

DELL
COMIC

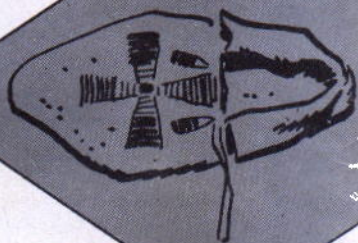
THE LONE RANGER'S COMPANION

FEBRUARY - APRIL

10¢

TONTO





indian

moccasins

Moccasins vary in shape, according to the tribes of the wearer, but they are generally of only two kinds, hard-sole and soft-sole. The Plains and Southwest Indians make uppers of soft buckskin and soles of stiff rawhide. The soft-sole type, worn by the Woodland tribes, is made of calf, sheep, or any other soft skin.

Among the soft-soles is a type made with a puckered front. One tribe, the Chippewas, get their name from these moccasins. Chippewa means "people of the puckered moccasins."

An Indian scout can tell a man's tribe by simply looking at his moccasins. Some experts can identify the tribe by the shape of the tracks alone. Indian tribes have been known to deceive their enemies, during war, by wearing the moccasins of another tribe.

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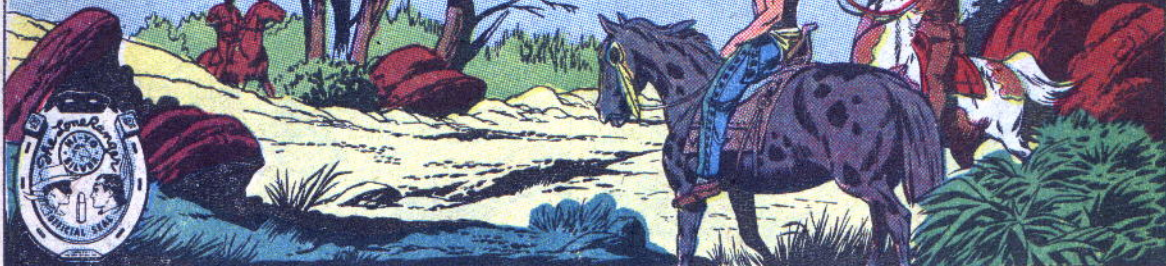


TONTO

and THE STRANGER

HE RIDES AN **INDIAN** PONY, BUT I DO NOT RECOGNIZE IT, TONTO!

YET HE WEARS THE CLOTHES OF A **WHITE MAN**, STONE BEAR, AND I AM CERTAIN I HAVE NEVER SEEN THAT RIDER BEFORE!



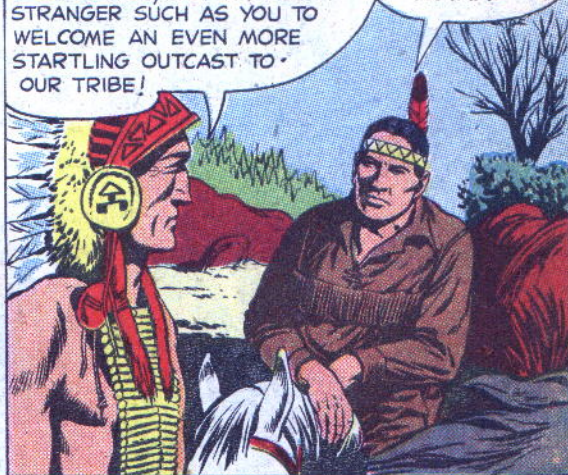
THE SUN IS BEHIND HIM, I CAN NO LONGER MAKE HIM OUT---

---WE WILL SOON GET A CLOSER LOOK AT HIM, THE STRANGER COMES THIS WAY!



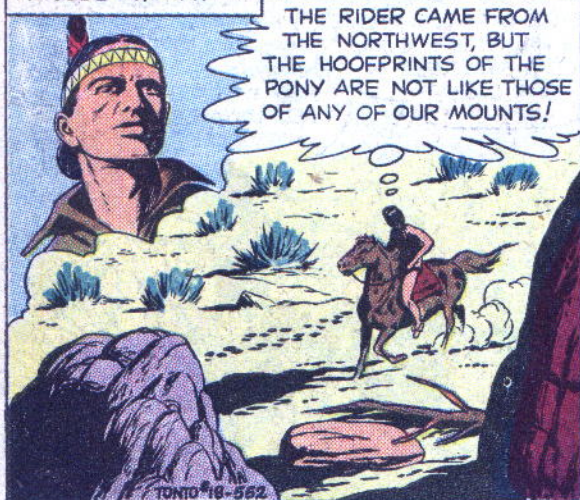
MANY, MANY MOONS AGO **YOU** WERE A **STRANGER** AMONG OUR PEOPLE, BUT IT TOOK A STRANGER SUCH AS YOU TO WELCOME AN EVEN MORE STARTLING OUTCAST TO OUR TRIBE!

YES--- I REMEMBER **NAKAL**---

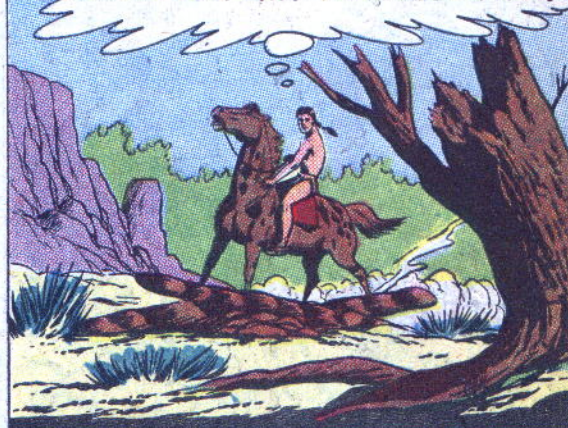


I WAS RIDING, WHEN A TRAIL SUDDENLY CUT ACROSS MY WAY---

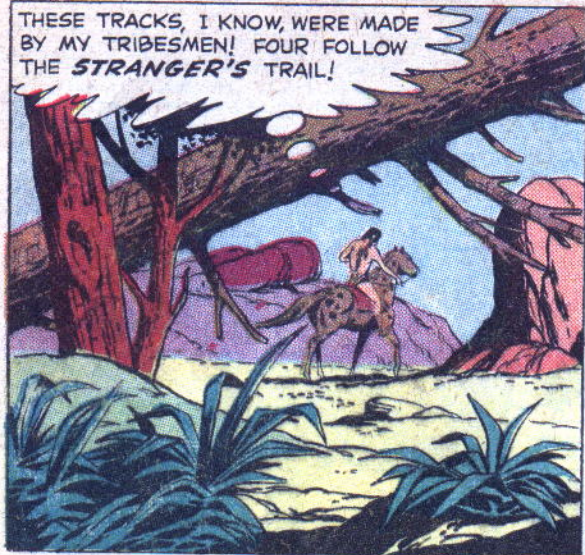
THE RIDER CAME FROM THE NORTHWEST, BUT THE HOOFPRIINTS OF THE PONY ARE NOT LIKE THOSE OF ANY OF OUR MOUNTS!



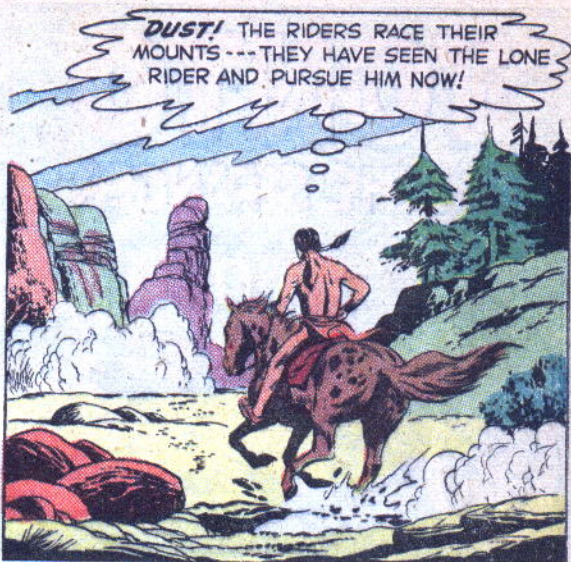
SOON--- HE CAMPED HERE LAST NIGHT! SURELY, IF HE WAS ONE OF OUR PEOPLE OR EVEN FROM AN ALLIED TRIBE HE WOULD HAVE RIDDEN ON TO BE WELCOMED AT OUR COUNCIL FIRE! **WHY DID HE KEEP APART?**



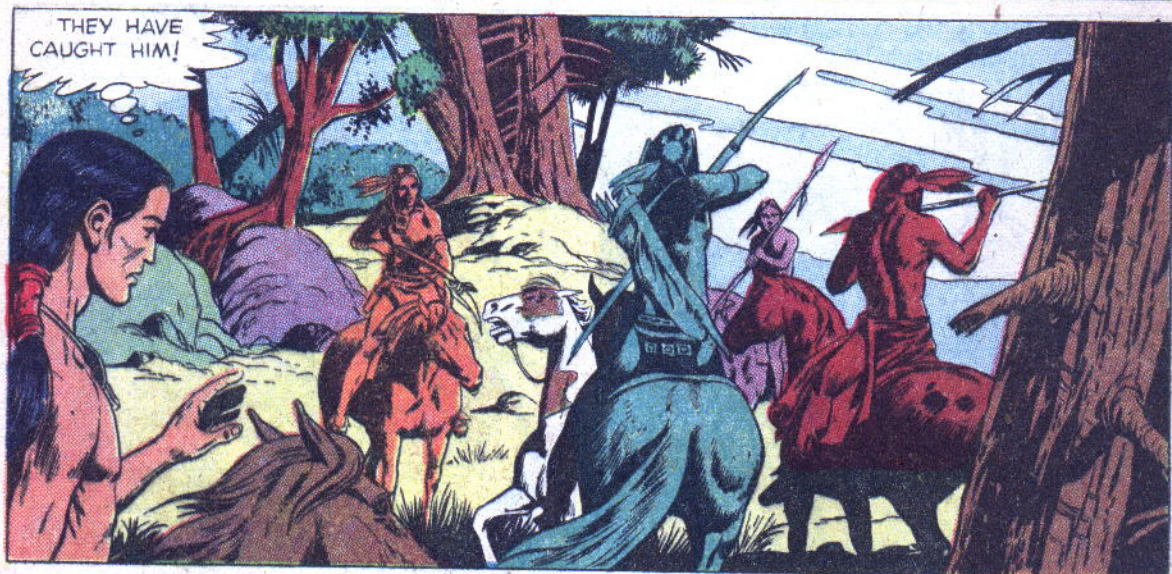
THESE TRACKS, I KNOW, WERE MADE
BY MY TRIBESMEN! FOUR FOLLOW
THE **STRANGER'S** TRAIL!



DUST! THE RIDERS RACE THEIR
MOUNTS --- THEY HAVE SEEN THE LONE
RIDER AND PURSUE HIM NOW!



THEY HAVE
CAUGHT HIM!



I HAVE TOLD YOU ONCE
ALREADY I AM NAKAL
---A CHINOOK!

WE HAVE NEVER
HEARD OF YOUR PEOPLE,
NOR SEEN ONE WHOSE
HEAD IS SHAPED LIKE
YOURS! LEAVE OUR LAND
---NO ONE HERE SPEAKS
FOR YOU!



HE **STAYS!** I WILL WELCOME
HIM TO OUR COUNCIL FIRE,
AS STONE BEAR WELCOMED
ME WHEN I WAS ALONE
AND A STRANGER IN
YOUR LAND!

BUT STONE BEAR KNEW
OF YOUR COURAGE, TONTO,
AND THAT YOUR FATHER
WAS A CHIEF! YOU KNOW
NOTHING OF THIS ONE AND
YOU WILL BE HELD
ACCOUNTABLE FOR
HIS DEEDS!



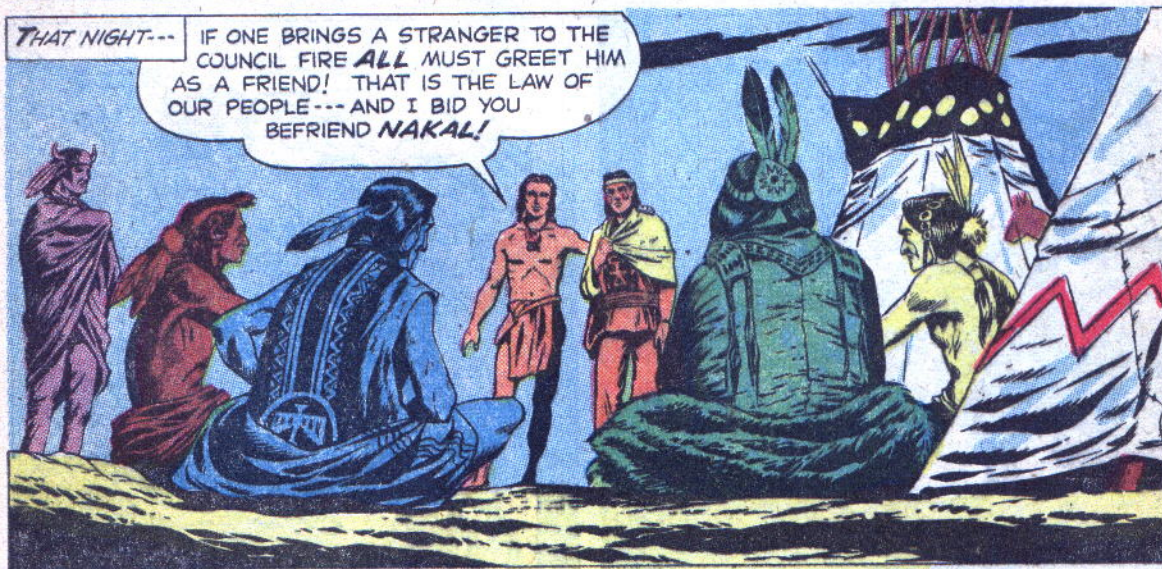
I AM WILLING TO TRUST TO MY STANDING
IN THE TRIBE WITH HIS DEEDS ---
COME, NAKAL, WE RIDE TO MY
TEPEE!



YOU HAVE WELCOMED ME AND I THANK YOU,
TONGO! MY BROTHER SOUGHT TO SLAY OUR
CHIEFTAIN AND TAKE HIS PLACE AMONG OUR
PEOPLE! FOR HIS CRIME, OUR WHOLE FAMILY
WAS SCATTERED---MY JOURNEY BROUGHT ME
HERE! I PROMISE, YOU WILL
NOT REGRET HAVING
SPOKEN FOR ME!



THAT NIGHT--- IF ONE BRINGS A STRANGER TO THE
COUNCIL FIRE **ALL** MUST GREET HIM
AS A FRIEND! THAT IS THE LAW OF
OUR PEOPLE--- AND I BID YOU
BEFRIEND **NAKAL**!



THE NEXT DAY---
NEVER HAVE I SEEN
SO SKILLFULLY-MADE
A FISHING HOOK,
NAKAL!

