

Featuring **THE BLACK HOOD**

TOP-NOTCH

NO. 27

MAY

comics 10¢

MEMBER FIAT
HARROTT



The image is a dense collage of vintage comic book covers, primarily from the mid-20th century. The covers are arranged in a grid-like fashion, overlapping slightly. Titles visible include "Supermouse", "JETTA", "MYSTERY COMICS", "FANTASTIC TALES", "COSMO CAT", "STARTLING COMICS", "STRANGE MYSTERIES", "DARING ADVENTURES", "FAMOUS FUNNIES", "HILARIOUS RAUCOUS", "TEEN-AGE SWEETHEART OF THE 21st CENTURY", "DUCK", "EERIE", "EXCITING COMICS", "CASPER CAT", "BARNYARD COMICS", and "STRANGE WORLDS". The art style is characteristic of mid-century pulp magazines, with bold colors and dynamic illustrations. Overlaid on top of this collage is a large, dark purple speech bubble with a thick black outline. Inside the bubble, the text "WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM" is written in a large, white, stylized font with a slight drop shadow effect. The overall composition suggests a digital archive or a website dedicated to classic comic books.



Special to the readers of **TOP NOTCH COMICS**

Meet the Navy

FREE!

Only to the readers of this magazine, for the first time, we will ship to you **ABSOLUTELY FREE** a series of about **FIFTY** pictures showing "you" **UNITED STATES NAVY**. Its' signs commissions and other interesting data. These magnificent pictures may be projected in the **COMICS**COPE in any size and in the exact color on any flat surface. Highly educational, interesting and up minute developments and designs of the U. S. Navy.

A NEW AMAZING INVENTION

The **COMICS**COPE is a camera **PROJECTOR** that measures seven inches long, seven inches deep and three inches wide. By attaching it to any electrical lamp or socket which you have at home, AC or DC current it is ready for use. Any one can operate it easily. All pictures, comic magazine strips, newspaper comics, daily and Sunday newspapers, can be used as "film" in the **COMICS**COPE and flashed on the wall or screen. You can draw your own pictures, make your own "film" and project them. Now you can take your own Hollywood screen tests by projecting your own and family snap shots. There are no coupons to save. Astonish your friends and win new popularity. Give picture parties, charge admission, make money.



NOT A TOY - BUT A REAL PROJECTOR

11 1/2" x 7" x 3" (approx.)

Original size of the **COMICS**COPE is seven inches long, seven inches deep and three inches wide.

SCREEN YOUR FAVORITE COMIC CHARACTERS IN FULL COLOR

HOW TO GET YOUR "MEET THE NAVY" PICTURES **ABSOLUTELY FREE!!**

By simply cutting the coupon or making a facsimile of it, mail together with twenty-five cents in coin, plus a three cent stamp for handling and shipping, and you will receive, absolutely free about **FIFTY** pictures, of "MEET THE NAVY" together with a **GIANT CAMERA COMICS**COPE projector. Everything else included, tube, lens. Act immediately, send the coupon and you will get your pictures and **COMICS**COPE quickly.

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(Offer good in U.S.A. only. In Canada 5¢ extra)



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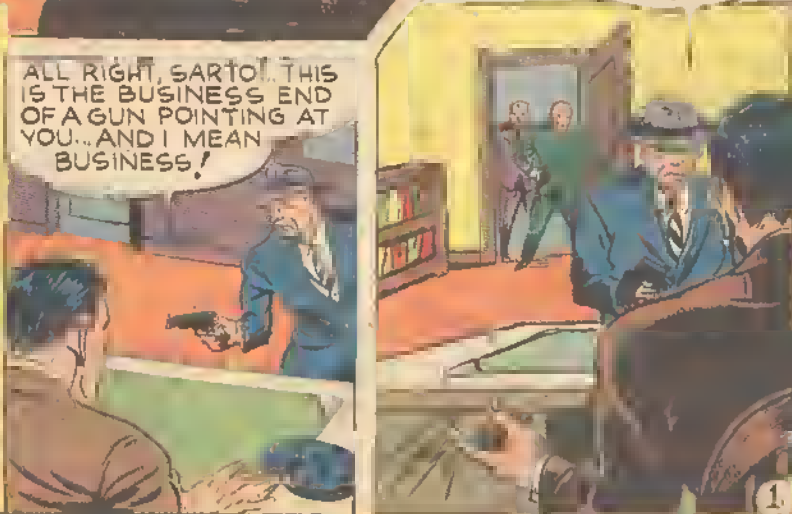
BLACK HOOD



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!

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



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—
OH HHHH!

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!



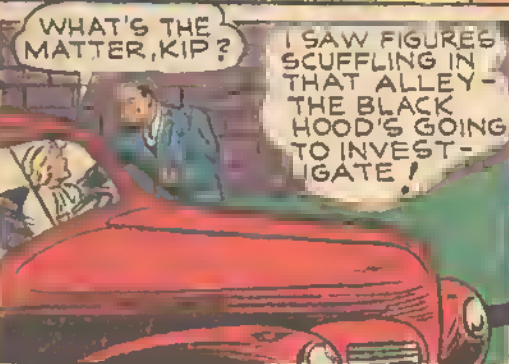
AT THAT MOMENT KIP BURLAND AND
BARBARA ARE PASSING THE ALLEY-
WAY—

BARBARA!
STOP THE
CAR!

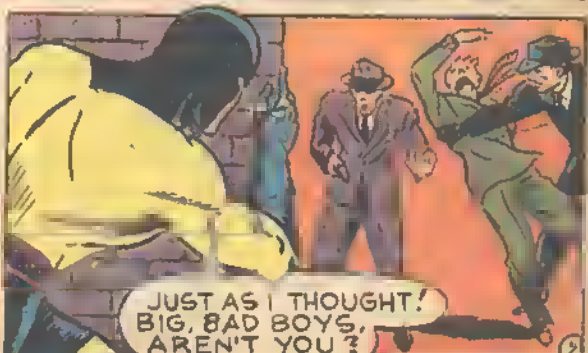


WHAT'S THE
MATTER, KIP?

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
?

OW

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!

HALP! GET ME
DOWN OUTTA
HERE!

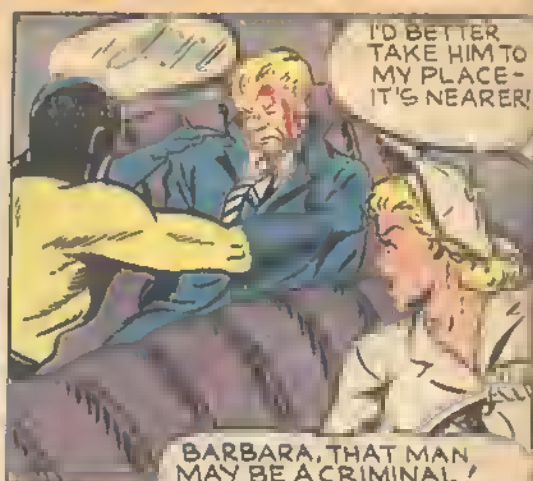
BARBARA! I THOUGHT I TOLD
YOU TO WAIT IN THE CAR!

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

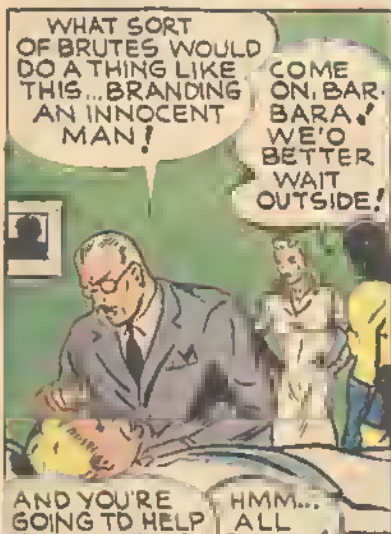
THIS MAN'S BADLY HURT
... WE'VE GOT TO GET
HIM TO A
DOCTOR,
QUICKLY!
COME
ON-USE
MY CAR!



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



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



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

COME
ON, BAR-
BARA!
WE'VE
BETTER
WAIT
OUTSIDE!



THIS MAN
IS IN A
CRITICAL
CONDITION...
HE NEEDS A
GREAT DEAL
OF ATTEN-
TION!

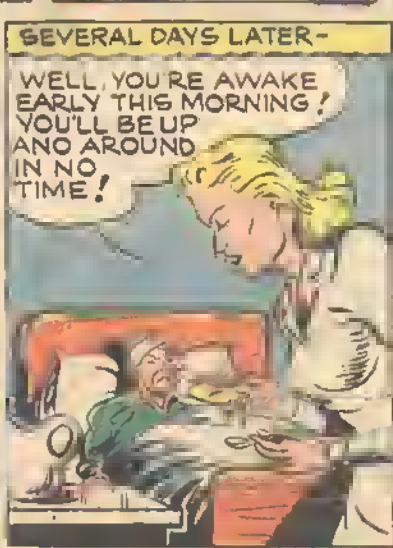
THAT'S
ALL RIGHT,
DOCTOR!
I'LL LOOK
AFTER
HIM!

BARBARA, THAT MAN
MAY BE A CRIMINAL!
YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE
YOURSELF RE-
SPONSIBLE!
OR NOT, HE'S A HUM-
AN BEING-AND I'M
DETERMINED
TO HELP HIM!



AND YOU'RE
GOING TO HELP
HIM TOO, HODD.
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 FUSSIN'
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!



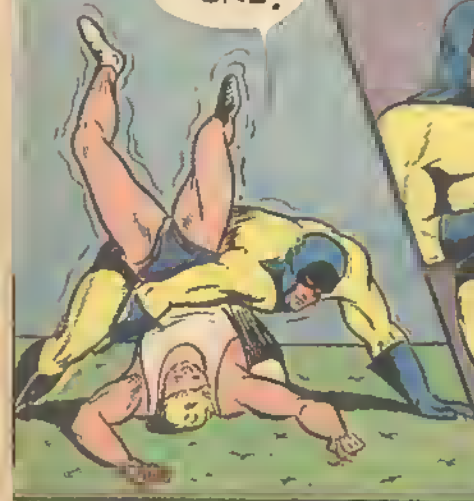
**DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WE FIND
DINKY NOLAN LEARNING FROM THE BLACK
HOOD, A FEW OF HIS MANY SECRETS--**

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

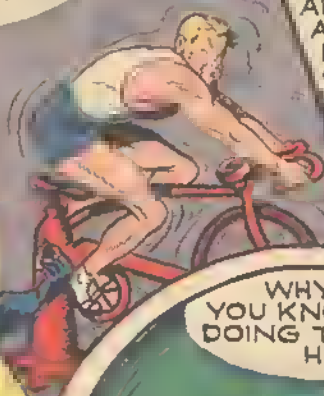


COME ON, DINKY!
ONLY TWENTY
MORE MILES!

THIS IS
A GOOD
ONE!

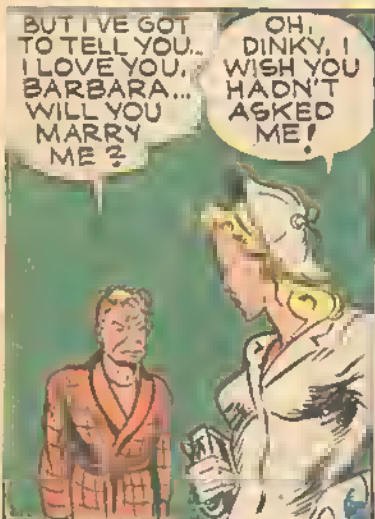
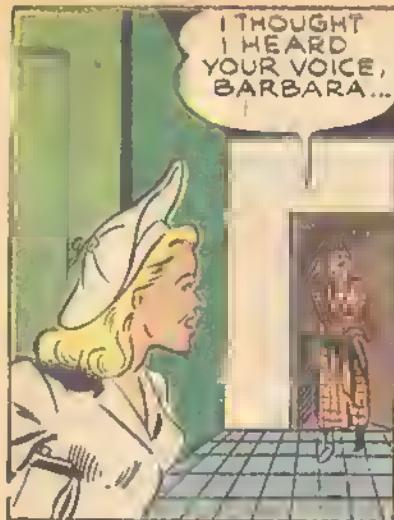


I DON'T
THINK YOU
HAVE TO BE
AFRAID OF
ANYONE
NOW,
DINKY!



