



21

X
916

PEP

ACTION
DETECTIVE
ADVENTURE

COMICS

144
38

10¢

THE HANGMAN
warns you! If crime
is your work the
gallows is your pay!

NOV.



NOVICK

USE THIS ENTIRE COUPON!!!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH 10¢ TO COVER COST OF MAILING AND HANDLING.

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 ENCLOSING THIS COUPON TOGETHER WITH TEN CENTS TO COVER THE COSTS OF HANDLING AND MAILING MY BADGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____



EXACT COPY OF BADGE
IN THREE COLORS
RED-WHITE-BLUE

CUT ON THIS LINE

BULLETIN #5

The HANGMAN has asked me to give you a special message for him. He was a little worried because apparently he really had a tough job trying to fill the shoes of his brother, the Comet. But now he wants to express his sincere thanks to the thousands of readers who have written to him. And while, he is, himself, too modest to say so, just between us he really is terrific, huh gang?

Anyway, here are a couple of personal items which I would like to pass on to you for discussion.

Phyllis Barber of Cambridge, Mass., submits a very interesting idea and one that is worth while talking about. She asks that we put in a pen pal page. It really is a swell idea fellows and we promise to give it a lot of thought. How about all you members of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB; if you think it is as good an idea as we do, why not write and tell us about it.

Congratulations to Charles Elsie of Newark, New Jersey for your splendid record. Any boy who would devote as much of his time to police work as you have, is really worth his salt, and the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB is proud to announce you as a member.

Well I guess that winds up our discussion for this month. Just one more word before we sign off. Keep shooting those letters at us. You can't say too much or send too many. A few of the outstanding letters were received from the following this month.

Billy Killingswood
P.O.Box 176
Moreno, Calif.

Russell Bauer
420 N.Grove St.
East Orange, N.J.

Rancy Pratt
407 San Francisco Ave.
Pomona, Calif.

Joe Higgins

THE ONE AND ONLY

SHIELD

WITH
DUSTY
THE SPECTACULAR
BOY DETECTIVE



UMPH-
GLUB

BY
NOVICK
AND
SHREIN

INTO THE LONG HOURS OF NIGHT, PROFESSOR CYRUS YOUNG, AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS INVENTOR, LABORS USING HIS PRODIGIOUS BRAIN IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY WHILE OUTSIDE, PATROLLING THE ARMY FIELD IN WHICH PROFESSOR YOUNG'S LABORATORY IS LOCATED, ARE THE BOY SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE, SPECIALLY ASSIGNED TO PREVENT SABOTAGE. THEN, BEFORE THE PROFESSOR IS AWARE OF IT, A HAND CONTAINING A HANDKERCHIEF IS THRUST AGAINST HIS FACE FROM BEHIND, AND.....



HE ISS UNCONSCIOUS. QVICK, WE TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE ROOF!



NO SOONER DOES THE ELEVATOR DOOR CLOSE BEHIND THEM...

I COULD'VE SWORN I SAW SOMEBODY SNEAK INTO THIS PLACE!

GREAT GRAVITY... THE ELEVATOR... IT'S GOIN'
TO THE ROOF... SOMETHING'S UP
SURE AS I'M A FOOT HIGH... I'M GON-
NA TAKE A QUICK
LOOK - SEE.

ON THE ROOF
OF THE LABORA-
TORY...

INTO DE PLANE
WITH HIM... WE
USE THE PROFESSOR'S
OWN AUTOGYRO FOR
OUR ESCAPE!

BRRRR

I KNEW IT!
THE PROFES-
SOR'S PLANE IS
TAKIN' OFF!

BUT NOT WITHOUT
ME!

UGH

WELL,
WELL...
BUSTED IN ON A
COZY LITTLE
PARTY, DIDN'T I?
DUNDER!

OOF!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOUR GAME IS - BUT
THIS IS MINE!

I FIX YOU GOOT,
YOU SCHWEIN!

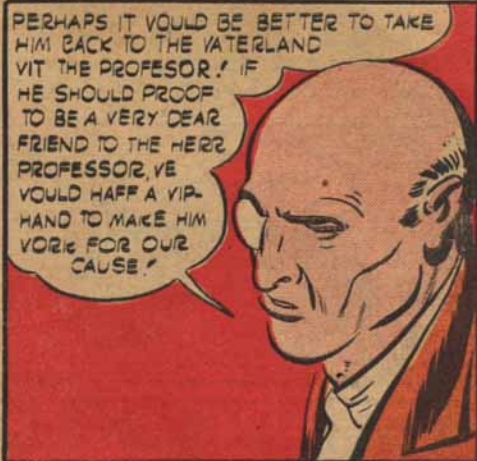
BONG!

Ooo!



WE THROW HIM
OUT QUICK,
JA, HERR
KUNN!

HMM,
MAYBE NOT!



PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER TO TAKE
HIM BACK TO THE WATERLAND
VIT THE PROFESSOR! IF
HE SHOULD PROOF
TO BE A VERY DEAR
FRIEND TO THE HERR
PROFESSOR, YE
WOULD HAFF A VIP-
HAND TO MAKE HIM
VORIG FOR OUR
CAUSE!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE SHIELD WHO
IS GUARDING THE OTHER END OF
FIELD, SEES...



HEY!... WHAT GIVES
ANYWAY? WHAT'S
THE PROFESSOR'S
AUTOGYRO
FLYING AROUND
THIS TIME OF
NIGHT FOR?

DUSTY IS AROUND THE PROFESSOR'S
LAB, TOO! MAYBE EVERY-
THING'S UNDER CONTROL, THERE,
BUT THERE'S NO HARM IN
MAKING SURE!



HOLY JOE! IT LOOKS
LIKE A CYCLONE HIT
THIS PLACE!



DUSTY'S BEEN HERE, TOO!
THIS IS A
PIECE
FROM HIS
CAPE!

FIRST, I'LL RE-
PORT
TO THE CHIEF
IMMEDIATELY!

AND SO WHEN I GOT THERE,
CHIEF, THE PROFESSOR WAS
GONE... AND DUSTY WITH HIM!
I'M STILL UP A TREE ABOUT THE
WHOLE THING!



SHIELD, I THINK I
KNOW WHERE THEY
ARE OR AT LEAST
WHERE THEY
WILL BE!

I KNOW HOW FOND YOU ARE
OF DUSTY, SO IT ISN'T PLEA-
SANT TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT
MY HUNCH IS THAT GERMAN
AGENTS HAVE KIDNAPPED
THEM TO GERMANY! THEY
TRIED IT ONCE BEFORE!
THAT'S WHY YOU WERE
STATIONED THERE!



SO I NOT ONLY FAILED MY PAL, DUSTY, I ALSO FAILED MY DUTY... WELL, I'M NOT LICKED YET, I'M GOING TO GERMANY MYSELF AND GET THEM BOTH BACK.



BUT.. BUT YOU CAN'T!... I COULDN'T GIVE YOU OFFICIAL PERMISSION!



THEN I'LL DO IT UN-OFFICIALLY... JUST AS A PLAIN AMERICAN CITIZEN, SO LONG, CHIEF!



AND SO, OFF INTO THE NIGHT, THE SHIELD WINGS ON THE STRANGEST, AND MOST HAZARDOUS MISSION OF HIS CAREER...



BERLIN IS THE MOST LIKELY PLACE THEY'D TAKE THEM!

DAYS LATER.. IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE GESTAPO.....



SO, YOU HAFF FINALLY BROUGHT HERE PROFESSOR YOUNG! GOOT!



BUT YOU WERE WRONG IN THINKING WE NEEDED DIS BRAT TO PERSUADE HIM TO VORK FOR US.



WE HAFF OUR OWN METHODS OF PER-SUASION!

YOUR OWN METHODS OF BARBARISM AND BUTCHERY, YOU MEAN!



PIG! INSOLENT HOUND!

I WILL TEACH YOU PROPER RESPECT FOR YOUR SUPERIORS!... TO THE CONCENTRATION CAMP VID HIM, AND DON'T TREAT HIM GENTLY!



HERE, HANS!.. A NEW GUEST. UND A VERY INSULTING VUN!



SO...VE SOFTEN HIM UP, ABER QUVICK! JA?

MOOF, AMERICAN DOG, OR YOU GET A TASTE OF DIS VIP!



BOY, HOW I'D LIKE TO MEET UP WITH YOU IN BROOKLYN.. YOU JERK!!





JERK! JERK! I SHOW YOU!



YEEOWW!

YOU STARTED TO SHOW ME TOO SOON!

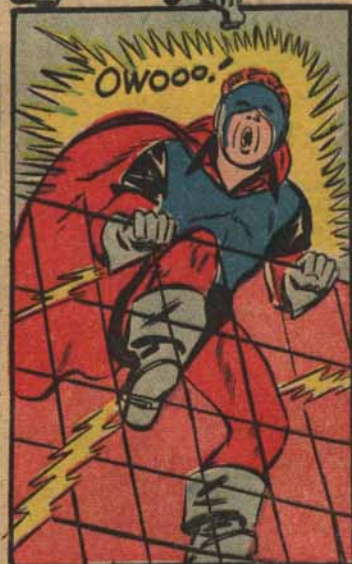


YOU SHOULD HAVE WAITED TILL I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF - LIKE YOU USUALLY DO!

Ooo!



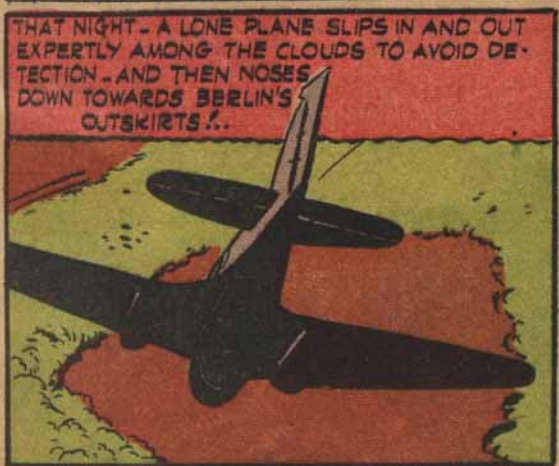
DUSTY NIMBLY LEAPS FOR THE FENCE, UNAWARE THAT A SWITCH IS BEING THROWN WHICH WILL SEND SEARING ELECTRICITY THROUGH IT.....



OWOOO!



TAKE HIM AWAY! HE IS NOT DEAD YET.. UND VENN HE COMES TO FIND OUT VOT JERK MEANS!



THAT NIGHT - A LONE PLANE SLIPS IN AND OUT EXPERTLY AMONG THE CLOUDS TO AVOID DETECTION - AND THEN NOSES DOWN TOWARDS BBERLIN'S OUTSKIRTS?..



AND OUT STEPS THE SHIELD!..

SO FAR SO GOOD! NOW TO GET INTO STREET CLOTHING AND SCOUT AROUND!



WAS IST, PRISONERS ESCAPING.



OH, OH, SEEMS LIKE THOSE BOYS OBJECT TO OUR LEAVING.



OBJECTIONS OVERRULED, HUH SHIELD.



A HAIL OF BULLETS SUDDENLY PEPPERS FROM OUT THE WATCH TOWER AT THE DUO...



YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT POLE-VAULTING, OR YOU WOULDN'T LET THESE STICKS LIE AROUND.



AND HERE'S ANOTHER AMERICAN TRICK - A HAYMAKER TO THE BREADBASKET.



DANCE, YOU BUZZARDS.



HAALP.

HA, HA. DUSTY'S GIVING THEM A NEW VERSION OF THE HOT-FOOT.

C'MON, DUSTY, WE'VE FOOLED WITH THESE KRAUTS TOO LONG. LET'S MAKE TRACKS.



A FLOOD OF PRISONERS, RELEASED BY THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, POUR OUT TO NEW-FOUND FREEDOM!...



WOW! WE SURE DISHED THE HEINIES OUT SOME BLITZKREIG-AMERICAN STYLE- HUH, SHIELD?

THAT'S JUST A SAMPLE, DUSTY!



THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF FIREWORKS POPPING UNTIL WE GET THE PROFESSOR AND OURSELVES BACK TO AMERICA!



WELL, WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR? LET'S HUSTLE DOWN TO THAT STUFFED SHIRT-THE CHIEF OF THE GESTAPO! THE PROFESSOR IS IN HIS CHARGE!

LATER- IN THE OFFICE OF THE GESTAPO CHIEF!



THE PHONE IS RINGING YOUR EXCELLENCY!

VAG IST!... THE SHIELD HERE!... IN OUR COUNTRY!... UND HE ESCAPED VIT DE BOY!... DIS ISS INCREDIBLE! SCOUR THE CITY FOR DEM!



JUST THEN -



UGH! DON'T LET DEM ES.. GLUG..

KEEP TALKING AND SAY WHAT I TELL YOU OR THEY'LL BE MEASURING YOU UP FOR A WOODEN KIMONA!



ULP!

NOW TELL 'EM TO STOP SEARCHING FOR US... THEN, HAVE PROFESSOR YOUNG BROUGHT TO THE RAILROAD STATION RIGHT AWAY, AND AFTER THAT.....



AFTER THE GESTAPO CHIEF
FOLLOWS OUT THE SHIELD'S
INSTRUCTIONS -



NOW, INTO THE
NEXT ROOM WITH
'EM, DUSTY!



NOT BAD
FOR A QUICK
FIT, EH
DUSTY?

YA GOTTA HAND IT
TO THESE KRAUTS!
THEY SURE CAN WHIP
UP A SNAPPY
UNIFORM, SHIELD!



NOW KEEP MUM, DUSTY AND LET
ME DO ALL THE TALKING...AND
PRAY MY GERMAN ISN'T
TOO RUSTY!



TO THE RAILROAD
STATION --UND
HURRY!



BERLIN RAILWAY - STATION

CAR ENTRANCE



HEIL, BARON!... THE SPECIAL TRAIN
YOU ORDERED IS IN READINESS!
UND HERE IS PROFES-
SOR YOUNG!



DIS SUDDEN TRIP IS VERY UN-
USUAL, BARON! I KNOW I
HAFF NO RIGHT TO
QUESTION YOUR AUTHORITY,
BUT...

