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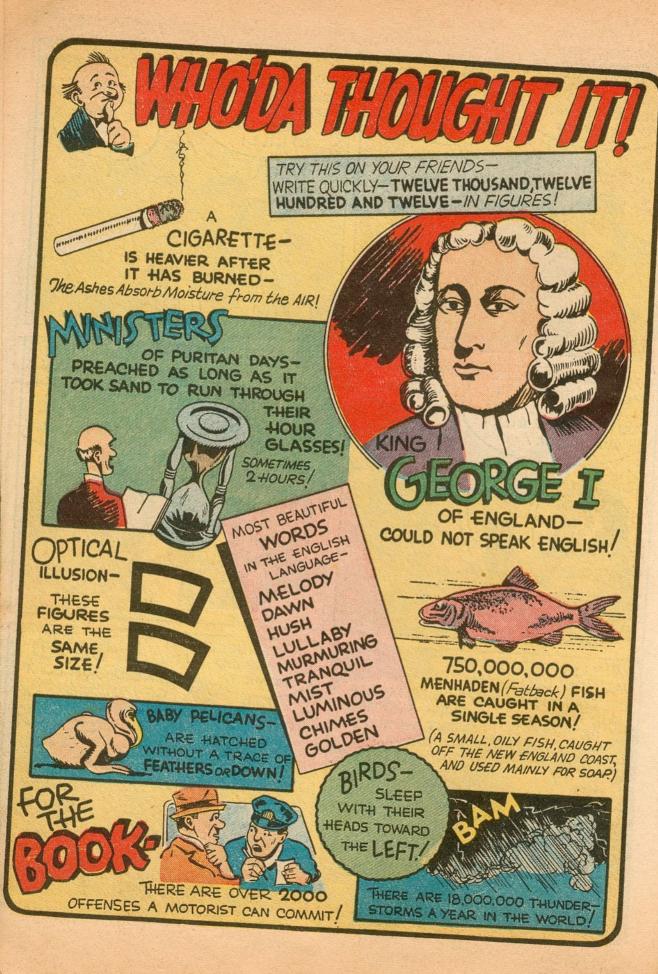














































































