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





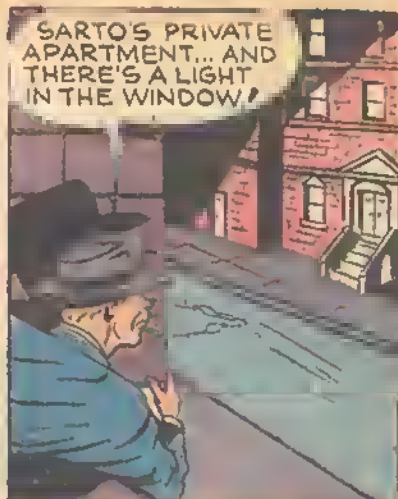
LATER...



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?

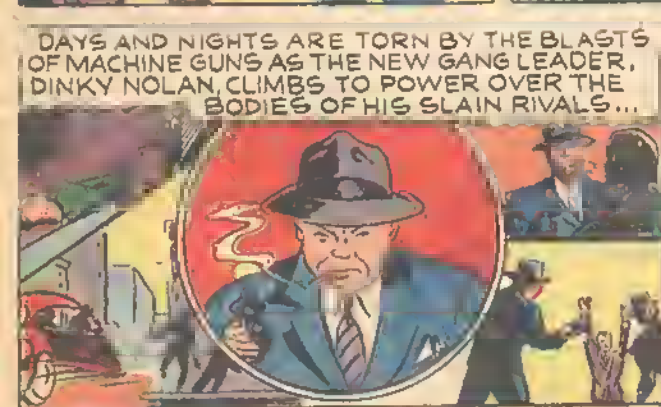
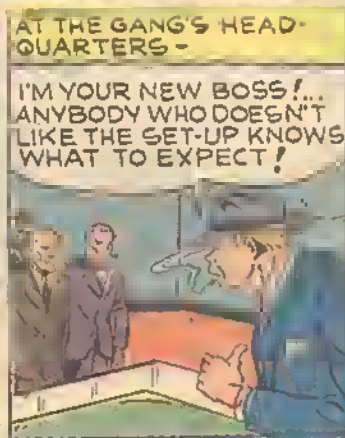


DINKY
NOLAN!



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





IT DOES SEEM AS
THOUGH WE'VE CREAT-
ED 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.



BLACK
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 CRACK-
ING 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!

AN 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!

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
BOTHER,
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 HOLO
HIM - BECAUSE I'M
PUTTING UP A
BAIL-BONO
FOR HIS
RELEASE
RIGHT NOW!

HA, HA, HA!
S'LDNG, 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'S CHA GETTIN' AT?



YOU'VE BECOME A GANGSTER ONLY TO SHOW ME YOU CAN BECOME A BIG-SHOT. DIDN'T YOU? PLEASE BE HONEST



WITH ME DINKY!

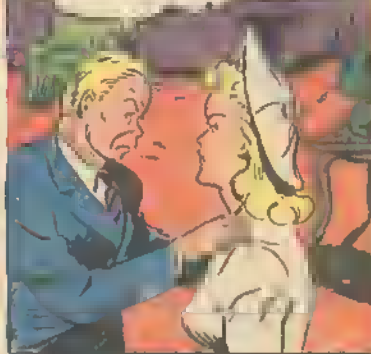
ALL RIGHT! SUPPOSE I DIO. I AM A BIG-SHOT, AIN'T I? NO-BOODY CAN CALL ME A PUNK AGAIN!



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 GOOD!



SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, DINKY? YOU'VE DOUBLED-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!



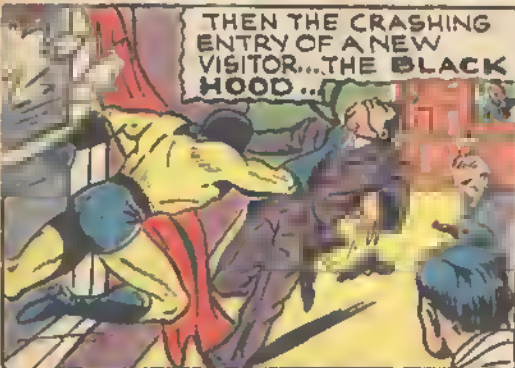
WELL, C'MON, KNOCK ME OFF - IF YOU CAN!



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...

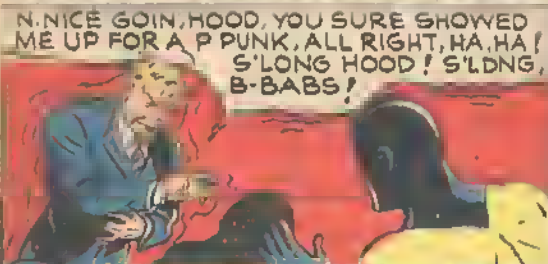


OOOH! THEY GOT ME!



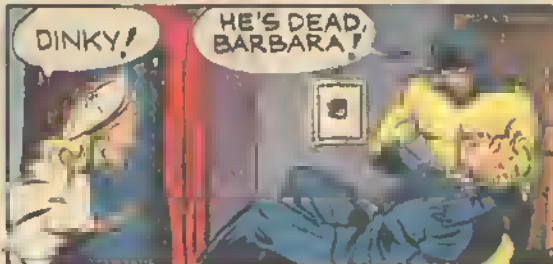
I'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE, DINKY!

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

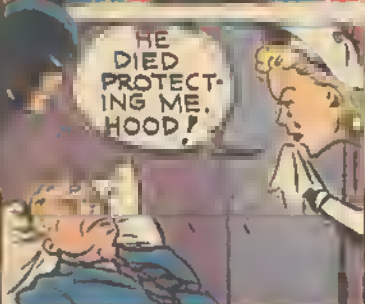


DINKY!

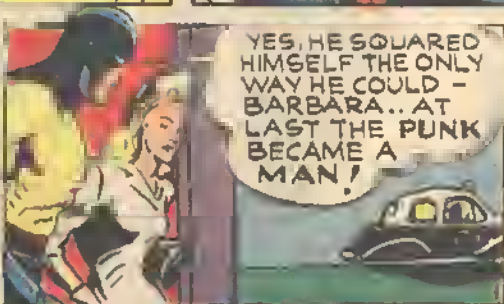
HE'S DEAD, BARBARA!



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
HE 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"

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!

NEW! DIFFERENT!!!

WEB

IS HE??

SHOCK OF YOUR LIFE!

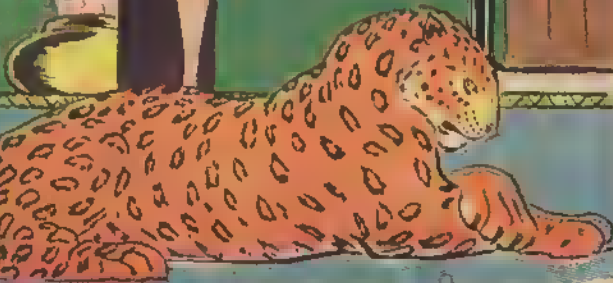
OKAY,
WIZARD,
RING UP THE
CURTAIN-AND
LET 'ER
RIP!

WE PREDICT
THAT THE
WEB WILL
TAKE THE
NATION BY
STORM!
A NEW
HIGH IN
COMIC EN-
TERTAIN-
MENT!

THE WEB *appears in* JULY ZIP

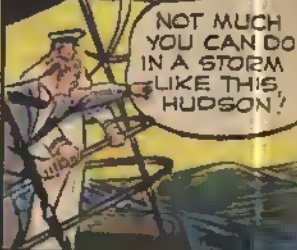
THE FIREFLY

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!!!



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!!!

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



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

A FEW MOMENTS LAT-
ER-----



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 ----

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

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

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

THE EXHAUSTED MEN TRY TO REST. HOWEVER--

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

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

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!

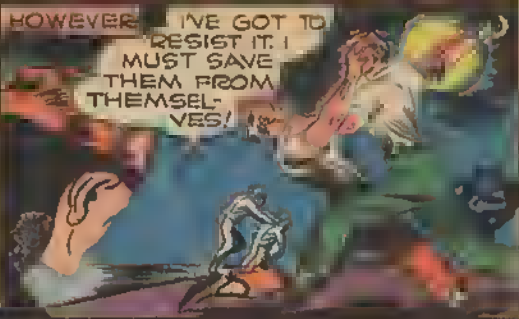
SPELLBOUND, THE SURVIVORS GAZE AT THE MOON, UNTIL ----

BEY!
KILLS!
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
THEMSELVES!



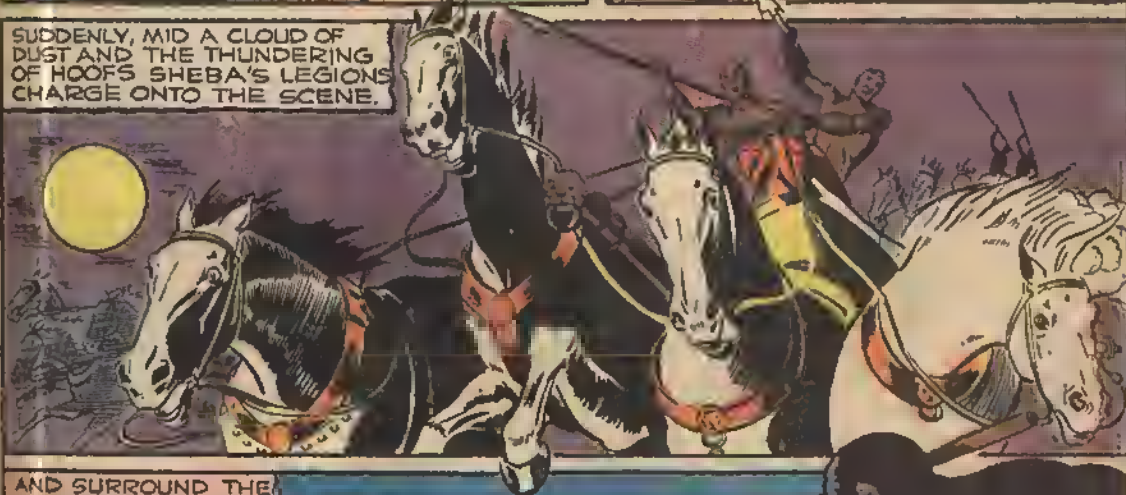
STOP THAT, KEEP CALM,
GET HOLD OF YOURSELVES



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

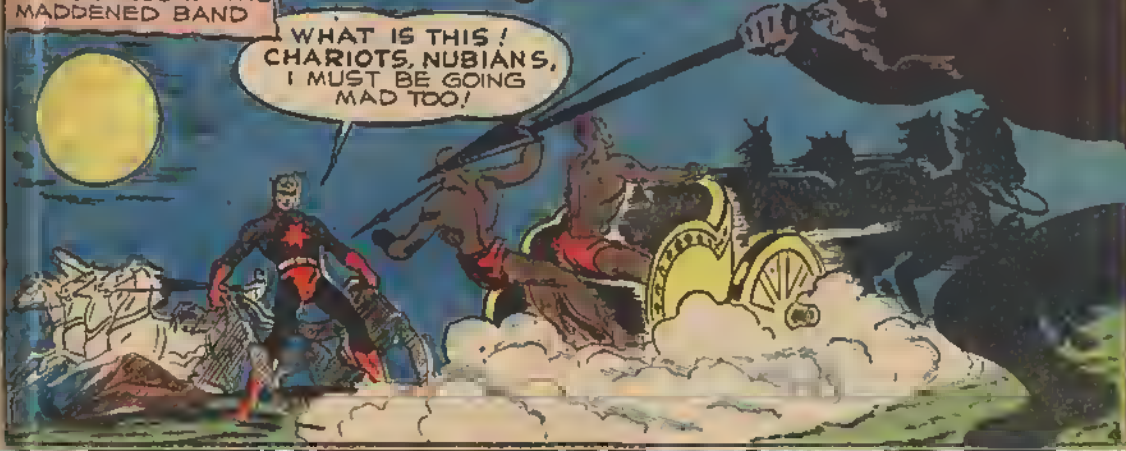


SUDDENLY, MID A CLOUD OF
DUST AND THE THUNDERING
OF HOOFS SHEBA'S LEGIONS
CHARGE ONTO THE SCENE.