VELL, DEN,
DONT QUES-
TION IT! DO
AS YOU
ARE TOLD!

JA, BARON?..YOUR USUAL ESCORT OF STORM TROOPERS WILL ACCOMPANY YOU, OF COURSE!



I CAN'T LET THIS GUY GET TOO SUSPICIOUS!

ER..AH..JA!

AFTER SOME HOURS OF RIDING....



HOW ABOUT IT YOUNGSTER? READY TO SWING INTO ACTION?



JUST ITCHIN', SHIELD!.. FIRST THING I'M GONNA DO IS FIND OUT HOW THE KRAUT BEHIND ME'D LOOK WITHOUT TEETH!



WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S FIND OUT!

OOMP!

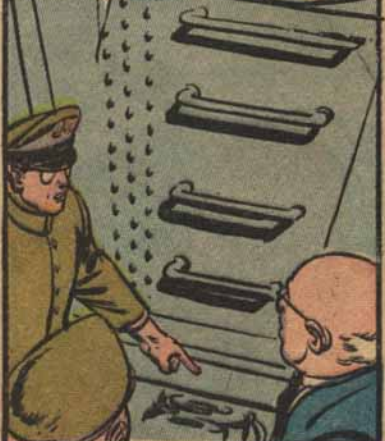


B..BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW, MR. SHIELD?

THOSE GUYS SURE LOOK PEACEFUL NOW, SHIELD!

GET TO THE ENGINEER'S CAB, PROFESSOR!

YOU DISENGAGE THE ENGINE CAR FROM THE REST OF THE TRAIN! DUSTY AND I'LL GO INSIDE AND PERSUADE THE ENGINEERS TO TAKE A DAY OFF!



SOON, THE PRIVATE CAR IS UNCOUPLED AND LEFT BEHIND!



HA, HA! I SEE YOU DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE PERSUADING THE ENGINEERS, SHIELD!



NONE AT ALL! HOP IN, KID!

NOW WE'LL JUST KEEP RIDING RIGHT ACROSS THE SWISS BORDER... AND THEN WE'RE SAFE.



WHILE BACK IN BERLIN, DENN, DER SHIELD HIT ME ON DER HEAD... UN DOT'S ALL I RE-MEMBER.



GOTT IN HIMMEL!.. VE MUST-N'T LET DEN ESCAPE!

HELLO, HELLO... GENERAL KRAUT SPEAKING... DER TRAIN ON DE MUNICH TRACK MUST BE STOPPED... USE EFFERY MEANS AT YOUR DISPOSAL... BUT DON'T LET IT REACH DE SVISS BORDER!



AN ADMIRABLE PIECE OF INGENUITY, SHIELD, THIS PLAN OF YOURS.



WELL, THE BORDER'S RIGHT AHEAD, NOW, BUT WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET.

WOW... YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL, SHIELD... LOOK WHAT GIVES!



COME ON, KIDDIES... THIS TRAIN IS NOT A HEALTHY PLACE. THOSE BOMBERS WILL SOON START LAYING THEIR EGGS... HOLD ON TO ME TIGHT, PROFESSOR... YOU TOO, DUSTY.



WHEW... NOT A SECOND TOO SOON!

...GREAT MUSCLES CUSHIONING THE SHOCK OF THE TREMENDOUS IMPACT, THE SHIELD LANDS SAFELY WITH HIS CARGO, HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW!



THE TRIO MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE BORDER ON FOOT, AND SEE...

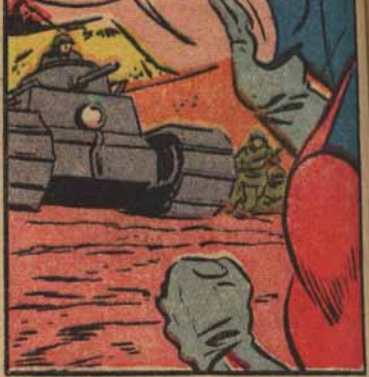
GREAT SAINTS! THEY BEAT US TO THE PUNCH!



IT'S PROBABLY GUARDED ALL ALONG THE LINE, THIS WAY. ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO. NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY, DUSTY! HERE'S MY PLAN...

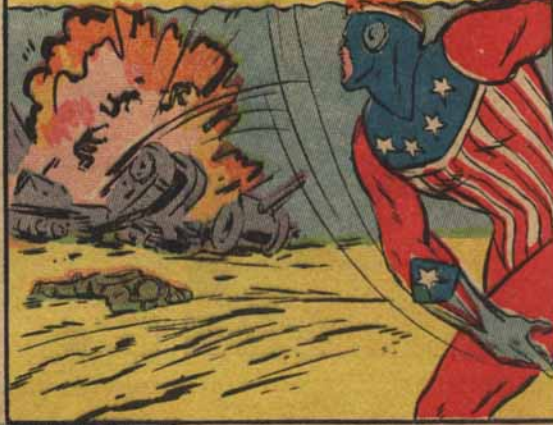


HEY, YOU LUGS! LOOKIN' FOR ME?... HERE I AM!... COME AND GET ME!!



WOW!.. THEY DIDN'T WASTE ANYTIME TAKING ME UP!

THE SHIELD HEAVES A TANK INTO THE OTHERS WITH DEVASTATING EFFECT!



THEN WADES INTO THE CHARGING INFANTRY WITH PULVERIZING FEROCITY!



CHINS UP FELLAS!

WHILE DUSTY, UNNOTICED IN THE CONFUSION LEAPS FROM A TREE BRANCH ONTO A TANK!

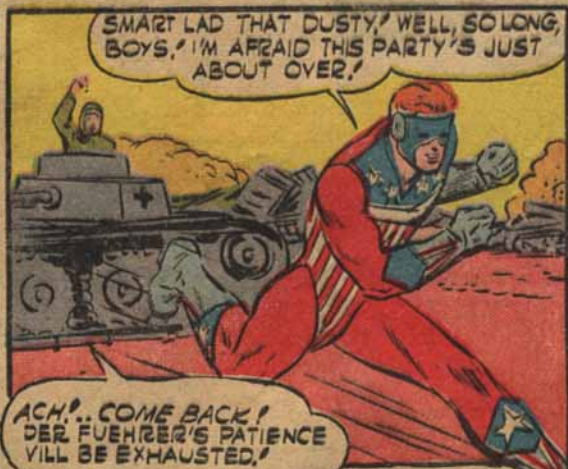
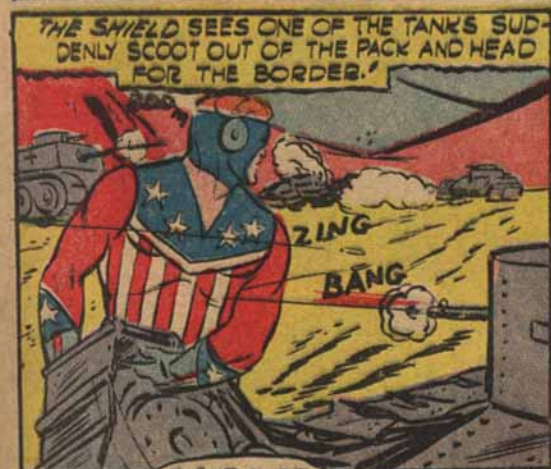


KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!



SOME YUN IS KNOCKING ON OUR ROOF

JA! COME IN!..



FOLLOW
THE
ADVENTURES
OF
AMERICA'S
MOST
POPULAR
COMIC
CHARACTERS,
THE ORIGINAL
SHIELD AND
DUSTY, THE
SPECTACULAR
BOY DE-
TECTIVE, IN
EVERY ISSUE
OF PEP
COMICS--
THE MAGAZINE
THAT'S GOT
EVERYTHING!

A SIBILANT MOCKING LAUGH PIERCES THE THICK GLOOM OF NIGHT. 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

ONE CLOUDLESS NIGHT, IN THE HOME OF A WEALTHY BROKER, A FIGURE STEPS FROM THE SHADOWS, AND WHISTLING A WEIRD TUNE - PLUNGES A KNIFE INTO THE BACK OF THE MILLIONAIRE, BUT THE NEXT INSTANT - A THIRD FIGURE ENTERS THE SCENE - THE HANG-MAN.

STORY
BY
THE BARN





AN EXPLOSIVE UPPER-CUT FINDS ITS MARK!



A FLURRY OF LEFTS AND RIGHTS RAIN ABOUT THE MURDERER'S FACE... AND THEN—



YOU CHOSE TO WALK THE PATHS OF CRIME BETRUCHI! AND NOW YOU'VE REACHED THE VERY STEPS OF THE GALLOWS! THIS IS THE END OF YOUR TRAIL!



YOU CAN'T SCARE ME INTO ANYTHING, HANG-MAN! YOU'RE NOT THE LAW!



BETRUCHI... UNSEEN BY THE HANG-MAN, REACHES INTO HIS POCKET, EXTRACTS A VIAL, AND...



MY EYES? I'M BLIND! I CAN'T SEE!

BAH! STUPID DOG!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE HANG-MAN STAGGERS OUT OF THE MANSION, THE FRESH AIR HELPING TO CLEAR THE MIST FROM HIS BURNING EYES!...

SO HE GOT AWAY! BETRUCHI IS THE TOUGHEST CUSTOMER I EVER MET UP WITH!

BUT THE HANG-MAN'S TROUBLES HAVE ONLY BEGUN! FOR AT THIS MOMENT, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY ON DEVIL'S ISLAND A GROUP OF CONVICTS ARE MAKING A DESPERATE BID FOR FREEDOM... AND FATE HAS ALREADY STARTED TO WEAVE A LEAGUE OF CRIME SUCH AS THE WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN!!

WITH A MIGHTY CHORUS OF BLOOD-CHILLING YELLS, THE CONVICTS BREAK OUT OF THEIR CELLS, CHARGING THE ARMED GUARDS!



I'LL TAKE CARE OF SOME OF THEM WITH THESE BOOMERANGS. ANYTIME ONE OF THEM TRIES TO GET ME, KILL HIM! UNDERSTAND, LENNIE?

I KILL DEM, LA VALLE! I SHAKE DEM LIKE PUPPIES!



LA VALLE TELL ME KILL YOU, ME KILL! LENNIE KILL!



NECKS SO SOFT LIKE SILK! HAH! NOBODY HAVE STRENGTH LIKE LENNIE! THEY DIE SO QUIET!



ANOTHER SNIPER UP HERE, HUH! THIS BOOMERANG IS LABELED FOR HIM!



THE BAND OF CRIMINALS REACHES THE SHORE OF THE ISLAND...

QUIET, ALL OF YOU! I'LL GET ONE OF 'EM WITH A BOOMERANG WHILE LENNIE SNEAKS UP ON THE OTHER!



THE TWO REMAINING GUARDS ARE EASILY OVERPOWERED!



SHOVE OFF, LENNIE! WE'RE SAFE NOW! ONLY A THOUSAND MILES TO FREEDOM!

A THOUSAND MILES? HOW FAR IS THAT, LA VALLE? A THOUSAND MILES! T'INK OF DAT!



WEEKS LATER THE BOAT REACHES THE BLEAK SHORES ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST...



THOSE FOUR GUYS ARE ALL THAT'S LEFT EXCEPT US, LENNIE! BUT WE CAN'T LET THEM REACH SHORE ALIVE! IF THEY'RE CAUGHT, THEY'LL SQUEAL! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THEM NOW!



WITH ONE BLOW LENNIE SMASHES HIS FIST THROUGH THE BOAT!

LENNIE UNDERSTAND! I SINK BOAT NOW!



YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, LENNIE! I'M TOO WEAK TO SWIM!

AW, LA VALLE - YOU'RE MY FRIEND! I GET YOU TO SHORE! DON'T WORRY!



AS THE BOAT CAPSIZES AND SINKS, LENNIE STRIKES OUT FOR SHORE, HIS TREMENDOUS MUSCLES PULLING HIM AND LA VALLE THROUGH THE WATER WITH EASE!



NOW LENNIE FIND YOU SOMETHING TO EAT!

THAT'S SWELL, LENNIE! YOU'RE A REAL FRIEND!



THE FOOL! I'M NOT GONNA WASTE TH' REST OF MY LIFE TAKIN' CARE OF HIM!



LOOK, LA VALLE! I SEE A LITTLE HOUSE OVER DERE! WE GO TO IT, HUH?

YEAH, LENNIE! WE'LL GO TO IT, ALL RIGHT!



HE'S OF NO USE TO ME ANYMORE! LET HIM ROT! I'M GONNA GET TO TH' CITY AN' START ALL OVER AGAIN - AN' NOBODY'S ALIVE TO TIP MY HAND!



BUT A HALF-HOUR LATER, LENNIE STAGGERS TO HIS FEET AND TUGS AT THE KNIFE, PULLING IT FROM HIS BACK!...

LA VALLE SHOULDN'T HAVE DID THAT TO ME! NOW WHEN I CATCH HIM I HAVE TO KILL HIM - AN' LENNIE DON'T WANT TO DO THAT! LENNIE LIKED LA VALLE!



MEANWHILE THE HANGMAN RELENTLESSLY STALKS BETRUCHI... BUT ALWAYS THE CRIME KING MANAGES TO KEEP A JUMP AHEAD OF HIS PURSUER!

THAT GUY IS HARDER TO GET THAN A DIME TIP IN A SCOTCH RESTAURANT!

HE'S TOO LATE AGAIN!



AND SO BETRUCHI CONTINUES ON HIS PLUNDEROUS WAY LOOTING AND ROBBING FROM ONE END OF THE CITY TO THE OTHER!

♪♪♪

AH! TONIGHT'S WORK HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY LUCRATIVE!



HA, HA! HERE HE COMES AGAIN! BUT ONCE AGAIN HE IS TOO LATE! THE STUPID PIG! I HAVE MY AVENUE OF ESCAPE ALL PLANNED - AND HE CAN NOT FOLLOW!



AHA! SO HE'S BEEN HERE, EH? WELL, HIS DOOM IS ALMOST SEALED! HE WORKS THE SAME WAY EVERY TIME... AND I'M GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER EVERY TIME! IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!



LATER THAT NIGHT, WHEN BETRUCHI RETURNS TO HIS QUARTERS....

