

The Green Hornet
by Fran Striker

"A Cable from England"

Number: 860

Date: May 25, 1948

33

14
70 00

Britt, Case, Kato, Higgins, Axford

Colonel Burley Phoney English army officer
cold and hard

Silk Smooth crook

Duke Smooth crook

Voice Straight

Boy

Voice 2

Voice 3

P.S.

P. 11 - Britt R.
best of all
alibis.

P. 22

Phone Cut.

Calverton

Pos Lounge.

The Green Hornet
by Fran Striker

A CABLE FROM ENGLAND

Number: _____

Date: _____

(USUAL OPENING)

Annrc; The city first heard of the new crime ring when
a fortune in jewels was stolen during a ball at
the DePuyster estate.

NEWSBOY: (FADING IN AND OUT) Sentinel, extra, paper!
DePuyster guests lose fortune! Read all about
the jewel robbery! (TRAIL OUT AD LIBBING)

Annrc; That was merely the beginning. A week later
thieves struck again --

NEWSBOY 2: (FADE IN AND OUT) Thorndyke diamonds stolen!
Fifty thousand dollar necklace sought by police!
(TRAIL OUT)

Annrc; There were other robberies cut to the same pattern--

NEWSBOY 1: (FADING IN AND OUT) Guests robbed at Long Island
house party! Fortune lost in summer colony!

NEWSBOY 2: (CROSS FADE) Art exhibit disappears in transit!
Old world paintings lost in hold up!

Radio Voice; (CROSS FADE) — and it is the opinion of well advised experts in criminology that the recent series of crimes is the work of a single well organized group. Police Commissioner James Higgins has been in frequent conference with Colonel Ashton Burley, a retired officer in the British Army, and a student of criminal psychology. Colonel Burley has recently become interested in civic affairs and is - (CUT AS:)

(CLICK SWITCH)

Britt; (SNORTS) Colonel Burley!

Case; Oh, Mr. Reid! You put a radio in your office so you might hear the Sentinel news bulletins.

Britt; The Sentinel news bulletins would be improved with less mention of Colonel Ashton Burley and his theorizing.

Case; Commissioner Higgins seems to think quite a bit of his opinions.

Britt; For some reason or other, Commissioner Higgins thinks quite a bit of Ashton Burley.

Case; The Colonel has progressed in leaps and bounds since he bought the old Rumsey home in Millvale.

Britt; That, Miss Case, is understatement. He's wangled invitations to most of the important parties -- he's met all the right people and he's joined a number of exclusive clubs.

Case; He came well recommended, didn't he?

- Britt; Oh yes, and he's applied for citizenship.
- Case; I wonder what England did to him.
- Britt; What do you mean?
- Case; Well his family is supposed to be one of the finest families in England. The Colonel has been with the British Army in India for twenty years. His record is top-notch. In view of all that, one would think he'd go back home instead of coming to live in this country.
- Britt; I wish he had.
- Case; (LAUGHS) He can't be that annoying to you --
- Britt; No?
- Case; Or can he?
- Britt; Perhaps I didn't tell you, Miss Case, he has become a member of the Civic Club.
- Case; (LAUGHS) Oh no!
- Britt; Not only that, he's a member of the committee for the annual Monte Carlo night.
- Case; You're on that committee.
- Britt; So's Police Commissioner Higgins.
- Case; Well, as I said, Mr. Reid, Colonel Burley has done well for himself.
- Britt; Um.
- Case; Speaking of the committee for your charity party, you're supposed to be at a meeting at noon.

Britt; (JUMPING UP) Great scott, that's so! I'll have to hurry!

Case; You've plenty of time.

Britt; But I promised to meet the police commissioner before the luncheon.

MUSIC:

(SOFT B.G. OF ROOM NOISES)

Annex; Commissioner Higgins was an old friend of Britt Reid's father, and was one of the few who knew that Britt was more than the publisher of the influential newspaper the Daily Sentinel. He was one of the very few who knew that Britt Reid was also the Green Hornet.

Higgins; Hello, Britt. Glad to see you.

Britt; Any new leads on the crime wave, Commissioner Higgins?

Higgins; Well - no. Nothing definite.

Britt; That's a surprise. I thought you'd have the whole thing in wraps by this time.

Higgins; Eh?

Britt; I heard the radio commentator this morning. Quote- Police Commissioner James Higgins has been in frequent conference with Colonel Ashton Burley, a retired officer in the British Army, and a student of Criminal psychology. End quote.

