

NO. 17

# PEEP COMICS

ACTION  
DETECTIVE  
ADVENTURE

JULY  
OF

HERE HE IS  
FELLOWS, THE  
HANGMAN!

BOY, IS HE  
A GREAT GUY!  
LOOK FOR HIM  
INSIDE!!



comics'  
NEWEST SENSATION...  
**THE HANGMAN**

## USE THIS COUPON!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE, AND SEND IT TO ME WITH A TWO-CENT STAMP ONLY, TO COVER THE EXACT COST OF MAILING.

Joe Higgins  
Room 315  
60 Hudson St.  
New York City

DEAR JOE:

PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE SHIELD G-MAN CLUB. I AM ENCLOSED THIS ENTIRE COUPON OF PEP COMICS TOGETHER WITH A 2¢ STAMP TO HANDLE THE COST OF MAILING MY BADGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STREET

CITY

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_

CUT ON THIS LINE



Fellers, thanks for the thousands of coupons, asking for membership in my club! So many letters have come in, that I am unable to start the discussion of them in this issue! However, just keep following this page, and you new prospects for membership, send in your coupons today, because the sooner you join, the sooner you'll like it!



All members of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB will receive a beautiful Red, White and Blue membership badge, plus an identification card personally signed by me . . .

Joe Higgins, absolutely

# FREE!

This is to certify that

JOHN FRAZER

is a member in good standing of the  
**SHIELD G-MAN CLUB**  
and is entitled to all privileges pursuant  
thereof.

JOE HIGGINS (The Shield)

To become a member of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB, all you have to do, is write your name and address on the coupon above and mail it to me, enclosing a two-cent stamp to cover the cost of mailing . . . "That's all there is, there ain't no more requirements for membership!"

And be sure you keep tuned to this page in every issue of PEP COMICS, because from now on this is the "Shield G-Man Club" page. That means it is your page. Here, I will discuss the purpose of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB and whatever we are going to do depends on exactly what you want me to do. So, as soon as you get your identification card, if you have any ideas for organizing groups in your own town, or if you have ever had any experience working with the law, send me a line and let me know. Your letter will be discussed right on this page.

# FLASHBACK

FLASHBACK is a publication of SPECIAL EDITION REPRINTS/RR #1 BOX #297/EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS 61244. Editor: Alan L. Light. This is issue number 16, reprinting PEP COMICS #17, from 1941. Originally copyrighted in 1941 by M.L.J. Magazines, Inc. The purpose of FLASHBACK is to provide comic book fans and collectors with quality, inexpensive reprints of rare and expensive original Golden Age comic books. A FREE CATALOG OF PRODUCTS IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

OH, OH! THE PLACE  
WHERE THE HANGMAN  
IS IS NO HEALTHY  
SPOT FOR MADAM  
SATAN!

ANYTIME YOU'RE  
IN A JAM, JUST CALL  
ON JU JU WATSON!

SURE GLAD  
TO HAVE  
YOU IN  
**PEP COMICS**  
FELLA!

ME AN' TWERP  
ARE SURE PROUD  
TO BE IN THE  
SAME BOOK  
WITH YOU!

WHEE! WE'VE  
SURE GOT  
SOME SWELL  
BUNCH OF  
GUYS IN **PEP**  
NOW!

I MAY BE THE  
CHAMP, BUT I'D  
SURE HATE TO  
TANGLE WITH  
HIM!

YOU  
SAID  
IT!

SCOTLAND  
YARD COULD  
USE YOU, YOU  
KNOW!

KIN I  
HAVE YER  
AUTOGRAPH?

WELCOME TO  
**PEP COMICS**  
HANGMAN!

**PEP**  
**COMICS**



**SPECIAL OFFERING FOR **PEP COMICS** FANS**

ON THE BACK COVER  
OF THIS MAGAZINE  
**NEXT MONTH**

A PICTURE OF STEEL STERLING  
HIS DALS-CLANCY, LOONEY...  
AND DORA

**SUITABLE FOR FRAMING!**

DON'T FAIL  
TO GET YOUR  
*Copy!*



# BENTLEY of SCOTLAND YARD

AND THE CASE OF...  
THE PARACHUTE KILLER



SIR ARCHIBALD WAVERLEY, ONE OF ENGLAND'S GENERALS, HAS OBTAINED SPECIAL LEAVE TO RETURN HOME - AT THE MOMENT, HE IS SEATED IN HIS LIBRARY, ABOUT TO SUMMON HIS FAMILY!

WHILE IN SCOTLAND YARD...



WE HAVE NEW DUTIES, BENTLEY - ROUNDING UP GERMAN PARACHUTE TROOPS. YOU MIGHT RUN DOWN TO GENERAL WAVERLEY'S PLACE AND SORT OF KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!

RIGHT - O CHIEF!

JUST AS BENTLEY IS ON HIS WAY TO THE WAVERLEY ESTATE, A STORMY SCENE IS BEING ENACTED THERE BETWEEN SIR ARCHIBALD AND ROGER KIMBERLEY HIS DAUGHTER'S FIANCEE!



SEE HERE, LINDA! I CAME HOME ESPECIALLY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE TO ROGER!

FATHER PLEASE! WE LOVE EACH OTHER!

YES, GENERAL!



I'M CONVINCED THAT YOU'RE A FORTUNE-HUNTER KIMBERLEY AND I WON'T HAVE THIS MARRIAGE BECAUSE...



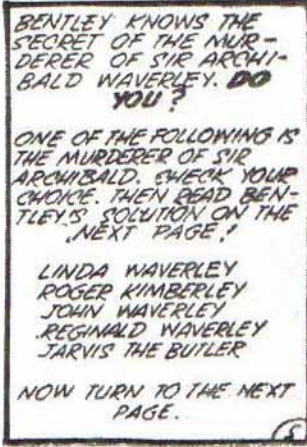
FATHER! LOOK OUT!

OOO!











THANK YOU, BUT I PREFER TO STAND! SUPPOSE YOU SIT DOWN!

ER... I'D RATHER NOT!



NO, OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T BECAUSE YOU KNOW IT WOULD MEAN YOUR DEATH. AS IT DID SIR ARCHIBALDS. YOU ARE THE MURDERER, ROGER KIMBERLEY.

WH. WHO YOU'RE CRAZY!



SO I'M CRAZY, AM I?



NOT HALF AS CRAZY AS YOU WERE - TO THINK YOU COULD GET AWAY WITH IT!

OOPS!



NO YOU DON'T, YOU FILTHY KILLER!

LET ME GO!



NOW STAND BACK, EVERYBODY, AND I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT WAS DONE. KIMBERLEY KNEW THAT THIS WAS SIR ARCHIBALD'S FAVORITE CHAIR, SO HE CLEVERLY BUILT A SPRING IN IT'S BACK...



THEN WHEN THERE IS ANY PRESSURE AGAINST IT, AN ARTIFICIAL HAND HIDDEN BEHIND THE WINDOW DRAPE IS RELEASED - LIKE THIS!



YOU SEE, I TRICKED KIMBERLEY INTO EXPOSING HIMSELF. I KNEW HOW IT HAD BEEN DONE, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHO DID IT!

FATHER WAS RIGHT ABOUT ROGER AFTER ALL. HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?



ALL RIGHT, THE JIG'S UP! MIGHT AS WELL TELL WHY I KILLED HIM. HE HAD ME INVESTIGATED AND FOUND OUT THAT I'D BEEN MARRIED A COUPLE OF TIMES BEFORE - FOR MONEY. IF HE TOLD LINDA, SHE WOULD NEVER HAVE MARRIED ME!



ANOTHER BAFFLING AND WEIRD BENTLEY MYSTERY IN NEXT PEP COMICS - DEATH BY THE MUMMY'S HAND!

# DANNY IN WONDER- LAND



H. SWORTH  
L. STEELER

DANNY IN THE LAST EPISODE SUCCEEDED IN RESCUING SOME BAD LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE ISLAND OF PLAYLAND, WHERE THEY WERE ABOUT TO BE TURNED INTO JACKASSES. NOW THEY ARE ON A SAILBOAT, HOMEWARD BOUND.

ER..AH..GULP. MY NAMES KUPKAKE... WHAT'S YOURS?

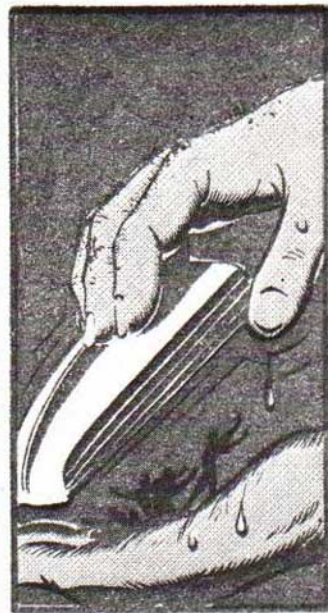
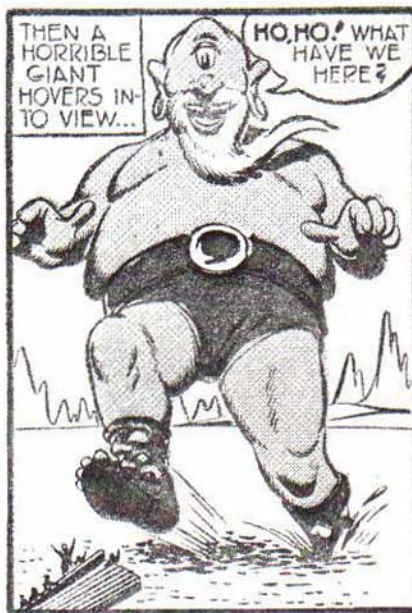
MARGIE!

GEE WHIZ! THAT'S AN AWFUL PRETTY NAME... ER... DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU?

NO, WHY?

WELL...ULP.. THEY BOTHER ME...GULP!

TEE HEE! YOU SURE ARE CUTE, KUPKAKE!





NOW INTO THE CAVE WITH THE REST OF MY LAMBS! I'LL FATTEN YOU UP JUST LIKE I DO MY SHEEP. BEFORE I EAT YOU!



AND JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T ESCAPE I'LL BLOCK UP THE CAVE ENTRANCE!



OH, KUPPIE! WHAT WILL WE DO? YOU MUST SAVE US!



WON'T WE, DANNY, HUH?



WELL WE'LL TRY ANYWAY!..WE'LL HAFTA TRY 'N OUTSMART THE GIANT! I HAVE AN IDEA,..BUT YOU ALL MUST COOPERATE!

YOU BETCHA WE WILL, DANNY!

JUST TELL US WHAT TO DO!



FIRST GET A PAIR OF SHEARS OUT OF THE BOAT'S HOLD!



NOW, WE'RE GONNA CUT OFF SOME WOOL FROM THESE SHEEP 'N START A FIRE IN HERE!



WHEN I LIGHT THIS, I WANT SOME OF YOU KIDS TO KEEP THE FLAMES SMOTHERED SO'S TO MAKE LOTS OF SMOKE!









DANNY GETS A BURNING BRAND FROM THE CAVE AND..

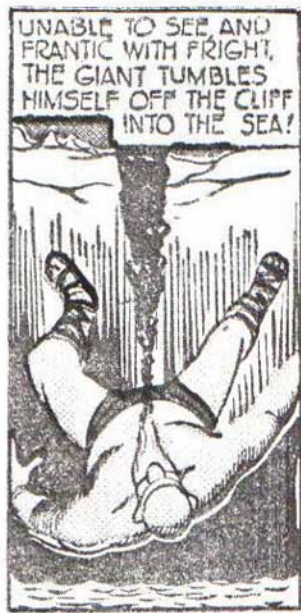
I'LL SHOW THAT BIG STIFF!