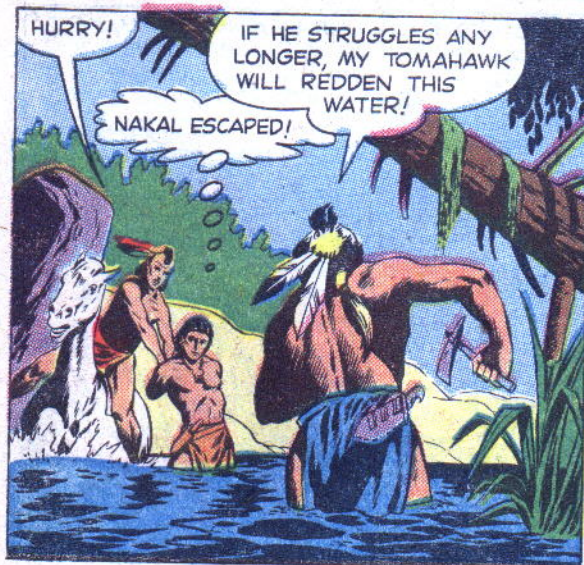
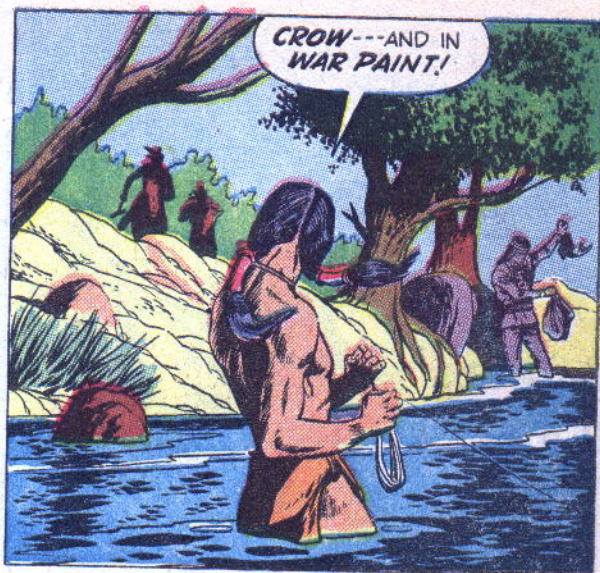
THE LODGES OF MY
PEOPLE WERE BY THE
SHORES OF A MIGHTY
RIVER! WATER IS OUR
ELEMENT--- FISH OUR
FOOD! NOW TRY THE
HOOK, TONGO!



TWO HORSES, BUT
ONLY ONE YOUTH
IS SEEN---

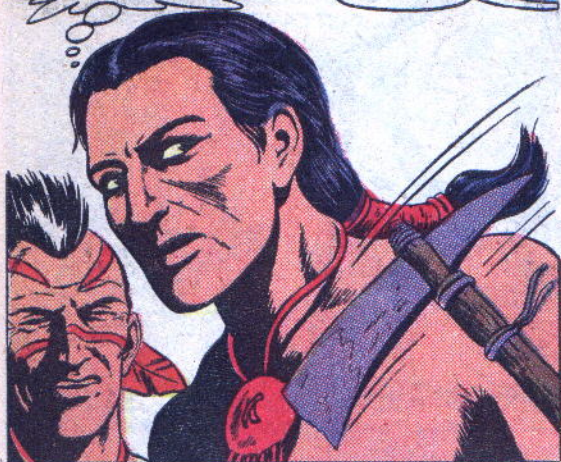
---**TAKE HIM!** WE WILL MAKE
HIS TONGUE SPEAK FREELY
AND TELL US ALL WE NEED TO
KNOW TO ATTACK HIS TRIBE
SUCCESSFULLY!



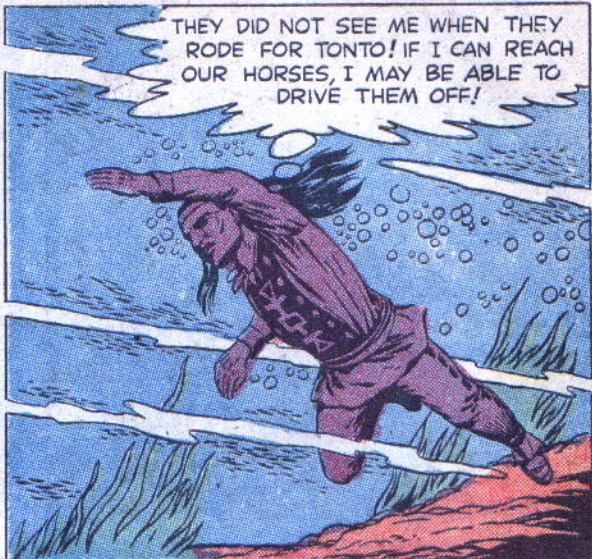


AS LONG AS NAKAL GOT
AWAY I HAVE A CHANCE
TO BE RESCUED!

ANSWER QUICKLY
OR THIS TOMAHAWK
STRIKES!



THEY DID NOT SEE ME WHEN THEY
RODE FOR TONTO! IF I CAN REACH
OUR HORSES, I MAY BE ABLE TO
DRIVE THEM OFF!

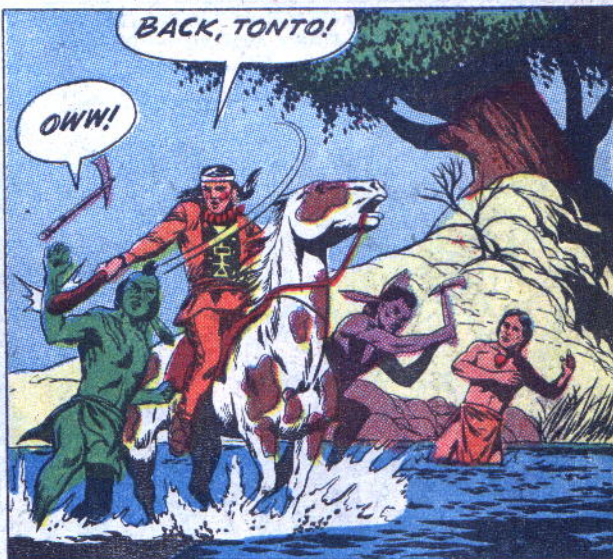


GIAA!

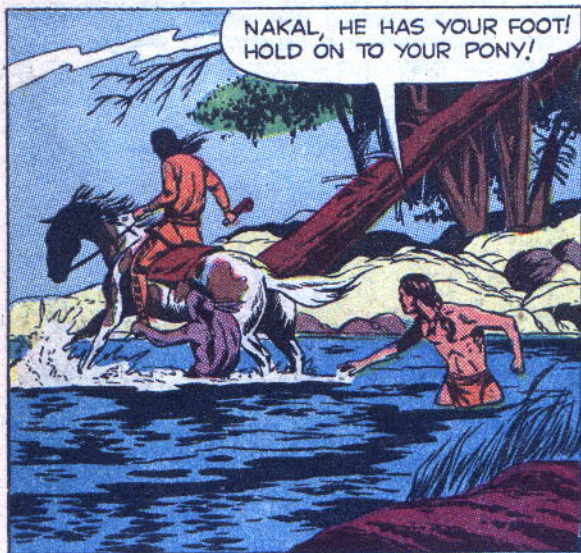


BACK, TONTO!

OWW!



NAKAL, HE HAS YOUR FOOT!
HOLD ON TO YOUR PONY!



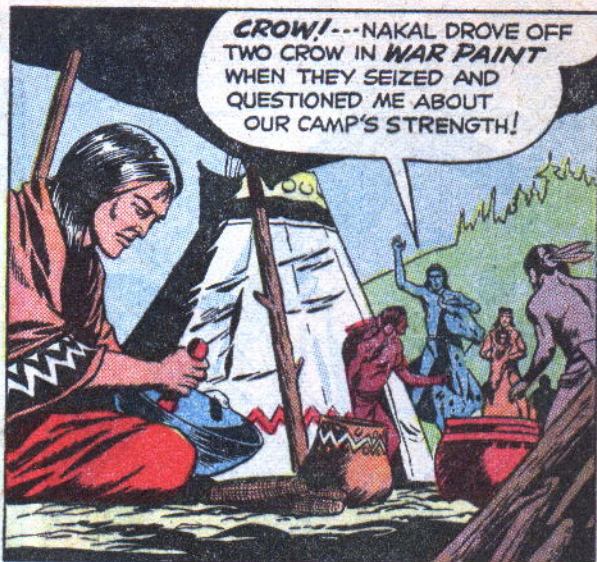
YEOOW!



THEY RIDE OFF LIKE BEATEN
COYOTES WHOSE TAILS TRAIL
BETWEEN THEIR FLEEING LEGS!

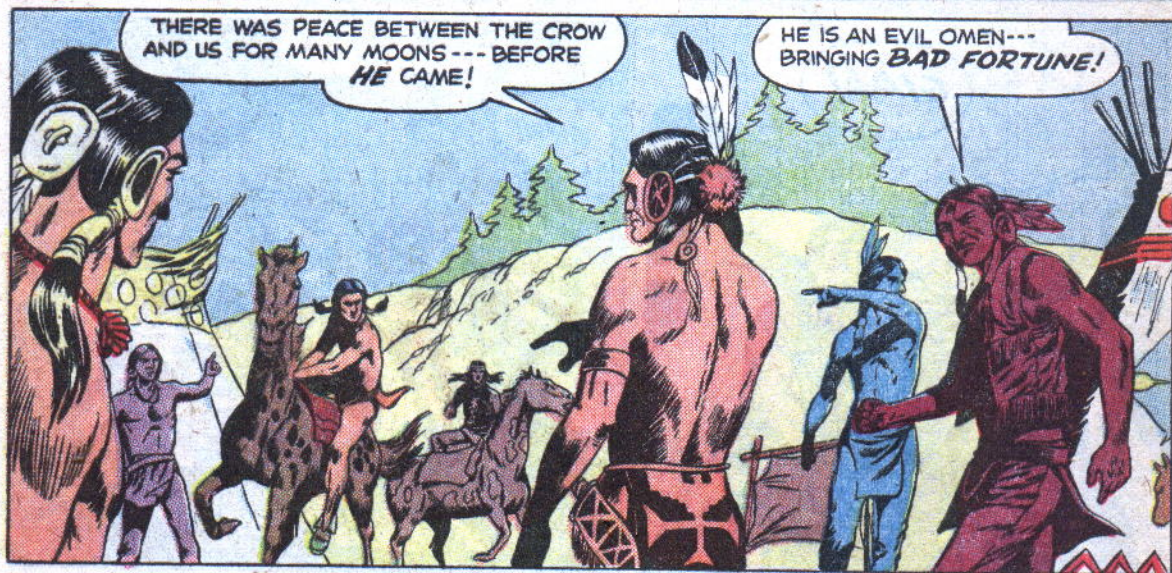


CROW!---NAKAL DROVE OFF
TWO CROW IN **WAR PAINT**
WHEN THEY SEIZED AND
QUESTIONED ME ABOUT
OUR CAMP'S STRENGTH!



THERE WAS PEACE BETWEEN THE CROW
AND US FOR MANY MOONS--- BEFORE
HE CAME!

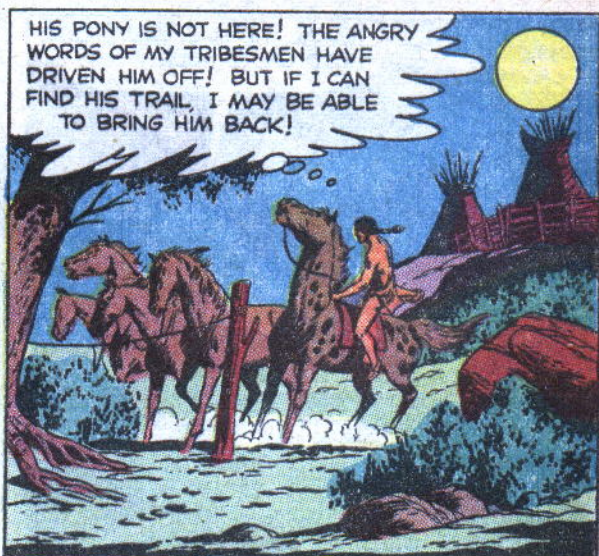
HE IS AN EVIL OMEN---
BRINGING **BAD FORTUNE!**



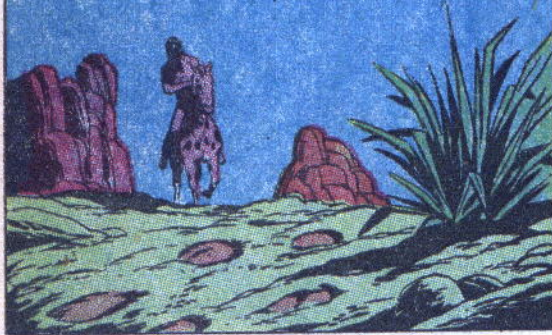
THAT NIGHT--- NAKAL, I HAVE---
NAKAL---**GONE!**



HIS PONY IS NOT HERE! THE ANGRY
WORDS OF MY TRIBESMEN HAVE
DRIVEN HIM OFF! BUT IF I CAN
FIND HIS TRAIL, I MAY BE ABLE
TO BRING HIM BACK!



THE MOON IS BRIGHT, HIS TRAIL IS CLEAR! HE IS AN OUTCAST AND A STRANGER, HE DOES NOT KNOW WHERE TO GO, HE WILL TRAVEL SLOWLY!



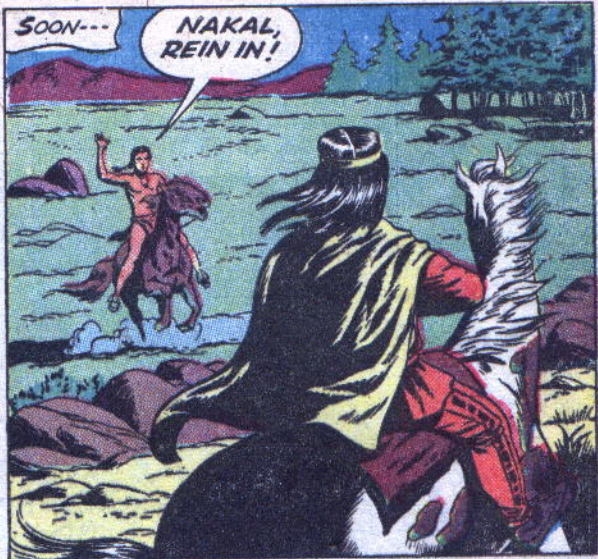
I-IT IS NO USE, TONTO! YOUR PEOPLE BLAME ME FOR THE CROW WARRIORS' PRESENCE---SOON, **ALL** MISFORTUNE WILL BE ATTRIBUTED TO ME AND **YOU** WILL SUFFER BECAUSE YOU BROUGHT ME TO THE COUNCIL FIRE!

DO NOT LET THEIR WORDS DRIVE YOU OFF, NAKAL! THEY ARE GOOD AND KIND PEOPLE, BUT SOMETIMES CRUEL THOUGHTS RUN AWAY WITH THEIR TONGUES!



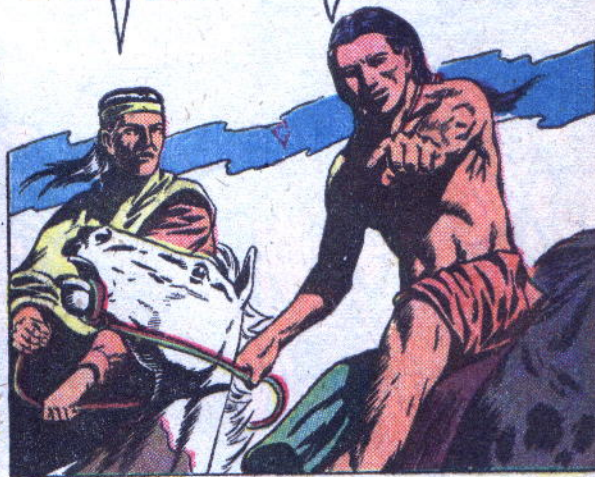
SOON---

NAKAL, REIN IN!