Higgins; You don't like him, Britt.

Britt; No.

- Higgins; You don't know him very well. He's really an admirable man. As a matter of fact, my boy, it is because of Colonel Burley that I wanted to see you today.
- Britt; Yes?
- Higgins; He suggested that the robberies have been planned by someone high in social circles - someone with access to the wealthiest homes and the most exclusive clubs.
- Britt; I was sure he'd have a theory.
- Higgins; From a study of old clippings he reasoned that the Green Hornet answers this description.
- Britt; I suppose he's put two and two together and arrived at the conclusion that the Green Hornet planned the robberies.
- Higgins; As a matter of fact he has.
- Britt; His theory makes just as much sense as I expected.
- Higgins; Britt, Burley really does have a keen mind. He might be of real help to me - but as long as he thinks of the Green Hornet, he'll ignore other possibilities. That's why I'd like to confide in him.
- Britt; (GUARDEDLY) I think I know what's coming.
- Higgins; I gave my word I'd never tell anyone you are the Green Hornet. I'd like your permission to take Colonel Burley into our confidence.
- Britt; Commissioner Higgins, you can ask me for just about anything in the world and get it, but please don't ask that.

Higgins; (SIGHS) Very well, Britt. () I'm sure you'd feel differently if you were better acquainted -

Britt; I'll try to become better acquainted with the Colonel.

Higgins; Thanks. () Here's a chance to begin.

Britt; Eh? Oh - I see. The Colonel approaches.

Colonel; (APPROACHING) Ah, gentlemen, cheerio, I say. Cheerio. I dare say I'm a bit ahead of time, but a good thing.

Higgins; Glad to see you, Colonel Burley.

Colonel; Glad to see you, old fellow, mighty glad. And you, too, Reid.

Britt; We were just talking about you, Colonel Burley.

Colonel; Ho! Nothing good, I dare say! (LAUGHS)

Britt; Will you have a drink before we go into the dining room?

Colonel; Thanks, old chap. () George, a spot of the usual. () You know, I've been no little concerned about our charity party. What with the recent criminal activities in the city, we shall have to take extreme precautions.

Higgins; We'll exercise extreme precautions.

Colonel; There'll be at least a dozen games of chance, and every one of them will be heavily played. Our guests will throw dollars around like er- uh - like so much chaff before the wind - in the good old name of charity.

- Britt; We hope to raise over fifty thousand dollars.
- Colonel; A tidy sum, eh what? A choice morsel for the unholy to steal. And you know, gentlemen, it occurred to me that it would be easy for thieves to mingle with the guests, the affair being a masquerade - a fancy dress -
- Higgins; We've made plans to check every invitation, Colonel Burley.
- Britt; The bids will be handled as carefully as bank notes.
- Colonel; Good. Good I say. Splendid. You'll be on hand personally, won't you, Commissioner?
- Higgins; Yes.
- Colonel; And you, Reid?
- Britt; I'm planning to go late.
- Colonel; Late?
- Britt; The affair will last practically all night. I decided that as long as I'd have to be there at the finish, I wouldn't go until after midnight.
- Colonel; By jove, fellow, it's a good idea! Go late and have a clear head. I think I'll take a page from your book, Reid. I think I'll wait until after midnight myself.
- Higgins; (EAGERLY) Why don't you two go together.
- Colonel; Together?

Higgins; Yes. You haven't really gotten to know each other. It would give you a chance to get better acquainted.

Colonel; Well, I say now - (LAUGHS) how about that, Reid?

Britt; (WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM) Very well.

Colonel; Tell you what, old boy. You stop by for me. I'd like to show you around the old Rumsey house - show you what I've done with it since I took over.

Higgins; (DUBIOUSLY) You live ^{several} ~~thirty~~ miles outside the city - -

Britt; That's all right. I don't mind.

Colonel; Good, good.

Britt; I'll pick you up, Colonel Burley. I'll call for you around midnight.

Colonel; Done. Now I dare say it's time for us to join the rest of the committee in the dining room, eh?

Britt; Yes, I guess it is. We have a lot of final details to settle with the party just two days away.

Higgins; (MUTTER) Thanks for the effort, Britt.

Britt; We'll see how things work out.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE, FADE OUT

Annex; It was late afternoon when Britt Reid returned to his office. He was scanning the latest bulletins when Miss Case entered.

