



10¢

JAN.
NO. 61

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



GANG BUSTERS

NOBODY WOULD
SUSPECT THAT'S
DETECTIVE PERRY
TAKING THE PLACE OF
PRINCE NARGAR!

SOMEWHERE IN
THIS CROWD OR
BEHIND ONE OF
THOSE WINDOWS,
AN ASSASSIN
IS LURKING!



Featuring
**"The HUMAN
TARGET!"**

YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!

My Pal!

Win \$100

as I just did!

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with YOUR NAME engraved on it!



JIM NORMAN

AFTER

He Mailed Coupon Below is Cleveland

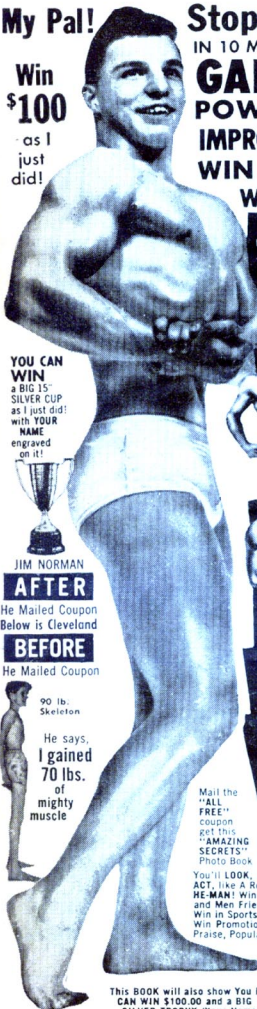
BEFORE

He Mailed Coupon



90 lb. Skeleton

He says, I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle



Stop being a SKINNY Weakling like I was
IN 10 MINUTES of FUN A DAY YOU CAN DO ALL I DID
GAIN 25 lbs. of **HANDSOME**
POWER-PACKED MUSCLES all over!
IMPROVE YOUR HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%
WIN NEW STRENGTH for money-making work!
for WINNING at all SPORTS!
WIN NEW POPULARITY Win NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS
NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

BEFORE



How did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These **5** PICTURE PACKED HE MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE BEFORE \$1 PR. CE GOES BACK Millions Sold for \$1



GET ALL 5 FREE

1

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Every body admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon.

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

2

COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the same method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST, Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.



LAST CHANCE-ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES
2. MUSCLE METER
3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Tell Me How To WIN \$100, etc.

JOWETT INSTITUTE
220 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest, 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm, 3. How to Build a Mighty Leg, 4. How to Build a Mighty Back, 5. How to Build Mighty Legs. Now all in One Volume. How to Become a Mighty HE-MAN! Includes FIND 100 FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (NO C.O.D.)

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____



Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll LOOK, FEEL, ACT, like A Real HE-MAN! Win Women and Men Friends. Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN \$100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

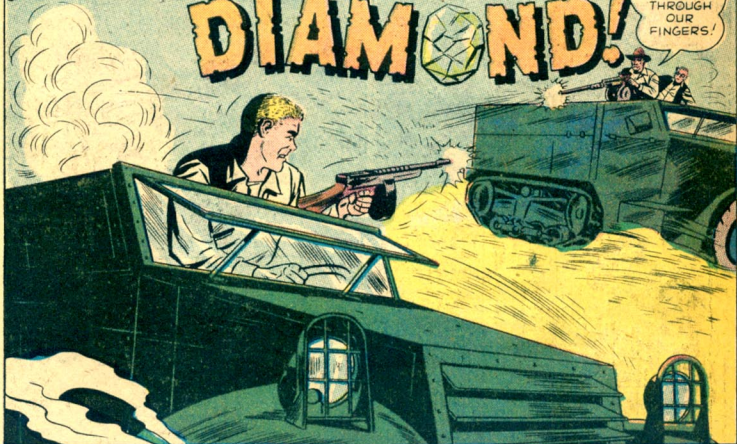
Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

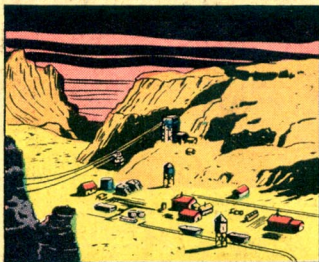
LIKE THEY SAY, THERE'S A TWIST TO EVERYTHING--FROM A PRETZEL TO THE SEEMINGLY MOST OBVIOUS OF CRIMES. YOU CAN PLOT CAREFULLY TO CARRY OUT ANY GIVEN MISSION--BUT LOOK FOR THE TWIST...IT'LL JOLT YOU WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT! ALL THIS I KNOW--AND CAN GIVE YOU A CASE IN POINT, BECAUSE THE LURKING TWIST PLAYED A BIG ROLE WHEN...

I STOLE THE WORLD'S BIGGEST DIAMOND!

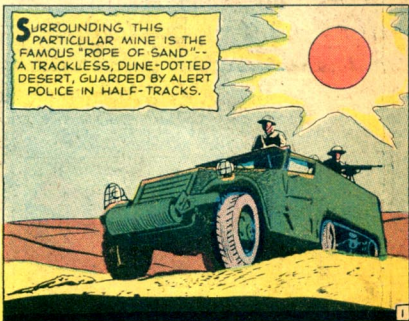
IF HE GETS AWAY, THE WORLD'S BIGGEST DIAMOND WILL SLIP THROUGH OUR FINGERS!

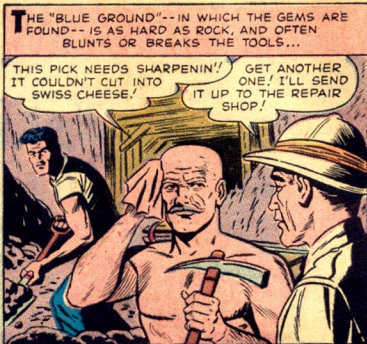


THIS IS A DIAMOND MINE...ONE OF MANY IN SOUTH AFRICA--WHERE ANNUALLY, WORKERS DIG MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN UN-CUT GEMS FROM BENEATH THE GROUND...

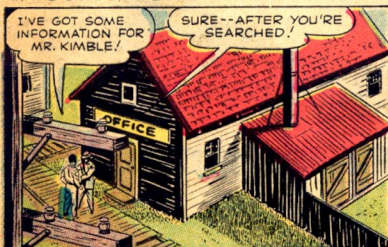


SURROUNDING THIS PARTICULAR MINE IS THE FAMOUS "ROPE OF SAND"--A TRACKLESS, DUNE-DOTTED DESERT, GUARDED BY ALERT POLICE IN HALF-TRACKS.





MY "BIGGER GAME" WAS A FABULOUS, UNCUT STONE--CALLED THE **MOON OF AFRICA**. IT WEIGHED OVER 1000 CARATS, WOULD BRING EASILY A MILLION DOLLARS, AND WAS LOCATED--I KNEW--IN THE SAFE OF THE MINE MANAGER'S OFFICE...



MY SHOCK OF CURLY "LOCKS" WAS NO MORE THAN A WIG...AND UNDER THE WIG WAS A TINY DERRINGER...

