

NO.12

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AUG. SEPT.

ALL STAR Comics

SUPERMAN
PUBLICATIONS
DC

*THE JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
PURSUES VICTORY FOR
AMERICA... AND DEMOCRACY!*

*ANOTHER
BOOK-LENGTH ADVENTURE
• FEATURING •*

*MANHAWK • THE ATOM
DR. FATE • SANDMAN
JOHNNY THUNDER
DR. MIDNITE
THE SPECTRE
STARMAN
— AND —
Wonder Woman!*

LET'S GO! U.S.A.
KEEP 'EM FLYING!

THE JUSTICE SOCIETY OF *America*

★ THE ROLL CALL ★

HAWKMAN • DR. MIDNITE • SANDMAN • STARMAN
THE ATOM • JOHNNY THUNDER • THE SPECTRE • DR. FATE

★ HONORARY MEMBERS ★

SUPERMAN • THE FLASH • BATMAN • GREEN LANTERN



AMID THE CHAOS OF A WAR-SUNDERED WORLD, THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY** HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE BENEATH THE STARS AND STRIPES, AND HAS ORGANIZED INTO A FIGHTING UNIT KNOWN AS THE **JUSTICE BATTALION**, ACTING ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT ITSELF!

THE **BLACK DRAGON** MENACES THE WESTERN WORLD! STRANGE FANATICAL ASSASSINS AND SPIES, ROBED IN BLACK, WITH THE WHITE GLOBE OF THEIR ORDER INSET UPON IT, THEY HOLD JAPAN IN THRALL; EVEN AS THEY HOPE TO HOLD THE PACIFIC, IN THE FUTURE! AGAINST THIS DEADLY DANGER, THE **JUSTICE BATTALION** TAKES THE FIELD!

THERE SITS TODAY IN JAPAN AN OLD MAN WHO WIELDS A TREMENDOUS POWER-WITH FANATICAL MEMBERS OF THE FEARED **BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY** SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, READY TO STRIKE AND KILL AT HIS BIDDING, HE WAXES STRONGER AND STRONGER!



I STARTED THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR! I STARTED THIS WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES! I AM THE POWER BEHIND JAPAN-- I WILL MAKE HER GREAT!

MY COUNTRYMEN ARE GREAT IMITATORS, BUT THEY CANNOT INVENT! THEREFORE THEY SHALL STEAL THE SECRET WEAPONS THE MASTER-MINDS OF AMERICA ARE BUILDING!



IN A HOUSE NEAR OSAKA, THE **BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY** HOLDS ITS MEETING--



WE WILL TURN THEIR WEAPONS AGAINST THEM-- SECURE THOSE WEAPONS, MY COUNTRYMEN, AND SEE THAT NO ONE STOPS YOU!

WE WILL SECURE THEM!

WHILE ACROSS THE PACIFIC OCEAN, ANOTHER SOCIETY IS MEETING: A SOCIETY WHOSE IDEALS ARE FAR REMOVED FROM THOSE OF THE **BLACK DRAGON** - THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY** - NEWLY COMMISSIONED

JUSTICE BATTALION!



FELLOW MEMBERS-- **WONDER WOMAN**, HAS VOLUNTEERED TO BE OUR SECRETARY WHILE WE ARE AT WAR-- NOW FOR BUSINESS!

WHAT BUSINESS HAVE WE, BUT THE WAR?

YOU HAVE ALL HEARD OF THE **BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY**! OUR F.B.I. MEN HAVE LONG FEARED THAT THEY HAVE A SECRET BRANCH OVER IN THIS COUNTRY! THE

WAR DEPARTMENT ASKS US TO INVESTIGATE IT! I ASK DISCUSSION!



WE'VE DONE IT BEFORE AND WE CAN DO IT AGAIN! I LIKE ROUNDING UP SPIES!



WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S START OUT AND DO IT!

IT'S A LOT OF FUN TO SLUG A SNEAKING RAT, ALL RIGHT!

JUST A MINUTE! I'M EXPECTING AN OFFICER FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT TO ARRIVE ANY MOMENT-- BE PATIENT, GENTLEMEN! I PROMISE YOU PLENTY OF ACTION -- BUT WAIT!



SIT DOWN, BOYS!

YEAH, SAVE YOUR ENERGY, EVERYBODY!

HAUKMAN PROVES A BETTER PROPHET THAN HE THOUGHT-AT THAT MOMENT, THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY IS STRIKING TREACHEROUSLY THROUGHOUT AMERICA!

MAN HAS GREAT EXPLOSIVE JAPAN MUST HAVE!

OOOH!

SNATCH PROPELLER MODEL!

WE TAKE BIG ONE ALREADY BUILT, TOO!



BLACK DRAGON NEVER MISSES!

REPORTS COME IN WITH STARTLING SUDDENNESS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT-

HELLO-WHAT? AGAIN? ALL RIGHT, I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM - HELLO? HIM, TOO?

OH! OH! THIS LOOKS BAD! I'D BETTER WAIT FOR INSTRUCTIONS!

MORE REPORTS ABOUT OUR INVENTORS BEING OVERCOME, SIR!

TELL THE JUSTICE BATTALION TO FORGET ABOUT MY TELEGRAM CONCERNING THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY! GET THEM BUSY ON THIS NEW CATASTROPHE! WE'VE GOT TO GET THOSE INVENTIONS BACK!

YES, SIR!

HOLD EVERYTHING, BOYS! NEW ORDERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT!

SOMETHING BETTER, EH?

WHAT IS IT, MAJOR?

EIGHT INVENTORS HAVE BEEN OVERCOME AND THEIR INVENTIONS STOLEN-- ALL THOSE INVENTIONS WILL HAVE GREAT EFFECT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE WAR!



FORTUNATELY, WE HAVE VALUABLE INFORMATION THAT WILL AID US IN TRACKING DOWN THE SPIES! SEALED ORDERS WILL ARRIVE WITH THAT INFORMATION IN A FEW MOMENTS!

FROM THEN ON, IT'S UP TO US!



EIGHT INVENTORS--THAT MEANS ONE OF US WILL STAY HERE!

I'M NOT A REGULAR MEMBER OF YOUR BATTALION, HAWKMAN. I'LL REMAIN AT WASHINGTON TO HANDLE ANY EMERGENCIES THAT MAY ARISE!



HERE THEY ARE, GENTLEMEN! YOUR ORDERS-- MAY I ASK YOU TO FIGHT AS YOU'VE NEVER FOUGHT BEFORE? THOSE SECRETS MUST NOT BE LEFT IN THE ENEMY'S HANDS!

LEAVE THAT TO US, MAJOR!



I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN THE NAVY!

WELL, THEY DECIDED THAT THE NAVY OUGHT TO BE REPRESENTED IN THE JUSTICE BATTALION--SO HERE I AM!



THUS THE JUSTICE BATTALION SETS OUT AFTER THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY--GOOD VERSUS EVIL--AMERICA VERSUS JAPAN!



A WISTFUL LOOK ENTERS THE LOVELY EYES OF WONDER WOMAN--

GOOD LUCK, BOYS-- AND I WISH I COULD BE GOING WITH YOU!

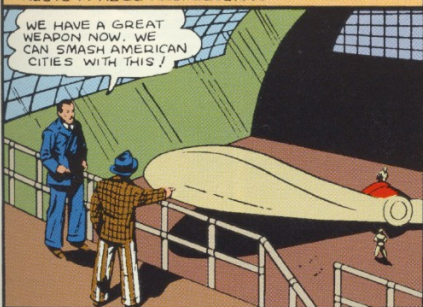


SEALED ORDERS BRING THE **HAWKMAN** INTO ONE OF THE MOST THRILLING ADVENTURES OF HIS CAREER.. PITTED AGAINST A GIGANTIC PROPELLER GUIDED BY A HUMAN BRAIN, HE FINDS THE GOING TOUGH UNTIL HE GETS CLEAR OF THE DROP WASH, AND THEN HE TAKES MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS..



