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THIS IS A CERTIFIED ORIGINAL STORY
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FICTITIOUS CHARACTERS AND EVENTS,
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AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS AT HIS FIRST ELABORYE PARTY WAS BINIS DALGREN—MANY CELEBRINES WERE PRESENT, INCLUDING NOTABLES FROM WASHINGTON—SLEEK JAPANESE SERVANTS MOVED SOFTLY ABOUT THE FOURTEEN-ROOM APRITHERIT—

PACE AMONING THE FABULOUS
SPENDERS OF HIS SET—

POOR MIKE!

NEVER A

NETTER MAN
ON THE POLICEOR OFF.

SOMETHING OF A SENSATION

IN THE MARKET CRASH OF 1929-

ONCE AGAIN HE RESUMED HIS

IN THE SOCIAL WORLD - MR. TENNEY HAD LOST EVERY CENT

FIVE DAYS LATER THE BODY OF MIKE-MULDOON, A WELL-KNOWN POLICE DE-TECTIVE OF THE ALIEN SQUAD WAS FOUND FLOATING IN THE EAST RIVER—AN AUTOPSY DISCLOSED THAT MULDOON, HAD BEEN STABBED IN THE BACK— I'LL FIND THE
RAT WHO KILLED YOU WILL
MIKE, CHIEF!!

BING-

THE ENTIRE CITY WAS AROUSED BECAUSE:
MULDOON WAS ONE OF THE CLEVEREST
SLEUTHS IN THE DEPARTMENT DALGREN KNEW
HIM WELL AND WAS ASSIGNED TO TOYEL?"
THE STORY—



THE MURDERER OR MURDERERS HAD LEFT NO CLUE — EXCEPT THAT THE WEAPON USED WAS LONG ENOUGH TO PIERCE THE BODY. THE BLADE EMERGING FROM THE ABDOMEN IN FRONT—

EDDIE, WHO MIGHT HAVE HAD ANYTHING AGAINST MULDOON? MR. DALGREN, NONE
OF THE TOUGH GUYS
I KNOW EVER MONKIED
AROUND, MULDOON'S
TERRITORY—A LOT OF
FANCY FOREIGNESS HWE
GOT BUSINESSES ON



DALGREN CONSULTED WITH AN EXPERT IN CRIME, AN EX-CONVICT GONE STRAIGHT-THIS WAS BINGS OLD FRIEND AND STOOGE, "HARD EDDIE"— "HARD EDDIE" CAME UP WITH PART OF



TAKE A DAY OFF SOME TIME AND LOOK JAPAN OVER-HIGHT MAKE A GOOD YARN-



THE POLICE WERE COMPLETELY BAFFLED AND ANGRY DIATA A COMPADE-ATAMPS NAD THAIR BEEAL MISPOSED OF—ON ONLE OF THE BLOCKS COVERED BY DETECTIVE MULDOON WAS A JAPANESE TOURIST AGENCY IN THE MUDOW OF WHICH WERE FANCIFUL POSTER'S DESCRIBINS INTER BEAUTIES OF THE ISLE OF NIPPON—DALGREN PACED ABOUT THAT BLOCKS



HE HAD NOT WATCHED LONG WHEN HE NOTED A LITTLE JAP GAZING IN THE WINDOW OF THE TOURIST AGENCY— HE WAS LOOKING AT A SIGN PRINTED IN JAPANESE CHARACTERS—AFTER THE SYMLL ORIENTAL LETP TAUGREN EXAMINED THE SIGN THOUGH HE COULDN'T READ IT—



THAT'S MOST
THE SAME SIGN
THAT WAS THERE
SO VESTEDAY VEST
INTERESTING



THAT NIGHT BING SOUGHT A FRIEND OF HIS A TEACHER OF ORIENTAL LANGUAGES, WHO TRANSLATED THE MESSAGE ON THE SIGN





THE THIRD DAY WHEN THE LITTLE JAP APPEARED DALGREN TAILED HIM COULD THE DEATH OF MULDOON BE TRACED THROUGH THIS SIMPLE DEVICE?



FOLLOWING THE JAP. DALGREN WAS ASTON-ISHED TO SEE THE ORIENTAL ENTER THE SWANN APARTHENT BUILDING IN WHICH ADNA C. TENNEY LIVED—THROUGH THE UNIFORMED DOORMAN (FOR THE PRICE IN OF \$ 5 20) BING LEARNED ANOTHER TWO IMPORTANT FACT—



SHOWING HIS NEWSPAPER, CARD HE WAS ADMITTED TO A VACANT OFFICE FACING THE ONE THE JAPS OCCUPIED -WHAT HE OBSERVED THERE. THOUGH HIS POWERFUL BINGCULARS MADE EVEN THIS HARDENED NEWSHAN GASP—HE SAW FOUR JAPS WORKING ON MODELS OF BRIDGES—THESE MINIATURE SPANS RESEMBLED NV CITY PRIDGES AND ONE VERY MUCH LIKE THE GOLDEN GATE PRIDGE.