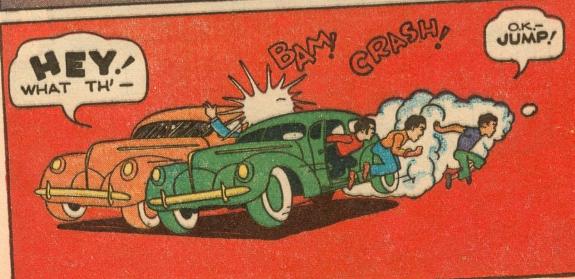


SCRAMBLING INTO THE CAR DRIVEN TO THE WAREHOUSE BY SLACK AND HIS AIDE, THE KIDS TAKE PURSUIT

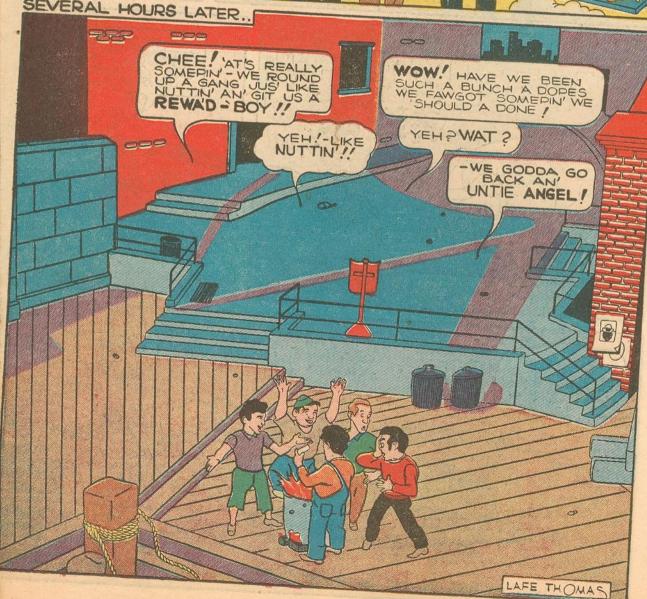


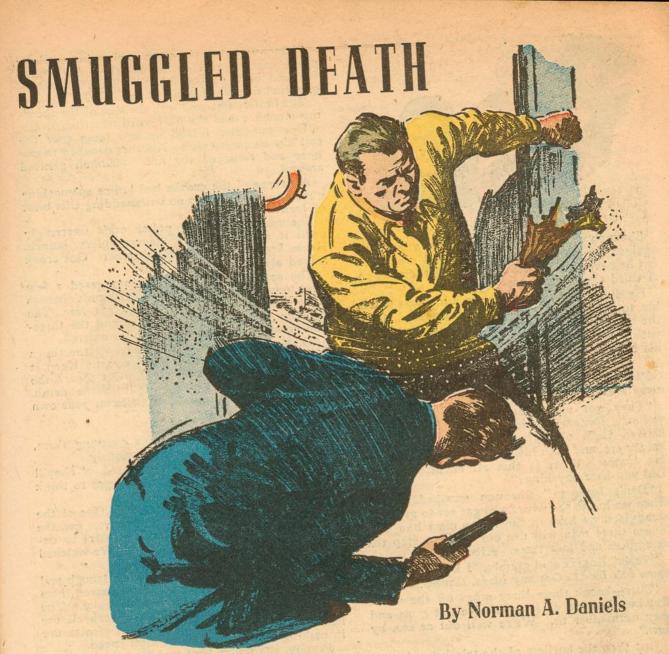












ERGEANT MIKE SHANNON, of the harbor police, guided the cruiser into dock. "We'll nail 'em this night," he prophesied to Patrolman Rogers. "Them smugglers have been too gay lately, and I've discovered the wharf under which they run their speedboats."

"On the north shore?" Patrolman Rogers asked

quickly.

"Right! This tub could clear it O. K., with about two inches to spare. Headquarters got a stool-pigeon tip that a cargo of laces was heading in about midnight. We'll cruise around the wharf and grab 'em as they come in. Get some rest, lad. I'm turning in myself soon as I finish my report."

At ten o'clock Sergeant Shannon awoke to a lusty cry from the afterdeck. He jumped out of the berth and automatically reached for his holstered weapon. Two men stood in the doorway of the tiny cabin. Each held a gun. Shannon elevated his arms promptly.

"You guys crazy?" he demanded. "Think so?" one of the men snorted. "Anyway, sarge, you're smarter than your pal. We had to clunk him one. Now, keep on being smart. Walk ahead of us to the deck. Man the wheel and take this scow out to sea. We got a date!"

Shannon compressed his lips and scowled. He took three steps forward and suddenly went into a nose dive. He skidded across the floor and brought down one of the men in a hard tackle.

A gun went flying into a corner. Shannon lunged for the second man, pinned his gun hand to the wall and rammed home stinging blow to the face. Both thugs were of their feet and desperately trying to get away from Shannon's rushing attacks.



Shannon made a dive for one of the guns lying against the wall. His fingers closed around it. but he never had a chance of raising the weapon. A third thug burst into the room.

He didn't shoot, for Shannon's life was valuable to their plans. Instead, he smashed down the barrel of his weapon, raking Shannon's skull with it. The husky marine sergeant sagged to

Patrolman Bob Rogers washed the dried blood away and gave Shannon a drink.

"They got me before I could swing into tion," Rogers groaned. "But, sarge—you handed them plenty! One of the mugs can hardly see, and both his eyes are puffed out like big lumps. What is this all about, anyway? Did you hear anything?"

"Don't have to," Shannon snapped. when we locate the wharf and get set to grab the smugglers, we have to run into a mess like this. These three men will use our craft to stop the smugglers and loot them. After that-

"Yeah," Rogers said glumly, "I know. We become fish food! Got any ideas, skipper?"

"Sure-knock those three mugs off the deck! But how can we do it? They've got guns and they outnumber us. We're well out at sea, by

Just then the burliest of the trio banged open the cabin door and stepped inside. He held an automatic carelessly

"O. K .- on deck, smart guys," he snapped. "Put your uniforms on, and you, sarge, man the wheel Keep her just as she is now, until we sight the launch heading in."

Shannon donned his uniform and took over he wheel from one of the crooks. Rogers was orced to stand aft so that he could be plainly een. The three crooks crouched below the rail, ratching and waiting.

Out of the gloom, Shannon saw a low speed unch racing madly for shore. Her decks were iled high with contraband. One of the thugs ave a crisp order.

"Head that scow off! We're going to stop r. Use the siren, copper. Let them saps know is is a police boat!"

Shannon yanked the siren cord and opened the police boat wide. He could see three men on the forward deck of the launch. Then a machine gun spat directly behind Shannon

The bullets smacked into the side of the speeding launch, raked the deck with whistling death

One smuggler folded up and hung over the rail like an empty sack Another dropped to one knee and returned the fire Shannon glanced around.