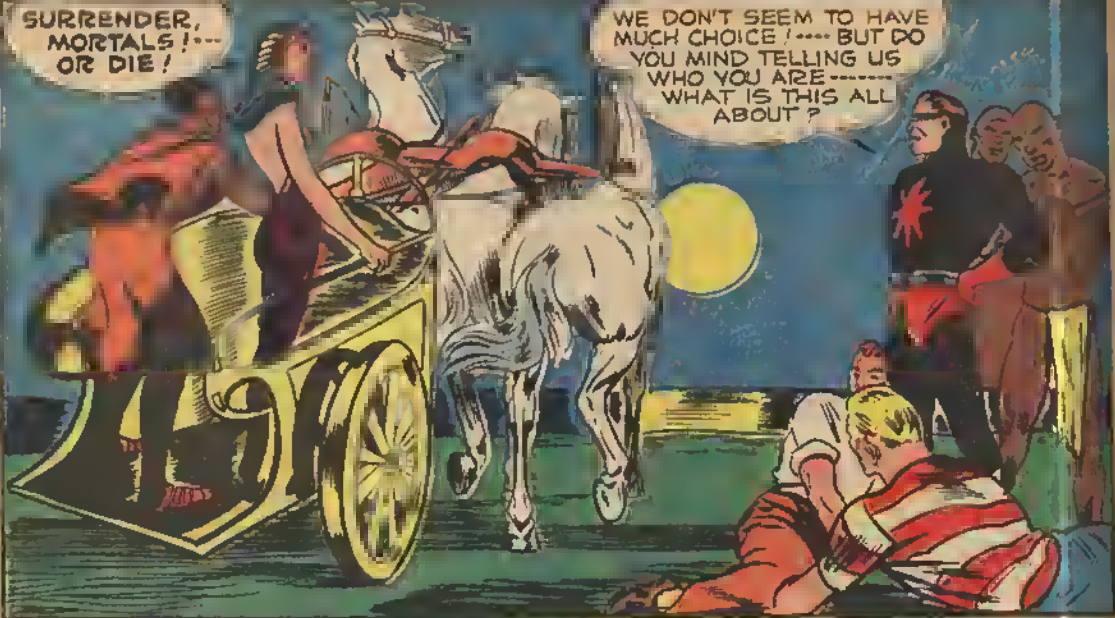
AND SURROUND THE
MADDENED BAND

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



SURRENDER,
MORTALS!----
OR DIE!

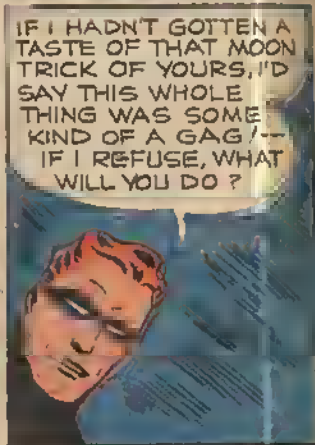
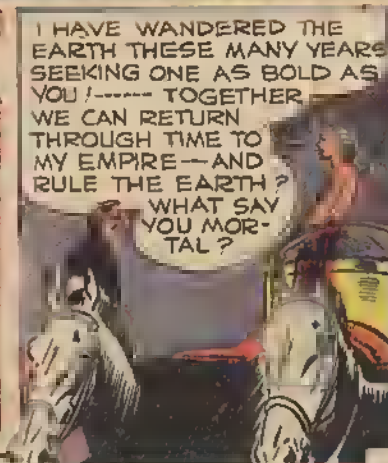
WE DON'T SEEM TO HAVE
MUCH CHOICE!---- BUT DO
YOU MIND TELLING US
WHO YOU ARE-----
WHAT IS THIS ALL
ABOUT?



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!

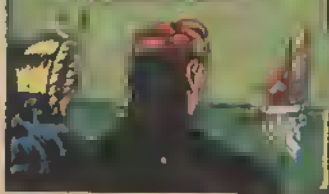
ALLRIGHT!---THEIR
LIVES MEAN NOTH-
ING TO ME. IT
IS ONLY YOU
I WANT!



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.

KARDAK

THE 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!

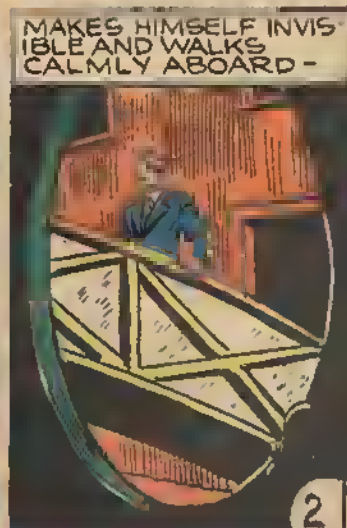
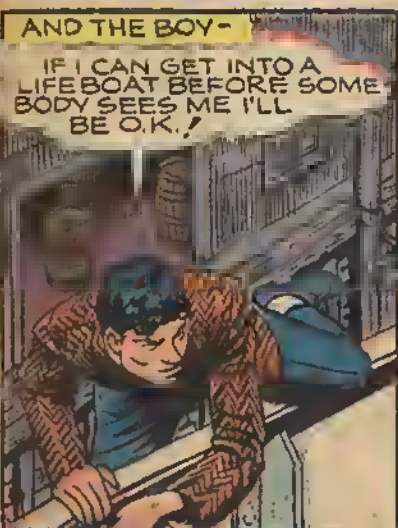
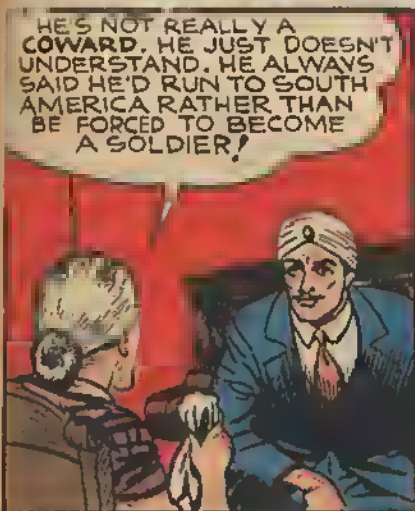
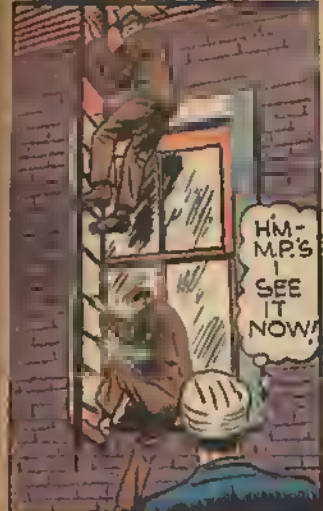
I DON'T WANT TO GO TO THE ARMY!! I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANYBODY! I'M NOT MAD AT ANYBODY!

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 STOWAWAY
THAN A SOLDIER!



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



HALF WAY TO SOUTH AMERICA A SHIP STEAMS OMINU-
SLY 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!



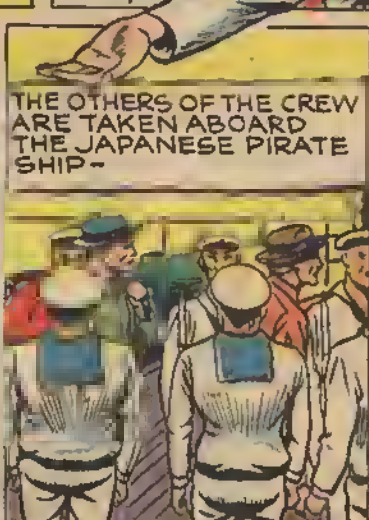
...AND THE VICTORIOUS ONE
LEARNS TO BE RUTHLESS!
WE HAVE NO USE FOR
SENTIMENTAL FOOLS
LIKE YOU, EITHER!



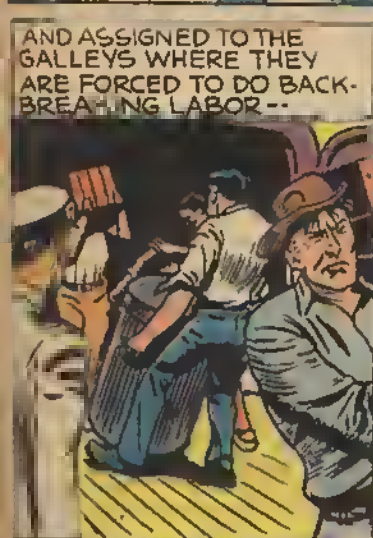
NO!
PLEASE!
HAVE MERCY!
SPARE ME!



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!

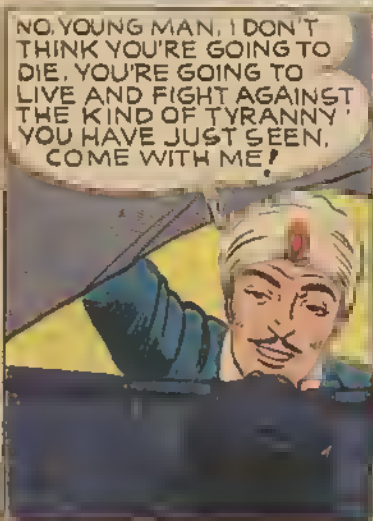
OH! I
CAN'T
SIR—I
CAN'T
LIFT IT!



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

HERE!
LET ME
HELP
YOU!





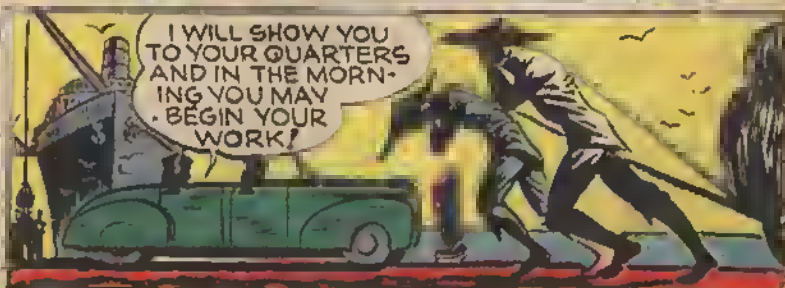
KEITH KORNELL



WUE, 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 KORNELL!

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!