(DOOR CLOSES)

other. It would also ⁹ be a demand of the
Britt; No new developments on the crime wave, eh Miss
Case? Case?
Case; Not unless the police are with holding information.
Britt; No. The police haven't even a clue.
Case; Michael Axford is still at police headquarters and
I was just about to leave when you came in. Is
there anything you want me to do?
Britt; Not a thing, Miss Case - but tomorrow - - I
wish you'd see what you can learn about Colonel
Burley.
Case; Very well.
Britt; I promised Commissioner Higgins I'd try to know
the man better.
Case; I'll get here early and start digging.

MUSIC: UP AND UNDER:

ADLIB BG OF CRISS-CROSSING TELEGRAPH AND RADIO.

Anncr; Lenore Case found it necessary to go beyond the Sentinal
files for information concerning Colonel Burley. She
made use of the newspapers wire and cable facilities to
send requests for data to other cities - and even to
England.

FADE OUT BG.

Anncr; That evening a group of much-sought-for thieves met in
the home of their leader!

Silk; Colohel Burley -

MUSIC STING

Colonel; Well, Silk, are the gentlemen assembled?

Silk: Yes. They're waiting for you in the library.

(DOOR OPENS. SOFT MURMURS)

Duke; (BACK) Quiet down, boys. Here's the chief.

(DOOR CLOSES. MURMURS HUSHED)

Colonel; Gentlemen, you've all received invitations to the Civic Club party tomorrow night.

Silk; You've qualified all of us as men of social standing, Boss.

ADLIB: (GENERAL SOFT LAUGH)

Colonel; The party will feature a Monte Carlo theme with all kinds of gambling games. At least fifty thousand dollars is to be raised for the club's charity program.

Duke; With the proceeds going to charity, the guests will throw money around like grass seed.

Colonel; It will all be held in the cashier's wicket...very convenient for us. Now pay attention to the plan of campaign.

MUSIC STING - TRAIL OUT.

Colonel; (AD LIB MONOTONE MURMURS IN BACKGROUND)

Annrc; (CLOSE) Colonel Burley went into painstaking detail as he outlined every step of the strategy with the precision of a field marshal briefing an army on the eve of attack.

Colonel;! (COMING OUT OF BG) As a member of the committee I've been able to get a complete layout of the club. (FADE BACK AGAIN) I'll show you lantern slides of the floor plan...

Annrcr; He left nothing to chance. Using a pointer, he followed the pattern of the robbery on lantern slides. Then spoke of the costumes the thieves would wear -

Colonel; (~~OUT OF BG~~) you'll wear those costumes thru the evening as you mingle with the crowd. At H hour, you will go to room D, cover your costume with loose clown suits - (FADE BACK) which I have provided -

MUSIC SNEAK IN BEHIND -

Annrcr; Burley spoke for over two hours. And when he had finished, his men realized that their leader was indeed, a master plotter of crime!

MUSIC FULL UP TO BURST FINISH.

Burley; You may go to the party when you choose. We shall not strike until long past midnight.

Dukel What time are you going, Chief?

Burley; Not until after midnight. It may amuse you to know that I shall go with Britt Reid, publisher of the Sentinel.

ADLIB; (STIR)

Burley; (PLEASED CHUCKLE) Interesting, eh? He's calling for me, here.

Silk; Will we know you? What kind of costume will you wear?

Burley; My costume will be ironically appropriate. I shall wear a dark hat, a dark, loose coat and a green mask. I shall appear as the Green Hornet!

MUSIC BURST.

Anner; Britt Reid spent most of the next day at the Civic Club attending to last minute details for the party. Michael Axford spent the day at police headquarters and returned to the office around six o'clock.

(DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE)

Axford; Casey! You still here?

Case; Oh, Michael. What a question!

Axford; What's all the telegrams?

Case; Come around to this side of my desk and you can read them without twisting your neck.

Axford; Is Reid in?

Case; No. And he wont be in. He phoned to say he was going home from the Civic Club and take a nap before the party.

Axford; I'm goin' !

Case; Uh - say that again.

Axford; I'll be at the Civic Club Shindig tuhnite. The Commissioner said I could go along wit' the special cops who'll be on hand to watch all the cash. () Hey, these telegrams are about Colonel Burley.

Case; Mr. Reid wanted data.

Axford; They don't say much of anything.

Case; He's virtually unknown.

Axford; Well, comin' from India like he did - an' from England before that - I can see why he would be.

