours to get LeVar Burton into the all-over makeup, which included ultra-violet veins that had to be glued onto his body.

One of *STAR TREK*'s most popular aliens came along in *The Wounded*, when we saw the Cardassians for the first time. "That was great," said Westmore. "This was a character that we were probably going to bring back again, so we wanted to design something neat. I did a plaster cast of Marc Alaimo's (Gul Macet) head, and I was sitting there looking at it; he has this very long neck, and the producers had said this was going to be a sneaky character, so all the adjectives indicated that this would be a snaky, lizardy personality, and for inspiration I went to reptile."

GUEST STARS

First Contact had some major guest actors as the Malcorians, including Bebe Neuwirth, of *Frasier* fame. "They wanted to keep the actors' look, so that you knew who they were," said Westmore. "Bebe had a read over on *Frasier* (also filmed at Paramount), so she wore her *STAR TREK* makeup over there and created a riot! They also had foreheads and I think there were spots on the foreheads, and then they had partial wigs.

"The Malcorians had opposable thumbs, but their hands were not individual fingers. Those hands were glued on tight, and only came off to go to the bathroom! It added more time having to

do the hands, so I needed a lot of makeup artists to do it."

One of the regular cast suffered in *Identity Crisis*. Geordi La Forge became a lizard-like creature, a transformation that required hours of attention from the makeup team. His former colleague Susanna Leijten was mildly affected, which required veins to be painted on. "On her it was just makeup," said Westmore. "Then Geordi had to go through his metamorphosis, and that was the longest makeup ever on the show. I had four to six makeup artists working on him for six hours to get him into that. He had a lizard head, he had flipper-like hands and feet, and a bicycle pant appliance through his midsection, because apart from that he had to be naked.

MARATHON MAKEUP

"All that had to be glued on before we started doing any painting," continued Westmore. "Then we had hundreds of veins that had to be glued on individually over his entire body, after the head went on and all the rest of the pieces. There wasn't any costume involved – it was all makeup. He also had yellow contact lenses, and we used special drops that made his eyes glow and to bring out the iridescence. It was a long day and

an uncomfortable one for him, and he didn't have control over anything."

The most effective part of the makeup was, of course, the ultra-violet veining. "We were using ultra violet at that time for different things, including contact lenses," said Westmore. "Now it would be an optical, but at that time we had to do a lot of experimenting. There was a company that made fluorescent makeup, and they also made a fluorescent light that you could use with natural lighting and the things would glow without the room having to be black."

Geordi's two fellow lizards were played by L.A. disk jockeys Marc Thompson and Brian Phelps. "They actually broadcasted their radio show from the makeup room while we were making them up," said Westmore. "They wore suits, and we had to glue on the heads and hands and feet." How come Geordi didn't get a suit too? "He wouldn't have wanted to be in a suit," said Westmore. "They weren't fun - they were like giant wetsuits. But I don't know why that decision was made. I think if it was a suit and he was moving, you were going to get wrinkles because it was impossible to fit it that tight. And once you got him into it, you couldn't take him out of it in a hurry!"

A SEASON'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Season Four ended with another cliffhanger - this time for the Klingons. We met the Duras Sisters for the first time, as well as young Toral, Duras's illegitimate son. "What I did was take Duras's forehead from the earlier show and do a variation on a theme, so the Duras family would all have a similar look to them if they all got together at a family reunion," said Westmore. "Unlike K'Ehleyr, Lursa and B'Etor were full-on Klingons. They had darker skin tones than K'Ehleyr too, but the Klingon women were a lighter shade than the men were, all the time. Unless you were dealing with a black woman, the women's skin seemed a lot fairer than the men's, so if you tried to put a heavy, dark color on, it looked strange."

Westmore and his team could justifiably be proud of their work during the show's fourth year, and after the hiatus they were back again, dealing with the Klingons in the second half of the two-parter and with many more aliens, from the Tamarians to the J'naii, in store for the fifth season.