SURE--I *DO* HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!



NOT A SOUND FROM EITHER OF YOU, AND KEEP YOUR HANDS UP!

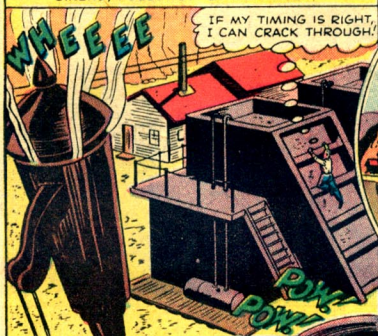


I DISARMED THE GUARD, LOCKED HIM WITH KIMBLE IN ONE OF THE CLOSETS--AND THEN...

THE *MOON OF AFRICA*--THE WORLD'S LARGEST DIAMOND! "YOU'RE 'CLEAN,' FISHER," THE MAN SAID... HA, HA, HA!



AS I WENT OUT A BACK WINDOW AND HEADED ACROSS THE AREA, I HEARD THE ALERT SIRENS, FOLLOWED BY GUNFIRE...



AT THAT INSTANT, THE CABLE CAR CROSSED ABOVE ME...



BELOW, THE MILLING POLICE WERE TEMPORARILY STYMIED...



BEFORE THE CAR REACHED ITS TOWER, I DROPPED...

THIS GIVES ME A HEAD START! THE REST OF THE PLAN SHOULD FOLLOW AS FIGURED--IF I'M LUCKY...



I SCRAMBLED INTO THE HILLS, OF WHICH I HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE A THOROUGH STUDY...



HOW MUCH TIME HAD ELAPSED, I WASN'T QUITE SURE-- BUT, AS I SCALED A ROCKY RISE...



H'LO, FISHER!

WHAT--?

FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT...

WE'RE NOT THE POLICE, FISHER-- AS YOU CAN SEE, WE'RE **FRIENDS!**

SURE! WE GOT OUT HERE FIRST-- TO HELP YOU!

"FRIENDS?" I DON'T GET IT!

NEWS SPREADS FAST! THAT WAS A CLASSIC YOU PULLED, PAL... GETTING INTO KIMBLE'S OFFICE-- THE WIG-- THE LITTLE GUN! EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT!



AND-- YOU MEAN... YOU'RE NOT TURNING ME IN?

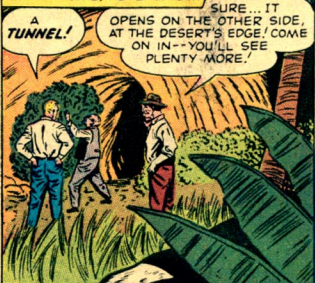
HEAR THAT, GLASSES? HA, HA... PAL-- YOU'RE ONE OF **US** NOW! WE'RE GONNA SEE THAT THEY **DON'T** PICK YOU UP!

OH-- I GET IT... YOU TWO GUYS WANT THE "MOON!" WELL, IT WON'T WORK, BUSTER... I'VE ALREADY HIDDEN IT!

THAT'S SMART, PAL-- BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT OUR HELP! YOU CAN'T BEAT THE POLICE **AND** THE DESERT... BUT **WE** CAN! COME ON-- WE'LL SHOW YOU...



WE MADE OUR WAY TO THE SIDE OF A SMALL HILL, TO A POINT WHERE THE MAN CALLED "GLASSES" MOVED SOME BRUSH ASIDE, REVEALING...



WE WALKED THROUGH THE TUNNEL--WHICH WAS LIGHTED BY WALL TORCHES--TO A ROOMY HIDEOUT...



GET THIS STRAIGHT, PAL...YOU'VE PULLED YOUR **FIRST** CAPER--BUT WE RUN A REGULAR BUSINESS HERE! SEE THIS PICK?.. IT'S ONE WE USE IN THE MINES!



WE THEN MADE OUR WAY TO ANOTHER TUNNEL-ROOM AT A POINT THAT OPENED OUT JUST ABOVE THE DESERT...



BUT, AS I SAID, THERE'S A TWIST TO **BEVERYTHING**--LIKE WHEN THAT MECHANIC STRAIGHTENED UP, LOOKED AT ME, AND...



A SURPRISE SUCH AS THAT STOPS EVERYBODY COLD FOR JUST A SPLIT SECOND--WHICH WAS ALL THE TIME I NEEDED...

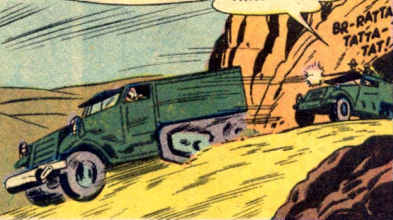
THIS HALF-TRACK... MY ONLY CHANCE...

HE'S A COP, I TELL YOU! STOP HIM!



I ROARED OUT OF THE TUNNEL, DOWN THE SLOPE TOWARD THE DESERT--WITH .30 CALIBER MACHINE-GUN SLUGS WHINING AROUND ME...

HE KNEW OF OUR DIAMOND-SMUGGLING--AND CAME IN POSIN' AS A WORKER! HE PULLED THE PHONY "MOON" CAPER TO SMOKE US OUT! WELL, WE'LL SMOKE HIM OUT!



WITH ONE HAND, I HAD TO MANEUVER THROUGH THE SANDS--WITH THE OTHER, I WAS OPERATING A TOMMY-GUN...

MAYBE I CAN MAKE A RUN FOR IT--OUTDISTANCE THEM!

BRRA-ATTA-TAT-TAT-RAT-RAT-TAT!



THE TWIST AGAIN--I DIDN'T KNOW THEN WHAT "SLEEPY" SELLS WAS TELLING THE REST OF THE GANG...

THE COP'S IN FOR A SURPRISE! I DIDN'T GAS UP HIS HALF-TRACK...HE'LL SPUTTER OUT IN A MINUTE!



AND THEN I HEARD IT--THE TROUBLED COUGHING OF THE HALF-TRACK'S MOTOR, AS THE LAST FEW DROPS OF GAS TRICKLED THROUGH...

SHE'S CONKING OUT! I'M A GONER!



BUT, OCCASIONALLY, A TWIST CAN BE BEAUTIFUL--LIKE WHEN I SAW THREE OTHER HALF-TRACKS COMING TOWARD US...

AS AN OLD SAYING GOES, HERE COME THE MARINES...AND JUST IN TIME!



LATER ON, WHEN THE GANG WAS ROUNDED UP...

WHAT THEY DIDN'T KNOW IS THAT YOU NEVER TOOK THE "MOON!" IT WAS HERE ALL THE TIME! OUR THANKS, FISHER, FOR CRACKING THAT SMUGGLING MOB!

I "STOLE" THE DIAMOND IN THEORY--NOT IN FACT! IT PROVIDED THE FINAL TWIST--THAT OF TRAPPING THE GANG!