Case; I've cabled England. I may learn something there.

Axford; Yuh mean tuh say yuh cabled England for dope on Burley?

Case; That, Michael is what I meant to say.

Axford; Golly!

Case; Mr. Reid told me to get facts!

(FADE IN CODE RADIO)

Anncr; As Miss Case spoke, a reply to her request was flashing across the ocean by radio. The reply was destined to bring Britt Reid face to face with a horrible death!

(SEGUE CODE INTO MUSIC, STING)

Anncr; We will continue in just a moment.

(COMMERCIAL)

Anncr; And now to continue. Lenore Case had sent a query to England. It was nearly eleven o'clock when the reply with information concerning Colonel Burley was delivered to her at the Daily Sentinel. She read it and her eyes went wide in surprise.

Case; Oh golly!

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Anncr; She put the message into an envelope, sealed it and called for a copy boy.

Boy; Hey, Miss Case, aren't you working over-time?

Case; Skip that. Listen, Joe. Do you have your car?

Boy; Yeah, sure thing.

Case; Good. I want you to take this envelope to Mr. Reid. It's very important. Give it to him personally and then come back here. I'll wait until I know it has been delivered.

MUSIC: SHARP BURST

(CITY ROOM B.G.)

Annrc; Miss Case waited and as the time passed, she became increasingly uneasy. Finally she went into the city room.

(GIRL'S STEPS COMING IN & STOPPING)

Voice; You still around, Miss Case?

Case; Spike, have you seen anything of Joe?

Voice; He left here nearly an hour ago. You sent him out, didn't you?

Case; I sent him to Mr. Reid's apartment. He should have been back half an hour ago.

Voice; Maybe his car broke down. Why don't you call the apartment and see if he got there?

Case; I think I shall.

Voice; Here, use my phone. I'm plugged in on an outside line. () I'll dial the number for you.

(DIALING PHONE AS:)

Isn't the Boss going to the Civic Club tonight?

Case; Of course.

Voice; It's nearly midnight.

Case; He'll have to stay until the party's over, so he planned to go late.

Voice; (TO PHONE) Hello, this is the office calling. Is Mr. Reid there? () No?

Case; I'll talk to Kato.

Voice; Just a minute. () Here you are.

Case; Hello, Kato. Miss Case.

Kato; (PHONE) Oh yes, Miss Case.

Case; Has Mr. Reid left for the party?

Kato; (PHONE) Oh yes. He left to go into country to call for Colonel Burley.

Case; Kato I sent a very important envelope to him. Do you know whether or not he received it?

Kato; (PHONE) Boy come some time ago. Soon after Mr. Britt leave house. He say envelope to be delivered personal. He go to deliver it at Colonel's home.

Case; (GASP) Oh gosh!

Voice; What's the matter, Casey?

Case; Kato, I better talk to you about this. I'll be right over.

(PHONE HOOK)

Case; Spike, have someone get me a cab, will you? I'll be ready as soon as I get my coat.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annex; Britt Reid had been at the country estate of Colonel Burley for less than ten minutes when he was summoned to the door, and handed an envelope.

Boy; Miss Case said I should give it to you personally, Mr. Reid.

Britt; I see.

Colonel; (MUTTERING) Needn't have bothered Mr. Reid. Might have handed it to my man.

Boy; I got my orders.

Britt; Thanks a lot, Joe. I'm sorry you had to drive a way out here.

Boy; That's okay. Hope you have a good time at the party, Mr. Reid.

Britt; Thanks.

Boy; (FADING) So long.

Britt; Good-bye.

(DOOR CLOSES)

Colonel; Shall we go back to my study, Reid, and finish our wine?

Britt; Very well.

Col; Your people are certainly trained to follow instructions to the letter, eh what?

Britt; (SLIGHT LAUGH) Miss Case has a way of giving instructions.

(DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE)

Will you excuse me while I see what this is all about?

Col; Yes, yes. Of course.

to the door, and handed an envelope

(TEARING ENVELOPE)

I say, it looks like a cablegram from England.

Voice 2; (FILTER) (BRITISH ACCENT) Replying query about Colonel Burley. Beg to advise Colonel died in India, August, nineteen forty-six. Has brother similar in appearance. Discredited after forgery attempt in London. Believed in the United States for past ten years. Further details in later message.

(SUDDEN RUSTLE OF PAPER)

Britt; (SHARPLY) Burley!

