

GOLD



ZORRO

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WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

ZORRO

10169-803

MARCH



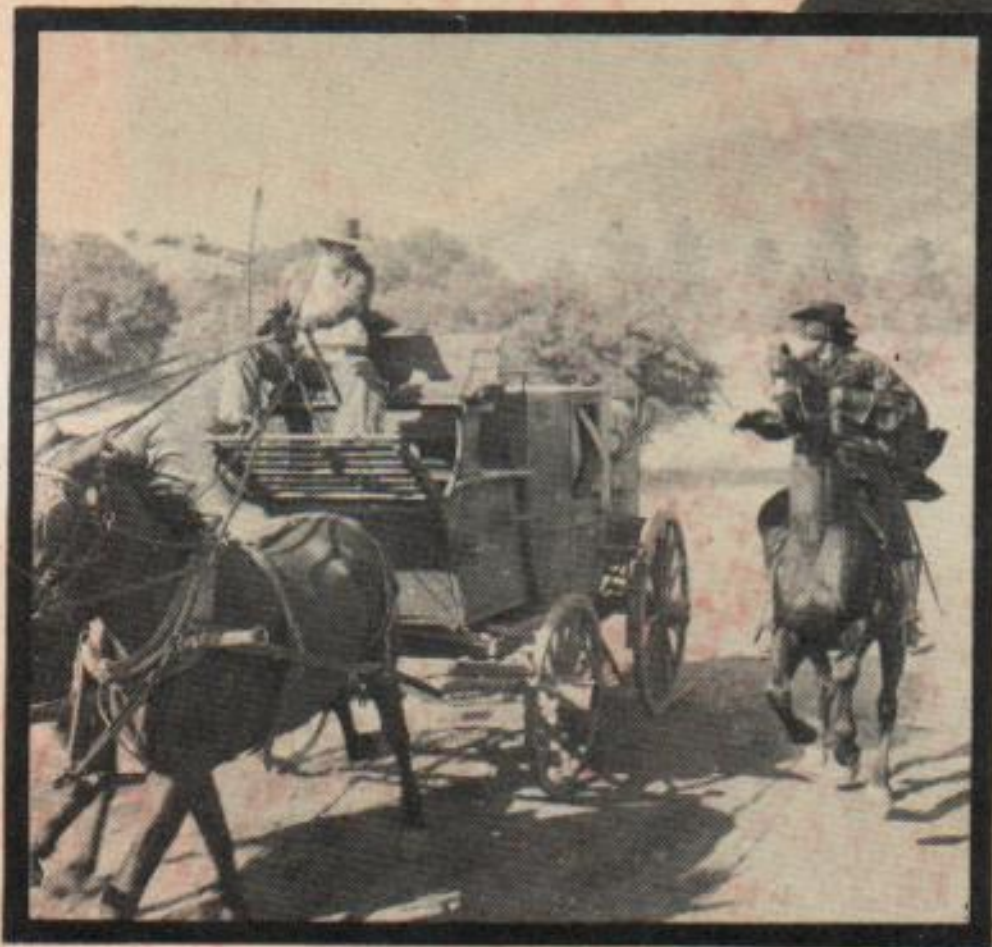
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PRODUCTIONS

From out of the night . . .
"GHOST of the
MISSION"!



is for ZORRO!

Zorro, the black-masked rider who strikes terror into the hearts of the tyrants of old Spanish California...



Avenging the oppressed, he leaves behind his mark . . . a jagged "Z," the sign of justice done!

Zorro

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

THE LITTLE PUEBLO OF LOS ANGELES APPEARS PEACEFUL, BUT INSIDE THE WALLED CUARTEL, THE LAW SEETHES ANGRILY... VOWING ITS REVENGE ON THE ELUSIVE ZORRO, WHO HAS SNATCHED THE FALSELY-ACCUSED CAPTIVE, DON NACHO TORRES, FROM UNDER ITS VERY NOSE! THEN, SUDDENLY...

The Ghost of the Mission... part One

LET ME IN! LET ME IN! I MUST SEE THE COMANDANTE! I HAVE NEWS OF TORRES!

STOP! YOU CANNOT ENTER UNLESS...!

WHAT'S THIS? YOU KNOW WHERE TORRES IS HIDING?

YES! YES! HE IS AT THE MISSION OF SAN GABRIEL! I SAW HIM THERE MYSELF, ONLY THIS MORNING!

I HAVE HEARD THERE IS A REWARD FOR WORD OF TORRES! I WANT IT, COMANDANTE MONASTARIO!

HERE IS YOUR REWARD! NOW GET OUT OF THE WAY! WE'RE RIDING TO THE MISSION AT ONCE!

A SHORT TIME LATER, DON DIEGO DE LA VEGA AND HIS VALET, BERNARDO, ARE RIDING TO LOS ANGELES...

YES! I SEE, BERNARDO! IT LOOKS LIKE CAPITAN MONASTARIO'S LANCERS!

THE LANCERS CHARGE BY, FORCING DIEGO'S CARRIAGE OFF THE ROAD...



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THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE MISSION, BERNARDO! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS! WE MUST GO BACK! QUICKLY!

MEANWHILE, AT THE MISSION...



THE CHURCH BELL! BUT...IT'S MUCH TOO EARLY FOR THE ANGELUS!...



IT WAS THE WARNING BELL, PADRE FELIPE! LOOK! MONASTARIO'S LANCERS!

QUICKLY, SEÑOR TORRES! INTO THE CHURCH! THEY MUSTN'T SEE YOU!



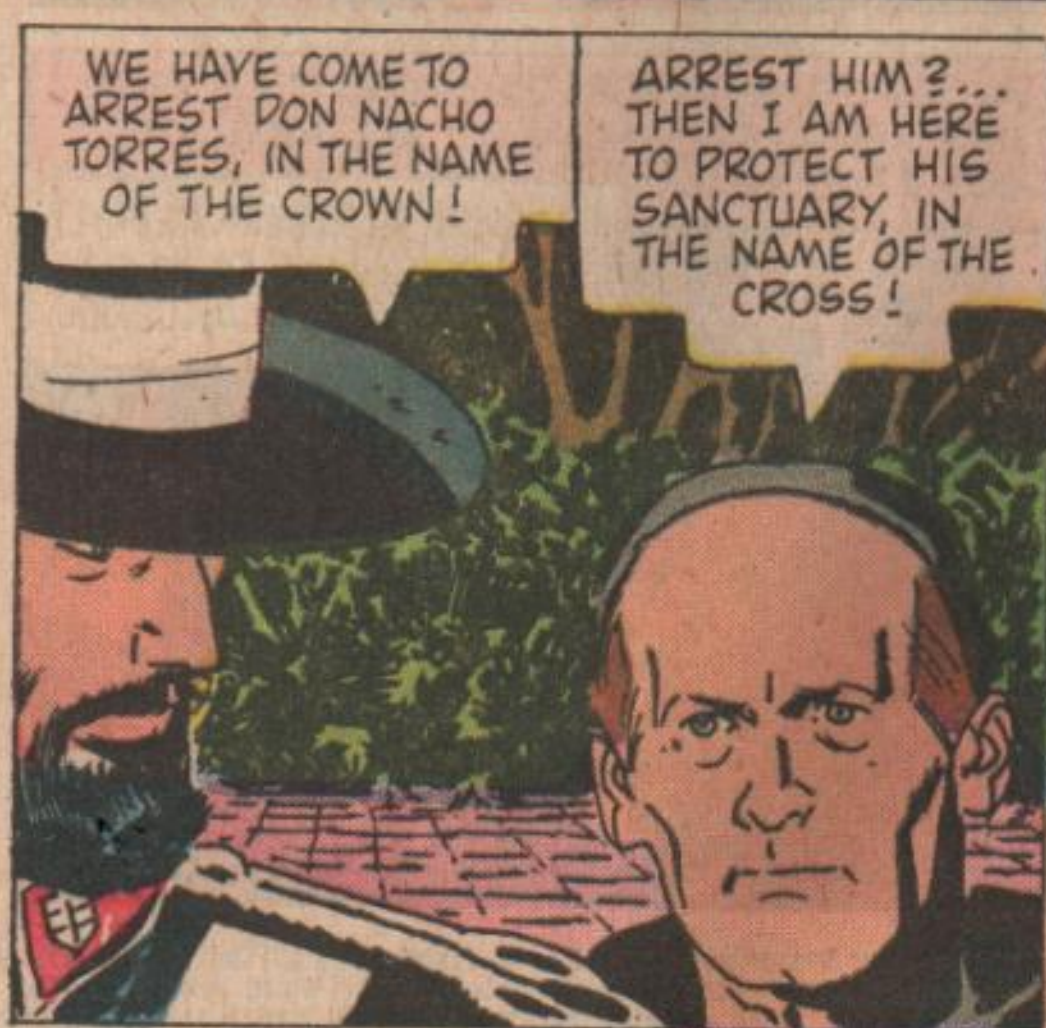
SURROUND THE AREA, MEN! SERGEANT GARCIA, I WILL HOLD YOU PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE IF TORRES GETS AWAY!

ER...YES, MI CAPITAN!



BUENOS DIAS, CAPITAN! DID YOU BRING YOUR MEN TO WHITEWASH THE CHURCH? IT TRULY NEEDS...!

YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHY WE ARE HERE, PADRE!



WE HAVE COME TO ARREST DON NACHO TORRES, IN THE NAME OF THE CROWN!

ARREST HIM?... THEN I AM HERE TO PROTECT HIS SANCTUARY, IN THE NAME OF THE CROSS!



MINUTES LATER...

DIEGO!
I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU! IS
THE ARMY STILL OUTSIDE?

IN FULL
FORCE!
BUT I
WANTED

TO TELL YOU, I'VE
CALLED ON YOUR
FAMILY, REASSURING
THEM OF YOUR
SAFETY, TORRES!



THANK YOU, MY
FRIEND! BUT IT
SEEMS HOPELESS!
ALL I DID WAS
SPEAK OUT AGAINST
CORRUPTION! AND
NOW I'M ACCUSED
OF **TREASON!**

BUT WE ALL KNOW
YOU ARE **NOT** GUILTY
OF TREASON, DON
NACHO! IF ONLY
THERE WERE SOME
WAY TO HELP YOU...!
SO FAR, ONLY THIS
SHOW-OFF, ZORRO,
HAS...



HA! WITHOUT ZORRO, I PROBABLY WOULD
NOT BE ALIVE TODAY! TAKE MY ADVICE,
DIEGO! STAY WITH YOUR BOOKS AND
GUITARS! OR YOU, TOO, WILL END UP
LIKE THIS!