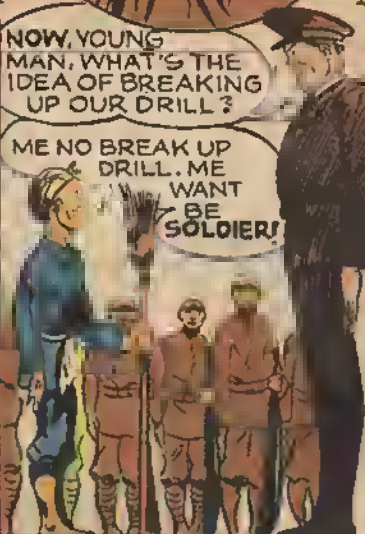


AS THE TROOP
BEGINS TO DRILL,
A SMALL BOY IS
SEEN FOLLOW-
ING ALONG-

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-

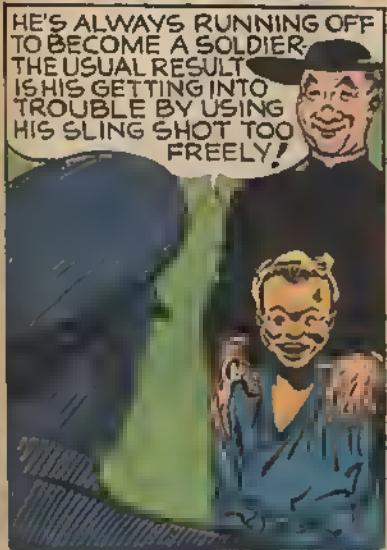


LICHEE WAN
WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN?
YOU'VE HAD
US ALL
WORRIED!

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 CONFUCIOUS! THOSE GUYS ARE RUNNING AROUND LIKE CHICKENS WITHOUT HEADS!



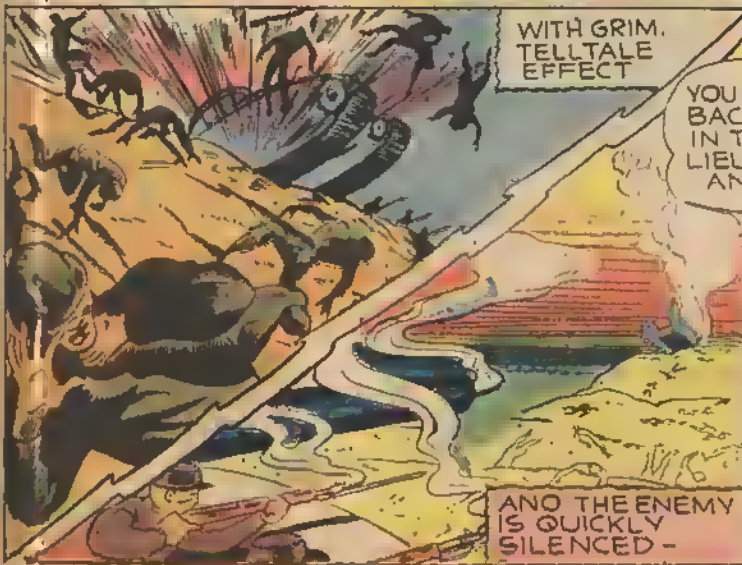
COME ON, MEN, GET TO YOUR POSTS DOUBBLE TIME!



SOON THE CHINESE GUNS ARE BLASTING AWAY IN ORDERLY FASHION-



WITH GRIM, TELLTALE EFFECT



YOU COME BACK JUST IN TIME, LIEUTENANT!

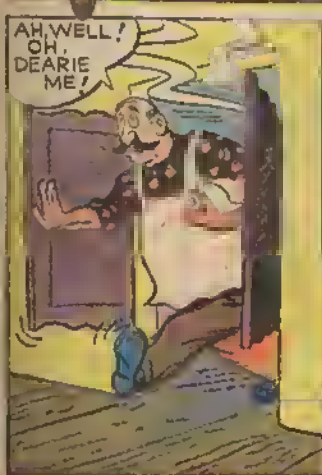
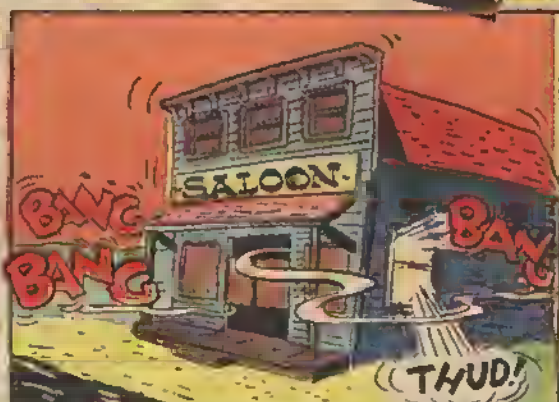
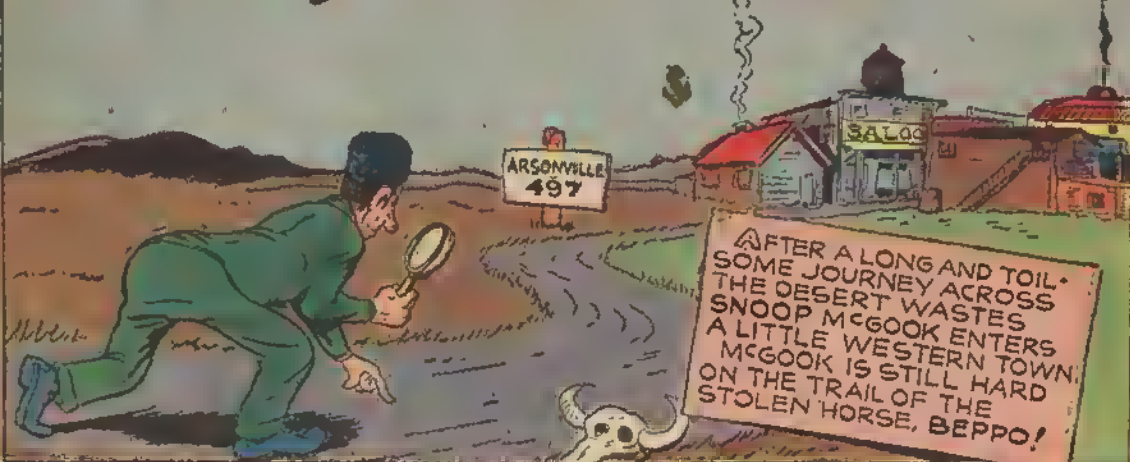
YES, THANKS TO THIS SPUNKY RASCAL! WELL, WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET! THOSE JAPS WILL BE BACK IN FULL FORCE SOON!

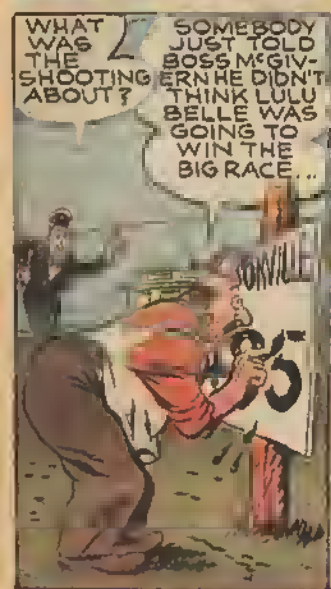
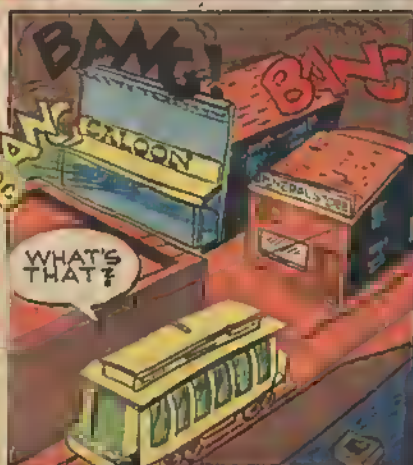


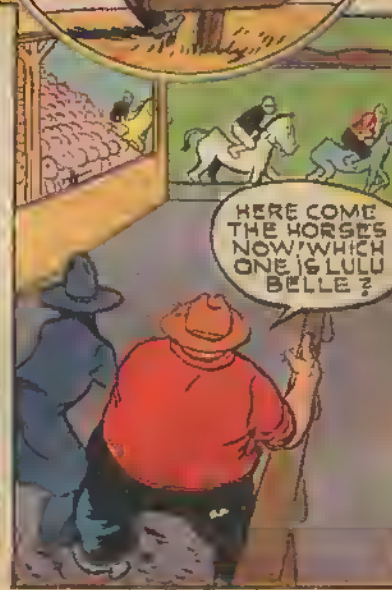
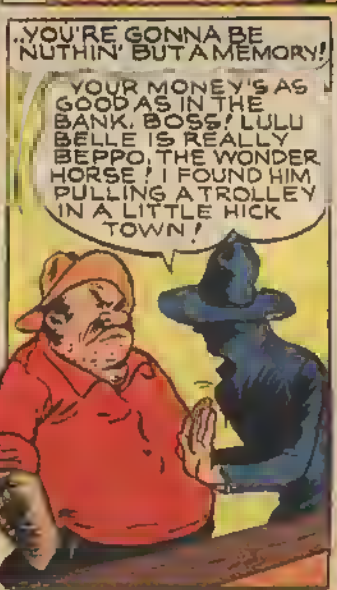
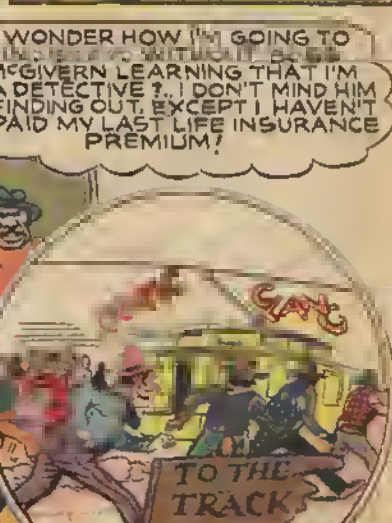
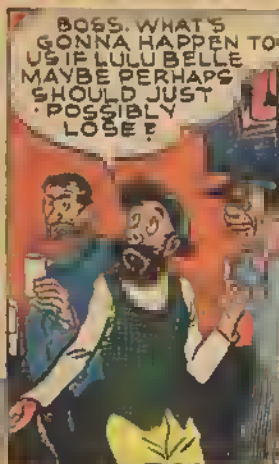
AND THE ENEMY IS QUICKLY SILENCED-

SNOOP MCGOOK

The SOUPY SLEUTH....





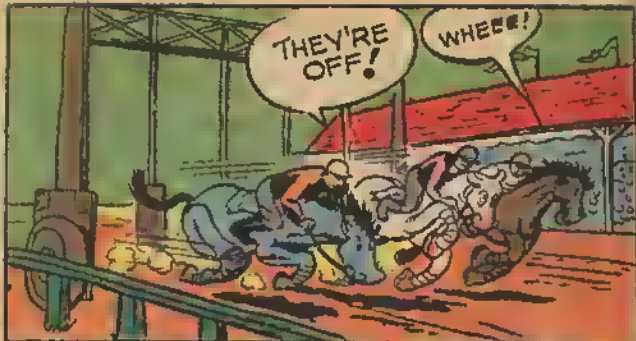


LULU BELLE
LOOKS OKAY
TO ME, SHLUMP!



THEY'RE
OFF!

WHERE?



LULU BELLE'S LEAD-
ING!... THEM OTHER
NAGS LOOK LIKE
THEY GOT RHEUMA-
TISM!

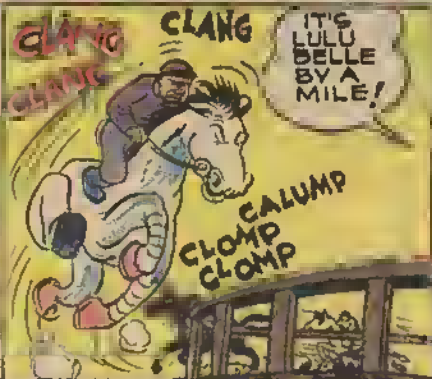


CLANG
CLANG

CLANG

IT'S
LULU
BELLE
BY A
MILE!

