

Featuring

THE BLACK HOOD

TOP-NOTCH

NO. 27

MAY

comics 10¢

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!





AVIATION UTILITY



AVIATION METALIST



AERO-GRAPHIC



BI-PLANE SERVICE



GUN CAPTAIN



SEAMAN'S SERVICE



SEA-APPRENTICE

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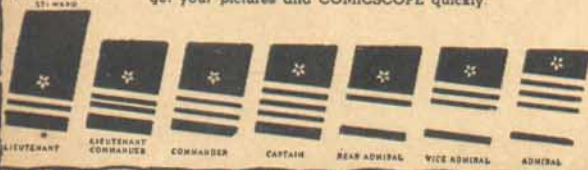
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THE BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY



Garry



DINKY NOLAN... YOU LITTLE PUNK!

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE INSIDE OF YOUR SAFE!

DINKY NOLAN WAS A LITTLE GUY-UNTIL HE GOT A GUN. THEN HE BECAME A BIG SHOT-SO BIG THAT HE COULD STAND UP AGAINST THE BLACK HOOD! WHAT HAPPENS THEN IS TOLD IN A ROARING CRESCENDO OF GUNFIRE AND SAVAGE EMOTIONS, IN A TALE THAT WILL MAKE YOUR PULSING BLOOD RUN COLD! WE BEGIN WHEN DINKY WALKS BOLDLY INTO THE BACK OFFICE OF NICK SARTO, GANG-LEADER, AND ATTEMPTS A HOLD-UP!

ALL RIGHT, SARTO!..THIS IS THE BUSINESS END OF A GUN POINTING AT YOU...AND I MEAN BUSINESS!



NICE GOING, BOYS. THIS PUNK
ACTUALLY THOUGHT HE COULD
STICK ME UP AND GET AWAY
WITH IT!



NOW I'M GONNA
FIX THIS GUY SO
HE'LL REMEMBER
NICK SARTO EVERY
TIME HE LOOKS
IN A MIRROR!



WHAT CHA
GONNA DO
WITH THAT
KNIFE?

JUST A
LITTLE MARK
TO REMEMBER
ME BY— "P"
FOR "PUNK"



NO!
PLEASE—
OHHHHH!

ALL RIGHT, TAKE HIM
OUT AND WORK OVER
HIM!



OKAY, BOSS!
WHEN WE GET
THROUGH IT'LL
TAKE A YEAR TO
PUT HIM TOGETHER
AGAIN!



COME ON, PUNK!
YOU GOT PLENTY
COMING TO YOU!



AT THAT MOMENT KIP BURLAND AND
BARBARA ARE PASSING THE ALLEY-
WAY—

BARBARA!
STOP THE
CAR!



WHAT'S THE
MATTER, KIP?

I SAW FIGURES
SCUFFLING IN
THAT ALLEY—
THE BLACK
HOOD'S GOING
TO INVEST-
IGATE!



JUST AS I THOUGHT!
BIG, BAD BOYS,
AREN'T YOU?



WHY DON'T YOU PICK ON SOME-ONE YOUR OWN SIZE ?



OVER YOU GO... AND WHERE YOU'LL LAND I SURE DO KNOW!



THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN BY "RUNNING LIKE A THIEF"!



THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY OF GOING THROUGH A DOOR!



WHY, THEY'VE BRANDED HIM!



BARBARA! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO WAIT IN THE CAR!



THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH MEN- THEY THINK ALL A WOMAN CAN DO IS TWIDDLE HER THUMBS!

THIS MAN'S BADLY HURT ... WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO A DOCTOR, QUICKLY! COME ON- USE MY CAR!





PUT HIM IN THE BACK SEAT... I'LL DRIVE!



I'D BETTER TAKE HIM TO MY PLACE - IT'S NEARER!

BARBARA, THAT MAN MAY BE A CRIMINAL! YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE YOURSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM!



WHAT SORT OF BRUTES WOULD DO A THING LIKE THIS... BRANDING AN INNOCENT MAN!

COME ON, BARBARA! WE'D BETTER WAIT OUTSIDE!



THIS MAN IS IN A CRITICAL CONDITION... HE NEEDS A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR! I'LL LOOK AFTER HIM!

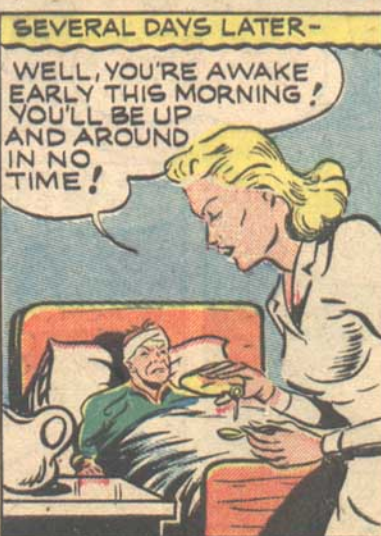


CRIMINAL OR NOT, HE'S A HUMAN BEING - AND I'M DETERMINED TO HELP HIM!



AND YOU'RE GOING TO HELP HIM TOO, HOOD. TOGETHER WE CAN GIVE HIM A NEW LIFE!

HMM... ALL RIGHT! I'VE NEVER REFUSED ANYBODY AN EVEN BREAK, YET!



SEVERAL DAYS LATER -

WELL, YOU'RE AWAKE EARLY THIS MORNING! YOU'LL BE UP AND AROUND IN NO TIME!



G'WAN GET OUT OF HERE... I DON'T WANT NO WOMEN FUSSING AROUND ME!

AREN'T YOU ASHAMED!...
STOP TRYING TO ACT SO
TOUGH! YOU'RE NOT
IMPRESSING ANYBODY
BUT YOURSELF!



JUST WAIT TILL
YOU MEET THE
BLACK HOOD! HE'LL
MAKE A REAL
MAN OUT OF YOU!



HERE HE IS, HOOD! I HAD
A HARD TIME MAKING
HIM COME,
THOUGH!
GLAD TO
SEE YOU FIT
AGAIN, DINKY!



**DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WE FIND
DINKY NOLAN LEARNING FROM THE BLACK
HOOD, A FEW OF HIS MANY SECRETS--**

YOU'RE IMPROVING, DINKY!
YOU ALMOST HIT ME THAT TIME!



COME ON, DINKY!
ONLY TWENTY
MORE MILES!

THIS IS
A GOOD
ONE!



I DON'T
THINK YOU
HAVE TO BE
AFRAID OF
ANYONE
NOW,
DINKY!

WHY KID YOURSELF?
YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE
DOING THIS... IT'S FOR
HER!





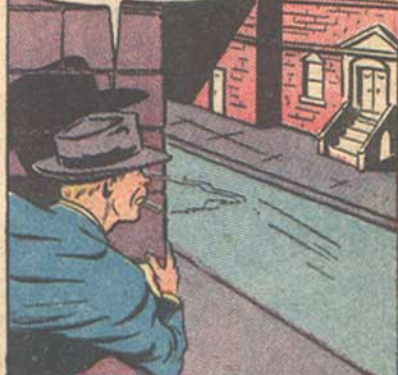
LATER...



DINKY'S GONE, BABS... AND I DON'T LIKE THE TONE OF THE MESSAGE HE LEFT. IT...IT WORRIES ME!



SARTO'S PRIVATE APARTMENT... AND THERE'S A LIGHT IN THE WINDOW!



USING HIS NEW-FOUND AGILITY, DINKY SCALES THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING...



THIS LEDGE RUNS NEAR HIS WINDOW!



HELLO, SARTO... REMEMBER ME?

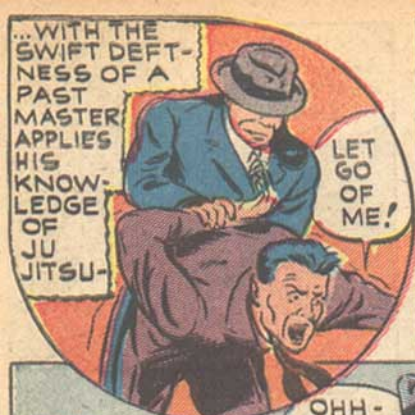


DINKY NOLAN!



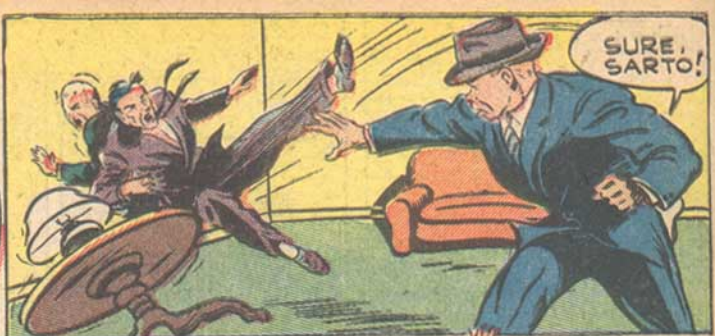
DINKY SPRINGING LITHELY AS THE HOOD HIMSELF, IS UPON SARTO IN A FLASH, AND.....





...WITH THE SWIFT DEFTNESS OF A PAST MASTER APPLIES HIS KNOWLEDGE OF JU JITSU-

LET GO OF ME!

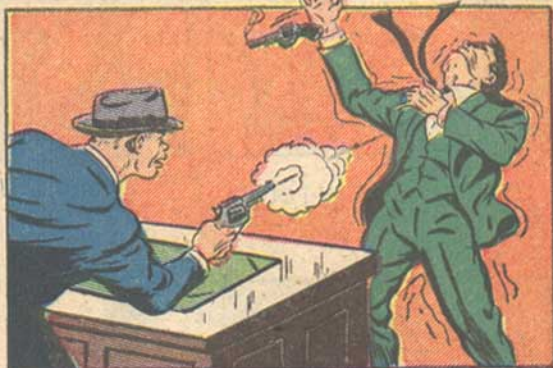


SURE, SARTO!



OHH - MY ARM!

HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS, WISE GUY!



I'M TAKING OVER FROM HERE, SARTO... ANY OBJECTIONS?

NO, NO! ONLY GET ME TO A DOCTOR - MY ARM'S BROKEN!

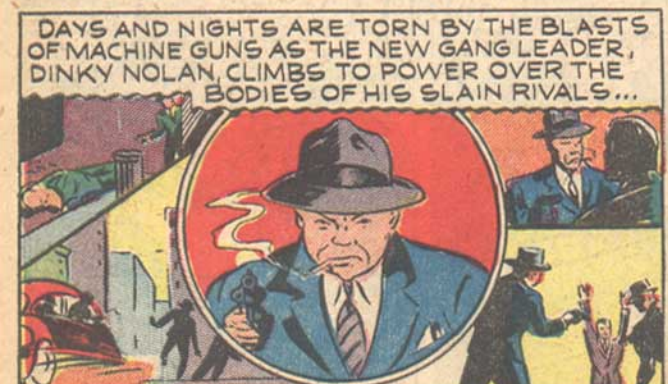


AT THE GANG'S HEAD-QUARTERS -

I'M YOUR NEW BOSS!... ANYBODY WHO DOESN'T LIKE THE SET-UP KNOWS WHAT TO EXPECT!



WE'RE MOVING IN ON THE BIG DOUGH!.. NOBODY IS GOING TO STAND IN OUR WAY!



DAYS AND NIGHTS ARE TORN BY THE BLASTS OF MACHINE GUNS AS THE NEW GANG LEADER, DINKY NOLAN, CLIMBS TO POWER OVER THE BODIES OF HIS SLAIN RIVALS...



BARBARA, I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS!.. SOMEHOW, I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!