215 STAMPS

plus 88 FLAGS OF THE WORLD
plus BOY SCOUT "SOUVENIR SHEET" yours for only

25¢

88 Flags of all Nations

MONACO U. S. PRESIDENT SET
 - WASHINGTON - LINCOLN - F.D.R. - EISENHOWER



Grace Kelly
 Prince Ranier
 Royal Wedding
 Stamp



BULGARIA-Complete Water Sheet

-3 colorful pictures

ST. THOMAS Explorer

What a tremendous bargain this is! You get every single one of the stamps pictured here - plus hundreds of other fascinating issues from all over the world! 215 Stamps in all - a wonderful start - a big boost for your collection!

But that's only the beginning! You also receive 88 different "Flags of the World" - in glowing full color - to dress up the pages in your album. Then you get the Boy Scout Souvenir Sheet - an unusual tribute to the 1957 Jamboree.

Yes - you get ALL of these items - plus the interesting and informative "Midget Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting" - ALL for only 25¢! We'll also include - on approval - a big selection of other unusual stamps and sets. You may purchase any of these Approvals at Zenith's low prices - and return the remainder within 10 days. But whether or not you buy any of the Approvals the 215 Stamps, 88 Flags and Boy Scout Sheet are yours to keep for only a quarter! Mail coupon NOW.

FREE: Midget Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting
ZENITH CO., 81 Willoughby St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

SEND 25¢ WITH COUPON TODAY!

ZENITH COMPANY, Dept. NG-17
 81 Willoughby St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

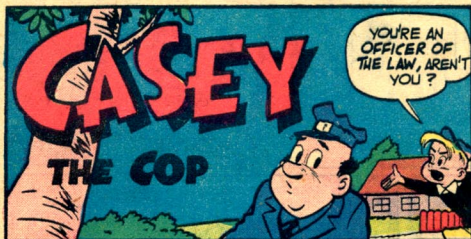
Here's my 25¢ in full payment for the 215 Stamps, 88 Flags, Boy Scout Souvenir Sheet and Midget Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting.

I will also receive - on approval - a selection of other unusual stamps and sets. I may buy as many or as few (or none at all) of these Approvals at your low prices - and agree to return the remainder within 10 days.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____



THE END

The TRICK is to TREAT All The World's Children!



SAY, ALLERGY, AREN'T YOU JUMPING THE GUN ON HALLOWEEN? IT'S STILL TWO DAYS OFF. AND WHY ALL THE GLOOM?

AW, WE WERE JUST TRYING ON OUR COSTUMES. BUT ALL THE PARENTS HAVE GANGED UP AND SAY WE CAN'T GO OUT. THEY SAY WE'LL GET IN TROUBLE.



WELL, HERE'S SOMETHING I THINK MIGHT CHANGE THEIR MINDS. HERE, READ ALL ABOUT IT!



THAT NIGHT...

SEE, DAD THIS IS A **GOOD** THING. THE TRICK-OR-TREAT PENNIES, NICKELS AND DIMES WE COLLECT GO TO HELP SICK, HUNGRY KIDS ALL OVER THE WORLD. AREN'T YOU GOING TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?

WELL, I MIGHT... WHERE ARE **YOU** OFF TO, BINKY?



OH, MY CROWD'S HELPING WITH THIS, TOO-- MAKING POSTERS. HERE'S MY FIRST ONE.

WHAT YOUR TRICK OR TREAT MONEY WILL BUY

- 1¢- VACCINE TO PROTECT A CHILD AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS
- 5¢- PENICILLIN TO CURE A CHILD OF YAWS, A CRIPPLING TROPICAL DISEASE.
- 10¢- 50 GLASSES OF MILK



AND SO, ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT...

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF!

WITH PLEASURE!



LATER...

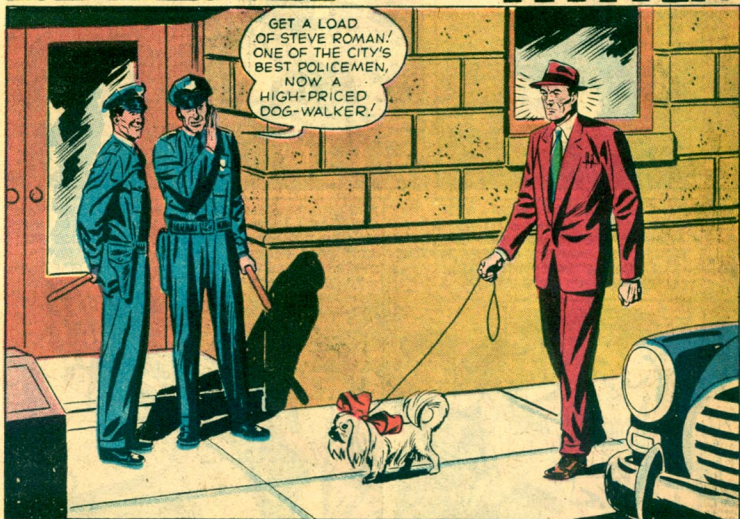
SOME PARTY THEY'RE GIVING US!

YOU DESERVE IT. YOU KIDS HAVE DONE A WONDERFUL JOB TONIGHT FOR UNICEF-- THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND!



FOR 15 YEARS, TOUGH, CRIME-FIGHTING **SERGEANT ROMAN** HAD RISKED HIS LIFE TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF HIS CITY. THEN, SUDDENLY, FATE TOOK HOLD OF THE MAN WHO HAD NEVER FLINCHED IN THE FACE OF DANGER, AND MOCKINGLY TURNED HIM INTO AN...

EX-COP FOR HIRE!



THIS STORY REALLY BEGAN ON JULY 9, 1952, WHEN THE **RADIO GANG** AS IT WAS LATER TO BE KNOWN, EMBARKED ON ITS SECOND CRIME...



GOOD WORK, BOYS...THIS THING IS GONNA BE A CINCH! HERE I COME...



BUT, AS GANG CHIEF, MATTY FARBER AND HIS HENCHMEN COME CHARGING IN, WITH GUNS DRAWN...

HANDS UP, EVERYBODY! THIS IS A...HUH--! S-SERGEANT ROMAN... AND COPS!

RIGHT, FARBER...



WE CAUGHT YOUR BOY MANKS LATE LAST NIGHT, AND HE SPILLED THIS BANK PLAN TO US! SO WE USED GABBY DALE HERE, *THE FAMOUS IMPERSONATOR*, TO IMITATE MANKS' VOICE AND PULL YOU RIGHT INTO THIS TRAP!



THE ONLY THING MANKS DIDN'T TELL US IS WHERE YOU HID THE MONEY FROM YOUR LAST STICKUP...THE ONE AT *ASHLEY RACE TRACK*! MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO TELL US?

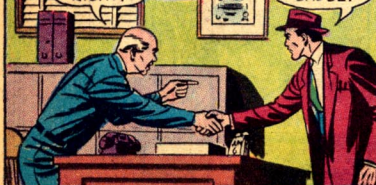
FAT CHANCE, ROMAN! I WANT THAT DOUGH TO BE WAITING FOR ME, AFTER I'M OUT OF STIR!



SO SGT. STEVE ROMAN WAS FORCED TO WAIT PATIENTLY WHILE FARBER SERVED HIS TIME-- BUT, EARLY LAST SUMMER, AS THE CRIMINAL'S RELEASE DREW NEAR...