THE HANGMAN THINKS HE CAN TRAP ME SOON! BUT I AM NOT SO FOOLISH AS TO CONTINUE TO WORK THIS WAY! I HAVE A NEW PLAN - A PLAN TO ENLIST THE SERVICES OF TWO COLD-BLOODED KILLERS! AND I KNOW WHERE THEY ARE! I SHALL CONTACT THEM AT ONCE!



IN A SHABBY ROOM ON THE EAST SIDE...



I WONDER WHY LAVALLE STUCK DAT KNIFE IN ME? CHEE- I WISHED HE DIDN'T DO DAT, HE WAS MY FRIEND! BUT NOW I GOT TO KILL HIM.. I WISHED I KNEW WHERE HE WAS!

SUDDENLY, THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN!.....



I CAN TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND HIM, LENNIE!

HUH? WHAT? WHERED YOU COME FROM?

HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME IS LENNIE? HU? WHO TOLD YOU DAT?

NEVER MIND, LENNIE! YOU WANT TO FIND LA VALLE, DON'T YOU? THEN COME ALONG WITH ME!



WE'LL GO CALL ON LA VALLE RIGHT NOW!

I SURE DO WANT TO SEE HIM! HE USED TO BE MY FRIEND BUT NOW I HAVE TO KILL HIM!



LATER...

LENNIE! AND WHO ARE YOU? STAY AWAY FROM ME OR I'LL LET YA HAVE IT!

LA VALLE, I GOT TO KILL YOU! WHY YOU STICK THE KNIFE IN MY BACK?



I PUT MY HANDS ON YOUR NECK AND SQUEEZE IT LIKE A PUPPY! I KILL YOU, LA VALLE!



NO YOU DON'T, LENNIE! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KILL HIM AND HE'S NOT GOING TO KILL YOU! YOU'RE GOING TO BE FRIENDS AGAIN! UNDERSTAND?

WHY? WHY LENNIE BE FRIENDS?

THAT'S RIGHT, LENNIE! FRIENDS, SEE? WE'LL BE FRIENDS!



NOW I HAVE A PLAN WHEREBY THE THREE OF US - WORKING TOGETHER - CAN MAKE A FORTUNE FOR OURSELVES!

THAT SOUNDS GOOD TO LENNIE! NOW LENNIE AND LA VALLE BE FRIENDS AGAIN! I LIKE LA VALLE! I WANT TO BE FRIENDS!

LET'S HEAR THE REST OF YOUR PLAN, BETRUCHI!

THE NEXT NIGHT AT THELMA GORDON'S APARTMENT....

WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T MR. DICKERING IN PERSON! HOW COME THE HANG-MAN ISN'T AT WORK TO-NIGHT?

HELLO THEL! THE HANGMAN? I'M AFRAID HE'S PRETTY MUCH OF A WASH-OUT THESE DAYS!

THAT BETRUCHI IS AS ELUSIVE AS A WILL O' THE WISP! HE SURE HAS ME STYMIED! OH- BY THE WAY- WHERE'S ANTHRACITE? WHY DIDN'T HE ANSWER THE DOOR?

OH, HE'S JUST OUT FOR HIS EVENING-STROLL. HE'LL BE ALONG IN A MINUTE!

MY, MY! WHAT A PURTY PIECE THAT OL' MAN IS PLAYING! AH THINKS AH'LL JIS' DROP HIM A PIECE OF MONEY AS AH GOES BY!

BLAIR MUSEUM OF ART
20 BROAD ST. N.Y.

BAH! A PENNY! WHAT DO I WANT WITH A PENNY WHEN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS ARE ALMOST WITHIN MY GRASP!

FO' GOO'NESS SAKE! DID AH HEAR THAT OL' GEN'MAN CHUCK DOWN MAH CASH? WELL, MY, MY! LOOK A' HIM DUCK ROUND BEHIND TH' MUSEUM! YOU'D THINK HE JUS' SEEN A GHOST - BUT THAT COULDN'T BE ME!

CLUNK!

LENNIE, YOU STUPID FOOL! YOU RUINED THAT CANVAS! HERE! GIVE ME THAT KNIFE! YOU GO OVER AND KEEP A WATCH OUT THE WINDOW!

AW GEE- I DID SUCH A GOOD JOB OF KILLIN' THE GUARD, BETRUCHI! WHY CAN'T I CUT OUT PICTURES LIKE LAVALLE IS DOIN'?

YEAH! BUT WE WAS SCARED FOR A MOMENT WHEN YOU STOPPED FIDDLING!

HOW ARE THINGS COMING, BOYS? GETTING PICTURES FROM THE FRAMES?



SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR, THEL! I'D BETTER DUCK!

I THINK IT'S JUST ANTHRACITE!



HELLO, MISS GORDON! HELLO THERE, MR HANG-MAN! HOW YO' ALL?



HM! THAT PIECE ANTHRACITE WAS WHISTLING WHEN HE CAME IN... WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT THING BEFORE? COULD IT BE...??

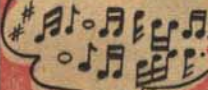


BY GOLLY, IT IS! ANTHRACITE! WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT SONG YOU WERE JUST WHISTLING? QUICK!

HUH? WHAT SONG? IS YOU CRAZY, MR HANG-MAN? I WAGN'T WHISTLING NO SONG!



YES YOU WERE! LISTEN! TRY TO REMEMBER! IT GOES LIKE THIS!



OOHHH! THAT ONE! NOW, LENNIE SEE... OH YES! NOW AH REMEMBER! AH HEARD A LI'L OL' BEGGAR MAN IN FRONT O' DE MUSEUM OF ART, FIDDLIN' AWAY AT IT! AN! THEN THE MOST PECULIAR THING DONE HAPPEN - HE THREW OUT MA' COIN AH DONE GABE 'IM AN' HE RUN BEHIND TH' BULDIN'!



THAT WAS BETRUCHI! THIS TIME I'M GOING TO NAB HIM!

BETRUCHI? WHO IN TH' WHOLE WIDE WORLD IS BETRUCHI??



BETRUCHI IS THE DEMONIAL KILLER THE HANGMAN HAS BEEN AFTER FOR WEEKS! THAT FIEND WOULD STOP AT NOTHING, ANTHRACITE!

FO GOONNESS SAKES!!



ANTHRACITE! ANTHRACITE!! WAKE UP! GOOD HEAVENS - HE FAINTED!

WHILE AT THE ART MUSEUM...

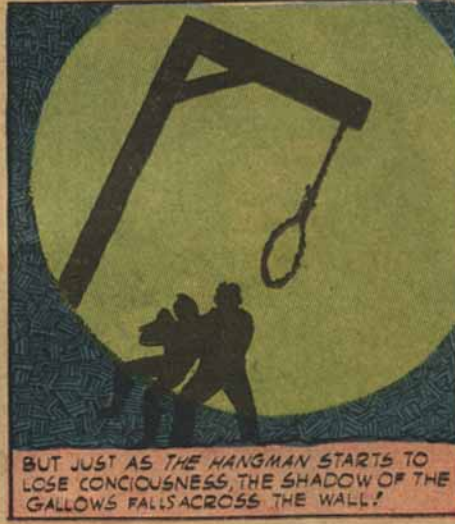


I JUST SEEN SOMEBODY OUT THERE! MAYBE IT'S A POLICEMAN!



BUT THEN... LENNIE'S POWERFUL FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT THE HANGMAN'S THROAT!

UNSEEN BY THE HANGMAN, THE POWERFUL FIGURE OF LENNIE SNEAKS UP ON HIM FROM BEHIND,...



WHAT MAKES THAT SHADOW, I WONDER? I WONDER WHAT IT IS? I CAN SEE A STICK GOING UP AND ONE ACROSS AND A ROPE!



IT- IT MUST BE TH' HANGMAN'S GALLOW'S! YEAH! THAT'S WHAT IT IS!



THE GALLOW'S! WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? I DON'T LIKE THE GALLOW'S! TAKE IT AWAY!



IT WILL NEVER GO AWAY, LENNIE! ALL CRIMINALS SEE IT SOONER OR LATER!

SO THAT'S WHY I SAW IT! IT WAS A TRICK! YOU TRICKED ME! NOW I KILL YOU GOOD- JUST LIKE A PUPPY!



NOBODY SHOULD PLAY TRICKS ON LENNIE! LENNIE NEVER PLAYS TRICKS ON NOBODY! WHEN YOU MAKE TRICKS- I HAVE TO KILL!



BUT THE HANGMAN, MORE AGILE THAN THE LUMBERING LENNIE, SENDS THE MAN HURLING OVER HIS HEAD!



AND HE CRASHES INTO THE WALL, HEAD FIRST- A BLOW THAT WOULD HAVE KILLED AN ORDINARY MAN!



THE GALLOW'S! IT'S ON MY FACE! WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? TELL ME WHAT THAT MEANS!



VERY WELL, LENNIE- I SHALL TELL YOU!

THAT GALLOW'S REPRESENTS THE ULTIMATE END OF ALL MURDERERS! FOR A WHILE, LENNIE, YOU MIGHT ESCAPE IT- BUT IN THE END, YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE!



DOES THAT MEAN LENNIE GOES TO THE GALLOWES? ARE YOU GOING TO HANG ME?

NO, LENNIE... I'M NOT GOING TO HANG YOU, NOBODY EVER HANGS A CRIMINAL... NOT REALLY! CRIMINALS HANG THEMSELVES!



BUT MAYBE LA VALLE CAN SAVE ME! OR BETRUCHI! THEY'RE MY FRIENDS! THAT'S RIGHT! MY FRIENDS... THEY'LL SAVE ME!

NO LENNIE! THEY AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS! LA VALLE KNIFED YOU, DIDN'T HE? AND BETRUCHI... HE JUST RAN OUT ON YOU TO LEAVE YOU TO FACE THE MUSIC! DON'T YOU SEE, THEY'RE NOT YOUR FRIENDS!

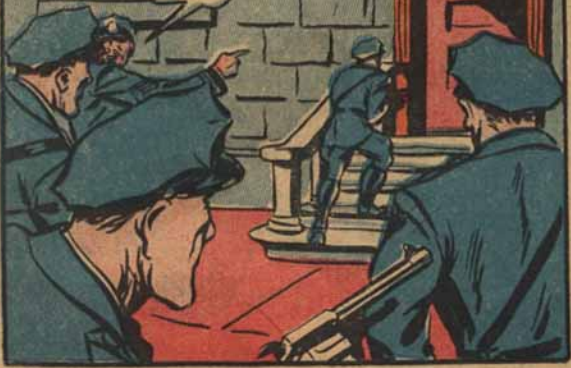


THAT'S RIGHT! THEY'RE NOT MY FRIENDS! BUT YOU MUST BE MY FRIENDS... BECAUSE YOU EXPLAIN THINGS TO ME! IF PEOPLE WOULD ONLY EXPLAIN THINGS I WOULDN'T KILL THEM... I DON'T LIKE TO KILL PEOPLE WHO ARE MY FRIENDS!



CAREFUL, MEN! THIS MAY BE A FALSE TIP WE GOT... BUT A PASSER-BY SAID HE THOUGHT HE HEARD NOISES IN HERE... SO GO EASY!

WATCH IT! THE DOOR'S OPENIN'!



DON'T SHOOT! THIS MAN WANTS TO GIVE HIMSELF UP!

DON'T BE AFRAID LENNIE! EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE GUNS, THEY WON'T HURT YOU! THEY'LL TAKE YOU TO A MAN WHO WILL LISTEN TO YOU AND EXPLAIN THINGS TO YOU!



DON'T-DON'T GO AWAY AND LEAVE ME! YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER TALKED TO ME AND EXPLAINED THINGS! COME BACK AND TALK SOME MORE!

I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN, LENNIE! DON'T WORRY!



LATER... BOB DICKERING AND THELMA DISCUSS THE CASE...

YES, THEL... LENNIE IS AN UNFORTUNATE, OVER-GROWN KID! THEY WON'T HANG HIM... THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM IN A SANITARIUM! MEAN-TIME, I'VE STILL GOT TO GET BETRUCHI!

MA'GOONNESS YOU MEAN HE'S STILL LOOSE?



OH MY GOSH! GET A GLASS OF WATER! HE'S FAINTED AGAIN!

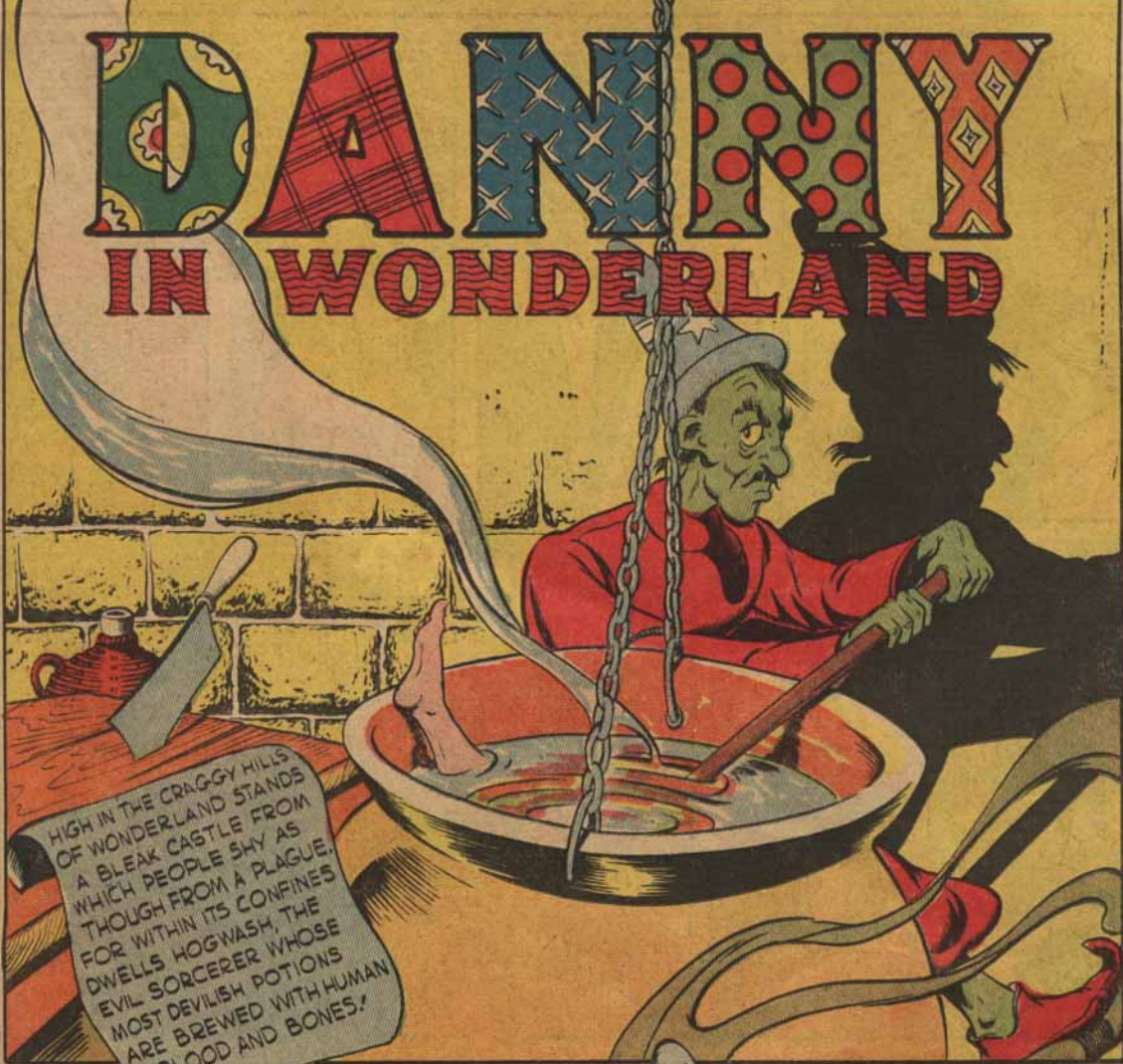
BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS HELL NEED A BARREL OF WATER!