IT DOES SEEM AS THOUGH WE'VE CREATED A FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER, HOOD, AND YET, SOMEHOW, I STILL CAN'T HELP FEELING THAT DINKY'S NOT INHERENTLY BAD. MAYBE IT'S JUST MY WOMAN'S INTUITION.



BACK HOOD...WHAT DO YOU WANT?



I'VE COME TO WARN YOU, DINKY!



FROM NOW ON I'M ON YOUR TRAIL AND I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU YET! YOU'RE STILL A PUNK TO ME!

WHY, YOU...



NOBODY CALLS ME A PUNK - GET IT? NOBODY!

WELL, I'M CALLING YOU ONE!



SO FAR YOU HAVEN'T EVEN HAD NERVE ENOUGH TO PULL YOUR OWN JOBS! YOUR THUGS DO ALL THE DIRTY WORK, SO LONG, PUNK!



PUNK AM I? WELL, I'LL SHOW HIM! HELLO, LEFTY? GET A COUPLE OF THE BOYS... WE'RE CRACKING THAT MAISON JEWELRY STORE, TONIGHT! YEAH, I'M GOING ALONG WITH YOU!



OKAY...I SILENCED THE ALARM!



GOOD EVENING! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

THE BLACK HOOD!

YES, THE BLACK HOOD!... I TAPPED YOUR WIRE RIGHT AFTER I LEFT, DINKY!

AND SPEAKING OF TAPS? HAVE ONE YOURSELF!

SMART GUY, EH?



SMART ENOUGH TO BAIT YOU INTO PULLING THIS JOB YOURSELF, DINKY!

OWW... MY EYES!

AND SO YOUR GOOSE IS COOKED, PUNK!



BONG

BUT ONLY MOMENTARILY STUNNED, DINKY SLITHERS ADROITLY BEHIND A SHOWCASE, BOBS UP REVOLVER IN HAND, AND...

HERE'S A TRICK YOU DIDN'T TEACH ME, HOOD!

SCRAM!... BEFORE THE COPS GET HERE!



WE HEARD A SHOT...
WHAT'S GOING ON
HERE?



DINKY NOLAN, EH?
YOU'D BETTER TELL
YOUR STORY TO THE
SERGEANT!



HOOD...
I CAME
AS SOON
AS I
HEARD!

I'M ALL RIGHT,
BARBARA! I'VE
JUST BEEN
TELLING SER-
GEANT MCGINTY
ABOUT OUR
FRIEND,
DINKY
NOLAN!



DON'T
BOTHR,
SARGE.
HERE
I AM!

I'LL
SEND
OUT
AN
ALARM
FOR
HIM!



JUST WHAT IS YOUR GAME,
NOW, DINKY?

I'LL LET MY
MOUTH -
PIECE DO
MY TALKING.



MY CLIENT, SERGEANT,
IS GIVING HIMSELF UP,
BUT YOU CAN'T HOLD
HIM - BECAUSE I'M
PUTTING UP A
BAIL-BOND
FOR HIS
RELEASE
RIGHT NOW!



HA, HA, HA!
S'LONG, WISE
GUY!... AND
THE NEXT
TIME YOU
TRY TO
PULL A
FAST ONE
ON THE
PUNK
SEE A
LAWYER
FIRST,
HOOD!

DINKY, WAIT
FOR ME!

BARBARA!



I WONDER WHAT
SHE'S UP TO NOW?
SHE CAN'T STILL
HAVE ANY FAITH
IN THAT RAT AFTER
THIS EXHIBITION!



THE POLICE AND THE
HOOD, HIMSELF, HAVE
FAILED. IT'S MY TURN
NOW!

DINKY, CAN I
TALK TO YOU
ALONE?



SURE (GULP) C'MON TO MY APARTMENT!
WHAT'S SHE WANT TO SEE ME ALONE FOR?



DINKY, YOU SAID YOU LOVED ME ONCE.. DID YOU MEAN IT?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE, NOW? WHAT CHA GETTIN' AT?



YOU'VE BECOME A GANG-STER ONLY TO SHOW ME YOU CAN BECOME A BIG-SHOT. DIDN'T YOU? PLEASE BE HONEST WITH ME DINKY!



ALL RIGHT! SUPPOSE I DID. I AM A BIG-SHOT, AIN'T I? NO-BODY CAN CALL ME A PUNK AGAIN!



YOU'RE WRONG, DINKY! THERE'S ANOTHER WAY OF PROVING YOU'RE NOT A PUNK.. AND THAT IS TO GO STRAIGHT..WONT YOU?



YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO EVER SHOWED ME ANY KINDNESS, BAR-BARA! I'M STILL NUTS ABOUT YOU. ALWAYS WILL BE!



MY RACKET - NEVER TOUCHED INNOCENT PEOPLE. I MADE MY DOUGH ROBBING FROM OTHER CROOKS... BUT I'M THROUGH WITH THAT... I'LL GO CLEAN FOR YOU!



SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, DINKY? YOU'D DOUBLE-CROSS THE GANG FOR THIS LITTLE FRILL!



WELL, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET THE CHANCE!... WE NEVER SHOULD HAVE DROPPED SARTO FOR A PUNK LIKE YOU.... THAT WAS A MISTAKE!



PUNK, AM I? I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S WHO AROUND HERE! DUCK BEHIND A TABLE, BABS!



WELL, C'MON, KNOCK ME OFF - IF YOU CAN!



WITH LEADEN DEATH POURING FROM ALL SIDES, DINKY STANDS HIS GROUND PROTECTIVELY OVER BARBARA..



THEN THE CRASHING ENTRY OF A NEW VISITOR... THE BLACK HOOD...



OOOH! THEY GOT ME!



I'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE, DINKY!

N. NICE GOIN'; HOOD, YOU SURE SHOWED ME UP FOR A P PUNK, ALL RIGHT, HA, HA! S'LONG HOOD! S'LONG, B-BABS!



DINKY!

HE'S DEAD, BARBARA!



HE DIED PROTECTING ME, HOOD!



YES, HE SQUARED HIMSELF THE ONLY WAY HE COULD - BARBARA... AT LAST THE PUNK BECAME A MAN!



REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR, GANG.. AND REMEMBER TOP-NOTCH COMICS FOR THE BEST READING YOU WILL FIND ON THE STANDS MONTH IN AND MONTH OUT!

The WEB HE'S HERE! HE'S THERE! HE'S EVERYWHERE! EVERYBODY KNOWS HIM AND YET NOBODY DOES. AN ETERNAL RIDDLE FOR THE CRIMINAL. A RIDDLE, WHICH TRY THOUGH THEY MAY, THEY CANNOT SOLVE. AN UNFORGETTABLE CREATURE OF MYSTERY, LASHING OUT WITH TERRIFYING SWIFTNES AT THE SKULKING FIGURE OF THE LAWBREAKER... THE WEB BEGINS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **ZIP COMICS**

THERE GOES
THE CURTAIN
ON ZIP'S
SENSATIONAL
NEW CHARACTER,
STEEL!

YES,
HANGMAN!..
THE ONE THAT
THE BLACK
HOOD'S BEEN
RAVING ABOUT
FOR WEEKS!
BOY, IF HE'S
HALF AS GOOD
AS THEY SAY,
WE'RE IN FOR
A GOOD
SHOW!

SENSATIONAL! SPECTACULAR!

THE
WHO
YOU ARE IN FOR THE

OKAY,
HOLD
YOUR
BREATH,
**BLACK
JACK**
HERE IT
COMES!

IT'S HIGH
TIME, **HOOD**..
BOY, YOU SURE
CAN KEEP A
SECRET! NOW,
I'LL FINALLY
FIND OUT ALL
ABOUT THE
WEB!

**WHO IS THE WEB?
WHAT IS THE WEB?
YOU'LL GET THE
ANSWERS IN
JULY ZIP COMICS!
DON'T SAY WE
DIDN'T WARN YOU!**

"THE WEB" *appears in* **JULY "ZIP"**

NEW! DIFFERENT!!!
WEB
IS HE??
SHOCK OF YOUR LIFE!

ROY'S BEEN SINGING THIS NEW CHARACTER'S PRAISES LONG AND LOUD, SHIELD!

SO HAS THE WIZARD AND THAT GUY HASN'T STEERED ME WRONG, YET! WE'RE IN FOR A GREAT SHOW!

OKAY, WIZARD, RING UP THE CURTAIN AND LET 'ER RIP!

WE PREDICT THAT THE WEB WILL TAKE THE NATION BY STORM!
A NEW HIGH IN COMIC ENTERTAINMENT!

"THE WEB" appears in JULY ZIP



THE FIREFLY

EMPERESS OF ANCIENT ETHIOPIA!
SHEBA!! A NAME ASSOCIATED WITH ETER-
NAL LIFE! ETERNAL BEAUTY!-----WANDER-
ING THIS EARTH FOR SOME STRANGE PUR-
POSE!! A MYTH YOU SAY?----- SHEER NON-
SENSE!----- HMM--- WE WONDER!!!



BETTER TELL THE
HELMSMAN TO WATCH
THOSE REEFS CAPT-
AIN!



NOT MUCH
YOU CAN DO
IN A STORM
LIKE THIS,
HUDSON!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER-----



BUT LET US LOOK IN ON HARLEY HUDSON, THE FIREFLY,
THE ONLY PASSENGER ON A FREIGHTER SAILING UN-
CHARTED SEAS!-----AN ADVENTURE IS IN STORE
FOR HIM! A VERY WEIRD, ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE AD-
VENTURE, ONE THAT MAY EVEN MAKE YOU BELIEVE
IN LEGENDS!----- READ ON AND SEE!!!

HOLY MACKEREL !!
THE SHIP'S BEING
SMASHED TO BITS !

LOOK AT THOSE
HELPLESS MEN
JUMPING OVER-
BOARD. THE FIRE
FLY MIGHT BE
ABLE TO
HELP
THEM !

WITH A FEARFUL, REND-
ING CRASH, THE BOAT
DASHES INTO THE
ROCKS !

A MOMENT LATER, THE FLASHING
FORM OF THE FIREFLY DIVES
OVER THE SIDE !

THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE
IN THIS SEA !

THIS FLOATING SPAR'LL
HOLD HIM, WHILE I TRY TO
SAVE SOME OTHERS.

UNTIRINGLY, THE
FIREFLY

RESCUES VICTIM

AFTER
VICTIM--

I---CAN'T SAVE ANYMORE
(PUFF, PUFF) TOO TIRED--
BETTER TRY AND SAVE
MYSELF !!

HOURLY AFTER HOURLY, THE SPAR FLOATS THROUGH VIOLENTLY STORM TOSSED WATERS, UNTIL FINALLY THE CLOUDS BREAK AND THE WELCOME FULL BRIGHTNESS OF THE MOON SHINES THROUGH IT ----



THE POWERFUL GLOW OF THE MOONLIGHT WAKENS THE FIREFLY ----

THANK GOODNESS, STORMS OVER --- LOOK THAT'S LAND UP AHEAD!!



GOTTA MAKE IT, CAN'T GIVE UP NOW !!



THIS IS THE MOST WELCOME BIT OF LAND I'VE EVER SEEN I COULDN'T HAVE HELD ON MUCH LONGER!



A LONE FIGURE WATCHES FROM A NEARBY HILL, AS THE WEARY BAND COMES ASHORE.

SO!! VISITORS! SHEBA SHALL WELCOME THEM IN HER OWN WAY!



THE EXHAUSTED MEN TRY TO REST. HOWEVER--

THAT MOON ---- IT'S GLOWING SO WIERDLY!



EVEN THE FIREFLY IS FORCED TO FIX HIS GAZE ON THE MOON'S EERIE GLOW!