WELL, STEVE, I CAN GUESS WHY YOU'RE HERE! FARBER IS BEING PAROLED SOON, AND YOU WANT TO BE ASSIGNED TO SHADOW HIM, RIGHT?

I WISH THAT WERE THE REASON, CHIEF-- THE TRUTH IS, I'M TURNING IN MY BADGE!



WHAT--? I DON'T GET IT... YOU'RE ONE OF THE *BEST* MEN ON THE FORCE! 15 YEARS SERVICE-- THREE DECORATIONS...

I HAVE NO CHOICE, CHIEF! AN OLD BUDDY OF MINE HAS TO UNDERGO EXPENSIVE EYE SURGERY... HE HAS NO FAMILY, SO I'VE JUST GOT TO HELP HIM OUT!





I UNDERSTAND, STEVE... THAT KIND OF EXPENSE IS HARD ON A CITY POLICEMAN'S SALARY!

YES, CHIEF-- AND I'VE JUST BEEN OFFERED A HIGH-PAYING JOB AS A PRIVATE EYE WITH **ACME INVESTIGATIONS!**



WELL--I HOPE, STEVE, THAT WHEN YOU'RE ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT, YOU'LL BE WILLING TO RETURN TO THE FORCE!

WILLING? THERE'S NOTHING I WANT MORE, CHIEF! DON'T WORRY...I'LL BE BACK SOMEDAY--SOMEHOW!



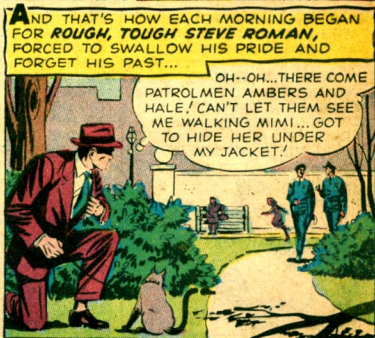
THUS, THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
ACME IS PROUD TO HAVE A MAN OF YOUR RECORD WITH US, **ROMAN!** YOUR FIRST JOB IS TO GUARD MIMI, THE SIAMESE CAT OF MRS. VAN RYNE-- ONE OF OUR WEALTHIEST CLIENTS!

BODYGUARD TO A **CAT!** YOU MUST BE JOKING, MR. MAYS!



THIS ISN'T THE POLICE FORCE, **ROMAN!** WE VERY RARELY GET AN EXCITING CASE-- BUT OUR CLIENTS PAY US HANDSOMELY FOR ANY JOB THEY GIVE US! REMEMBER THAT!

Y-YES, SIR... I UNDERSTAND!



AND THAT'S HOW EACH MORNING BEGAN FOR ROUGH, TOUGH STEVE ROMAN, FORCED TO SWALLOW HIS PRIDE AND FORGET HIS PAST...

OH--OH...THERE COME PATROLMEN AMBERS AND HALE! CAN'T LET THEM SEE ME WALKING MIMI!... GOT TO HIDE HER UNDER MY JACKET!



'MORNING, STEVE... HOW'S THE PRIVATE EYE BUSINESS?

NOT BAD, MA! UH-- SORRY... CAN'T STOP TO TALK! **BIG CASE** WAITING FOR ME AT THE OFFICE!



BUT, A MOMENT LATER, WHEN THE TWO WERE ALMOST OUT OF SIGHT...

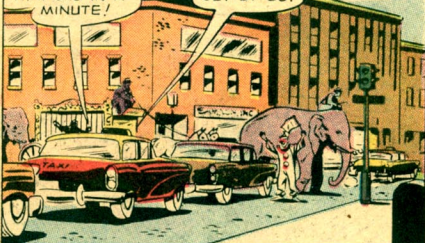
HEY... SHE JUMPED RIGHT OUT OF MY JACKET! MIMI, **COME BACK!** DON'T RUN UP THERE! **MIMI!**



MINUTES LATER, HOWEVER, FATE DEALT BOTH LAWMEN A CRUEL BLOW...

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE, DRIVER? YOU'LL LOSE THAT CAB IN A MINUTE!

SORRY, BUDDY...THE CIRCUS IS LEAVING TOWN...WE'VE JUST GOT TO SIT HERE TILL THEY GET BY US!



BAH! NOW I'LL NEVER KNOW WHERE FARBES--WAIT! THAT ADVERTISEMENT...TODAY'S JULY 9TH...

OF COURSE!

HEAD FOR ASHLEY RACE TRACK, DRIVER--AND HURRY!



IN THAT SPLIT INSTANT, A SOLUTION TO THE SIX-YEAR OLD MYSTERY HAD TAKEN SHAPE IN STEVE'S MIND...

SUPPOSE, INSTEAD OF LEAVING THE TRACK WITH THE LOOT, FARBES HID IT HERE? SURE...THIS IS THE LAST PLACE ANYONE WOULD THINK OF SEARCHING!



LATER, WHEN THE TICKET WINDOWS OPENED...

THIS IS MATTY FARBES, THE MAN WHO ROBBED YOUR TRACK FIVE YEARS AGO! ALERT ALL THE OTHER TICKET SELLERS...IF YOU SEE HIM TODAY, REPORT TO ME AT BOX 12-A!

SURE THING, MR. ROMAN!



BUT, WHEN THE LAST TICKET HAD BEEN SOLD...

HE DIDN'T SHOW UP, MR. ROMAN... AND HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN IN WITHOUT A TICKET!

THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE

OTHER POSSIBILITY... IF HE DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A TRACK EMPLOYEE!



QUICKLY, STEVE'S TRAINED EYE SWEEPED THE GROUNDS...

BUT WHICH ONE? THERE ARE GROUNDKEEPERS, STABLE HANDS--HMM...THAT PEANUT VENDOR! HE'S WORTH INVESTIGATING. IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT!



MOVING SWIFTLY, STEVE APPREHENDED HIS MAN...

NICE TRY, FARBES! YOU ALMOST GOT AWAY WITH IT, TOO! BUT YOU MADE **ONE** MISTAKE!

WHO, *ME*? MY NAME'S NOT FARBES! YOU MUST BE **CRAZY!**



SUDDENLY...

ALL RIGHT, **ROMAN!** TRY AND GET ME NOW!

CAN'T SHOOT BACK... MIGHT HIT BYSTANDERS! HE'S ESCAPING!



BUT IN THE NEXT MOMENT AS A FLURRY OF FUR AND SNARLING TEETH FLEW THROUGH THE AIR...

OWWW! MY HAND! GET HIM OFF ME!

GOOD BOY, MING TOY! YOU'VE GOT A STREAK OF POLICE DOG IN YOU!



ALL RIGHT, YOU **GOT** ME! BUT HOW'D YOU SEE THROUGH THE DISGUISE?

THAT PATCH ON YOUR LEFT ARM

TOLD ME THAT THE JACKET REALLY BELONGED TO A LEFT-HANDED MAN WHO CARRIED HIS BASKET THERE! YOU CARRIED IT ON YOUR RIGHT ARM ALL THE WHILE, PROVING YOU STOLE THE **WRONG** JACKET!