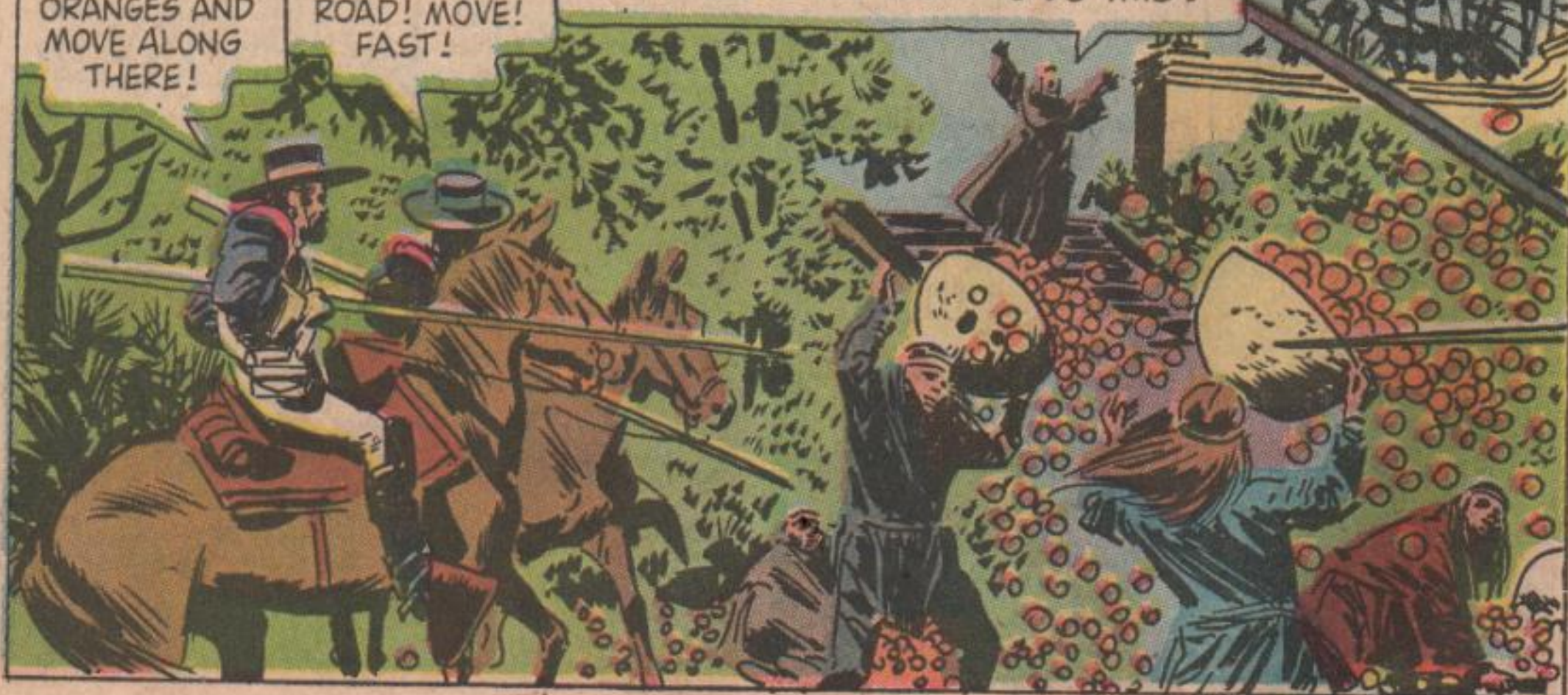


WHAT'S
THAT?

DROP THOSE
ORANGES AND
MOVE ALONG
THERE!

ONTO THE
ROAD! MOVE!
FAST!

STOP! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO DO THIS!







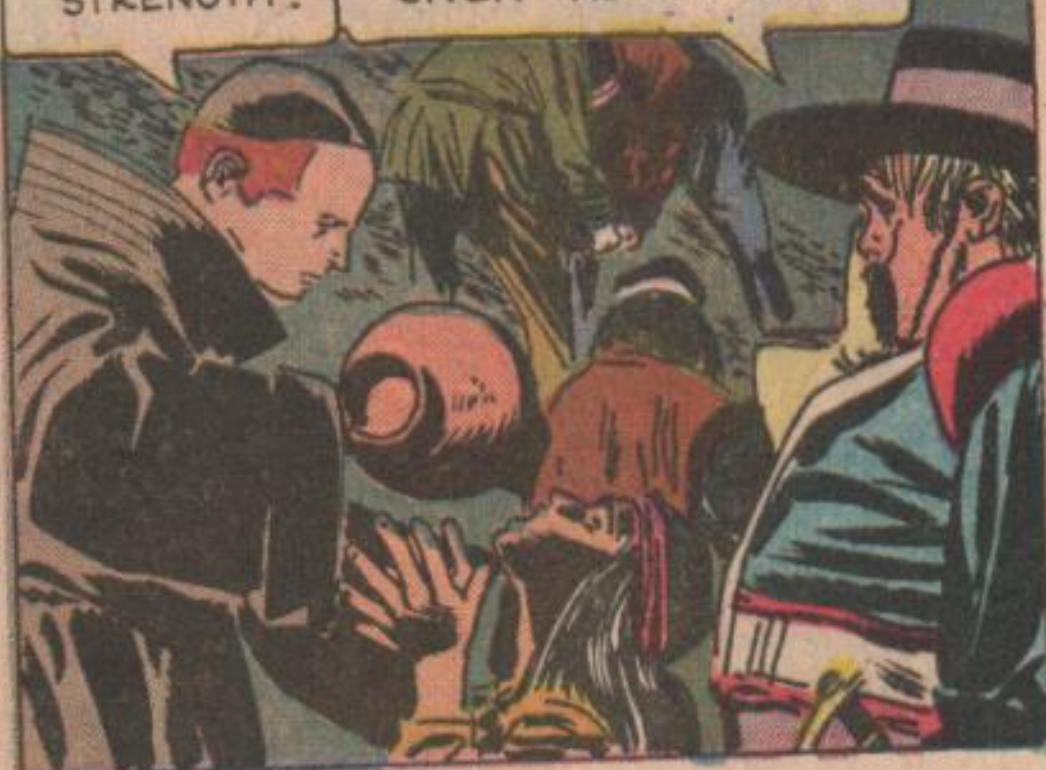
BERNARDO! WE MUST WORK FAST! GET BACK TO THE CAVE! BRING ME TORNADO AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT ZORRO WILL ACCOMPLISH TONIGHT... BUT **SOMETHING** MUST BE DONE!



THAT NIGHT, AS THE INDIANS ARE FORCED TO CONTINUE WORKING...

HERE! THIS WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH!

I AM SORRY, PADRE! BUT THE COMANDANTE HAS GIVEN THE ORDERS!



AND NEAR THE MISSION ORANGE GROVE...

AH, IT IS FULLY DARK! BERNARDO SHOULD BE BACK WITH TORNADO... AND HIDING OUTSIDE!



DIEGO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?

WHAT? OH, I-ER- I ONLY THOUGHT I SHOULD HELP PADRE FELIPE WITH HIS WORK, CAPITAN!



HA! YOU'RE A VIRTUOUS YOUNG MAN! BUT THIS IS UNCALLED FOR!

THESE ORANGES WILL FREEZE! YOU'VE TAKEN AWAY ALL OF THE PADRE'S HELPERS!

THAT IS JUST THE BEGINNING, DIEGO! IF WE HAVE TO, WE'LL WORK THOSE INDIANS UNTIL THEY DROP... UNLESS YOU CAN CONVINCE TORRES TO GIVE HIMSELF UP!

PERHAPS I CAN DO THAT, CAPITAN!





SHHHHHHH!
DO NOT DISTURB
DON NACHO NOW,
MONASTARIO!

THEN YOU HAVEN'T
SPOKEN TO HIM?



OH, YES! AND IT LOOKS
LIKE YOU'VE WON! SO AS
THIS IS HIS LAST VISIT TO
THE CHURCH, PERHAPS
YOU WILL WAIT, UNTIL
HE IS READY TO GO!

OF COURSE!
I DON'T MIND
WAITING A
BIT LONGER
AS LONG AS
HE IS GIVING
HIMSELF UP!



DON NACHO WANTED TO HEAR
MY MUSIC ONCE MORE! HE'S
ALWAYS LOVED BACH! WHAT
ABOUT YOU, CAPITAN?

NEVER
MIND THAT!
JUST
FINISH
PLAYING
AS SOON
AS YOU
CAN!



OUTSIDE...

STOP MAKING NOISES
WITH THAT WHIP! LISTEN
TO THE ORGAN MUSIC!
IS IT NOT BEAUTIFUL?



WHILE GARCIA AND HIS SOLDIERS STAND
ENTHRALLED BY THE MAJESTIC TONES OF
THE ORGAN...

SHHH! PUT DOWN THE
ROCK! RUN INTO THE
HILLS! QUIETLY!



AH! NOW IF ONLY
DIEGO CAN PLAY
LONG ENOUGH...!





WHAT IS THIS?
STOP! STOP!
I SAY STOP!



NO! DO
NOT SHOOT!

BLAM!!



WHAT... WHAT
HAPPENED? HOW
MANY GOT AWAY?
WATCH THE OTHERS!
GET THEM ALL
-TOGETHER!
HURRY UP!



SERGEANT GARCIA!
WHO FIRED THAT SHOT?
GARCIA! ANSWER ME!



TWO...INDIANS ESCAPED,
CAPITAN! BUT IT WAS
NOT MY FAULT! I...

NEVER MIND!
GET THE OTHERS
BACK TO WORK!



YOU! COME WITH ME!
WE'LL BRING THOSE
INDIANS BACK BY
THEIR THUMBS!

YES, MI
CAPITAN!

IN THE CONFUSION, PADRE FELIPE HAS RUN BACK TO THE MISSION AND TORRES...

THIS IS TOO MUCH, PADRE! I MUST GIVE MYSELF UP TO PREVENT MORE TROUBLE!

NO, NO, TORRES! YOU MUST NOT!



SENTRY! CALL YOUR CAPITAN BACK! STOP ALL THIS! I AM YOUR PRISONER!

WHAT?