Col; Impolite to read over your shoulder.

Britt; So you're not Colonel Burley!

Col; I'm his brother. Disinherited and cut off some years ago. Nasty mess that.

Britt; I suppose, Burley, you know what this means.

Col; If you were to publish the news, Reid, it would mean the loss of everything. Mind you, old fellow, I said if you publish the information.

Britt; That's up to you, Burley. I'll give you a chance to break off your connections and clear out.

Col; Oh but I prefer staying here. Too bad you secured this information, Reid. () I shall have to take steps.

Britt; (SHARPLY) Burley, put that gun down! You can't shoot me and get away with it.

Col; (CALLS) Duke!

(DOOR OPENS & CLOSES)

Duke; (COMING IN) I heard it, Boss. I was just beyond the door.

Col; Duke serves as a bodyguard.

Duke; If Reid gets any further information, he might put two and two together. Then we'd all be in jail.

Col; We'll take steps right away, Duke. The rest of the boys have already gone to the Civic Club.

Britt; -- rest of the boys!

Col; You may as well know it, Reid. They're waiting for me to come and give them the signal.

Britt; Signal? (SUDDENLY) Now I get it! The robberies. You were at the DePuyster Ball when their jewels were stolen. You were out on the Island during that house party that was robbed!

Col; Yes, and I shall be at the Civic Club tonight.

Britt; You're one of the gang the police have been looking for! (EFFORT) Why you -

(BLOW)

Duke; (EFFORT) That'll hold him!

(FALLING BODY)

Col; Good work, Duke.

Duke; You can't let him go!

(PHONE RINGS)

Col; I'll not let him go. Tie him up while I answer the phone.

(PHONE HOOK)

Yes?

Case; (PHONE) Colonel Burley?

Col; Speaking.

Case; (PHONE) I'd like to speak to Mr. Reid. Is he there?

Col; Mr. Reid?

Duke; (ASIDE) He's out cold.

Col; I - uh - I'm sorry. He's not here.

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER:

Anncr; Lenore Case had phoned from Britt's apartment. She waited, then called again -

Case; Still not there? Hasn't he been there? () Oh - he hasn't? Th-thank you!

(PHONE HOOK)

Kato; Has been plenty of time, Miss Case.

Case; Kato, I'm going to call the office. Perhaps I can talk to Joe!

MUSIC: BURST & UNDER:

Case; All right, Joe. Thanks.

(PHONE HOOK)

Kato, Joe said he left Burley's home just a few minutes after twelve. That was just before I called.

Kato; I hear.

Case; And he handed that envelope to Mr. Reid personally.

Kato; Colonel say, he not there!

Case; Kato! Something is wrong! I'm sure of it!

Kato; Perhaps call police?

Case; I - I'm not that sure. But Kato, I - () Let's go there!

Kato; Home of Colonel?

Case; Yes! And as quickly as possible! Take the fastest car. Or wait - take the Black Beauty!

Kato; Green Hornet car?

Case; Yes!

Kato; But Miss Case, perhaps Mr. Britt be angry -

Case; I'll take the responsibility! Come on, Kato!

Anncr; Kato knew that Lenore Case was one of the few whom Britt Reid trusted implicitly. The little Filipino led the way thru a secret panel in the rear of a closet in Britt's bedroom, then along a narrow passageway built within the walls of the apartment itself. This passage led to an adjoining building, which fronted on a dark side street. Though supposedly abandoned, this building served as the hiding place for the sleek, super-powered Black Beauty, streamlined car of the Green Hornet!

(STEPS INTO CAR, CAR STARTING, BACK)

Annrcr; Kato pressed a button. The great car roared into life. A section of the wall in front raised automatically, then closed as the gleaming Black Beauty sped into the darkness!

MUSIC: UP TO FINISH

Annrcr; When Britt Reid regained consciousness, he found himself tightly bound on a davenport in Burley's library. He was surprised to see the room littered with waste paper, and light wooden crates. Duke was piling excelsior near the fireplace.

Britt; You - - you're setting the stage for a fire.

Duke; Awake, eh?

Colonel; (COMING IN) I have a candle, Duke. Place it right there next to the excelsior.

Duke; Are we all set to vacate?

Col; Quite. I have all the loot in the car. (EFFORT) I'll just press this excelsior down - like this. It will take at least an hour for the candle to burn low enough to reach it.

Duke; This place will go fast when it starts.

