

Kandor to Planet E

BY ANDREA HAYES



Performers

Fifteen or more. Gender and number are flexible. Can replace Dr Woo 3 with three characters, and add extras to STF team.

Length

Twenty minutes.

Director's notes

A Special Task Force from Planet Kandor is about to leave on a secret mission to Planet E. They must find and bring back the valuable substance 'hassite'. General Zat and other experts must brief the Kandorites about the peculiar habits and anatomy of Earthbods, and the dangers of 'hereboys', 'smileflash' and other tortures. They must also learn how to disguise themselves. This humorous play makes fun of our lifestyles and habits by taking an alien point of view.

Scene dock

A simple set is required, consisting of two chairs plus a display board used to show sketches to the audience and the Special Task Force. Sketches and costumes are described on page 3.



Special Task Force (STF)	Axel 1, Akkan 7, Amet 8, Andile 13 and extras
GK 50	Helper robot
General Zat	Military director of Planet Kandor
Ore 10	Geographer
Dr Yurikov 2	Earthbod anatomy specialist, speaks with accent
Dr Woo 3	Anthropologist
Fido 5	Hereboy specialist
Magnese 5	Pizza researcher, very excitable, always moving
Professor X4	Earth lingo specialist, expressionless voice
Barbie 100	Makeover specialist
Hass 1	Famous pilot, very old, on wheels, has to be woken to speak
Commander Zia	Leader of mission, very tough



Rehearsal room

1 Earthbod demonstrations

The characters use diagrams to explain the ways of Earthlings to the Special Task Force. In your performance you might like to act these demonstrations in mime rather than use the diagrams. To prepare for this, choose two or three from the sketches on the display board (listed on page 3). Practise ways in which you feel these sketches could be performed in mime. Rehearse and present your mimes to the class.

2 Alien movements

Find an unusual way of moving through the room. For example, you might walk on your knees or the sides of your feet. You might crawl backwards or alternate between a hop and sliding one foot. Develop these moves into an alien character. Add one of the following sounds as you move: *click, cluck, whistle*.

Notes

Costumes

The Kandorites are octopus-like aliens with ten tentacles (including your arms and legs) and six eyes (including your own). STF, General Zat and Commander Zia should all have the same colour tentacles. When they dress as humans they do so very badly, using sunglasses, masks of famous people (dead or alive) and cartoon characters, and a variety of non-matching hats.

Movement

All the aliens sway when they walk. They click, cluck and whistle when excited. The military officers salute using both arms, like a double salute.

Props

Sketches for display board (DB):

- 1 Globe, labelled 'Planet E', showing Australia
- 2 Equation representing hassite, for example:

<p>pizza box + salt water = fuel</p>

- 3 Map showing water, desert, city and volcano, labelled: 'Deep blue sea', 'Dessert', 'Town' and 'Disaster'
- 4 Diagrams of Earthbod and Kandorite
- 5 Pyramid of 'Who's in charge'—four types of Earthbods
- 6 Frazzled Earthbod with dog on a lead, labelled 'hereboy'
- 7 Pizza
- 8 Rubbish hopper
- 9 Rubbish truck
- 10 Sentence: 'Dunno a pair of smallreg pizzas no bloody pineapple crap merry xmas.'
- 11 Earthbod makeover steps
- 12 Barbecue, labelled 'Bee-bee-queue'

scene

STF training facility

GK 50 enters, straightens display board (DB) and stands beside it. Special Task Force (STF) enters, swaying as they walk so all their tentacles swing. They sit on the floor in a row at the front of the stage. They click, cluck and whistle excitedly.

GK 50 *[robot voice]* Special Task Force, attention! General Zat is approaching.

[General Zat enters and STF members stand and salute.]

General Zat At ease, Special Task Force.

[STF members sit quietly.]

General Zat Are we ready, GK 50?

GK 50 Yes, General Zat.

General Zat Special Task Force team, in one speigal you will go on a top secret mission. Your destination is Planet E!

[GK 50 flips over page to reveal 'Planet E'. STF members click, cluck and whistle. Andile 13 starts to groan.]

General Zat You will be going to Planet E to locate and bring back as much hassite as you can. Before you go...

[Andile 13 groans, stands and sways.]

GK 50 That is Andile 13, sir.

General Zat Speak, Andile 13!

Andile 13 *[groaning]* General Zat, sir, I didn't know I was volunteering for a mission to Planet E. I get space sickness.

General Zat A brave Kandorite ignores space sickness, Andile 13, and so will you!

[Andile 13 sits, groaning.]

General Zat You know how much our Kandor department of intergalactic tourism relies on hassite to propel its rocket ships and saucers. Our supplies are running out. It is imperative that we find more. Planet E has lots, and we need it. GK 50?

[GK 50 flips DB page to reveal 'hassite' equation.]