IT IS NO USE ARGUING, I AM GOING---

---LOOK, BELOW!




THEY ARE LIKE THE WAR-PAINTED ONES OF EARLIER ---CROW! THEY SEE US!

THEY MUST BE THE WAR PARTY THE OTHERS SCOUTED FOR! WE CAN TRY ONE TRICK ---PRETEND **WE** SCOUT FOR OUR TRIBE'S BRAVES AND THEY ARE RIGHT **BEHIND US!**




WAVE YOUR HANDS, NAKAL, AS IF WE WERE SIGNALING OUR WARRIORS TO RIDE UP AND JOIN US!---DO IT WELL, FOR IF THE BLUFF FAILS, WE WILL NOT REACH OUR CAMP IN TIME!





DRAW REIN! THE TWO BRAVES
ON THE RIDGE HAVE SEEN US,
BUT THEY DO NOT TURN BACK!
THEY **SIGNAL**---OTHER
WARRIORS MAY BE BEHIND
THEM, RIDING TO ATTACK US!




THE CROW WAR
PARTY HAS
HALTED---


---NOW THEY THINK THERE
MAY BE BRAVES FOLLOWING
US! WHILE THEY HESITATE
WHETHER TO ADVANCE OR TURN
BACK, MAYBE WE CAN CONVINCE
THEM WE LEAD MANY WARRIORS
BY **RIDING DOWN TOWARD
THEM!**



THEY RIDE DOWN
THE RIDGE!



THEY WOULD NOT BE SO
BOLD UNLESS THERE WERE
ENOUGH BRAVES FOLLOWING
THEM TO OUTNUMBER US!
TURN BACK!



THEY FLEE---

---WE WILL FOLLOW
TO THE WOODS!



SUDDENLY---

THEY MUST HAVE LEFT A REAR
GUARD BEHIND TO DELAY OUR
PURSUIT! IF WE STOP NOW, HE
MAY SEE NO ONE FOLLOWS US
AND THEY ALL WILL RETURN!



THERE HE IS, TONTO!

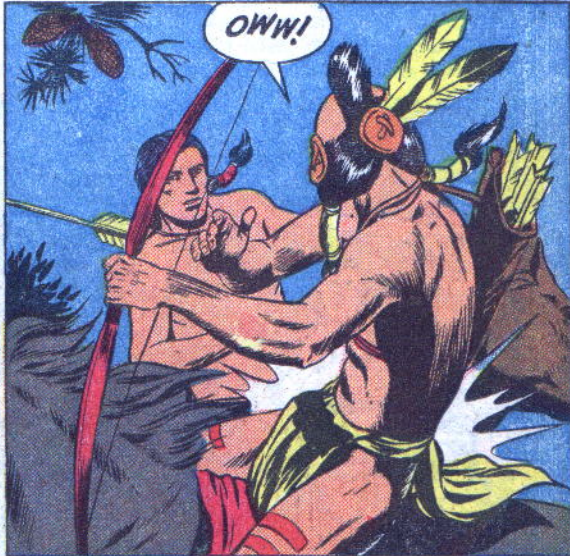
HE AIMS AT YOU,
NAKAL! **DOWN!**



IF I CAN REACH HIM BEFORE
THE BOWSTRING SNAPS---



OWW!



BUT FOR YOU, I AND NOT
THIS TREE TRUNK
WOULD HAVE FELT
THE ARROWHEAD!

THE CROW DEPART!
THE WAR PARTY
WILL NOT ATTACK
OUR CAMP TONIGHT!

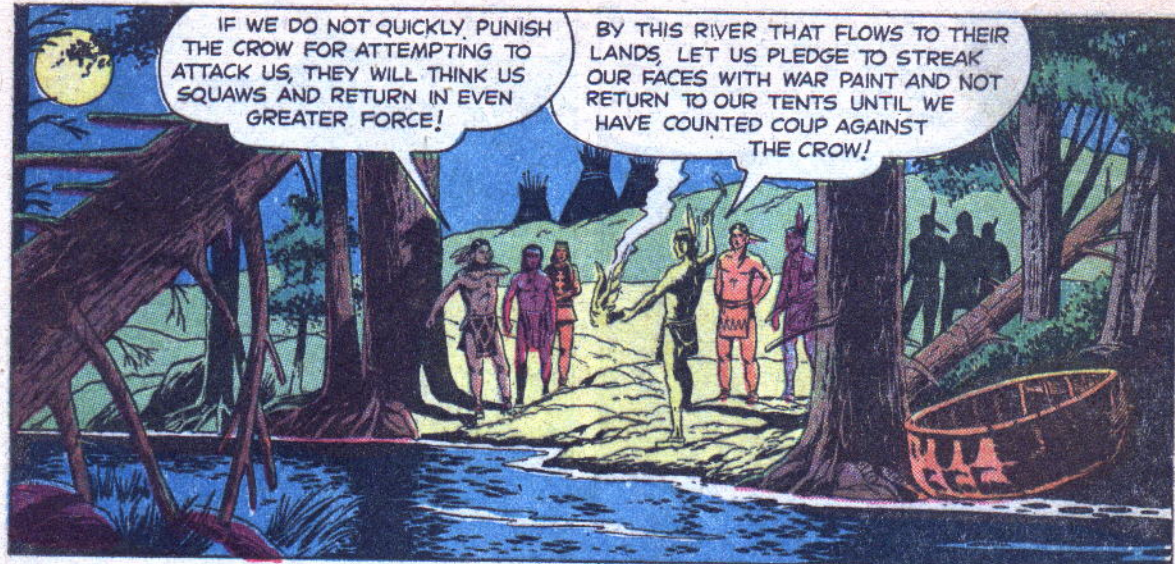


LATER---

YOU HAVE BOTH
DONE WELL
THIS NIGHT---

---BUT THE CROW HAVE
CLEARLY SHOWN THAT
THERE MUST BE **WAR** BE-
TWEEN OUR PEOPLE!





IF WE DO NOT QUICKLY PUNISH THE CROW FOR ATTEMPTING TO ATTACK US, THEY WILL THINK US SQUAWS AND RETURN IN EVEN GREATER FORCE!

BY THIS RIVER THAT FLOWS TO THEIR LANDS, LET US PLEDGE TO STREAK OUR FACES WITH WAR PAINT AND NOT RETURN TO OUR TENTS UNTIL WE HAVE COUNTED COUP AGAINST THE CROW!

YOU SAY THIS RIVER FLOWS TO THEIR LAND--- THEN WHY NOT ATTACK **BY WATER?**

WAR PONIES SURELY ARE SWIFTER THAN ANY CANOE WE CAN MAKE!

THE CROW WILL EXPECT YOU TO STRIKE BACK AND THEY WILL BE ON THEIR GUARD ALONG THE PLAINS FOR, LIKE YOU, THEY WILL REASON THE FASTEST WAY TO THEIR LANDS **IS** BY HORSE! BY WATER, YOU MAY **SURPRISE THEM!**

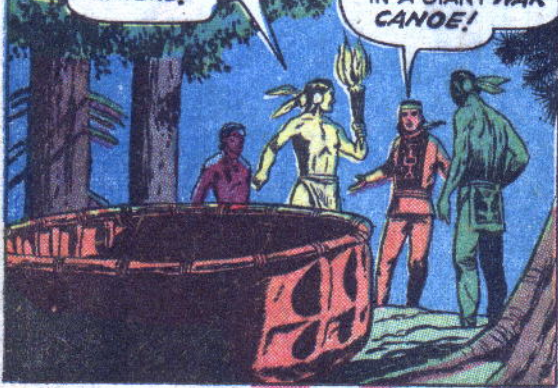


THE STRANGER SPEAKS CUNNINGLY! BUT THERE ARE **RAPIDS** BETWEEN THE CROW CAMP AND OURS! THE FRAIL BUFFALO HIDE BULL BOATS WE MAKE CANNOT PASS THROUGH THE WILD WATERS!

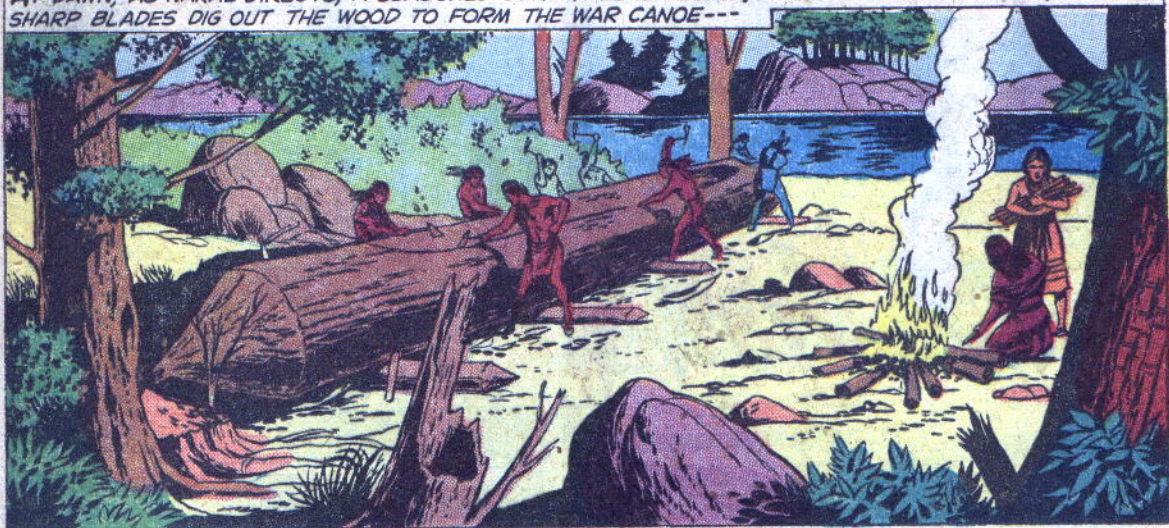
MY PEOPLE DWELL BY THE RAGING WATERS, LET ME SHOW YOU HOW TO ATTACK IN A GIANT **WAR CANOE!**

LET NAKAL HELP, FOR IF WE TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE, THE CROW CAMP WILL EASILY FALL PREY TO OUR ATTACK!

BY WATER THEN---LET THE CANOE BE MADE!



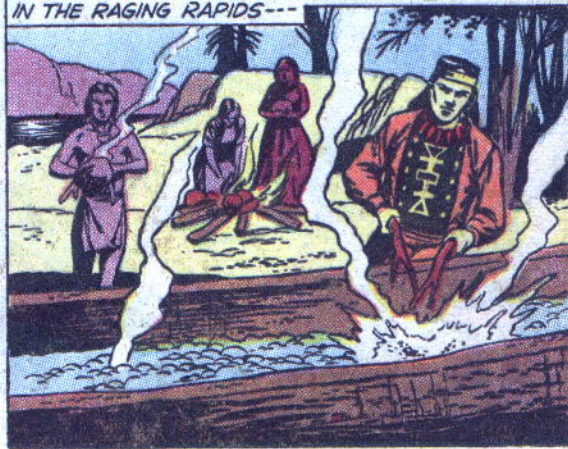
AT DAWN, AS NAKAL DIRECTS, A SEASONED DEAD TREE IS FELLED! THEN TOMAHAWK'S FLASH, AS THEIR SHARP BLADES DIG OUT THE WOOD TO FORM THE WAR CANOE---



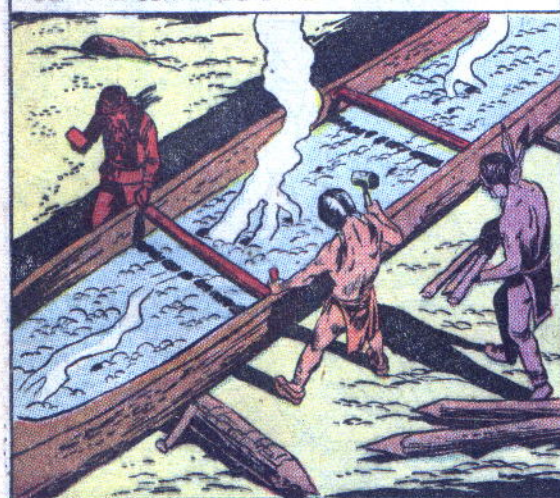
WHEN THE LOG IS HOLLOWED, WATER IS POURED INTO IT---



THEN HEATED STONES ARE DROPPED INTO THE WATER! THE WATER BOILS AND BUBBLES INSIDE THE CANOE, AS ITS SIDES BECOME PLIABLE AND SPREAD WIDER SO THE CANOE WILL NOT OVERTURN IN THE RAGING RAPIDS---



STRONG THWARTS ARE DRIVEN INTO PLACE TO KEEP THE GUNWALES SPREAD APART---

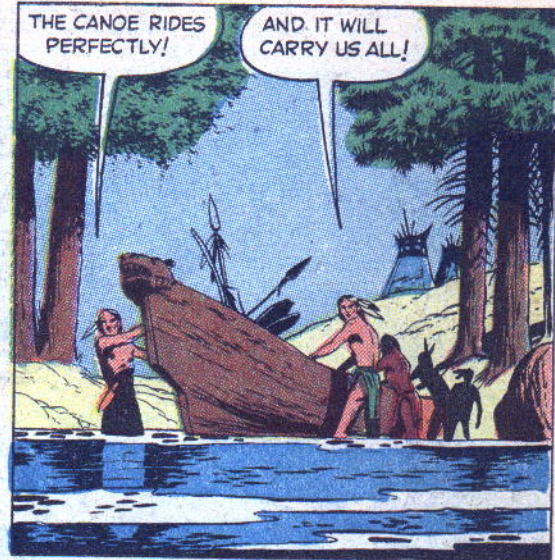


FINALLY, NAKAL'S SKILLFUL KNIFE CARVES A GOOD LUCK TOTEM ON THE PROW---

THE GRIZZLY BEAR
THE RIGHT SIGN FOR WAR!

THE PADDLES ARE
MADE! NOW LET THE
CANOE BE LAUNCHED
FOR THE CROW
CAMP!





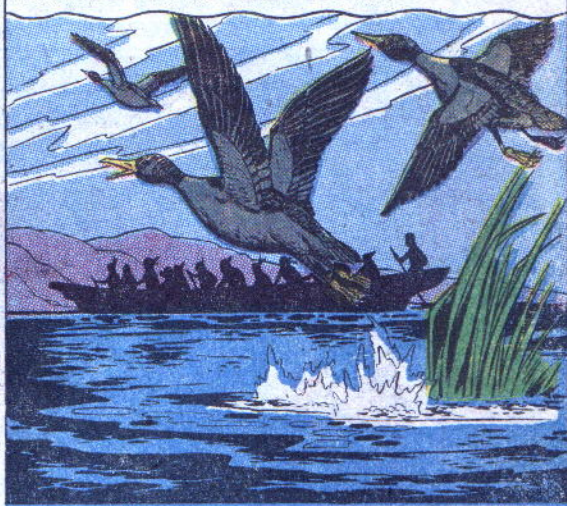
SILENTLY AND RHYTHMICALLY, THE PADDLES DIP INTO THE WATER, ARE FEATHERED FORWARD AND PUSHED BACK AGAIN, AS THE CANOE SWEEPS ACROSS THE DARKENING WATERS---



YOUR PEOPLE HAVE
LEARNED QUICKLY, TONTO!
THE CANOE MOVES
SMOOTHLY!