Col; When it starts, I shall be at the Civic Club - probably talking to Reid's friend, the Police Commissioner.

Britt; Burley, with your brains, you might have found a less extravagant way to kill me -

Col; The house doesn't matter. I've made only a small down payment on it. We planned to leave here anyway as soon as tonight's party is over. Things are getting too hot.

Duke; They'll be even hotter if anyone besides Reid knows what's in that cable.

Britt; I suppose your whole gang will be at that party?

Col; Oh yes. And I shall be there, too, disguised as the Green Hornet.

Britt; The Green Hornet!

Col; Light the candle, Duke.

(BIZ OF LIGHTING CANDLE AS:)

At the stroke of three, I'll meet my men in a small parlor at the club. The parlor where you and I met for the first time. There we shall change into different costumes, and just about then, the fire will be starting here.

Britt; How will you explain the fact that you left me here when you went to the party?

Col; You were suddenly taken ill. You urged me to go on without you. I left you lying there on the davenport. After that - the fire broke out. As for the ropes that hold you, Reid, I'm confident they will be destroyed by the fire.

Duke; The candle's all set. Let's go.

Col; Very well, Duke. (FADING BACK) Good evening, Reid. I might say - good-bye.

MUSIC: BURST, CHANGE TO TENSION B.G.

Annrc; A few moments later Britt Reid heard a car start and move away from the isolated house.

Britt; (AD LIB EFFORT)

Annex; He tested the ropes, putting all his strength into efforts to stretch or loosen them, but Duke had done his work efficiently. When Britt paused to rest, he divided his attention between the clock on the mantel and the candle that burned steadily lower before the fireplace, bringing the flame closer and closer to the excelsior. Then he renewed his hopeless efforts to get free.

MUSIC: BURST AND UNDER: --TRAIL OUT

Annex; As time passed, Britt realized that there was no hope of escape. It was useless to shout for help. The building stood alone in the midst of a large estate. He looked at the clock and knew that at that very moment, Colonel Burley and his gang were among the favored guests at the young publisher's favorite club.

Britt; (AD LIBBING EFFORTS)

Annex; His anger gave strength to a final effort, but the ropes held firm. And then he heard a sound. Someone had entered the house. There were fast steps thru a hall - -

(STEPS IN HALL) (DOOR OPENING AS)

And then the library door burst open -

Britt; Kato!

Kato; (COMING IN FAST) Mr. Britt! Mr. Britt!

Case; (COMING IN) Oh gosh, Mr. Reid!

Britt; Move that candle! Get me out of here!

Kato; I cut ropes at once.

Case; This set-up speaks for itself.

Britt; I'm supposed to die when the building burns.

Case; I telephoned. Burley lied about you being here - -

Britt; Save the explanations.

Kato; There - you free.

Britt; Kato, what car did you bring?

Kato; Mr. Britt - Miss Case she say - that is - - perhaps you angry, but - -

Britt; Answer me!

Kato; I bring Black Beauty.

Britt; You were inspired. I've got to get to the Civic Club before three o'clock. Seconds count.

Kato; Your mask, weapon and coat in Black Beauty.

Britt; I never wanted that disguise more than now.

Case; But Mr. Reid -

Britt; You two come in the convertible. You'll find the Black Beauty in the alley next to the Civic Club. Park there.
(FADING) I'll see you later!

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER:

(RUNNING STEPS) (CAR DOOR SLAMS) CAR STARTS AS:)

Annrc; Britt dashed from the house, leaped into the car of the Green Hornet, and an instant later, the throttle was opened wide as the Black Beauty pointed toward the city!

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

(ROOM NOISES OF PARTY)

Annor; The Civic Club party was a huge success. The cashier's money drawer was fairly bulging. As the hour of three approached, a man wearing a mask and wrap like that of the Green Hornet, noticed several of the guests move toward a small, private parlor. Then he turned and spoke to the police commissioner.

Colonel; I wonder how Britt Reid is feeling.

Higgins; You said he expected to join us later, Colonel.

Col; Yes. I've telephoned my home and had no answer. He may be on the way. (CHUCKLES) I hope so. I'd like to have him see me in this costume of the Green Hornet.

Higgins; (LAUGHS) He'd probably get a kick out of it.

Col; Think I'll go over to the parlor and relax for a few minutes. (FADING) See you later, Commissioner.

Higgins; Right.

Axford; (COMING IN) By golly, Commissioner, this sure is a party!