AS THE GIANT GRASPS AT THE SCATTERING SHEEP, DANNY RUSHES TO SET FIRE TO HIS BEARD!



(ROAR) MY BEARD'S ON FIRE!



UNABLE TO SEE AND FRANTIC WITH FRIGHT, THE GIANT TUMBLES HIMSELF OFF THE CLIFF INTO THE SEA!



WHEEE! WE'RE SAVED! DANNY KILLED THE GIANT!

YES! HE'S DROWNED, ALL RIGHT! HE'LL NEVER EAT ANOTHER HUMAN BEING AGAIN!

HURRAY!



OH, DANNY! YOU AND KUPPIE ARE WONDERFUL!

GEE, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM! THE GOAT RAN OFF WITH HIM!

KUPPIE!



OFF INTO THE HILLS GOES DANNY IN SEARCH OF KUPPIE!

KUPPIE!. OH, KUPPIE! WHERE ARE YOU?



DANNY! I'M UP HERE!

WHA... WHERE?



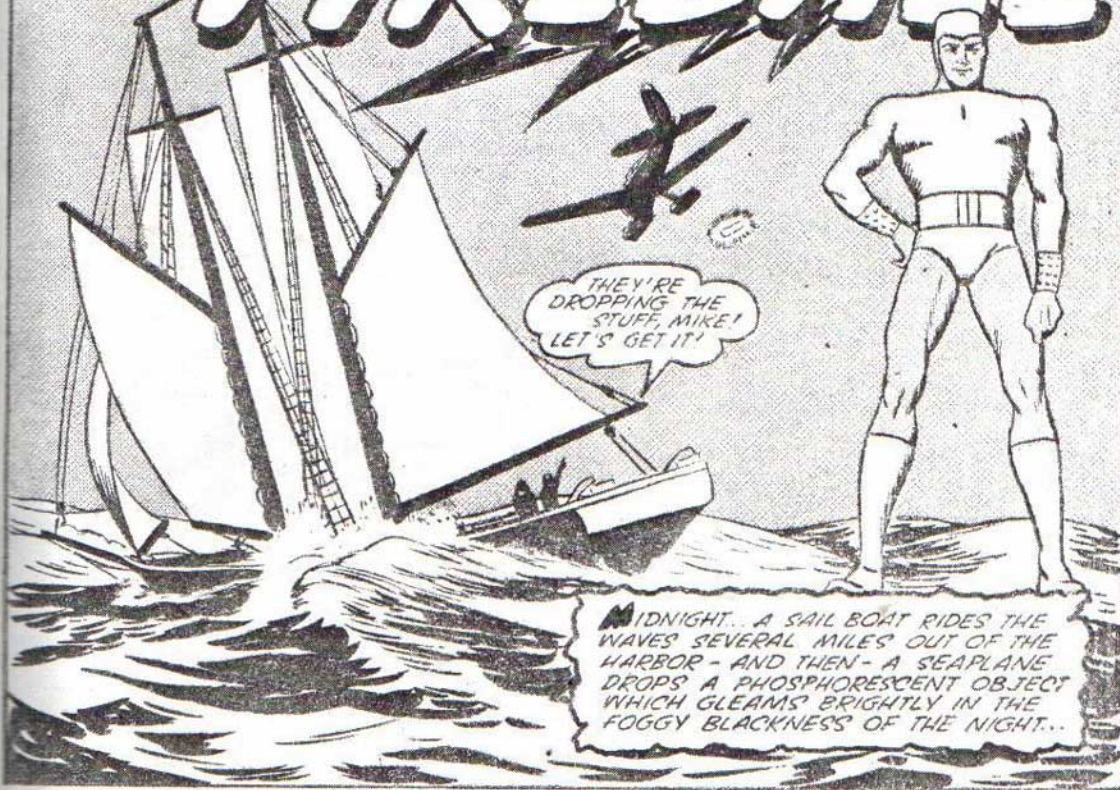
LOOKA THE FLOWER I FOUND FER MARGIE!

HA, HA, HA! HANG ON, KUPPIE! I'LL BE RIGHT UP!

IN THE NEXT PEP DANNY AND KUPPIE ENCOUNTER THEIR MOST DANGEROUS ADVENTURE AS THEY MATCH WITS WITH THE MURDERING THIEVES OF WONDERLAND!



# THE FIREBALL



**M**IDNIGHT... A SAIL BOAT RIDES THE WAVES SEVERAL MILES OUT OF THE HARBOR - AND THEN - A SEAPLANE DROPS A PHOSPHORESCENT OBJECT WHICH GLEAMS BRIGHTLY IN THE FOGGY BLACKNESS OF THE NIGHT...



THERE IT IS -  
OVER THERE!  
SWING AROUND  
TO PORT AND  
WE'LL HAVE  
IT!



OKAY! I'VE GOT  
IT! FULL SPEED  
AHEAD FOR  
SHORE!

OKAY, MIKE!  
WE'LL BE SAFE IN  
HARBOR IN A FEW  
MINUTES, WITH  
THIS WIND!

LATER... TED TYLER OF THE WATER-FRONT FIRE PATROL, INSPECTS FIRE HAZARDS ALONG THE HARBOR DOCKS.

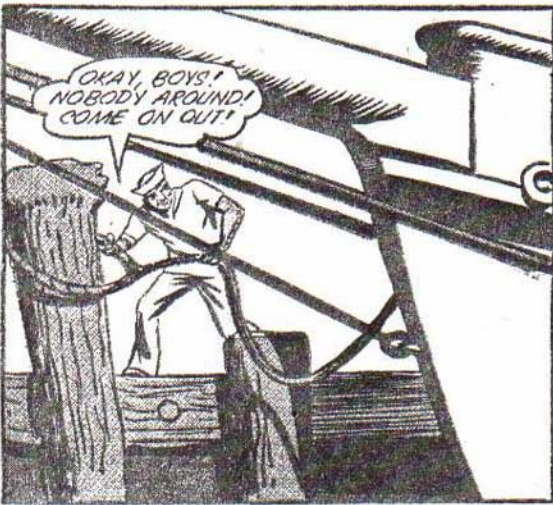
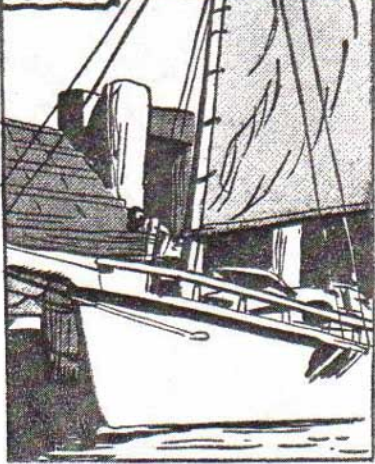


QUIET NIGHT TONIGHT! NOTHING MUCH DOING FOR A CHANGE.

HMM! FUNNY TIME FOR A SAIL-BOAT TO BE COMING INTO PORT!



THE BOAT HITCHES UP AT A NEAR-BY DOCK...



OKAY, BOYS! NOBODY AROUND! COME ON OUT!



STAND WHERE YOU ARE- ALL OF YOU! WE'RE POLICE OFFICERS!

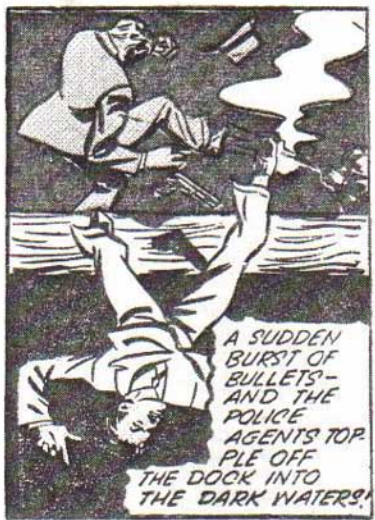
THE SCOPS!



PRETTY CLEVER WAY TO SMUGGLE DOPE IN, BOYS! BUT THE JIGS UP NOW! WE'VE GOT THE GOODS ON YOU! WE'VE BEEN ON YOUR TRAIL FOR A LONG TIME!



BUT UNSEEN BY THE POLICE ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GANG EDGES AROUND BEHIND THEM - A SUB MACHINE GUN RESTING IN HIS HANDS!



A SUDDEN BURST OF BULLETS - AND THE POLICE AGENTS' TOPPLE OFF THE DOCK INTO THE DARK WATERS!

TED TYLER HEARS THE SHOTS AND HURRIEDLY EFFECTS A CHANGE OF CLOTHING!

SOMETHING'S UP! THOSE SHOTS COME FROM THAT SAIL-BOAT!

THE NEXT MOMENT THE FIREBALL RACES TOWARDS THE SCENE!

THAT GETS RID OF THE COPPERS! THE TIDE WILL TAKE THEM OUT TO SEA!

THE FIREBALL, TOUCHING SOME WASTE MATERIAL, SETS IT AFLAME, AND HURLS IT AT THE THUGS!

HEY! THE FIREBALL! GET HIM!

WATCH THIS!

A LITTLE SLOW ON THE DRAW, BUD!

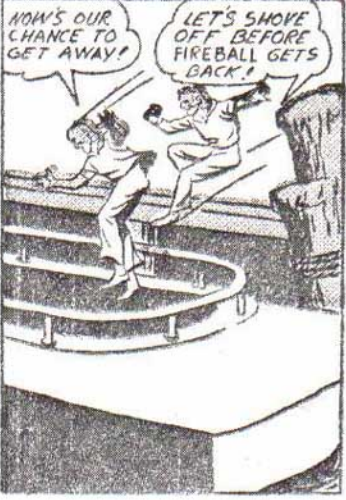
AND YOU'RE NOT MUCH BETTER!

AND AS FOR YOU, YOU'RE THE WORST ONE OF THE BUNCH! NO FIGHT AT ALL!

ONE OF THE POLICE OFFICERS, ALTHOUGH BADLY WOUNDED, MANAGES TO KEEP AFLOAT!

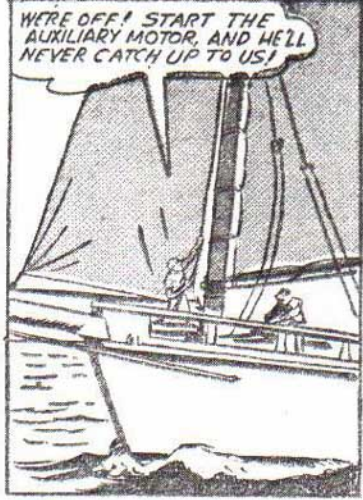
HELP! HELP!

THE FIREBALL TURNS HIS ATTENTION FROM THE SMUGGLERS, TO DIVE TO THE RESCUE OF THE WOUNDED MAN!



NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GET AWAY!

LET'S SHOVE OFF BEFORE FIREBALL GETS BACK!



WE'RE OFF! START THE AUXILIARY MOTOR, AND WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO US!



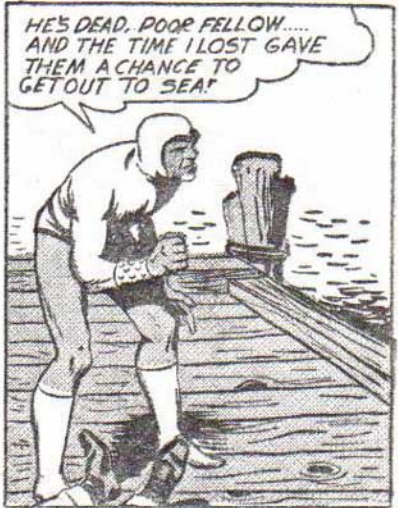
THERE GETTING AWAY, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT! I'VE GOT TO GET THIS MAN TO SAFETY!