AS TWILIGHT FALLS, THE WAR CANOE STEADILY
ADVANCES TOWARD CROW COUNTRY---

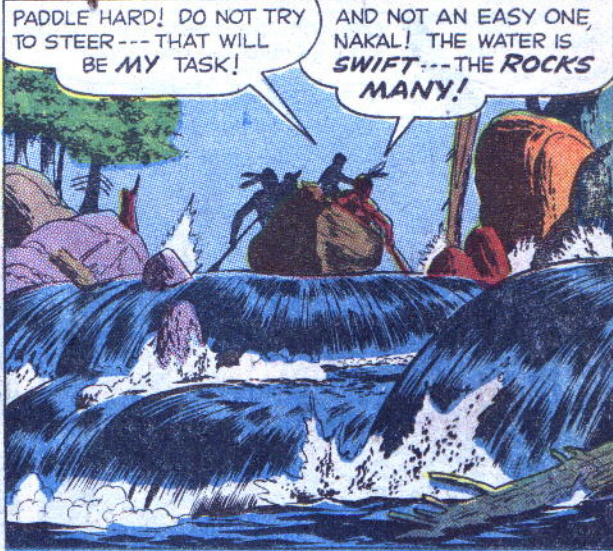


NAKAL, **WHITE WATER**---
AHEAD LIE THE **RAPIDS**!



PADDLE HARD! DO NOT TRY
TO STEER--- THAT WILL
BE MY TASK!

AND NOT AN EASY ONE,
NAKAL! THE WATER IS
SWIFT--- THE **ROCKS**
MANY!



THE WATER FOAMS, BUT THIS IS LIKE MERE RIPPLES COMPARED TO THE RAPIDS OF MY HOMELAND!

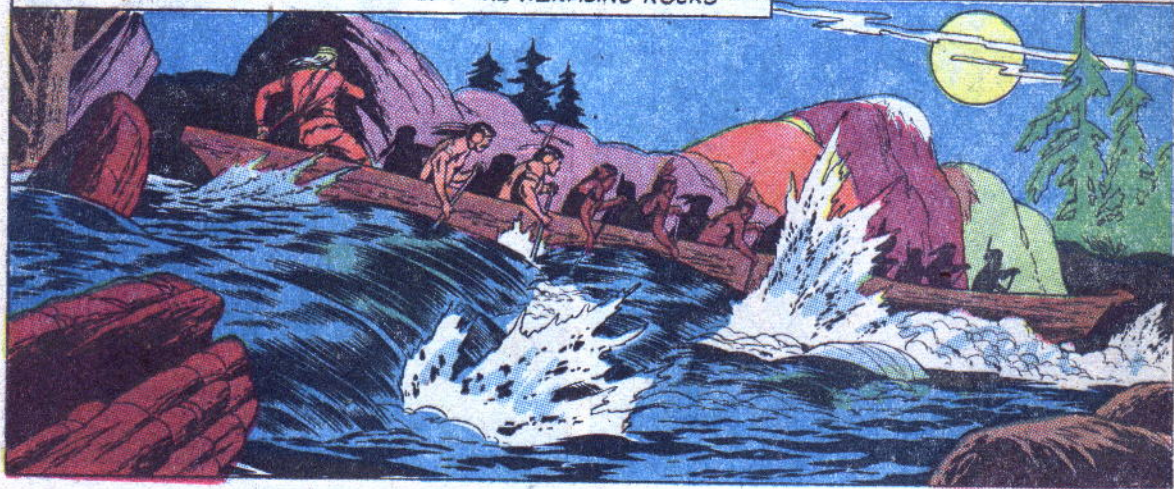


TURN FOR **SHORE!** WE WILL NEVER MAKE IT!

KEEP YOUR PADDLE WORKING OR WE WILL SURELY BE SMASHED ON THE ROCKS!



SUDDENLY, THE WAR CANOE DIPS OVER THE EDGE OF THE RAPIDS AND IS SWEEPED DOWN BY THE POWERFUL CURRENT! NAKAL'S HANDS WORK DESPERATELY AT THE STEERING PADDLE TO KEEP THE DUGOUT THREADING ITS WAY BETWEEN THE MENACING ROCKS---

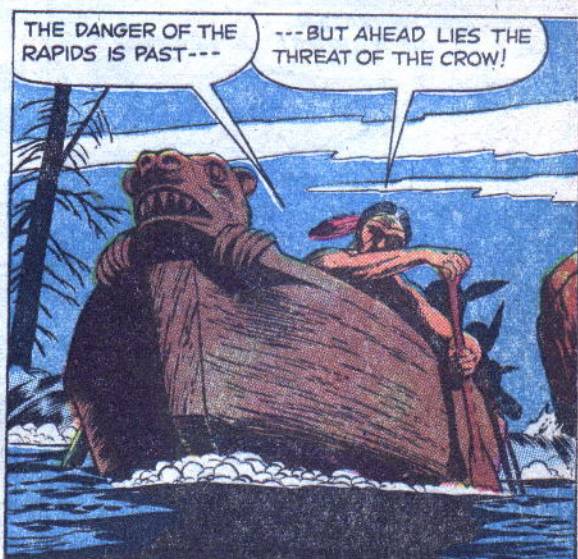


ONE MORE SWEEP OF THE PADDLES AND WE ARE CLEAR!



THE DANGER OF THE RAPIDS IS PAST---

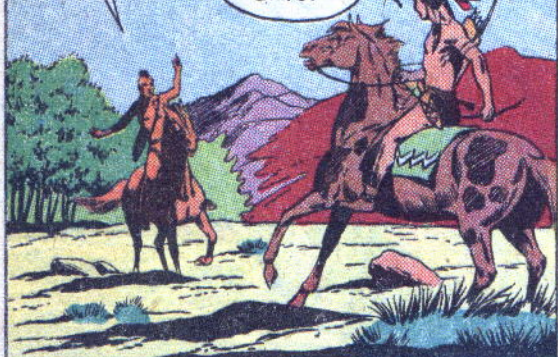
---BUT AHEAD LIES THE THREAT OF THE CROW!



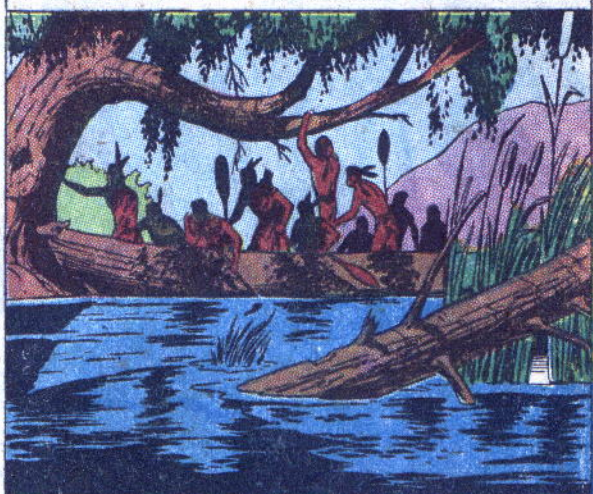
DAWN, JUST BEYOND THE CROW CAMP---

I HAVE SEARCHED
TO THE EAST---
NO SIGN OF
RIDERS THERE!

NOR ANY IN MY DIRECTION!
THEY ARE SQUAWS! THEY
STILL HUDDLE IN THEIR
TEPEES, TREMBLING WHEN
A COYOTE
BAYS!



MEANWHILE, NEAR THE REAR OF THE CROW CAMP, THE UNOBSERVED WAR CANOE ADVANCES---

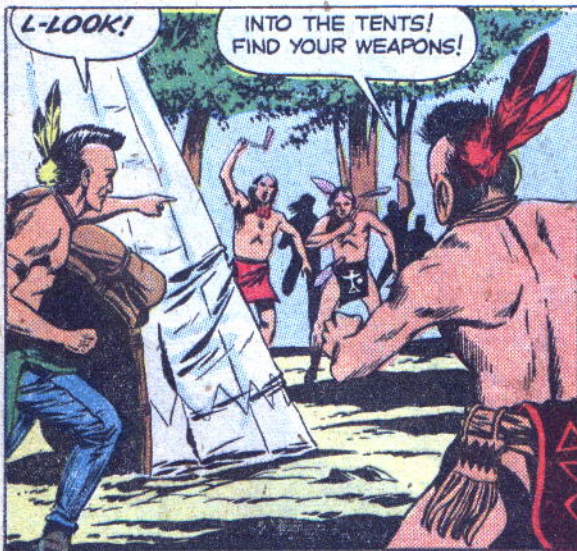


NO ONE WATCHES BY THE
RIVER SIDE! THEIR CAMP IS
JUST AHEAD---**ATTACK!**



L-LOOK!

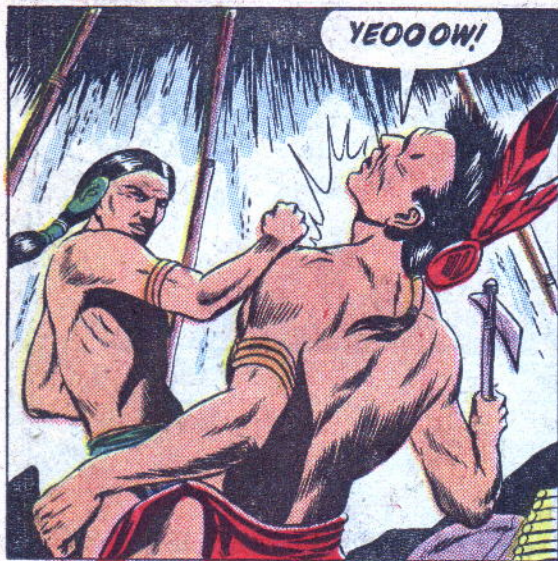
INTO THE TENTS!
FIND YOUR WEAPONS!



OWWW!

**YOU BROKE THE PEACE ---
NOW KNOW THE BITTER TASTE
OF WAR!**





YEOOOW!



I HAVE COUNTED THE BEST COUP OF ALL! BEHOLD! THE **CROW CHIEF**!



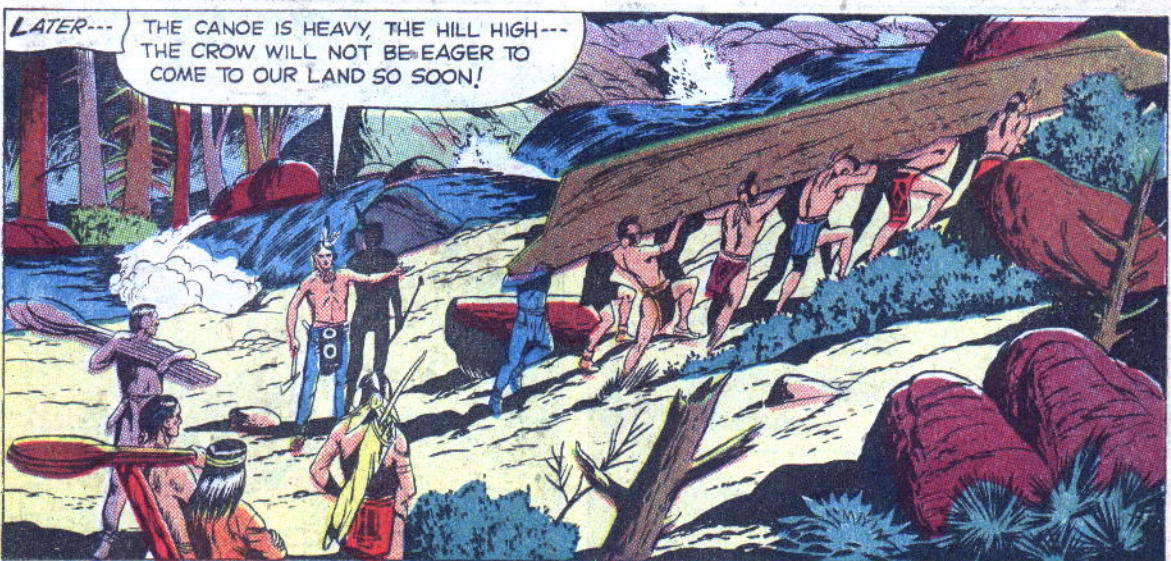
PEACE! --- LET YOUR WARRIORS STAY THEIR HANDS AND NAME YOUR TERMS!

HO! THE CROW CAWS FOR PEACE! ---PUT UP YOUR WEAPONS!



SOON---

AS THE SMOKE FLIES AWAY FROM THE SACRED CALUMET, SO LET HOSTILE FEELINGS DEPART BETWEEN OUR TRIBES! BUT THE WAR PARTY WHO CAME TO RAID US MUST BE **PUNISHED**---LET THEM PORTAGE OUR WAR CANOE PAST THE RAPIDS!



LATER--- THE CANOE IS HEAVY, THE HILL HIGH--- THE CROW WILL NOT BE EAGER TO COME TO OUR LAND SO SOON!

SOON--- THEY ARE BACK!

I HAVE COUNTED THE
PADDLERS---NO ONE
IS MISSING!



YES, VICTORY WAS OURS, THANKS TO THE
STRANGER! IT WAS WRONG TO SHUN HIM
BECAUSE HE WAS DIFFERENT FROM US! HAD
HE NOT COME, BRINGING WITH HIM HIS ALIEN
KNOWLEDGE, SADNESS---NOT TRIUMPH
WOULD REIGN IN OUR CAMP!



THROUGH YOU AND NAKAL, MY
PEOPLE LEARNED TO WELCOME
THE STRANGER, FOR THOUGH HIS
GARB AND APPEARANCE MAY BE
DIFFERENT FROM OURS, HE MAY
BRING UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS
WITH HIM!

THE RIDER
NEARS, STONE
BEAR, BUT **HE**
IS NO STRANGER!



NAKAL!

HOW, TONTO AND STONE BEAR! I
SCOUT NOW FOR THE YELLOWLEGS
BY THE GREAT WATERS OF THE WEST
WHERE MY PEOPLE DWELL! THE
SOLDIERS WERE PASSING EAST
AND I COULD NOT MISS THIS
CHANCE TO CALL UPON OLD
FRIENDS!

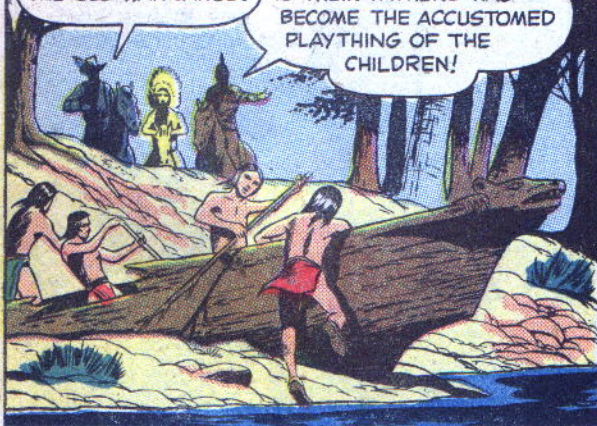


LATER, MEMORIES HAVING BEEN RENEWED, THE
FRIENDS PREPARE TO DEPART---

YES, NAKAL! WHAT

CHILDREN PLAY BY
THE OLD WAR CANOE!

WAS STRANGE AND SUSPECT
TO THEIR FATHERS HAS
BECOME THE ACCUSTOMED
PLAYTHING OF THE
CHILDREN!



MY PEOPLE HAVE TAKEN ME
BACK AGAIN, STONE BEAR!
BUT AMONG YOUR TRIBESMEN,
I NO LONGER FEEL A
STRANGER---THANKS TO
TONTO'S FAITH IN ME,
MANY MOONS AGO!