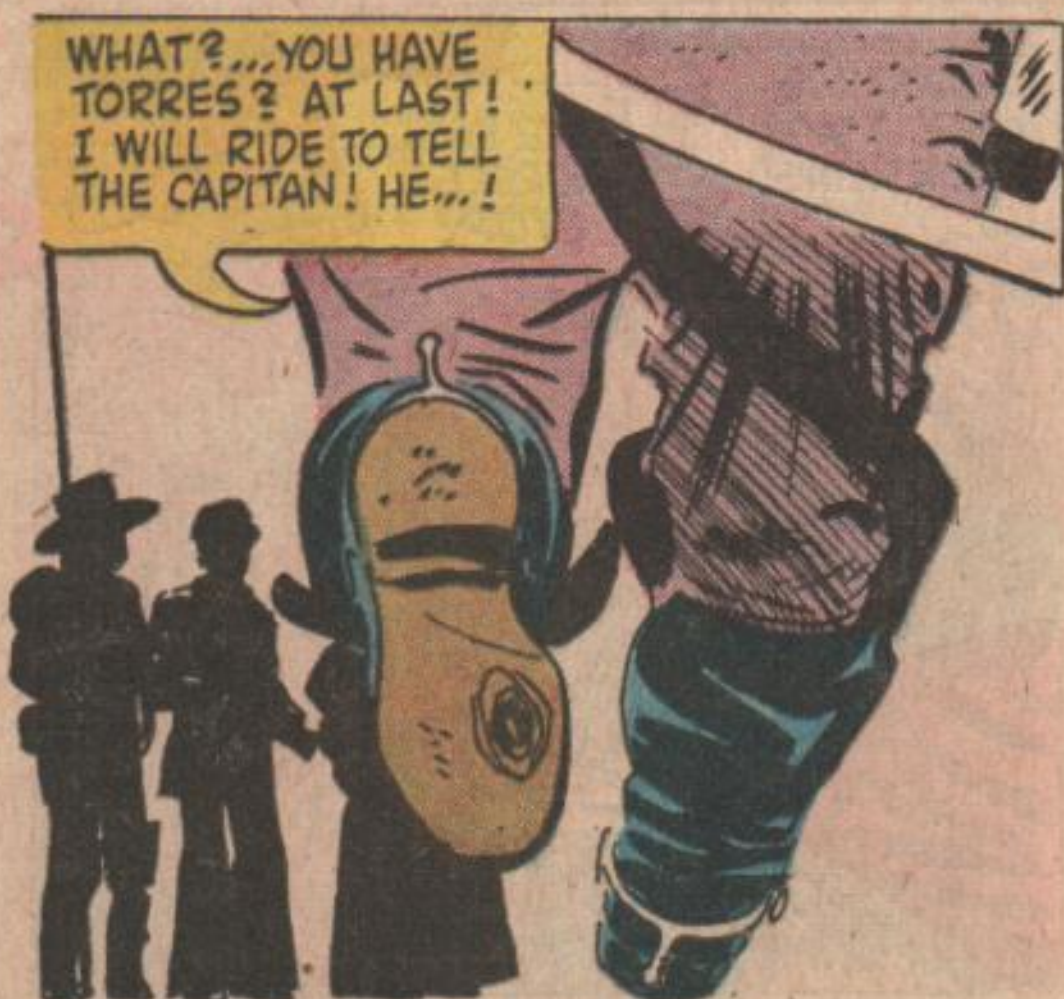


SERGEANT GARCIA! COME QUICKLY! I HAVE TORRES!

I'LL STAND BY YOU, DON NACHO, AS LONG AS I CAN! YOU ARE A BRAVE MAN!



WHAT?...YOU HAVE TORRES? AT LAST! I WILL RIDE TO TELL THE CAPITAN! HE...!



SUDDENLY, A BLACK RIDER CHARGES PAST...

UH...WH-WHAT'S THAT...??

IT'S... ZORRO!



RUN! RUN! ALL OF YOU! FOR THE HILLS!

IT IS ZORRO!

DO AS HE SAYS! RUN!

WE ARE SAVED!



ZORRO'S WHIP SNAPS OUT...





WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

Zorro

EARLY MORNING IN THE COURTYARD...

LOOK, MI CAPITAN!
THE SOLDIERS FOUND
HIM SLEEPING NEAR
THE ROAD... BEHIND
SOME ROCKS!

A MISSION INDIAN! HA!
HE MUST HAVE BEEN TOO
WEAK TO RUN FAR! MAYBE
I CAN GET SOME
INFORMATION OUT
OF HIM!

"Ghost of the Mission," part two..



FORGIVE ME,
COMANDANTE!
BUT THIS INDIAN
WILL NEVER
BETRAY HIS
OWN PEOPLE!

OH, NO? THERE ARE WAYS,
SERGEANT! HE HAS A FAMILY
HIDING OUT THERE SOMEWHERE
IN THE HILLS! NO DOUBT HE
WANTS TO SEE THEM AGAIN!



I AM TAKING YOU BACK TO THE MISSION, WRETCH!
WHATEVER I TELL THE PADRE, DO NOT OPEN
YOUR MOUTH TO DENY IT! OR YOU WILL NEVER
SEE YOUR FAMILY AGAIN! UNDERSTAND?

Y-YES! I... I
WILL N-NOT SPEAK..!



ORDER THE LANCERS OUT, GARCIA!
WE'RE RIDING FOR KING AND COUNTRY
AGAINST THE HOSTILE RED SAVAGES!

RED
SAVAGES?
ER... SI,
MI
CAPITAN!



WHILE IN DON DIEGO de la VEGA'S BEDROOM...

NOW WATCH ME AGAIN, BERNARDO! IT IS VERY
SIMPLE! THE FINGERS SO...!



CONTINUED...



NOW YOU TRY IT! YOU MUST LEARN TO PLAY SO YOU CAN COVER FOR ME WHEN I AM OUT RIDING AS ZORRO! OTHERWISE, FATHER MAY GROW SUSPICIOUS!



PLUNK TWANNNC

NOT GOOD, BERNARDO! BUT YOU MUST NOT GIVE UP! NOW I MUST RIDE TO THE MISSION TO SEE IF SENOR TORRES HAS GOTTEN SAFELY AWAY!



LATER...

HOW SAD THE MISSION LOOKS NOW! NO INDIANS! NOT EVEN AN ANIMAL IN SIGHT!



AH, DIEGO! I AM GLAD IT IS YOU! I WAS AFRAID CAPITAN MONASTARIO MIGHT HAVE RETURNED!

ARE THE INDIANS STILL HIDING IN THE HILLS, PADRE?



YES, BUT THEY WILL COME BACK WHEN THE DANGER IS OVER! I HAVE KEPT SENOR TORRES HERE, THOUGH! I AM AFRAID THE SOLDIERS ARE STILL WAITING TO SEIZE HIM IF HE LEAVES!

THAT IS WISE, PADRE! BUT HE SHOULDN'T WAIT TOO LONG TO SET OUT FOR MONTEREY!



IT IS MONASTARIO AGAIN! AND HIS LANCERS! THEY MUST PLAN TO TAKE TORRES BY FORCE!

LOOK! THE CAPITAN ALSO HAS ONE OF THE MISSION INDIANS!

GARCIA! POST SENTRIES AND KEEP A SHARP WATCH! THE PRISONER COMES WITH ME!



INOCENTE!
WHAT HAVE
THEY DONE
TO YOU?

CAREFUL, PADRE! HE'S A
DANGEROUS SAVAGE WHO'S
CONFESSED THAT HIS PEOPLE
ARE PLANNING TO BURN THE
MISSION AND ROB YOU!



THE INDIANS ARE
LIKE MY CHILDREN!
THIS CANNOT BE
TRUE! INOCENTE,
SPEAK UP! DON'T
BE AFRAID!

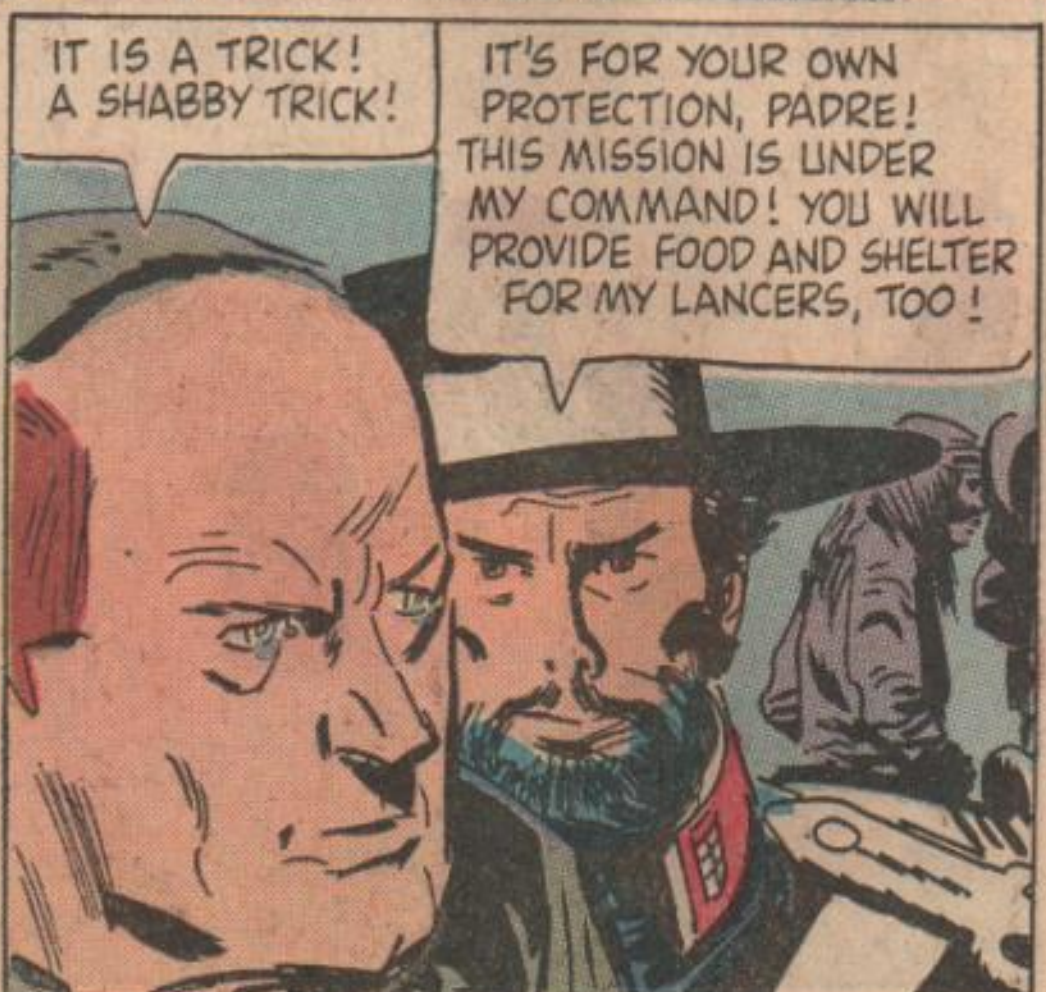
I—I...!

YOU SEE, HE
WON'T DENY
IT! I HAVE
NO CHOICE BUT
TO PUT THIS
MISSION UNDER
MARTIAL LAW,
PADRE!