NEXT DAY AT BING'S DIRECTION A TRUSTED TIMES-NEWS CAMERAMAN PHOTOGRAPHED THE SIGN IN THE TOURIST AGENCY.— DALGREN'S LANGUAGE, INSTRUCTOR FRIEND TRUST DAY THE MESSAGE.— IT ELECTRIFIED THE NOTED RE-

BORTER

ME PART EVENING AT 9 O'CLOCK DAUGEST TAILED TWO JAPS FROM THE TENNEY APARTMENT BUILDING TO AN OFFICE BUILDING THE JAPS, LIKE OTHER JENNEYS, HAD TO SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE BUILDING ACTEM BUILDING THE JAPPEN THEY REGISTERED AS GOING TO SOLD THE STRUCTIVE DAUGHEN WATER BUILDING ACROSS THE STRUCTIVE DAUGHEN WATER D



CERTAINLY THIS WASN'T A HOBBY-SATISFIED THAT THEY WERE JAPANESE SABOTEURS DALGRAN RACED BACK TO THE TIMES-NEWS OFFICE AND CONSULTED WITH HIS MANAGING EDITORS-



WAY STATION TO SHOULD THE MEET TROUGHTON WASHINGTON TO THAT TRAIN WERE THE TWO JAPS DUGGET HAD "THE OFFICE BUILDING ONE OFFICE BUILDING ONE OFFICE BUILDING ONE OFFICE BUILDING ON THE LAP-WHAT IT CONTRAINED IN DALGREIN'S OPINION, WOULD BE OF NO HELP TO THIS COUNTRY.



IN WASHINGTON DALGREN FOLLOWED THEM TO THE JAPANESE EMBASSY. AN HOUR LATER, OF ALL PLACES, THEY ENTERED THE GERMAN EMBASSY. WITHOUT SLEEP DALGREN KEPT HIS WIGHT ALL NIGHT—WHEN THE JAPS LEFT THE GERMAN EMBASSY NEXT MORNING BING FOLLOWED THEM BACK TO NEW YORK.

HERE WAS EVEN A BIGGER STORY THAN THE MINDER OF MIKE MULDOON—WAS THERE A CONNECTION HERE STANDING THE WAS THERE A CONNECTION HERE STANDING THOCK HIM OVER TO THE RIVER FRONT ON THE EAST SIDE HIT WOULD HAVE BEEN EAST TO KILL HIM THERE AND TOSS HIS BODY OVER THE RIVER WALL—AND A LONG-BROAD JAPANISE SWORD COULD HAVE GONE CLEAR THROUGH HIM—DALEREN VISUALIZED IT—



HE NOW DECIDED TO GO TO THE JAPANESE TOURIST ASSENCY FOR! TRAVEL INFORMATION" ALMOST AS HE ENTERED FATE - SOMETIMES KIND TO NEWSPAPERMEN-GAVE HIM A TERRIFIC BREAK — THE MANAGER WAS ON THE TELEPHONE — WHAT HE HEARD MADE DALGREN START—



THE WEALTHY TENNEYS WERE GOING TO VISIT JAPAN IN THE MEANTME THEIR APARTMENT WOULD BE OCCUPIED BY ENEMY ALIENS — THOSE INNOCENT TRAVELLERS SHOULD BE TOLD — THEN BING HAD A. SUDDIEN INSPIRATION.



HE LOCKED UP MRS, TENNEVS MAIDEN NAME IT WAS MARIA SCHOENHORST.
SHE WAS BORN IN LEIPZIG, GERMANY,
THE HEIR, OF AN ENDRINGUS BREWING FORTUNE COULD THAT FACT BE RELATED TO THE GERMAN SE
TO THE GERMAN EMBASSY?



THAT AFTERNOON AT S DALGREN ACCIDENTALLY DROPPED IN FOR A COCKTAIL WITH THE TENNEYS - WHAT MRS. TENNEY TOLD HIM DIDN'T MAKE SENSE TO THE BRAINY REPORTED .---

YOU KNOW OUR
SERVANTS ISHO
AND SHUZO ARE GOING
HOME FOR A VACATIONTHEY'VE BEEN SO
FAITHFUL



THAT IS, NOT UNTIL MRS. TENNEY REMARKED THAT TWO OF HER JAPANESE. SERVANTS WE'RE GOING HOME TO JAPAN FOR A BRIEF VISIT ON OCT. 15 MI



