



THE "THUNDER PEOPLE," AS THE BHUTANESE CALL THEM-SELVES, REFLECT THE STRENGTH OF THEIR RUGGED MOUNTAINS.

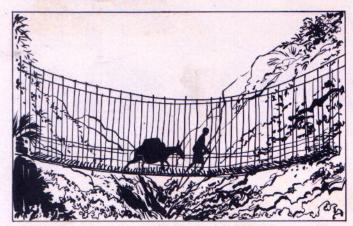
SHOOTING WITH THE LONGBOW IS THE MOST POPULAR SPORT IN BHUTAN... ROBIN HOOD OF MERRIE ENGLAND WOULD HAVE LOVED THIS.



LIKE THE INDIAN TRIBES OF OUR AMERICAN SOUTH-WEST, THE BHUTANESE STAGE RELIGIOUS DANCES IN STRANGE COSTUMES.



MEN AND WOMEN SHARE EQUALLY IN LABOR FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FAMILY...THRASHING IS DONE WITH JOINTED FLAILS.



AUTOMOBILE ROADS ARE UNKNOWN IN BHUTAN--- AND BRIDGES ARE SOMETIMES SWAYING THINGS LIKE THIS, ACROSS CHASMS.



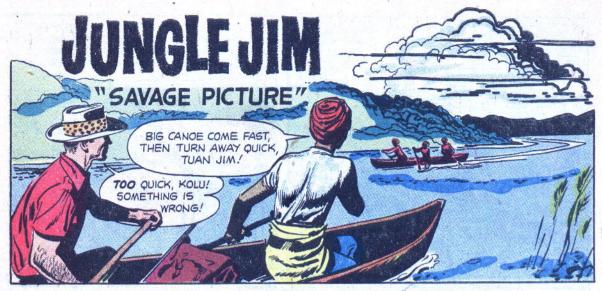
HUNDREDS OF MEN AND YOUTHS IN BHU-TAN BECOME BUDDHIST MONKS, OR "LAMAS," LIKE THESE. THE STATE SUPPORTS THEM.

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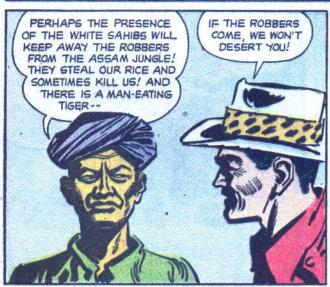




























BUT THE NEWCOMER IS NOT A TIGER! SNIFFING AND "POOFING" A LARGE HIMALAYAN BEAR AND HER





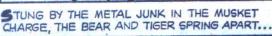
















A MOVEMENT ON THE MACHAN CATCHES THE TIGER'S EYE -- AND LOCATES AN ENEMY IN THE BIG CAT'S MIND!





EVEN AS JIM SLAMS ANOTHER SHELL INTO THE FIRING CHAMBER, CLEVE MARKHAM FILMS A CLOSE-UP. THE







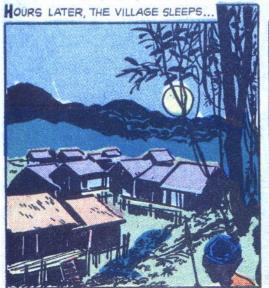












































WAKED SUDDENLY BY THE FLASH OF LIGHT, AND THE BEAR'S LOUD "WOOFING," ONE ROBBER FIRES THE STOLEN MUSKET INTO THE DARKNESS.



IT WAS THE WORST THING THE MAN COULD HAVE DONE -- TO THESE PARTICULAR BEARS! WITH SAVAGE GRIWLS, THEY WHIRL TO CHARGE THE WHIFF OF