GOOD LORD! ---- THE LIGHT FROM THAT MOON!! IT'S MAKING MY HEAD SWIM!



SPELLBOUND, THE SURVIVORS GAZE AT THE MOON, UNTIL ----



EEYAH KILL! KILL!

THEY TURN ON EACH OTHER,
DRIVEN BY THE WEIRD ENCHANTMENT
OF THIS STRANGE MOON.



HOWEVER, I'VE GOT TO
RESIST IT. I
MUST SAVE
THEM FROM
THEMSEL-
VES!



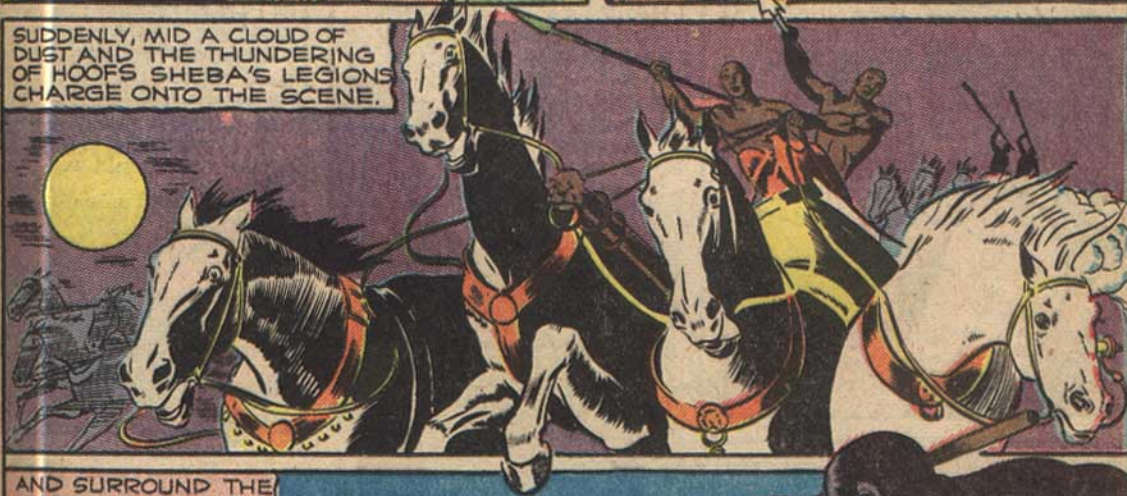
STOP THAT, KEEP CALM,
GET HOLD OF YOURSELVES



TRY TO TURN AWAY FROM
THE MOON, DON'T LOOK AT IT!



SUDDENLY, MID A CLOUD OF
DUST AND THE THUNDERING
OF HOOFS SHEBA'S LEGIONS
CHARGE ONTO THE SCENE.



AND SURROUND THE
MADDENED BAND

WHAT IS THIS!
CHARIOTS, NUBIANS,
I MUST BE GOING
MAD TOO!





SURRENDER,
MORTALS!----
OR DIE!


WE DON'T SEEM TO HAVE
MUCH CHOICE!---- BUT DO
YOU MIND TELLING US
WHO YOU ARE ----
WHAT IS THIS ALL
ABOUT?




I AM QUEEN
OF ETHIOPIA,
BORN 3000
YEARS AGO
I LOST MY
KINGDOM
ONCE BE-
CAUSE I HAD
WEAKLINGS
ABOUT ME!




I HAVE WANDERED THE
EARTH THESE MANY YEARS
SEEKING ONE AS BOLD AS
YOU!---- TOGETHER
WE CAN RETURN
THROUGH TIME TO
MY EMPIRE-- AND
RULE THE EARTH?
WHAT SAY
YOU MOR-
TAL?



IF I HADN'T GOTTEN A
TASTE OF THAT MOON
TRICK OF YOURS, I'D
SAY THIS WHOLE
THING WAS SOME
KIND OF A GAG!--
IF I REFUSE, WHAT
WILL YOU DO?



I HAVE GIVEN
YOU YOUR
CHOICE. EITHER
YOU GO BACK
INTO TIME-- WITH
ME ---- OR YOU
ALL DIE!



WAIT!---
LET THEM
GO-- AND I'LL
DO ANYTHING
YOU SAY!



ALLRIGHT!---THEIR
LIVES MEAN NO-
THING TO ME. IT
IS ONLY YOU
I WANT!

A FEW DAYS LATER A SHIP IS FITTED OUT FOR THE CREW.



WELL FIREFLY I HAVE KEPT MY WORD TO YOU, AND LET YOUR FRIENDS GO FREE



NOW WE WILL CARRY OUT THE REST OF OUR BARGAIN!

I'M READY!



THE SAND OF THIS HOUR GLASS HAS BEEN SIFTING TIME FORWARD FOR CENTURIES!



NOW I WILL REVERSE IT AND TIME WILL PASS BACKWARD TAKING US WITH IT!



SHEBA REVERSES THE HOUR GLASS



AND THE PAIR ARE THROWN BACK INTO THE INFINITY, THROUGH CENTURY AFTER CENTURY



UNTIL FINALLY

GREAT HEAVENS MY HEAD IS STILL SPINNING! WHERE ARE WE?

THIS OH, FIREFLY IS MY KINGDOM, ANCIENT ETHIOPIA. YOU SHALL REIGN HERE WITH ME!



BURIED IN TIME! THIS SEEMS TO BE THE FATE OF THE FIREFLY IN HIS MOST BIZARRE ADVENTURE YET. READ THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS.

THE KARDAK MYSTIC MAGICIAN

IN THE HOME OF JOHNNY WALTERS A SORDID SCENE IS BEING ENACTED --- JOHNNY IS DESPERATELY PROTESTING AGAINST BEING DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY

JOHNNY, MY SON, DON'T FIGHT THEM! ---- THEY'RE ONLY DOING THEIR DUTY AS YOU MUST DO YOURS!

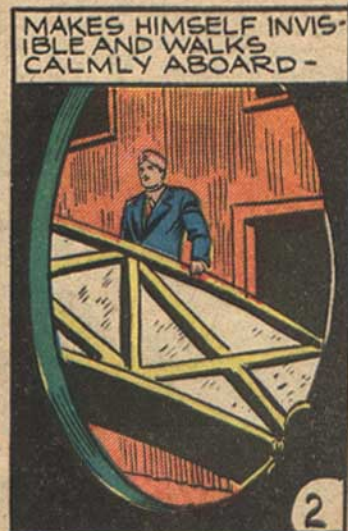
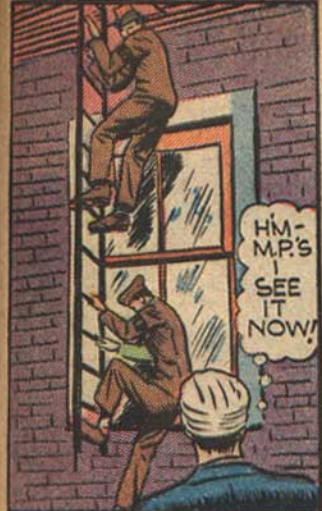
I DON'T WANT TO GO TO THE ARMY!! I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANYBODY! I'M NOT MAD AT ANYBODY!

J. PHILLIPS

SUDDENLY JOHNNY BREAKS LOOSE FROM THE SOLDIERS AND MAKES FOR AN OPEN WINDOW AND ----

JUST THEN KARDAK THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN PASSES BY!

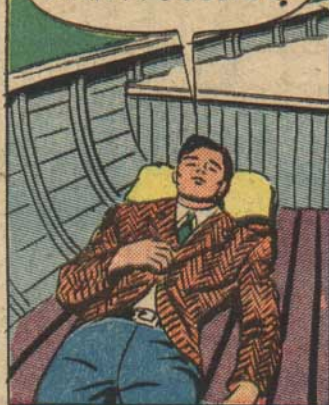
SAY! THAT YOUNG FELLOW SEEMS TO BE IN A GREAT HURRY! WONDER WHAT'S UP?



THAT'S THE
KID DUCKING
INTO THE LIFE
BOAT NOW!



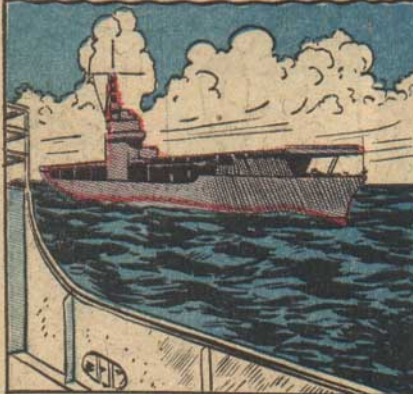
AH, THE BOAT'S
MOVING - I CAN TAKE
IT EASY NOW. BETTER
TO BE A STOW-AWAY
THAN A SOLDIER!



FAST ASLEEP -
HMM! FEELS
PRETTY SAFE,
DOES HE?



HALF WAY TO SOUTH AMERICA A SHIP STEAMS OMINOUSLY TOWARD THE FREIGHTER, OVERHAULS IT, AND -



... TURNS OUT TO BE A JAPANESE RAIDER. HELPLESS, THE FREIGHTER IS FORCED TO SURRENDER AND THE ENEMY CLIMBS ABOARD -



A THOROUGH SEARCH
REVEALS -

WILL PLEASE
TO COME OUT!

HEY!
WHO
ARE
YOU?



I ASK THE
QUESTIONS, NOT
YOU!.. COME OUT,
I SAID, WHITE
DOG!



INTO
LINE WITH
THE REST
OF THEM!



THE AMERICANS
LINE UP FOR
REVIEW--



OLD ONE -
COME OUT-WE
HAVE NO USE
FOR OLD MEN-
THROW HIM
OVERBOARD!



YOU FILTHY PIRATES!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS-IT'S
MURDER!
WAR IS
MURDER, MY
AMERICAN
FRIEND!



...AND THE VICTORIOUS ONE
LEARNS TO BE RUTHLESS!
WE HAVE NO USE FOR
SENTIMENTAL FOOLS
LIKE YOU, EITHER!



NO!
PLEASE!
HAVE MERCY!
SPARE ME!



THE OTHERS OF THE CREW
ARE TAKEN ABOARD
THE JAPANESE PIRATE
SHIP--



AND ASSIGNED TO THE
GALLEYS WHERE THEY
ARE FORCED TO DO BACK-
BREAKING LABOR --



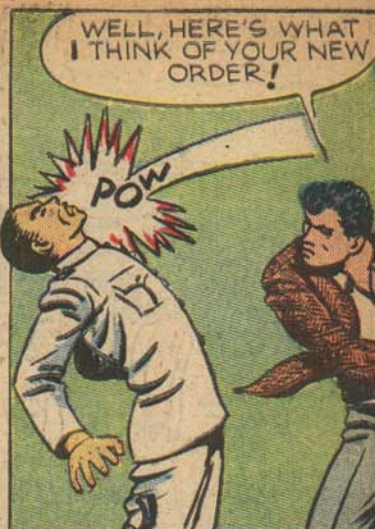
HURRY WITH
THAT OIL DRUM!