THE HANGMAN CONTINUES HIS PURSUIT OF LA VALLE AND BETRUCHI, THE CRIME KING, IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PEP COMICS!**

DANNY

IN WONDERLAND



HIGH IN THE CRAGGY HILLS OF WONDERLAND STANDS A BLEAK CASTLE FROM WHICH PEOPLE SHY AS THOUGH FROM A PLAGUE, FOR WITHIN ITS CONFINES DWELLS HOGWASH, THE EVIL SORCERER WHOSE MOST DEVILISH POTIONS ARE BREWED WITH HUMAN BLOOD AND BONES!



SNIFF SNIFF... SOMETHING NOT QUITE RIGHT ABOUT MY MAGIC BREW. I BETTER LOOK AT MY RECIPE BOOK!



FRY MY BONES! NO WONDER! I'M MISSING THE FRESH BLOOD OF TWO YOUNGSTERS!

RECIPE FOR MERLIN BREW



I'LL PEER INTO MY CRYSTAL BALL AND SEE WHAT I CAN FIND... OH, PERFECT! JUST WHAT I NEED, I'LL CAST A SPELL OVER THEM IMMEDIATELY!



WHILE BACK IN TOWN....
BUY A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE WONDERLAND GAZETTE, MISTER?
NO!



KUPPIE, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP THIS FOOLISHNESS OF SELLING SUBSCRIPTIONS.
WHAT?... AND NOT GET THAT DANDY PAIR OF ROLLER SKATES? ALL I DO IS SELL 1342 MORE SUBSCRIPTIONS



JUST THEN THE SORCERERS SPELL TAKES EFFECT.
HO HUM... I'M GETTING AWFUL SLEEPY, KUPPIE!
ME TOO, DANNY!



THEN, IN RESPONSE TO HOGWASH'S HYPNOTIC MESSAGE, DANNY AND KUPPIE MAKE FOR HIS CASTLE IN A TRANCE!



AND, AFTER A LONG AND ARDUOUS CLIMB, ARRIVE!



HA... HA... HA... PERFECT... I'LL HAVE MY MAGIC BREW STARTING IN NO TIME!



I'LL TIE THIS ONE UP! THE FUNNY FACED ONE, I'LL THROW INTO MY POT FIRST!



NOW, JUST TO BE SURE THEY DON'T SPOIL MY BROTH, I BETTER BRING THEM OUT OF THEIR TRANCE! PRESTO, FLOPPO, AWAKE!



WH... WHERE AM I? WHAT HAPPENED?
BUY A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE WONDERLAND GAZETTE, MISTER.

BAH!



DANNY! HELP!
THIS GUYS NUTS!
HE'S GONNA
COOK ME!

HE MUST BE THE EVIL
SORCERER! SING FOR
GENIE, KUPPIE ONLY YOU
CAN SUMMON
HIM!



OH! I DREAM OF
GENIE WITH THE
LIGHT BROWN
HAIR!



SUDDENLY....
HE'S COME,
KUPPIE, WE'RE
SAVED!

WHEEE!

WH... WHAT'S
THIS!

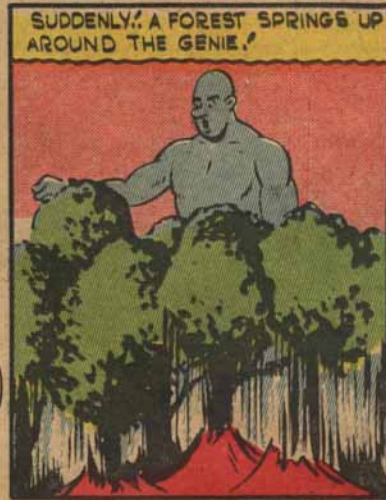


COME BACK WITH THOSE BLAST-
ED BRATS! OR I'LL KILL YOU
ALL WITH AN EVIL SPELL!

YOU'RE EVIL MAGIC
CANNOT HARM ME
HOGWASH... AND
YOU KNOW IT!



CURSE THAT
GENIE... HE'S RIGHT!
BUT I STILL HAVE ONE
TRICK UP MY SLEEVE...
THE BLACK FOREST...
THOSE IMPS SHANT
ESCAPE ALIVE!



SUDDENLY! A FOREST SPRINGS UP
AROUND THE GENIE!



GREATER AND GREATER IT GROWS UNTIL
EVEN GENIE IS DWARFED BY THE HUGE
TREES!

HOGWASH HAS OUT-WITTED
ME, MASTER KUPKAKE....
I'M HELPLESS TO DO ANYTHING
FOR YOU IN THIS
FOREST!



NO MORTAL HAS
EVER ESCAPED
ALIVE FROM THE
BLACK FOREST
OF HOGWASH'S.
BUT IF YOU SHOULD
SUCEED THE SOR-
CERER'S MAGIC
IS POWERLESS
AGAINST
YOU



FAREWELL,
MASTERS
KUPKAKE
AND
DANNY!

HE... HE'S
GONE!



FIRST THING WE OUGHTA DO IS CLIMB UP ONE OF THOSE TREES AND LOOK AROUND, KUPPIE.

LEMME DO IT, DANNY! I COME FROM A LONG LINE OF TREE CLIMBERS!



BOYBOY! THIS TREE SURE IS WOBBLY DANNY!



BUT LOOK?... KUPPIE HAS CLIMBED UP THE NECK OF A GIRAFFE!

CAN'T SEE ANYTHING EXCEPT FOREST AND MORE FOREST!



DANNY... YEEOW! GET ME OFF OF THIS THING!

JIMINY.. I SHOULDA KNOWN BETTER'N TO TRUST KUPPIE TO DO ANYTHING!



G... GOLLY!

THEN A HAIRY PAW REACHES OUT OF A TREE AND...



GULP.. TH.... THANKS, CHUM!... I... I'LL BE S..... SEEN' YOU. HEH, HEH, HEH, GULP...

GRROWWR!



DANNY! OH DANNYYYY! HALLPPP!



ON AND ON FROM TREE TO TREE, THE GORILLA TRAVELS AT BREAKNECK SPEED WITH KUPPIE IN ITS ARMS!

THEN AS THE GORILLA SWINGS LOW OVER A SWAMP...



GRROWL!

YI... AN ALLIGATOR!

WHILE THE TUG OF WAR GOES ON, DANNY RUNS UP...



HALLPP, DANNY... THEY'RE TEARIN' ME TO PIECES!

STEADY, KUPPIE... I'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN A JIFFY!

AARFF!



OOF!

DANNY LASSEOS KUPPIE AND TEARS HIM LOOSE.

THE GORILLA TOPPLES INTO THE SWAMP AND A DEATH STRUGGLE ENSUES...



GRRR!

BIFF

BANG

POW

SOCK

DANNY! LOOK BEHIND YOU! FOR AN EVEN MORE HORRIBLE FATE MENACES YOU!

WHEW! WHAT A NARROW ESCAPE!



AARRGH! GOTCHA!

JUPITER!...



DANNY HACKS DESPERATELY AT THE CLUTCHING BRANCHES OF THE FLESH-EATING TREE WITH HIS MAGIC SWORD...



WE'RE FREE! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, KUPPIE!

I'M RUNNIN' AND HOW!



THEN THEY CAME TO ANOTHER QUEER SIGHT.

BOO HOO HOO

LOOK, DANNY! A CRYING TREE!



CAREFUL! IT MIGHT BE A TRAP!



DON'T BE AFRAID OF ME LADS. SNIFF, SNIFF. I MEAN YOU NO HARM!

WELL, THEN, WHAT ARE YOU CRYING FOR?



I'M A WEEPING WILLOW TREE AND I'M ALWAYS CRYING... BUT THIS TIME I'VE REALLY GOT SOMETHING TO CRY ABOUT... TERMITES ARE EATING AWAY AT MY ROOTS.



WE CAN FIX THAT EASILY. DIG SNAPPER, AND GET THOSE TERMITES OUT OF THERE!



WHEE! HE'S DOING IT... I FEEL BETTER ALREADY.

SCRATCH SCRATCH



YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE?... I ONLY WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO FOR YOU!

YOU CAN!... SHOW US THE WAY OUT OF THIS FOREST!



I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THAT... BUT THIS TIME I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION! I'LL SPEAK TO MY NEIGHBOR!



NOW LISTEN BZZ... BZZ. BZZ. PASS IT DOWN THE LINE

OKEY DOKE!



AND SO WE'RE SUPPOSED TO PSST... PSST... PSST... WELL I NEVER... I WOULDN'T DO THIS FOR ANY BODY EXCEPT MRS WEEPING WILLOW.



HERE YOU ARE, M' LADS! WE'VE FORMED A GROVE JUST FOLLOW IT!

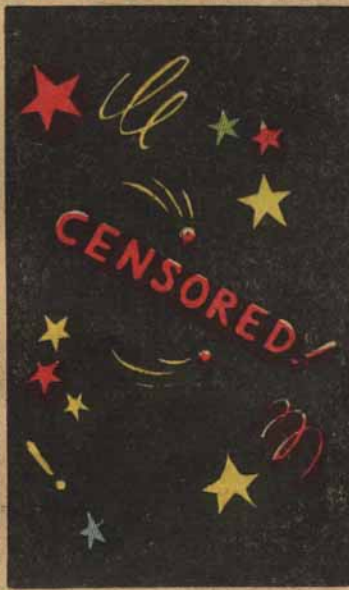
SO LONG - BOYS!

WHEE! SOME SERVICE EH DANNY!



WHILE BACK IN HOG-WASH'S HOUSE

HEH HEH!... THE TWO IMPS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY DEAD NOW! NO ONE HAS EVER PASSED THROUGH MY BLACK FOREST ALIVE!



SERGEANT BOYLE

OUT OF THAT CHAIR, TWERP!
I GOT THESE GLOVES
FROM THE HALL PORTER.
WHAT SAY TO A
WORKOUT?

OH
BOY!
NOW YOU'RE
TALKIN', BOYLE!
AM I GONNA
LOVE THIS!

CAREFUL,
NOW!



BE CAREFUL YOUR-
SELF SARGE! HERE
COMES THE
HAYMAKER!

ASSIGNED TO A
HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL
AND DANGEROUS
MISSION IN LISBON,
PORTUGAL, SERGEANT
BOYLE SPENDS HIS
NERVOUS ENERGY
SPARRING WITH
CAPTAIN TWERP....