CLUMP
CLUMP
CLUMP



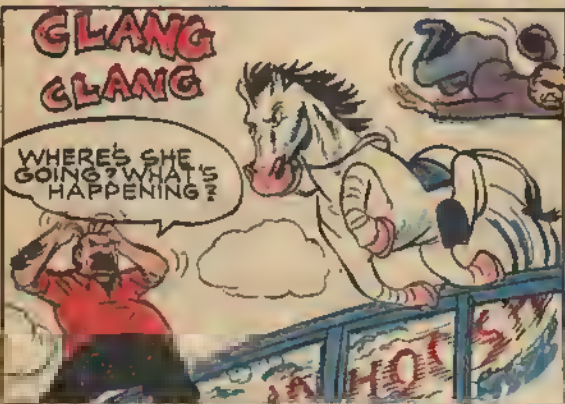
SUDDENLY-

CLANG



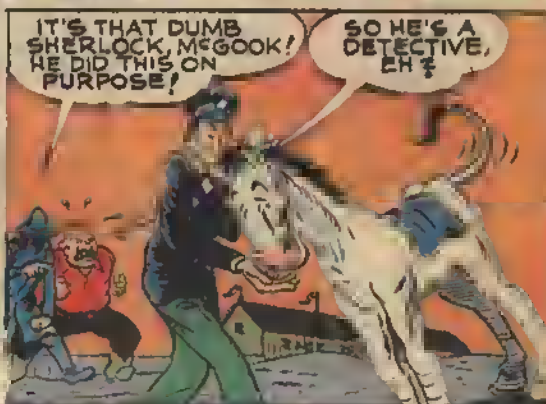
GLANG
GLANG

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

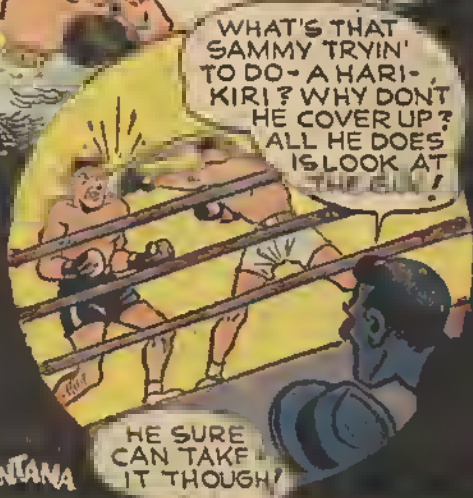
MARKS THE SPOT
AND SNOOP MCGOOK
THE DEFECTIVE
DETECTIVE IS AL-
WAYS ON IT!
BUY THE NEXT
TOP NOTCH
AND SEE HOW HE
GETS OUT OF THIS
ONE - - - - -
IF HE DOES!

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".....



WHAT'S THAT SAMMY TRYIN' TO DO - A HARI-KIRI? WHY DONT HE COVER UP? ALL HE DOES IS LOOK AT THE FLOOR!

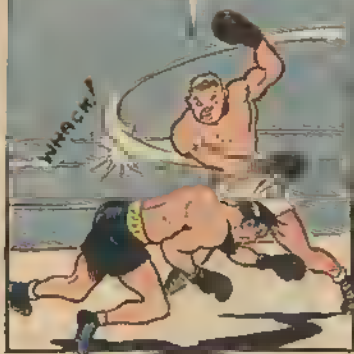
HE SURE CAN TAKE IT THOUGH!

by MONTANA

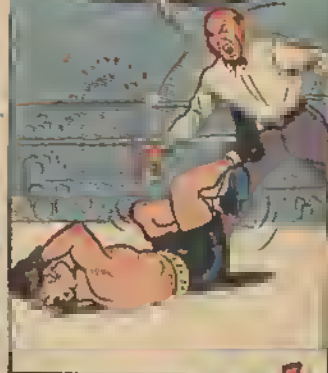
I'LL CONCENTRATE ON HIS RIGHT EYE! NOW I CONTROL YOUR REASON-OUR THOUGHTS ARE PARALLEL-YOUR RIGHT ARM IS PARALYZED-YOU **CAN'T** THROW THAT RIGHT!



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!

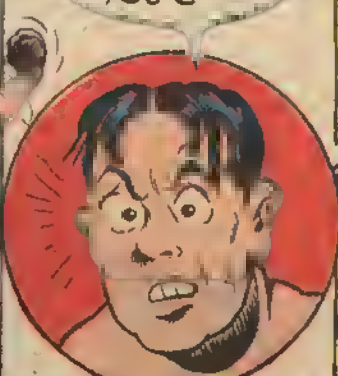


TRY AGAIN... YOU'RE UNDER MY CONTROL... LOOK INTO MY EYES!

DIS IS GONNA HOIT YOUSE MORE THAN ME!



I AM YOUR MASTER! YOU CAN'T THROW THAT RIGHT! YOU C---



SOCK!

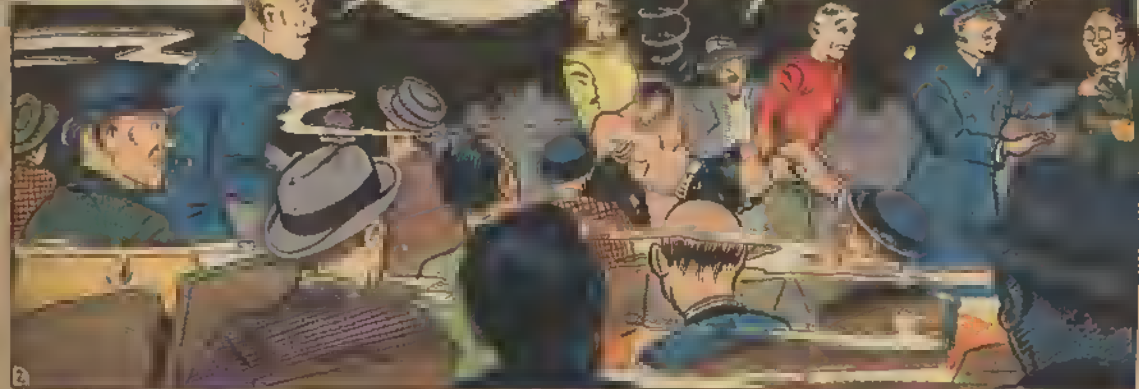


AT THE RINGSIDE, AN ARDENT GOLDEN GLOVES FAN, HIMSELF JIM JENNINGS, THE FAMOUS ST. LOUIS KIO...

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...FOUNO HE HAD A GLASS EYE!

WHAT

SEE! SEE! NO WONDER IT OION'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...

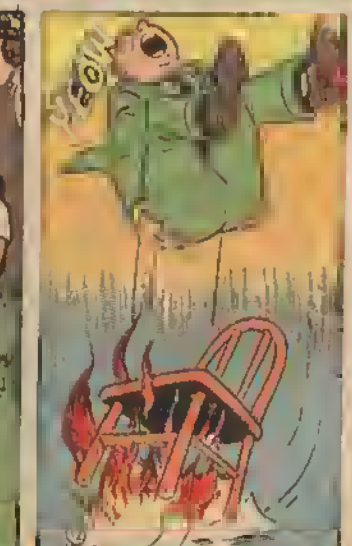
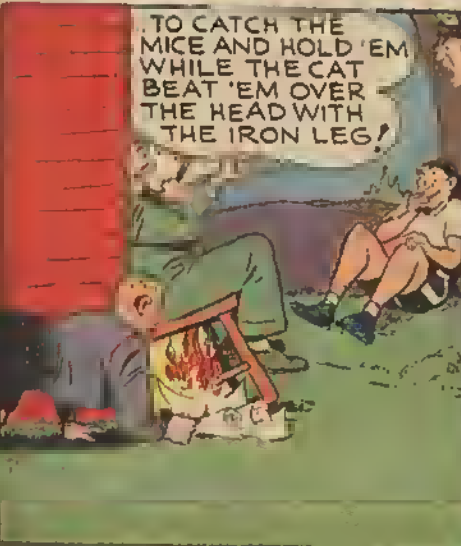
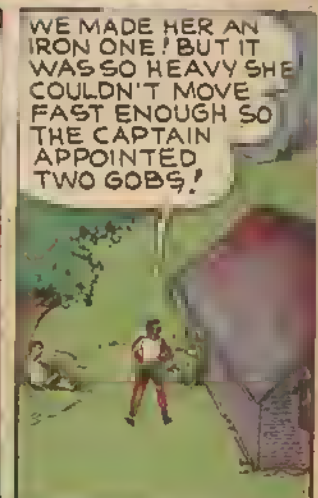
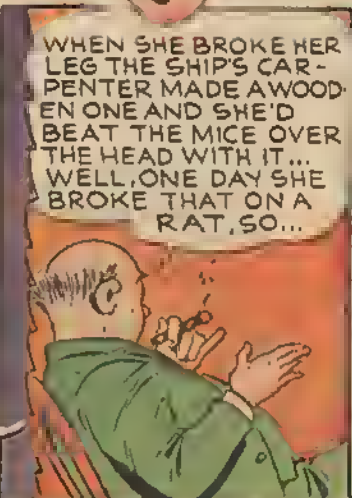
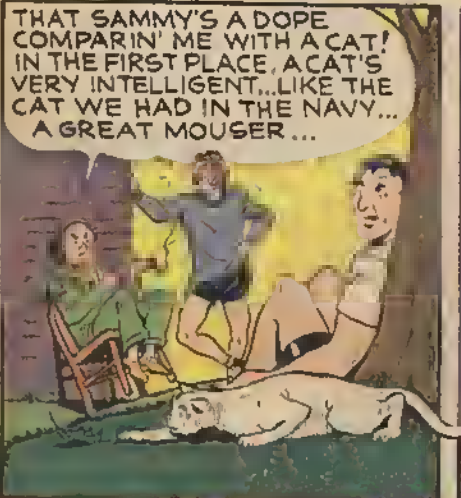
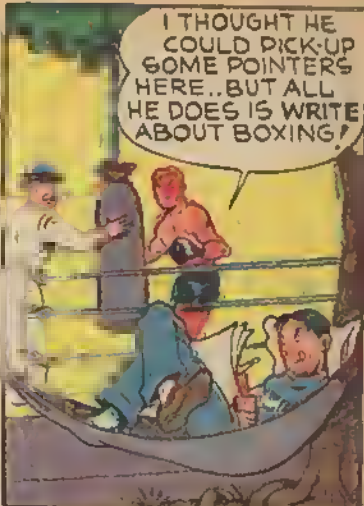
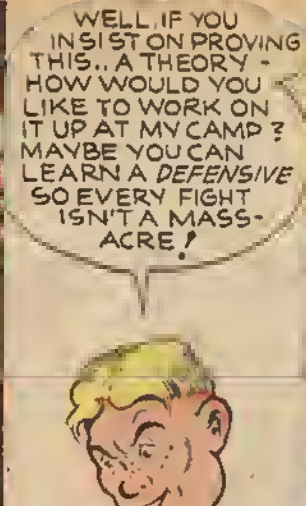
IN COMES POP MALLOY.

WHAT'S COOKIN'?

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

HELP! BOOMP

THREE!

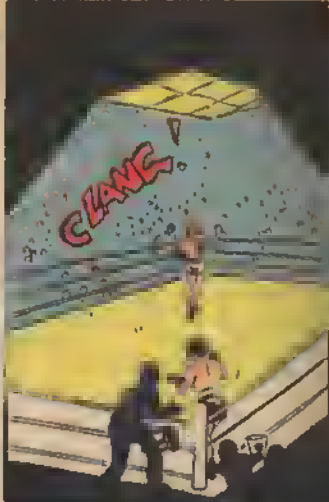
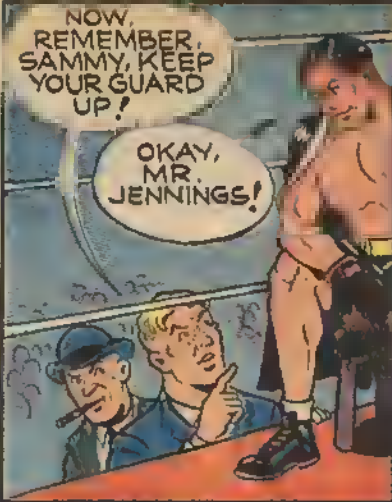


JIM! SAMMY INSISTS ON TRYING OUT HIS THEORY AGAIN SO I GOT HIM A PRELIMINARY BOUT AT THE GARDEN TOMORROW NIGHT!