All three of the crooks had police submachine guns now There was no withstanding that blast

Shannon guided the police craft unerringly until it rode alongside the smugglers' launch. Hooks brought both vessels together One crook leaped aboard.

The smuggler at the wheel staggered a few steps toward the rail, intent on taking his chances of swimming ashore. He didn't get far The machine guns blasted once more and the threeman crew of the launch no longer existed.

"O. K., you coppers," the leader of the thugs snapped. "So far you've been smart. Keep it up and we'll pay you off right. Get aboard the launch and heave those stiffs into the drink. Then take the crates and pile them on your own tub. Snap into it!"

With three submachine guns covering them, Rogers and Shannon worked furiously

"Pay us off?" Shannon whispered. "They'll pay us off in hot lead! Bob, we've got to think of something."

"Shut up and more speed there!" One of the thugs swaggered forward. "When you get the last crate aboard, we head for the wharf to unload. You know where it is, sarge. We watched you snooping around plenty."

Shannon stepped aboard the police launch and began piling the crates up. Rogers passed them The crates were large and heavy. The pitching of both vessels made the work all the harder, and the three thugs got a lot of pleasure in making each man work at high speed.

Finally, the police boat was loaded, the crates sticking perhaps six inches above the top of the

"You guys learn fast," the leader of the trio grinned. "Now man the wheel, sarge Tony-take this other copper below and keep your rifle against his belly. If the sarge tries any tricks, let go at the other guy, understand?

Minck, get the valise. We're ready to wipe out any trace of this stick-up."

Minck, a tall, sallow youth, picked up a heavy valise, jumped aboard the smugglers' craft and stood for a moment near the narrow companionway. He opened the valise, tugged at something and then hurled it below and sped back to the

Acting under terse orders, Shannon headed away from the launch at top speed. There was a roar, a flash of flame and the boat broke in half. One minute later, all traces of the smugglers and their craft had vanished. All evidence was gone,

except that which Shannon and Rogers could furnish

Rogers was below, menaced by the dark-faced thug called Tony. Minck stood aft, machine gun draped over a crooked arm. The heavy-set leader was directly behind Shannon.

"Head for the wharf," he ordered, "and make it fast. If we run into any other marine patrols, you sound off an O. K. Run the tub right under the wharf and keep going. At the channel cut at the end of the pier, we unload and you getpaid off!"



He laughed nervously and unpleasantly. Shannon cast a quick look around. The crates were still stacked high, a hundred thousand dollars' worth of stolen contraband.

Shannon's big fists closed tight around the wheel. He set both feet wide apart and braced himself The boat headed straight toward the wharf that Shannon had searched for so long.

Somehow, the smugglers had dredged a crude canal under it, so that their craft might vanish completely from sight and frustrate any marine police

The wharf loomed up now, and Shannon stepped her up a little The thug behind him

watched narrowly

The prow of the launch slipped under the wharf The skinny man called Minck was walking forward, until he stood directly below the piled-up crates. The launch shot beneath the wharf There was a tremendous crack and crates went smashing down on Minck. The leader spun around

Shannon's hand darted out, seized the thug's gun hand and twisted it with scientific neatness. The machine gun fell to the floor. Shannon had kicked off all power, but the momentum of the launch kept it going. A thick piling loomed up. The prow of the police boat sideswiped it. A shudder ran through the craft.

Shannon, pinned against the rail by the burly crook, fought savagely. The man weighed slightly more than he did, and hard punches rapped Shannon's face. Blood gushed out of his nose and from lacerations caused by his opponent's big fists. But Shannon was fighting coelly

now, forcing himself to forget Rogers, still in the hold with Tony menacing him. So far, no fusillade of shots had rung out.

Shannon drove a mighty fist in an upward arc. It connected with the thug's jaw, rocking him back a step. Shannon seized the advantage and bore in. A left to the stomach, a jolting right to the heart. The thug reeled sideways a few steps. Shannon tore in again.

He slammed a husky left to the face, jolted the thug's head back until his chin stuck up in a target that couldn't be missed. Shannon wound up and let go. The crook shot across the deck as if he'd been struck with a pile driver.

In the next second, the rat-tat-tat of a machine gun banged out. Minck, who had been knocked flat by the falling crates, had found his gun. Shannon nose-dived to deck, slid along it until he had the gun dropped by the leader. Raising it slightly, he fired. Then he sped forward, around the crates and opened fire as he ran.