AND SO, ONE WEEK LATER...

THE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR WHOM YOU RECOVERED THE STOLEN MONEY IS PROUD TO HONOR YOU WITH THIS CHECK OF **\$5,000**, MR. ROMAN!

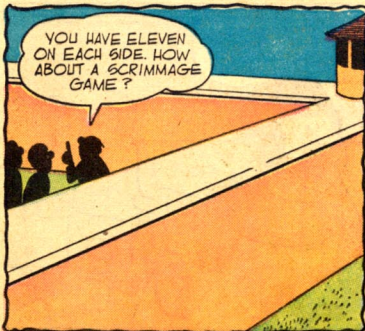
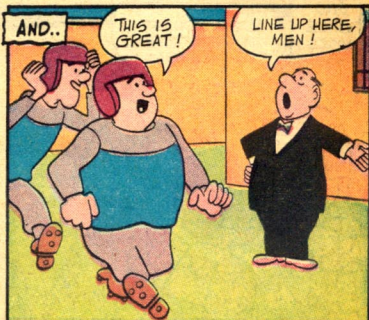
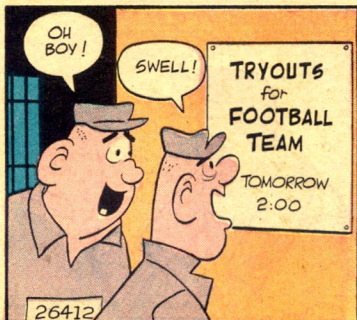
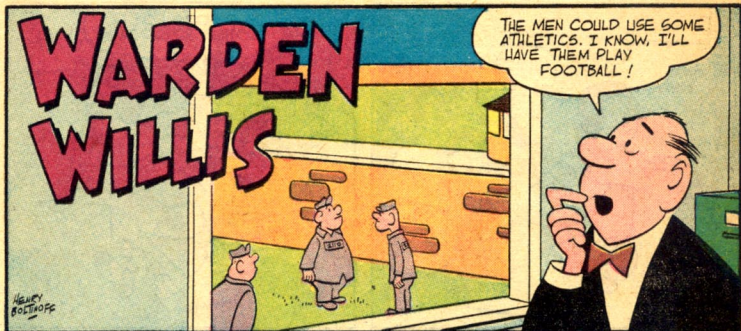


AND NOW THAT YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR YOUR FRIEND'S OPERATION, I'VE GOT MY OWN SURPRISE FOR YOU, STEVE! THE COMMISSIONER SAYS YOU CAN REPORT FOR DUTY TOMORROW MORNING--WITH THE RANK OF **LIEUTENANT!**

LIEUTENANT! THANKS, CHIEF... IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME **AGAIN!**



THE END





POLICE PISTOL RANGE

THAT REVOLVER LOOKS LIKE A CANNON IN LITTLE JOE'S HAND...HE'S THE BEST-SHOOTING DEPUTY WE EVER HAD!



THEY CALLED HIM LITTLE JOE LITTLE, AND HE WAS JUST 41 INCHES TALL! BUT, PACKED INTO HIS TINY FRAME WAS ENOUGH GRIT AND COURAGE TO CARRY A HEAVYWEIGHT! YES, HE WAS A MOST EXTRAORDINARY POLICE DEPUTY, EVEN WHEN THE ODDS WERE STACKED MIGHTILY AGAINST...

The
THREE-FOOT SLEUTH!

IT WAS MID-MAY OF LAST YEAR WHEN ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST STARTLING ACCIDENTS OCCURRED...

THAT KID PLAYING WITH A FOOTBALL...HE'S FALLING DOWN OUR PIPE HOLE!

GREAT SCOTT! I'LL GET THE EMERGENCY CREW! THAT HOLE IS 30 FEET DEEP!



FRANTIC GAS WORKS OFFICIALS QUICKLY REALIZED THERE WAS NO HOPE OF IMMEDIATE RESCUE...

IT LOOKS BAD... THE HOLE'S TOO NARROW TO ADMIT A RESCUE WORKER--AND IT WILL TAKE HALF A DAY TO TUNNEL A LARGER ONE DOWN! BY THEN... HIS OXYGEN WILL HAVE RUN OUT!

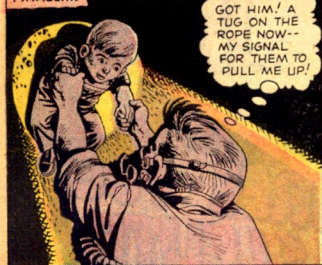
WE HAVE ONE CHANCE... LITTLE JOE LITTLE!



WITHIN MINUTES, THE CROWD PARTED TO ADMIT A TINY, GRIM-FACED MAN...



ABOVE, THE RESCUE WORKERS WAITED TENSELY AS DEPUTY LITTLE SQUIRMED LOWER AND LOWER INTO THE HOLE--TILL FINALLY...



JOE, THE NATION WILL WANT TO KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU! HOW DID THIS ALL START?... WHEN DID YOU FIRST BECOME A DEPUTY?



WELL...I'M A PART-TIME ACTOR! MOVIE COMPANIES HIRE ME FOR BIT ROLES IN THEIR FILMS...

SHORTLY, AS POLICE DEPUTY JOE LITTLE SQUEEZED HIS TINY FRAME INTO THE HOLE...



AFTERWARD, AS REPORTERS INTERVIEWED THE COURAGEOUS LITTLE MAN...



"ONE DAY, WE WERE SHOOTING A SCENE AT A PLACE WHERE THE POLICE WERE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL WINTER OUTING--WHEN SUDDENLY..."



"THE SITUATION WAS DESPERATE AS EVERY MAN WHO TRIED TO REACH HER MET WITH THE SAME FATE..."

A ROPE!...SOMEBODY GET A ROPE! THE ICE IS TOO THIN TO HOLD OUR WEIGHT!

THAT WOMAN'S HALF-FROZEN ALREADY... SHE MAY NOT HANG ON LONG ENOUGH FOR THEM TO GET A ROPE TO HER!



HE'S PULLING HER OUT ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE HOLE--WHERE THE ICE IS THICKER!

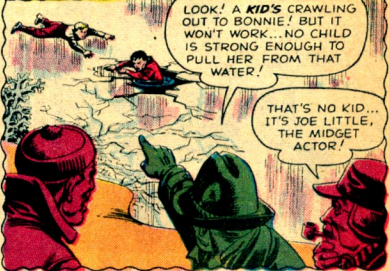
HE'S DONE IT! HE MAY HAVE THE WEIGHT OF A CHILD... BUT HE'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF A MAN!



"I WEIGH JUST 69 POUNDS SOAKING WET-- AND I REALIZED I WAS THE WOMAN'S ONLY HOPE..."

LOOK! A KID'S CRAWLING OUT TO BONNIE! BUT IT WON'T WORK...NO CHILD IS STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL HER FROM THAT WATER!

THAT'S NO KID... IT'S JOE LITTLE, THE MIDGET ACTOR!



"WHEN I REACHED SHORE, MY NEW CAREER WAS WAITING FOR ME..."