IT IS A TRICK!
A SHABBY TRICK!

IT'S FOR YOUR OWN
PROTECTION, PADRE!
THIS MISSION IS UNDER
MY COMMAND! YOU WILL
PROVIDE FOOD AND SHELTER
FOR MY LANCERS, TOO!



AND NOW, I
SHALL **SELECT**
A PRIVATE ROOM
FOR MY
HEADQUARTERS!

IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS THAT
THE CAPITAN IS UNABLE TO
GET TORRES ANY OTHER
WAY, SO HE HAS INVENTED
A FALSE INDIAN UPRISING
AS HIS EXCUSE TO TAKE
OVER THE MISSION!



AS LONG AS TORRES
REMAINS INSIDE THE
CHURCH, HE IS STILL
PROTECTED BY HOLY
SANCTUARY, PADRE!

TRUE! BUT CAPITAN
MONASTARIO WILL
KEEP HIM IN THERE!
HOW LONG CAN HE
LIVE WITHOUT FOOD
OR WATER?



WELL, I SHALL GO AND TELL MY FATHER WHAT HAS OCCURRED! HE HAS A KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAW! PERHAPS HE CAN HELP!

ER...YES... PERHAPS!



LATER...

BERNARDO! YOUR PLAYING HAS IMPROVED A LITTLE! SOON YOU WILL LOCK YOURSELF IN MY ROOM AND PLAY THE GUITAR UNTIL I RETURN!



ZORRO MUST RIDE AGAIN TONIGHT, AND RETURN WITHOUT MY FATHER MISSING ME! GO AND HAVE THE COOK PREPARE PLENTY OF FOOD TO PACK IN MY SADDLE BAG!



THAT NIGHT...

SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE...! BUT I'VE GOT TO GET FOOD AND WATER TO SEÑOR TORRES!

ONE MOMENT, PADRE! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT TRY SOMETHING LIKE THIS!



YOU CAN'T KEEP ME FROM GOING INTO MY OWN CHURCH!

NO, BUT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO CARRY FOOD AND DRINK TO A TRAITOR! LET ME HAVE THAT!



MM-M-M VERY APPETIZING! I THINK I'LL ENJOY THIS, PADRE!

YOU ARE INHUMAN! BEWARE, LEST AN ESPECIALLY WARM SPOT BE RESERVED FOR YOU IN THE HEREAFTER!



AT THAT MINUTE, BEHIND THE MISSION...



ZORRO SLIPS SILENTLY INTO THE CHURCH...



SUDDENLY...



KNOWING HE CANNOT RESORT TO FORCE WITHIN
THE CHURCH, ZORRO HEADS FOR THE TOWER...

HA! THE GREAT ZORRO HAS TRAPPED HIMSELF!

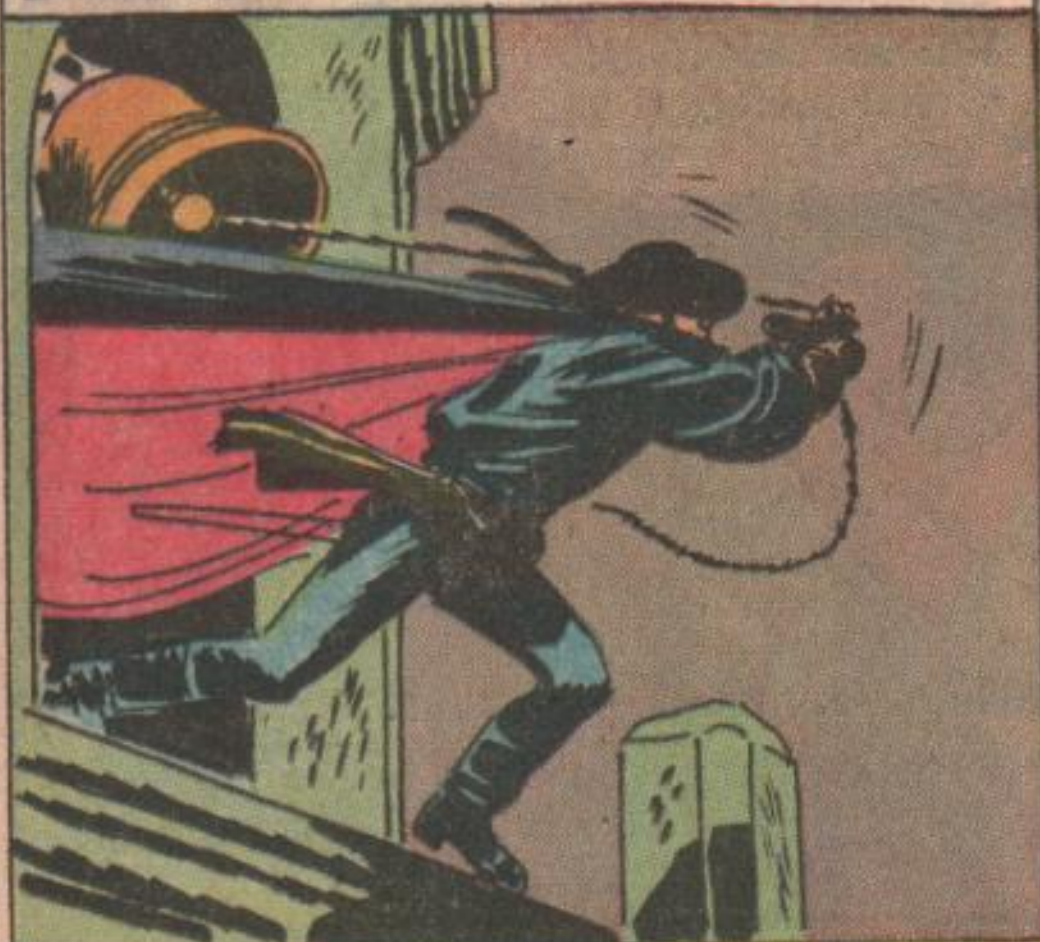


LET HIM GET TO
THE BELFRY! HE
CAN GO NO
FURTHER!

NOW — IF MY PLAN WORKS!

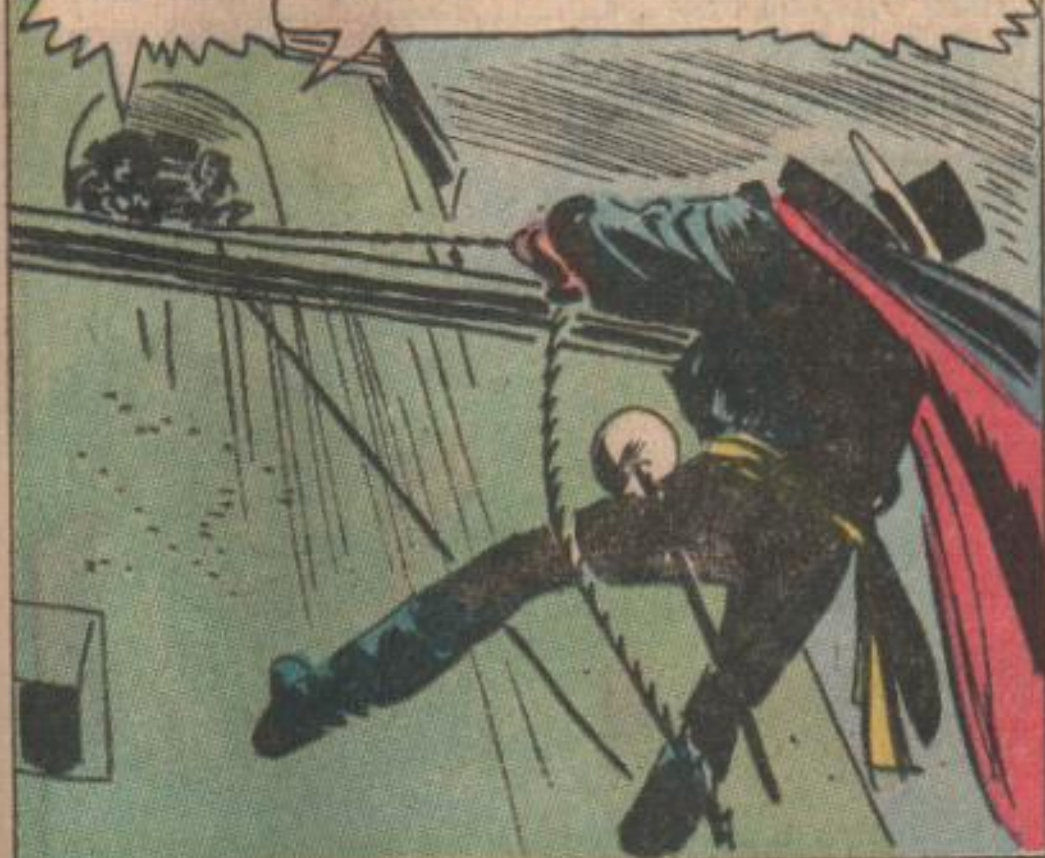


ZORRO REACHES THE BELFRY AND LEAPS OUT...



THERE
HE IS!

SO! THEN ZORRO IS AT THE
END OF HIS ROPE! HAH HA HA!



THERE!