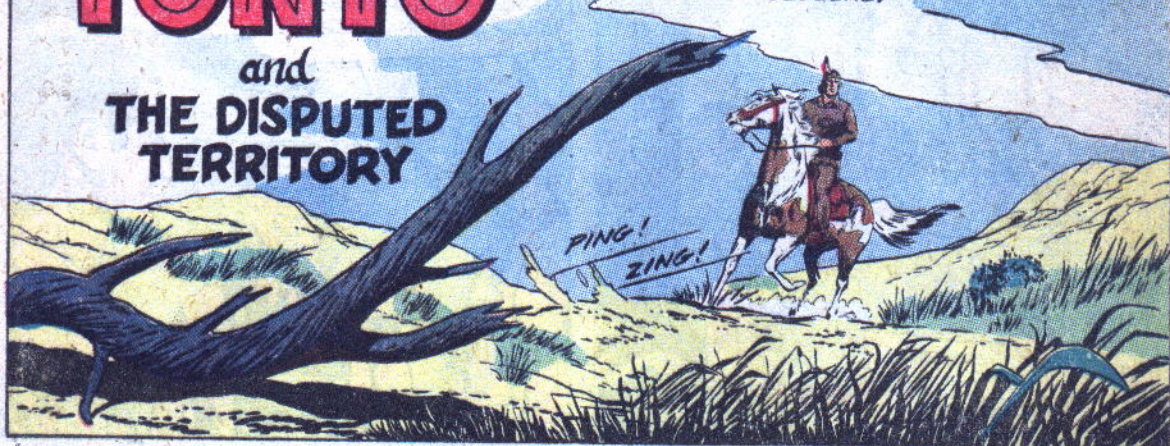
**GET-UM UP,
SCOUT!**



TONTO

and THE DISPUTED TERRITORY

AS TONTO RIDES ACROSS HIS
TRIBAL LANDS ON THE WAY TO
CHIEF STONE BEAR'S CAMP,
SUDDENLY---



REIN IN,
REDSKIN!

WHOA, SCOUT--- WHY
YOU FIRE AT TONTO?



YOU'RE
TRESPASSING!

YOU WRONG! THIS
INDIAN LAND! BELONG
TO STONE BEAR'S TRIBE!
YOU TRESPASS HERE!



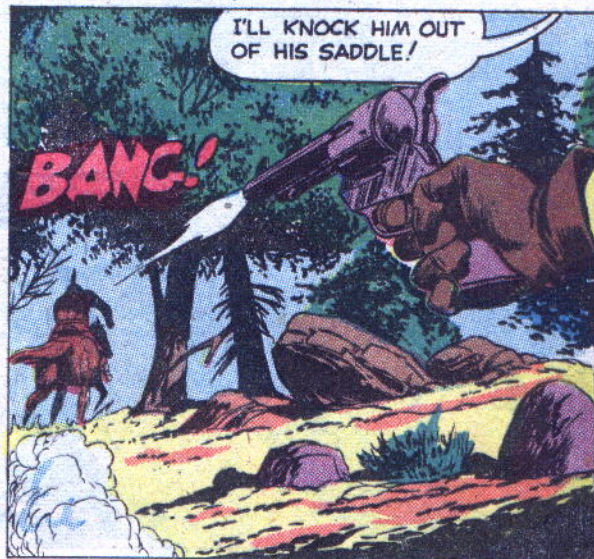
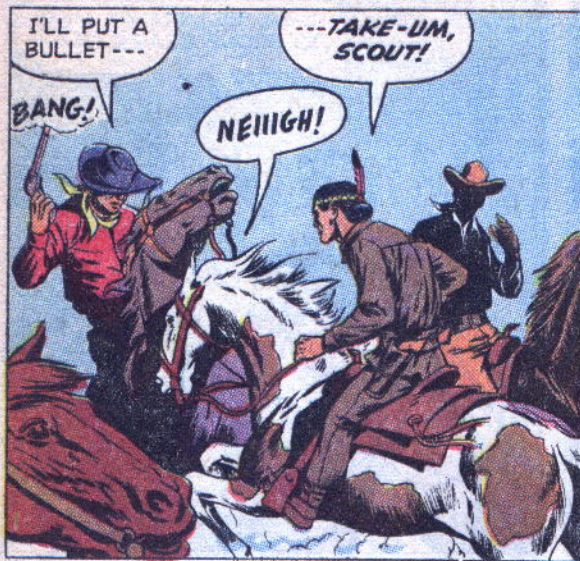
RUSS STONEWALL IS THE NEW
INDIAN AGENT IN THESE PARTS!
WHEN HE CAME HERE FROM
WASHINGTON YESTERDAY, HE
BROUGHT WITH HIM PAPERS
ALLOWING HIM TO SELL OFF
HALF OF STONE BEAR'S
LANDS TO SETTLERS!

GREAT WHITE
FATHER SIGN
TREATY NOT
MANY MOONS
AGO WITH
STONE BEAR!
SAY **NEVER**
BREAK IT!

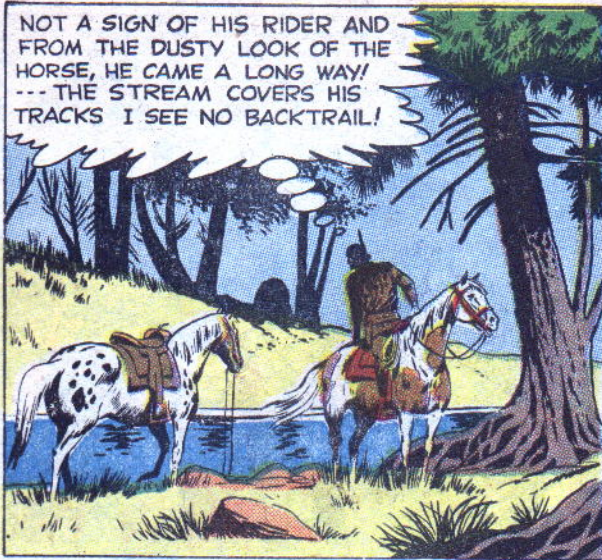


SCAR, I TOLD STONEWALL
HE'D HAVE A TOUGH TIME
CONVINCING SOME OF
THESE REDSKINS---

---I'LL MAKE IT
EASIER FOR HIM! I'M
GOING TO MAKE **THIS**
REDSKIN AN EXAMPLE
OF WHAT HAPPENS TO
ANY BRAVE WHO
CHALLENGES STONEWALL'S
ORDERS!



NOT A SIGN OF HIS RIDER AND
FROM THE DUSTY LOOK OF THE
HORSE, HE CAME A LONG WAY!
--- THE STREAM COVERS HIS
TRACKS I SEE NO BACKTRAIL!



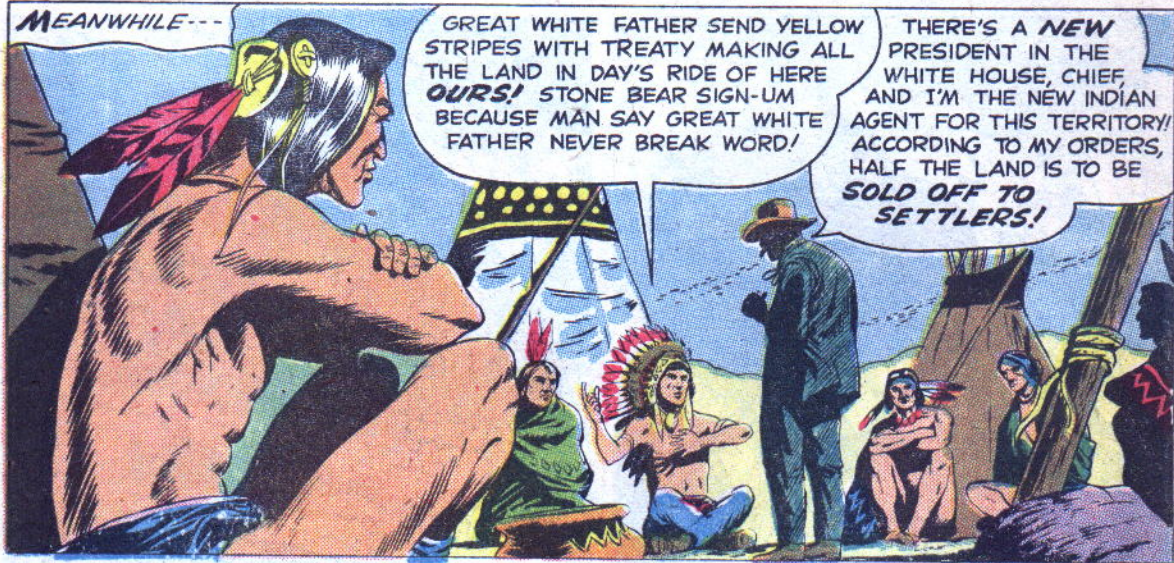
COME, FELLER! WE RIDE
TO STONE BEAR'S CAMP!



MEANWHILE---

GREAT WHITE FATHER SEND YELLOW
STRIPES WITH TREATY MAKING ALL
THE LAND IN DAY'S RIDE OF HERE
OURS! STONE BEAR SIGN-UM
BECAUSE MAN SAY GREAT WHITE
FATHER NEVER BREAK WORD!

THERE'S A **NEW**
PRESIDENT IN THE
WHITE HOUSE, CHIEF,
AND I'M THE NEW INDIAN
AGENT FOR THIS TERRITORY!
ACCORDING TO MY ORDERS,
HALF THE LAND IS TO BE
**SOLD OFF TO
SETTLERS!**

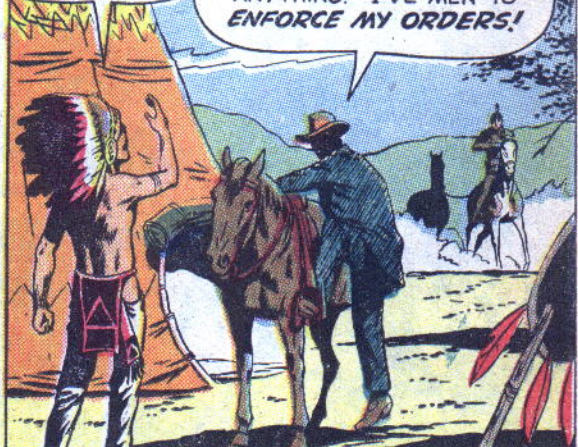


THEN, BYE 'M BYE
ANOTHER NEW AGENT
COME SELL OFF
HALF LAND LEFT!

HERE ARE MY CREDENTIALS,
CHIEF! DON'T BE ANGRY
WITH ME! I'M ONLY
DOING WHAT I'M TOLD!

MY PEOPLE NOT
LIKE HAVING
LAND TAKEN---

---AND THEY'LL LIKE EVEN
LESS WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO
ANY BRAVE WHO TRIES
ANYTHING! I'VE MEN TO
ENFORCE MY ORDERS!





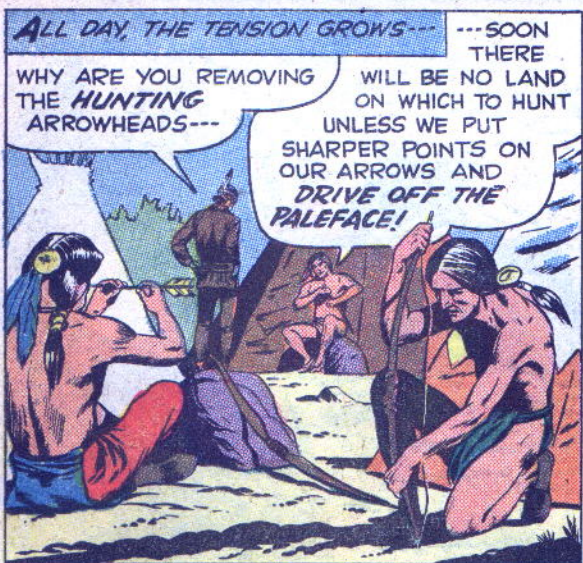
IS HE THE NEW INDIAN AGENT?

YES, TONTO! BUT IF HE CARRIES OUT HIS ORDERS, THERE WILL BE **TROUBLE!**



WE MUST TRY TO CALM OUR PEOPLE!

IT WILL NOT BE EASY! MANY WILL FEEL IF THE GREAT WHITE FATHER SPEAKS WITH A FORKED TONGUE, WE ARE NOT BOUND TO KEEP OUR WORD! THEY WILL SEEK TO GO ON THE **WARPATH!**



ALL DAY, THE TENSION GROWS---

WHY ARE YOU REMOVING THE **HUNTING** ARROWHEADS---

---SOON THERE WILL BE NO LAND ON WHICH TO HUNT UNLESS WE PUT SHARPER POINTS ON OUR ARROWS AND **DRIVE OFF THE PALEFACE!**



THEN SOLDIERS WILL BE SENT TO DRIVE US FROM OUR LAND! HAVE PATIENCE! TOMORROW, I SHALL RIDE TO THE INDIAN AGENCY AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO BY PEACEFUL MEANS!

THEY WILL MAKE US SIGN MORE PAPERS AND THEN STEAL MORE LAND FROM US! I SAY DO NOT WAIT---**ATTACK!**



I SPEAK FOR **PEACE!** LET ONE OF YOU WHO CRIES OUT FOR WAR CROSS THIS LINE AND WRESTLE WITH ME! IF HE WINS---PUT ON WAR PAINT! IF I WIN, END THIS WAR TALK!

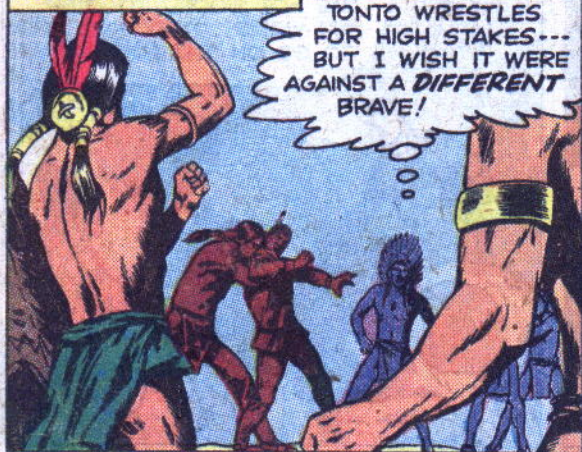


I WILL FIGHT FOR THOSE WHO SEEK WAR, TONTO!