SHE, HERSELF, WAS AN AVID COLLECTOR OF ORIENTAL
ITEMS-DALGREN EXAMINED THE COLLECTION CAREFULLY.
BROAD SWORDS

TO STREET THE STREET AND SWORDS

BROAD SWORDS



MRS. TENNEY EXPLAINED THAT SHE EX-PECTED TO VISIT HER COUSIN, THE WIFE OF ONE OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON - MR TENNEY WAS GOING, TOO - ANOTHER PICTURE SPRANG INTO DALGERIS VISION



THE NEXT NIGHT DALGGEN MADE ANOTHER UNEXPECTED CALL ON THE TENNEYSHE TOLD THEM OF HIS SUSPICIONS OF THE JAPANESE AND OF HIS DISCOVERY OF THEIR OFFICE AND THE MODELS-TENNEY WAS AMUSE! MRS. TENNEY'S FACE TURNED WHITE—



THAT HE WAS IN A HOTBED OF INTRIGUE DALGREN HAD NO DOUBT TWO HOURS LATER DALGREN WAS WRITING ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL NEWS STORIES EVER TO HIT THE FRONT PAGE-IT WAS SET UP AND MADE READY UNTIL BING GAVE THE WORD



THROUGH THE DOOR IN THE FOYER THE JAPANESE SERVANTS RACED BREATHLESSLY. DALGREN WAS SURE THEY WOULD-



MADAME, IM FORCED TO ASK YOU TO ACCOMPANY TO OUR

MRS TENNEY WAS ACCUSED OF CONSPIRACY AS A GERMAN SPY AND IMMEDIATELY ARRESTED.

BLOOD ON THIS SWORD CORRESPONDING WITH THAT DETECTIVE MULDOON'S THE JAP KNOWN AS



CAME UPON TWO JAPANESE NAVY UNIFORMS

BEARING THE INSIGNE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

OTHER OFFICERS OUTSIDE HAD ALREADY GATHERED IN THE TWO JAPS WHO HAD TRIED TO ESCAPE-OTHER OPER-ATIVES STOOD GUARD OVER THE BRIDGE MODELS IN THE JAPS' OFFICE -THESE WERE BRIDGES MARKED FOR

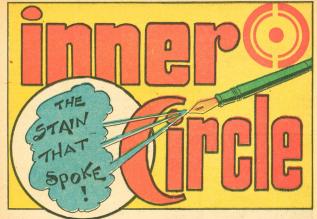


FINGERPRINTS WERE FOUND ON ONE OF THE BROAD-SWORDS AND STAINS OF BLOOD NOT COMPLETELY ERASED THE JAPS WERE CONVICTED OF THE MURDER OF DETECTIVE MULDOON, WHOM THEY FEARED WAS SUS-PICIOUS OF THE M- THEY WERE EXECUTED-MARIA SCHOENHORST WAS SENT TO PRISON- HER NHOCENT HUSBAND WAS EXONERATED

WHEN I WAS ABSOLUTELY SURE OF MY STORY I NOTIFIED THE FEDERAL MEN TO STAND BY- I KNEW THOSE JAPS WOULD HEAR ME WHEN I MENTIONET THEM TO MRS. TENNEY- I KNEW TOO, THE WOULD BEAT IT IN ORDER TO DESTROY THEIR MODELS-THE OFFICERS WERE OUTSIDE THE APARTMENT



HAD SCOOPED THE CITY- ONE NIGHT HE MODESTLY RECOUNTED SOME THE INCIDENTS - THORNTON FISHED



It was rather an open secret among the members of the Inner Circle that Chick had somehow been transferred from the Air Corps to G-2. Not only that, most of them had put two and two together and wound up with five. in the shape of thinking that Nick Carter had probably had something to do with it.

They all, therefore, were chary of mentioning any of their deductions to either Nick or Chick They just pretended that everything was as it had been before and that Chick was on some kind of detached service.

They were all most surprised, then, when at the monthly meeting of the Inner Circle, Nick got to his feet, cleared his throat and said. "Members, you've probably been wondering about how come Chick is spending on much of his time in these parts. Well, the need for secrecy is just about over. I had him transferred because frankly, we, that is G-2 and my humble self, were pretty puzzled about something.

"A lot of the work that Chick's been doing must necessarily remain sotto-voce till long after the war. There is one case in which his aid was invaluable though, which

I can give you a rather censored version of . . . It started while Chick was in the Air Force . .

"It had to do with a very worrisome group of saboteurs and I can tell you that every man in G-2 sleeps better because of the capture of this band of men! The fact that they and I can sleep better, is primarily because of Chick's help!"

Chick was blushing. He raised a restraining hand and said, "Aw Nick, lay off, spare me my blushes! If I hadn't spotted that clue someone else would've."

Nick said, "Pish tush," and went on as though there had been no interruption, "You've all heard of the damage that a saboteur can do with an explosive concealed in a fountain pen of pencil?"

The members knew of these dastardly weapons and nodded in unison.