Minck felt the bullets whine past. He dropped his gun and raised his hands swiftly.

"Turn around!" Shannon ordered.

Minck obeyed sullenly. Shannon lifted the rifle and brought it down in a skull blow. Minck slid to the deck. In a flash, Shannon was diving down the companionway.

A man stepped out of the tiny cabin to meet him. Shannon's trigger finger tightened, and then relaxed. It was Rogers. He was bloody, his clothes ripped to pieces, and deep scratches were evident on his face, but he wore a triumphant grin.

"It worked!" Rogers cried. "You all right, sarge?"

"Sure," Shannon replied. "How's Tony?"

"Stiff! I waited until those crates went dumping on deck. Tony jumped up and so did I. He swung his gun around and was ready to shoot, when we piled up against the wharf. It spoiled his aim and I had him.

"Sarge, that was a smart idea—piling those crates just high enough so they wouldn't clear the wharf."

"There was no other way," Shannon said, happily. "I figured they'd get at least one of the rats when they crashed down. Let's go above and make our friends comfortable. Bring some rope."

Minck was groaning as Rogers tied him up.
The leader of the trio was sitting up, trying to
adjust a jaw somewhat out of kilter. Shannon
snapped handcuffs around the scowling crook's
wrists.

"Sergeant, you're a fool! We were going to pay you off with a few grand. You could have helped us again. It was a swell set-up!"

"Yeah, for you," Shannon replied. "You'd hav paid us off in lead! And speaking of payoffs you've got one coming. You killed three mer remember? The law is going to pay off on the one!"

THE END.











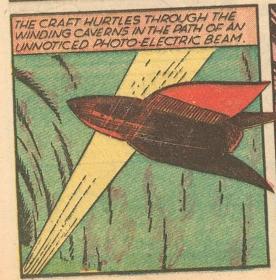










































































































































































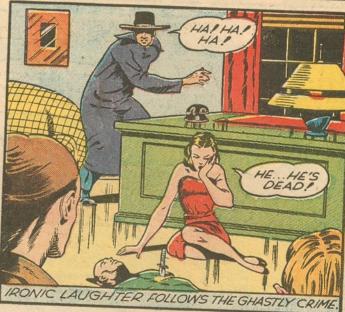




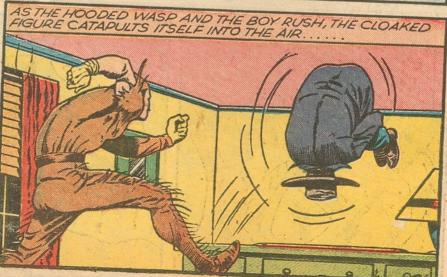








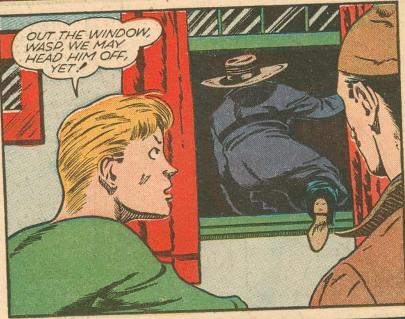






























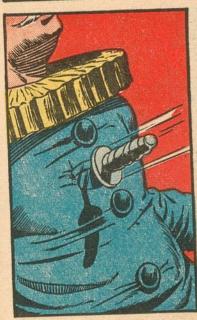
































































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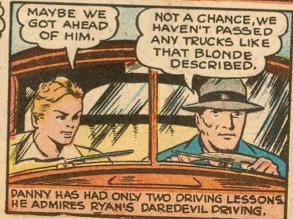