NOW, REMEMBER, SAMMY, KEEP YOUR GUARD UP!

OKAY, MR. JENNINGS!

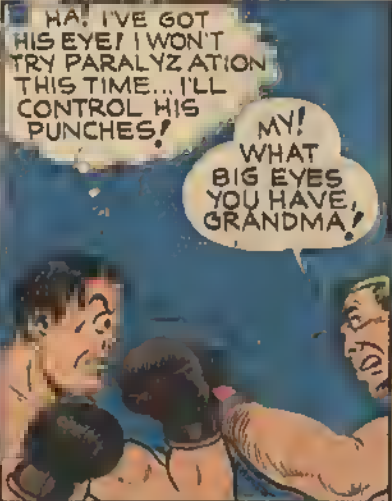


HERE'S THE FIRST PRELIMINARY, FOLKS, AND WHAT D'YA KNOW, IT'S SAMMY FINAL, THE COLLEGE CRACKPOT, WHO THINKS HE CAN HYPNOTIZE HIS OPPONENTS!



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

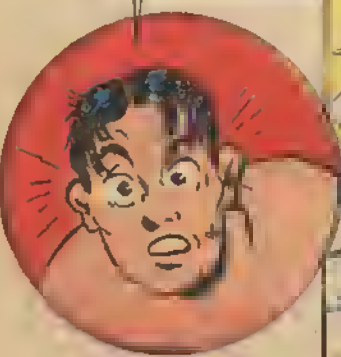
MY! WHAT BIG EYES YOU HAVE, GRANDMA!



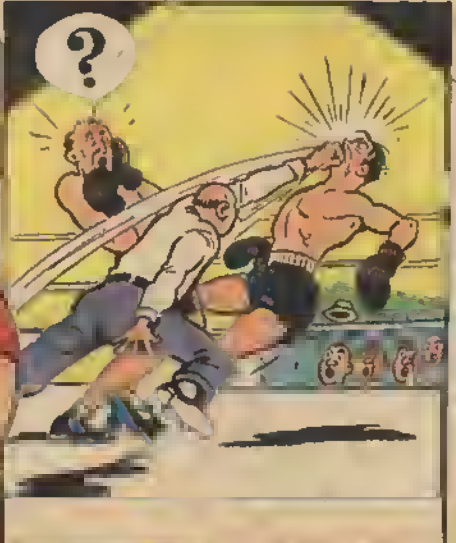
ALL THE BETTER TO CLOSE!



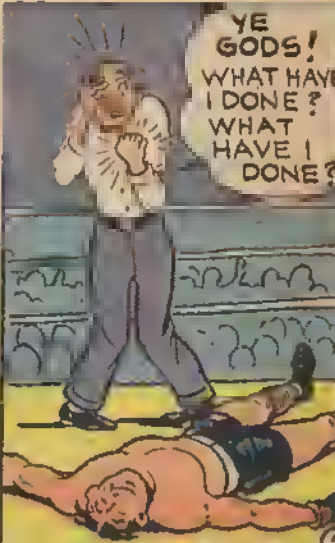
I HAVE YOU IN MY POWER! THROW A LEFT! THROW A LEFT-A LEFT!

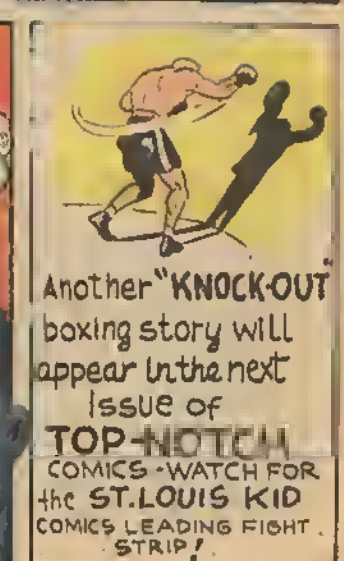
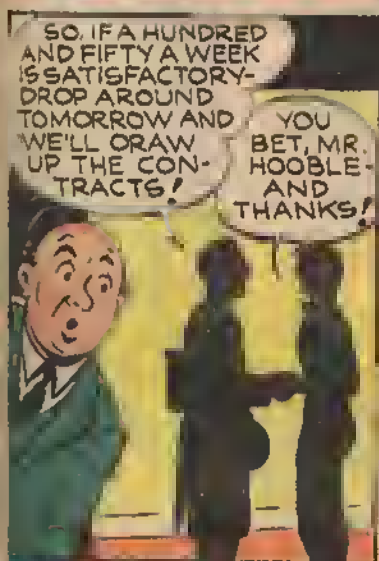
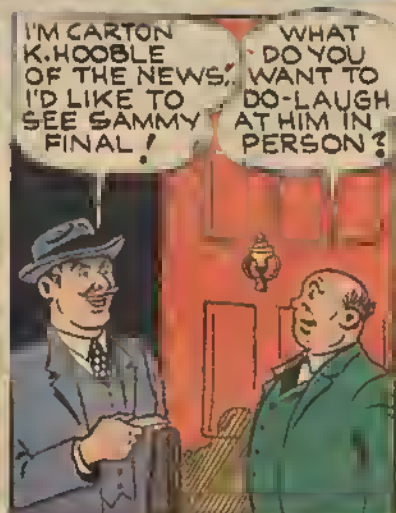
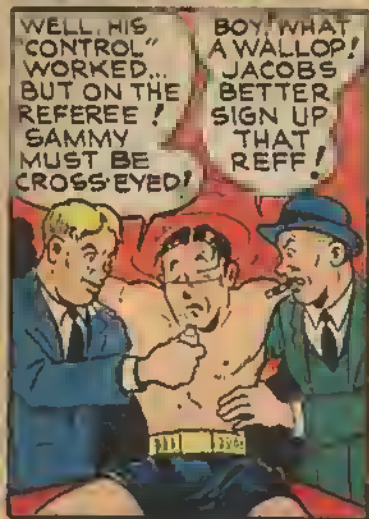


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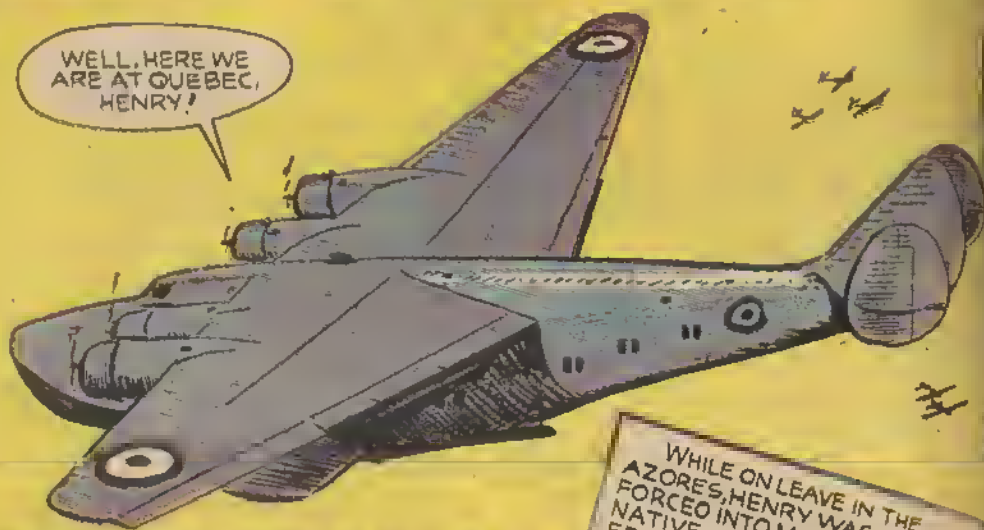
YE GODS! WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT HAVE I DONE?





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 ENGINEERED 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?

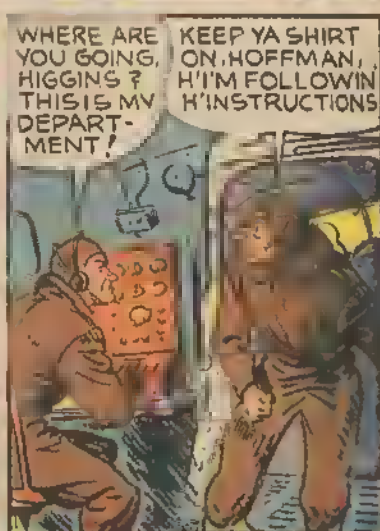
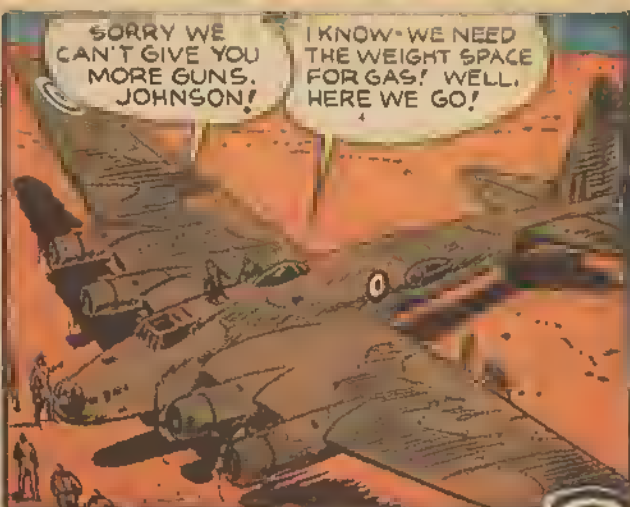


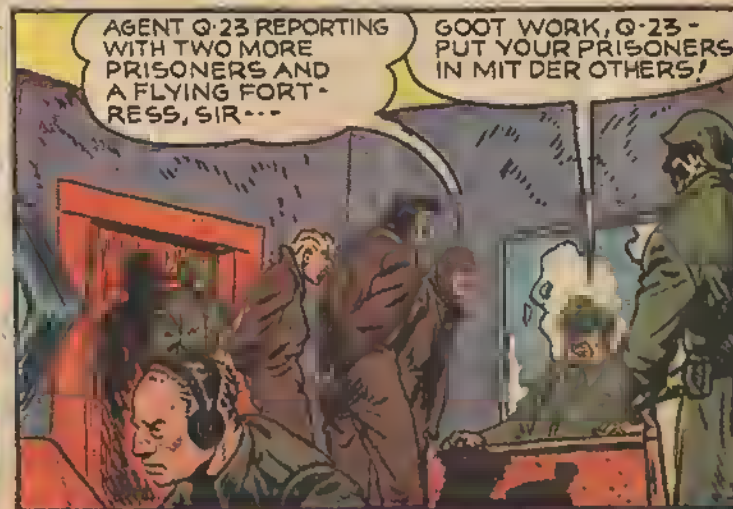
WELL, YOUR RECORD SHOWS YOU CAN HANDLE ANY KIND OF SHIP. HOW ABOUT BEING USEFUL BESIDES ORNAMENTAL AND FLYING A BOMBER BACK TO ENGLAND?



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!