THEN THE TWO CAPTURED RIFLES OF JIM AND KOLU CUT LOOSE, AIMED IN THE GENERAL



TO THE SHAGGY BRUTES, THE GUNFIRE RECALLS



.. AND IN THE DARKNESS, THE ADVANTAGE IS ALL



















N HER HUNGER, RANGE FORGETS HER PURSUERS. SHE RETURNS TO HER KILL OF THE NIGHT

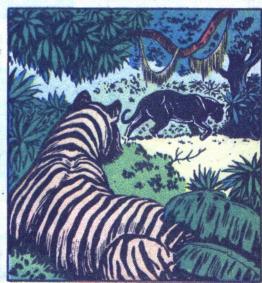


... BUT SOMETHING IS WRONG. THE JUNGLE PIG BEARS A FAINTLY FAMILIAR SCENT. RANEE



THOUGH HUNGRY, RANEE WATCHES FROM THE NEARBY UNDERBRUSH AS TARG THE PANTHER MOVES IN ON



















BUT THE BURNING HUT HAS BROUGHT RANEE TO THE SCENE, TOO. SHE REMEMBERS THE YELLOW



HER FURY AROUSED, THE JUNGLE PRINCESS





TWO YEARS BEFORE, THEIR FIRES HAD DRIVEN THE GAME FROM THE LAND -- JUST AS THEY



BUT THE INVADERS HAVE TURNED DOWN RANEE'S FAVORITE HUNTING TRAIL AND NOW-SUDDENLY...















Jungle Jitters



The jungle was almost silent. Overhead in the high distant branches magpies chattered. Before the remains of the small fire Rhani, a young Indian boy, did up the last of the clay dishes. Seated beside him, its intelligent eyes following his every move, was the monkey Yaperie. These two were inseparable friends.

A moment later the flaps on the nearby tent parted and Greg Carter came their way. He was a broad-shouldered man and his lean, tanned face bore a grim

expression.

"You about ready, Rhani?" he asked. "Ready in a moment, Sahib," Rhani re-

plied.

He added the last clay dish to the stack and bent low in Yaperie's direction. With a deft leap the small monkey was on Rhani's shoulder, one arm affectionately draped around his neck. Rhani smiled at

Carter. "Yes, we are ready."

Carter shook his head indicating no, and Rhani's smile vanished. He began to plead, but Carter cut him short. "I can't chance it, not on today's hunt. If we were after small game I'd say fine, but this is different. We're after a tiger, and a bad one. If Yaperie was to become frightened, start chattering . . . well, it could be too bad for all of us."

He didn't continue. There was really nothing more to say.

"Yes, Sahib," Rhani said slowly. "I will

put him in his cage."

Two hours later, in the depth of the steaming jungle, Greg Carter's practiced eye had singled out the tiger's spoor. Rhani bent low beside him, carefully scrutinizing the imprints which were clearly

defined in the soft earth. "Very big tiger, Sahib," he said softly.

"Very big," Carter repeated, "and not far off either!"

Cautiously they started forward again, their eyes glued to the trail. For a while the track was clear, but up a bit the earth became hard packed, and then suddenly the tiger's tracks were gone altogether!

Now a stillness fell across the jungle, and their every step seemed magnified and overloud. In a way, Carter wished he had never taken on the hunt in the first place. And yet the tiger had become more than a nuisance. In less than a month's time it had killed over a dozen of the villagers' cattle and they had all pleaded with the mighty white hunter to destroy the evil one. He had told them he would try. Now there was no going back. Suddenly the air was filled with a wild, chattering sound. It was coming from behind, and both Carter and Rhani swung about to meet it.

Rhani gave a gasp of surprise. He pointed aloft to the branches. "It is Ya-

perie, Sahib!"

Somehow the monkey had freed itself from its cage and followed them. Only Greg Carter's eyes were seeing much more. He saw the tall grass bend and weave; caught sight of yellow fur; heard the swift rush of padded feet. "Look out!" Carter yelled, swinging the rifle to his shoulder.

The thunderous roar of his gun drowned out Rhani's cry of surprise. The tiger, caught in mid-air, suddenly went limp, then fell to the ground in a lifeless heap.

"The tiger, he had circled around us,"

Rhani muttered.

"So he did," Carter replied. He smiled at Yaperie who had scampered to Rhani's shoulder. "And if it wasn't for Yaperie and his warning, that tiger would have had us cold!"

Then they laughed, the welcome laughter that comes when a crisis is passed. Yaperie joined in, chattering away, proud and pleased and it was almost as though he had understood all that had taken place.