"Well, this is the first case I ever heard of, where a normal fountain pen resulted in the death sentence for a saboteur!"

Nick took a gulp of water and said, "This is dry work;" then continued with his story. "The crux of the case was this. A man, an old man, a dangerous, cranky, intelligent old man, was, we thought, the

brains behind this saboteur ring. We were never able to pin a thing on him, as far as sabotage was concerned. We did feel though, that he was concerned in the death of one of our agents.

"Believe me when I say that we would have been more than happy to jail him on any charge, even speeding through a red light. We had to get him out of the way in order to go to work on his ring. There was no doubt in our minds and later events proved us right, that as far as brains were concerned he was the works. Deprive the ring of his mind and we were sure the others would fall right into our hands.



"The murder of which we suspected him was a vicious one. We had a witness ready to swear that the old man that we wanted was the murderer. The only thing wrong was that he had a perfect alibi. Not only did he have an alibi for the time of the killing, but there was no way that he could have travelled from town . . Let's call it A. to town B! The time sequence was all wrong. The dead member of G-2 was shot at 9:330 P.M. And at that time the old man was in another town 100 miles away with some very respectable townspeople as his guesta!

"It was Chick who suggested that perhaps the old man had hocused the clock in the room. We went on that assumption. Let's say we were a half hour out of the way... How could the old man have travelled the distance in a half hour killed our man and then gotten back to his own town in time for his alibi?

"The only thing that occurred to us was a plane. But the old man swore he'd never been on a plane. We checked with all the planes, commercial and free lance that had been near either town on the fatal night and found . . . that no one even remotely resembling the old man had been on any plane. Now bear in mind that all our investigations were necessarily brief. I don't think it was more than two hours after our man was murdered that we had the old man in custody. We sent out our inquiries right from the room where we felt sure the old man had committed murder.

"By four o'clock in the morning we had reached an impasse. The old man sat there as he had from the moment we took him into custody, perfectly relaxed, almost unmoving, old fashioned coat buttoned up almost to his collar and grinned evilly at us.

"Occasionally, he'd sneer at us, 'Well, dummkopfs, why don't you do something?' Somehow that rankled badly! As a matter of fact, it burned us all up."

"I'll say it did," said Chick, "I think that was what supplied the needed spur to my lazy brain. My contribution to the night's gayety was just a thousand-to-one chance. It happened to be something that Nick didn't know."

"Didn't know? I never even heard of it before!" Nick shook his head in annoyance. "However ... Here was this rotten old man, whom we knew in our heart of hearts had done murder a hundred times over and not a speck of proof did we have! Suddenly and it was the most startling thing I think I have ever seen. Chick leaped across the room and heaved the old man to his feet by grabbing him by the lapels. He shook the old men the way a dog does a rat and said, 'So you have not been in an airplane tonight, eh?' The old man shook his head no The sneer was still on his face. But the sneer vanished when Chick still holding

him by the lapels, ripped his coat open.

"There, all over the old man's vest was a stain . . . " Nick paused dramatically and Beef rose to the bait. "Was it . . . blood?" Beef asked with bated breath

Nick shook his head. "No indeed, not unless the old man was a real blue blood. for the stain that spread all over his vest was sky blue!"



The members of the Inner Circle all looked stunned. Of all the improbable things they must have guessed in their wildest dreams, a blue stain was the last thing any of them would have thought of.

"Not only was it a bright blue stain, it was that stain that sent the old man to his well earned death! To continue . . . Chick pointed to the stain and sneered a sneer at the old man that made all the old man's sneers look like amateur efforts and said. 'So you have never been in a plane! I can well believe that you have never been in a plane before tonight, but that is evidence that you did fly tonight!'

"The old man gasped like a fish out of water and sputtered . 'Wh . . . what are you t . . t . talking about?" Nick paused, smiled and then pointed to Chick. "Carry on from here, Chick. You can tell this part better than I can!"

"Well, unaccustomed as I am to public speaking . . ." Chick smiled then said, "The only thing was this . . . I knew that a plane did things to a fountain pen!

"The stain that spread all over his vest proved . . . to me, at any rate that I was right. I accused him then and there of shooting our man, flying back to his prepared alibi and then . . . before I could go on, he was on his feet with a gun pointed at my stomach. Without thinking, as a result of my Army training I suppose. I brought the edge of my hand down on his wrist. The gun fell to the floor and he howled as though I had broken his wrist." "You almost did!" chuckled Nick.

Chick went on, "If the old man had ever



travelled on a plane before he committed his 'perfect' crime he'd have known that altitudes above about five thousand feet, act on the rubber sac of a pen. As the atmosphere gets lighter the heavier air within the pen pushes the ink out.

"That was what had happened to him. It was perfect evidence you see, because a microscopic test of the pen would have shown that it was in perfect working order, therefore the only thing that could have done it was the plane trip!"





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