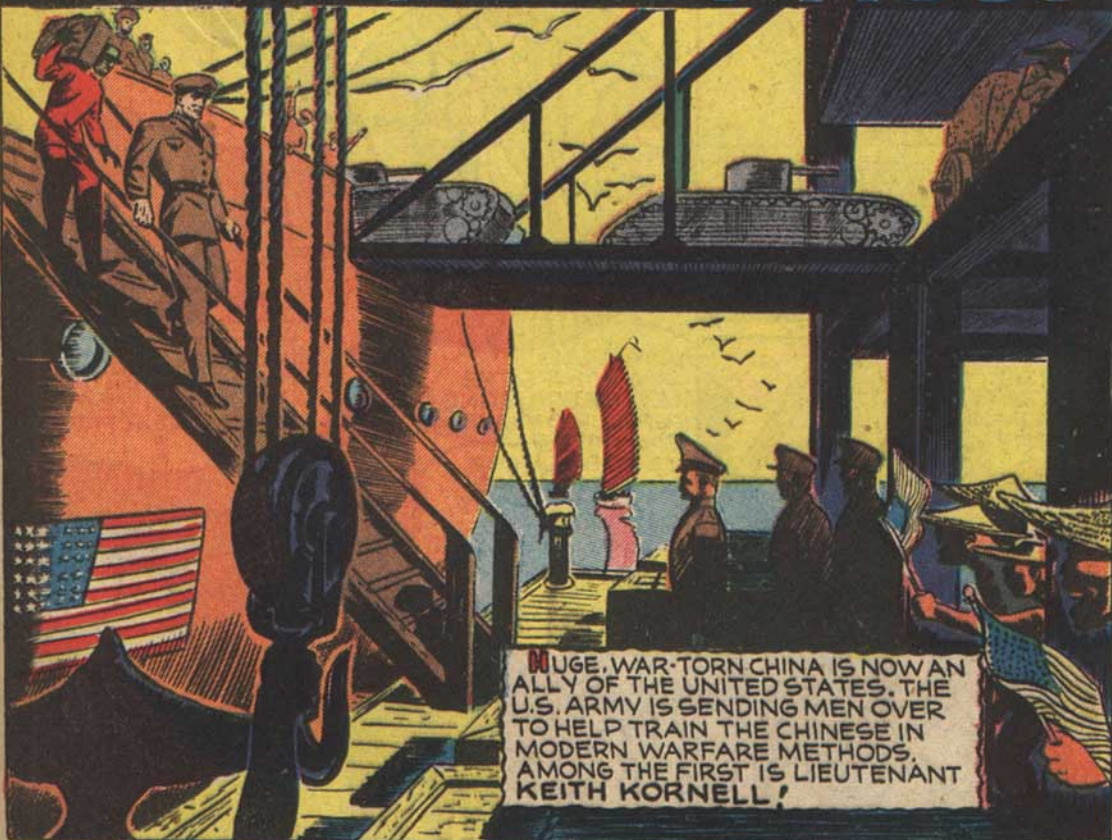
OH! I
CAN'T
SIR-I
CAN'T
LIFT IT!

THE YOUNG BOY OFFERS
TO LEND A HAND--
ENOUGH!
THESE TOO WEAK
TO LABOR ARE
USELESS TO US!





KEITH KORNEILL



GIUGE, WAR-TORN CHINA IS NOW AN ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES. THE U.S. ARMY IS SENDING MEN OVER TO HELP TRAIN THE CHINESE IN MODERN WARFARE METHODS. AMONG THE FIRST IS LIEUTENANT KEITH KORNEILL!

GREETINGS, LIEUTENANT, WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU HERE! OUR POOR COUNTRY IS IN NEED OF MEN LIKE YOU!

THANK YOU, CAPTAIN WONG!



I WILL SHOW YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS AND IN THE MORNING YOU MAY BEGIN YOUR WORK!

NEXT MORNING - OH BOY, WHAT A MOTLEY COLLECTION!



ALL RIGHT, MEN, YOU'VE A TOUGH JOB TO DO SO LET'S GET AT IT!

AS THE TROOP
BEGINS TO DRILL,
A SMALL BOY IS
SEEN FOLLOW-
ING ALONG-

WHAT THE DEVIL ARE
THEY GRINNING ABOUT?



OH, SO
THAT'S IT!
COMPANY-
HALT!



NOW, YOUNG
MAN, WHAT'S THE
IDEA OF BREAKING
UP OUR DRILL?

ME NO BREAK UP
& DRILL. ME
WANT
BE
SOLDIER!



SOLDIER, EH? AREN'T
YOU JUST A BIT TOO
YOUNG TO BE AWAY
FROM YOUR PARENTS
?

OH,
NO-



ME HAVE NO
MOTHER, FATHER -
LIVE IN MISSION
UP ON HILL!



WELL
THEN, THAT'S
WHERE YOU'RE
GOING!



THAT'S ALL FOR
A WHILE, MEN!
I'VE GOT TO
RETURN THIS
CHICKEN TO
HIS ROOST!

A SHORT TIME LATER-



LICHEE WAN WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? YOU'VE HAD US ALL WORRIED!

ME BACK HOME FATHER!



I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, SIR!



HE'S ALWAYS RUNNING OFF TO BECOME A SOLDIER. THE USUAL RESULT IS HIS GETTING INTO TROUBLE BY USING HIS SLING SHOT TOO FREELY!



SUDDENLY THE SOUND OF CANNONADING IS HEARD-

HOLY CROCKEYE, LISTEN TO THAT! SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE!



BETTER START HOPPING BACK!



WHAT A TIME TO BE CAUGHT OUT HERE!



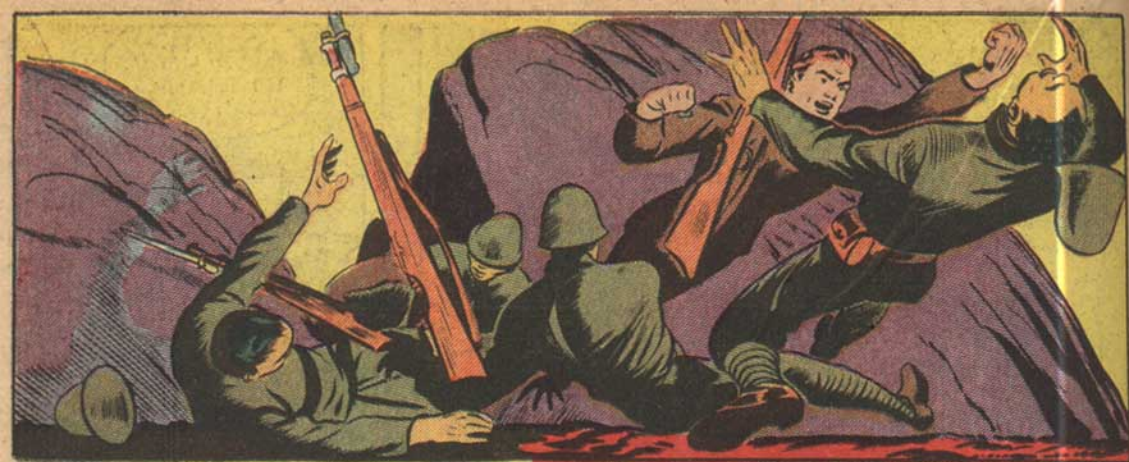
JUST THEN-

JAPS!

HALT!



ONE SIDE, YOU CANARIES, I'M COMING BY!



AMERICAN DOG!

YOUR ANCESTORS WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU!



SUDDENLY THE JAP FALLS AS THOUGH SHOT-



ANOTHER RAISES HIS HANDS IN PAIN AND TOPPLES OVER-



YEOWWWW

RUN, RUN! TROOPS COMING GET AWAY FAST!



SOMETHING'S SCREWY HERE - I DIDN'T HEAR A SHOT!

JUST THEN-

HELLO, LIEUTENANT, ME FIX THEM GOOD!



LICHEE WAN, YOU LITTLE DEVIL - HOW'D YOU GET THERE?



COME ON - CAN'T SEND YOU BACK NOW - LET'S HURRY!



AT LAST, THE DUO REACH TOWN TO SEE.....

SHADES OF CONFUCIUS! THOSE GUYS ARE RUNNING AROUND LIKE CHICKENS WITHOUT HEADS!



COME ON, MEN, GET TO YOUR POSTS, DOUBLE TIME!

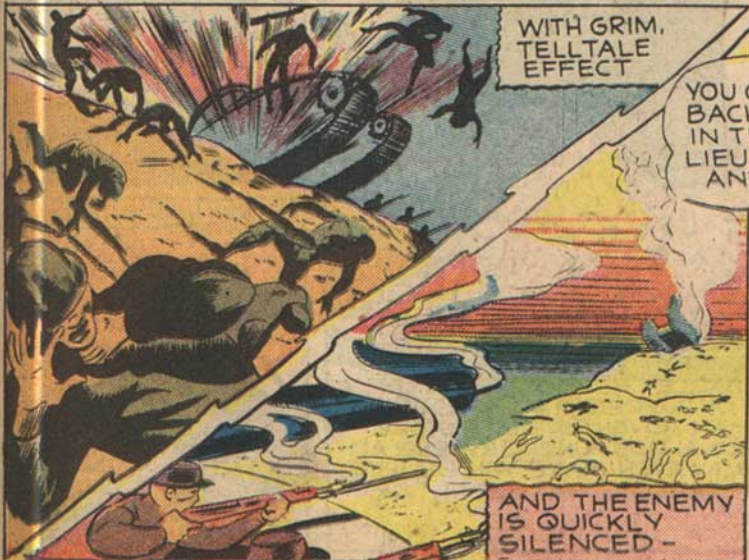


SOON THE CHINESE GUNS ARE BLASTING AWAY IN ORDERLY FASHION-



YES, THANKS TO THIS SPUNKY RASCAL! WELL, WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET! THOSE JAPS WILL BE BACK IN FULL FORCE SOON!

WITH GRIM, TELLTALE EFFECT



YOU COME BACK JUST IN TIME, LIEUTENANT!

AND THE ENEMY IS QUICKLY SILENCED -



SNOOP MCGOOK

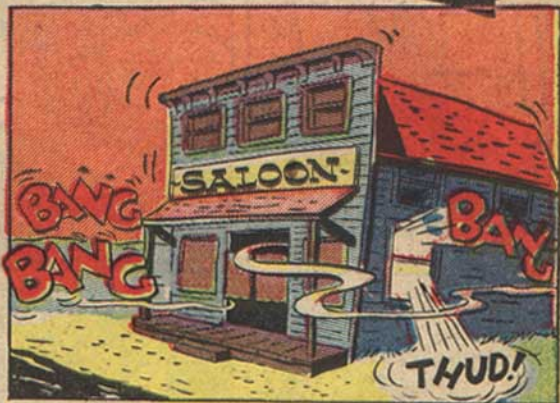
The SOUPY SLEUTH....



AFTER A LONG AND TOIL-SOME JOURNEY ACROSS THE DESERT WASTES SNOOP MCGOOK ENTERS A LITTLE WESTERN TOWN. MCGOOK IS STILL HARD ON THE TRAIL OF THE STOLEN HORSE, BEPPO!



HMMM... I WONDER WHAT SORT OF A TOWN THIS IS!



AH, WELL! OH, DEARIE ME!



SAME THING DAY AFTER DAY... IT'S GETTIN' MONOTONOUS!



WHAT'S THE MATTER? ?

BOSS MCGIVERN JUST SHOT ANOTHER SHERIFF! HE HATES LAWYERS! HE SURE HATES 'EM!





LULU BELLE LOOKS OKAY TO ME, SHLUMP!



THEY'RE OFF!

WHEEE!

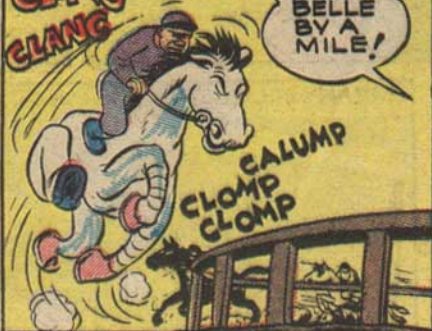


LULU BELLE'S LEADING!... THEM OTHER NAGS LOOK LIKE THEY GOT RHEUMATISM!