BY HUSBELL

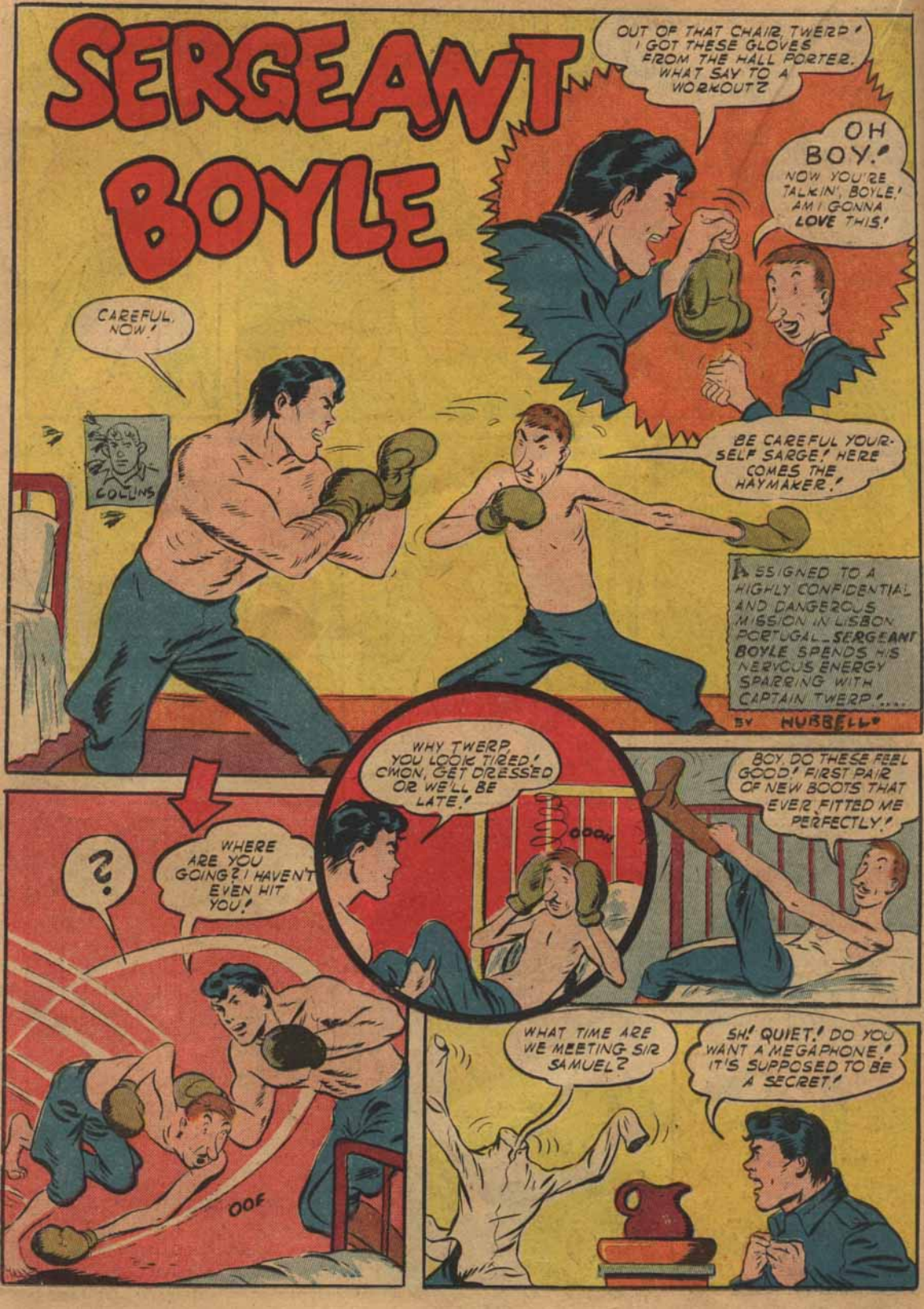
WHY TWERP,
YOU LOOK TIRED!
C'MON, GET DRESSED
OR WE'LL BE
LATE!

BOY, DO THESE FEEL
GOOD! FIRST PAIR
OF NEW BOOTS THAT
EVER FITTED ME
PERFECTLY!

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING? I HAVEN'T
EVEN HIT
YOU!

WHAT TIME ARE
WE MEETING SIR
SAMUEL?

SH! QUIET! DO YOU
WANT A MEGAPHONE!
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE
A SECRET!



SURE! HE'S CARRYIN' A SIGNED TREATY BETWEEN ENGLAND AND...



STOP TALKING ABOUT IT! THIS TOWN IS CRAWLING WITH SPIES! NOW IF YOU'RE THROUGH ADMIRING YOURSELF, WE'LL GO!

IN THE MEANTIME UNKNOWN TO SERGEANT BOYLE, AT NAZI HEAD-QUARTERS LOST IN THE WINDING MAZE OF LISBON'S STREETS - A HORRIBLE SCENE IS BEING ENACTED! A BRITISH INTELLIGENCE OFFICER UNDERGOES BRUTAL TORTURE!

TALK! TALK, YOU ENGLISH DOG! YOU KNOW VOT IS IN DER SE-CRET TREATY! TELL US!



VE KNOW DOT SIR SAMUEL HOARE IS ARRIFING TODAY IN LISBON MIT DER TREATY UND ISS TO BE ESCORTED BY SERGEANT BOYLE!

WHEW! FIVE HOURS VE HAF BEEN HERE!

DER TREATY, SCHWEIN! TELL US VOT ISS IN DER TREATY?



NO! I'LL NOT TELL... AARIEEE!

HOURS LATER... STOP! STOP WHIPPING HIM, YOU FOOLS! HE ISS DEAD!



VELL, DERE ISS ONLY VUN OTHER VAY TO FIND OUT DOT TREATY-GET SIR SAMUEL HOARE HIMSELF! FIRST, GET DER FLOWER BOX! VE MUST GET RID OF DIS BODY!



CARRYING THEIR GRISLY BURDEN, TWO NAZIS LEAVE THE HOTEL...



QUICK! NOBODY ISS AROUND! GET HIM OUDT FROM HERE



GET A LOAD OF THAT SARGE! DAISIES! AREN'T THEY THE NUTS?

GET AWAY FROM DERE NOSEY! SCREAM!



TWERP! LAY OFF THOSE FLOWERS! LET'S GET TO THE STATION!

SMIFF
SMIFF

A FEW MINUTES LATER... HAS TODAY'S TRAIN COME IN YET?



LISBON EXPRESSA FIVA MINUTES LATE. VERY SORRY!

WE HAVE TO WAIT, MIGHT AS WELL SIT!



BOY! SOME BOOTS!
REAL CLASS!

HAH! FINISHED!
NOW WHAT CAN I
PAINT?



AHH! A PERFECT
SUBJECT!

CHEAP, TOO, I COULD
USE ANOTHER PAIR...
HMM! WHAT A DIZZY
LOOKING DRIP...
MUST BE A
CARTOONIST!



OH, HERE YOU ARE!
GET ON YOUR FEET...
THE TRAINS DUE!

SH, QUIET,
SARGE! I
THINK I'M
BEIN' PAINTED!
HOP OVER
AND SEE HOW
HE'S DOIN'!



WELL?

OH, HA, HA! IT'S
PERFECT! NO
KIDDING! WHAT
A LIKENESS!
C'MON OVER
FOR A GANDER!



HEY!
WHAT THE...

HOW DO
YOU LIKE
IT, TWERP?
NOT BAD,
EH?



!!! @ ##! WHY YOU...
I'M CAPTAIN TWERP!
YOU CAN'T DO.....

STUPID
LAYMAN! YOU
NO APPRECIATE
CREATIVE
GENIUS!



SHAME ON YOU, TWERP!
BREAK IT UP!
HERE COMES
THE TRAIN!

I PAINT WHAT I
SEE, YOU NO LIKE
IT. EAT IT!



AS THE TRAIN HALTS, A
FIGURE BRISKLY STEPS OUT...

THERE'S SIR SAMUEL
NOW! HERE YOU
ARE, SIR... I'M
SERGEANT BOYLE...

SUDDENLY A DEADLY OBJECT
HURTTLES THROUGH THE AIR!

A GRENADE!
JUMPING
JEEPERS!

I SAY!

COME TO
PAPA!

THE HARBOR'S THE
ONLY PLACE
FOR THAT.

THAT'S DONE! NOW
FOR... HEY WHERE
IS HE? HE WAS
RIGHT BEHIND ME A
SECOND AGO!

I'LL BE... I GET IT NOW! THAT
GRENADE WAS THROWN TO
DISTRACT MY ATTENTION
AND KIDNAP SIR SAMUEL!

STOP SNOOPING
THROUGH THAT
PAINTER'S STUFF!
WE GOT WORK TO
DO!

LOOK, SARGE -
THIS GUY PAINTS
EVERYTHING!

WOW!
THAT'S VON
FIRSCH!

SURE! I KNEW
I'D SEEN THAT
BLOKE'S FACE
SOMEWHERE.

THIS PICTURE - WHERE
DID YOU PAINT IT AND
WHEN? C'MON,
GIVE!

I PAINTED
THAT MASTER-
PIECE IN FRONT
OF THE
HOTEL PORTUGAL!

THE
SUBJECT
HAS MUCH
CHARACTER.
NO?

NO! THAT'S VON FIRSCH, THE GESTAPO'S
MOST FIENDISH CUT-THROAT. AND IF
HE'S AROUND, HE HAS A HAND IN
THIS MESS! I'M GOIN' TO THE HOTEL
PORTUGAL, PRONTO!



AT THE HOTEL...

HEY, DESK CLERK! RECOGNIZE THE GUY ON THE PICTURE? HE'S REGISTERED HERE, ISN'T HE?

HM... WHY YES! HE'S REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF KEITEL. HE LEFT THIS MORNING AND HASN'T RETURNED YET.



I HAD BETTER CALL DER CHIEF...

SAY, THERE'S SOMETHING IN HIS MAIL BOX THAT LOOKS LIKE A LETTER!

OH THIS! IT'S JUST SOMETHING THE PORTER PICKED UP IN HIS ROOM. BUT I CAN'T LET YOU READ IT, OF COURSE.



AND BOYLE IS ASKING FOR YOU!

LEAVE IMMEDIATELY UND PICK UP YOUR INSTRUCTIONS AT COBBLER'S SHOE SHOP ON VATERFRONT STREET! IT ISS IN YOU IN A BOOT. I CAN'T DO THAT! IT'S PRIVATE!



WHAT'S THIS? NOTHING BUT BUSINESS PAPERS.

YEAH.. AND THE ADDRESS ON THE LETTER HEAD IS 27 WATERFRONT STREET.

GOOD HEAVENS! AND HE OWES US TWO WEEKS BACK RENT!



WHERE TO NOW, SARGE?

TO 27 WATERFRONT ST. IT MAY NOT MEAN ANYTHING... OR IT MAY MEAN PLENTY! WE CAN'T PASS UP ANY HUNCHES!



SERGEANT BOYLE IS A TRUE CONNOISEUR OF ART! HE DESERVES THE BEST FRAME I HAVE! NOW WHERE COULD HE...



UHP



THERE HE GOES NOW! SERGEANT BOYLE! yoo hoo!



THIS IS IT! I'M GOIN' IN AND NOSE AROUND! YOU STAY OUTSIDE AND KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!

SPOOKY LOOKIN' PLACE, ISN'T IT, SARGE?





HEY! THAT'S BOYLE! SOMETHING MUST BE UP!

WHAM!
BOB!
OW!
GIEF!



NEVER MIND ABOUT THOSE BOOTS, I'VE GOT TO RUN! HEY, HE'S GOT A KNIFE!



(GULP) I DON'T THINK THIS GUY MEANS ME ANY GOOD. I'M GONNA GET THE SARGE!

COME HERE, YOU PUT A THOSE BOOTS BACK!



WHY THERE'S CAPTAIN TWERP! OH CAPTAIN! HE DIDN'T HEAR ME!



LISTEN, SARGE! I JUST TRACKED DOWN A SPY, AN... HEY, WHAT'S GOIN' ON!

A SWING SESSION! PITCH IN, TWERP!



HOWS THAT, OL PAL?

CLUNK



OUT COLD! A FINE THING! I WAS SAVING HIM TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY'VE GOT SIR SAMUEL!



SAY LOOK, SARGE, WHAT'S IN MY BOOT! I NEVER PUT THIS IN HERE!

GIMME THAT!



I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT, BUT YOU GOT THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT! THAT'S WHERE THEY MUST BE KEEPING SIR SAMUEL!



AT LAST! (PUFF PUFF) THEY MUST BE UP HERE!



OOMP!

CLUMP

UGH!

BUMP
CLUMP

YOU CLUMSY OX!

MY FRAME! IT'S RUINED!

NEVER MIND THAT. GET ALL YOUR CANVASES AN' MEET US AT THE DOCK IN TWO MINUTES!

LATER IN A SHACK ON PENGUIN ISLAND, SIR SAMUEL UNDERGOES A THIRD DEGREE GRILLING...

FOR DER THOUSANDTH TIME - TELL ME DER CONTENTS OF DER TREATY!

NO!

WHEN SUDDENLY!

OKAY, RATS! THE PARTY'S OVER!

LOOK!

BRITISHERS! WE ARE SURROUNDED!

HIMMEL! LOOK!

DERE'S NO VUN BY DER DOOR!

OUT DIS VAY! RUN FOR DER EXIT!

SURPRISE!

THE GUY I WANT HASN'T COME OUT YET! I'M GOING IN AFTER HIM!

BAM WHOP SOCK

TSK TSK

BUT THOSE MEN AT THE WINDOWS... WHERE ARE THEY?

THEY AREN'T! THOSE WERE PAINTINGS. A CRACK POT DREAMED UP!

LATER AT THE AIRPORT

THERE GOES SIR SAMUEL! HE'S SAFE NOW!

MAYBE HE IS, BUT WE'RE NOT. LOOK AT WHO'S COMING!

BOY! I'VE BEEN WANTIN' TO MEET UP WITH THAT PONEEY AGAIN! I'LL.....

OH NO YOU WON'T!

WE'VE HAD ENOUGH TROUBLE FOR ONE DAY! C'MON LET'S BREEZE!

SHUCKS! YOU NEVER LET ME HAVE ANY FUN!

THE END



JIM ROGER,
AMERICAN



MARTY MARTIN
AUSTRALIAN



C.T. PRICE
SCOTSMAN



FRANK ROOT
BRITISHER

JOLLY ROGER

AND HIS SKY PIRATES

LOOK AT TH' SLOPPY TAKE-OFF
THAT GUY MADE. GOOD THING
I CAME OVER FROM THE
STATES TO HELP THE RAF.

PIPE DOWN,
YE BRRR-AGING
YONKEE.

I SAY, OLD BOY-
YOU SHOULDN'T
CRITICIZE
LIKE THAT.

HM! THINK
OF THAT.



By
ED SMALL
and
Joc BIR

W'EN YE INSULT A
BRRRITISH PILOT,
YE INSULT THURR
WHOLE BRRR-ITISH
ISLES.

IS THAT SO YOU HIGHLAND
FLING. YOUR HEAD IS AS
THICK AS YOUR BROGUE?

JUST A
MOMENT.

AND THAT GOES
DOUBLE FOR YOU, YOU
LOW-LIFE AUSTRALIAN.
GO ON BACK AND
PLAY HOP-SCOTCH
WITH THE KANGAROOS!

I'LL PLAY OP-SCOTCH ON
YOUR CHIN WITH ME
BARE FIST-IF YOU INVITE
ME!

AND I'LL DO IT
WITH NO INVITATION
A' TALL!





HOOT MON, BRREAK HIS YONKEE NECK FOR HIM!

YOU BUNCH OF RUMMIES, I'LL KNOCK YOU ALL FOR A TEN PINS!

MAYBE- AN THEN AGIN- MAYBE Y'WONT!

+

+

+



AS YOU WERE MEN, WHAT BLOODY RIOT IS THIS, ANYWAY? YOU MEN JOINED UP HERE TO FIGHT TOGETHER AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY- NOT AMONG YOURSELVES!