Higgins; Yes, Axford, it sure is.

Axford; (CHUCKLING) Everytime I see that guy wit' the Hornet costume, I feel like I should be collarin' him. (CHUCKLES) By golly, yuh know it's a slick get up - even tuh the hat.

Higgins; Hat? Burley isn't wearing a hat.

Axford; Huh? He's not? Well, by golly - look over there at the door. Tell me if that's a hat or not.

Higgins; Eh? (GASP) Why I thought the Colonel - -

Britt; (BACK) Don't anyone move!

AD LIB: (STIR)

Axford; Hey, is this a gag?

Britt; (COMING IN) I'm taking over!

Voice 3; (BACK) (CRY OUT IN ALARM) It's a robbery!

Britt; (SLIGHTLY BACK) Give me that cash!

Higgins; Axford!

Axford; Sufferin' snakes! It is a stick-up!

AD LIB: (MORE CONFUSION AS:)

Anncr; Before the startled spectators could recover from their surprise, the Green Hornet had seized a tin cash box from behind the cashier's wicket, gassed the cashier, and raced across the floor.

Voice; Get him! Stop him!

AD LIB: (CONFUSION)

Anncr; He threw his weight against the door to a small, private parlor -

(DOOR BURSTS OPEN)

Silk; Hey! What's this!

(DOOR SLAMS) (CUT ADLIB)

Col; You - the Hornet!

Duke; It's the real Hornet!

Britt; They're after me! Take the cash!

Col; Wait! Stop him!

Silk; Get him! Stop him!

Duke; Hang on to him!

Britt; Try it!

(CRASH OF GLASS)

MUSIC: SHARP STING

Annrc; Leaving the cash box in the parlor with Burley and his henchmen, Britt Reid went thru a window and hit the ground running.

(RUNNING STEPS)

Kato and Lenore saw him stripping off his coat as he approached them, while they waited in his convertible.

(STEPS COMING IN AND STOPPING)

Britt; (BREATHLESS) I think we've done it! Here, Kato, take this coat. Lenore, take the hat and gun. Get into the Black Beauty and get away!

(BIZ OF CAR DOOR AD LIBBED)

Case; But Mr. Reid --

Britt; No time for questions. Just get out of here. Take the car home and I'll join you later.

Kato; Where you go, Mr. Britt?

Britt; Back inside to make sure the Burley gang has been trapped.

MUSIC: BURST

(B.G. OF PARTY CROWD)

- Britt; Axford, it looks as if something is going on here.
- Axford; Oh, Reid, you're just too late fer the excitement! Sufferin' snakes, Colonel Burley is a phoney!
- Britt; You're telling me? He tried to murder me tonight.
- Axford; What!
- Higgins; (COMING IN) Britt, what did you just say?
- Britt; Oh hello, Commissioner Higgins. Wait until I tell you about Burley. A cable from England came to the office, Miss Case sent it to me while I was at Burley's house. It exposed him as a fraud, and if she and Kato hadn't rescued me, the house would be burned to the ground by this time, and I'd be in it.
- Higgins; You know, of course, what happened here.
- Axford; He don't know, Commissioner! He just got here! Reid, Burley stole the cash box whils't posin' a s the Green Hornet. Me an' the rest o' the boys was hot after him when he ducked into a private parlor where his gang was waitin'. We got him before they had a chance tuh use their guns.
- Higgins; And found the loot of several robberies in a handbag Burley had checked.
- Britt; And you have them all?
- Axford; Yeah! (LAUGHS) Burley's tryin' tuh say it was the real Green Hornet that took the cash box an' went out a window from the parlor! (LAUGHS) I don't know why he'd try tuh tell a story like that!
- Higgins; It wouldn't matter anyway. We have him cold for the other crimes.

Britt; Axford, hadn't you better call the Sentinel?

Axford; Holy Crow! (FADING) I almost fergot I'm supposed tuh be a reporter!

Higgins; You win, Britt.

Britt; Eh?

Higgins; Burley had me fooled -- and to think I wanted you to trust him!

MUSIC:

NEWSBOY: SENTINAL, EXTRA, PAPER! CRIME RING SMASHED WHEN GREEN HORNET APPEARS AT CIVIC CLUB! COLONEL BURLEY EXPOSED AS FRAUD! READ ALL ABOUT IT! SENTINAL, EXTRA, PAPER!

Music: Theme.