CLANG CLANG CLANG

IT'S LULU BELLE BY A MILE!

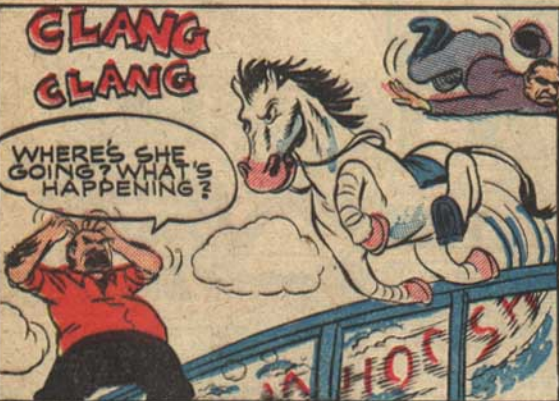


SUDDENLY-



GLANG GLANG

WHERE'S SHE GOING? WHAT'S HAPPENING?



IT'S THAT DUMB SHERLOCK MCGOOK! HE DID THIS ON PURPOSE!

SO HE'S A DETECTIVE, EH?



IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW LONG YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE, JUST COUNT TO THREE!



GOODNESS! AT THIS RATE THIS IS GOING TO BE A GHOST TOWN!



X

MARKS THE SPOT AND SNOOP MCGOOK THE DEFECTIVE DETECTIVE IS ALWAYS ON IT! BUY THE NEXT TOP NOTCH AND SEE HOW HE GETS OUT OF THIS ONE - - - - - IF HE DOES!

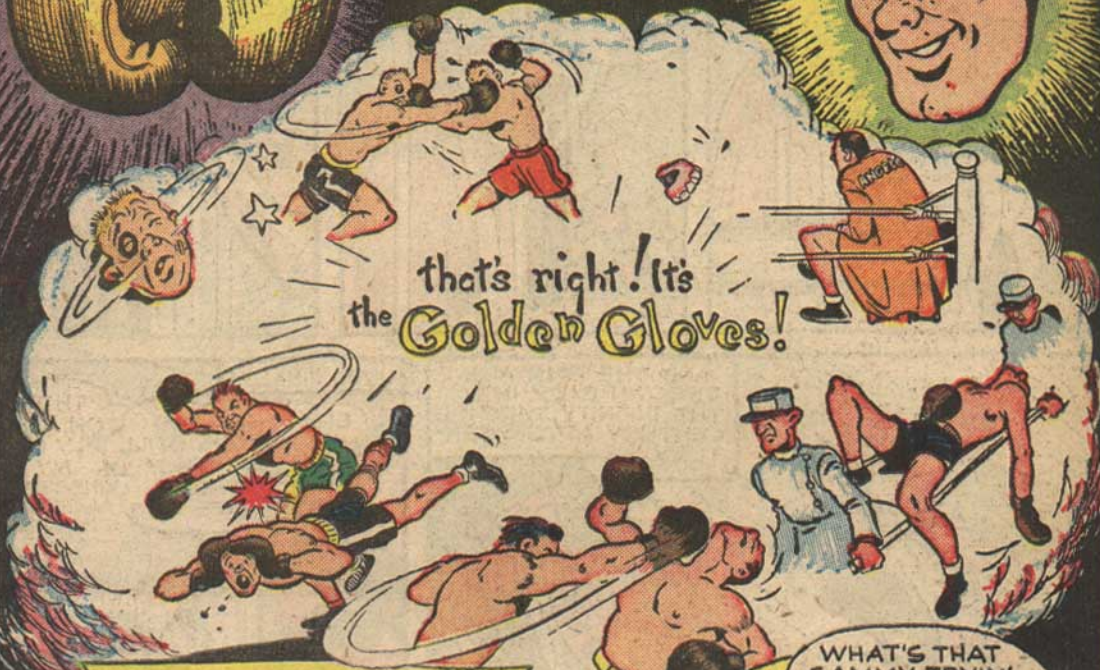
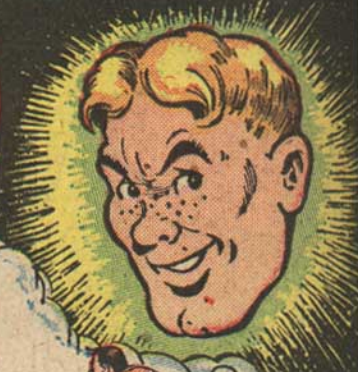
SNOOP MCGOOK

The SOUPY SLEUTH....



THE

ST. LOUIS KID

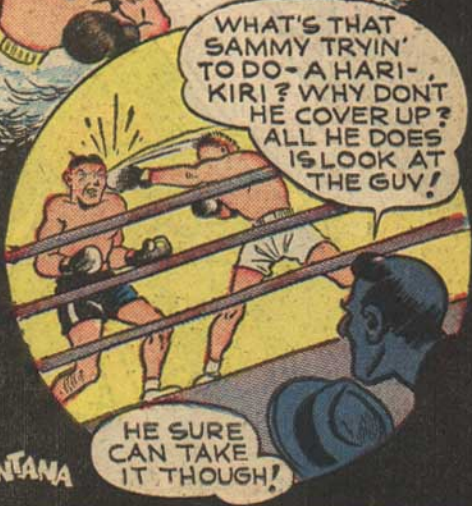


that's right! It's
the Golden Gloves!

WALLOPING, BELTING, AMBITIOUS AMERICAN YOUTH! TRUCK DRIVERS, BUS-BOYS, STEVEDORES, COLLEGE BOYS SLUGGING IT OUT TOE TO TOE, NOT FOR MONEY, BUT BECAUSE THEY LOVE IT... THAT'S THE GOLDEN GLOVES!

BUT AS THE BREATHLESS FANS WATCH THE LEATHER AND TEETH FLY, FEW ARE AWARE OF THE STORY BEHIND EACH BOY.....TAKE THAT BOY IN THE RING NOW, FOR EXAMPLE.....SAMMY FINAL, A STUDENT OF N.Y.U. - MAJORING IN ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGY!

RIGHT NOW HE'S DRAWING "BOO'S" AND CRUEL CALLS OF "FAKE".....

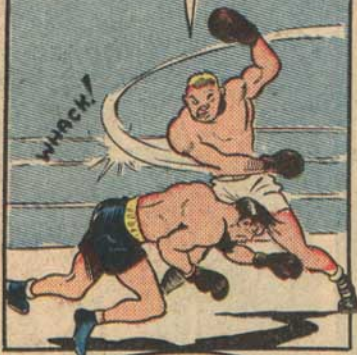


by MONTANA

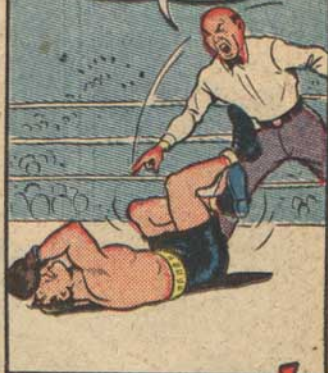
I'LL CONCENTRATE ON HIS RIGHT EYE! NOW I CONTROL YOUR REASON-OUR THOUGHTS ARE PARALLEL-YOUR RIGHT ARM IS PARALYZED-YOU CANT THROW THAT RIGHT!



WHATSA MATTER WIT DIS JERK? ALL HE DOES IS STARE AT ME WIT THAT SILLY LOOK!



3... 4... KID MUST BE MADE OF RUBBER... 5... 6... WAY HE KEEPS BOUNCING UP!

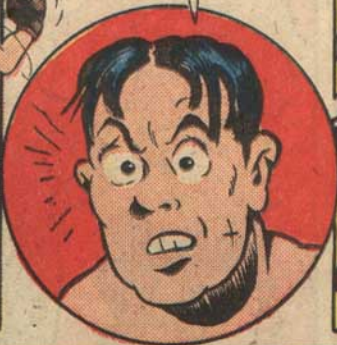


TRY AGAIN... YOU'RE UNDER MY CONTROL... LOOK INTO MY EYES!

DIS IS GONNA HOIT YOUSE MORE THAN ME!



I AM YOUR MASTER! YOU CANT THROW THAT RIGHT! YOU C---



SOCK!



AT THE RINGSIDE, AN ARDENT GOLDEN GLOVES FAN, HIMSELF JIM JENNINGS, THE FAMOUS ST. LOUIS KID...

I WANT TO SEE THAT BOY- HE'S GOT A LOT OF NERVE BUT THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG!

BOY! THAT GUY IS "BLACKED-OUT" FOR THE DURATION

MAKE WAY THERE!



HE'S COMING AROUND NOW, MR. JENNINGS! SAMMY, SAMMY! THE ST. LOUIS KID IS HERE TO SEE YOU!

OOOH!

LISSEN, FELLA, YOU CAN TELL ME...WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO DO OUT THERE TONIGHT?

IT'S MY THEORY, MR. JENNINGS! I'M PREPARING A THESIS ON SCIENTIFIC HYPNOTIC BOXING!

I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT BUT I'VE GOT TO PROVE MY THEORY! AND I KNOW IT WILL WORK...IT HAS ON ANIMALS AND MY PROF SAID BOXERS ARE... OOPS!...ER... I KNOW IT WILL WORK!

WELL, YOU'RE CERTAINLY DOING IT THE HARD WAY!

HEY, SAMMY! THE DOC JUST EXAMINED YOUR OPPONENT AND DISQUALIFIED HIM...FOUND HE HAD A GLASS EYE!

WHAT

SEE! SEE! NO WONDER IT DIDN'T WORK. I KNEW I WAS RIGHT!

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? TRYING TO HYPNOTIZE A GLASS EYE!

LOOK! I'LL PROVE MY ABILITIES...SEE THAT CAT? I'LL DEMONSTRATE THE THEORY OF LEVITATION ON HIM!

THE CAT HAS THE LOWEST MENTALITY OF ANYONE IN THE ROOM...SO WHEN I FOCUS ITS SIMPLE MIND WITH MINE...

IN COMES POP MALLOY- WHAT'S COOKIN'?

THE RESULT IS LEVITATION! NOW-RISE UP...ONE... TWO...

HELP! BOOMP

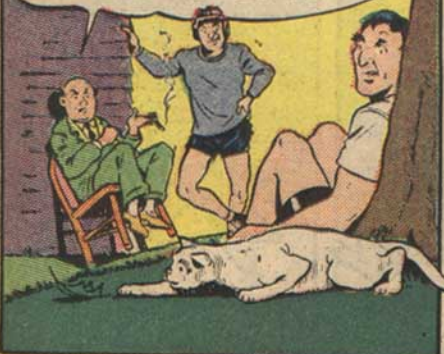
THREE!



WELL, IF YOU INSIST ON PROVING THIS... A THEORY - HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK ON IT UP AT MY CAMP? MAYBE YOU CAN LEARN A DEFENSIVE SO EVERY FIGHT ISN'T A MASS-ACRE!



THAT SAMMY'S A DOPE COMPARIN' ME WITH A CAT! IN THE FIRST PLACE, A CAT'S VERY INTELLIGENT... LIKE THE CAT WE HAD IN THE NAVY... A GREAT MOUSER ...