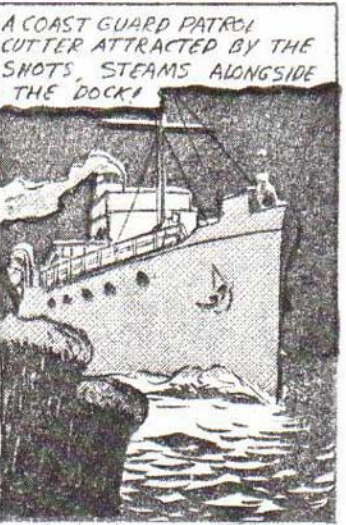
EASY BROTHER! WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN A SECOND!



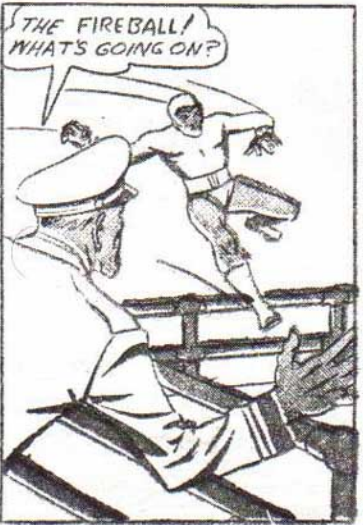
I'M NARCOTICS SQUAD AGENT... FELLOW OFFICER AND I WERE ON TRAIL OF SMUGGLERS..... HAD 'EM CORNERED... ONE OF 'EM SHOT US! I'M A GONER - BUT GET THOSE GUYS! THEY'RE TOO DANGEROUS TO BE FREE!



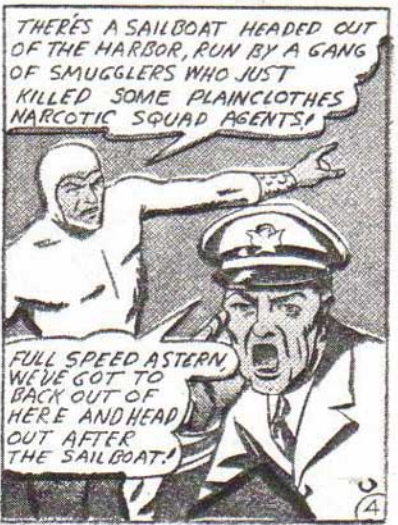
HE'S DEAD, POOR FELLOW.... AND THE TIME I LOST GAVE THEM A CHANCE TO GET OUT TO SEA!



A COAST GUARD PATROL CUTTER ATTRACTED BY THE SHOTS, STEAMS ALONGSIDE THE DOCK!



THE FIREBALL! WHAT'S GOING ON?



THERE'S A SAILBOAT HEADED OUT OF THE HARBOR, RUN BY A GANG OF SMUGGLERS WHO JUST KILLED SOME PLAINCLOTHES NARCOTIC SQUAD AGENTS!

FULL SPEED ASTERN, WE'VE GOT TO BACK OUT OF HERE AND HEAD OUT AFTER THE SAILBOAT!



WE SURE GOT RID OF THE FIREBALL, EH, MIKE?

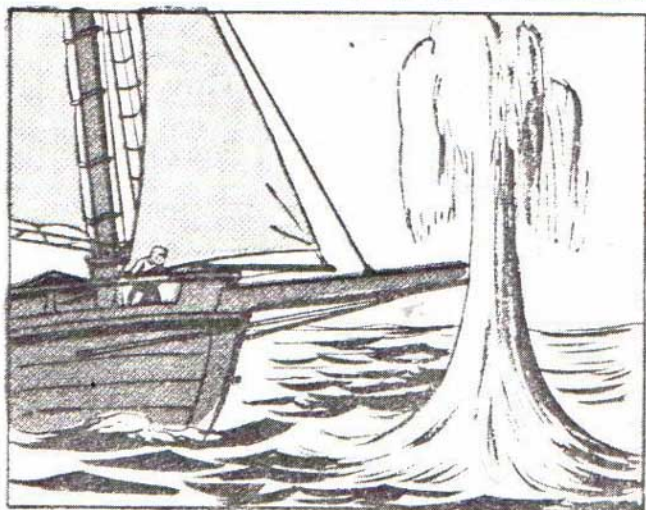
COAST GUARD CUTTER COMING!



GET OUT THOSE BARRELS OF OIL AND DUMP THEM OVERBOARD FROM THE STERN!



FIRE A WARNING OVER THEIR BOW! IF THEY DON'T STOP, WE'LL BLAST THEM OUT OF THE WATER!



HAVING EMPTIED ALL THE BARRELS OF OIL OVERBOARD, ONE OF THE SMUGGLERS TOSSES A FLAMING FAGGOT INTO THE WATER!...



THE NEXT MOMENT, THE OIL-COVERED WATERS SPRING UP IN FLAMES, COMPLETELY ENCIRCLING THE COAST GUARD CUTTER IN THE RAGING INFERNO!

WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS FIRE OUT BEFORE THE BOILER EXPLODES!

NEVER MIND! STAND BACK! I'LL PUT OUT THE FLAMES!



NOW FOR A NICE WARM, SATURDAY NIGHT BATH!



SWIMMING THROUGH THE FLAMING WATER, THE FIREBALL EXTINGUISHES THE FLAMES!



SOMETHIN'S GONE COCK-EYED! THE FIRES GONE OUT?



THE CUTTER CLOSES IN ON THE SAILBOAT!



THE SMUGGLERS OPEN FIRE AS THE FIREBALL CLIMBS ABOARD



I THOUGHT I GAVE YOU A LESSON THE LAST TIME WE MET! EVIDENTLY, YOU FLUNKED THE TEST!



THIS IS YOUR FINAL EXAM! LET'S SEE YOU GET PAST IT!



THE SMUGGLERS ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE OVER THE SIDE OF THE BOAT, BUT THE FIREBALL PLACES HIS HAND ON THE RAIL, AND FIRE SPRINGS TO LIFE!



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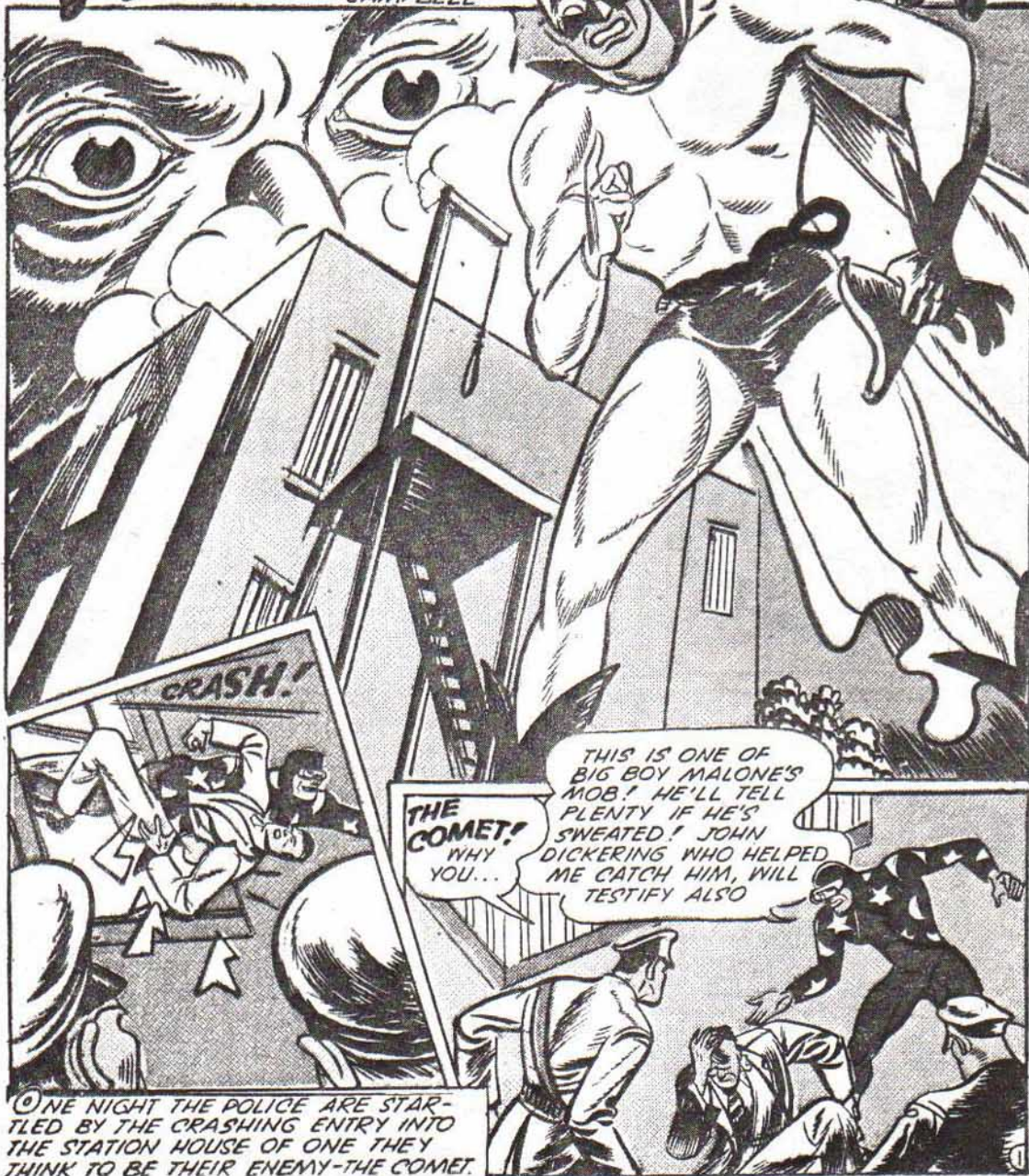
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SIBILANT, MOCKING LAUGH PIERCES THE THICK DRAPES OF GLOOM. THEN A SUDDEN BEAM OF LIGHT. THE SHADOW OF A GALLOWS. GRIM REMINDERS TO THE CONSCIENCE OF THE UNDERWORLD THAT THE PATHS OF CRIME LEAD ONLY TO

# THE HANGMAN

BY  
CLIFF  
CAMPBELL-



ONE NIGHT THE POLICE ARE STARTLED BY THE CRASHING ENTRY INTO THE STATION HOUSE OF ONE THEY THINK TO BE THEIR ENEMY-THE COMET.





THE COMET IS AT USUAL, REPAID FOR HIS TROUBLES WITH BULLETS.



THE COMET RETURNS TO HIS APARTMENT.

THELMA? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WAITING FOR YOU-AS USUAL!



OH, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT OUR DATE. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, THEL. BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE, YOU KNOW?



OH, COMET! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THIS UP AND BECOME JUST PLAIN JOHN DICKERING. YOU'VE MORE THAN ATONED FOR THE ACCIDENTAL KILLING OF THAT POLICEMAN!



WE COULD BE MARRIED, AND...

NO, THEL! WE COULD NEVER BE HAPPY. MY CONSCIENCE WOULDN'T ALLOW ME. WHILE I LIVE, I'VE GOT TO TRY AND MAKE AMENDS!



AS THE COMET GOES TO ANOTHER ROOM TO DRESS, A FIGURE MAKES FOR HIS APARTMENT.