INSIDE THE GRIM AND FORBIDDING STONE WALLS RESTS A HUGE PROPELLER...

WE HAVE A GREAT WEAPON NOW. WE CAN SMASH AMERICAN CITIES WITH THIS!

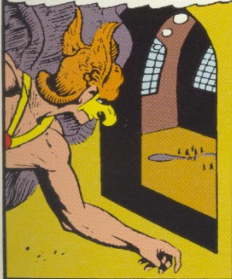


THIS IS THE CONTROL ROOM. IT IS SITUATED AT HUB OF THE PROPELLER. GYRO-SCOPIC BEARINGS ENABLE ROOM TO REMAIN IMMOBILE WHEN PROPELLER WHIRL.

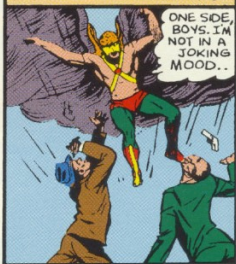
SHARP! EDGE OF FAST-MOVING PROPELLER CHOP OFF TOP OF SKYSCRAPER EVEN.



OH OH! A BIG PROPELLER! THAT'S THE INVENTION I'M LOOKING FOR. GUESS I'M RUNNING IN LUCK THESE DAYS!



AT THE LAST MOMENT BEFORE TRIGGERS TIGHTEN, THE FLYING MYSTERY MAN LEAPS INTO THE AIR AND DRIVES HIS POWERFUL LEGS DOWNWARD!



HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT TILL I COME BACK...



NOW FOR THAT PROPELLER!



WHOA! THOSE ARE
BLUEPRINTS. PERHAPS
THEY ARE PLANS FOR
THE PROPELLER!



I'M ENOUGH OF A SCIENTIST
TO KNOW THAT THE REST OF
THE PLANS ARE USELESS
WITHOUT THESE MASTER
PRINTS.. PLEASE
TO PUT
UP HANDS



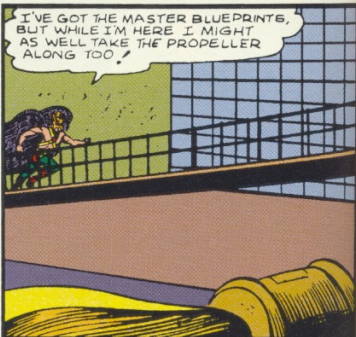
THE HAWKMAN WHIRLS.. A
MIGHTY HAND DARTS OUT, LIFTS
THE EDGE OF THE TABLE
AND SENDS IT FLYING!



YOU BOYS DIDN'T
WANT ANYTHING -
DID YOU?



I'VE GOT THE MASTER BLUEPRINTS,
BUT WHILE I'M HERE I MIGHT
AS WELL TAKE THE PROPELLER
ALONG TOO.



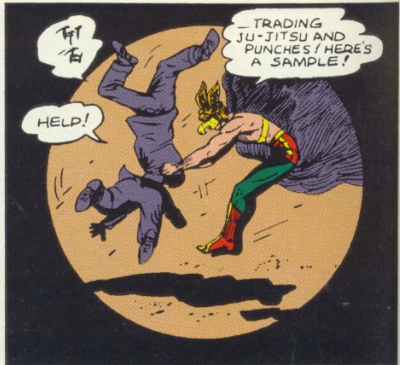
EEEAGH!
WHO IS..?

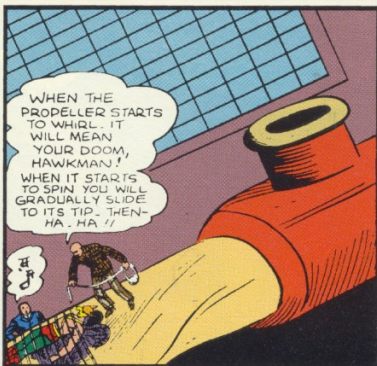
HELLO, BOYS. LIKE
TO START TRADING?



HI
E
HELP!

- TRADING
JU-JITSU AND
PUNCHES! HERE'S
A SAMPLE!





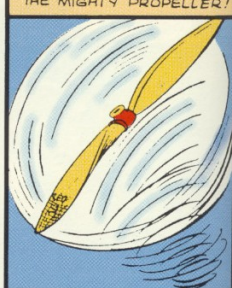
WITH THE HAWKMAN HELPLESS ON ITS BLADE, THE PROPELLER SLOWLY RISES...



FASTER...FASTER! I WANT THE PROPELLER TO SPIN AT ITS SWIFTEST SPEED!



GRADUALLY THE MASSIVE MACHINE PICKS UP SPEED! FASTER AND FASTER SPINS THE MIGHTY PROPELLER!

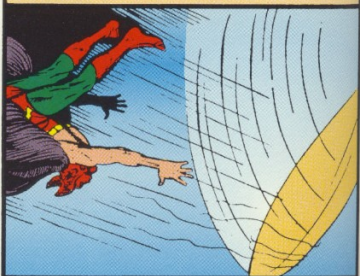


BRACED AGAINST THE TERRIFIC PULL OF THE WIND THAT TUGS AT HIS LIMBS LIKE A MIGHTY HAND, THE HAWKMAN FEELS THE BLOOD MOUNT TO HIS HEAD...

I'M GOING TO PASS OUT IN ANOTHER MINUTE. CAN'T STAND THIS CONSTANT SPINNING...



TORTURED ROPE STRANDS PART UNDER THE TENSION AND THE BODY OF THE MAN OF MYSTERY IS FLUNG LIKE A STONE FROM A SLING, HIGH OUT OVER THE VALLEY...



WE GOT RID OF HIM...HE'LL BE SMASHED TO DEATH...NOW ON TO NEW YORK...WE WILL SMASH THE CITY LIKE A SCYTHE DOES GRAIN...

THAT'S IT!



THE DOOMED CITY LIES SPRAWLED OUT BEFORE THE ONCOMING PERIL...

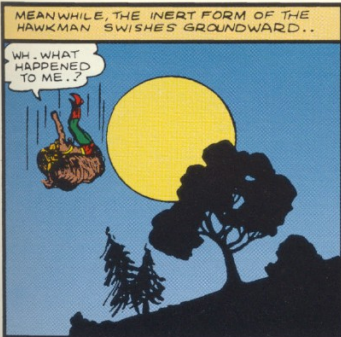


LOOK! A BIRD!

NO! IT'S A MASSIVE PROPELLER!

MEANWHILE, THE INERT FORM OF THE HAWKMAN SWISHES GROUNDWARD..

WH. WHAT HAPPENED TO ME..?



I RECOVERED JUST IN TIME TO SPREAD MY WINGS AND BREAK MY FALL. WHEW. THAT WAS CLOSE..

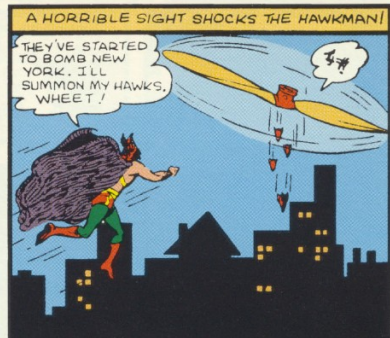


I'LL FAN THE AIR AND GET TO THAT PROPELLER BEFORE THOSE RATS CAN DO ANY HARM..



A HORRIBLE SIGHT SHOCKS THE HAWKMAN!

THEY'VE STARTED TO BOMB NEW YORK. I'LL SUMMON MY HAWKS. WHEET!



LIKE A DARTING KESTREL, THE FLYING HAWKMAN PLUMMETS TOWARD THE FALLING EXPLOSIVES, HALTING THEIR SHREKING FLIGHT

I'LL STOP THEM IF IT KILLS ME!



THE DUCK HAWK, FASTEST OF ALL BIRDS IN NORTH AMERICA, RESPONDS TO THE EERIE BIRD CALL..

CATCH THEM, THEN FLY OUT TO SEA AND DROP THEM THERE WHERE THEY WON'T HARM ANYBODY..