MIGHTY ARM FIGHTS FOR US! NOT ONCE HAS ANYONE PRESSED **HIS** SHOULDER TO THE GROUND! THERE **WILL BE WAR!**

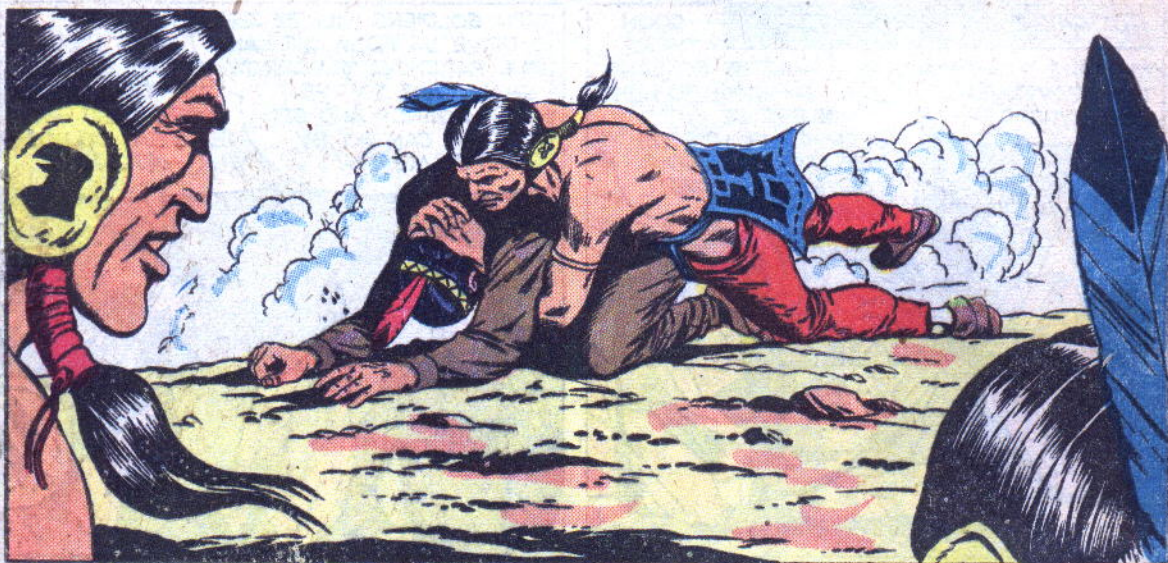
QUICKLY, THE BRAVES CIRCLE THE TWO CONTESTANTS, AS THE CHALLENGER LUNGES FORWARD AND CATCHES TONTO IN A TIGHTENING GRIP---

TONTO WRESTLES FOR HIGH STAKES--- BUT I WISH IT WERE AGAINST A **DIFFERENT** BRAVE!

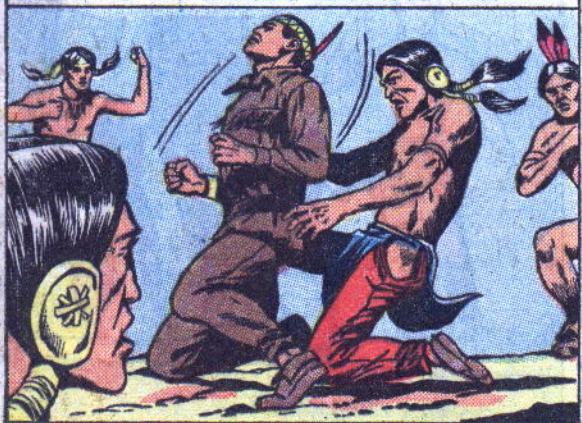


MIGHTY ARM HAS THROWN HIM!

BUT HIS HANDS **NOT** HIS SHOULDERS, TOUCH THE GROUND!



INCH BY INCH, TONTO IS FORCED CLOSER TO THE GROUND! THEN, WITH A LAST DESPERATE EFFORT, HIS FEET DIG IN, HE PUSHES UPWARD, HIS ARMS SNAPPING TOWARD HIS SIDE, BREAKING THE BRAVE'S POWERFUL HOLD---

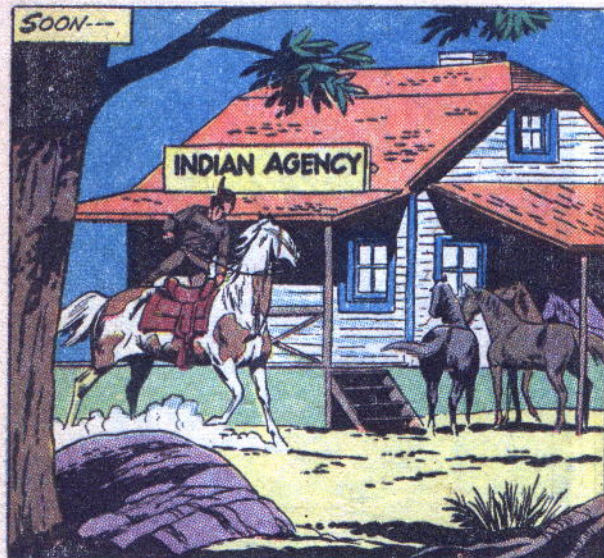


MIGHTY ARM IS DOWN! **TONTO** WINS!

NOW LET THERE BE NO MORE TALK OF WAR!---I SHALL SEE THE INDIAN AGENT TONIGHT AND TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SAVE OUR LAND!

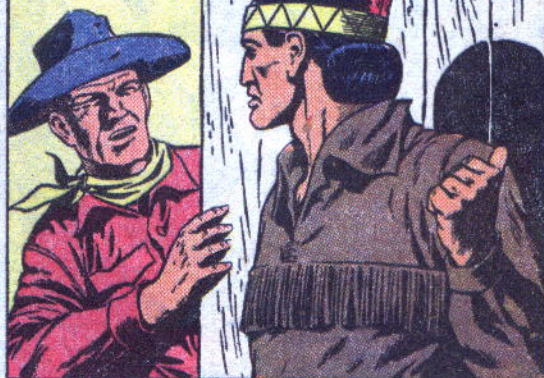


SOON---



YOU AGAIN! THOUGHT
YOU LEARNED A
LESSON---

---ME COME SEE NEW
INDIAN AGENT! HAVE
MESSAGE FROM CHIEF
STONE BEAR!



HE'S RUSS
STONEWALL!

TAI!

IF THAT'S INDIAN TALK,
SAVE IT! SPEAK ENGLISH!
I DON'T SAVVY YOUR
REDSKIN JABBERING!



MY PEOPLE TALK OF WAR!
STONE BEAR NOT ABLE TO
KEEP-UM IN CAMP LONG
UNLESS GREAT WHITE
FATHER TELL-UM WHY
HIM BREAK WORD AND
WHAT HE DO TO MAKE
UP FOR IT!

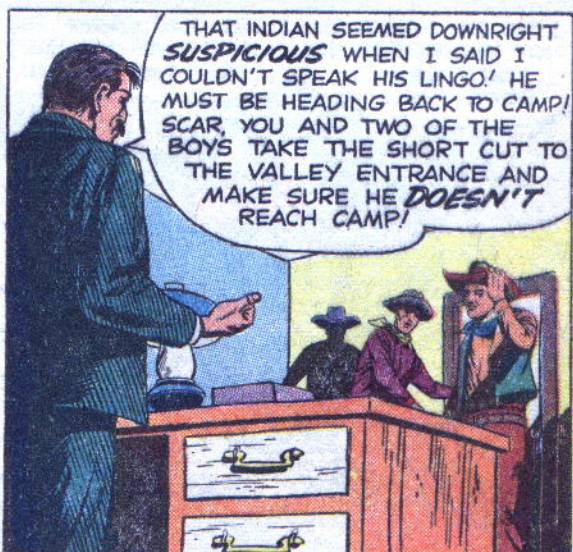
JUST KEEP YOUR
BRAVES IN CAMP
A **WEEK** AND
WE'LL BE HAPPY!
BUT IF YOU TRY
ANYTHING BEFORE
THEN, MY MEN HAVE
ORDERS TO **SHOOT!**



NEVER BEFORE HAVE THEY SENT
US AN INDIAN AGENT WHO DOES
NOT SPEAK OUR TONGUE! AND
WHY SHOULD HE WISH PEACE
FOR ONLY A WEEK?



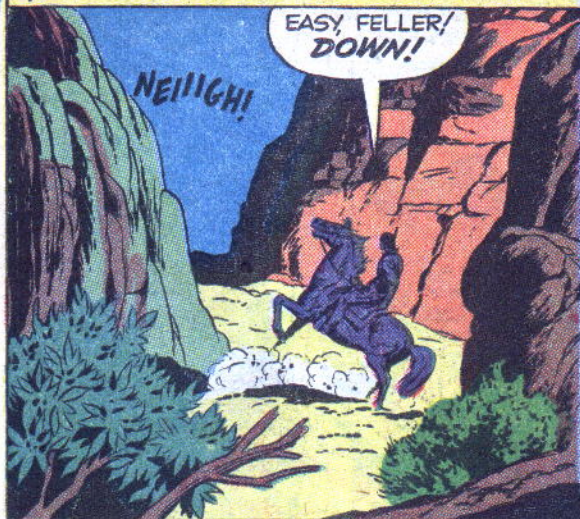
THAT INDIAN SEEMED DOWNRIGHT
SUSPICIOUS WHEN I SAID I
COULDN'T SPEAK HIS LINGO! HE
MUST BE HEADING BACK TO CAMP!
SCAR, YOU AND TWO OF THE
BOYS TAKE THE SHORT CUT TO
THE VALLEY ENTRANCE AND
MAKE SURE HE **DOESN'T**
REACH CAMP!



AS TONTO NEARS THE VALLEY ENTRANCE...

EASY, FELLER!
DOWN!

NEIGH!



NEIGH!

SOMETHING SCARE YOU
BY VALLEY ENTRANCE,
FELLER? IS THAT IT?



I GO ON FOOT! YOU
RIDE ON, FELLER!
GO!



LISTEN---A HORSE
IS COMING!

MUST BE THE REDSKIN!
WHEN HE STARTS THROUGH,
GUN HIM!

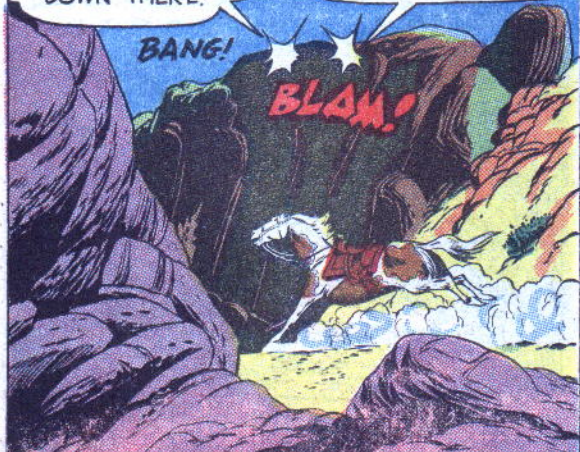


I SEE THE HORSE, BUT
NOT THE RIDER! IT'S
TOO **DARK**
DOWN THERE!

FIRE JUST **ABOVE** THE
PAINT, THEN YOU'LL
DROP THE REDSKIN!

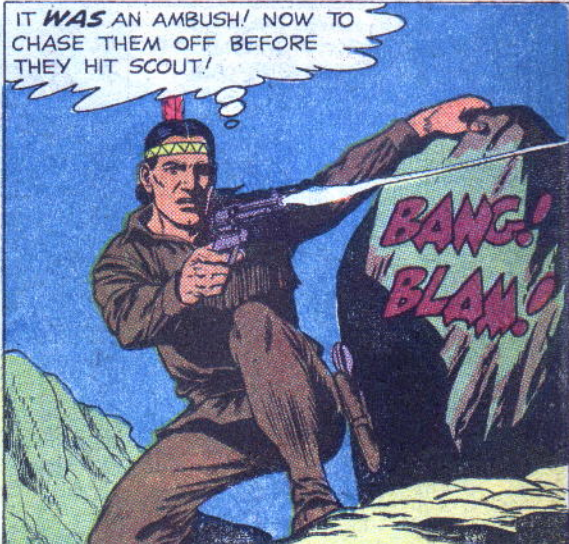
BANG!

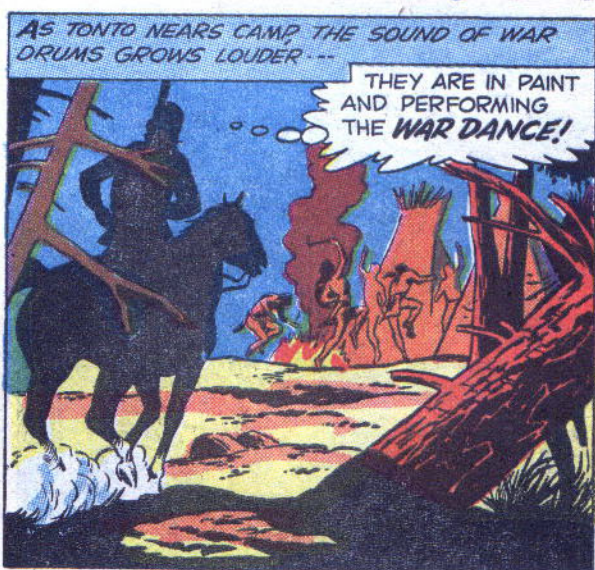
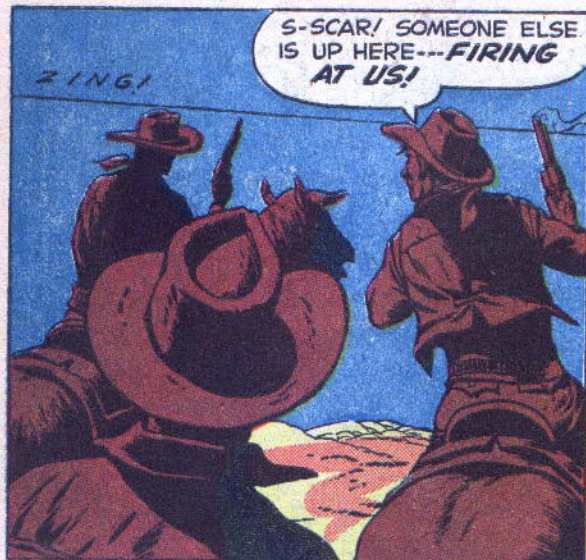
BLAM!

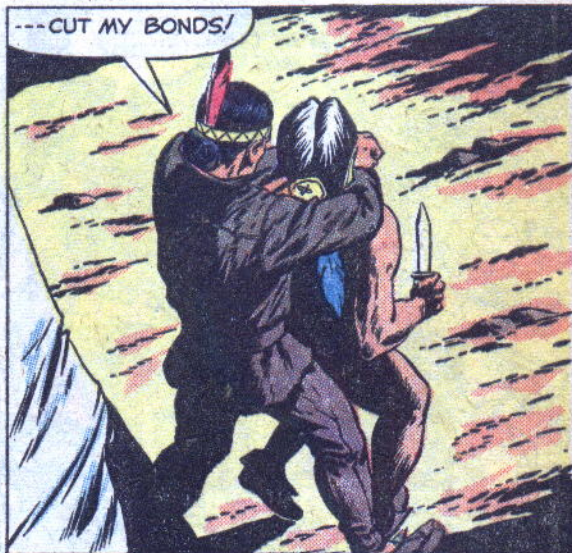
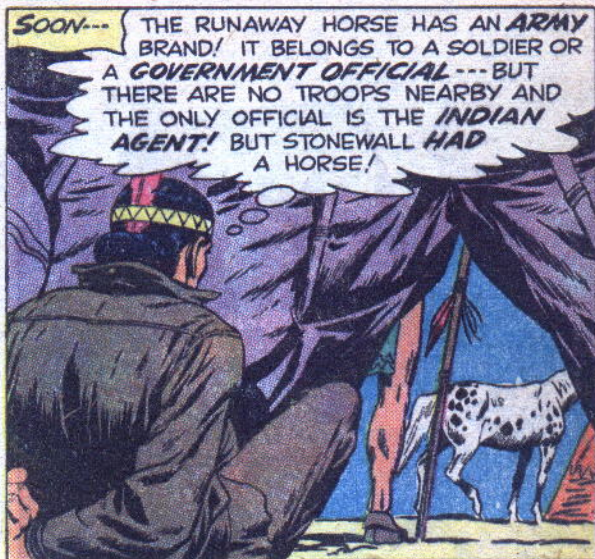


IT **WAS** AN AMBUSH! NOW TO
CHASE THEM OFF BEFORE
THEY HIT SCOUT!

BANG!
BLAM!