WOW! IS JOHN GOING TO BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME!



WHAT IN... THE COMET! WHY! I THOUGHT MY BROTHER, JOHN DICKERING... GOOD LORD! YOU ARE JOHN!

ROBERT!



TO THINK MY OWN MEEK BROTHER IS THE COMET, THE ONE I ADMIRE SO MUCH!

WELL, I GUESS I'M CAUGHT!... BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN COLLEGE NOW, AREN'T YOU?

A FINE BROTHER YOU ARE? DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT I'VE JUST GRADUATED WITH A MASTER'S DEGREE!

WELL I'VE BEEN KIND OF BUSY, AND...

OH... ER THEL! I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN. THIS IS IS...

I HEARD! YOUR BROTHER! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT HIM BEFORE?

HE'S MUCH TOO GOOD LOOKING, HA, HA, HA! SAY I'VE GOT AN IDEA! ROBERT CAN TAKE YOU OUT TONIGHT. I'VE GOT SOME WORK TO FINISH UP!



SAY! I'LL HAVE TO DROP IN ON YOU UNEXPECTEDLY MUCH MORE OFTEN WITH THIS SORT OF INDUCEMENT!

THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ARE EXTREMELY BUSY ONES FOR THELMA, AS SHE MAKES THE ROUNDS OF THE TOWN - ESCORTED EVERYWHERE BY BOB DICKERING!



IN THE APARTMENT OF BIG BOY MALONE, AS THE DAY OF THE TRIAL OF THE CRIMINAL CAUGHT BY THE COMET-DRAWS CLOSE...

THE D.A.'S GONNA GIVE CHUGGER THE WORKS ON THE STAND, TOMORROW. AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!

YEAH! HE'LL BLOW THE LID RIGHT OFF OUR RACKET!

THERE'S ONLY ONE GUY WHOSE TESTIMONY COUNTS - JOHN DICKERING. WE GOTTA RUB HIM OUT 'N SPRING CHUGGER. IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!



MEANWHILE, IN THE LABORATORY OF THE COMET!



HIYA KIDS! HAVIN' A GOOD TIME?

YES! IN SPITE OF YOU, JOHN! DICKERING!

LOOK JOHN... WHY DON'T YOU GET SOME SENSE?



HOW CAN A GUY IN HIS RIGHT MIND NEGLECT A GIRL AS NICE AS THEL THE WAY YOU DO?

HEY! YOU S'OUND LIKE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HER YOURSELF!



YOU SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS, JOHN! YOUR BROTHER IS A FINE CHAP.-AND YOU'VE HURT HIS FEELINGS!

I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY, THEL. I WAS JUST JOKING!



JOKING! THAT'S THE BIG TROUBLE WITH YOU. YOU TAKE EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY LIGHTLY-EXCEPT YOUR WORK! YOU COULD WELL USE SOME OF ROBERT'S QUALITIES!



NO DOUBT OF IT, THEL!

AS BOB WALKS OUT, STILL ANGRY-

HEY, YOU! IS YOUR NAME DICKERING?

WHY, YES! BUT...



NEVER MIND THE BUTS, THAT'S ALL WE WANT TO KNOW -NOW JUST WALK NICE AND QUIET TO THAT CAR IF YUH DON'T WANT TO GET HURT!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE COMET LOOKS OUT AND SEES-

BOB'S IN TROUBLE!



THE COMET GOES TO HIS BROTHER'S AID, ZOOMING AFTER THE CAR, HE RAISES HIS VISOR, AND BLASTS A TIRE!



BOB TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION AND MAKES A BREAK.



GREAT GUNS! THEY'RE SHOOTING AT BOB!



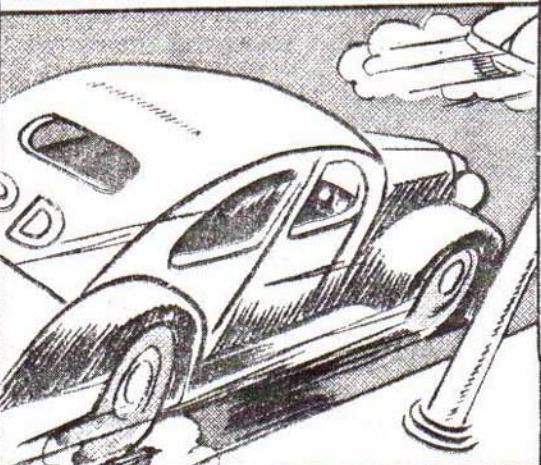
THE COMET DRAWS THE KILLER'S FIRE FROM HIS BROTHER TO HIMSELF!



BOB BECOMES A TEARING ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION AS HE SEES HIS BROTHER'S PLIGHT!



A PASSING POLICE CAR IS ATTRACTED BY THE SHOOTING AND RUSHES TO THE SCENE...



THERE THEY ARE! MUST BE A GANG WAR!



**BOB FINDS HIMSELF CAUGHT IN A CROSS-FIRE!**



**MUST GET HIM OUT OF HERE! HE MAY STILL BE ALIVE!**

**THE BACK ALLEY, IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT!**



**THIS FIRE ESCAPE'LL TAKE ME BACK TO THE COMET'S LABORATORY!**



**HERE WE ARE!**

**HE'S STILL BREATHING-BUT FAINTLY. MUST GET HIS CLOTHING OFF!**



**COMET! OH! HE... HE'S... EASY, THEL! WE'VE ALL GOT TO GO SOMETIME!**



**MY TURN NOW!... YOU TWO STICK TOGETHER! KIND OF MEMORIAL TO ME. G...GOOD-BYE, BOB! BYE THEL...AAAAH!**

**JOHN! YOU MUSTN'T DIE! YOU MUSTN'T!**



**HE'S DEAD, BOB! (SOB SOB) THE GREATEST MAN I EVER KNEW!**

**HE DID IT TO SAVE MY LIFE, THEL!**

I'LL CARRY ON FOR HIM, THEL! I'LL BRING HIS MURDERERS TO THE HANGMAN! I'LL BE THEIR HANGMAN!

BOB BENDS HIS EFFORTS IMMEDIATELY TO HIS TASK IN HIS DEAD BROTHER'S LABORATORY....

CRIMINALS ARE ALL COWARDS AT HEART, SO MY FIRST TASK WILL BE TO FIND A UNIFORM THAT WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS!

I'VE GOT IT! NOW, I'LL GET INTO MY NEW OUTFIT, AND SEE WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!

THE DAY OF THE TRIAL....

AND SO IS BORN. GANG-LAND'S MOST FEARFUL MENACE.... THE HANGMAN!

YOUR HONOR, WHERE IS THE CHIEF WITNESS, MR. JOHN DICKERING?

APPARENTLY, MR. DICKERING WILL NOT SHOW UP TO PREFER CHARGES! CASE DISMISSED!

HA, HA! WE TOLD YOU, YOU'D BE SPRUNG DIDN'T WE? MALONE ALWAYS PLAYS BALL WITH HIS BOYS!

SUDDENLY, A DRAB-CLOAKED FIGURE FLASHES FROM BEHIND A PILLAR.... THE HANGMAN!

WHA... WHO... HOW?

BOD

HERE'S A SLEEPING POWDER FOR YOU, TOO... TO MAKE YOU LESS TROUBLEFUL!



WITH THE UNCONSCIOUS CHUGGER IN HIS ARMS THE HANGMAN LEAPS OUT A WINDOW!



AND HURTLES TOWARD A TRUCK STACKED WITH HAY



HALP! MURDER! KID-NAPPER! HE'S DRIVING AWAY IN THAT TRUCK!



THE TRUCK WENDS ITS WAY UP A STEEP MOUNTAIN TRAIL, AND THEN, AS DARK DESCENDS...



I MUST HAVE HIT HIM HARDER THAN I THOUGHT! HE'S STILL OUT COLD!... WELL, ALL THE BETTER FOR MY PURPOSE!



WHEN CHUGGER REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

WHA..WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE AM I?..WH..WHY IS IT SO DARK IN HERE?



FOR HOURS THE KILLER IS LEFT IN THE DARK-NESS, UNTIL...

WHY DON'T SOMEBODY COME? LEM-ME OUTTA HERE! I'M GOIN' NUTS!



SUDDENLY A BEAM OF LIGHT STABS THE DARKNESS... AND A GRISLY SHADOW TAKES SHAPE BEFORE CHUGGER'S HORRIFIED GAZE!

TH... THE GALLOWS!



STOP IT! STOP IT! I'M GOIN' CRAZY! WHAD-DA YA WANT? WHO ARE YOU?



THEN A HOLLOW VOICE FLOODS THE ROOM...

TELL ALL, MURDERER! TELL ALL, OR MEET YOUR HANGMAN!



I'LL TELL EVERYTHING TO THE COPS, TO ANYBODY, ABOUT BIG BOY MALONE! ONLY GET ME OUTTA HERE!



IN A ROOM ABOVE...

I THOUGHT THAT RAT WOULD TURN YELLOW, THEY ALL DO! NOW TO GET THE COPS!

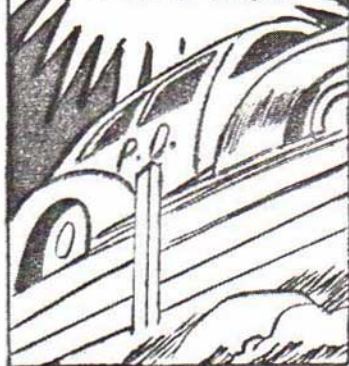


HELLO, POLICE HEADQUARTERS COME TO 12 BARRET STREET IMMEDIATELY!



WHO?... WHAT?... THE HANGMAN?... IS THIS A GAG? HELLO! HELLO!

CALLING CAR SEVEN! GO TO 12 BARRET STREET! CALLING CAR...



WHILE AT 12 BARRET STREET...



'N YA LET CHUGGER GET KIDNAPPED RIGHT UNDER YER NOSE?

IT HAPPENED TOO QUICKLY, BIG BOY!



NOBODY PULLS A STUNT LIKE THAT ON BIG BOY MALONE! I'LL GET THE GUY WHO....



SUDDENLY THE LIGHTS GO OUT!



THE DARKNESS IS PIERCED BY A SINGLE RAY OF LIGHT AND ON THE WALL IS FLASHED THE HANGMAN'S CALLING CARD!



YOUR GALLOWES, MALONE!



SHOOT AND BE HANGED!..NOT A BAD EXPRESSION, EH, MALONE?



LET GO... AAARRRH!



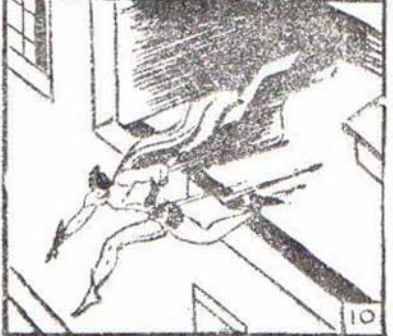
JUST THEN... ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY! GET YOUR HANDS UP!



LOOK! THE CLOAKED GUY! HE'S JUMPING OUT THE WINDOW!



THE HANGMAN SWINGS, PENDULUM-LIKE FROM THE TELEPHONE WIRES TO THE ADJOINING ROOF.. AND ESCAPES!



WEEKS LATER...

EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! QUICKEST CONVICTION ON RECORD!



THE FIRST OF JULY, AND...

DAILY TABLOID  
**MALONE GUILTY TO HANG JULY 1**



DEATH FOR MALONE ON THE GALLOWES!