WHEET..





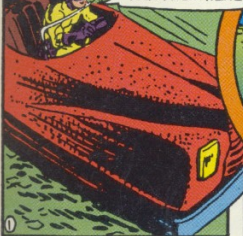
HAWKMAN appears each month in **Flash Comics**-Don't miss it!

SANDMAN, THE MAN OF MIGHT, FIGHTS FIRE WITH FIRE IN THIS GRIM DRAMA OF TRAGIC TRICKERY AND INCREDIBLE INVENTION! HIS TRAIL LEADS TO THE CRAGS THAT DOT THE COASTAL SHORES OF A DESOLATE SPOT IN NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND....



**IN HIS FLEET SANDCAR, HE
FOLLOWS THE ROAD TO THE
OCEAN....**

**COASTWISE FISHERMEN REPORT
HAVING SEEN FLAMES RISING
FROM A LITTLE BAY NOT
FAR FROM HERE!**



**INASMUCH AS I'M
FOLLOWING THE
TRAIL OF THE
LOST "GREEK FIRE"
THAT CAN BURN
ON WATER, THAT
FACT IS
SIGNIFICANT!**

**HERE'S WHERE
I DIVE INTO
THIS
MYSTERY---
HEADFIRST!**



A CAVE UNDER THE
OVERHANGING CLIFF!
NO WONDER NO ONE
EVER CAUGHT ON TO THIS
HIDEOUT BEFORE. YOU
HAVE TO BE RIGHT ON
TOP OF IT TO SEE IT!

AND A LEDGE TOO
HIGH FOR JUMPING!
THAT MEANS ACTION
FOR MY WIRE POON!

WHAT'S THE
MATTER? GOT
INSOMNIA SO BAD
YOU HAVE TO BE
TIED DOWN TO
SLEEP?

NONE OF YOUR
WISE CRACKS,
YOUNG MAN! IF
YOU AREN'T A
PESKY JAP,
SET ME FREE!

TEMPER YOUR TEMPER,
MY GOOD MAN! MAY I
ASK IF YOU'RE THE
INVENTOR I'M LOOKING
FOR?

MY NAME'S IVOREN!
I INVENTED MODERN
GREEK FIRE. THEN
THOSE PESKY JAPS
STOLE IT FROM ME.
LEFT ME HERE TO
DIE!

I WAS SENT TO FIND
YOU AND YOUR INVENTION.
HALF OF MY JOB'S OVER...
...BUT THE BEST IS
YET TO COME!

WELL, LET'S
GET GOING.
THEY'RE HIDDEN
SOMEWHERE IN
THESE CAVES!

YOU'VE SORT OF
GOT A "MAD" ON,
HAVEN'T YOU?

YOU BET YOUR
BOTTOM DOLLAR! GOT
TO TAKE A SOCK AT
SOME BODY AFTER
WHAT THEY'VE DONE
TO ME!

AS THEIR RACING FEET SIGNAL THEIR
APPROACH, HIDDEN JAPANESE LEAP
FOR THEM

HERE'S WHERE YOU
GET YOUR CHANCE....
WATCH OUT!

CAUGHT
ME OFF
GUARD...
OWW!

WHACK

MY HANDS ARE QUICKER THAN YOUR EYES, BOYS, AND I'LL SAY THE SAME FOR MY FEET!



MY PAL DIDN'T GET THE CHANCE TO LAND A BLOW, BUT I'LL MAKE IT UP FOR HIM!



I CALL THIS MY ROCK CRUSHER!



THE MAN OF MIGHT CATAPULTS HIS POWERFUL BODY HITHER AND YON... FISTS AND HANDS DRIVING LIKE TERRIFIC PISTONS?



I'M EVEN A JAPANESE SANDMAN—I'M PUTTING YOU ALL TO SLEEP!



BRING THEM INTO MY LABORATORY! I'LL TEACH THEM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN WILL EMERGE VICTORIOUS!

I'M NOT ASLEEP... BUT YOU WILL BE!

ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU HOW THE JAPANESE NAVY WILL DEFEAT THE PACIFIC FLEET OF THE UNITED STATES...!

BAH! YOU JAPANESE ARE NOT SCIENTISTS! ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN IT!

WELL, SOMEBODY BETTER EXPLAIN IT! I'M SIMPLY DYING OF CURIOSITY!



MY SUBMARINE
THROWS GREEK
FIRE! FROM
SPECIAL HOSES,
IT FLINGS A
CHEMICAL THAT
SPREADS ALONG
THE SURFACE
OF THE WATER...

YOUR INVENTION?
WHY, YOU YELLOW
PUNK! I INVENTED
THAT! FOR THE
U.S.A., TOO!

THE LITTLE SUBMARINE
MOVES FORWARD, ITS
CHEMICAL ATTACHMENTS
THROWING THE
SURROUNDING LAKE
INTO FLAMES!

HA-HA! WHO
CARES WHO
INVENTED IT?
JAPAN WILL
HAVE THAT
WEAPON, AND
WILL SET THE
WHOLE BRITISH
AND AMERICAN
FLEETS ON
FIRE!

YOU RAT! IF I
HAD JUST ONE
HAND FREE...!

TAKE IT
EASY,
IVOREN!
WE'LL
GET IT
BACK!

SO? YOU WILL GET IT?
THAT IS TRUE! THROW
HIM INTO THE
FLAMING LAKE!

BOY, THIS IS BURNING ME UP...
AND WHAT A FINE TIME TO THINK
OF PUNS!

ULP!

WOW! WHAT A
SPOT! IF I STAY
UNDERWATER I
DROWN! IF I
GO UP FOR AIR,
I BURN! HUH!
SOME CHOICE!

BUT IF I HOLD
MY WRISTS TIGHTLY
TOGETHER, THE
ROPE WILL
BUNCH IN A
TINY COIL....

WITH HIS HANDS SAFELY
BENEATH THE SURFACE OF
THE LAKE, THE MAN OF
MYSTERY BUNCHES THE
ROPE AND FEEDS A TINY
PORTION OF THEM TO
THE SEARING FLAMES
ABOVE HIM!

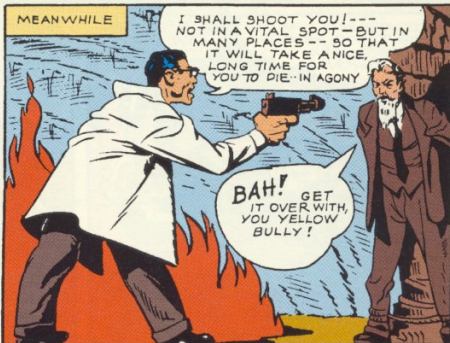


I'LL SWIM AS
CLOSE TO SHORE
AS I CAN!

A HAND RISES FROM THE BURNING
LAKE, A BAG OF SAND IN ITS
FINGERS. THE SAND SCATTERS
ON THE LAKE, SMOTHERING
ENOUGH OF THE FIRE TO PERMIT
THE SANDMAN TO EMERGE.



MEANWHILE



I SHALL SHOOT YOU!---
NOT IN A VITAL SPOT--BUT IN
MANY PLACES--SO THAT
IT WILL TAKE A NICE,
LONG TIME FOR
YOU TO DIE--IN AGONY

BAH! GET
IT OVER WITH,
YOU YELLOW
BULLY!

SILENT, POWERFUL SPRINGS
CATAPULT THE WIREPOON
NEEDLE FORWARD LIKE A
BOLT OF LIGHTNING!



NEVER KNEW
ANYONE COULD
HANG ANYTHING ON
YOUR CHIN BEFORE,
DID YOU?



NEVER MIND ME!
LOOK AT HIM!
HE'S AFTER THAT
FIRE CHEMICAL!

HE WON'T GET
FAR WITH IT!



IF I FILL THAT
HOSE FULL OF
HOLES THE
CHEMICAL
WILL FLY
OUT IN ALL
DIRECTIONS!



FIRING, REWINDING AND
REFIRING HIS WIREPOOD
WITH INCREDIBLE RAPIDITY,
THE MAN OF MIGHT HARPOONS
THE HOSE INTO THE SHAPE
OF SWISS CHEESE!

HAAALP! THE MOISTURE
ON THE FLOOR AND WALLS
WILL CATCH FIRE! I'LL BE
BURNED
ALIVE!



WE'LL JUST HAVE TIME TO
MAKE IT! THE REST OF
THE JAPS... ARE
GONERS!

BAH! YOU SHOULD
HAVE LEFT
THIS ONE,
TOO!



WE COULDN'T
RECOVER YOUR
BLUEPRINTS OR
THE MODEL OF
THE FLAME-
THROWING SUB!

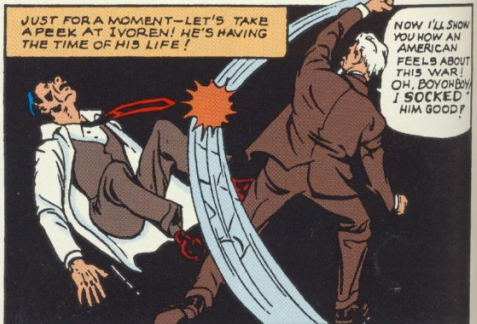
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
I REMEMBER HOW I
MADE IT. I'LL JUST
DO IT OVER AGAIN!
ONLY THING I'M
SORRY ABOUT.... I
DIDN'T GET A SOCK
AT ONE OF THESE
GUYS!



WHAT THE THUNDERBOLT AGAIN?
SEEMS AS THOUGH JOHNNY THUNDER
MUST BE IN SOME REAL TROUBLE!

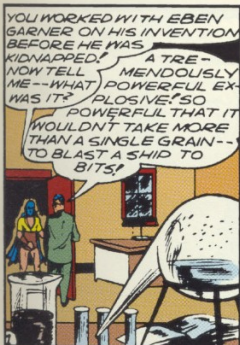
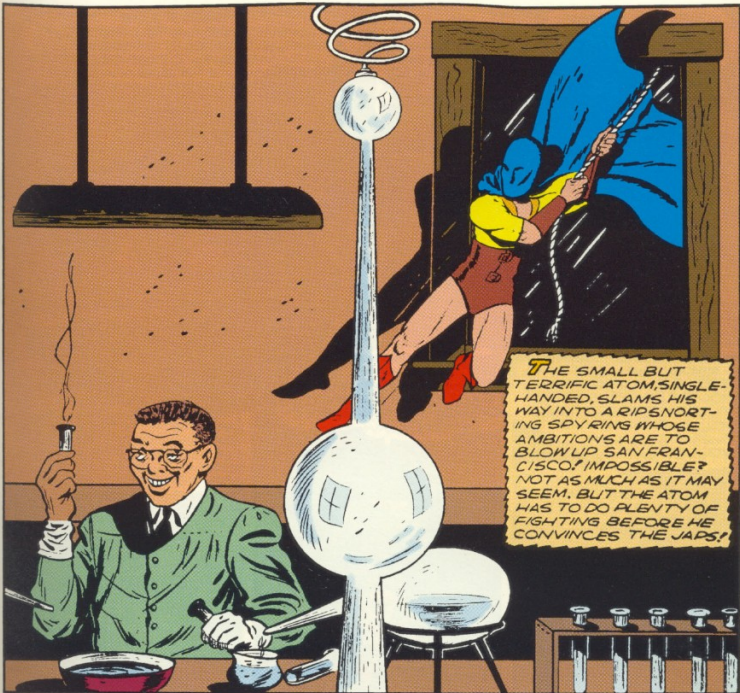
HURRY UP!
JOHNNY NEEDS
YOU!

SAY... WHERE ARE
YOU GOING? HEY--
WAIT FOR ME--



JUST FOR A MOMENT--LET'S TAKE
A PEEK AT IVOREN! HE'S HAVING
THE TIME OF HIS LIFE!

NOW I'LL SHOW
YOU HOW AN
AMERICAN
FEELS ABOUT
THIS WAR!
OH, BOY OH BOY
I SOCKED
HIM GOOD!



A JAP! FOLLOWING ME, AND I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR YOU!

WELL, YOU NEEDN'T WORRY-- I'M JAPANESE ALL RIGHT, BUT I WAS BORN IN AMERICA AND I LOVE THIS COUNTRY AS MUCH AS YOU DO!

THERE ARE MANY MORE JAPS LIKE ME --- UNFORTUNATELY, IMPERIAL JAPAN HAS PUT THE PRESSURE ON US AND WE'VE BEEN FORCED TO WORK AGAINST UNCLE SAM -

GOOD BOY!

I KNOW THE JAPS WHO STOLE THE INVENTION YOU'RE LOOKING FOR. THIS PAPER WILL TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND THEM! I'LL HELP YOU IF I CAN!

SAY, THAT'S RIGHT ON THE BEAM, FELLA!

THE HOUSE HE SAID WAS A BASE OF OPERATIONS IS RIGHT AHEAD!

MOVING WITH THE SILENCE OF THE NIGHT, THE ATOM LEAPS FROM THE SHADOWS OF THE ALLEY.

HE WAS RIGHT! HERE THEY ARE-- ARMED TO THE TEETH!

SO HERE'S WHERE WE START SOME DENTAL WORK!

OOOF!

I DON'T WANT YOU TO ALARM ANY OF THE OTHER YELLOW RATS, SO LET'S ADMINISTER A LITTLE ANAESTHETIC!

USGH!



THIS MAY NOT BE DONE IN THE BEST DENTIST'S OFFICE, BUT IT'S JUST AS GOOD AS GAS!



AM I GLAD I LEARNED TO TALK JAPANESE! NOW WITH A LITTLE STAIN ON MY FACE AND HAIR, AND MY SHORT STATURE, I CAN PASS AS A JAP, AND FIND OUT WHAT GOES ON!



LOOKS LIKE THE REAL MISCOW. THESE MEN SEEM TO BE WORKING AS MINERS!

WE CONTINUE DIGGING HERE! THEN WE PLACE THE EXPLOSIVE, RIGHT?



THAT EXPLOSIVE WE STOLE IS JUST WHAT WE NEED TO BLOW UP THIS CITY! IF THIS SUCCEEDS, WE CAN TUNNEL UNDER OTHERS.



SO CLEVER IS HIS DISGUISE THAT THE ATOM IS UNQUESTIONED AS HE JOINS THE MINERS...

IT'S A GREAT STUNT! I'LL TO BLOW UP THE CITY, ISN'T IT?

SAY IT IS!
BUT THE BLOW-UP WILL COME SOONER FROM ME!



ENTER, FELLOW WORKERS!

NOW I'LL DISCOVER HOW FAR THEY'VE GONE!



THE MIGHTY MITE LEARNS THAT THE TUNNELS HAVE ALREADY BEEN LONG UNDER CONSTRUCTION...

WHY, THEY'VE HONEYCOMBED THE ENTIRE CITY! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE AND FAST!



WHEW! QUITE A PROJECT! THE W.P.A. OUGHT TO SEE THIS! IF I COULD LEARN THE NUMBER OF MEN IN THERE, I'D BE BETTER ABLE TO DEAL WITH THEM!



AFTER A HURRIED SEARCH, THE MIGHTY MITE FINDS A SEPARATE SHEET WITH NUMBERS MARKED THERE ON--



WHAT... OH, IT'S THE YANKEE JAP!

I SEE YOU HAVE FOUND THIS PLACE! CAN I BE OF FURTHER HELP?



WELL, I'M GOING IN HERE ALONE BUT YOU COULD DO ME A BIG FAVOR. WHEN YOU LEAVE CALL THE W.P.A. AND ASK FOR THE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT!



YES, I WILL DO THAT, AND THANK YOU!

I'D LIKE TO HAVE THAT FELLOW ALONGSIDE ME TO SHOW THESE OTHER JAPS THAT THERE ARE SOME OF THEM WHO DO LOVE THE UNITED STATES THAT HAS SHELTERED THEM!

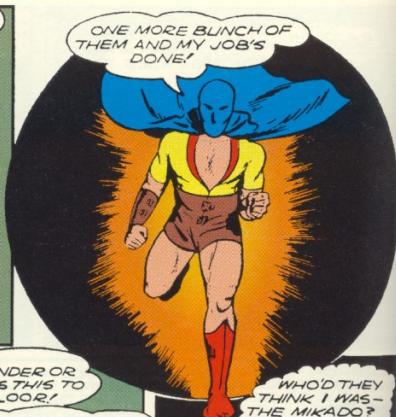


BUT SINCE THIS IS DANGEROUS WORK, I DO IT ALONE!



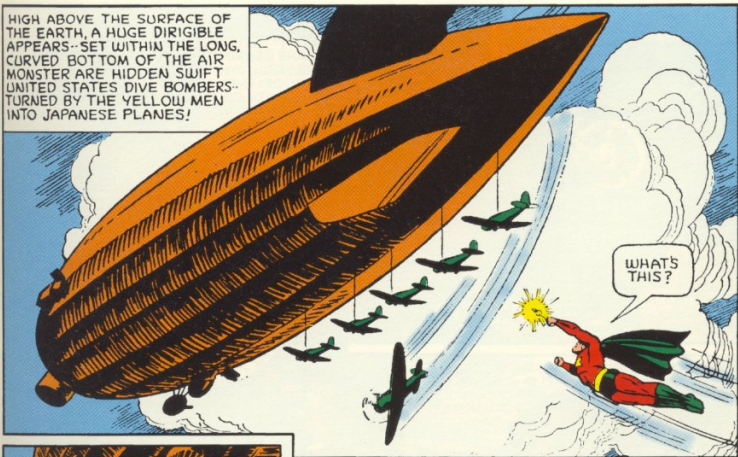
TAKE YOUR 'PICK,' PUNKS!





Follow the adventures of The ATOM every month in All-American Comics!

HIGH ABOVE THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH, A HUGE DIRIGIBLE APPEARS--SET WITHIN THE LONG, CURVED BOTTOM OF THE AIR MONSTER ARE HIDDEN SWIFT UNITED STATES DIVE BOMBERS--TURNED BY THE YELLOW MEN INTO JAPANESE PLANES!



THEY'RE UP TO SOME MISCHIEF AND IT'S UP TO ME TO STOP THEM!



PLUMMETING FROM ABOVE, THE ASTRAL MAN DIVES AT ONE OF THE HURLING PLANES!

OH! OH!




THAT BABY'S PULLING OUT OF
ONE DIVE TO GET ME, BUT HE'S
GOING INTO
ANOTHER
ONE
RIGHT AWAY!

AS THE
PLANE,
OUT OF
CONTROL,
SCREAMS
EARTHWARD-


THE TERRIFIC
ASTRAL RAYS
OF THE
GRAVITY ROD
DEMOLISH
THE ENTIRE
MOTOR OF
THE DIVING
PLANE!



THEY'RE RIGHT OVER RALPH TRAINING
FIELD--A BOMBING
ATTACK WOULD
DO UNTOLD
DAMAGE
THERE!




A MADMAN!
HE'S SMASHING
ALL OUR SHIPS!
BACK TO THE
DIRIGIBLE!
QUICK!




THE PLANES
PULL OUT OF
THEIR DIVE,
AND CLIMB
AT A SPEED
OF MORE
THAN A
MILE A
MINUTE!

THEY'VE
TURNED
TAIL, ALL
RIGHT, BUT
THEY WON'T
GET AWAY
FROM ME!

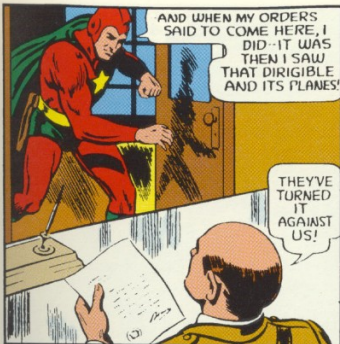


THE ASTRAL
MAN REALIZES
HE HAS BEEN
CHECKMATED!

THEY'RE
GOING UP
INTO THE
STRATOSPHERE!
I CAN'T FOLLOW THEM-
I'LL FREEZE TO DEATH!



BUT IF I CAN RIG UP SOME SORT
OF PROTECTION AGAINST THE
COLD, I CAN
PAY THEM
A VISIT!



AND WHEN MY ORDERS SAID TO COME HERE, I DID--IT WAS THEN I SAW THAT DIRIGIBLE AND ITS PLANES!

THEY'VE TURNED IT AGAINST US!

WELDON, THE INVENTOR, BROUGHT THE DIRIGIBLE HERE TO DEMONSTRATE IT--IT REQUIRED A MINOR CHANGE--WHILE HE WAS WORKING ON IT AT HIS LAB, THE JAPS STRUCK! HOW CAN WE RECOVER IT?

IF I CAN DEVISE A MEANS OF RESISTING THE COLD, I CAN FOLLOW THE DIRIGIBLE INTO THE STRATOSPHERE!

YOU'RE FREE TO USE OUR LABORATORIES--WE'VE GOT TO CATCH THOSE JAPS! THEY CAN TAKE THAT BLIMP ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND BOMB HELPLESS CITIES!



A FEW STRANDS OF TUNGSTEN IN A COIL ABOUT MY WAIST, POWERED BY THE ASTRAL EMANATIONS OF MY ROD, OUGHT TO KEEP ME WARM!



I'LL BE BACK WITH THOSE SAPS, THE JAPS!

WISH I WAS GOING WITH YOU!

BUT THE JAPS ARE READY FOR THE ASTRAL MAN!



IF HE DARES CLIMB INTO THE STRATOSPHERE, WE CAN SEE HIM FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT--AS SOON AS YOU SEE HIM, OPEN FIRE!



FIRE! FIRE!

HERE HE COMES!

THE BRIGHT SCARLET FORM OF STARMAN RISES SWIFTLY!



WITH THE
STAR POWER
FUNCTIONING,
THOSE BULLETS
FADE INTO
ATOMIC MATTER--
POWERLESS
TO HARM ME!



BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN
I'M POWERLESS! LIKE
MY HEELS, HEELS?

Ow!



LET'S KNUCKLE DOWN
TO BUSINESS NOW!



THESE DIRIGIBLE RIBS
MAKE SWEET TAKING-
OFF SPOTS! BY THE
WAY, DO YOU FELLOWS
SEE ANY SPOTS YET?



I'VE GOT TO GET
TO THE CONTROL
ROOM! THAT'S
THE ONLY WAY I
CAN GET THEM
TO TAKE THIS
BLIMP TO EARTH!



GET THE
AMERICAN!

IT'S HIM!

YES--WHY DON'T YOU
TRY IT?--BEFORE 'THE
AMERICAN' GETS YOU!

HERE'S WHERE I GO INTO
THE EXTERMINATOR BUSINESS!



GOT TO
STOP HIM,
SOMEHOW!

HALT!
HALT,
OR I
KILL
WELDON
HERE!

DON'T MIND ME, FELLOW!
TEAR INTO THESE YELLOW
BABIES! I'M ONLY TOO
GLAD TO GIVE MY LIFE FOR
AMERICA AND FREEDOM!

NO-NO--I CAN'T
SACRIFICE YOU--
YOUR SKILL
IS NEEDED
TO HELP WIN
THE WAR!



GOOD--JUMP FROM DIRIGIBLE
TO YOUR DEATH!
--AHH!



STARMAN BRAKES HIS FALL
WITH HIS GRAVITY ROD,
RIGHT UNDER THE CONTROL CAR!



BY LIFTING
THE POWER TO
THE NTH DEGREE,
IT WILL EAT
RIGHT THRU METAL!



THE ASTRAL RAYS SLIT THE STEEL
FLOOR LIKE MELTED BUTTER--
DOWN COMES THE INVENTOR, STILL
LASHED TO THE STEERING WHEEL!



WHAT--
WHAT'S
THIS?

FANCY
SEEEING
YOU HERE!

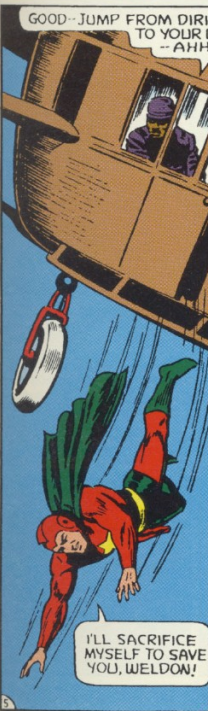


UNTIL THEY FIX
THEIR STEERING
GEAR, THEY CAN'T
GET FAR AWAY--
I'LL TAKE YOU
TO EARTH
AND THEN
COME BACK!



I'VE HAD
SOME
STRANGE
EXPERIENCES
IN MY TIME--
BUT--THIS
TAKES ALL
THE PRIZES!
WHEW!

I'LL SACRIFICE
MYSELF TO SAVE
YOU, WELDON!



AFTER LANDING THE INVENTOR SAFELY AT THE AIRFIELD--

NOW TO GET THOSE JAPS!

DESERTED! THE ICE HAS FORMED DUE TO THE STRATOSPHERIC CONDITIONS--IT'S SO COLD HERE THEY HAD TO GET INTO THE BAG ITSELF!

GET HIM!

THERE THEY ARE ON THE GIRDER-- AND I'LL BE RIGHT UP AFTER THEM!

THE ASTRAL MAN SLAMS INTO THE JAPS, HURLING THEM FROM THE GIRDER--

OVER YOU GO, RATS! YOU'LL BE SAFE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG!

AAAGH!

LEAPING OUT INTO SPACE, HE DIRECTS A BEAM OF ASTRAL ENERGY AT THE SHIP.

AFTER THE HUGE AIRCRAFT DIRIGIBLE IS SAFELY ANCHORED AND THE JAPS ARE TAKEN PRISONER--

IT'S A GREAT FEELING, SEEING THAT INVENTION OF MINE BACK IN AMERICAN HANDS!

STARMAN, I'D LIKE TO--HEY!

WITHOUT ANY CONTROLS, THE ONLY WAY LEFT TO GET THIS TO THE GROUND IS TO USE MY GRAVITY ROD!

THEY'LL ALL BE SAFE AND SOUND IN AN AMERICAN JAIL IN A LITTLE WHILE!

WHAT, AGAIN? JOHNNY'S THUNDERBOLT IS SURE COVERING A LOT OF TERRITORY!

COME ON, STARMAN! JOHNNY THUNDER NEEDS YOU!

HEY, WHERE'D HE GO?

I WAS SURE HE WAS STANDING RIGHT HERE A MINUTE AGO!

RUMBLING ACROSS THE
DESERT COMES A
MAGNIFICENT TANK...
ARMED WITH A LONG-
BARRELED FLAME-
THROWER... AND
THROWING TOWARD IT IS
DOCTOR FATE,
HIS KEEN EYES
STUDYING THE
STOLEN INVENTION...
— 6 —

THAT'S WHAT I'M
AFTER, ALL RIGHT!
IT WILL SAVE TIME
IF I CAPTURE IT
NOW!



HERE
GOES!

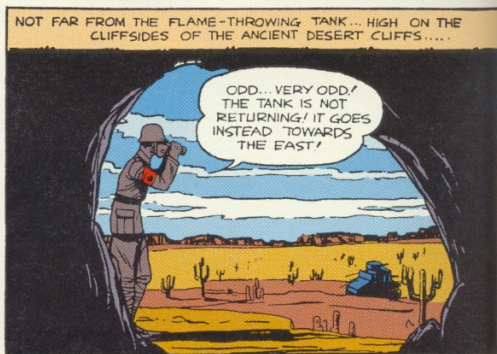
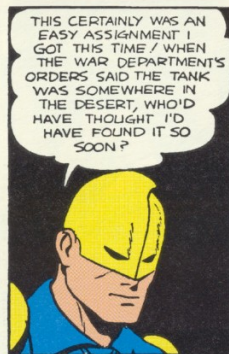
NICE AND WARM
HERE TODAY... BUT
IT'LL BE A LOT
WARMER INSIDE
THAT TANK IN A
MINUTE!!



THE PURE ENERGY OF DOCTOR
FATE'S BODY IS IMPERVIOUS
TO ANY ATTACK BUT ONE
WHICH THREATENS HIS LUNGS...

THE FLAMES HAVE
EATEN THE OXYGEN!
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT
OF THESE FLAMES!





YOU SERVE ME ONLY
BECAUSE I HOLD YOUR WIVES
AND CHILDREN AS HOSTAGES!
AND UNLESS YOU OBEY ME—
THEY DIE! GO NOW
CAPTURE OUR TANK FOR
US!



FLEET PINTO PONIES RACE ACROSS THE ROCK RIMS OF THE
DESERT IN A SHORTCUT.....

WE'LL CUT THE
TANK OFF BELOW
THE WATERHOLE!!



WE HAVE TURNED
TRAITORS TO AMERICA—
BUT IF WE REBEL,
THOSE YELLOW MEN
WILL KILL OUR WIVES
AND CHILDREN!

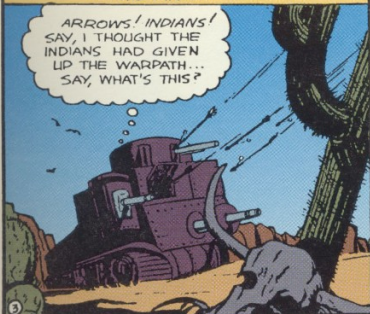


REMOVE THE GLASS VIALS
FROM YOUR MEDICINE
POUCHES... ATTACH THEM
TO YOUR ARROWS! THAT
WAY WE CAN RETAKE
THE TANK WITHOUT
KILLING AN AMERICAN!



THE WHISTLING SHRIEK OF ARROWS FILLS
THE AIR.....

ARROWS! INDIANS!
SAY, I THOUGHT THE
INDIANS HAD GIVEN
UP THE WARPATH...
SAY, WHAT'S THIS?



THE MYSTERY
MAN FAILS TO
NOTICE THE
GLASS
BALLS THAT
SHATTER ON
THE METAL
WALLS AND
FILL THE
CLOSE ATMOS-
PHERE OF
THE TANK WITH
SUFFOCATING
GASES!



I--CAN'T--...
BREATHE!... GAS...
THAT'S WHAT...
IT...IS...!



HE'LL RECOVER IN
A LITTLE WHILE, BUT
BY THAT TIME, WE'LL
BE FAR AWAY
FROM HERE!

AND THOSE
LITTLE YELLOW
MEN WILL CONTINUE
TO USE US TO THEIR
FOUL ADVANTAGE!

THE DESERT MOON RISES, A
GLORIOUS GLOBE OF SILVER
HIGH INTO THE AZURE SKY...

HUH! AND I
THOUGHT THIS
WAS AN EASY
ASSIGNMENT!

BUT I WON'T STAY THIS
WAY LONG! I CAN SCOUR
THE DESERT SO WELL,
THEY'LL THINK I USED
A FINECOMB
ON IT!

INDIANS! HUMM...
I WONDER IF THEY'RE
THE ONES WHO
USED ME FOR
A TARGET...

LOOK AWAKE,
BOYS! I'M HERE
TO ASK
QUESTIONS!

THE
FIRE
GOD!

NO, NO! THE
MAN WE
FOUND IN
THE TANK
TODAY!

SO YOU WERE THE ONES
WHO STOLE THAT TANK!
WHY? I THOUGHT YOU
INDIANS WERE
LOYAL AMERICANS!

WE ARE! BUT
WE'RE HELPLESS
NOW!