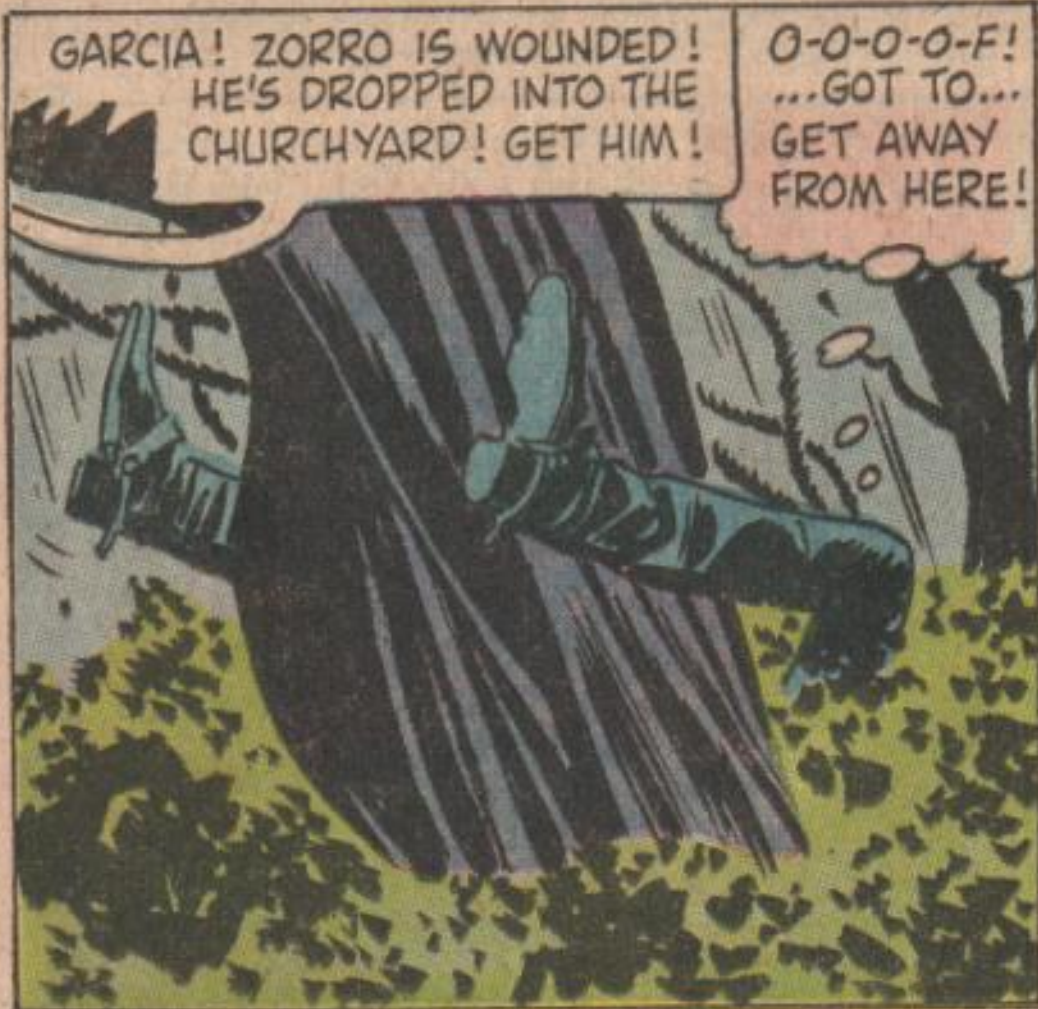


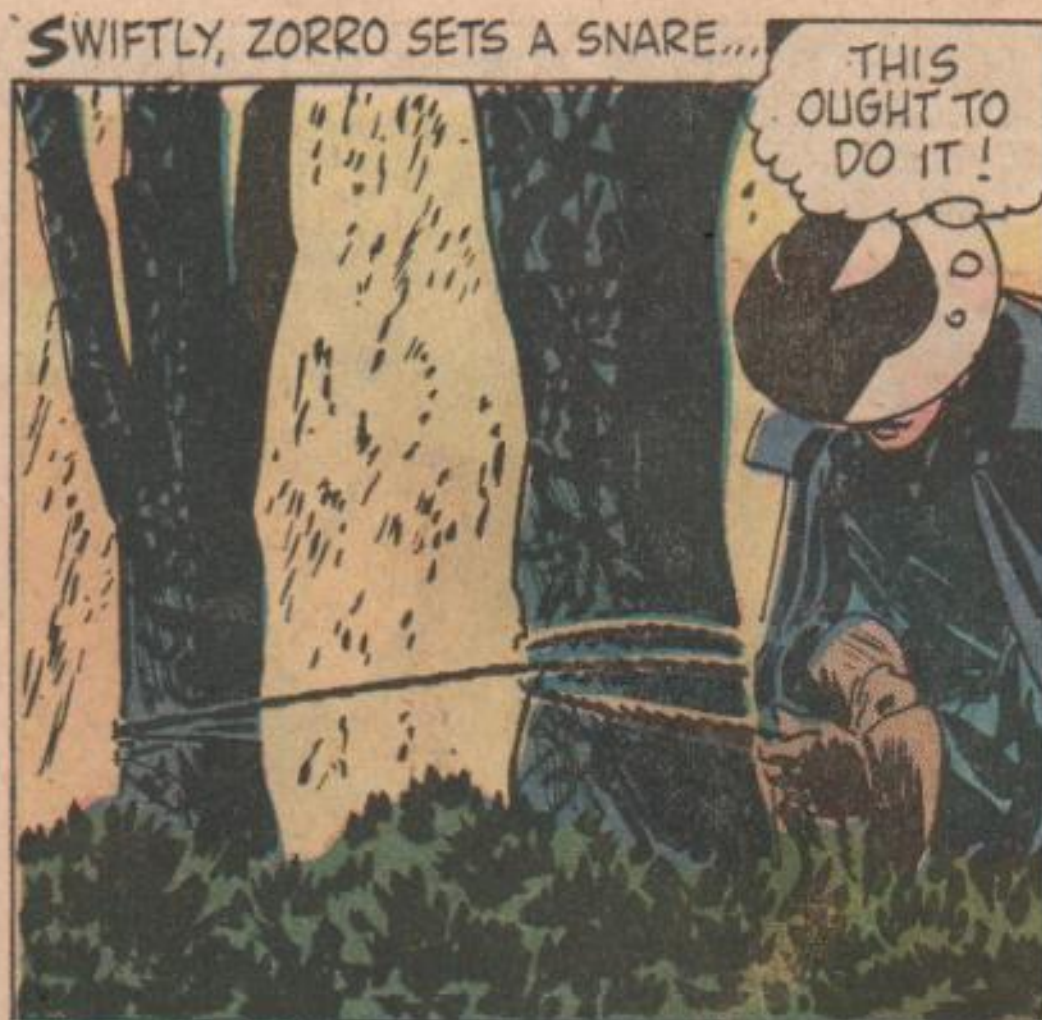
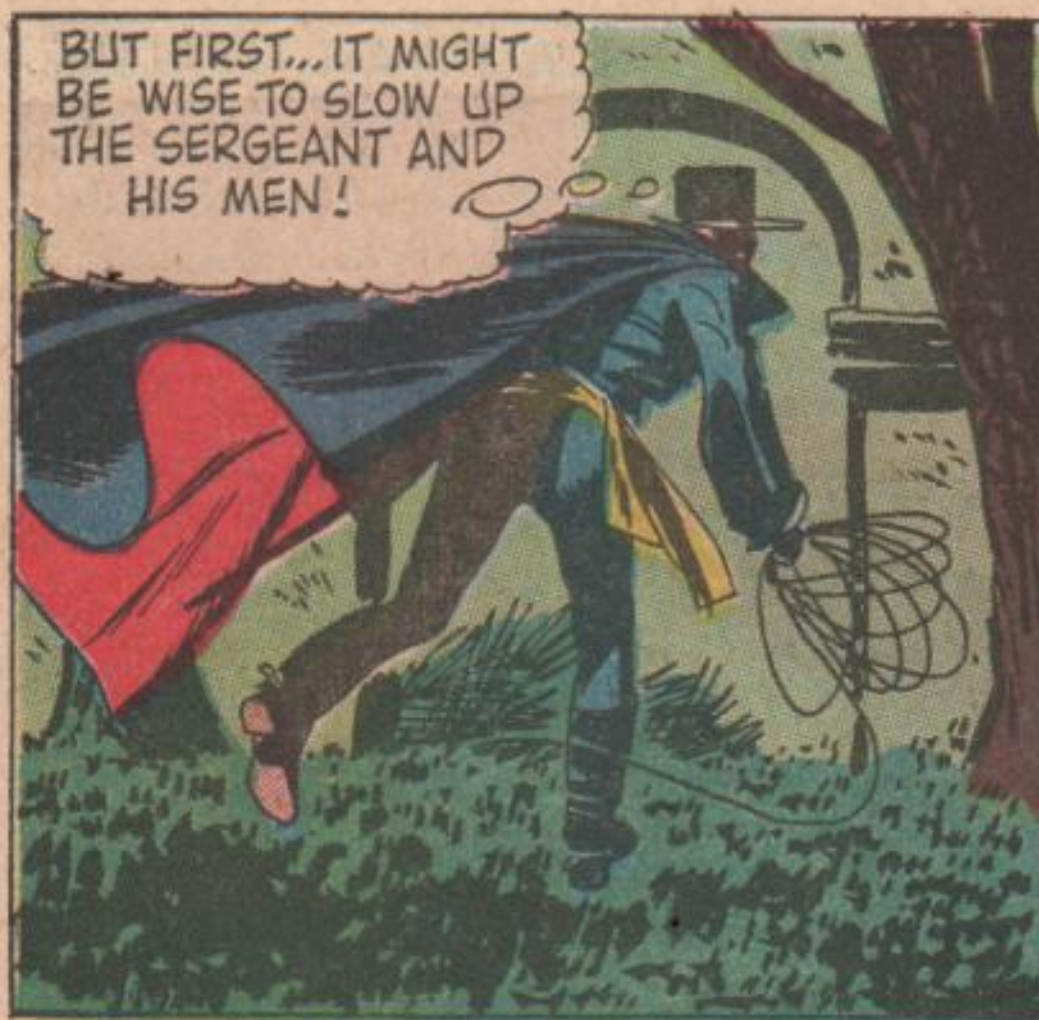
ADIOS,
SEÑOR
ZORRO!



GARCIA! ZORRO IS WOUNDED!
HE'S DROPPED INTO THE
CHURCHYARD! GET HIM!

O-O-O-O-F!
...GOT TO...
GET AWAY
FROM HERE!