JOE LITTLE, YOU'VE PREVENTED TRAGEDY FROM STRIKING OUR ANNUAL POLICE OUTING! FOR YOUR COURAGE AND DARING, I'M MAKING YOU A SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR LIFE!

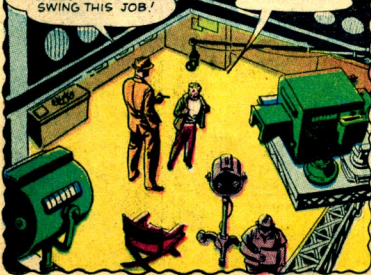
GOSH--THANKS, CHIEF LANGLEY!



"IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE I LEARNED THAT MY SIZE AND WEIGHT COULD AID THE DEPARTMENT IN MANY WAYS..."

JOE, WE NEED YOUR HELP! IT MAY MEAN BREAKING A CASE, IF YOU CAN SWING THIS JOB!

BE RIGHT WITH YOU, DETECTIVE MARTIN, SOON AS I CHECK OFF THE LOT!

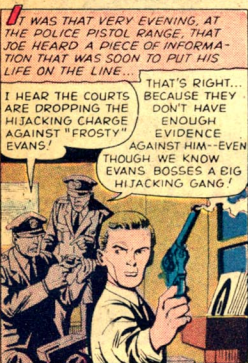
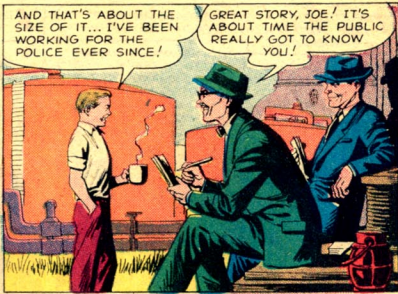


"THAT WAS THE TIME POLICE SUSPECTED VITAL EVIDENCE HAD BEEN DROPPED INTO THE VENTILATION SYSTEM OF A WELL-KNOWN HOTEL..."

I'VE FOUND THE MURDER GUN!

GOOD WORK, LITTLE JOE! IT WOULD HAVE COST A FORTUNE TO DISMANTLE THAT VENTILATION SYSTEM AND SEARCH FOR IT!





40 MINUTES LATER, AT AN ABANDONED FARMHOUSE...

"FROSTY"! WELCOME HOME... HA, HA!

THE GANG! MUST GET INSIDE THERE, AND HEAR WHAT THEY TALK ABOUT... FIND SOME EVIDENCE!



SOON, AT THE REAR OF THE HIDEOUT...

THIS MILK DELIVERY SLOT THAT LEADS INTO THE KITCHEN WILL JUST DO THE TRICK! IT'S A TIGHT SQUEEZE, EVEN FOR ME!



BUT, JUST AS JOE LITTLE CRAWLED INSIDE...

C'MON, BOYS... LET'S GO IN THE KITCHEN AND GRAB SOME SANDWICHES! WE CAN TALK THERE!

OH, OH-- THEY'RE HEADING IN HERE! WHERE TO HIDE? AH-- THAT STOVE!



A MOMENT LATER, THE GANGSTERS WERE UNAWARE OF THE DIMINUTIVE FIGURE THAT OVERHEARD THEIR EVERY WORD...

WE'LL LEAVE OUR LOOT WHERE WE'VE ALWAYS KEPT IT-- IN THE MARTIN WAREHOUSE! WHEN THINGS COOL OFF, IN A MONTH OR SO, WE CAN START OPERATING AGAIN!

THAT ABANDONED WAREHOUSE-- THE PROOF WE NEED! AND I RECOGNIZE EVERYONE OF THESE BOYS!



BUT, IN THE NEXT INSTANT, LITTLE JOE FOUND HIMSELF FACING SUDDEN DISASTER, AS...

HOW ABOUT SOME HOT CHILI, BOYS?

GOOD IDEA... I'LL TURN ON THE STOVE!

WHAT--?



ABRUPTLY...

YIPE!

A KID!

NO! IT'S THAT MIDGET DETECTIVE, JOE LITTLE!



GULP-- TH--THEY'RE BOUND TO SPOT ME NOW! I'D BETTER NOT WAIT AROUND TILL THEY DO...

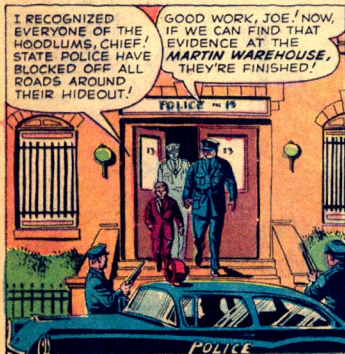




BUT, WHEN THE CROOKS FIRED UP AT THE ACROBATIC MIDGET...



AT HEADQUARTERS, POLICE SPRUNG INTO ACTION AS DEPUTY JOE LITTLE REPORTED...



SECONDS LATER...



SURE ENOUGH, A SHORT WHILE AFTERWARD...



The ONE and ONLY



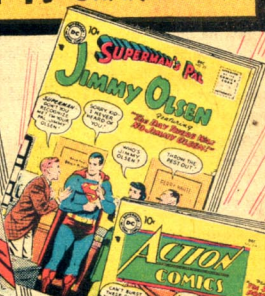
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APPEAR IN

4 GREAT MAGAZINES!



THE GRAPEVINE

PERSISTENT LAWBREAKER

Within the period of a few months, a Los Angeles magistrate was confronted with considerable consistency by a motorist, who was arrested repeatedly for almost every traffic violation in the book. Passing a red light, failing to keep to the right, parking near a fire hydrant, wrongfully going up a one-way street, double parking, failing to signal on making a turn, etc. ad infinitum.

Losing his patience, finally, when the wrongdoer was hailed into court for another infraction, the magistrate said, sternly, "The fines I have imposed to date apparently have made no impression on you. There is only one way to enforce the law on a driver like you, and spare you—and myself—these all too frequent visits. I am revoking your license!"

The magistrate had a long breathing spell. But one day, he bolted upright in his judicial chair as the incorrigible culprit was brought forward again. "Good heavens, man, I thought I'd never see you again! What's the charge—driving without a license?"

"No, Your Honor," was the shame-faced reply, "I was arrested for jay-walking!"

FELON FLEES FORTUNE

It cost a Columbia, S. C., convict a pretty sum to escape from the prison farm. Ray Bailey, who had served 20 years of a life sentence, escaped while attending his chores after requests for parole were denied. What officials found during their investigation was \$18,000 in crisp bills, hidden in his mattress. Prison pay wasn't that good, they hastily explained. Since 1936, Bailey had invested shrewdly in the stock market. The officials were confident that Bailey and his money would soon be reunited, as police picked up his trail.

GUNMAN'S END

Not long ago, a veteran villain of several dozen hold-ups was arrested and brought to trial, charged with first-degree robbery with a dangerous weapon. Both the defendant and

his lawyer ridiculed the charge, indicating that the "weapon" was nothing more than a cap pistol, colored and weighted to resemble a genuine gun. "It's only a toy," argued the lawyer, realizing that his case rested on the weapon. "And you wouldn't find a man guilty of wielding such an innocent thing."