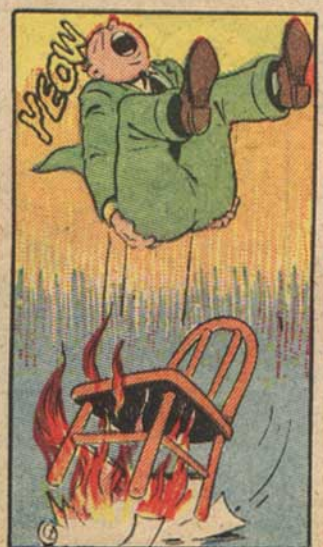
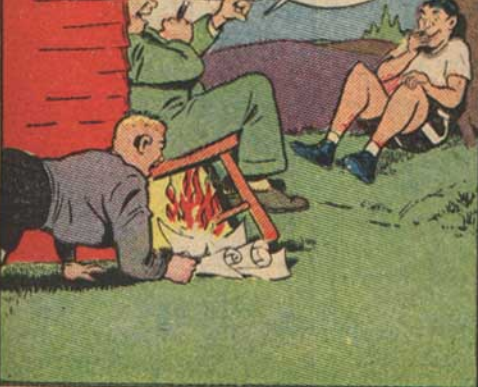
WHEN SHE BROKE HER LEG THE SHIP'S CARPENTER MADE A WOODEN ONE AND SHE'D BEAT THE MICE OVER THE HEAD WITH IT... WELL, ONE DAY SHE BROKE THAT ON A RAT, SO...



WE MADE HER AN IRON ONE! BUT IT WAS SO HEAVY SHE COULDN'T MOVE FAST ENOUGH SO THE CAPTAIN APPOINTED TWO GOBS!



..TO CATCH THE MICE AND HOLD 'EM WHILE THE CAT BEAT 'EM OVER THE HEAD WITH THE IRON LEG!



HA, HA HA, HA HA HA COMEDIANS



JIM! SAMMY INSISTS ON TRYING OUT HIS THEORY AGAIN SO I GOT HIM A PRELIMINARY BOUT AT THE GARDEN TOMORROW NIGHT!



NOW, REMEMBER, SAMMY, KEEP YOUR GUARD UP!



OKAY, MR. JENNINGS!



HERE'S THE FIRST PRELIMINARY, FOLKS, AND WHAT D'YA KNOW, IT'S SAMMY FINAL, THE COLLEGE CRACKPOT, WHO THINKS HE CAN HYPNOTIZE HIS OP-
PONENTS!



HA! I'VE GOT HIS EYE! I WON'T TRY PARALYZATION THIS TIME... I'LL CONTROL HIS PUNCHES!

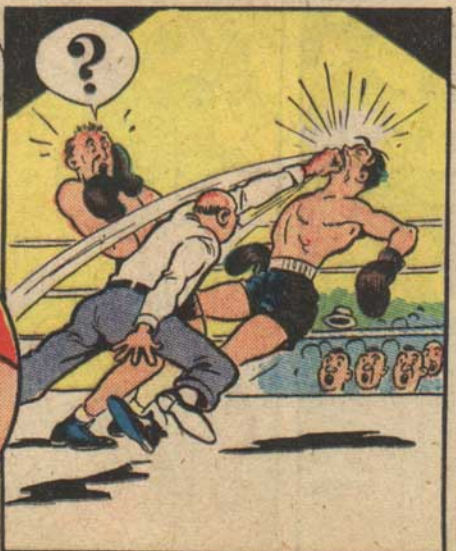
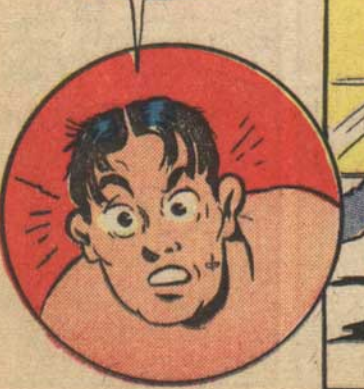


MY! WHAT BIG EYES YOU HAVE, GRANDMA!

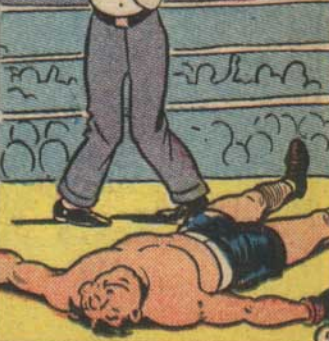
ALL THE BETTER TO CLOSE!



I HAVE YOU IN MY POWER! THROW A LEFT! THROW A LEFT-A LEFT!



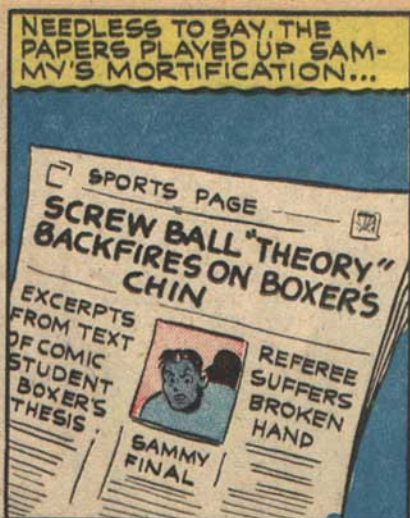
YE GODS! WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT HAVE I DONE?





WELL, HIS "CONTROL" WORKED... BUT ON THE REFEREE! SAMMY MUST BE CROSS-EYED!

BOY! WHAT A WALLOP! JACOBS BETTER SIGN UP THAT REFF!



NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE PAPERS PLAYED UP SAMMY'S MORTIFICATION...

SPORTS PAGE

SCREW BALL "THEORY" BACKFIRES ON BOXER'S CHIN

EXCERPTS FROM TEXT OF COMIC STUDENT BOXER'S THESIS



REFEREE SUFFERS BROKEN HAND

SAMMY FINAL



NUTS! EVERYONE IS LAUGHING AT ME... I GUESS I'M JUST A FAILURE ALL AROUND!



HA, I TOLD YOU ALL THE TIME HE WAS A NO GOOD FAKE!

LAY OFF HIM, POP, AND ANSWER THE DOOR!



I'M CARTON K. HOOBLE OF THE NEWS. I'D LIKE TO SEE SAMMY FINAL!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO-LAUGH AT HIM IN PERSON?



OUR PAPER FOUND YOUR THESIS DARNED GOOD READING AND WE'D LIKE TO HAVE YOU HANDLE A DAILY COLUMN FOR US!

GOSH!



SO, IF A HUNDRED AND FIFTY A WEEK IS SATISFACTORY-DROP AROUND TOMORROW AND WE'LL DRAW UP THE CONTRACTS!

YOU BET, MR. HOOBLE-AND THANKS!



GEE! I KNEW ALL THE TIME YOU HAD SOMETHING ON THE BALL! COME ON, I'LL BUY YOU A DRINK!

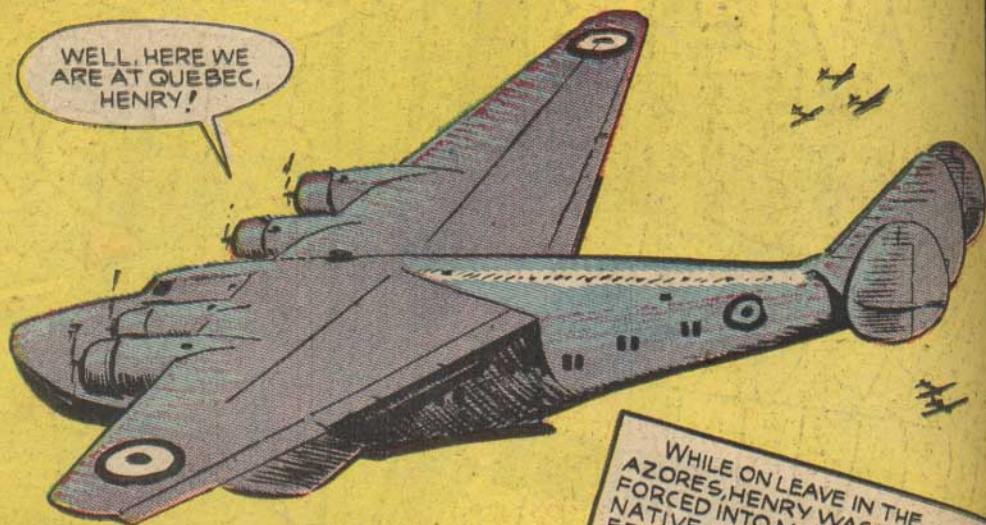
OH, BROTHER!



Another "KNOCK-OUT" boxing story will appear in the next issue of **TOP-NOTCH COMICS** - WATCH FOR the **ST. LOUIS KID** COMICS LEADING FIGHT STRIP!

WINGS JOHNSON OF THE Air Patrol

WELL, HERE WE
ARE AT QUEBEC,
HENRY!



WHILE ON LEAVE IN THE
AZORES, HENRY WAS ALMOST
FORCED INTO MARRIAGE TO A
NATIVE GIRL. WINGS ENGIN-
EERED THEIR ESCAPE, BUT BY
MISTAKE THEY BOARDED A
PLANE TO CANADA.....

WINGS AND HENRY REPORT TO
G.H.Q. -

WE GOT HERE BY
MISTAKE, SIR, AND
WOULD LIKE TO
GET BACK TO
ENGLAND!

JOHNSON
AND
HIGGINS,
IS IT?



WELL, YOUR RECORD
SHOWS YOU CAN HANDLE
ANY KIND OF SHIP. HOW
ABOUT BEING USEFUL
BESIDES ORNAMENTAL
AND FLYING A BOMBER
BACK TO ENGLAND?



BY THE WAY - I WANT TO
WARN YOU - WE'VE BEEN
LOSING QUITE A FEW
SHIPS LATELY. KEEP YOUR
EYES OPEN FOR TROUBLE.
THERE'S SOMETHING
FISHY GOING ON!

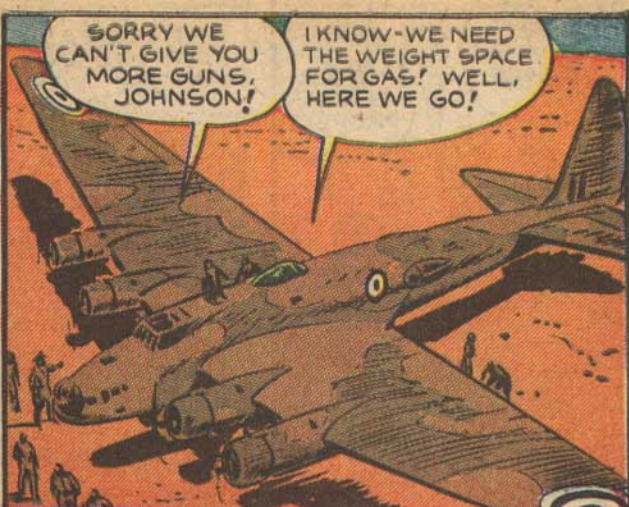


LATER AT BOTWOD THEY PICK UP
THEIR RADIO OPERATOR -

THIS IS YOUR
RADIO MAN,
HOFFMAN!

LET'S
GET
GOING!

HOWDY,
HOFFMAN!



SORRY WE
CAN'T GIVE YOU
MORE GUNS,
JOHNSON!

I KNOW-WE NEED
THE WEIGHT SPACE
FOR GAS! WELL,
HERE WE GO!

HOW DOES
SHE
HANDLE,
WINGSIE?

IT'S A LITTLE
TAIL HEAVY BUT
I GUESS THAT'S
THE EXTRA
GAS!



LATER-OVER THE ATLAN-
TIC ---

SAY, WE'RE STILL
TAIL-HEAVY AND OUR
REAR TANKS ARE EMPTY-
SOMETHING'S WRONG!
GO BACK AND INVESTI-
GATE, HENRY!

H'OKAY,
WINGSIE!



WHERE ARE
YOU GOING,
HIGGINS?
THIS IS MY
DEPART-
MENT!