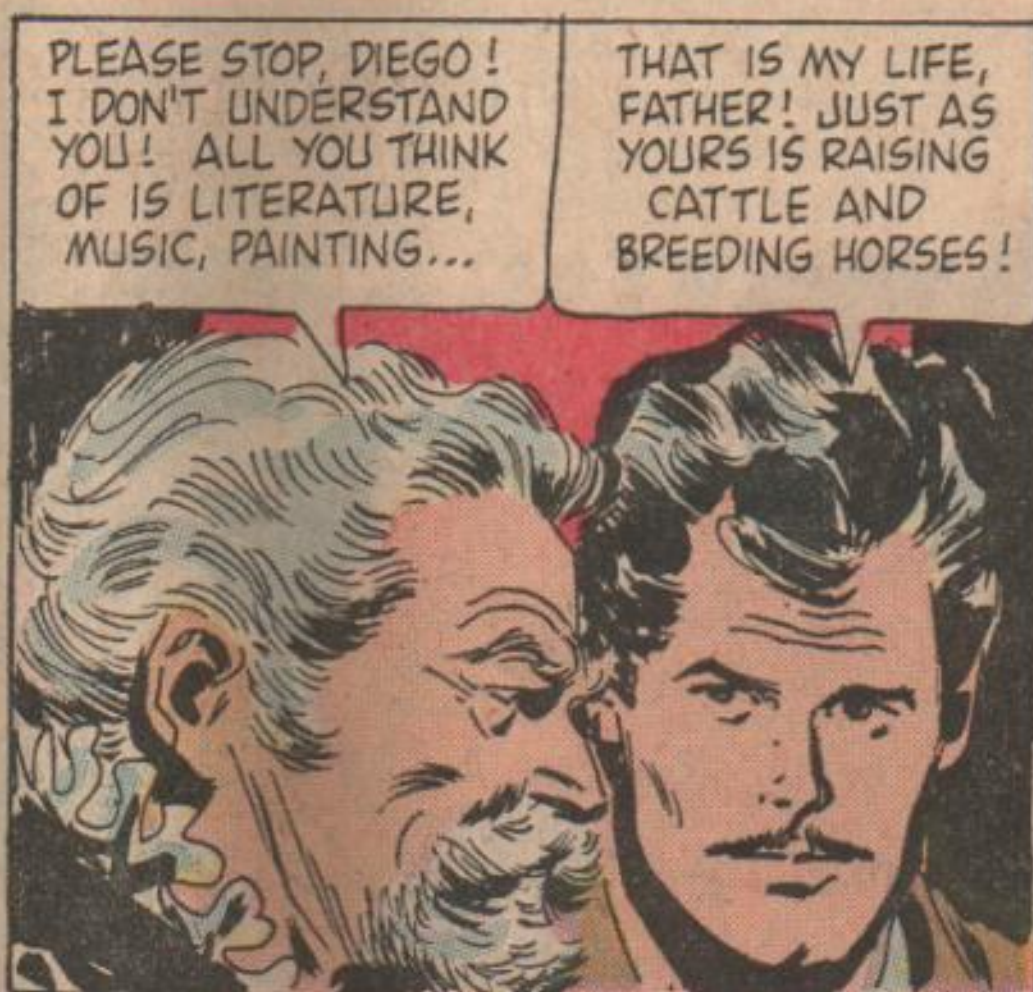
QUICKLY,
BERNARDO!
GET UNDER
THE BED!

KNOCK
KNOCK



ARE YOU GETTING
DEAF, DIEGO? AND
THAT TERRIBLE
MUSIC...HOW CAN
I SLEEP?

I'M SORRY, FATHER!
I WAS ENGROSSED IN
COMPOSING A NEW
SONG!



PLEASE STOP, DIEGO!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
YOU! ALL YOU THINK
OF IS LITERATURE,
MUSIC, PAINTING...

THAT IS MY LIFE,
FATHER! JUST AS
YOURS IS RAISING
CATTLE AND
BREEDING HORSES!



LATER... YOU DID WELL, BERNARDO!
BUT **ZORRO** DID **NOT**! THERE WERE TOO
MANY SOLDIERS! DON NACHO TORRES
WILL HAVE TO WAIT A WHILE LONGER FOR
FREEDOM!



SERGEANT GARCIA!
SEÑOR DE LA VEGA
REQUESTS YOUR
PERMISSION TO
SEE THE PADRE!

OH? AND WHAT IS THE
PURPOSE OF THIS VISIT?



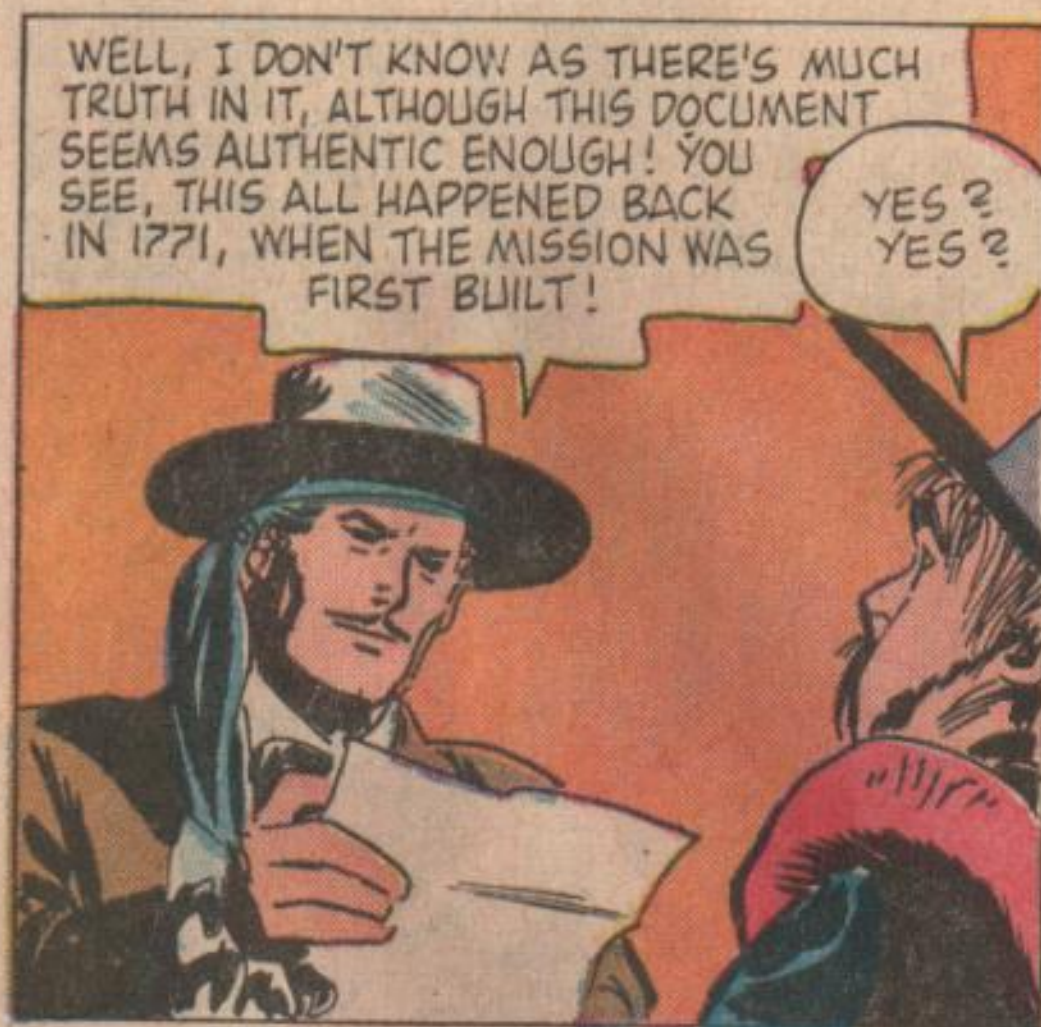
I HAVE AN OLD MANUSCRIPT,
SERGEANT, THAT PADRE FELIPE
EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SEE!

MANUSCRIPT,
EH? AND WHAT
IS THIS STRANGE
WRITING ALL
OVER IT?



IT IS LATIN! AN ACCOUNT OF SOMETHING STRANGE THAT HAPPENED HERE MANY YEARS AGO! I DON'T THINK YOU'D BE INTERESTED!

SOMETHING STRANGE? WHAT WAS IT?



WELL, I DON'T KNOW AS THERE'S MUCH TRUTH IN IT, ALTHOUGH THIS DOCUMENT SEEMS AUTHENTIC ENOUGH! YOU SEE, THIS ALL HAPPENED BACK IN 1771, WHEN THE MISSION WAS FIRST BUILT!

YES?
YES?



A BAND OF MARAUDING SAVAGES STRUCK IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT! ONE MISSION MONK WAS KILLED... RIGHT AT THIS VERY SPOT...

THIS VERY SPOT...?



YES! AND EVER SINCE, HIS GHOST HAS HAUNTED THE MISSION ON DARK MOONLESS NIGHTS!

A—A GHOST? BUT WH-WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?



A FIGURE IN A COWLED ROBE! IT APPEARS IN THE CHURCHYARD AND WALKS THROUGH THE EMPTY CORRIDORS, MOANING! AND WHEN THE CHURCH BELL RINGS AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS A DIRE WARNING!

A — A WARNING?

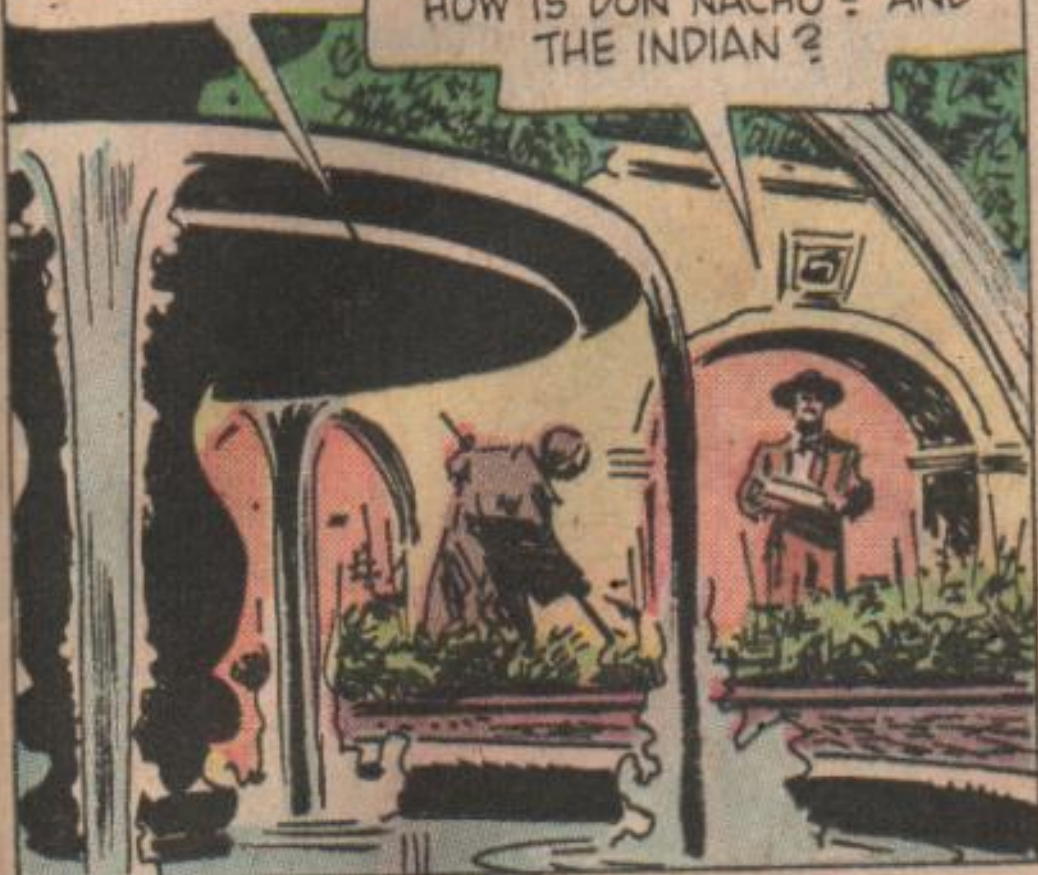


YES! WHOEVER COMES FACE TO FACE WITH THE GHOST WILL DIE! BUT SURELY YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THESE THINGS, SERGEANT! NOW I MUST SEE THE PADRE!