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WELL, KOLU, WE'VE BITTEN
OFF ALL WE CAN CHEW, THIS
TIME-MAYBE MORE! AND IF
OUR BUSINESS BECOMES
KNOWNKNOWN
WELL, KOLU, WE'VE BITTEN
IT WILL BE KNOWN,
TUAN JIM! THE
JUNGLE KEEPS FEW
SECRETS FOR LONG!
PERHAPS EVEN NOW-





















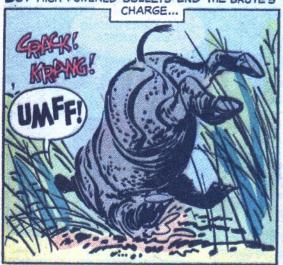




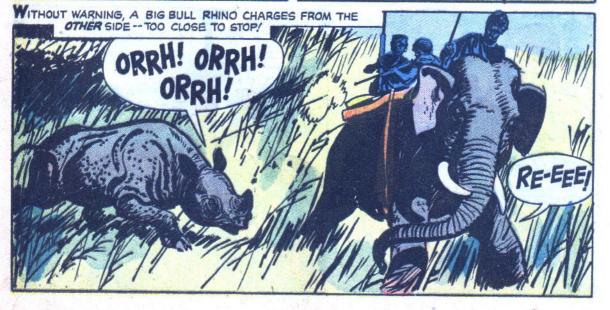


BUT HIGH-POWERED BULLETS END THE BRUTE'S

... AND DOWN GOES THE RHINO COW'S CALF, TOO!







SASTER THAN AN ELEPHANT, THE BULL SLASHES IN FRIGHT AND PAIN, THE ELEPHANT SPINS ABOUT, HIGH WITH HIS LONG, LOWER INCISOR TEETH! EE-UUUH!

















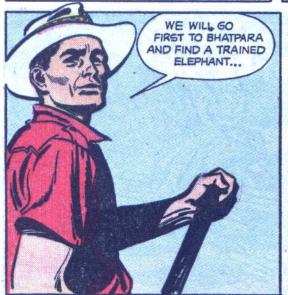




























MINUTES LATER, THE LAUNCH WITH THE SMALLER FLOAT PULLS OUT INTO THE WIDE RIVER.

CHIES! CHUS!

CHUS! CHUS!





WITH THE FLOAT NEARLY TOUCHING THE LAUNCH'S STERN, JIM AND KOLU LEAR...















FOR THREE MORE HOURS, ONLY THE SOFT THROB OF LAUNCH ENGINES BREAKS THE SILENCE OF THE



THEN, CUTTING ITS MOTOR, THE LEADING CRAFT





OMENTS LATER, THE WELL-DRESSED CHINESE INSPECTING THE RHINO CARCASS GIVES A SHARP WARNING!











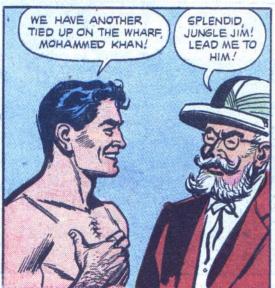












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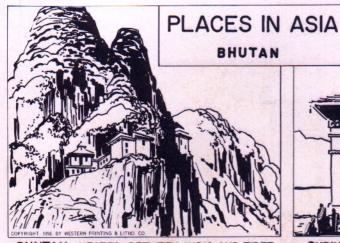
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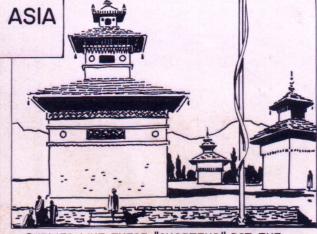
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JOHN C. WEBER (Seal) (My Commission Expires March 30, 1958)

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BHUTAN, NESTED BETWEEN INDIA AND TIBET, IS A COUNTRY OF MOUNTAINS AND MONASTERIES, FARMS AND FORTRESSES.



SHRINES LIKE THESE "CHORTENS" DOT THE CULTIVATED MOUNTAIN VALLEYS. WINDOWLESS, THEY HOUSE SACRED OBJECTS.



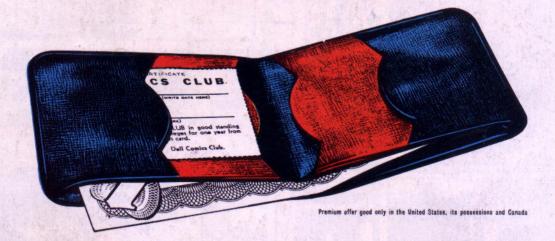
FORTRESSES LIKE THIS IN THE HA VALLEY, ARE THE COMMUNITY CENTERS OF BHUTAN, WHERE CHILDREN ARE SCHOOLED AS WELL.



THE HOMES OF BHUTAN ARE WELL BUILT, OF WOOD, ADOBE AND STONE. WALLS ARE THREE FEET THICK, THE FIRST FLOOR IS A STABLE.



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