SEE, THELMA, I'VE KEPT MY VOW TO THE COMET. I'VE AVENGED HIM!



AND NOW, I'LL CARRY ON HIS WORK! THE COMET HAS DIED, BUT HIS SPIRIT LIVES ON... IN THE HANGMAN! BEWARE, CRIMINALS, YOU CANNOT OUTRUN YOUR OWN CONSCIENCE... NOR ESCAPE THE GALLOWES!

WELL, BOYS AND GIRLS, HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS UNIQUE AND THRILLING FEATURE? WE STEWED AND COOKED OUR BRAINS FOR MONTHS TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING NEW! AND DIFFERENT! WE THINK WE'VE ACHIEVED ABSOLUTE SUCCESS WITH THE HANGMAN.... DO YOU?  
  
DO YOU LIKE HIM INELL ENOUGH TO WANT TO SEE A MAGAZINE OF 64 COMPLETE PAGES OF BRAND NEW HANGMAN ADVENTURES?  
IF YOU DO, WRITE TO THE HANGMAN  
RM. 315  
60 HUDSON ST  
NYC

# KAYO WARD

THE WORLD'S HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION IS ABOUT TO LOSE A DECISION TO DAN CUPID, AS THE PREACHER IS ABOUT TO MARRY HIM TO CONNIE HODGES. THEN, JUST BEFORE THEY ARE ABOUT TO BE PRONOUNCED MAN AND WIFE....

STOP!  
STOP!  
FIRE!  
FIRE!



RUN FOR YOUR LIVES EVERYBODY! THE BOILER'S ABOUT TO EXPLODE!



OVERCOME BY THE SMOKE AND EXCITEMENT, CONNIE FAINTS!

I GOTTA GET CONNIE OUTTA HERE!



SHE'LL BE ALL  
RIGHT, PUNCHY!  
SHE JUST  
FAINTED!!

HEY KAYO WHERE'S  
LEW?...J DIDN'T  
SEE HIM COME  
OUTTA THE CHURCH!

GOSH! HE MUST STILL  
BE IN THERE, TRAPPED  
IN THE FLAMES!! GOT  
TO GET HIM, PUNCHY!

STAND BACK  
YOU FOOL!  
IT'S SUICIDE  
TO GO IN  
THERE!!

GET OUTTA  
MY  
WAY!!

KAYO SEES HIS MANAGER  
PINNED BENEATH THE  
DEBRIS!!

THE CHURCH IS A VERITABLE INFERNO  
NOW... AND THE FLAMES LICK  
HUNGRILY ABOUT THEM!

GEE - I - I'M ROASTING!!  
---JUST A LITTLE WAY TO  
GO - GOTTA MAKE IT!!

KAYO!! -HELP!

EASY LEW! I'LL  
GET YOU OUTTA HERE!!

I... I. BETTER PUT MY  
JACKET AROUND  
LEW!!

KAYO STAGGERS OUT, THEN COLLAPSES!

HOLY CATS! THE CHAMPS  
BURNED SOMETHIN' FIERCE!  
GET HIM TO A  
HOSPITAL, QUICK!!

CLANG  
CLANG

LATER - AT THE HOSPITAL

DOCTOR! HOW  
--HOW IS  
HE?

IT'S HIS  
FACE THAT  
SUFFERED MOST  
MISS HODGES!  
I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT WE  
CAN DO! TIME  
WILL  
TELL!



H HELLO CONNIE!! YOU ALL RIGHT?

OH MY POOR BRAVE DARLING! HURRY AND GET WELL, SO WE CAN GET MARRIED!!



WEEKS LATER

MY FACE! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIX IT, AND CONNIE ONLY WANTS TO GO AHEAD WITH THE WEDDING BECAUSE SHE FEELS SORRY FOR ME! BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET HER!!

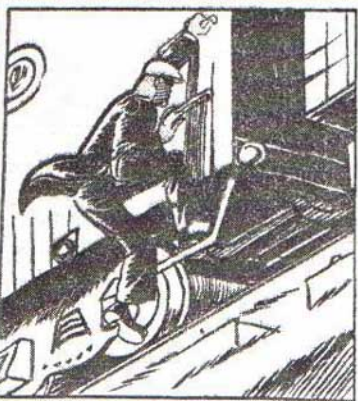


LATER

GOOD GRIEF! MR WARD'S GONE!!



CALLING ALL CARS. BE ON LOOKOUT FOR KAYO WARD! HE'S STILL DANGEROUSLY ILL! BRING HIM BACK TO THE HOSPITAL!!



BUT AT THAT MOMENT KAYO IS HOPPING ON A FREIGHT TRAIN LEAVING THE CITY!!



GEE I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ANYBODY IN THE CAR!!

THAT'S OKAY, PALLY PLENTY OF ROOM HERE! MY NAME'S RIP!!-WHAT'S YOURS?(COUGH-COUGH)

ER-BILL JUST PLAIN BILL!



WELL, LET'S FLOP FOR THE NIGHT! (COUGH! COUGH!) GEE IT'S COLD! (COUGH!!)

THAT'S A BAD COUGH YOU GOT! HERE, TAKE MY JACKET!!



LATER - THE TRAIN MAKES A STOP FOR WATER, AND-

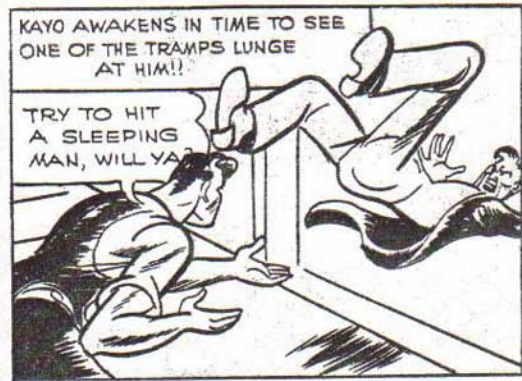
CMON SLUG! LET'S HOP INTO THIS CAR!!

OKAY DUSTY!



HSST, SLUG! LOOK! SOMEBODY ELSE IN THE CAR!!

ZZZZ  
ZZZZ  
SNORE



KAYO NOW TURNS TO THE OTHER WHO TRIES TO ATTACK FROM BEHIND





EASY BILL! YGOTTA KNOW HOW TO JUMP OFF THESE MOVING FREIGHTS!!

I'M ALL RIGHT, RIP! C'MON!!



ER-HELLO DOCTOR! I'D LIKE YOUSE TO LOOK AT MY FRIEND, HERE!

COME RIGHT IN!

COUGH COUGH



THE DOCTOR EXAMINES RIP'S LUNGS

VERY BAD! I'M AFRAID YOU'RE BORDERING ON TUBERCULOSIS- YOU OUGHT TO BE IN A HOSPITAL!!

THAT LEAVES ME OUT!...HOSPITALS MEAN MONEY AND THAT'S SOMETHIN' I HAVEN'T GOT!



WAIT! ..IS THERE A FIGHT PROMOTER IN THIS TOWN, DOC?

WHY YES! -ON MAIN STREET!

ALL RIGHT! I'LL GET SOME MONEY FOR YOU, RIP!



WELL, HERE IT IS! HOPE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE ME!! --BUT I GOTTA TAKE THE CHANCE!!



HMM-M, SO YOU WANT A MATCH! NOthin' DOIN! I WOULDN'T PUT YOU IN A RING WITH THEM SCARS ON YOUR FACE! YOU'D BLEED LIKE A PIG!

DONT WORRY ABOUT ME!



I'LL TELL YOU WHAT -- I'LL FIGHT FOR NOthin' IF I DON'T WIN!!

WE-LL, OKAY!!



AND I ONLY GOT ONE SPOT FOR YOU...WITH THE LOCAL CHAMP! HIS OPPONENT TOOK A RUN OUT!! STILL WILLIN?

IT'S A DEAL!!



THE FIGHT IS ABOUT TO START!!

REMEMBER! BREAK CLEAN!

WHAT'RE YA DOIN' WIT DAT FACE, YA BUM!...BREAKIN' IT IN FOR A HALLOW-EEN PARTY??

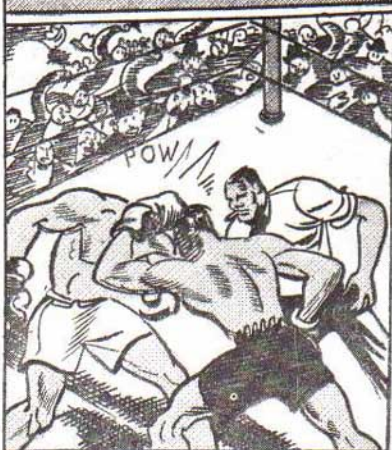
36  
KNOCK AT GUY KICKIN'?

DON'T STALL, OPEN THEM SCARS ON HIS FACE!

DON'T WORRY, I WILL!



THERE'S THE BELL—BOTH COME RUSHING TO THE CENTER OF THE RING AND—



KAYO GOES AFTER HIS OPPONENT IN EARNEST, INTENT ON A QUICK KNOCK-OUT BECAUSE OF HIS POOR CONDITION!



KAYO IS TOO EAGER! HIS OPPONENT COMES THROUGH HIS GUARD WITH A SLASHING RIGHT TO THE FACE!!



THE BLOOD POURS FROM HIS REOPENED WOUNDS IN A STREAM!



KAYO COMES OFF THE CANVAS WITH A RUSH, THROWS A PULVERIZING LEFT AND THE FIGHT IS OVER...



LATER

HERE YOU ARE, RIP! ENOUGH MONEY FOR THE HOSPITAL!

GEE, BILL! YER FACE!! GOSH YA SHOULDN'T A' DONE IT!!



I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS PAL! HONEST!

DON'T MENTION IT, RIP! G'YE! N'GOOD LUCK!



FATE HAS DEALT KAYO WARD A CRUEL BLOW... ONE DAY A CHAMPION, WEALTHY, A BEAUTIFUL SWEETHEART... THE NEXT A WANDERING HOBO... BUT A CHAMP NEVER QUITS. AND YOU WON'T WANT TO QUIT READING THE NEXT KAYO WARD ADVENTURE... BE SEEING YOU!!





GO FORTH ON EARTH, MY DEAR! THERE IS MUCH TO BE DONE! HA HA HA HA

THE DEVIL SEARCHED FAR AND LONG FOR AN ALLY TO WREAK HAVOC AMONGST MORTALS..... THEN, THE BLACK, CORRUPT SOUL OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, A VICTIM OF HER OWN FIENDISH PLAN ON EARTH, LEFT ITS BODILY HABITATION TO STAND BEFORE THE KING OF PURGATORY..... AND HIS SEARCH WAS AT AN END.....

THE DEVIL HAD FOUND HIMSELF A FITTING MATE, AND CALLED HER.....  
**MADAM SATAN!**

LAUGHTER AND GAYETY ARE THE ORDER OF THE NIGHT AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF JOHN JANSSEN, WHOSE SON CARL IS ABOUT TO BE BETROTHED TO ANITA LEWIS.....

A TOAST TO THE COUPLE!

COME ON, CARL! KISS THE GIRL BEFORE I DO!



BRAVO!

MM..MM. AIN'T THAT SOMETHING!





WHAT'S THE MATTER DEAR? WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY SHIVER? ARE YOU COLD?

N..NO, CARL! I..I GUESS IT'S SILLY OF ME, BUT I SEEM TO HAVE A PRE-MONITION OF SOMETHING EVIL!



JUST THEN...  
LOOK LOUISE! A NEW ARRIVAL!

SHE'S BREATH-TAKING, AND... AND YET....