ER...YES, OF COURSE, GO RIGHT IN, DIEGO!

DIEGO! WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

JUST A MANUSCRIPT, PADRE! A PRETEXT TO SEE YOU! HOW IS DON NACHO? AND THE INDIAN?



DON NACHO IS QUITE DEJECTED! AND THE INDIAN IS TIED UP IN THE STONE BODEGA, BEHIND THE PEPPER TREE! I FEAR THE WORST, DIEGO!

DO NOT DESPAIR, PADRE! SOMEHOW, I FEEL THAT THIS REIGN OF TERROR WILL SOON COME TO AN END!



THAT NIGHT... SERGEANT! WHAT OF THIS STRANGE TALE YOU HAVE BEEN TELLING EVERYBODY! THIS GHOST! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?

BAH! IT IS A FOOLISH TALE MEANT FOR OLD WOMEN WHO COULD BELIEVE SUCH NONSENSE!



WELL, IT IS A MOONLESS NIGHT, AND THE HOUR IS ALMOST MIDNIGHT! TELL ME THE STORY AGAIN, GARCIA! I LIKE ...!



BONNNNNNGGGGG

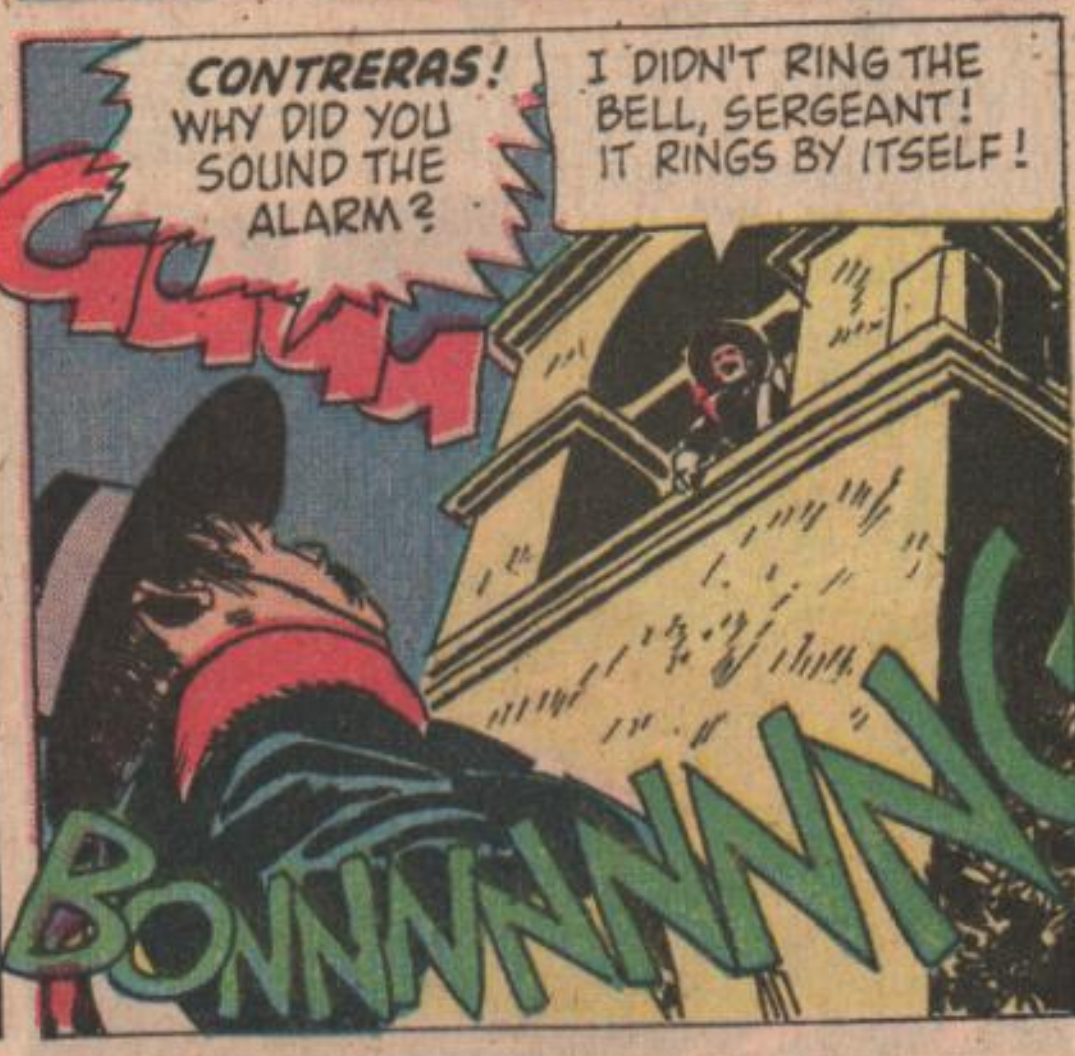
TH-THE CH-CHURCH-BELL!

YI-I-I-I-I-I!



CONTRERAS! WHY DID YOU SOUND THE ALARM?

I DIDN'T RING THE BELL, SERGEANT! IT RINGS BY ITSELF!





LOOK! SOMETHING
IS MOVING IN THE
CHURCHYARD!

YIIIIIIIIII!
IT IS THE
GHOST!



WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE?

IT'S... IT'S THE... THE GHOST,
MI CAPITAN! WE MUST RUN!



BAH! GHOSTS AND PHANTOMS
DO NOT EXIST! COME WITH ME,
SERGEANT! WE'LL FIND OUT
WHO'S PLAYING THIS LITTLE
JOKE!

BUT... BUT...
MI CAPITAN!
LOOK! THERE
IT IS AGAIN!



AFTER IT!

IT'S GOING
INTO THE
BARRACKS!



YEEOWW!
IT'S THE
GHOST OF
THE MONK!

LET ME
OUT OF
HERE!

COME BACK! COME
BACK, YOU DESERTERS!

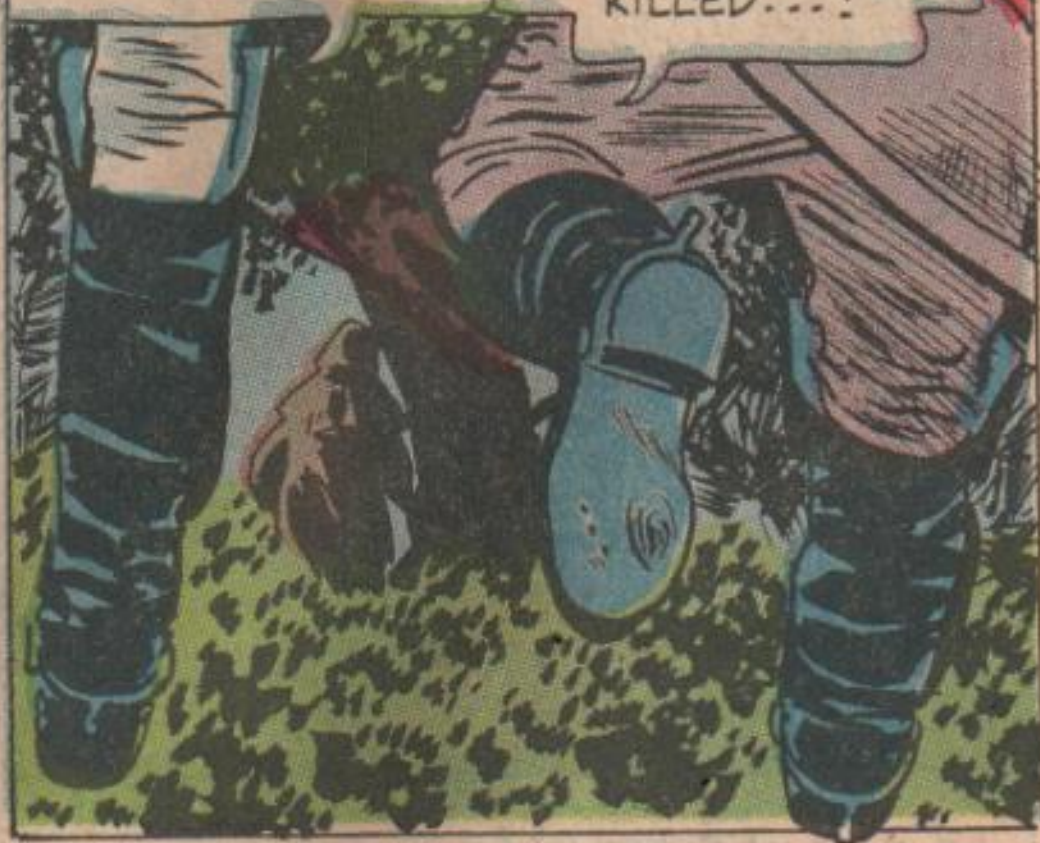


SH-SHALL
I GO AFTER
THEM, SIR?

COWARD! NO! — YOU WILL
HELP ME CATCH THIS FALSE
PHANTOM! THERE HE IS NOW!

HE WENT BEHIND
THAT TREE! NOW
WE'VE GOT HIM!

BUT TH-THAT'S THE
TREE WHERE THE...
THE MONK WAS
KILLED...!



TH - THERE
IS NO ONE
HERE! BUT
HOW...?

YOU SEE, THE LEGEND *IS*
TRUE! IT J-JUST
DISAPPEARED INTO
THIN AIR!



BUT A FEW FEET OVER THEIR HEADS...

AHA! YOU ARE IN A GOOD SPOT, MI
CAPITAN! JUST STAND THERE FOR
A MOMENT AND...!



THE DISGUISED ZORRO'S AIM IS TRUE...



YI-I-I-I-I-I!

I THINK THE MAD GHOST
HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE
WELL! NOW TO FINISH
THIS NIGHT'S WORK!



YOU ARE
FREE,
INOCENTE!

SEÑOR ZORRO!
AGAIN I THANK
YOU!