REMEMBER, ROGERS. YOUR COUNTRY ITSELF MADE FAMOUS THE WORDS "UNITED WE STAND. DIVIDED WE FALL." LET'S NOT FORGET THESE WORDS!

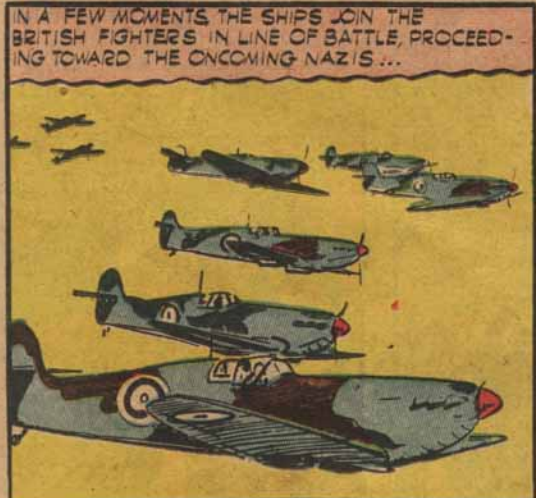


WHEEE

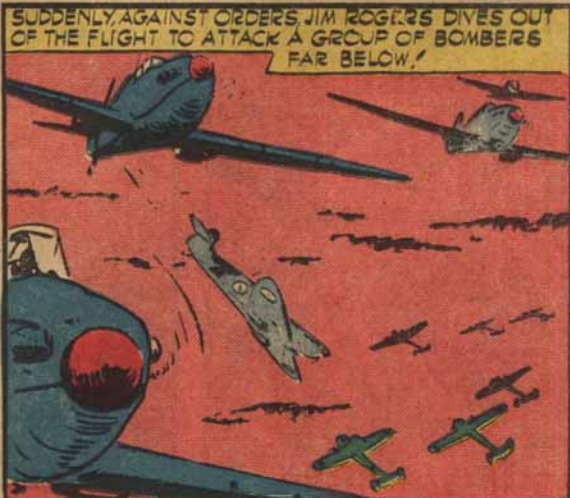
AIR RAID ALARM, MEN! GET TO YOUR SHIPS AT ONCE, ONCE WE JOIN OUR SQUADRON ALOFT, STAY TOGETHER, DON'T FORGET, LET'S GO!



ONE BY ONE, THE FOUR SHIPS TAKE OFF- FOLLOWING THE MAJOR'S SHIP.



IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE SHIPS JOIN THE BRITISH FIGHTERS IN LINE OF BATTLE, PROCEEDING TOWARD THE ONCOMING NAZIS...



SUDDENLY, AGAINST ORDERS, JIM ROGERS DIVES OUT OF THE FLIGHT TO ATTACK A GROUP OF BOMBERS FAR BELOW!



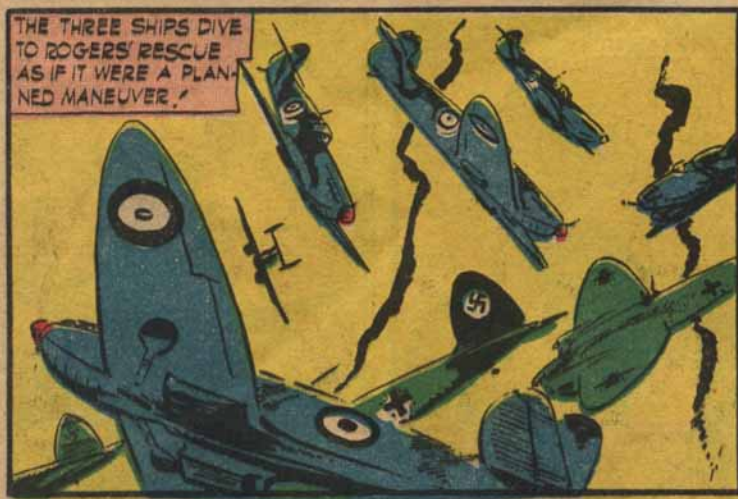
THIS IS EASY. WHY DIDN'T SOMEBODY TELL ME WHAT A SET-UP THESE LUFTWAFFE FLYERS ARE? THERE GOES MY FIRST VICTIM.



HE'S GOING TO BE SHOT DOWN.

THE GERMAN PURSUITS ARE AFTER HIM.

I'LL HAVE TO GIVE THE OLD BOY A HAND.



THE THREE SHIPS DIVE TO ROGERS' RESCUE AS IF IT WERE A PLANNED MANEUVER.



WELL, CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT? THOSE THREE PUNKS SAVED MY NECK. NEVER WOULD HAVE BELIEVED IT. WELL, I GUESS I'VE GOT SOME APOLOGIZING TO DO WHEN WE GET DOWN.



IN THE WING-COMMANDER'S PLANE....

PILOTS ROGERS, MARTIN, PRICE AND ROOT. YOU DISOBEYED ORDERS BY BREAKING OUT OF FORMATION. RETURN TO YOUR BASE AT ONCE.



LATER... IN THE MAJOR'S OFFICE...

THIS WAS YOUR FIRST FLIGHT, GENTLEMEN, AND BY DISOBEYING ORDERS, YOU ENDANGERED THE LIVES OF THE WHOLE SQUADRON. YOU CAN PACK YOUR THINGS AND LEAVE - WITH DISHONORABLE DISCHARGES!

JUST A MINUTE, SIR. I'D LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS.



I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO SHOULD TAKE THE RAP FOR THIS. THOSE OTHER THREE ONLY TRIED TO SAVE MY LIFE. LET ME TAKE MY STUFF AND CLEAN OUT - BUT LET THEM STAY!

VERY WELL, ROGERS. I'M GLAD YOU'RE MAN ENOUGH TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY!

HOOT MON!
YERE A
RRREAL
MAN, RRROGERR!

YES, SIR,
YOU'RE
OKAY!

GO FLY A KITE,
YOU BUMS!
HEAVEN KNOWS
YOU CAN'T FLY
A PLANE!



PECULIAR
OLD SOUL,
DEVILISHLY!
WHAT?

I CANNA
UNDERSTAND
A MON LAK
THAT!



JUST THEN, THE SIREN WAILS AGAIN!

WHAT A RUM GO!
ANOTHER
AIR RAID ALARM!
WON'T EVEN
HAVE TIME TO BID
GOODBYE TO
THE POOR BLIGHTER!
COME ON!
LETS BE UP AND AT THEM!



WHAT A TOUGH BREAK!
THE REST OF THE SQUAD
IS STILL OUT - AND THOSE
THREE HAVE TO TAKE ON
A WHOLE GERMAN
FLIGHT!
LOOKS
PRETTY BAD!



FOR A BRIEF INSTANT, THE THREE
RAF SHIPS OUTFIGHT THE GERMANS



BUT THE ODDS ARE TOO GREAT!



ONE BY ONE, THE SPITFIRES ARE
HIT AND FALL TO EARTH...



...AS THE THREE ALLIES BAIL OUT!

HEY! WHAT'S
THIS! THOSE DIRTY
NAZIS ARE TRYING TO
MACHINE-GUN THEM
WHILE
THEY'RE FLOATING
DOWN!



ORDERS OR NO ORDERS
DISCHARGE OR NO DISCHARGE,
I'M NOT GOING TO LET THOSE
HUNS PULL A RATTY TRICK LIKE
THAT! I'M GOING UP THERE
AND KICK 'EM OUT OF
ENGLAND'S SKY!



STOP THAT YANKEE POOL! I FORBID HIM TO FLY!

TOO LATE NOW!

AS ROGERS HEADS UP INTO THE MELEE THE NAZI COMMANDER GIVES AN ORDER....

THE GERMAN SHIPS HASTILY REORGANIZE TO FORM A REVOLVING CIRCLE - OR "SQUIRREL CAGE" - WITH ROGERS TRAPPED IN THE CENTER OF IT!

NICE MANEUVER THEY'VE GOT! IF I MOVE UP, THEY MOVE UP. IF I GO STRAIGHT AHEAD, THEY WIDEN THE CIRCLE TO ALLOW FOR IT AND THEN CLOSE AGAIN! GUESS THEY GOT ME - ONLY I'M GOING TO TAKE A CHANCE!

SUDDENLY ROGERS GOES INTO A BARREL ROLL CRACKING THROUGH THE CIRCLE. BUT HIS SHIP IS HIT!

THE TERRIFIC SPEED KNOCKS ROGER INTO HIS COCKPIT. BUT AT THE LAST SECOND HE NOSES HIS SHIP ON ITS BACK - AND DROPS INTO SPACE!



HE MADE IT, HERE'RE THE COMES!

WE OWE OUR LIVES TO THAT BLOKE!

WE CERTAINLY DO!



WHEW, BOY! ALMOST HAD ME THAT TIME EH FELLOWS?

NICE BIT OF MANEUVERING, OLD CHAP!



I SAY, ROGER? ARE YOU HURT?

NO SIR, JUST MY FEELINGS, SIR, MIGHTY IMPOLITE OF THOSE FELLOWS TO KICK ME OUT OF THE SKY THAT BELONGS TO THE BRITISH!



DID YOU HEAR ME SAY YOU WERE DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED, ROGER? AHEM, IF YOU DID, I'M AFRAID YOU WERE MISTAKEN - THERE MUST HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH NOISE AROUND THE FIELD, GET BACK TO YOUR BARRACKS AND GET SOME REST!

THANK YOU, SIR!



THAT NEWS IS JOLLY, ROGER!

HA HA, HEAR THAT? "JOLLY ROGER" REMINDS YOU OF THE PIRATE DAYS!

ONLY WERE SKY PIRATES, NOW, FELLOWS! AND THE FOUR OF US WILL STICK TOGETHER UNTIL THE WHOLE MESS IS OVER!



OH, ONE OF US IS FROM THE STATES ANOTHER FROM "DOWN UNDER" - AND WHEN WE GUN OUR FLYING CRATES WE SOUND LIKE MAR'S OWN THUNDER AND IF YOU TANGLE WITH THE SCOT, OR MIX IT WITH THE BRITON YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF WHERE IT'S BLAME HOT - WITH OUR BROWNING GUNS A-SPIT-TIN!

BUT NEXT MONTH, JOLLY ROGER AND HIS SKY PIRATES ARE SEPARATED. HOW THEY COME TOGETHER AGAIN WILL SEND YOU INTO A POWER DIVE OF EXCITEMENT!




HERE IS THE 'SQUIRREL CAGE' MANEUVER WHICH ALMOST FINISHED JOLLY ROGER IN HIS FIRST AIR ADVENTURE... THE NAZI PLANES TRAPPED THE YANK IN THEIR MIDST, AS SHOWN AT THE RIGHT, THEN REVOLVING AROUND HIM, THEY SPRAYED LEAD AT HIM FROM EVERY CONCEIVABLE ANGLE.

THE ONLY WAY A FLIER CAN ESCAPE FROM THIS 'CAGE OF DEATH' IS TO POWER-DIVE - SUDDENLY, BETWEEN TWO OF THE ENEMY PLANES, IF EXECUTED PROPERLY, AND WITH ENOUGH SURPRISE, THE ENEMY SHIPS FREQUENTLY ARE CAUGHT IN THEIR OWN CROSS-FIRE! A NICE TRICK - IF IT WORKS!

MADAM

Satan



GO FORTH MY DEAR,
THOSE STUPID MORTALS
ARE SO ENGRESSSED IN
KILLING EACH OTHER,
THEY WILL BE EASY
PREY FOR YOU!



COME ON,
RONALD, WE'LL
BE LATE!

CHAOS RULES THE WORLD - DEATH
REIGNS EVERYWHERE, AS THE DOGS
OF WAR ARE LOOSED ON THE
WORLD. THE DEVIL LOOKS ON
GLEE PULLY AT THIS SCENE OF
HORROR AND DESTRUCTION!

I'M TRYING
TO LOOK MY BEST FOR
IOLA, WE WON'T
SEE HER FOR A
MONTH, SINCE
WE'RE GOING ON
LEAVE TOMORROW!


IN THE R.A.F. BARRACKS, TWO BROTHERS ARE
PREPARING FOR AN EVENING OF FUN...

MEANWHILE, IN A LITTLE ENGLISH VILLAGE...




OH BERT, IT'S A TELEGRAM!
FROM OUR BOYS, THEY'RE
COMING HOME ON LEAVE!

PRaise GOD, WE
HAVEN'T SEEN THEM
FOR ALMOST A YEAR!




HAPPILY THE BROTHERS
MAKE THEIR WAY
TO A SMALL CAFE ...




IT'S GOING TO
BE HARD SAY-
ING GOODBYE
TO IOLA, RONALD!

YES, DAVID.




MY, BUT YOU BOYS LOOK HAPPY TONIGHT.

WE'VE PLENTY TO BE HAPPY ABOUT, WE'RE GOING HOME TOMORROW.




A HAPPY RETURN HOME, EH? PERHAPS I'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT.

AN ORDERLY APPROACHES THE TRIO




BEG PARDON, SIR. COMMANDER HARVEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU AT HEADQUARTERS.




DON'T STAY AWAY TOO LONG, DAVID.

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.



COME ON, RONALD LET'S WALK IN THE GARDEN WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR DAVID!

FINE, LET'S GO.




IT'S TOO BEAUTIFUL A NIGHT TO WASTE INDOORS.



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A MORE BEAUTIFULLY ROMANTIC MOON, RONALD?

EVERYTHING IS SO STRANGELY PEACEFUL.



PUTTING HER ARMS AROUND HIS NECK, IOLA TURNS TO RONALD....

IOLA, YOU'RE... YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! BREATH-TAKING.

THEN KISS ME, RONALD! KISS ME!

BUT... BUT I CAN'T DO THAT... IT'S DAVID YOU LOVE. HE TOLD ME SO!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO BLIND, RONALD?..

IT'S YOU I CARE FOR. I WAS JUST TRYING TO MAKE YOU JEALOUS. NOW WILL YOU KISS ME?

STIRRED BY HER CLOSENESS AND HER WORDS RONALD TAKES IOILA IN HIS ARMS.

STUPID MORTAL, HE'S LIKE A TOY IN MY HANDS!