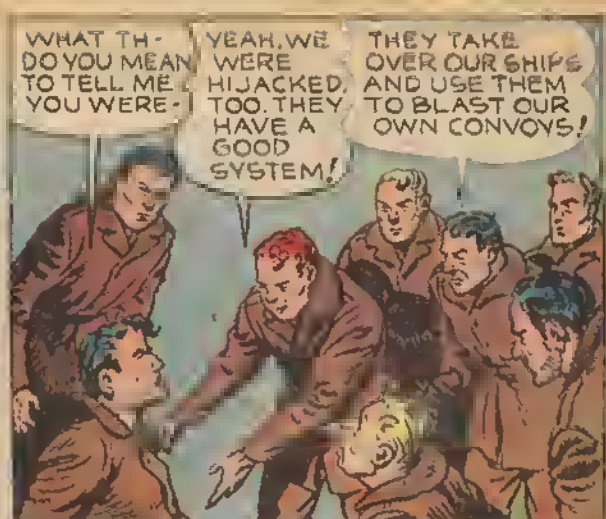




GET IN
DERE MIT
DER REST
OF YOUR
ILK!

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

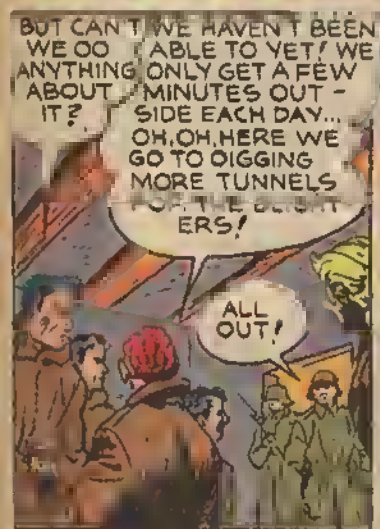
WELCOME TO
THE ATLANTIC
FERRY SER-
VICE CLUB,
YOU SUCKERS!



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 HAVEN'T BEEN
WE OO ABLE TO YET! WE
ANYTHING ONLY GET A FEW
ABOUT IT? MINUTES OUT -

OH, OH, HERE WE
GO TO DIGGING
MORE TUNNELS
FOR THE DEATH
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!



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 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?

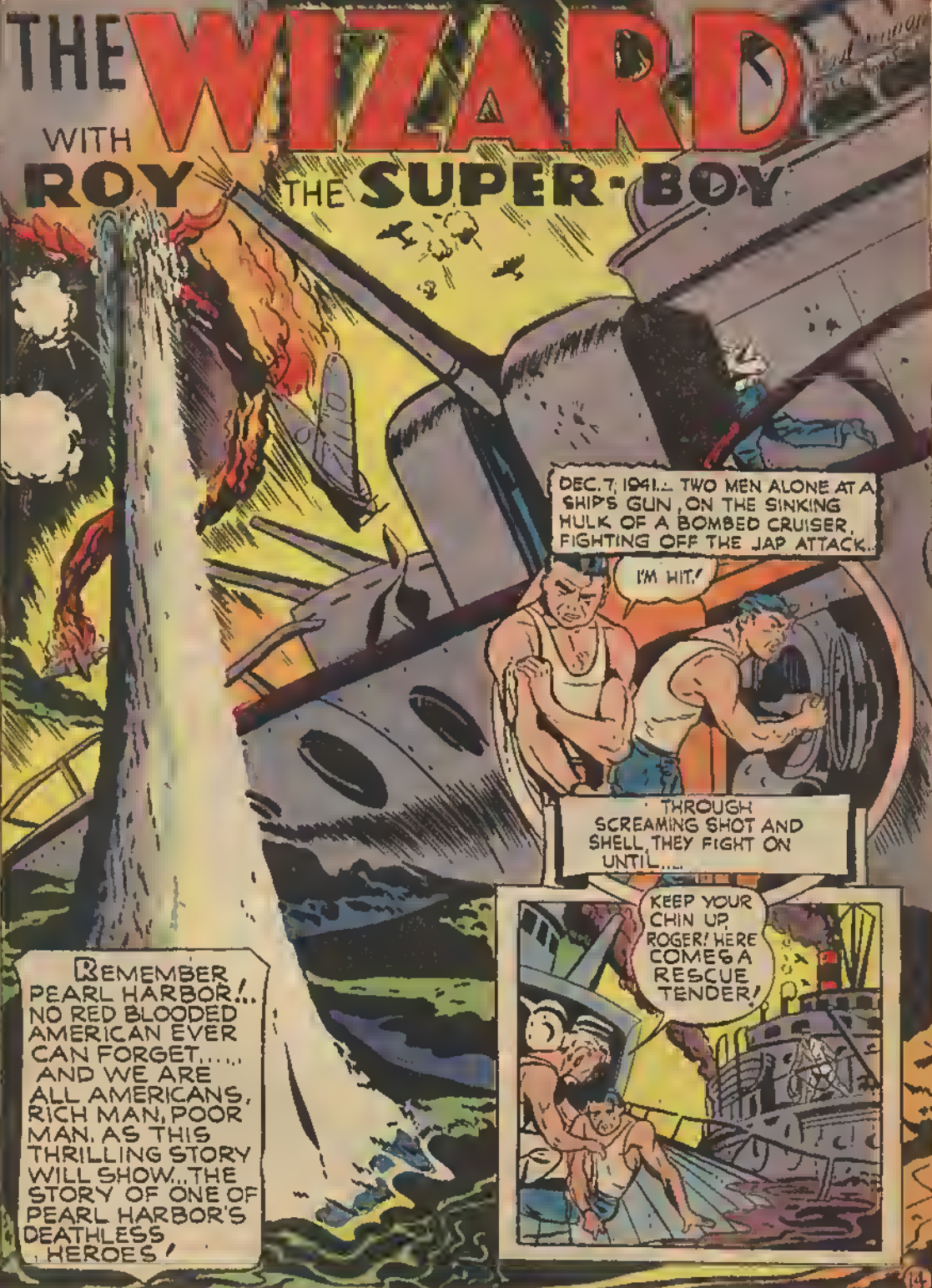
I'M AFRAID NOT, HENRY! INSTRUCTIONS ONLY MENTIONED ME! WELL, GOODBYE, OLD PAL!



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

THE WIZARD

WITH
ROY THE SUPER-BOY



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...

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!

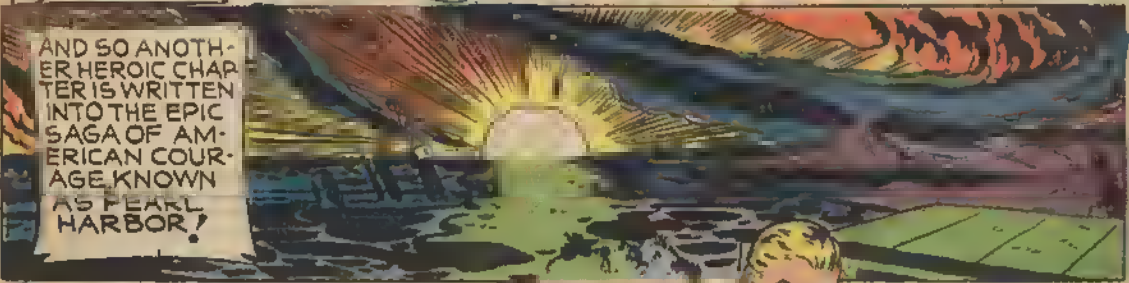
KEEP YOUR CHIN UP, ROGER! HERE COMES A RESCUE TENDER!



AREN'T YOU COMING?
NO!

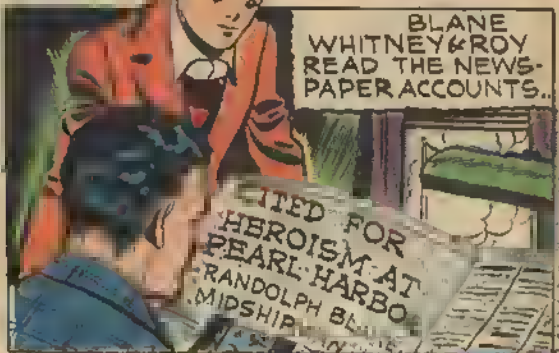
AS THE SHIP SETTLES TO HER WATERY GRAVE, THE YOUNG GUNNER STANDS HIS POST ALONE...UNTIL DEATH --

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!

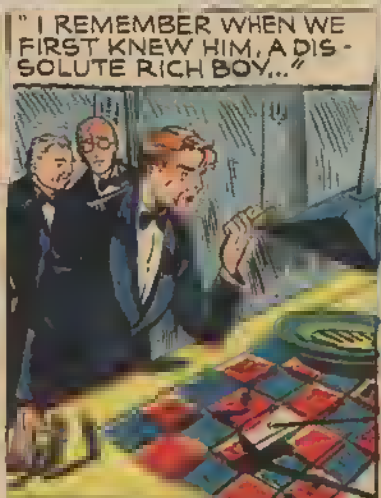
I HAVE CALLED THE COLOR GUARD IN HONOR OF RANDOLPH BLAKE, A HERO WHO DIED IN AN ACTION ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY... BUGLER, SOUND TAPS!



BLANE WHITNEY & ROY READ THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS...



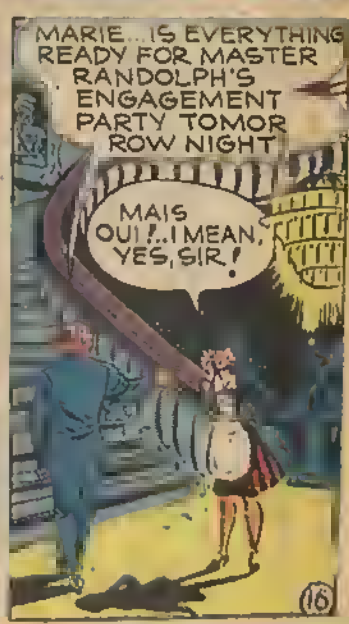
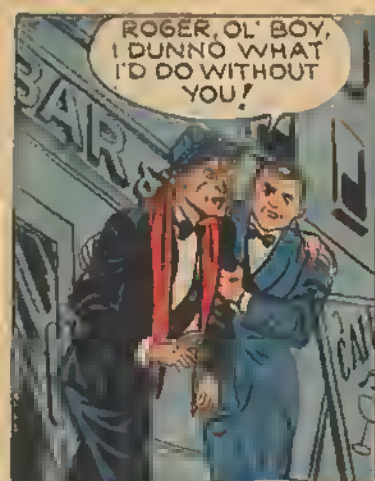
WELL, ROY...THE STORY OF RANDOLPH BLAKE HAD A GLORIOUS ENDING, AFTER ALL!



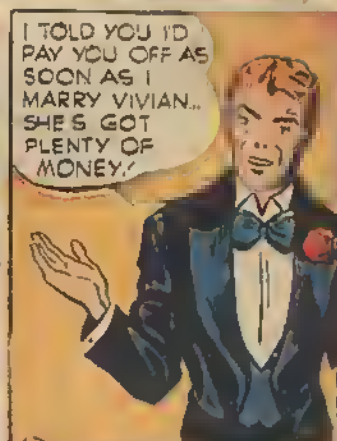
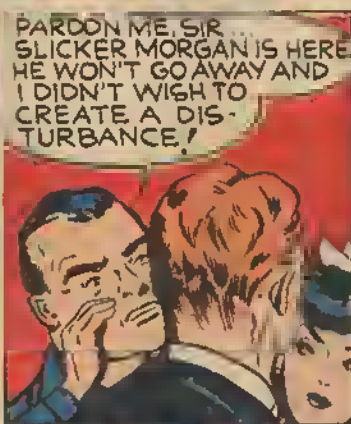
"I REMEMBER WHEN WE FIRST KNEW HIM, A DIS-SOLUTE RICH BOY..."