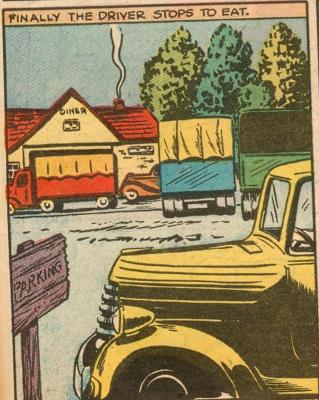










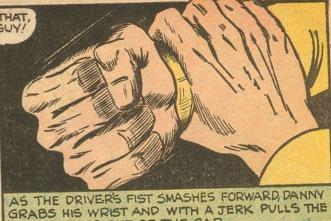




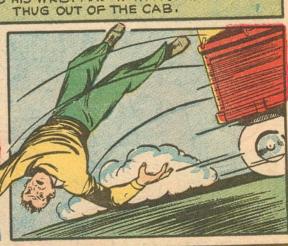






































CORN BEEF
AND
CABBAGE

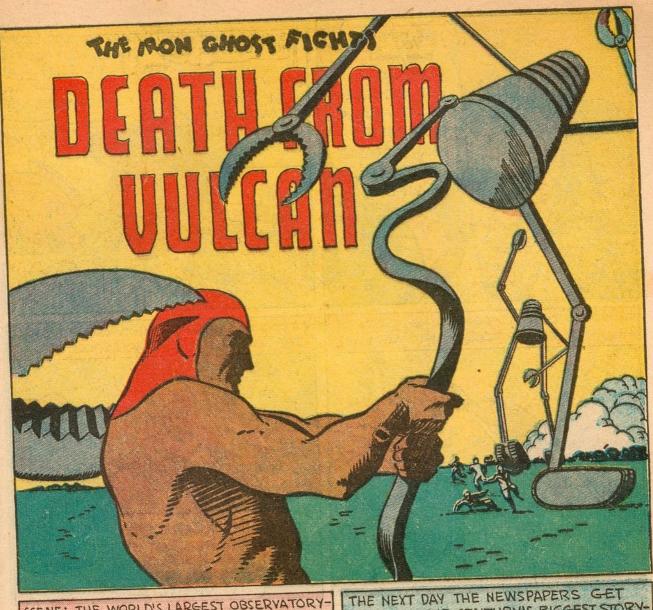






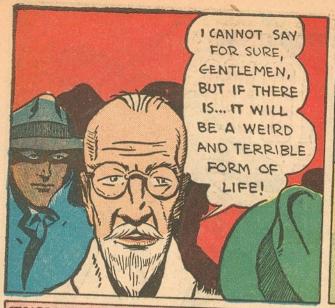
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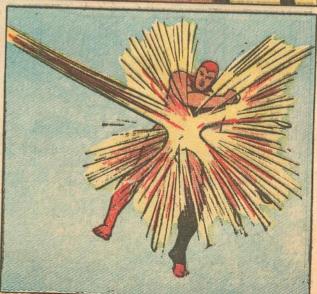
























IN TWO WEEKS THE IRON CHOST WITH HIS SUPERHUMAN BRAIN HAS LEARNED THE VULCANIAN LANGUAGE AND HAS GRILLED THE STRANGE CADTURED GNOME!

HA, HA! AS MY NAME IS

IGOG YOUR WHOLE

PLANET WILL BE

SMASHED! OUR ANTI
GRAVITY MACHINES

HAVE UPSET THE

COURSE OF YOUR

MOON! IN TWO WEEKS

IT WILL CRASH INTO

YOUR EARTH!

IT IS TRUE! I HAVE TOMORROW I'M OF

OBSERVED THE MOONIT IS GETTING CLOSER
TO THE EARTH.
EVERY HOUR!

TOMORROW I'M OFF TO VULCAN WITH IGOG'S METAL MONSTER AS MY DISGUISE!

AS THE IRON CHOST APPROACHES A TOWERING PALACE HE IS STOPPED BY SENTRIES...



THE NEXT MORNING THE IRON CHOST HURTLES TOWARD VULCAN DRAGGING A STRANGE CARGO BEHIND HIM!







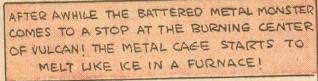
INSIDE THE CITADEL THE EMPEROR OF VULCAN AND HIS HENCHMAN WATCH THE IRON CHOST APPROACH ..

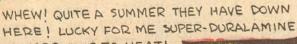






















DON'T BOTHER, SIRE! WHEN YOU DUMPED ME INTO THE STOMACH OF THIS PLANET I WAS TOO BITTER A PILL FOR IT TO SWALLOW — NOW HERE COMES YOUR MEDICINE!





BACK ON EARTH-

SO YOU SEE, DR. AXEL, AS SOON
AS THE VOLCANO DESTROYED
THE PALACE AND THE ANTIGRAVITY MACHINE WITH IT
THE MOON STOPPED GETTING
ANY CLOSER TO THE

WELL, WE CAN
THANK THE
YULCANIANS
FOR A BIEGER
MOON- AND YOU
FOR OUR LIVES BUT YULCAN
MUST BE WATCHED
CONSTANTLY



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that lights up so you can write in the



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The Shadow rubber stamp, an exact duplicate of the emblem, with the word "Member" added, is also available. The price is 10 cents.