JUST THEN DAVID RETURNS

DAVID. LER.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

YOU... MY OWN BROTHER... DOING A THING LIKE THIS? YOU MISERABLE CAD!

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM RONALD YOU KNOW YOUR OWN MIND!

I GUESS I CAN DO WHAT I WANT, WITHOUT ACCOUNTING TO YOU?

SUDDENLY, A STRANGE FIGURE APPEARS IN A GLOWING LIGHT—BROTHER SUNBEAM... AND SEPARATES THE QUARRELING BROTHERS. WHO ARE YOU? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?

BLIND WITH RAGE, DAVID LASHES OUT AT HIS BROTHER.

I'M BROTHER SUNBEAM, THE SPIRIT OF THE GOOD WHICH EXISTS IN YOUR HEART!



GET RID OF THIS MEDDLER AND SETTLE YOUR AFFAIRS YOUR OWN WAY.

YOU MUST NOT HEED THIS WOMAN, SHE IS A SERVANT OF THE DEVIL!



COME ON, OLD MAN, GET ALONG! THIS IS NONE OF YOUR AFFAIR!

TAKE HEED BOYS SHE MUST BE DESTROYED. SHE IS DRIVING YOU TO EVIL!



I'VE HAD MY EYES OPENED. I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

LET HIM GO.



DON'T GRIEVE RONALD NOW YOU'VE GOT ME ALL TO YOURSELF, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT DAVID ANY LONGER!



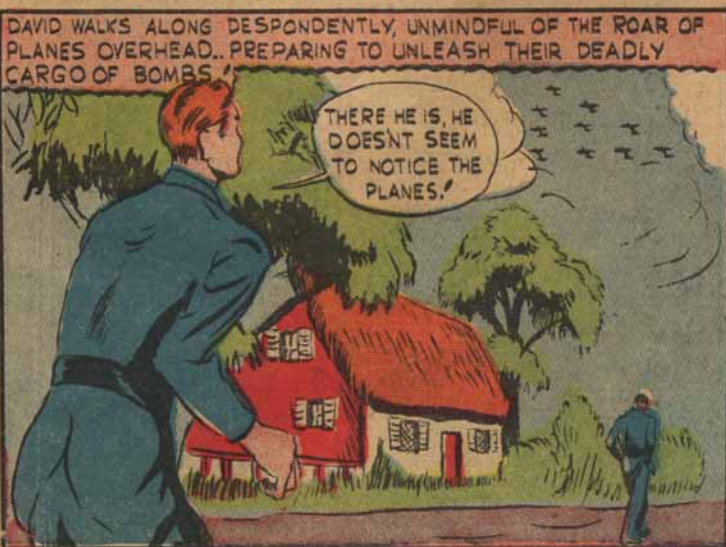
NO NO I CANT, I MUST HAVE BEEN MAD TO LISTEN TO YOU!

BUT RONALD!



CURSED FOOL HE'LL NOT FORGET ME, HE'LL BE BACK!

I'VE GOT TO FIND DAVID AND EXPLAIN TO HIM!



DAVID WALKS ALONG DESPONDENTLY, UNMINDFUL OF THE ROAR OF PLANES OVERHEAD.. PREPARING TO UNLEASH THEIR DEADLY CARGO OF BOMBS.

THERE HE IS, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO NOTICE THE PLANES.

DAVID! DAVID!
WATCH OUT! RUN FOR
SHELTER!



AS RONALD RUNS BLINDLY
AFTER DAVID, HE TRIPS AND
FALLS...



DAVID IS ATTRACTED BY HIS
SHOUTS

IT'S RONALD!
HE'S FALLEN!
I'D BETTER
GET TO
HIM!



RONALD!
WHAT'S THE
MATTER?



MY LEG, I THINK
IT'S BROKEN!



EASY, RONALD, I'LL GET
YOU OUT OF HERE!

IT'S NO USE, DAVID! YOU'LL
NEVER MAKE IT WITH ME!

COME ON, BOY
DON'T TALK THAT
WAY!



THOSE JERRIES CAN'T HURT US
IF WE STICK TOGETHER!



JUST THEN A FALLING BOMB
DROPS AT THEM - A DIRECT
HIT!!



A FEW DAYS LATER AT THE BOYS HOME.

OH BERT, ITS FROM THE WAR OFFICE, THE BOYS ARE DEAD THEIR FRIEND IOLA SAYS THEY WERE KILLED IN AN AIR RAID AFTER THEY HAD QUARRELED.

I CANT BELIEVE THEY'D TURN AGAINST EACH OTHER!

HAPPY REUNION EH? KNEW I COULD. PREVENT IT THIS TIME I HAVE CARRIED OUT MY MASTERS COMMAND TO THE LETTER!



A KNOCK IS HEARD AT THE DOOR AND THE OLD WOMAN ANSWERS IT!



THERE, IN A GLOWING LIGHT, APPEARS BROTHER SUNBEAM.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I AM BROTHER SUNBEAM! I'VE COME TO TELL YOU NOT TO GRIEVE AT THE LOSS OF YOUR SONS!



AS SUNBEAM SPEAKS, THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD BOYS ENTER THE ROOM.

DID YOU HEAR THAT BERT? THE BOYS DIDN'T DIE ENEMIES THEY WERE TOGETHER AT THE END

I KNEW IT!



REALIZING THAT HER FIENDISH SCHEME HAS BEEN FRUSTRATED, MADAM SATAN DISAPPEARS IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE TO RETURN TO HER MASTER IN DEFEAT!

DO YOU KNOW HOW OR OTHER I FEEL STRANGELY HAPPY NOW?

YES, MOTHER, IT'S AS THOUGH THE BOYS HAD COME HOME AFTER ALL



MADAM SATAN, AMERICA'S MOST UNIQUE COMIC STRIP, APPEARS ONLY IN **PEP COMICS**

It's here Gang!! THE NEW ISSUE OF
JACKPOT
Comics **NO.2**



BOY O BOY! THE NEW JACKPOT'S OUT. JACKPOT NO.1 WENT LIKE HOT CAKES AND I DIDN'T EVEN GET A SMELL OF IT, CAUSE I WAITED TOO LONG, BUT, THIS TIME, I'M FIRST ON LINE FOR MY COPY!!!



THRILL WITH STEEL STERLING AND LAUGH WITH LOONEY AND CLANCY IN... MURDER GOES TO *Mexico!*

TRAVEL INTO THE DENSE BLACK JUNGLES OF DEATH WITH THE BLACK HOOD IN HIS MOST SMASHING, GRIPPING ADVENTURE, FOLLOW THE TRAIL WITH HIM... THE TRAIL OF THE SHRUNKEN SKULLS!!



MR. JUSTICE - THE SPOOKIEST, MOST BLOOD-CURDLING YARN YOU EVER HAVE OR EVER WILL READ IN... THE CASE OF THE GANGSTER'S GHOST!

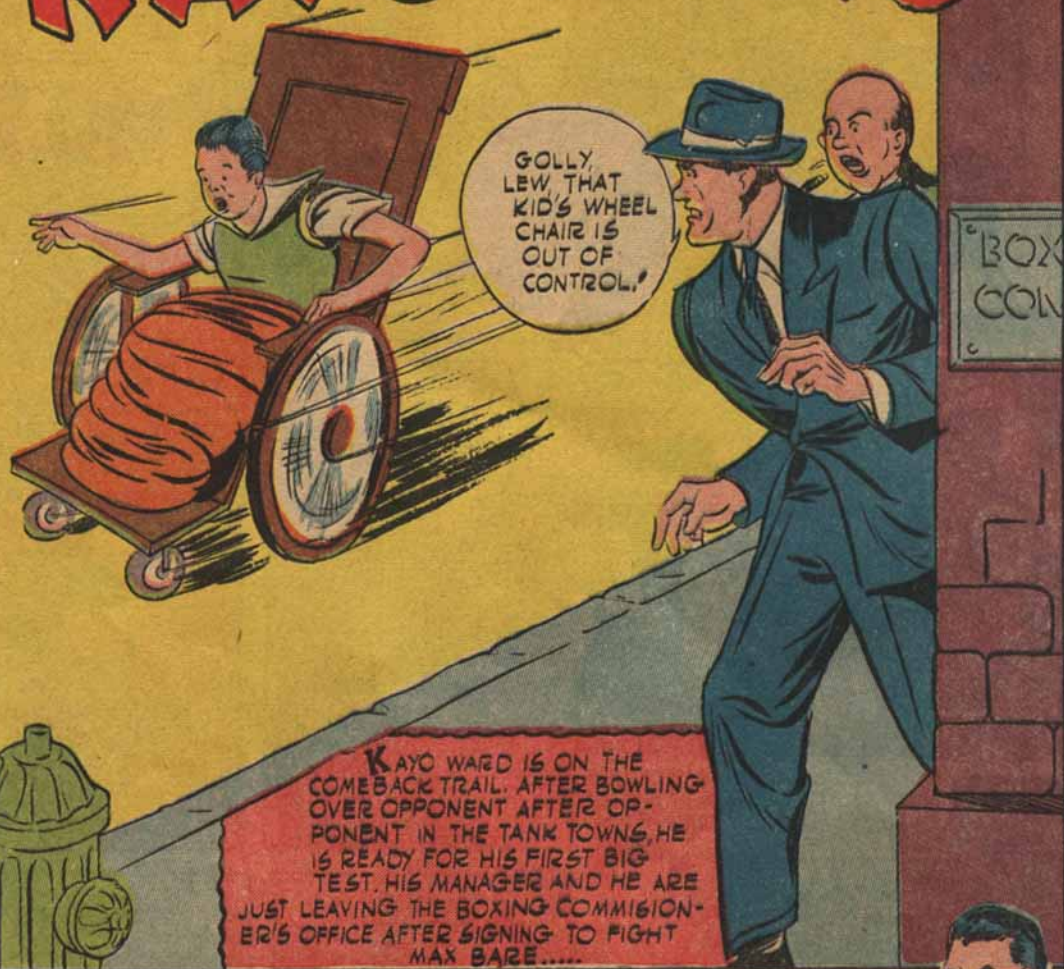


SERGEANT BOYLE SAYS: THIS TIME I'VE GOT ME A MAN-SIZED JOB CARRYING MUNITIONS TO THE BRITISH IN SMYRNA. I'M WARNING THAT TOW-HEADED APE, CORPORAL COLLINS, TO KEEP AWAY FROM ME!



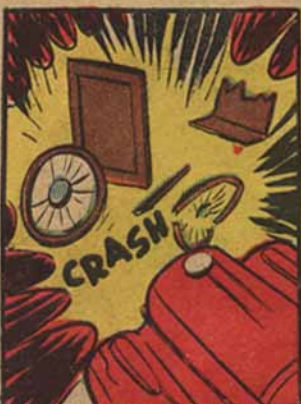
THE NEW JACKPOT NO.2 IS STILL ON SALE. GET YOUR COPY NOW!

KAYO WARD

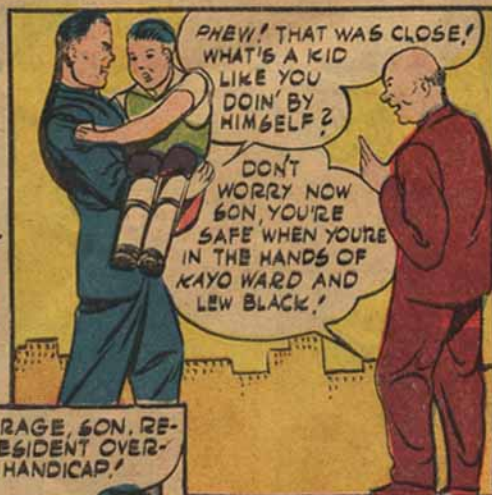




GOTCHA BOY!



CRASH

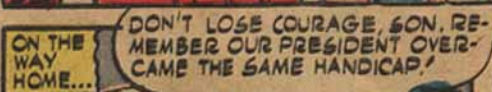


PHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! WHAT'S A KID LIKE YOU DOIN' BY HIMSELF?

DON'T WORRY NOW SON, YOU'RE SAFE WHEN YOU'RE IN THE HANDS OF KAYO WARD AND LEW BLACK!



KAYO WARD? GEE I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED YOU. I'D LIKE TO BE LIKE YOU BUT I GUESS I NEVER CAN WITH THESE PARALYZED LEGS!



ON THE WAY HOME...

DON'T LOSE COURAGE, SON, REMEMBER OUR PRESIDENT OVERCAME THE SAME HANDICAP!



JIMMIE! JIMMIE! WHAT'S WRONG?

HELLO MOM! I'M OKAY!



...AND THEN KAYO GRABBED ME!

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, SIR. EVER SINCE MY HUSBAND DIED, I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH TIME TO LOOK AFTER JIMMIE!



I'VE GOT A SWELL IDEA, MAM. I'M GOING UP TO THE COUNTRY TO TRAIN FOR MY FIGHT. WHY DON'T YOU LET JIMMIE COME ALONG?

THAT WOULD BE GRAND, MR. WARD!

SEVERAL WEEKS LATER...

GEE, CONNIE, DON'T HE LOOK SWELL?

YES JIMMIE, HE ALWAYS LOOKS SWELL TO ME!

WELL, KIDS, TOMORROW WE'LL BE BACK IN THE CITY!

GEE, IT'LL BE SWELL TO SEE MOM AGAIN!

NEXT DAY THE FIGHTERS WEIGH IN AT THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE...

MAKE SURE YOU GET THESE GUYS IN THE PICTURE, TOO!

ALWAYS CLOWNING, EH, MAX?

WINGEEN BY KAYO MAX HOLDS A HAND-SHAKE BUZZER IN HIS PALM...

PUT 'ER THERE, KAYO OLD KID!

WHA!...

CAN I HAVE A PICTURE, MAX?

LEMME GET ONE OF YOU FIRST!

GLUB

HA, HA! AND I THOUGHT NEWSPAPER GUYS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SMART!

GEE, MAX, HE'S GONNA BE AWFUL SORE!

THE NIGHT OF THE FIGHT...