ISN'T SHE BEAUTIFUL?



HOW DO YOU DO, MY DEAR! WE'RE MR. AND MRS. JANNSEN! ARE YOU ER...ACQUAINTED WITH SOMEBODY HERE?

WHY, YES! CARL AND I ARE OLD FRIENDS! AREN'T WE, CARL?



ER...OF COURSE! I SEEM TO HAVE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME, MISS...MISS

HA HA, YOU'VE EVEN FORGOTTEN MY NAME! IT'S IOILA! COME, LET'S DANCE!



YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, IOILA...THAT IS..ER..I MEAN YOU DANCE BEAUTIFULLY!

WE MUST SEE MORE OF EACH OTHER!



ER...ANITA, IOILA IS TIRED AND I'VE OFFERED TO ESCORT HER HOME! DO YOU MIND?

BUT CARL, YOU'VE PROMISED ANITA!

OH, THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MR. JANNSEN, YOU GO RIGHT AHEAD, CARL DEAR!



CARL JANNSEN, NOW COMPLETELY IN THE TOILS OF THE NETHERWORLD, BEGINS A MAD AND EXPENSIVE ORGY OF MERRYMAKING.....



IOLA! I'M MAD ABOUT YOU! WHY DO YOU HOLD ME OFF? MARRY ME TONIGHT, RIGHT NOW!

BAH! YOU LOVE ME, YOU SAY! WELL, THEN PROVE IT!



WHAT HAVE YOU GIVEN ME? A FEW BAUBLES SOME CHAMPAGNE? SHOWER ME WITH REAL GIFTS... EXPENSIVE ONES... THEN, PERHAPS...



BUT I'VE ALREADY BEGGED AND BORROWED EVERY CENT I COULD! WHERE AM I TO GET MORE MONEY?

I DON'T CARE! STEAL IF YOU MUST, BUT GET IT, OR WE'RE THROUGH!



LATER, A SHADOWY FIGURE SLINKS INTO THE DARKENED LIBRARY OF THE JANNSEN HOME AND MAKES FOR THE WALL SAFE!



SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS ARE SWITCHED ON....

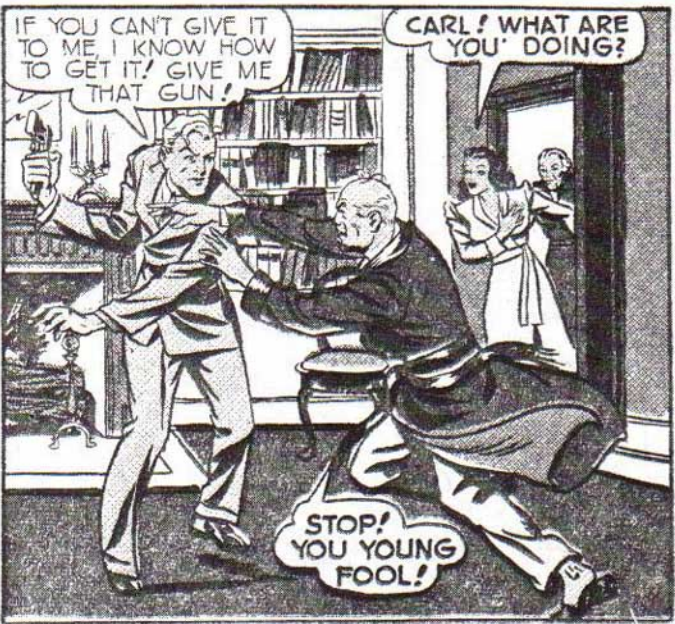
CARL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

DAD!



THERE IS NOTHING IN THERE FOR YOU TO STEAL! I'M NEARLY BANKRUPT COVERING THE BAD CHECKS YOU'VE ISSUED!

I MUST HAVE MORE MONEY! I MUST!



IF YOU CAN'T GIVE IT TO ME, I KNOW HOW TO GET IT! GIVE ME THAT GUN!

CARL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

STOP! YOU YOUNG FOOL!



OUT OF MY WAY!

EEEE! CARL! YOUR OWN FATHER!

WHAM!



YOU TOO, ANITA! DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!

HE'S GONE MAD! CARL! COME BACK!



MR. JANNSEN! ALL RIGHT?

Y...YES ARE YOU DEAR! GO AFTER HIM! STOP HIM! HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING!



CRAZED, BY THE FIENDISH WILES OF MADAM SATAN CARL STALKS THE DARKENED STREETS WITH A SINGLE GRIM THOUGHT FIXED IN HIS BRAIN.... TO GET MONEY!



KEEP THE CHANGE, CABBIE!

MONEY! LOADS OF IT! I'LL WAIT TILL THE CAB DRIVER GOES AWAY, AND THEN....



GREAT GOD! HE'S GOING TO SHOOT THAT MAN!



YOU CAN'T DO IT, CARL! I WON'T LET YOU!

LET GO MY HAND, YOU LITTLE FOOL!



THE GUN ACCIDENTALLY GOES OFF...

OOOOO



WHAT HAVE I DONE? I MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE! ANITA! ANITA! SPEAK TO ME!

HELP POLICE!

A GIRL'S BEEN SHOT! I THINK IT WAS THAT FELLOW OVER THERE WHO SHOT HER!



YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS YOUNG FELLOW!



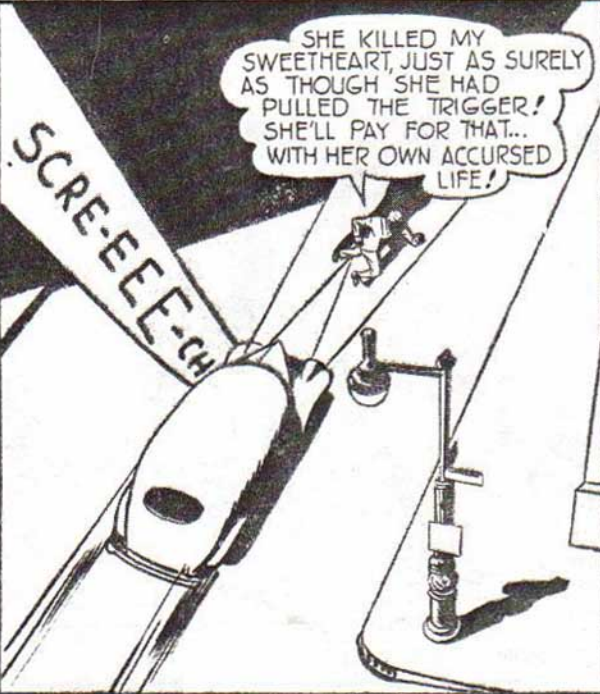
N..NO, OFFICER! MY OWN GUN ACCIDENTALLY WENT OFF! HE'S MY FIANCE!

ANITA IS RUSHED TO A HOSPITAL AND THE BULLET IS IMMEDIATELY PROBED FOR...



DOCTOR!.. H..HOW IS SHE? WILL SHE LIVE?

HARD TO SAY WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN, BUT THE REST IS UP TO HER! IT'S LARGELY A QUESTION OF HER WILL POWER FROM NOW ON!



SHE KILLED MY SWEETHEART, JUST AS SURELY AS THOUGH SHE HAD PULLED THE TRIGGER! SHE'LL PAY FOR THAT... WITH HER OWN ACCURSED LIFE!



IOLA! SHE'S TO BLAME FOR THIS! HOW COULD I HAVE GIVEN UP SO PURE AND SWEET A GIRL FOR THAT...THAT.... BUT I KNOW WHAT TO DO NOW!



WHILE ANITA TOSSES FEVERISHLY ON THE VERGE OF DEATH, IS VISITED BY A HORRIBLE VISION!



CARL! THAT WOMAN!.. DEATH.. DEATH!



CARL!.. NO! SHE'S DEATH! STAY AWAY FROM HER!

DRIVEN BY A GREAT FORCE ANITA STAGGERS FROM HER BED...



I MUST GO TO HIM!.. MUST SAVE HIM FROM HER!



HELLO,  
CARL DEAR!  
BACK SO  
SOON?



YES, I'VE COME  
BACK TO KILL YOU!  
YOU... YOU... SHE-  
DEVIL!

HA, HA! A SHE-  
DEVIL HAS WIVES,  
CARL DEAR! COME  
TO ME, CARL! COME  
TO ME,  
I SAY!



NOW, KISS  
ME! I  
COMMAND  
YOU!

HEAVEN HELP  
ME! THOSE  
EYES... I  
CAN'T  
RESIST  
HER!



CLOSER CLOSER, STUPID  
MORTAL, FOR YOUR KISS!  
YOUR KISS OF DEATH!



CARL! ♯  
DARLING!  
DON'T KISS  
THAT  
THING! ♯



ANITA! YOU'RE  
ALIVE! OH, DEAREST!  
AND I THOUGHT  
I'D LOST YOU!

COME BACK!  
COME BACK  
TO ME, I TELL  
YOU!

SHE... SHE'S  
DEATH, CARL! IT  
CAME TO ME IN A  
DREAM! OOO... I'M  
GOING TO FAINT!

FRUSTRATED MADAM SATAN DISAPPEARS IN A  
CLOUD OF SMOKE TO REAPPEAR BEFORE HER  
DIABOLICAL MASTER!

YOU FAILED YOUR FIRST  
MISSION... DEFEATED BY  
THE POWERS OF GOODNESS!  
YOU MUST NOT FAIL  
AGAIN!



I SHALL NOT  
FAIL A SECOND TIME,  
MASTER! I SHALL KNOW  
HOW TO COMBAT  
THAT POWER THE  
NEXT TIME!

WHILE BACK ON EARTH,  
THE SUN IS RISING...

HOW BEAUTIFUL ITS  
LIGHT IS... AND HOW  
CLEARLY I CAN SEE  
THINGS NOW! HOW  
COULD I EVER HAVE  
FORSAKEN MY SWEET  
MY GOOD ANITA, FOR  
THAT... THAT  
THING!

YES, MY DEAR CARL, I HAVE  
BROUGHT YOU INTO THE  
SUNLIGHT! THROUGH ALL  
YOUR TRIBULATIONS I  
GUIDED YOUR DESTINY!



WHO IS THIS STRANGE CREA-  
TURE OF THE SUNLIGHT, THE  
GUIDING HAND OF GOOD? THE  
NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS  
CONTAINS THE ANSWER!

# SERGEANT BOYLE

A HANDFUL OF DESPERATE MEN IS ALL THAT REMAINS OF A LONE BRITISH PATROL, TRAPPED BY ITALIAN-RULED FUZZY WUZZIES IN ERITREA. BOYLE AND TWERP, RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM GREECE, ARE IN THE MIST OF THE THIN BLUE LINE!

KEEP GIVIN' IT TO 'EM, MEN! THIS MAY BE OUR FINISH BUT WE'LL CLEAN OUT A FEW OF THESE SHAGGY NIGHTMARES FIRST!

HEY! LOOK! VULTURES!



VULTURES? GRUESOME LOOKING THINGS, AREN'T THEY SARGE? LOOK AT 'EM!

YOUR HEAD MAY BE THICK, TWERP, BUT IT WON'T STOP THOSE DUM-DUM BULLETS! WHAT'S THAT?



THEY'RE LEAVING! THAT FLARE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF SIGNAL! WHO SENT IT UP?

YEAH! WHO THREW IT? SOMEBODY BETTER COME CLEAN, OR SO HELP ME I'LL SWEAT IT OUT OF YOU!