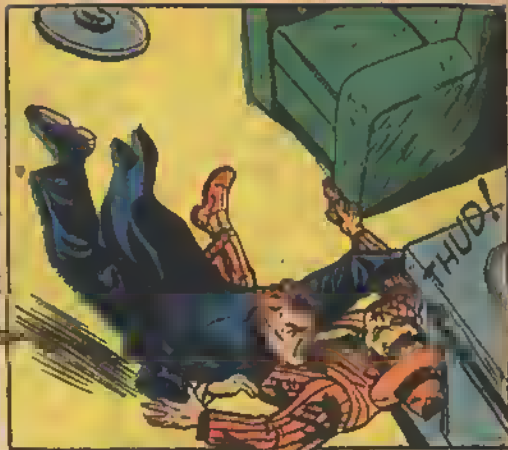
PARDON ME, SIR, ISN'T IT TIME WE WERE GOING HOME?



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



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



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
APART-
MENT!

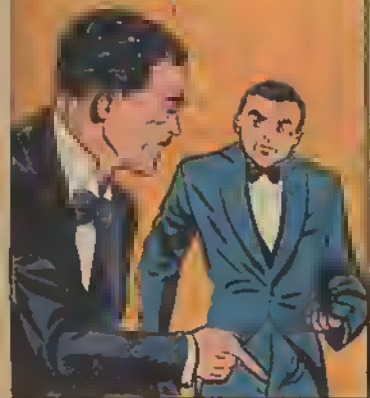
WHAT WAS
THAT ?

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

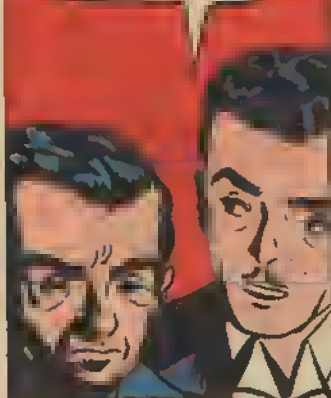
HERE
THEY COME
NOW, SIR -
HURRY!

OHH...
BLANE!

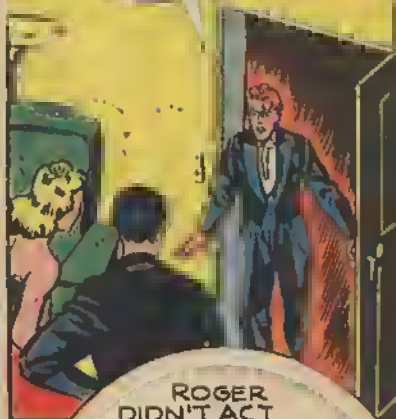
ROGER, THIS
MAN IS DEAD...
DID YOU KILL
HIM?



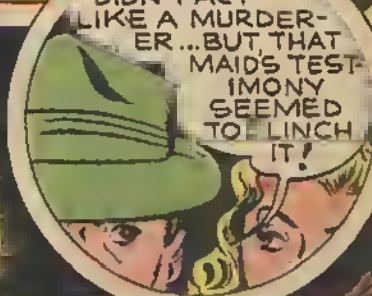
ANSWER ME, ROGER...
GOOD HEAVENS, MAN,
DON'T YOU REALIZE
WHAT YOUR SILENCE
WILL MEAN?



I HEARD A NOISE...
HAS ANYTHING
HAPPENED?

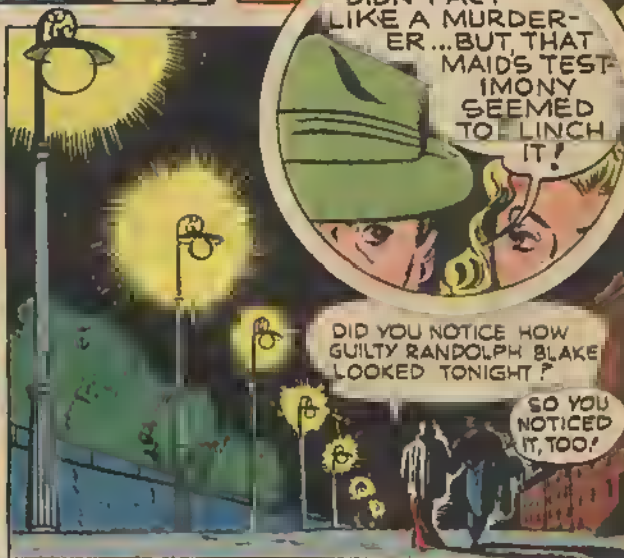


ROGER
DIDN'T ACT
LIKE A MURDER-
ER... BUT THAT
MAID'S TEST-
IMONY
SEEMED
TO LINCH
IT!



DID YOU NOTICE HOW
GUILTY RANDOLPH BLAKE
LOOKED TONIGHT?

SO YOU
NOTICED
IT, TOO?



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



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

YES BOY!

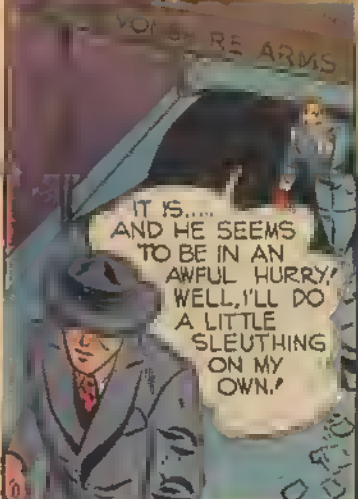


AND THE WIZARD'S
GOING TO CHECK
ON HIS HUNCH
WITH SLICKER'S
GANG!



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

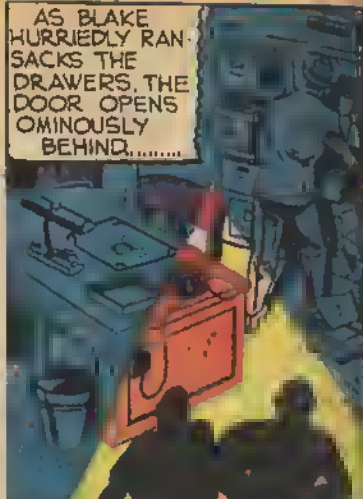




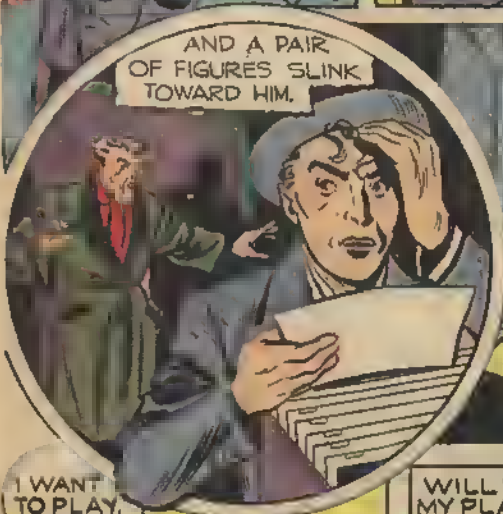
IT IS.....
AND HE SEEMS
TO BE IN AN
AWFUL HURRY!
WELL, I'LL DO
A LITTLE
SLEUTHING
ON MY
OWN!



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.



I WANT
TO PLAY,
TOO!



WILL YOU BE
MY PLAYMATE?



OMG!

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 PILEDRIVER!

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!

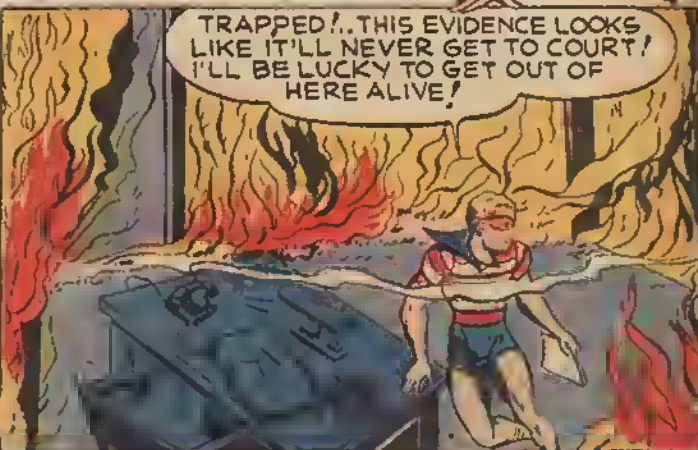


IT'S
ROY!
ROY'S
IN
DANGER!

WHAT'S THIS?...
DID THOSE CROOKS
OVERLOOK SOME-
THING?



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!



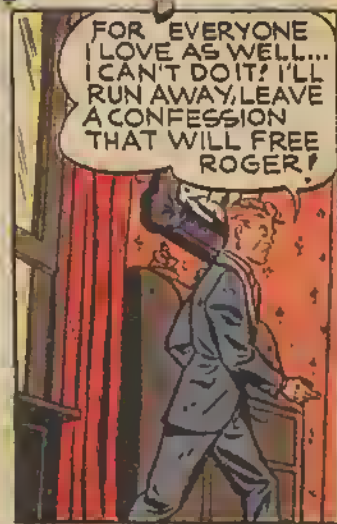
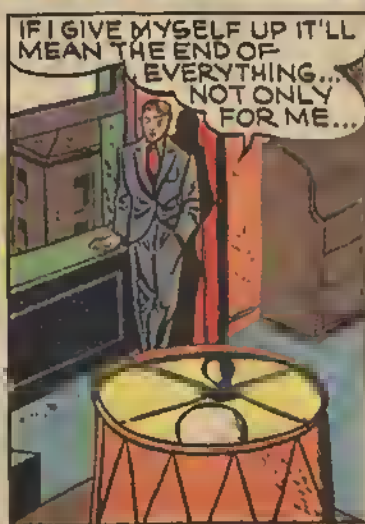
WIZARD!..
IF YOU
HAD A
LONG
WHITE
BEARD
I'D THINK
YOU
WERE
SANTA
CLAUS!



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!



YOU KILLED HIM, RANDOLPH... AND YOU WERE GOING TO LET ANOTHER MAN STAND TRIAL FOR YOUR CRIME!

IT WAS SELF-DEFENSE - HE'D DREW A GUN ON ME - I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HIM!

RANDOLPH, GIVE YOURSELF UP. FOR ONCE IN YOUR LIFE, ACT LIKE A MAN INSTEAD OF A SPOILED RICH BOY!

I WILL! YOU'RE RIGHT - I'LL TELL EVERYTHING!

THREE CENTS
RANDOLPH BLAKE CONFESSES MURDER
SERVANT FREED! BLAKE WILL PLEAD SELF-DEFENSE. HIS LAWYER...
YOUNG BLAKE... STATISTICAL... BUT...

RANDOLPH BLAKE... THE TESTIMONY OF YOUR SERVANT, THE MAN WHOM YOU WERE GOING TO BETRAY, HAS LED THE JURY TO RETURN A VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY!

I'M SORRY, SIR! MISS VIVIAN LEFT STRICT ORDERS THAT SHE DID NOT WANT TO SEE YOU... UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!

THERE'S BLAKE NOW BLANE

HMM... HE CERTAINLY LOOKS DOWN IN THE DUMPS, DOESN'T HE?

LOOK HERE, BLAKE. YOU MUSTN'T ACT AS THOUGH YOUR LIFE WAS OVER. IT'S JUST BEGINNING. IT'S WHAT YOU DO FROM NOW ON THAT COUNTS.

WHAT IS THERE LEFT TO DO?

AND RIGHT AFTER THAT, YES. AFTER ROY... THAT IT ALL BLAKE AND SEEMS AS ROGER AS JOINED THE SERVICE. IT HAPPENED YESTERDAY.

RANDOLPH BLAKE DIED A HERO, BLANE, AND MANAGED TO SAVE ROGER'S LIFE!

LET'S SAY RANDOLPH DIED LIKE AN AMERICAN, ROY - THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP!

VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS