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reviewed by JOSETTE FRANK, staff advisor Child Study Association of America

A GREEN FIELD FOR COURAGE

By Carroll T. Cooney, Jr. Illustrated by Eugenie Carhartt

Robin Ward had an army of his own-infantry and artillery, tanks and guns, hospital units and all. To Robin they were not toys but an army, ready and trained for defense, and for offensive action, too, if need be. And Robin, as their General, was well skilled in training and drilling for army maneuvers. He and his men knew how to advance and when to retreat.

So when his family moved to a little cottage in the country, and Robin found himself surrounded by hostile children, he was ready for whatever came. He had to face many hard things that called for courage-with first his father out of work, and then his mother seriously ill, and disaster always threatening. But Robin had learned how to take it.

When, at last, the neighbor's boys went too far in baiting him, Robin called on his army and all his fighting skill-and the hard-fought battle he won taught the boys a lot of things and taught Robin that there are things worth fighting for. Best of all it won him the friendship and respect of his neighbors and a happier life for his courageous family.

Ask for this book at your neighborhood library.

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FOR HIS "HEAT
AND COLD" GAG.

WHO'S NEXT ?





































MYSTERY OF THE MONSOON

Another HOP HARRIGAN story based on the comic strip by Jon L. Blummer now appearing monthly in ALL AMERICAN COMICS

OR six days on the rubber life raft, Hop Harrigan and his flying partner, Tank Tinker, had drifted with the fickle winds and the currents. The equatorial sun broiled down upon the shark-infested waters to swell the parched tongues of the stranded fliers ever thicker and drier against the roofs of their mouths. The sun drilled down its heat upon the salty waters that had so hungrily swallowed Harrigan's bulletriddled scouting plane.

A greenish-white shark with deadly, staring eyes followed behind the fliers raft as steadfastly as a sheep dog at a shepherd's heel. No paddle jab or sudden wave of arms could make the thirty-foot monster budge an inch.

Implacably, murderously, it followed them through the seas. Day and night it hounded them.

Wild shouts from close at hand suddenly startled the dozing flyers. Squinting through their sun-puffed eyes, they observed a small island a quarter mile away with dozens of natives milling about on the white sandy beach. A score of the males were launching a sharpprowed canoe. Quickly, they paddled toward the Americans' life raft.

Harrigan stared at their painted bodies in fascination. His swollen tongue gasped out the warning to his buddy. "Those natives, Tank! They're cannibals! We've drifted to the islands south of Borneo. I can't mistake those paint marks, their nose rings and that crazy haircut! If they get us, it will be a death far more torturing than the rows of shark teeth behind and under this raft!"

The enormous redhead roused from his stupor at Hop's astounding words and dug his

paddle into the shimmering water with all the tremendous strength at his command. Harrigan whirled about in the cramped quarters and facing now the same way as Tank helped to propel the flimsy craft away from the wild-shouting pursuers

For a half mile they held, their own in this race of death. but their strength was soon expended

Hop Harrigan took a fleeting moment for a look behind. Their cannibal pursuers had changed course. They were quartering off to the north. Coming out of the north was another canoe filled with natives-no, there were two canoes that had distracted the fliers' pursuers!

"Hold up a minute, Tank," Hop gasped weakly, "those fellows have left our trail for some reason. Let's see what's up."

"I've got no date with a cannibal's iron pot today," replied the broad-shouldered redhead, "or any other day. I'm paddling until those birds have had their supper!"

Hop's parched lips tried to grin but they cracked and hurt. He merely made a grimace. "Look, Tank. There's a whale of a fight going on. The cannibals and those natives from the north. Wow! Their canoe has upset. The poor devils . . . I pity them even though they are head-hunters and worse. Sharks will tear them to ribbons."

The battle between the natives was soon over. The victors' canoe churned swiftly alongside the fliers' raft. Strong, brown arms lifted the exhausted fliers aboard. Tank took a last look behind the raft as he was half lifted, half pushed, into the rescue cance. The shark that had followed them for six days

was gone. Those murderous eves had sought murder; now they had found it.

But Fate is often fantastic. After a two-hour paddle in the rescuing canoe, the fliers came to realize it. As the sharp prow of the canoe touched the beach of still another island, it was met by a wild, jabbering crowd of natives. Hop and Tank were lifted bodily from the canoe and roughly pushed up the beach toward a group of grass huts. Arrived in front of the largest hut they were flung down upon the sand and two of the heaviest warriors sat upon them to hold them down.

Tank managed to grunt a question at Hop lying beside him. "You can savvy their lingo, Hop. What's the bad news.

now?"

"I hate to tell you this, Redhead, but we've just slipped from the cannibals' pot into the fire. These devils worship fire. From what I can learn out of all their jabber, they plan to roast us on spits over the fire like frankfurters at a political pic-

"Wait and see . . . hey, Chief! Kibbie wonna sitranld pegje?"

Hop talked to the Chief of the fire worshippers for a long five minutes but didn't seem to be getting anywhere. He and Tank were picked up bodily by the fiercely painted warriors and carried further up the beach. Their hands and feet were bound securely and the entire group of natives ringed around them. Squatting on their haunches under the shade of nut palms, they just continued to stare at the flyers with the same deadly, murderous eyes as those of the shark. Waiting . . . waiting. . . .

"What's this, a mind-reading seance? What are these guys waiting for?" Tank ground his teeth in anger. "Here we are dying of thirst and they just sit around playing deaf and dumh!"

"They're waiting for it to rain fish," said Hop Harrigan. "W . . . waiting . . . waiting for it to rain . . . fi-fish?"

"You heard me. If my calculations are correct, Tank, it will cloud over within an hour or so and rain fish. If and when it does, the Chief says he will believe our story that we are gods, and will let us go. Not only that. He'll furnish us with the fastest cance he's got and provision it. We'll be able to get back to our base and rejoin the squadron."

"Aw, Hop. Why did you have to concoct such a crazy yarn as that? We're as good as roasted

alive, right now.

"Listen, Tank. Those monsoon winds. They are terrific. They whirl round with high velocities, like cyclones, and pick up the top three feet of water as they move across the ocean. There's fish, plenty of small fish, in those top three feet. The wind moves slowly in a certain direction. The monson warning that I picked up on our short wave radio stated the winds are moving eastward at the rate of 200 miles a day from the Indian Ocean. These islands that we've seen today are approximately 1200 miles from the center of that reported monsoon."

A gleam of hope filtered into Tank's eyes. "And we've been on that life raft for six days. I get it!"

"Now you're thinking with brains, Kledhead. Those fish weigh something. As the wind velocity diminishes, there's nothing to hold them up there and down they come. It rains fish!"

And it did, a half hour later.
The native Chief appeared stupified with the mystery of the monsoon as fish, some as large as three pounds, pelted down all over the island. He recovered his dignity and signaled his men to unfetter the two filers. He gave them food and drink, set his men to

work carrying provisions into the fastest sailing cance. By the time everything was in readiness, it was dark.

Harrigan and Tinker then bid the Chief and the fire-worshipping islanders go od by e. Strong arms shoved their cance out upon the surface of the starlit lagoon. Their spirits soared aloft like the canvas they quickly set to the wind.

"Tank," Hop Harrigan took a position by the crude tiller, we have no compass, but we'll steer by the stars. Just look at them . . . what a beautiful sight."

"You look at them," Tank grunted at his partner, "just as sure as sunrise, if I looked up at them, a falling fish would hit me plumb in the eye."

On shore, the Chief, squatting before a small fire and picking over the bones of a baked mullet, muttered into the embers, "Jerlie bontun tsits warrig-ga..." which translated means, "Truly, only god-like men can jest at adversity."





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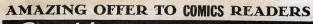














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