NO TIME FOR THAT NOW! THOSE FUZZIES MAY CHANGE THEIR MINDS AND COME BACK TO FINISH THE JOB! WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE OTHER BOYS! POOR DEVILS!



AT THE ITALIAN CAMP, NOT MANY MILES FROM THE BRITISH OUTPOST!

NO! IL DUCE HE'SA NOT TO BE DISTURB! BEAT IT!

WATSA MATT? DA SPAGHETT SHE WON'T STAY HOT! PASTAFASOOL! STROMBATS!



SURE, MR. H.! I GOT ALLA DA FUZZY WUZZIES IN DA PALM OF MY HAND! SENDA OUT DA ORDER FOR DA ATTACK RIGHTA WAY!



ATSA WHAT I SAY, TOO, MR. H.! EVERYTING SHE'SA GONNA BE OKEY DOKE! DONT A WORRY NO MORE - GOOM-BY!



TAKA DEESA DISPATCH TO OUR AGENT INNA ENGLISA CAMP PRONTO! MAKE-A LIKE DA JACK-RABBIT! SCREM!



THAT AFTERNOON, IN THE NATIVE QUARTER OF BRITISH OCCUPIED ADDS-EL-HUCHI-KUCHI...

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE I BECOME CONVINCED THE FLARE THAT WENT UP WAS A SIGNAL FROM A SPY AMONG OUR MEN, TELLING THE FUZZIES TO LAY OFF! THE SPY MUST HAVE STEERED US INTO THAT TRAP, TOO



NUTS! IF BOYLE SEES ME PASS THIS NOTE TO THAT FUZZY, HE'LL CATCH WISE! MAYBE, WITH A LITTLE EXCITEMENT, HE WON'T NOTICE!



AIEE (AH, QUIT THAT BABBLIN', YOU UGLY HEATHEN! SHED-EP!



TWO NATIVES LUNGE TOWARD THE OFFICER...

SO! MAYBE YOU FEEL LIKE STARTIN' A SCRAP! OKAY YOU ASKED FOR IT!



IN AN INSTANT, THE CAFE IS A SCENE OF SEETHING TUMULT!



NICE LEFT THERE! OH, OH! LOOK OUT FOR THAT BOTTLE! WOW! WHAT A CRACK! TOO BAD TWERP ISN'T HERE!





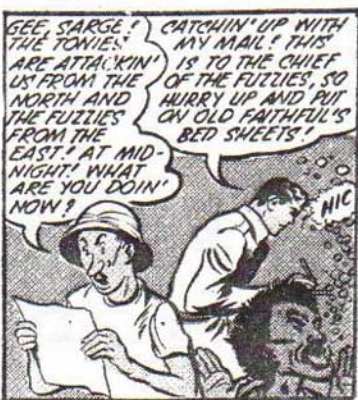






NOTHIN' IN HERE, SARGE!

NEVER MIND—I FOUND IT! HA... SO BENNY'S PULLING A FAST ONE, IS HE?  
BURP



GEE, SARGE! THE TONIES ARE ATTACKIN' US FROM THE NORTH AND THE FUZZIES FROM THE EAST! AT MID-NIGHT! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' NOW?

CATCHIN' UP WITH MY MAIL! THIS IS TO THE CHIEF OF THE FUZZIES, SO HURRY UP AND PUT ON OLD FAITHFUL'S BED SHEETS!



WHAT FOR? I DON'T... OH NO!

OH, YES! THE LIFE OF EVERY MAN IN THE OUT POST DEPENDS ON THIS NOTE GETTING THROUGH!  
URK



WE DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH TIME SO DON'T STOP TO PICK ANY FLOWERS! BETTER SMEAR THAT BURNT COBB ON YOUR HANDS TOO!

IT'S ONLY AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT THAT I'M DOIN' THIS. BESIDES THIS RIG ITCHES!



NOW I'D SAY THIS MOP WAS A FINE HEAD OF HAIR! HOLD STILL, WILL YOU?

YOU AND YOUR IDEAS-NUTS!



THAT NIGHT TNERP STEALTHILY APPROACHES THE FUZZY WUZZY ENCAMPMENT!

HEY! OW! WHOA, BOY! EASY THERE!



I BRING IMPORTANT NEWS FROM OUR ITALIAN SPONSORS! TAKE ME TO THE HEADMAN! NOW!

PUFF PUFF



O MIGHTY LION-I HAVE FLOWN LIKE THE WIND WITH MESSAGE FOR YOUR EXALTED ATTENTION!

GOOD! SLIP ME!

Dear Chief!  
U.S. have just discovered a Super Plot by the British. I'm the vain hope of might the annihilation which they will be their destiny; they are to be disguised in Italian uniforms. However with my usual brilliance I have circumvented this base treachery by ordering our Italian soldiers to wear the British uniforms!!! Therefore to night when the rockets burst in the East, be sure to be Italian Troops.  
Hastily yours,  
Benito Mussolini



MAY BE MILITARY STRATEGY! BUT IT SHO'D DO SOUND DOPEY TO ME?



MEN OF DE HILLS OF ERITREA! DERE WILL BE A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF PRO-CEEDIN'S TONIGHT! BEAT HECK OUT OF DE GUYS IN DE ITALIAN SUITS! LET'S GO!

WITH CAT-LIKE TREAD THE FUZZY WOODIES ADVANCE TO THE ATTACK...



SHOOT OFF THE FIRST BATCH IN FIVE MINUTES! WHEN THE FUZZIES CHARGE, SEND UP THE REST SO THEY CAN SPOT THOSE TONY UNIFORMS! WE HAVE ENOUGH TO LAST TEN MINUTES, SO MAKE IT GOOD!



IN THE ITALIAN CAMP ALL IS IN READINESS...



ATTENTION! DA TIME ISA COME! OUR DUCE IS A BEHIND US! WE CANNOT FAIL! FORWARD...

PASTAFASCOOL-LOOKA, OVER THERE!

N...N...NO! LOOKA OVER HERE!



AS THE ROCKETS SCAR UPWARD THE FUZZIES POUR DOWN FROM THE HILLS!



BOOM!

BANG!

NO! NO! THATA WAY!

MAMA MIA!

HELPA! RUNA!

THE BRITISH CHARGE FROM THE REAR...



IT'S A TRAP! RUNA LIKE ANYTING!

DON'T WORRY, DUCE - WE HAVE THEM OUTNUMBERED TEN TO ONE! EVEN NOW, WE... WHAT'S THAT?

RUN! WE'RE LOSTA! RUN!

BOOM! BOOM!



MARRONE! WHAT WEEL ADOLFO SAY! I SHOULDA STAY IN DA BED!





**SERGEANT BOYLE  
AND TWERP  
JOIN CORPORAL  
COLLINS AND  
SLAPSIE IN JACK-  
POT COMICS  
# 2 WHEN THEY  
SAVE BOYLE'S KID  
BROTHER FROM  
HIS NAZI  
CAPTORS! DON'T  
MISS IT -  
14 FULL  
PAGES OF SGT.  
BOYLE LAUGHS  
THRILLS AND  
ACTION!**

# THE SHIELD

WITH DUSTY  
THE BOY DETECTIVE

HEY!  
LOOK  
UP THERE!

LYNN'S WAREHOUSE



IN A ROOM DIRECTLY  
ABOVE THE SHOOTING...

OOO! A FINE  
TIME TO MAKE  
NOISE!..AND  
ME WITH A  
HANGOVER!

BANG BANG  
RAT..TAT..TAT  
BING  
BANG



WHILE A THICK CLOAK OF NIGHT  
BLANKETS THE CITY, A DARING  
WAREHOUSE ROBBERY TAKES  
PLACE..... A PAIR OF FIGURES  
AND THEN, A PAIR OF FIGURES  
BECOME DISCERNIBLE TO  
THE WATCHFUL EYES OF A  
YOUNGSTER ON THE LOOK-  
OUT, AND HIS VOICE RISES  
TO A SHRILL SCREAM OF  
WARNING. "THE SHIELD  
AND DUSTY, THE BOY  
DETECTIVE!"



STOP THAT INFERNAL RACKET! IT ISN'T FOURTH OF JULY YET!



THE SENATOR LOSES HIS FOOTING AND....

Oooo! I'M FALLING! HAAALLP!



'SHIELD!' UP THERE! HE'S STUCK ON A FLAG-POLE!



CHASE THOSE HOLD-UPS, DUSTY! I'VE GOT TO SAVE THAT FELLOW'S LIFE!



THAT BAKERY MOTORCYCLE? I'LL BORROW IT!



AND I THINK I'VE GOT AN IDEA HOW TO LEAVE A TRAIL FOR THE SHIELD!



LIVE AND LEARN! I DIDN'T THINK SINKERS WERE GOOD FOR ANYTHING BUT DUNKING!



THE BANDITS SOON REACH THEIR HIDEOUT....

HERE'S YOUR CUT, KID! A LOT EASIER THAN LOOKIN' FER A FIFTEEN DOLLAR A WEEK JOB, HUH?

GEE... MAYBE I SHOULDN'T A DONE IT! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I...

YA SNIVELLIN' PUNK! THIS'LL LEARN YA NOT TO GO SOFT!

OW!

AND TH' NEXT TIME YA GO YELLA, I'LL...

I AIN'T YELLA, BLINKER! HONEST, I AIN'T!

TH...BOY DETECTIVE!

WELL, WELL! I SEEM TO HAVE GAINED MYSELF A REPUTATION!

SO I GUESS I GOTTA LIVE UP TO IT!

WHERE'D HE COME FROM?

BEAT IT! IF DUSTY'S HERE, THE SHIELD'S PROBABLY AROUND HERE, TOO!

BOY! I SURE GOT CAUGHT NAPPING THAT TIME, BUT THIS GUY WON'T GET AWAY!

YELLA, AM I? I'LL SHOW 'EM!

OOO! LEGGO MY ARM!





HELLO, DUSTY! CLEVER TRICK LEAVING ME THAT TRAIL OF DOUGH-NUTS! WELL...WHAT KIND OF GAME DID YOU BAG?

IT'S THAT KID WHO WAS THEIR LOOKOUT, SHIELD! THE OTHERS GOT AWAY!

LEGGO ME!



HMM! KIND OF YOUNG TO BE IN WITH A MOB LIKE THAT!

BUT HE KNOWS WHO THEY ARE, 'N HE'S GONNA TELL US!



DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! THINK I'D SQUEAL ON MY PALS TO ANY COPPERS?

I HATE TO DO THIS TO A YOUNGSTER, BUT I'VE NO CHOICE! I'LL HAVE TO TURN YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!



NEXT DAY... HERE WE ARE, AT THE COURTHOUSE, JOE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE SO INTERESTED IN THE YOUNG HOOD-LUM, JOE!

ER...I SORTA HELPED THE SHIELD NAB HIM, BETTY!



INSID... YES JUDGE, I CAN POSITIVELY IDENTIFY HIM AS ONE OF THE GANG, BERRFE... I..ER..HAD A KIND OF A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF HIM!



HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY FOR YOURSELF, SLATS GORDON, BEFORE I PASS A SENTENCE ON YOU?

NO! I DON'T WANT NO FAVORS FER MYSELF! JUST DON'T TELL MY MOM WHERE I'M GOIN! THAT'S ALL I ASK!



DID YOU HEAR THAT, BETTY! THE KID'S MORE WORRIED ABOUT HIS MOTHER THAN HIMSELF!

THERE MUST BE A LOT OF GOOD IN A BOY LIKE THAT! I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM!