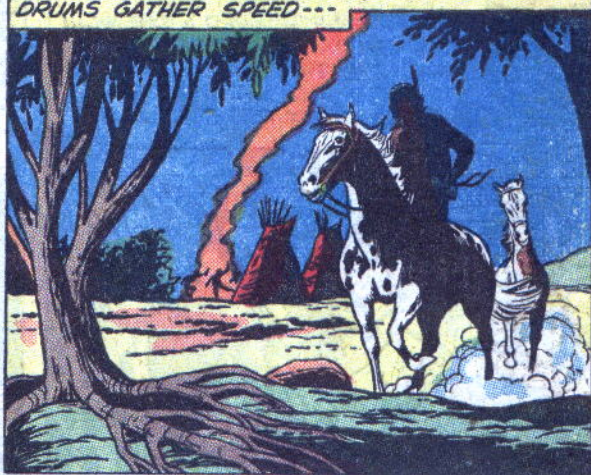




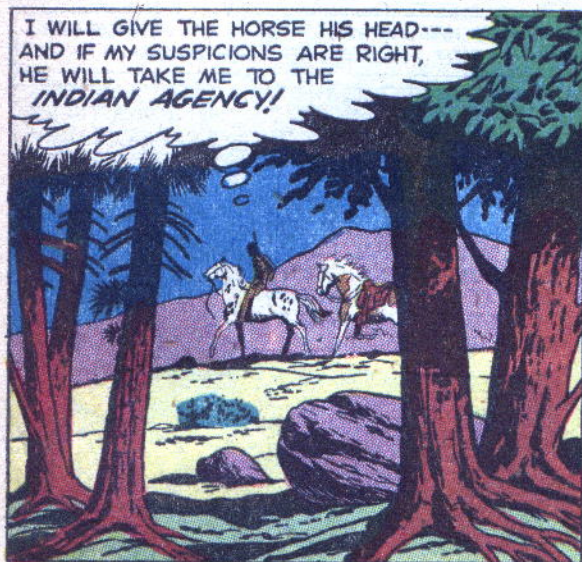




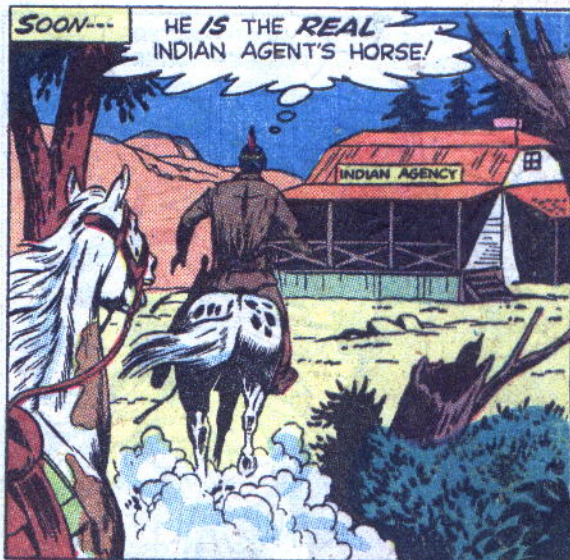
TYING AND GAGGING HIS GUARD, TONTO UNTETHERS THE RUNAWAY AND SCOUT AND SLIPS SILENTLY FROM CAMP, AS THE WAR DRUMS GATHER SPEED---



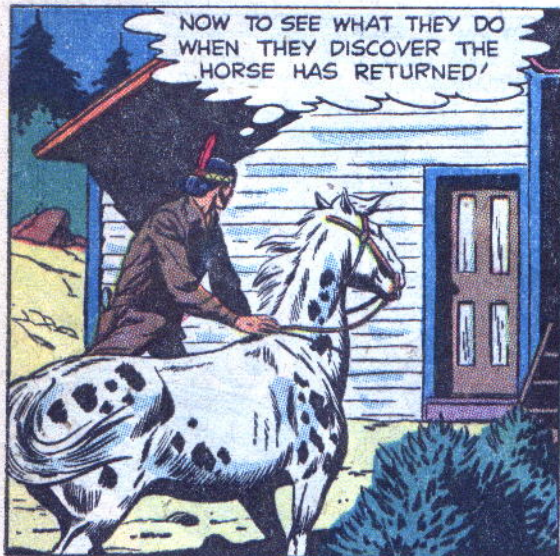
I WILL GIVE THE HORSE HIS HEAD---
AND IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE RIGHT,
HE WILL TAKE ME TO THE
INDIAN AGENCY!



SOON--- HE **IS** THE **REAL**
INDIAN AGENT'S HORSE!



NOW TO SEE WHAT THEY DO
WHEN THEY DISCOVER THE
HORSE HAS RETURNED!



AS THE HORSE BUTTS THE DOOR, A LIGHT GOES
ON INSIDE AND THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN---

LOOK, TROY! IT'S
STONEWALL'S HORSE!
HE CAME BACK!

GOOD! I WAS AFRAID
AFTER STONEWALL
SLIPPED OFF HIM AND
SENT HIM RUNNING SOMEONE
ELSE MIGHT FIND HIM! NOW
HE'S BACK, NO ONE'LL KNOW
WHERE THE **REAL** RUSS.
STONEWALL IS!

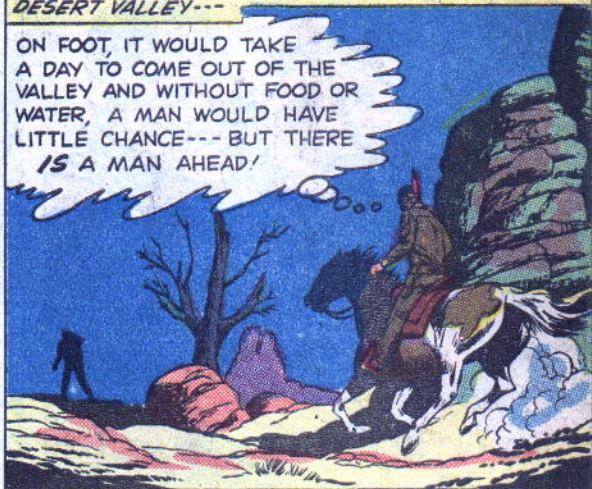


HIS SADDLE'S GONE! MUST'VE BROKEN HIS GIRTH AND IT FELL OFF! SHAME IT DIDN'T FALL OFF IN DESERT VALLEY WHERE WE DUMPED STONEWALL! LEATHER TASTES BETTER THAN SAND AND THAT'S ALL HE'LL FIND TO EAT IN THOSE WATERLESS BADLANDS---IF HE'S STILL ALIVE!



RACING SCOUT CROSS-COUNTRY, TONTO GALLOPS OVER THE MOONSWEPT DEADLY WASTELANDS OF DESERT VALLEY---

ON FOOT, IT WOULD TAKE A DAY TO COME OUT OF THE VALLEY AND WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER, A MAN WOULD HAVE LITTLE CHANCE--- BUT THERE IS A MAN AHEAD!



YOU RUSS STONEWALL?

Y-YES---WATER, PLEASE---WATER!



DRINKING AND EATING, THE ALMOST EXHAUSTED INDIAN AGENT TELLS OF HIS EXPERIENCE---

THE GANG JUMPED ME THE DAY I TOOK OVER 'AT THE AGENCY. THEY HOPED TO FIND FUNDS THERE, BUT WHEN THEY DIDN'T, THEIR LEADER, HARRY TROY, CAME UP WITH ANOTHER SCHEME! HE'D POSE AS ME, FORGE A DOCUMENT FROM THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT AND HAVE HIS MEN SELL OFF HALF YOUR TRIBAL LAND TO UNSUSPECTING SETTLERS! SINCE IT WAS GOOD LAND, I'M SURE IT SOLD EASILY AND FOR A HIGH PRICE!



WHEN THEY TOOK ME HERE, I WAS ABLE TO SEND MY HORSE OFF, HOPING SOMEONE'D FIND HIM AND INVESTIGATE! ALL YESTERDAY, I INCHED MY WAY OUT OF THIS LIFELESS CAULDRON!

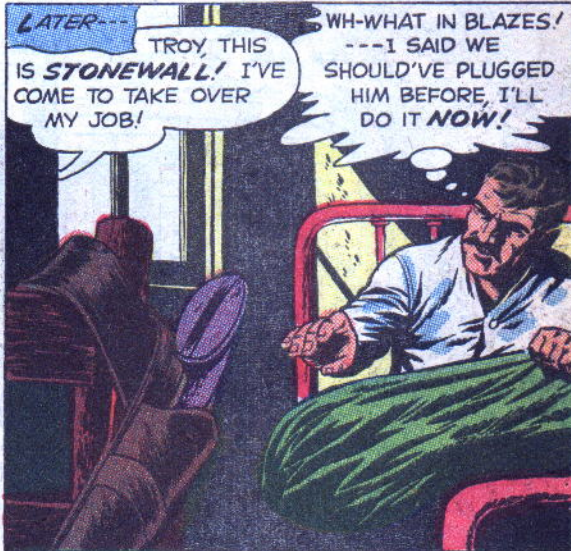
WE GO TO AGENCY FIRST! THEN WE TELL MY PEOPLE LAND STILL THEIRS!

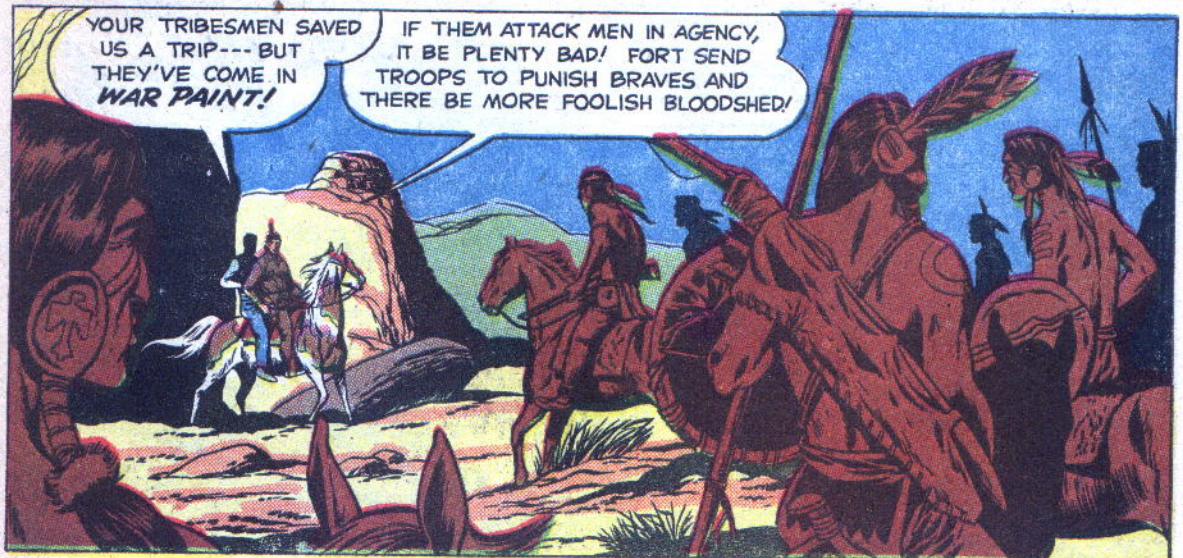
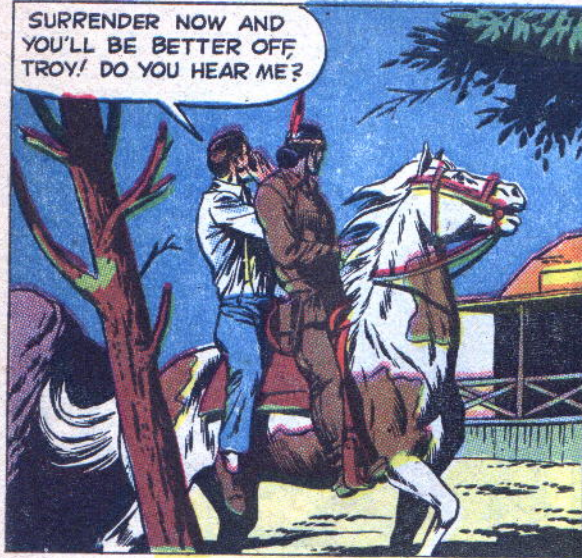


LATER---

TROY, THIS IS STONEWALL! I'VE COME TO TAKE OVER MY JOB!

WH-WHAT IN BLAZES! ---I SAID WE SHOULD'VE PLUGGED HIM BEFORE, I'LL DO IT NOW!

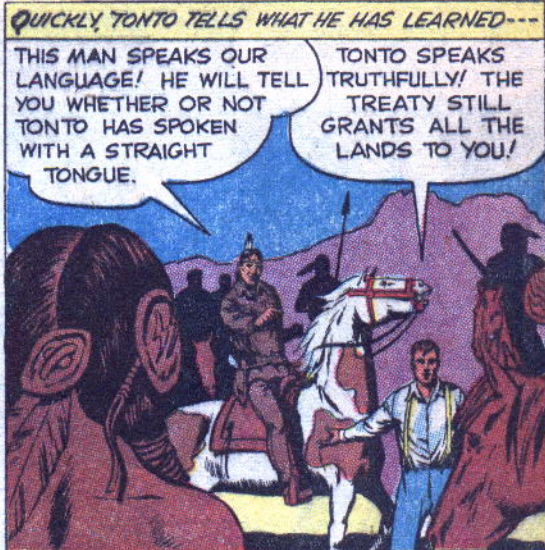






WE FOUND YOU HAD GOTTEN FREE, TONTO! WHO IS THE PALEFACE? HAVE YOU WARNED ALL THE WHITE MEN WE ATTACK?

REIN IN, MIGHTY ARM! THIS MAN IS THE **TRUE** INDIAN AGENT! THERE IS NO NEED TO FIGHT!



QUICKLY, TONTO TELLS WHAT HE HAS LEARNED---

THIS MAN SPEAKS OUR LANGUAGE! HE WILL TELL YOU WHETHER OR NOT TONTO HAS SPOKEN WITH A STRAIGHT TONGUE.

TONTO SPEAKS TRUTHFULLY! THE TREATY STILL GRANTS ALL THE LANDS TO YOU!

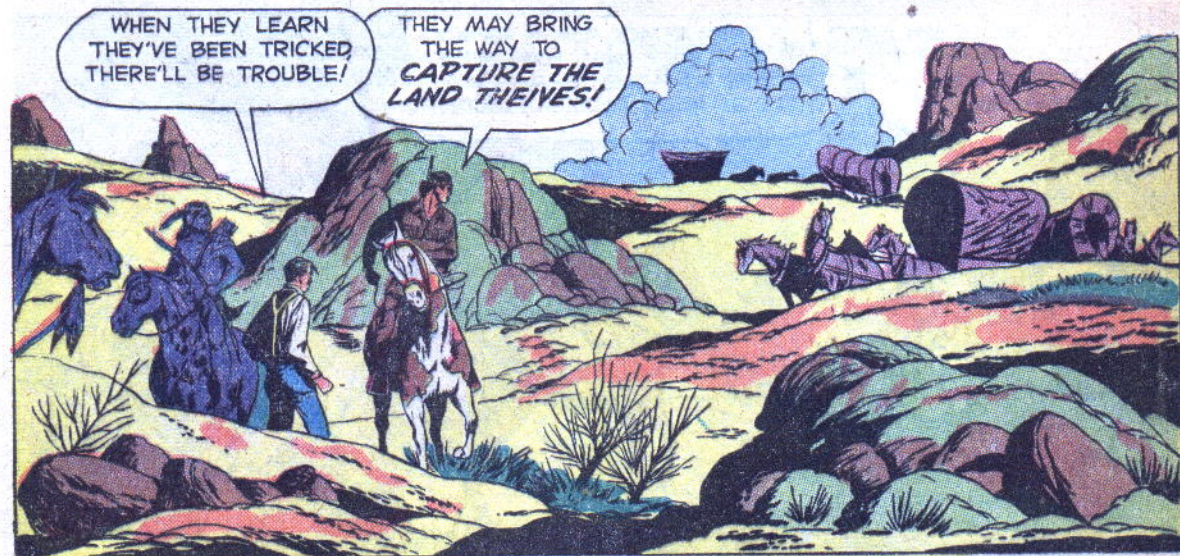


AND THE MAN WHO CAME FALSELY TO OUR COUNCIL "FIRE---

---HE WILL BE PUNISHED!