KEEP YA SHIRT
ON, HOFFMAN,
H'I'M FOLLOWING
H'INSTRUCTIONS



WE'RE TAIL-
HEAVY AND
WINGSIE
SUSPECTS
WE GOT
EXTRA
PASSENGERS!

OH,
YEAH?



HENRY IS SUDDENLY
SET UPON BY THE
RADIO OPERATOR--



COME ON
OUT, CUFFNER,
THEY'VE
FOUND
US OUT!

QUICK,
GET THE
PILOT,
TOO!



RAISE YOUR HANDS, YANK, WE'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

WHAT IS THIS? THIS SHIP IS NOW GERMAN PROPERTY!



HELP, STOP HIM!

NOT WHILE I'VE GOT ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT!



STUPID CUR! IT IS FOOLISH TO RESIST THE INEVITABLE!



THAT WILL KEEP HIM QUIET TILL WE GET TO OUR GREENLAND BASE. BETTER KEEP THAT SWINE COVERED TILL WE GET THERE!



WE'RE ALMOST THERE - I SEE THE LANDMARK NOW!

THIS FLYING FORTRESS IS QUITE A PRIZE!



THE BIG PLANE IS LANDED-



AND WINGS AND HENRY ARE MARCHED TO UNDERGROUND OFFICES---



C'MON, STEP LIVELY!

AGENT Q-23 REPORTING WITH TWO MORE PRISONERS AND A FLYING FORTRESS, SIR---

GOOT WORK, Q-23 - PUT YOUR PRISONERS IN MIT DER OTHERS!





GET IN
DERE MIT
DER REST
OF YOUR
ILK!

WELL, WELL,
WE'VE GOT
COMPANY,
BOYS!

WELCOME TO
THE ATLANTIC
FERRY SER-
VICE CLUB,
YOU SUCKERS!



WHAT TH-
DO YOU MEAN
TO TELL ME
YOU WERE-

YEAH, WE
WERE
HIJACKED,
TOO. THEY
HAVE A
GOOD
SYSTEM!

THEY TAKE
OVER OUR SHIPS
AND USE THEM
TO BLAST OUR
OWN CONVOYS!



BUT CAN'T
WE DO
ANYTHING
ABOUT
IT?

WE HAVEN'T BEEN
ABLE TO YET! WE
ONLY GET A FEW
MINUTES OUT -
SIDE EACH DAY...
OH, OH, HERE WE
GO TO DIGGING
MORE TUNNELS
FOR THE BLIGHT-
ERS!

ALL
OUT!



HMM - SO WE GET
OUTSIDE FOR A FEW
MINUTES - SAY, I
HAVE AN IDEA!



PSST, BUDDY, FILL YOUR
POCKETS WITH ROCKS
AND PASS THE WORD
ALONG FOR EVERYBODY
TO DO THE SAME!

RIGHTO!



BE READY
TO MAKE
A BREAK
WHEN WE
GET OUT-
SIDE,
HENRY!

ACH TUNG!
ALL OUT-
SIDE - NOW
STEP
LIVELY!



YESSIR, MY PLAN
SHOULD WORK - THERE'S
JUST THE GUARDS!
GUNS TO WORRY
ABOUT!



HERE'S THE PLAN, MEN, WE
START A SNOWBALL FIGHT -
THEN WE SLIP OUR ROCKS
INTO THE SNOWBALLS
AND BOMBARD THE
GUARDS! ALL SET?

RIGHT!

I
GET
YA!

A FEW MINUTES LATER -



OKAY, NOW LET 'EM HAVE IT!

YAHOO!

TAG! YOU'RE IT!

VAT IS ?



LOOK OUT! THAT ONE'S GOING TO SHOOT!



THAT'LL HOLD YA!

ONE HIT - ONE OUT - YOUR ERROR NAZI!



THAT'S GOT HIM! NOW GRAB THEIR GUNS, QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO ACT FAST!



A SHORT SKIRMISH -

GIVE 'EM THE BAYONETS!



-AND THE FLIERS GAIN CONTROL!

WATCH OUT FOR TRAPS!

HERE'S AN EXTRA GUN FOR SOME-BODY!

THE RADIO IS OUR NEXT OBJECTIVE!

LET'S GO!



HANDS UP EVERYONE! YOU! DON'T TRY THAT!



OKAY! YOU ASKED FOR IT!

ACH!



WINGS BROADCASTS WHAT HAS JUST HAPPENED -

-AND WE'VE GOT THIRTY PRISONERS...STANDING BY FOR INSTRUCTIONS - SIGNED, JOHNSON!



LONDON PICKS UP THE MESSAGE -

BY JOVE, IT'S AMAZING WHAT HE DOES. THAT FELLOW JOHNSON CAN GET IN AND OUT OF!

DID YOU SAY JOHNSON?



HERE, SEND THIS MESSAGE TO HIM RIGHT AWAY. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO LOCATE HIM FOR MONTHS. THEN HAVE THE FLEET TAKE OVER THE SECRET BASE!



BACK AT THE NAZI BASE -

HEY FELLOWS, LOOK AT THIS! I'M BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE U.S. NAVY AIR FORCE - WE'RE AT WAR!

SURE, WE ENTERED THE WAR MONTHS AGO. DIDN'T YOU KNOW?



H'I SAY, WINGSIE, WOT H'ABOUT ME -H'AIN'T I GOIN' WITH YOU?

I'M AFRAID NOT, HENRY! INSTRUCTIONS ONLY MENTIONED ME! WELL, GOODBYE, OLD PAL!

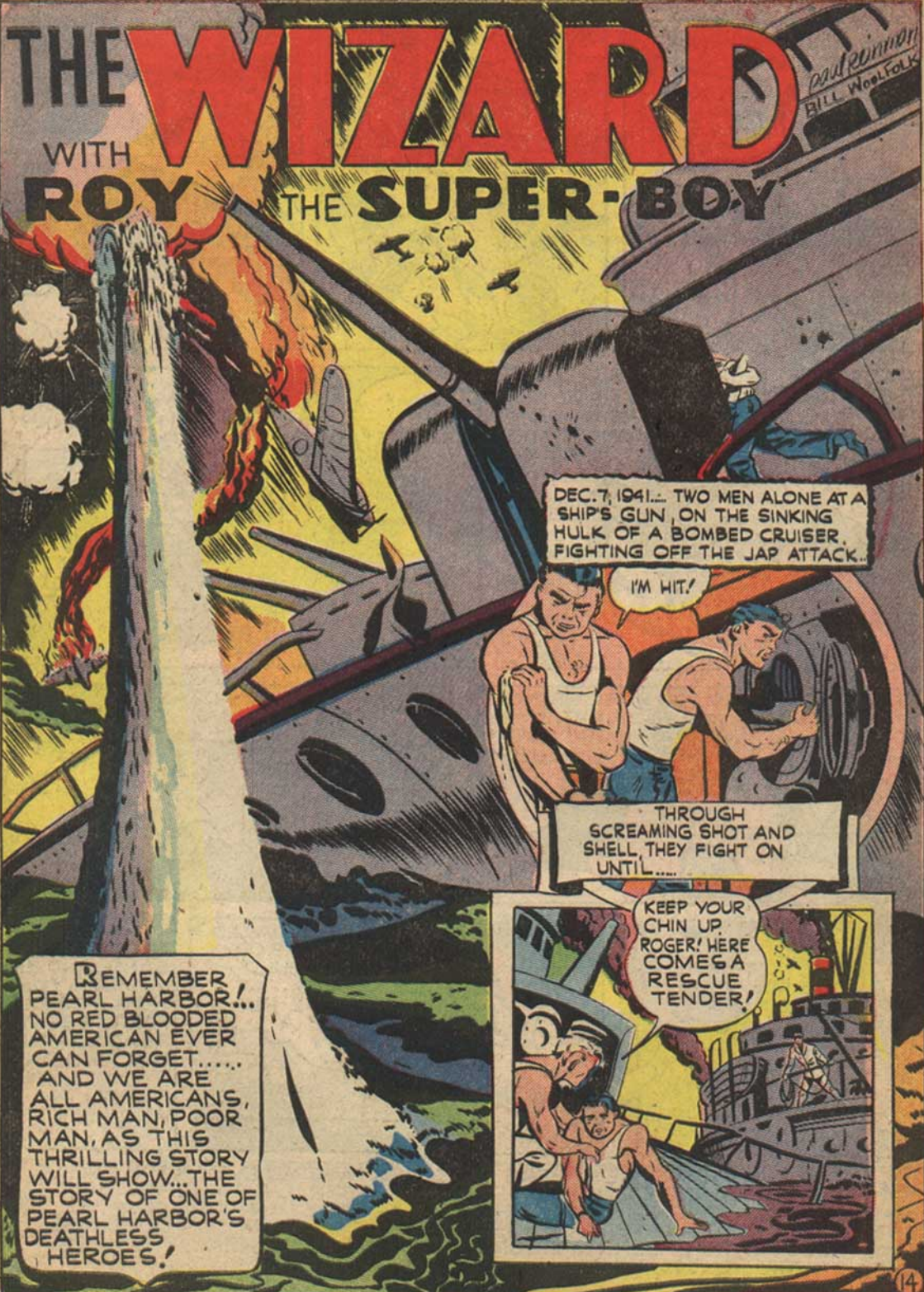


AND SO WINGS JOHNSON RUSHES TO THE DEFENSE OF HIS HOMETLAND -

THE WIZARD

WITH ROY THE SUPER-BOY

Paul Runyon
BILL Woolfolk



DEC. 7, 1941... TWO MEN ALONE AT A SHIP'S GUN, ON THE SINKING HULK OF A BOMBED CRUISER, FIGHTING OFF THE JAP ATTACK..

I'M HIT!

THROUGH SCREAMING SHOT AND SHELL, THEY FIGHT ON UNTIL.....

KEEP YOUR CHIN UP, ROGER! HERE COMES A RESCUE TENDER!

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR... NO RED BLOODED AMERICAN EVER CAN FORGET..... AND WE ARE ALL AMERICANS, RICH MAN, POOR MAN, AS THIS THRILLING STORY WILL SHOW... THE STORY OF ONE OF PEARL HARBOR'S DEATHLESS HEROES!

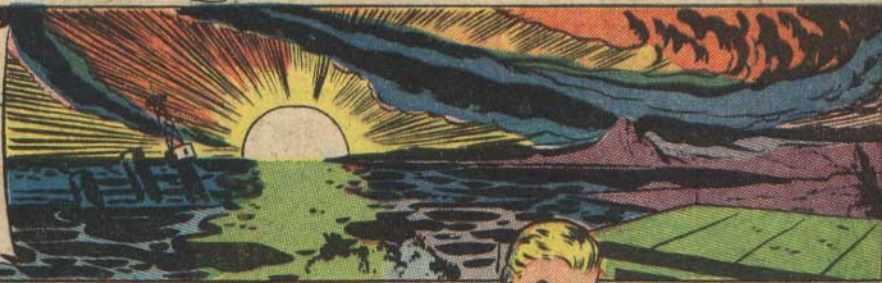


AREN'T YOU COMING?
NO!

AS THE SHIP SETTLES TO HER WATERY GRAVE, THE YOUNG GUNNER STANDS HIS POST ALONE...UNTIL DEATH--

WITH WATER UP TO HIS ANKLES, THE SOLE SURVIVOR REFUSES TO LEAVE HIS POST...

AND SO ANOTHER HEROIC CHAPTER IS WRITTEN INTO THE EPIC SAGA OF AMERICAN COURAGE, KNOWN AS PEARL HARBOR!



I HAVE CALLED THE COLOR GUARD IN HONOR OF RANDOLPH BLAKE, A HERO WHO DIED IN AN ACTION ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY... BUGLER, SOUND TAPS!