THE YELLOW MEN HAVE IMPRISONED OUR
WIVES AND CHILDREN! IF WE BETRAY
THEM-- THEY WILL
KILL THEM!

SO THAT'S THEIR
GAME, EH? YOU
STAY HERE, I'LL
TAKE CARE OF
THOSE BUZZARDS
MYSELF!!



ACCORDING TO THE INDIANS, THE JAPS ARE USING ONLY ONE BIG CAVE. I OUGHT TO FIND THEM TOGETHER!



WHO THERE?

I'M HERE TO SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON A FEW THINGS!

WHAT YOU DO HERE?



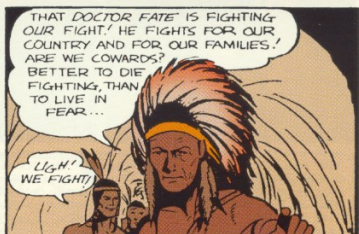
THOSE STARS YOU SEE NOW, GIVE A LOT OF LIGHT, DON'T THEY?

BO!



...OR DO YOU LIKE LAMPLIGHT BETTER?

OWEN!



THAT DOCTOR FATE IS FIGHTING OUR FIGHT! HE FIGHTS FOR OUR COUNTRY AND FOR OUR FAMILIES! ARE WE COWARDS? BETTER TO DIE FIGHTING, THAN TO LIVE IN FEAR...

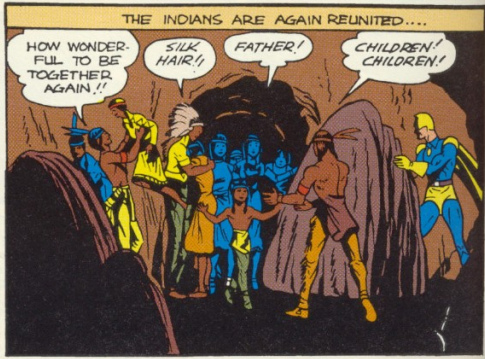
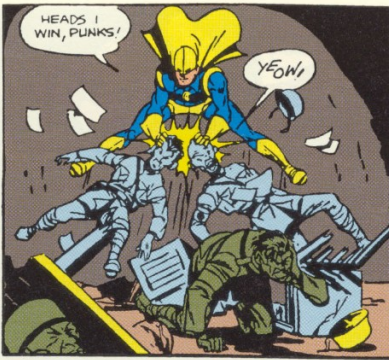
LIGHT! WE FIGHT!



HIYA, BOYS! GLAD TO SEE YOU ON MY SIDE!



LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A COUPLE OF BOOKWORMS HERE!



An exciting adventure of DR.FATE every month in More Fun Comics!

DR. MID-NITE READS HIS ASSIGNMENT.....

"YOU ARE TO FIND DR. STANDER, DISCOVERER OF THE X-RAY-- WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO CLUES, EXCEPT THAT HE'S DISAPPEARED LIKE THE REST....."

SO THEY'VE GOTTEN DR. STANDER---THE DISCOVERER OF THE NEW RAY, WHICH HEALS WOUNDS AND SAVES LIVES!



BUT EVEN DR. MID-NITE IS PUZZLED.....

NOT A CLUE OF ANY KIND! THIS IS TERRIBLE-- AND THAT RAY IS THE GREATEST DISCOVERY SINCE RADIUM!

WHOOO! WHOOO!



BUT SUDDENLY THE MYSTERY MAN HAS A BRILLIANT IDEA! INTO THE NIGHT HE DARTS.....

I'VE GOT IT, HOOTY! FIRST WE MUST GET INTO DR. STANDER'S LABORATORY!



WHAT IS THE MAN OF DARKNESS UP TO?

IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR THE BLACK DRAGON MEMBERS--



MAYBE WE CAN GET THE BLACK DRAGON MEMBERS TO LOOK FOR US!



NOW TO WRITE THIS LITTLE NOTE IN DR. STANDER'S HANDWRITING--



THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD COPY. IF I SAY SO MYSELF-- WELL, THAT'S ALL FOR NOW, HOOTY! WE'LL LEAVE THE REST TO THE BLACK DRAGONS!



WITHOUT TURNING ON THE LIGHTS, HE SKILLFULLY OPENS THE SCIENTIST'S SAFE.....

WHAT IS DR. MID-NITE'S PLAN? WILL IT WORK AS HE EXPECTS?

ONCE HOME, THE POWERFUL FIGHTER OF CRIME BECOMES AGAIN THE "HELPLESS" DR. MCNIDER, THOUGHT TO BE BLINDED BY A GANGSTER BOMB.....

HO--HUM--NOTHING TO DO NOW BUT GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! GOOD NIGHT, HOOTY-- BUT DON'T FLY FAR AWAY--WE'LL BE SEEING ACTION SOON--

AND THE NEXT DAY-- THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN.....

YES--I'M MYRA MASON--DR. MCNIDER'S SECRETARY--- IS SOMETHING WRONG?

I HAVE TO SEE DR. MCNIDER AT ONCE!

WE FOUND THIS IN THE MISSING DR. STANDER'S SAFE--CAN'T MAKE IT OUT BUT IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT!

YES, BUT I'M QUITE BLIND--YOU'D BETTER READ IT TO ME, MYRA...

MYRA READS THE NOTE, WHICH DR. MCNIDER HIMSELF HAD WRITTEN THE NIGHT BEFORE, WHEN HE WAS IN THE GUISE OF HIS OTHER, WEIRDER SELF--**DR. MID-NITE!**

"DEAR DR. MCNIDER: IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME I WANT YOU TO HAVE THIS FORMULA TO USE FOR HUMANITY--XTIMES 7 OVER 4 MINUS Q--"

WHY, IT'S THE FORMULA FOR HIS FAMOUS "Y RAY"!

NEWS PAPERS, THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY CARRY THE STORY OF THIS NOTE TO DR. MCNIDER-- OF COURSE, HE DOESN'T HAVE THE REAL FORMULA-- BUT SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING.....

WE ARE TRICKED! HERE IT SAY DR. MCNIDER HE HAVE COPY OF DR. STANDER'S Y-RAY FORMULA!

THIS IS WORKING OUT JUST AS DR. MCNIDER WANTS IT.....

THIS NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY! YOU WON'T BE SAFE HERE TONIGHT! YOU'D BETTER STAY IN THE COUNTRY!

NONSENSE, MYRA! WHAT WOULD THE JAPS WANT WITH A BLIND MAN LIKE ME! HOWEVER, IF YOU INSIST--

THAT NIGHT, DR. MCNIDER LEAVES FOR THE COUNTRY-- BUT HE ISN'T SEEKING SAFETY!

HAVE TO HURRY BACK--THOSE JAPS MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR ME!



AH! THEY'RE OUTSIDE MY DOOR ALREADY! BETTER SNEAK IN THE BACK WAY.



MUSTN'T DISAPPOINT MY VISITORS!



WE LOOK ALL OVER-- NO CAN FIND HIM!

OH LOOK!

EXCUSE ME--



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME ONE?

GOODY-- HE HERE!



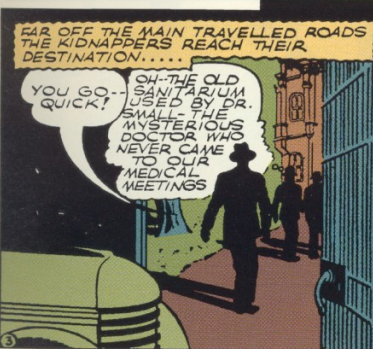
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

DON'T WORRY-- EVERYTHING BE ALL RIGHT-- FOR US!



AS THE AMBULANCE SPEEDS OFF-- OVER IT FLIES THE MASCOT AND FRIEND OF DR. MID-NITE --WISE OLD HOOTY, THE OWL!