LOOK! THE FIRST SETTLERS' COME!

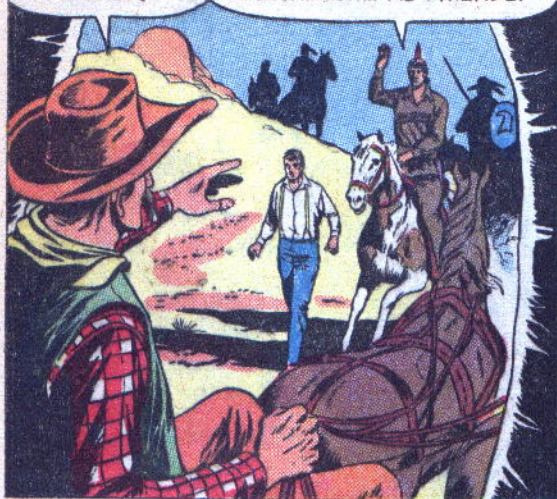


WHEN THEY LEARN THEY'VE BEEN TRICKED, THERE'LL BE TROUBLE!

THEY MAY BRING THE WAY TO **CAPTURE THE LAND THEIVES!**

I-INDIANS---AND
IN **PAINT!**

HOW!---YOU NOT FEAR
US! WE COME AS FRIENDS!



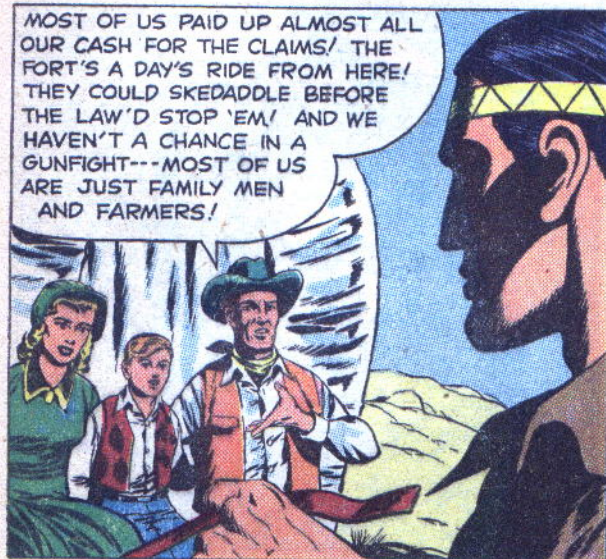
**QUICKLY, RUSS STONEWALL TELLS THE SETTLERS
HOW THEY WERE CHEATED---**

WHY THOSE BLASTED OWLHOOTS
STAMPED OUR LAND DEEDS
WITH THE OFFICIAL SEAL!
THEN WE PAID 'EM TWO
THIRDS OF THE PURCHASE
PRICE, THE REST TO BE
PAID WHEN WE STAKED
OUR LAND!

THEY STOLE THE
SEAL FROM ME!



MOST OF US PAID UP ALMOST ALL
OUR CASH FOR THE CLAIMS! THE
FORT'S A DAY'S RIDE FROM HERE!
THEY COULD SKEDADDLE BEFORE
THE LAW'D STOP 'EM! AND WE
HAVEN'T A CHANCE IN A
GUNFIGHT---MOST OF US
ARE JUST FAMILY MEN
AND FARMERS!



YOU LET US USE WAGON?
WE HIDE **BRAVES**
INSIDE, RIDE TO
AGENCY AND **WE**
FIGHT-UM!

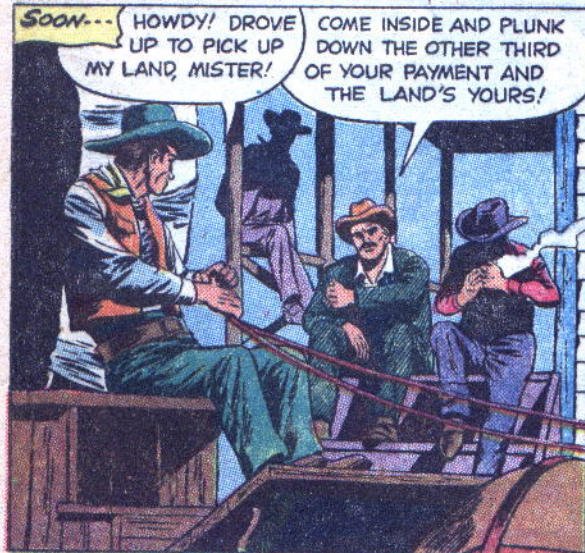
INDIAN, YOU'RE
DEALING YOURSELVES
IN ON SOMEONE ELSE'S
FIGHT! BUT IF YOU WANT
TO GO FOR THE RIDE,
I'LL DRIVE YOU!



SOON---

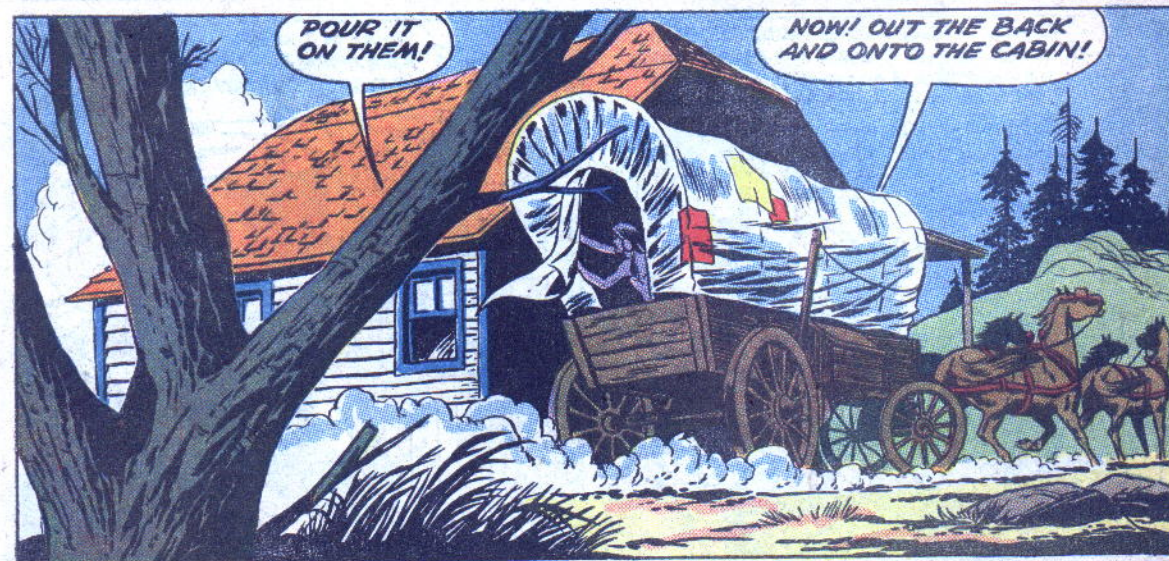
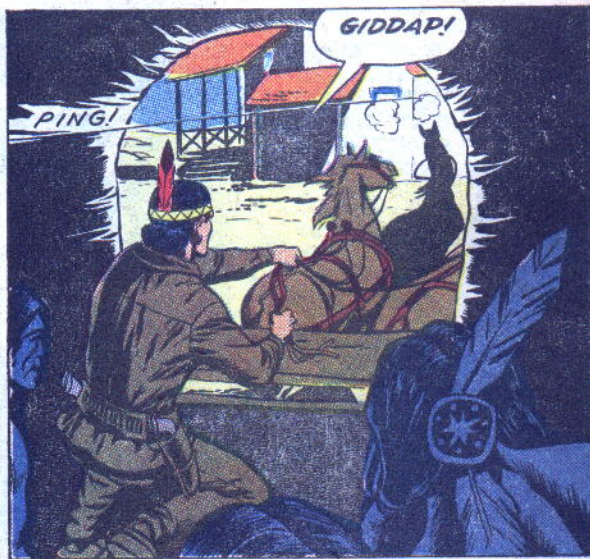
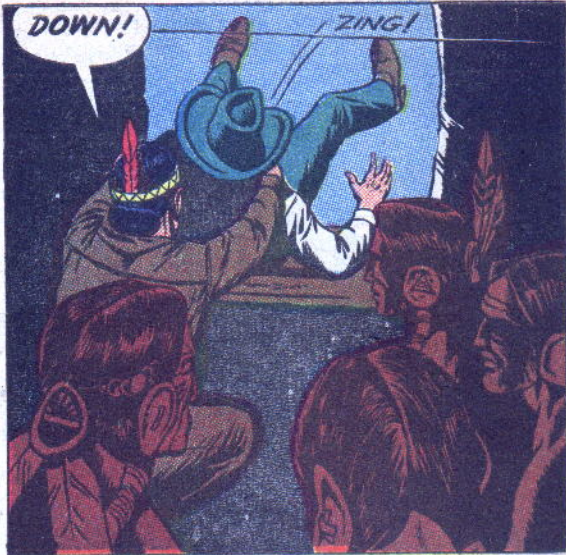
HOWDY! DROVE
UP TO PICK UP
MY LAND, MISTER!

COME INSIDE AND PLUNK
DOWN THE OTHER THIRD
OF YOUR PAYMENT AND
THE LAND'S YOURS!

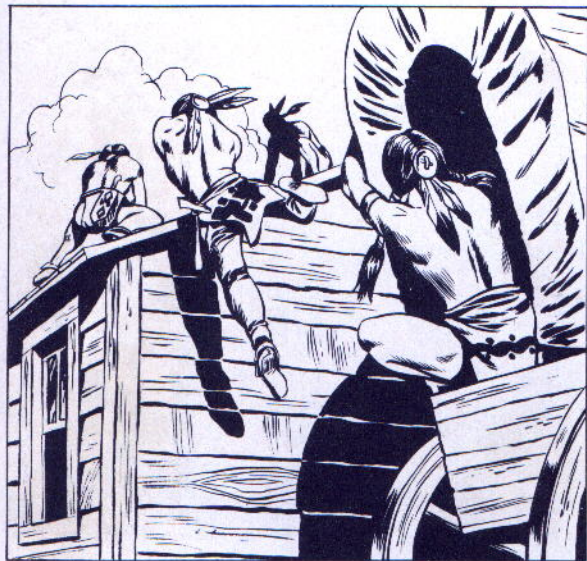


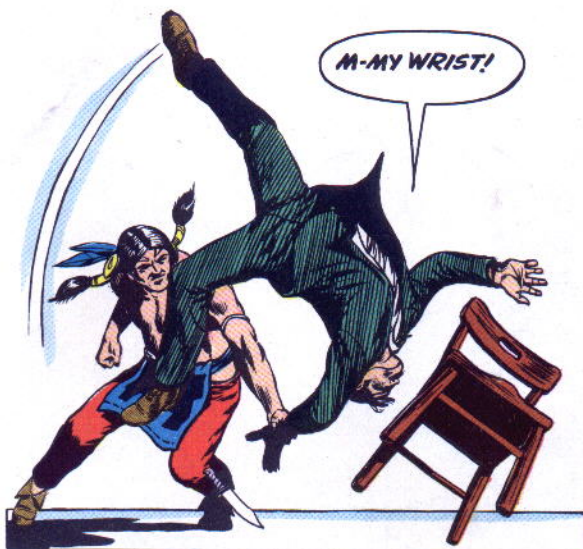
WHAT IN THUNDER---AN **INDIAN
FEATHER!**---INTO THE CABIN,
BOYS! IT'S A **TRICK!**





DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

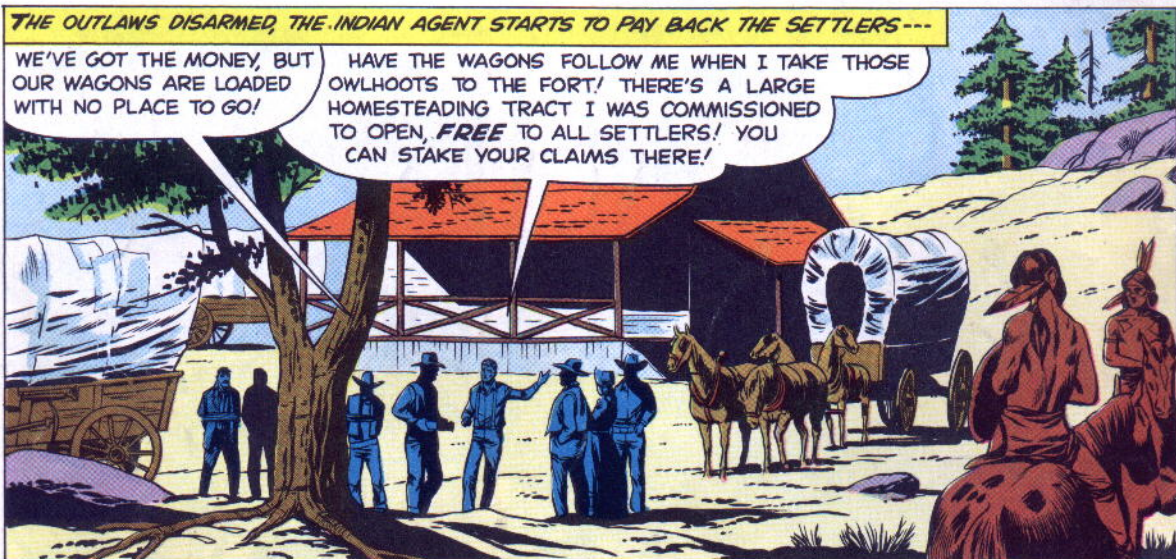




THE OUTLAWS DISARMED, THE INDIAN AGENT STARTS TO PAY BACK THE SETTLERS---

WE'VE GOT THE MONEY, BUT OUR WAGONS ARE LOADED WITH NO PLACE TO GO!

HAVE THE WAGONS FOLLOW ME WHEN I TAKE THOSE OWLHOOTS TO THE FORT! THERE'S A LARGE HOMESTEADING TRACT I WAS COMMISSIONED TO OPEN, **FREE** TO ALL SETTLERS! YOU CAN STAKE YOUR CLAIMS THERE!



WE ALMOST MADE IT! IF WE HADN'T WAITED FOR THE SETTLERS TO SHOW UP AND PAY OFF THE OTHER THIRD OF THEIR LAND PRICE, WE COULD HAVE CLEARED OUT!

BUT YOU FIGURED IT'D TAKE A WEEK FOR THEM ALL TO COME IN AND PAY UP AND JUST THE THOUGHT OF THAT EXTRA MONEY WOULD HAVE KEPT YOU GOLD- GREEDY POLECATS HERE!



BUT GREED ALONE DIDN'T TRAP YOU! YOU'RE JAIL- BOUND THANKS TO **TONTO!**

GET-UM UP, SCOUT!