◀ *First Contact* featured some well-known guest stars, including Bebe Neuwirth, who played Lanel, a Malcorian nurse. Normally, when famous guest stars appeared on the show, their makeup was deliberately kept light so the audience could recognize them.

◀ The end of Season Four saw the return of the Klingons, and Westmore gave the whole Duras family a similar forehead pattern, reinforcing their family ties.

ON SCREEN

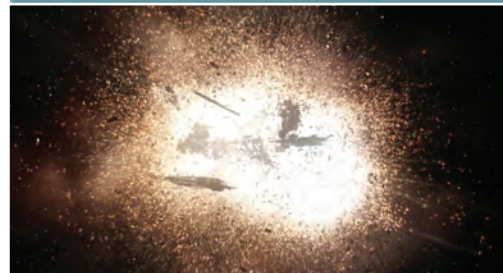


TRIVIA

STAR TREK VFX supervisor Gary Hutzel recalled how he was having a hard time coming up with how to show the destruction of the fleet that engaged the Borg cube, particularly as the budget was very limited. It was then that his coordinator Judy Elkins had the brilliant idea of having the people from the art department build starships models from commercially available kits. "We were able to get quite a few ships made that way with pretty minimal effort and money," said Hutzel. "The toy company gave us the models for free."



Gary Hutzel also recalled the almighty mess he created when filming the destruction of the Borg cube. "I put chicken wire over a framework, and stapled that on to the plastic model," said Hutzel. "I didn't know that putting chicken wire inside of something with primer cord would cause it to become a big grenade. They'd cleared the stage before we fired it, but we came back in and saw bits of chicken wire stuck on the walls."



Prior to the filming of *The Best of Both Worlds, Part II*, LeVar Burton had surgery, and this was why he only appeared in close-ups. Most of Geordi La Forge's lines were given to Colm Meaney's Chief O'Brien.

- FIRST APPEARANCE:** THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, PART II (TNG)
- TV APPEARANCES:** STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
- DESIGNED BY:** Ed Miarecki & Mike Okuda

KEY APPEARANCES

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION ***The Best of Both Worlds, Part II***

With Captain Picard seemingly lost to the Borg, Admiral Hanson grants Commander Riker a field commission to captain, while informing him that Starfleet has put together a fleet to meet the Borg cube at Wolf 359.

After repairs to the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D are complete, the ship warps to the site of the battle, but it is too late. The crew are stunned into silence as they take in the devastation. The burnt-out hulks of Starfleet ships are everywhere, including the *Challenger*-class *U.S.S. Buran* NCC-57580, which is still smouldering.

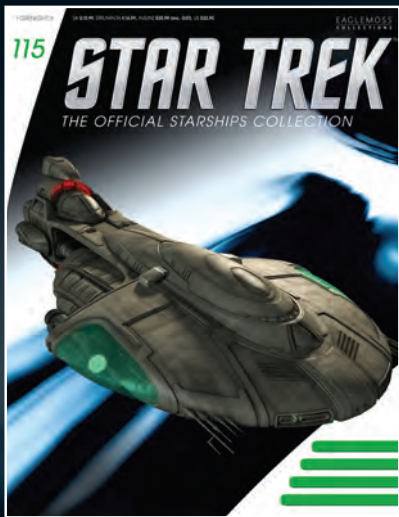
Riker realizes that if they are to defeat the Borg cube, they must do something unexpected, as the Borg now know everything that Picard knows about Starfleet defenses.

Riker orders the *Enterprise* to separate, and while the Borg cube goes after the battle section, the saucer fires a full antimatter spread, which masks the approach of a shuttle carrying Worf and Data. This allows them to beam onto the cube and rescue Picard.

Once back on the *Enterprise*, the crew try to reach a part of Picard that is still human, in the hope he can provide a weakness in the Borg they can exploit before Earth is assimilated.

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- Makeup supervisor **Michael Westmore** explains how he updated the look of the **Tellarites**, who had not featured prominently since **THE ORIGINAL SERIES**

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