"On the contrary," said the judge, after a moment of pondering, and examining the exhibit. "This cap pistol is heavy enough to have been used as a dangerous weapon, although the defendant never did strike anyone with it. A similar case occurred in 1948 in California, and I shall use that as a precedent. Therefore, I find the defendant guilty as charged of first-degree robbery!"

PUN IN THE PEN

Visitor: "And what is your name?"

Prisoner: "32646."

Visitor: "But that isn't your real name."

Prisoner: "No, that's only my pen name."

BLOTTER JOTTINGS

NOTTINGHAM, England: To lift their spirits, inmates of the city jail were granted permission by the warden to keep parakeets and canaries in their cells.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.: On trial for having embezzled a tidy sum of money from the bank where he worked, a bookkeeper testified that he had invested it in the bank's stock.

MICHIGAN STATE PRISON: An inmate sweeps, tidies up his cell, puts on a fresh uniform, and shaves before he reads his wife's letters.

EDMONTON, ALTA.: When a surprised home-owner returned after a vacation to find his house gone, neighbors confirmed his story to police by claiming that they had seen someone load the three-room structure on a truck and drive away.

SANTA ANA, Calif.: The police chief decided that two small foreign cars may be parked in a single metered space.

A DOZEN TIMES A YEAR I SAW DETECTIVE BRUCE PERRY STEP INTO THE SHOES OF MEN MARKED FOR SUDDEN DEATH! WHY DID HE DO IT? HOW COULD HE FACE SUCH TERRIBLE ODDS TIME AND TIME AGAIN? THESE WERE THE FACTS I MUST KNOW TO TELL THE TRUE STORY OF...

THE HUMAN TARGET



IT WAS AFTER TIM CURRAN'S BIG CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT THAT IT ALL BEGAN! AS A REPORTER, I WAS ALLOWED INSIDE HIS DRESSING ROOM...

TIM, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT CRANK LETTER THREAT ON YOUR LIFE IF YOU WON THE FIGHT TONIGHT?

THAT'S THE STORY I WANT! FOR A MONTH, CURRAN'S BEEN THREATENED WITH DEATH IF HE WON THIS BOUT-- AND NOW HE HAS!

FORGET IT, BOYS, JUST LIKE I SAID!

WHEN THE ROOM WAS CLEARED, I HID FOR A CHANCE TO TALK TO CURRAN...

A DETECTIVE FROM THE SIXTH PRECINCT--AND HE'S DISGUIISING HIMSELF AS **THE CHAMP!**

YOU'VE GOT NERVE, PERRY! THE CHAMP AND I ARE PRETTY SURE THAT DEATH THREAT IS SERIOUS! CERTAIN PEOPLE WANTED US TO LOSE THIS FIGHT BAD!



IT HIT ME LIKE A LIGHTNING BOLT! PERRY WAS BEING A HUMAN TARGET FOR CURRAN...

WELL, I'M TRAINED TO GUARD AGAINST ATTACKS ON HUMAN LIFE--CURRAN ISN'T, AND--

HELLO, FELLOWS! SORRY TO PLAY HIDE AND SEEK--BUT ANYTHING GOES FOR A GOOD STORY!

RANDALL, THIS IS MY JOB--NOT ONLY PROTECTING THE CHAMP BUT OTHER VICTIMS OF DEATH THREATS! IF YOU REVEAL MY OPERATIONS, IT WILL ALERT THE WOULD-BE MURDERERS!

BUT I DIDN'T GET MY STORY--NOT THEN! THEIR ARGUMENTS WERE TOO GOOD... SURE, SURE, I UNDERSTAND! LET'S MAKE A DEAL-- YOU LET ME IN ON YOUR WHOLE PLAY! THEN, WHEN YOU RETIRE...OR GET KILLED, I PRINT THE ENTIRE STORY!



THAT'S HOW I MET BRUCE PERRY, THE DETECTIVE NOW KNOWN AS "THE ICEMAN" BECAUSE OF HIS STEEL NERVES! LATER THAT EVENING...

GOT TO WALK JUST LIKE THE CHAMP-- LEFT SHOULDER LOW!

WHAT A JOB-- DOUBLING FOR MEN WHO ARE THREATENED! HE MUST HAVE ICE WATER RUNNING THROUGH HIS VEINS!

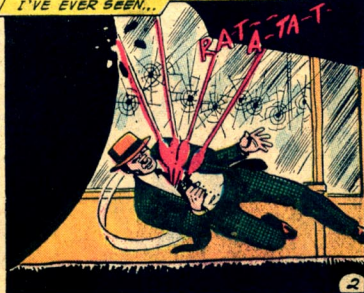
WITHOUT HESITATING FOR A MOMENT, HE HEADED INTO THE SHADOWS... HE'S DELIBERATELY WALKING DOWN THAT SIDE STREET! HE WANTS TO BE BAIT FOR THE KILLERS-- TO DRAW THEM OUT AND END THE SUSPENSE!



A MOMENT LATER, IT HAPPENED WITH MACHINE-GUN SPEED...

THIS IS IT!

THE "ICEMAN" OUTMATCHED A HOODLUM TOMMY-GUN WITH THE QUICKEST DRAW I'VE EVER SEEN...



I KNEW I HAD THE HOTTEST STORY IN TOWN ON MY HANDS! WHY DID THIS ICY-NERVED DETECTIVE WILLFULLY LIVE IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH...? I TOLD THE PRECINCT CAPTAIN ABOUT MY DEAL WITH PERRY...

ALL RIGHT, RANDALL, WE'RE GIVING YOU ACCESS TO ALL THE STORY MATERIAL ON PERRY YOU WANT! BUT REMEMBER, NOT **ONE WORD** UNTIL HE RETIRES... OR DIES!

CAPTAIN, MY WORD IS MY BOND! AND BESIDES, I WOULDN'T WRITE ONE WORD THAT MIGHT HARM A MAN WITH HIS COURAGE!

THE "ICEMAN'S" BACKGROUND WAS FANTASTIC! ONCE, HE HAD STEPPED INTO THE SHOES OF A THREATENED ACTOR...

THE STAGE HAND-- HE'S THE MAN WHO'S BEEN AFTER THE ACTOR'S LIFE!



ANOTHER TIME, HE HAD IMPERSONATED THE MAYOR HIMSELF WHEN A CRACKPOT WAS BENT UPON ASSASSINATION...

ONLY A MAN WITH PERRY'S TRAINING COULD HAVE SAVED THE SITUATION... A HOME-MADE BOMB...

AN ARM-- IN MOTION TO THROW AN OBJECT...



...THAT CAN BE DOUSED IN THE LAKE--!



WITHOUT A DOUBT, HIS HONOR WOULD HAVE DIED THAT DAY HAD NOT PERRY STEPPED IN HIS PLACE...

A--A BOMB! GOSH! WHAT A COOL NUMBER THE MAYOR IS GRABBING THAT BOMB LIKE THAT!

SEIZE THAT MAN, OFFICERS!