TONIGHT
KAYO WARD
vs
MAX BARE

WOTTA CROWD, EVERY-ONE SEEMS TO BE HERE TONIGHT, ALL EAGER TO SEE WHETHER OR NOT KAYO WARD REALLY CAN COME BACK ON TOP. THE BOYS ARE GETTING THEIR FINAL INSTRUCTIONS NOW....



AND YOU BOYS KNOW THE KIND OF FIGHT THAT'S EXPECTED OF YOU!

CAN THE CHATTER AND LET'S GET GOIN'!

YES SIR!

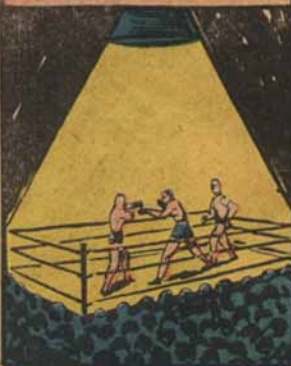


GEE, CONNIE I WISH THEY'D GET STARTED! I'M EXCITED!

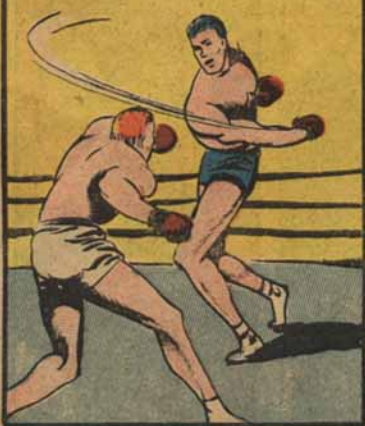
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW, JIMMIE!



THEY'RE IN THE CENTER OF THE RING-KAYO LOOKS GRIM AND DETERMINED WHILE MAX IS CLOWNING



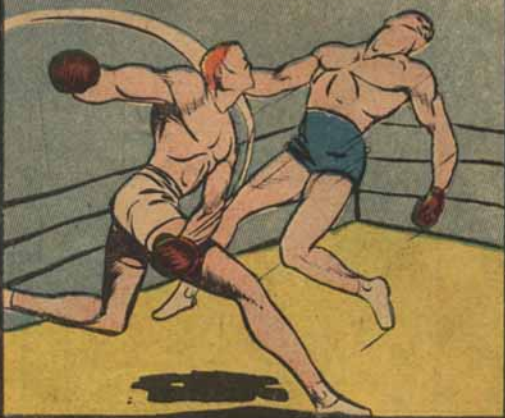
KAYO SWINGS A HURRIED RIGHT, WHICH MISSES WIDELY !....



MAX COMES BACK WITH A VICIOUS BLOW WHICH ROCKS KAYO CONSIDERABLY!



KAYO SEEMS BAFLED AND BEWILDERED AS MAX FOURS BLOW AFTER BLOW AT HIM...



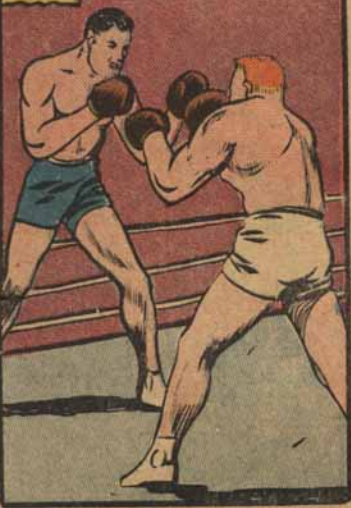
THEY NEVER COME BACK!

BOO!

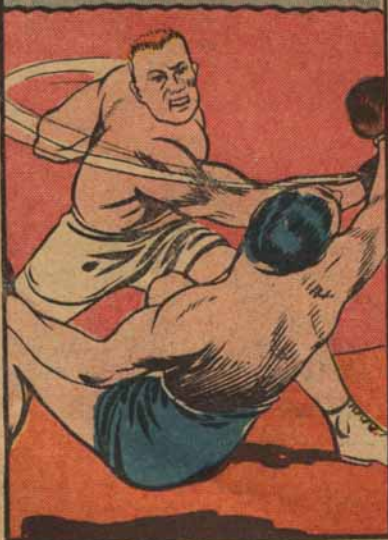
C'MON AND FIGHT!



THEY'RE IN THE CENTER OF THE RING AGAIN. MAX LOOKS CONFIDENT, AS HE RUSHES IN....



HE THROWS A POWERFUL RIGHT, AND KAYO IS DOWN....



MEANWHILE... JIMMIE! YOU'RE C'MON, KAYO! GET UP! YOU'RE STANDING!



KAYO TRIES GAMELY TO REGAIN HIS FEET...



SUDDENLY JIMMIE! YOU'RE WALKIN'! HOW... WHAT?



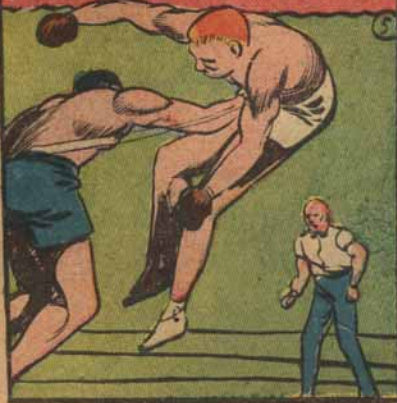
SPURRED BY THE YOUNGSTER'S FRANTIC APPEAL, KAYO COMES UP OFF THE CANVAS.



CHARGING AT HIS FOE WITH THE FRESHNESS AND VIGOR OF A NEW MAN...



... HE STAGGERS HIM WITH A LIGHTNING-LIKE LEFT AND A HARD, SUDDEN RIGHT TO THE MIDSECTION.



IT'S UNBELIEVABLE FOLKS, BAZE IS DOWN! KAYO WARD CAME OFF THE CANVAS AT THE COUNT OF NINE AND WADED INTO HIM. I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AN EXHIBITION OF SHEER COURAGE!



THE WINNER... IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU, JIMMIE, I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT!

WHEN I SAW YOU LYING THERE, I JUST HAD TO GET TO YOU!

FOLKS, I WANT YOUSE TO MEET JIMMIE, A REAL CHAMP. HE WON A GREATER FIGHT TONIGHT THAN I EVER WILL! WE ALL OUGHTTA DO SOMETHIN' FER KIDS LIKE HIM!

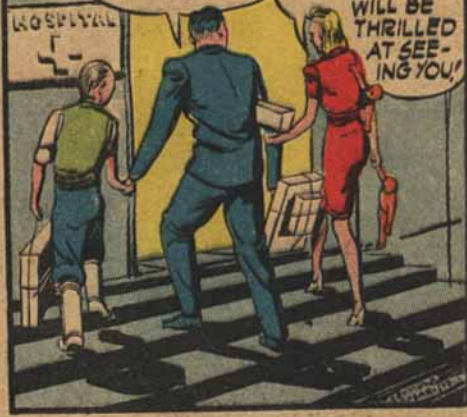


I'LL START IT BY GIVIN' MY SHARE OF THE PURSE FER THE FUND TO FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS!

YOU KIN COUNT ME IN ON THAT TOO KAYO!



NEXT DAY I HOPE THESE TOYSLL MAKE THE KIDS HAPPY, CONNIE!



I'M SURE THEY WILL, KAYO! AND BESIDES THE CHILDREN WILL BE THRILLED AT SEEING YOU!

I KNOW YOU KIDS ARE ALL BURDENED WITH A SEVERE HANDICAP AND I'D LIKE TO DO ALL I CAN TO HELP YOU OVERCOME IT. REMEMBER, YOU'VE GOT A TERRIFIC FIGHT ON YOUR HANDS!



AND THE MAIN THING TO REMEMBER IN ANY FIGHT IS COURAGE. IF YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO SEE YOUR FIGHT THROUGH, THE GOING IS EASY!



EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS BRINGS YOU MORE OF THE INTERESTING ADVENTURES OF KAYO WARD!!

BENTLEY

of SCOTLAND YARD



THE FAIRFIELD OUTING CLUB IS ENJOYING ITS WEEKLY HIKE THROUGH THE HILLS THAT LIE OUTSIDE LONDON. SUDDENLY, AS THEY ROUND A CURVE ON A STEEP NARROW LEDGE, THE LEADER OF THE GROUP FLIES OFF INTO SPACE, AS THOUGH PUSHED BY A SINISTER UNSEEN HAND. HE GRASPS WILDLY AT THIN AIR AND SHRIEKS WEIRDLY AS HE FALLS TO HIS DEATH BELOW!...



IT'S GERALD. HE MISSED HIS FOOTING!

POOR FELLOW! HE'S DONE FOR!

Monland

SOMETHING PUGHED HIM OFF, I TELL YOU! I SAW IT ALL! I WAS RIGHT BEHIND HIM!

NONSENSE! YOU'RE JUST UPSET! THERE WAS NOBODY ELSE THERE!



LATER THAT DAY, AT SCOTLAND YARD....

SO YOU SEE, INSPECTOR BENTLEY, I'M SURE THERE'S BEEN ROUL PLAY.

HMM!



THERE MAY BE SOMETHING IN WHAT YOU SAY, ANYHOW, IT WON'T HURT TO GO BACK AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND!



YOU SAY IT LOOKED AS THOUGH HE WERE PUSHED OFF THE LEDGE?



YES, INSPECTOR! YET THERE WAS APPARENTLY NO ONE NEAR HIM!

UNSEEN BY THE PAIR A SHADWY FIGURE FOLLOWS THEM!



IT'S RIGHT AROUND THIS BEND, INSPECTOR!

CAREFUL, NOW!



HERE IT IS! THIS IS THE VERY SPOT!



SUDDENLY AS THEY ROUND THE LEDGE.....



REACHING OUT DESPERATELY, BENTLEY MANAGES TO GRAB AN OVERHANGING LIMB...



CLUTCHING AT THE LEDGE ABOVE...



... HE LABORIOUSLY PULLS HIMSELF UP!



PHEW!
THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!



POOR DEVIL! HE WASN'T SO FORTUNATE! HE'S GONE!

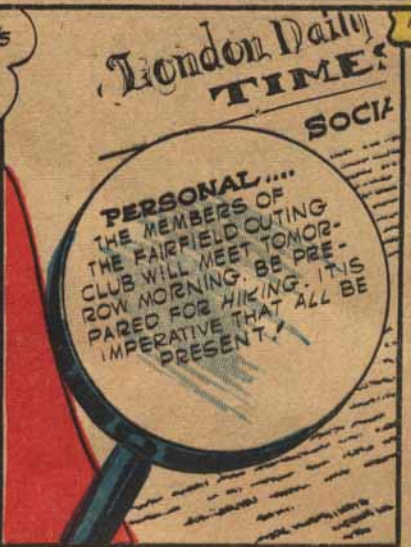


BACK AT HIS OFFICE...

HELLO, IS THIS MR. NEVING, PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD OUTING SOCIETY?



WHAT'S THAT? WELL, IT'S A PRETTY STRANGE REQUEST, HOWEVER, I THINK I CAN DO AS YOU ASK!



London Daily TIMES

SOCIETY

PERSONAL....
THE MEMBERS OF THE FAIRFIELD OUTING CLUB WILL MEET TOMORROW MORNING. BE PREPARED FOR HIKING. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL BE PRESENT.

NEXT DAY



ARE ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE ORIGINAL GROUP PRESENT?





WHO KILLED GERALD CRANE AND CHARLES DARNEY? INSPECTOR BENTLEY KNOWS. DO YOU?

1. NEVINS, THE CLUB PRESIDENT
2. BISHOP
3. HARKINS

?

MARK YOUR CHOICE ABOVE. THEN TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE AND SEE BENTLEY'S SOLUTION.

SOMEONE FAMILIAR WITH THIS CAVE PLANTED THIS POWERFUL COMPRESSED AIR CHAMBER HERE AND ATTACHED IT TO A FUNNEL SHAPED HOSE AND USED IT TO MURDER CRANE AND DARNEY BY BLOWING THEM OFF THE LEDGE!



HE KNEW WHEN HIS VICTIM WOULD BE HERE AND HE TIMED THE MECHANISM TO GO OFF AT HIS APPROACH. SINCE HE KNEW ALL THIS HE HAD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GROUP. HE ALSO TRIED TO DO AWAY WITH ME WHEN DARNEY BROUGHT ME BACK HERE TO LOOK AROUND!



YOU, MARTIN NEVINS, ARE THE MURDERER. YOU SLIPPED UP WHEN YOU CAME HERE BEFORE TO RESET THE MECHANISM. THE BROKEN COBWEBS OVER THE CAVE ENTRANCE AND THOSE STICKING TO YOUR HAIR ARE PRETTY CONCLUSIVE!



YOU'RE MAD! GERALD CRANE WAS MY BEST FRIEND!



YES, HE WAS, UNTIL HE FOUND THAT YOU HAD BEEN CHEATING AT CARDS. WHEN HE THREATENED TO EXPOSE YOU, YOU DID AWAY WITH HIM!



CURSE YOU! IT'S TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T DIE WHEN DARNEY DID!



NEVINS BREAKS FOR SAFETY!



SUDDENLY...



HE NEVER SUSPECTED THAT HIS OWN FIENDISH SCHEME WOULD BRING ABOUT HIS OWN DEATH! IN HIS HASTE TO ESCAPE, HE PUSHED ME AGAINST THE TANK AND SET OFF THE MECHANISM!



MORE OF THE UNIQUE ADVENTURES OF BENTLEY OF SCOTLAND YARD IN NEXT MONTH'S PEP COMICS!®

READY for CHRISTMAS

RED RYDER

1000-SHOT COWBOY CARBINE

LICENSED BY STEPHEN SLEINGER, INC., N. Y.

MY BRAND ON STOCK!
"Looks just like a real Cowboy Carbine. That's why I'm proud to have my name an' face branded on th' stock!"
—RED RYDER

16-inch LEATHER SADDLE THONG!
"You can hang my carbine on your wall like this... or lash it to your bike. Thong comes attached to Carbine Ring—at no extra cost, Podner!"

WESTERN CARBINE RING!
"Th' real article, boys! For ridin' th' range, I slip a stout 3-foot cord thru th' Ring and tie th' other end to my saddle-horn, so she can't fall clear to th' ground if she slides outa my saddle holster or gets knocked from my hands by a bar!"

SOME SIGHTS!
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