BLANE WHITNEY & ROY READ THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS.

CITED FOR HEROISM AT PEARL HARBOR - RANDOLPH BLAKE MIDSHIPMAN



WELL, ROY...THE STORY OF RANDOLPH BLAKE HAD A GLORIOUS ENDING, AFTER ALL!



"I REMEMBER WHEN WE FIRST KNEW HIM, A DIS-SOLUTE RICH BOY..."



PARDON ME, SIR, ISN'T IT TIME WE WERE GOING HOME?



THE
SOCIAL
EVENT
OF THE
SEASON..
RANDOLPH
BLAKE'S
ENGAGE-
MENT TO
BEAUTIFUL
VIVIAN
VANCE!



THEY DANCE BEAUTIFULLY TOGETHER, DON'T THEY, BLANE?



DARLING, I WISH EVERY MOMENT COULD BE AS PERFECT AS THIS!



PARDON ME, SIR... SLICKER MORGAN IS HERE. HE WON'T GO AWAY AND I DIDN'T WISH TO CREATE A DISTURBANCE!



I'LL BE THERE IN A MOMENT, ROGER- WILL YOU EXCUSE ME, DEAR?

OF COURSE!



SLICKER... YOU OUGHT TO KNOW BETTER THAN TO COME HERE!



I WANT THE DOUGH YOU LOST PLAYIN' ROULETTE AT MY PLACE.. AND I WANT IT NOW!

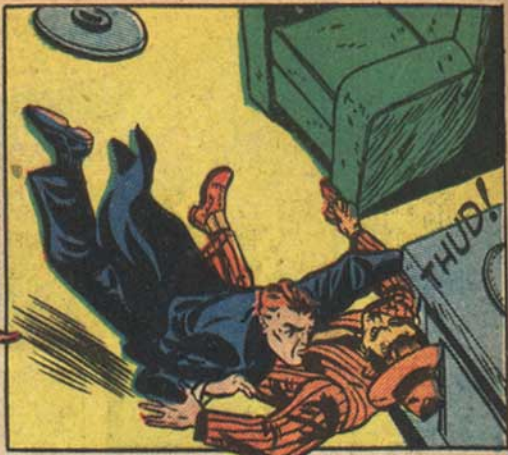


I TOLD YOU I'D PAY YOU OFF AS SOON AS I MARRY VIVIAN... SHE'S GOT PLENTY OF MONEY!



I'M NOT WAITING!.. I WANT MY DOUGH NOW! THE COPS ARE LOOKIN' FOR ME AND I GOT TO BLOW TOWN!.... I AIN'T KIDDING!

YOU FOOL!... YOU'LL RUIN EVERY-THING! GIVE ME THAT GUN!



WHAT WAS THAT?



HE'S HIT HIS HEAD ON THE DESK! HE'S DEAD, ROGER!



IT WAS AN ACCIDENT BUT THE POLICE WILL NEVER BELIEVE ME IF THEY FIND THOSE I.O.U.'S... I'VE GOT TO GET THE KEY TO HIS APARTMENT!



YOU'D BETTER LEAVE, SIR! I'LL HANDLE THIS!



HERE THEY COME NOW, SIR - HURRY!



OHH... BLANE!

ROGER, THIS MAN IS DEAD... DID YOU KILL HIM?

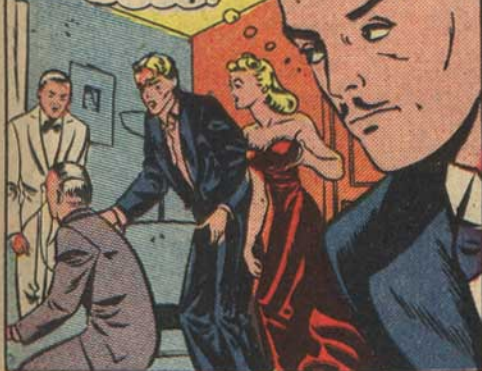
ANSWER ME, ROGER... GOOD HEAVENS, MAN, DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT YOUR SILENCE WILL MEAN?

I HEARD A NOISE... HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED?



ROGER DIDN'T ACT LIKE A MURDERER... BUT THAT MAID'S TESTIMONY SEEMED TO CLINCH IT!

ODD... YOUNG RANDOLPH'S CLOTHES ARE RUFFLED. HE LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'D BEEN IN A FIGHT!



DID YOU NOTICE HOW GUILTY RANDOLPH BLAKE LOOKED TONIGHT?

SO YOU NOTICED IT, TOO!

LATER: SO YOU THINK SLICKER AND BLAKE ARE SOMEHOW TIED TOGETHER, BLANE?

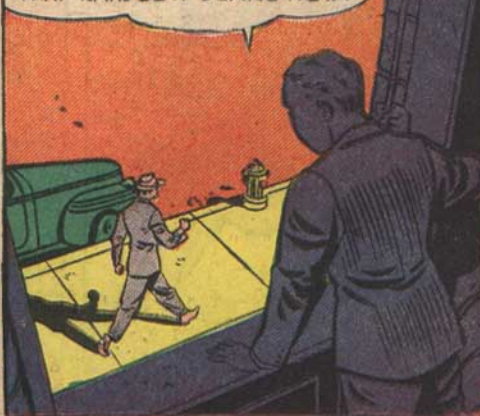
YES ROY!



AND THE WIZARD'S GOING TO CHECK ON HIS HUNCH WITH SLICKER'S GANG?



A FINE GUY THE WIZARD IS, LEAVING ME BEHIND..... SAY ISN'T THAT RANDOLPH BLAKE NOW?





IT IS..... AND HE SEEMS TO BE IN AN AWFUL HURRY! WELL, I'LL DO A LITTLE SLEUTHING ON MY OWN!



THIS IS SLICKER'S APARTMENT!



AS BLAKE HURRIEDLY RAN-SACKS THE DRAWERS, THE DOOR OPENS OMINOUSLY BEHIND.....



AND A PAIR OF FIGURES SLINK TOWARD HIM.



HELP!



I WANT TO PLAY, TOO!



WILL YOU BE MY PLAYMATE?



OH NO!

SUDDENLY, A NEW VISITOR..... ROY, THE SUPERBOY

LUCKY WE HAPPENED TO BE STAYING NEXT DOOR AND HEARD SOMEONE IN SLICKER'S APARTMENT, EH HANDSOME?

HE DIDN'T GET NOTHIN' - I GUESS IT'S OKAY!

YEAH, HANDSOME, BUT THAT OTHER GUY MAY HAVE CALLED THE COPS... IT'S TIME FOR US TO EXIT!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

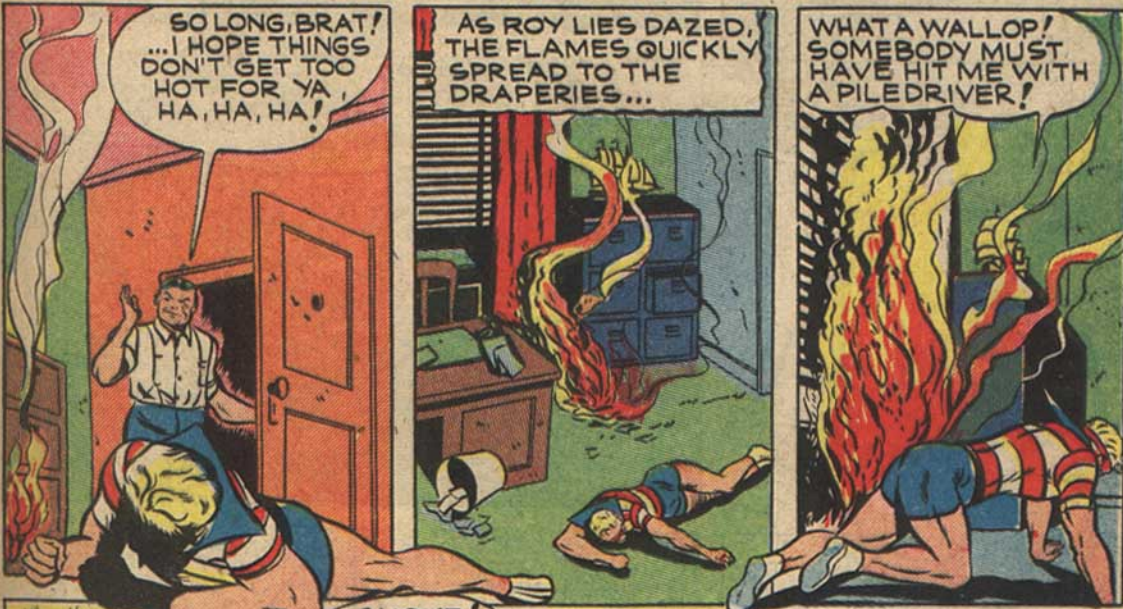
JUST MAKIN' SURE WE DON'T LEAVE BEHIND NO EVIDENCE!



SO LONG, BRAT! ... I HOPE THINGS DON'T GET TOO HOT FOR YA, HA, HA, HA!

AS ROY LIES DAZED, THE FLAMES QUICKLY SPREAD TO THE DRAPERIES...

WHAT A WALLOP! SOMEBODY MUST HAVE HIT ME WITH A PILEDRIIVER!



SMOKE!... IT'S GETTING IN MY EYES!! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE... IF I COULD ONLY SEE... WIZARD.. WIZARD!

NOW, FOR THE LAST TIME ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHERE SLICKER MORGAN KEPT HIS PRIVATE PAPERS?

MEANWHILE, THE WIZARD IS ALSO BUSY WITH SLICKER'S HOODLUMS.



I GIVE UP! EITHER THEY DON'T KNOW OR THEY JUST WON'T TALK... WAIT! SOMEONE'S TRYING TO GET THROUGH A MESSAGE TO ME!

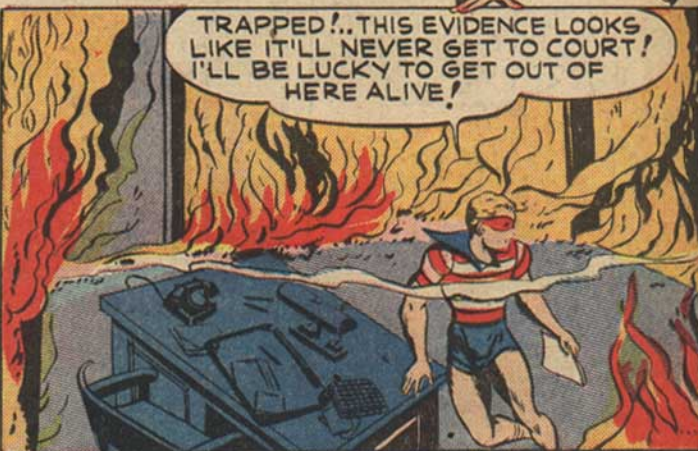


IT'S ROY!
ROY'S IN DANGER!

WHAT'S THIS?... DID THOSE CROOKS OVERLOOK SOMETHING?



RANDOLPH BLAKE'S I.O.U. - JUST THE EVIDENCE WE NEED TO TIE IN BLAKE TO THE MURDER!



TRAPPED!.. THIS EVIDENCE LOOKS LIKE IT'LL NEVER GET TO COURT! I'LL BE LUCKY TO GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!



WIZARD! IF YOU HAD A LONG WHITE BEARD I'D THINK YOU WERE SANTA CLAUS!



WE'RE NOT OUT OF THIS YET, ROY... KEEP YOUR HAND OVER YOUR EYES... I'LL CARRY YOU THROUGH!



YOU'RE GETTING A HAIR SINGE FREE OF CHARGE... I HOPE YOU APPRECIATE IT!