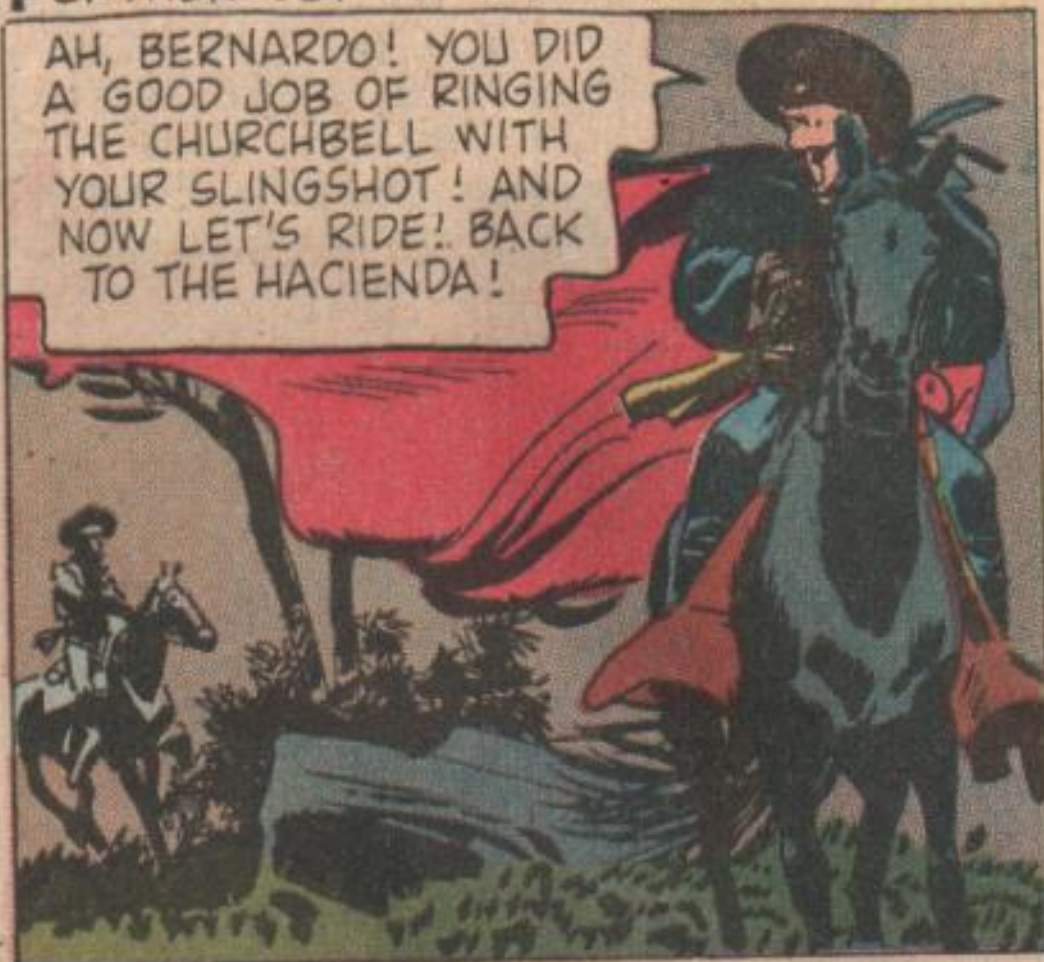
STOP! STOP, ZORRO!
YOU ARE BEHIND ALL
THIS! MY SOLDIERS
HAVE ALL DESERTED!

AND GARCIA, TOO,
CAPITAN! YOU HAD
BETTER START
ROUNDING THEM
UP! ADIOS!



FURTHER OUT ON THE TRAIL...

AH, BERNARDO! YOU DID
A GOOD JOB OF RINGING
THE CHURCHBELL WITH
YOUR SLINGSHOT! AND
NOW LET'S RIDE! BACK
TO THE HACIENDA!



AND BACK AT THE MISSION...

BUT ARE YOU
SURE IT IS SAFE
FOR ME TO COME
OUT OF THE CHURCH,
PADRE FELIPE?

YES, TORRES! EVERY
SOLDIER IS GONE!
AND I HAVE LOCKED
THE COMANDANTE
OUT FOR THE NIGHT!



SO DINE IN PEACE!
SOON YOU MUST SET
OUT FOR MONTEREY!

BUT WHAT FRIGHTENED
THE SOLDIERS AWAY?
I SAW NOTHING!



YOU MIGHT CALL IT AN OLD LEGEND,
DON NACHO! BUT I PREFER TO CALL
IT A NEW MIRACLE... A MIRACLE
CALLED ZORRO!



MINI-COMICS

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KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

The OPOSSUM



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Opossums, known as "pouched animals" belong to a primitive specie found in parts of the United States and sections of Mexico.



When 20 are born, only the first 11 who make their way to the mother's pouch, will live. They remain there for seventy days.



Opossums are trapped, shot, and caught by hand. If frightened, they "feign" death. This has been known as "playing possum".



Their flesh, although greasy, is considered "tasty". Opossum's fur, only 6% the durability of otter, is in very good demand.

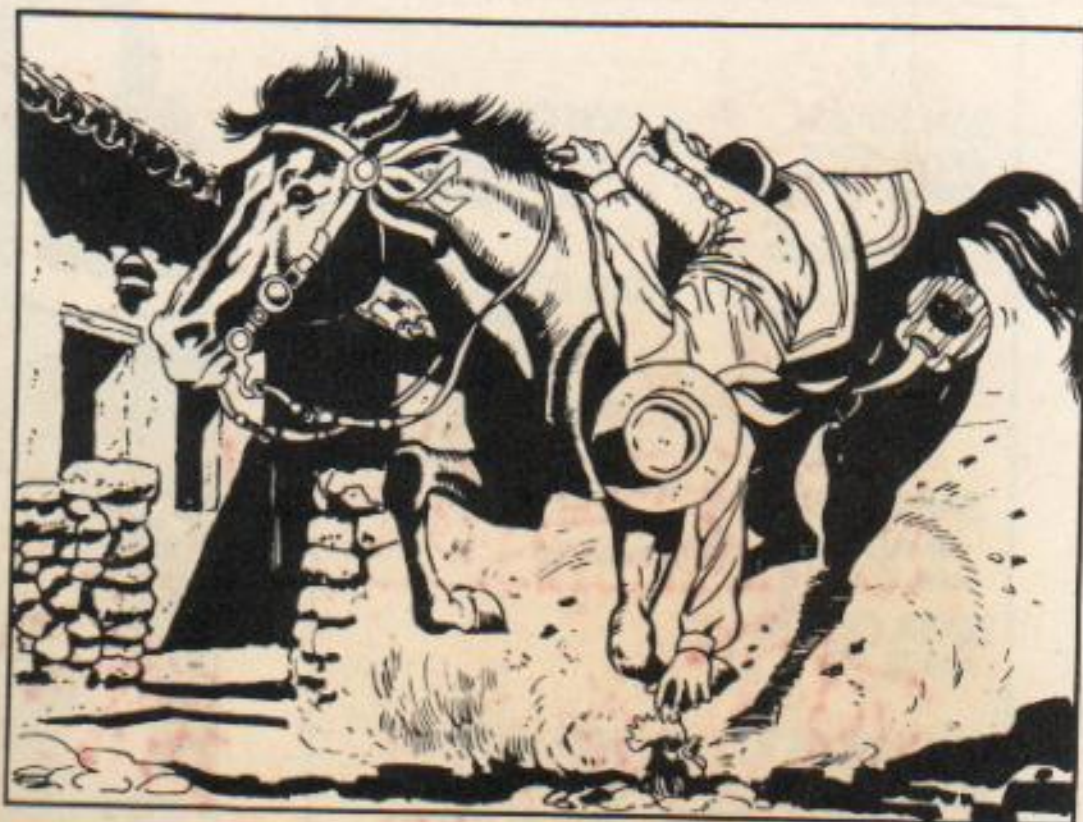


Opossums like farm country, but are not popular with farmers. Given opportunity, they kill poultry and destroy vegetables.

GAMES OF THE VAQUEROS



Held in the saddle by his father, a child of old California was learning to ride before he had completely mastered the art of walking.



In a few years, the boy tried the rougher vaquero games, such as grabbing a rooster from a shallow pit while riding at a full gallop!



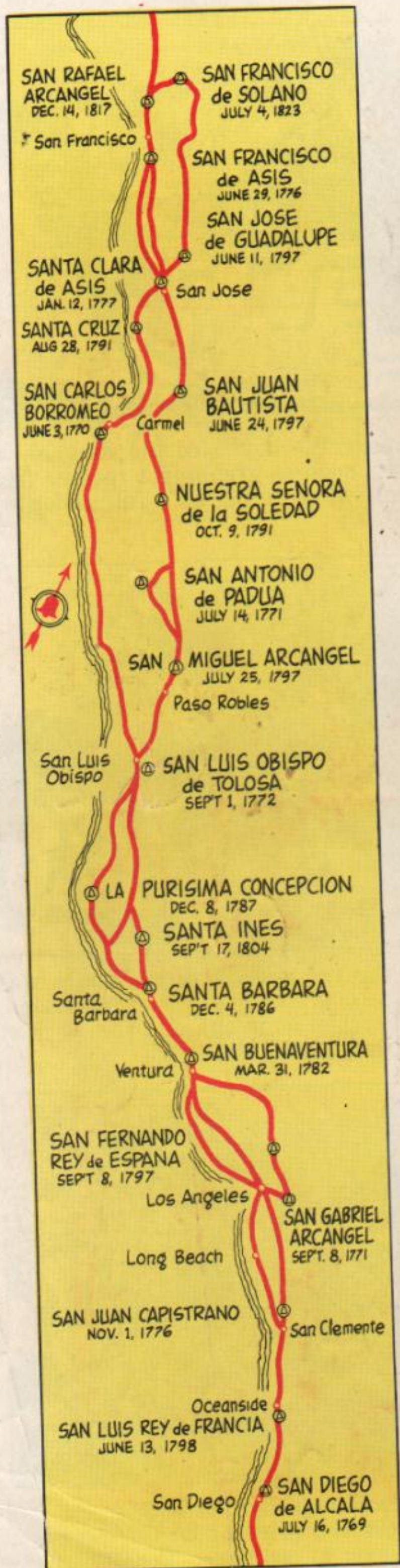
When he was more skillful, he attempted the harder feat of racing through a difficult course with a coin under each knee... his object being never to lose the coins.



Another of the vaquero's favorite games was to drop a cape over the eyes of an infuriated, charging bull, then spur out of the way just as the bull drew perilously close.



To a group of young vaqueros, roping a grizzly bear was just another way of entertaining themselves! These fearless riders were the pride of early California, and if a game was rough, dangerous, and on horseback — the vaqueros were sure to like it!



EL CAMINO REAL



Along the mission trail lies the history and romance of California. When founded, the twenty-one missions were placed a day's journey on horseback from each other, but, riding our modern highways, you can visit all of them in one day.



No weary wayfarer was ever turned away from the missions, and there are stories told of travelers who stopped for a night's lodging and remained for weeks—or even months—as if they were vacationing at a luxury resort hotel.



From the first to the twenty-first, bloody skirmishes were part of the founding of the missions. But looms for weaving, grain for planting, and books for learning made friends of the once-hostile Indians all along El Camino Real.