MY RESEARCH ON PERRY FINISHED, I VISITED HIM TO ASK HIM THE KEY QUESTION -- **WHY** DID HE CHOOSE THIS LIFE OF COLD, CALCULATED COURAGE...?

MY FATHER WAS A HAUNTED MAN, RANDALL! AS A POPULAR POLICE OFFICER, HE WAS HATED BY THE UNDERWORLD! THEY SWORE TO GET HIM... AND THEY DID! I WANT TO SAVE OTHERS FROM THAT TERRIBLE FEAR!

I UNDERSTAND, PERRY.



I WATCHED "THE ICEMAN" PREPARE FOR HIS NEXT ASSIGNMENT. NOT A MUSCLE TREMBLED. HE WAS AS COOL AND AS CONFIDENT AS THOUGH HE WERE GOING TO A COSTUME BALL...

PRINCE NARGAR OF INDIA ARRIVES THIS MORNING AND HE'S GOING TO GET A TICKET-TAPE RECEPTION. OF COURSE, DETECTIVES WILL FLANK HIS CAR. BUT IN CASE A SHOT GETS THROUGH--

SO YOU'RE TAKING HIS PLACE BECAUSE HIS ENEMIES HAVE MARKED HIM FOR DEATH!

LATER, I WAS IN THE CAR BEHIND PERRY AS HE PLAYED THE ROLE OF THE PRINCE... EVERY

HOW DOES HE DO IT? HOW CAN HE FACE DEATH TIME AND TIME AGAIN WITHOUT A QUALM?

WINDOW CAN CONCEAL AN ASSASSIN...

THE BULLET CAME SUDDENLY... BUT PERRY MOVED WITH THAT SAME SWIFT REFLEX I HAD SEEN BEFORE...

I SPOTTED HIM! DOWN, GOVERNOR!

BANG BANG

PERRY... PERRY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

JUST CREASED MY FOREHEAD!... UP THERE! THE KILLER'S IN THE BANK BUILDING--THIRD FLOOR, WINDOW ON THE LEFT!

I HELPED HIM TO THE SQUAD CAR, MARVELING AT HIS COOL REACTION TO NEAR DEATH...

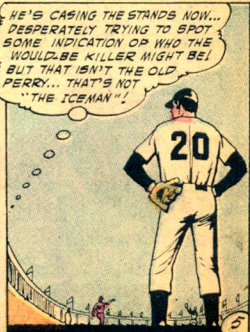
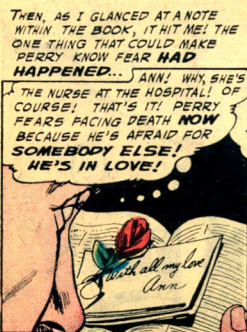
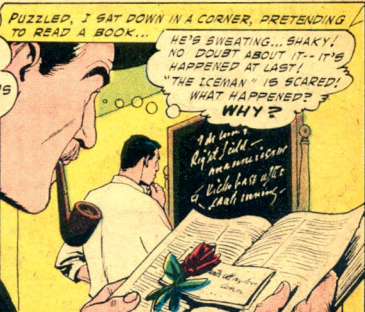
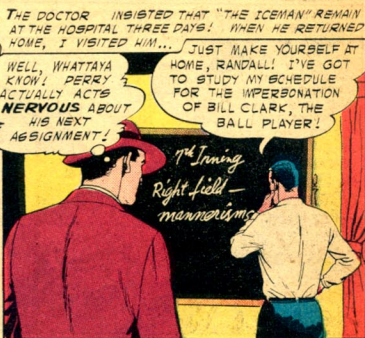
WAS ANYONE HURT? HAVE THEY CAUGHT HIM?

TAKE IT EASY, PERRY! THEY'VE GOT THE BUILDING SURROUNDED, AND POLICE HAVE GONE AFTER HIM! LET'S GET YOU TO THE HOSPITAL!

LATER, AT THE HOSPITAL...

I HAVE TO GET BACK TO DUTY, RANDALL! I'VE ASSIGNED MYSELF TO IT! I'M BEING DEPENDED ON!

GREAT GOSH, PERRY! YOU DON'T MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO GO OUT ON ANOTHER CASE-- RIGHT AFTER WHAT'S HAPPENED!



THE FIRST TWO OUTS WENT BY WITHOUT INCIDENT! THEN, AS AN EASY FLY FELL INTO PERRY'S GLOVE...

THAT BALL WAS IN HIS GLOVE! A BOY COULD HAVE HELD ONTO IT! HE'S ACTUALLY FRANTIC...



THE SUSPENSE WAS TREMENDOUS! I KNEW PERRY WAS AS HELPLESS AGAINST THE KILLER NOW AS YOU OR I! BUT, THE NEXT BATTER STRUCK OUT, ENDING THE INNING...

THIRD BASE BAG IS IN BAD SHAPE! GOT TO PEG DOWN A NEW ONE!

PERRY MADE IT! IT WAS A PHONEY THREAT AGAINST RIGHT FIELDER BILL CLARK! WHEW!



BUT AS PERRY APPROACHED THE DIAMOND...

GOT TO REMEMBER TO KICK THIRD BASE AS CLARK DOES! CAN'T LET THE FANS SUSPECT SOMEBODY'S SUBSTITUTING FOR HIM BECAUSE OF THE THREAT!... WAIT A MINUTE! THIS IS ODD!



SUDDENLY, 20,000 FANS AND I SAW "CLARK" TAKE OFF HIS GLOVE, AND...

HUH? CLARK'S THROWING DOWN HIS GLOVE! HE MUST BE MAD ABOUT SOMETHING!



ABRUPTLY...

THE GROUNDSMAN! STOP THE GROUNDSMAN WHO PUT DOWN THAT BAG!

AFTERWARD, I RACED TO THE DRESSING ROOM WHERE PARK POLICE HAD LOCATED THE CRACKPOT...

SO THAT'S MY STORY! AFTER THAT, THERE WAS ONLY ONE OTHER TIME I EVER SAW HIM REALLY NERVOUS...

...YOU MEAN, BECAUSE THAT BAG WAS PUT DOWN AT THE WRONG ANGLE YOU GOT WISE TO HIM, PERRY?

THAT AND THE FACT THAT IT HAD A PECULIAR BULGE, COLLINS! REMEMBER, MY 7TH INNING WASN'T OVER TILL I REACHED THE DUGOUT! I HAD TO BE ON GUARD!

HA-HA! THAT WEDDING RING SCARES HIM MORE THAN A TOMMY-GUN!



END.

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WINS BIG GAME!



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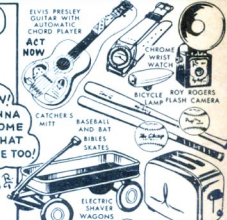
GIVEN!
BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!
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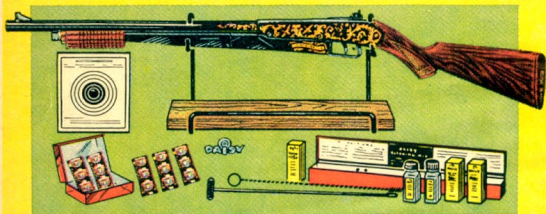


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