YOUR HONOR, I'M JOE HIGGINS, OF THE F.B.I.! I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS YOUNG FELLOW'S ARREST, AND I'D LIKE YOU TO PAROLE HIM IN MY CUSTODY!

HMM...IT'S A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY YOU'RE TAKING ON!



BUT SINCE THIS IS HIS FIRST OFFENSE, I'LL GRANT THE REQUEST! PERHAPS IT'S FOR THE BEST!

WHEE! BRRFF! I PROTEST! HARRUMPH! YOU CAN'T MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME, I'M SENATOR BLOWHARD!



OH, SENATOR, PLEASE BE MORE UNDERSTANDING!

I UNDERSTAND TOO WELL, YOUNG LADY (KOFF, KOFF) THE BOY WAS BORN TO CRIME! REFORMATORY THAT'S WHAT HE NEEDS!



OH, YEAH? A JOB IS WHAT I NEED, SEE! I GOT NO DAD AND I GOTTA LOOK AFTER MY MOTHER ALONE!

JOB? HMM... I THINK I KNOW HOW YOU CAN GET ONE, SLATS!



SENATOR YOU'RE RE SUCH A PROMINENT FIGURE IN POLITICS, SURELY YOU CAN DO SOMETHING FOR SLATS!

WHAT, ME, (SPUTTER) NON-SENSE! I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!



OH, COME NOW, SENATOR!... YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, I KNOW A KIND-HEARTED, UNDERSTANDING GENEROUS MAN WHEN I SEE ONE....AND SO GOOD LOOKING TOO!

WELL, NOW... HARRUM-MMPH...



HERE'S MY CARD, YOUNG MAN! COME AND SEE ME TOMORROW!

GEE, THANKS, SENATOR, YOU'RE A SWELL EGG!



NOW, MAYBE YOU'LL DO LIKE I TELL YUH, SEE. WE'RE GOIN' BACK TO YOUR JOINT, 'N YOU'RE GONNA DO A LITTLE HEIST JOB, SEE?

B. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE COMIN' TO MY PARTY TONIGHT?

I GOT THAT ALL FIGGERED OUT! YOU'RE WORKIN' OVERTIME, SEE. 'N YOUR OLD LADY'S GONNA ENTERTAIN 'EM.

YA MEAN YOU'RE GONNA LET MY MOTHER GO FREE!

I DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' OF THE KIND. CURLY THERE IS GONNA PLAY MOTHER FER TONIGHT.

NOW, WAIT A MINUTE, BLINKER! !...!...

AW, HAVE A HEART, BLINKER, I NEVER WUZ A MUDDER BEFORE!

CLAM UP, 'N GET INTO THESE DUDS. THEY NEVER SAW THE OLD LADY!

BLINKER AND SLATS DRIVE TO THE FACTORY.

AND THEN WHAT DO I DO?

AFTER YUH CLEAN OUT THE SAFE, YUH BRING THE DOUGH TO ME. I'LL BE WAITING OUTSIDE IN THE CAR!

SLATS ENTERS THE FACTORY AND IS MET BY THE NIGHT WATCHMAN

OH, ITS YOU, KID! WORKIN' OVERTIME, HUH?

YEAH, PADDY!

GEE...WHAT'LL I DO? I JUST CAN'T ROB THAT SAFE..MY BOSS TRUSTS ME!

RAISIN' THIS WINDOW'LL SEND IN AN ALARM! I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE RAP BUT BLINKER WON'T KNOW IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT, 'N THEN, HE WON'T TAKE IT OUT ON MY MOM!



THE PARTY ARRIVES AT SLATS' HOME.

HOW DO YOU DO, MRS. GORDON! I'M JOE HIGGINS, AND...

OH, YES! COME RIGHT IN. ...SLATS IS STILL AT THE OFFICE!



ISN'T THERE SOMETHING PECULIAR ABOUT MRS. GORDON'S ACTIONS JOE?

HMMM, YES BETTY!

NONSENSE! SHE STRIKES ME AS A CHARMING WOMAN!



HRRMPH...BRRPP. YOU KNOW, MRS. GORDON, YOU'RE QUITE A YOUNG MOTHER!

OH, SENATOR, YOUSE..ER..YOU ARE A FLATTER-ER!



NOT AT ALL...KOFF..KOFF.. AND VERY PRETTY, TOO!

AW, NUTS...AH..ER.. I MEAN, HOW NICE!



JOE'S KEEN EARS SUDDENLY PICK UP POLICE SIRENS.

(TROUBLE SOMEWHERE DUSTY!)

WELL WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR?



JOE AND DUSTY SLIP OUT UNNOTICED. A QUICK CHANGE, AND THE SHIELD AND THE BOY DETECTIVE STREAK TOWARD THE DIRECTION OF THE SIRENS.



WHILE, BLINKER WHO IS PARKED OUTSIDE THE FACTORY...

CRIPES! THE COPS!



BEFORE THE GANGSTER CAN MAKE A GET-A-WAY...

WELL SOON WE'LL FIND OUT!

HEY! WHADDA YA WANT WITH ME?



I SUPPOSE YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS KID EITHER!

BETCHA SWEET LIFE I DON'T! IS IT MY FAULT IF THAT PUNK TRIES TO BUST THE JOINT?



JUST THEN THE SHIELD AND DUSTY ARRIVE.

GREAT GUNS, DUSTY! IT'S SLATS!

AND THAT'S THE GANGSTER HE WAS MIXED UP WITH, THE FIRST TIME!



G'WAN, KID! TELL 'EM YA DON'T KNOW ME!

ER..AH..YEAH! I NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE IN MY LIFE!

WE'RE TAKIN' YOU BOTH ALONG ANYHOW!



DUSTY, SLATS IS LYING FOR SOME MYSTERIOUS REASON! YOU KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, I'M GOING BACK TO THE HOUSE!

RIGHT, SHIELD!



AT THE STATION HOUSE....

I TELL YA, THIS GUY HAD NO THIN' TO DO WITH IT! YA GOTTA LET HIM GO! YA GOTTA!

SHUT UP! WE'LL GIVE THE ORDERS!



OKAY! YOU'RE MAKIN' ME DO THIS! DON'T MOVE, OR I'LL SHOOT!

CRIPES! HE GOT MY GUN!



THEY'RE LIABLE TO HURT MOM IF SLATS DON'T SHOW UP! I GOTTA GET TO THE HIDEOUT!



BANG

THERE HE GOES! STOP HIM!



YOU GOT YOURSELF ANOTHER PASSENGER, SLATS!

BUT DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE IS NOT FAR BEHIND!

WHILE BACK IN SLAT'S HOME...



HO, HUM...GUESS I'LL TURN ON THE RADIO!

...THE BOY REFUSES TO GIVE HIS NAME, BUT THE OTHER IS IDENTIFIED AS BLINKER GORDON NOTORIOUS GANGSTER!



CRIPES! THE JIG'S UP! I GOTTA BLOW

ER..I'M THIRSTY SENATOR!



I'LL GET YOU SOME PUNCH, MY DEAR!

YOU'LL GET SOME PUNCH, ALL RIGHT! YA OLD GOAT!



JUST AS THE DISGUISED THUG IS ABOUT TO BLACKJACK THE SENATOR..



HERE YOU ARE, MY PET...WH... WHA..NOW WHERE DID SHE GO?

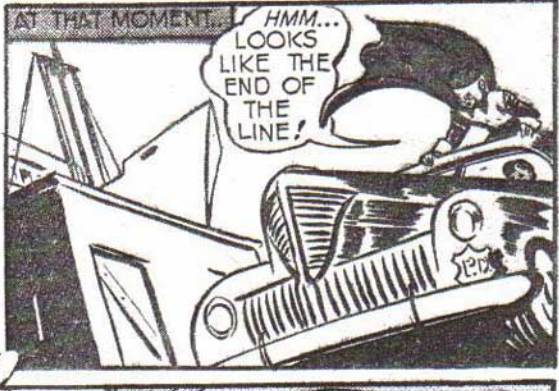


HONEST, SHIELD I DON'T KNOW WHERE BLINKER'S GOT THE OLD LADY! I'M NOT IN HIS MOB! HE JUST RUNG ME IN! FER THIS JOB!

YA BELIEVE ME!



THIS RAT'S TOO SCARED TO BE LYING! I'LL JUST WAIT UNTIL DUSTY GETS IN TOUCH WITH ME!



AT THAT MOMENT...

HMM... LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE LINE!



YOU! HOW'D YOU GET HERE?

GET OUT OF MY WAY OR I'LL BLAST YA!



NOT BEFORE YOU TELL ME WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!



BLINKER'S GANG GOT MY MOTHER IN THERE! THEY'LL KILL HER NOW GET OUTTA MY WAY!

OH, SO THAT'S IT!



A LIGHTNING BOLT CAPTURES A WRENCHING SUBJECT!

YOU'VE GOTTEN INTO TOO MUCH TROUBLE ALREADY!



NOW YOU STAY HERE, 'N KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN, 'RESCUING PEOPLE IS MY DEPARTMENT!



FIRST, I'LL CONTACT THE SHIELD LIKE HE TOLD ME TO!



DUSTY TAKES OUT HIS KIT, AND ESTABLISHES A CONNECTION!



AT THE SHIELD'S LABORATORY.

MORSE CODE! IT'S DUSTY!! TELLING ME WHERE HE IS!



WHILE IN THE HIDEOUT.....

LET ME GO! PLEASE LET ME GO!

YOU BETCHA WE WILL, MRS. GORDON, 'RIGHT NOW! BLINKER SAID TO KNOCK YOU OFF, IF HE DIDN'T COME BACK!

SAY YER PRAYERS LADY!

YOU BETTER START SAYIN' YOURS, IF YOU KNOW ANY!

YOU'RE OUTTA YOUR LEAGUE WHEN YOU FIGHT SOMEBODY WITH PANTS YOU RATS!







COME ON, SON! WE'RE ALL GOING BACK TO THE POLICE! YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO!

I WON'T MAKE ANY MORE TROUBLE, NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT MOM'S ALL RIGHT SHIELD!



HMM! SO YOU DELIBERATELY TURNED IN THE ALARM AT THE WAREHOUSE!

SURE! BUT I COULDN'T SAY SO! THOSE KILLERS SAID THEY'D KILL MOM, IF I DOUBLE-CROSSED THEM!



I GUESS SLATS HAS PROVED HIMSELF NOW, HUH, SARGE?

PROVED HIMSELF! ALL HE DID WAS HELP US ROUND UP THE MOST VICIOUS GANG IN THE CITY!



WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN RUN BACK TO YOUR PARTY, NOW, KID! YOU'VE GOT GUESTS, REMEMBER?

SURE HA, HA, S'LONG 'N THANKS!



SLATS AND HIS MOTHER RETURN TO THEIR HOME AND SEE...

WELL, WELL... SO YOU'VE COME AT LAST! WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE!

(HIC) YESH! FINE WAY TO TREAT A SENATOR!



HEY! THAT BANDAGE! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN GETTING INTO ANY TROUBLE, SLATS. I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU, YOU KNOW!

THIS BANDAGE KEPT ME OUT OF TROUBLE

IS HE KIDDIN' US, JOE?



(HIC) YOU'RE EVEN PRETTIER THAN BEFORE, MISH GORDON!

SENATOR, PLEASE!

IN EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS, THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE ARE IN THERE, PUNCHING! STRIVING TO GIVE YOU THE BEST YARN A DIME OR A DOLLAR CAN BRING...AND THE EVER-GROWING POPULARITY OF THIS LOVABLE DUO IS GRATIFYING PROOF OF THEIR SUCCESS!