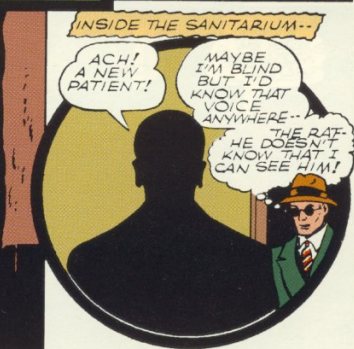
WHOOO!



FAR OFF THE MAIN TRAVELLED ROADS THE KIDNAPPERS REACH THEIR DESTINATION.....

YOU GO-- QUICK!

OH--THE OLD SANITARIUM USED BY DR. SMALL--THE MYSTERIOUS DOCTOR WHO NEVER CAME TO OUR MEDICAL MEETINGS

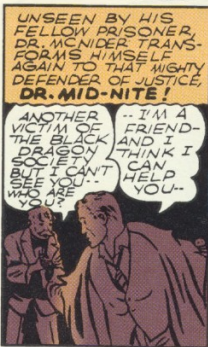


INSIDE THE SANITARIUM--

ACH! A NEW PATIENT!

MAYBE I'M BLIND BUT I'D KNOW THAT VOICE ANYWHERE--

THE RAT-- HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I CAN SEE HIM!



--MUST COME DOWN!
NOW TO SEE WHAT
FRIEND SMALLHEIMER
IS UP TO!



WHILE IN ANOTHER
ROOM---

MIT OUDT YOUR
HELP, DR. STANDER,
I HAFF FOUND IT!
OBSERVE THAT
PLANT!



I TURN
ON DER
RAY AND DER
PLANT
SEE, IT
DIES!
YOU
BEAST!
DEGRAD-
ING A
GREAT
DISCOVERY
MEANT
TO SAVE
LIVES!



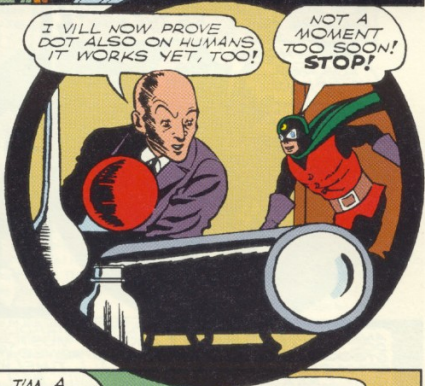
DOCTOR, YOU
WILL DO ONE
MORE SERVICE
FOR SCIENCE

MAYBE
I COULD
IF MY
HANDS
WERE
FREE!



I VILL NOW PROVE
DOT ALSO ON HUMANS
IT WORKS YET, TOO!

NOT A
MOMENT
TOO SOON!
STOP!



LET ME IN
ON THIS
EXPERIMENT!

VAS
IST?



I'M A
DOCTOR
TOO! HOW
DO YOU
LIKE MY
MEDICINE?



GET ALONG
LITTLE DRAGONS,
GET ALONG!

EEEEEEK!





Dr. Midnite appears in every issue of All-American Comics!

MYSTERY ISLAND

(A Hop Harrigan Story)

"THIS where you saw it? About here?" Hop spoke into the intercom. He was flying the ship at twelve thousand. He peered through his glasses at the small group of islands directly below.

"Right! That bean-shaped island—that's the one! I took special note!" Tank's voice came back to him over the intercom. "I saw a thin sliver of light—like a door left open, with light showing through the crack. Made me think there was *something* screwy, because how did any light come to be *here*?"

How, indeed? Hop glanced down at the islands below, that were half-matted woods and half swamp. So far as he knew, not a living soul inhabited those islands a hundred miles from a village!

Tank had made no attempt to land the night before, because under cover of night it was practically impossible. He would have been more apt to land in a tree-top or in the water! He had told Hop what he had seen, however, and the two friends had decided to have a look-see.

As he circled, before dipping the nose of the ship island-ward, Hop's mouth slanted in a thoughtful grin. What if they were on a wild goose chase? What if all they found was a shanty, with a hermit who would point a gun at them and order them to be off?

"I hope that's all we do find!" Hop breathed fervently, to himself.

As though to contradict his thoughts, the chatter of gunfire made him start. His eyes were riveted, next instant, on a huge black ship that had darted from behind a cloud and was doing its best to rain death on him and Tank. Bullets slashed the wing, inched toward the fuselage. Frantically, Hop winged over, out of reach of the big ship, then stood his plane on its tail and clawed for altitude.

"Good work, Hop!" Tank yelled to him. "Now swing around and let 'em have it!"

Defly, Hop leveled off and pressed his finger on the trigger trip. He maneuvered the ship into position to send a hail of bullets into the black plane that was climbing after him. His teeth clenched with fury as he saw for the first time the face of the pilot—Japanese!

"Little brown rat! looks like you hit on something, Tank—he must be their sentinel, watching out for 'trouble-makers,' like us!"

"We'll show 'em what trouble is!" Tank growled. He sent a burst of bullets that smashed into the Jap's cockpit, but somehow just missed hitting the pilot! Then Hop and Tank knew what being caught meant, for the controls suddenly jammed! The motor stopped dead! The Jap was sending burst after burst into them. The right wing ripped off!

With single accord, the two friends jumped. They fell several hundred feet without pulling the ripcord, for they knew what their fate would be when their parachutes opened. The Jap would swoop down and pick them off in fine bloody style! Two hundred feet from earth, the white wisps of life-saving silk fluttered open. Their fall was slowed with a jolt that almost took their breath away, made them feel they were being torn in two. Even then, the black ship came down after them, pumping lead. But by now, Tank had landed somewhere in the wooded section of the island. Hop, who had landed in the water, frenziedly unharnessed the chute and dove under water, while the Jap pilot sprayed the surface with bullets.

"Anyway, Tank's safe!" was Hop's thought, as he struggled under water with the craving for air. Then: "But is he? There are Japs on that island—they might get—"

Hop rose to the surface, lungs bursting for air. He gulped in large breaths of it, hungrily. The black plane hovered low, like a vulture. The guns yammered again. Hop twisted and writhed in the water, clawing wildly at his throat. He tried to make it look real, and prayed the Jap would be convinced. He relaxed after a few minutes and turned over on his face in the water, and floated. He turned his face covertly to one side every few minutes and gasped in air, quickly. Then, to his relief, he heard the black plane roar away. He struck out for the shore then. A few minutes later, wet and shaken, he was groping his way through the woods, making as little noise as he could.

Abruptly, he stopped short. Jap voices reached him! Cautiously, he moved

from behind one tree to the next. At last he saw them—about five Japs, in uniform, grouped before a tree. They were looking up at it, gibbering excitedly. Hop's gaze followed theirs, and he suppressed a gasp of amazement. Tank was in the tree, thumbing his nose at the Japs, who were wondering how to get him down! Tank saw Hop then, but wisely turned his eyes away quickly, so as not to warn the Japs.

Hop's eyes scanned the situation quickly. He needed but a single glance at the little truck, that resembled our Army Jeep, to tell him what to do! He picked up a rock, stole toward the single Jap at the wheel of the truck, and hit him at the base of the skull. He pushed the man into the back seat, and clambered in. He smiled in anticipation, then. For the man had been guarding a small machine gun!


At a peculiarly sharp order in Japanese, Hop looked up. One of the Japs was raising a gun, aiming it at the grinning Tank. Apparently, the Jap had decided it was the only way to get the Yank down! Hop used the machine gun just in time! The Jap with the gun crumpled to the ground. He would never use a gun again! Two other Japs followed him. The three remaining fell on their knees and begged for mercy. Hop started the little truck going, holding the machine gun trained all the time, and drove up to the tree. He ordered the three Japs in the truck and bound them securely with a piece of rope he found on the back seat.

"Hoppy, old boy, things were just beginning to get a little hot!" yelled Tank from the branch he was hugging. He mopped the perspiration from his brow and clambered awkwardly down the tree. He climbed in beside Hop.


"We'll have to find their headquarters," Hop muttered, frowning.

"Drive on, James," Tank said grandly. "I got a good view from up in that tree. I'll show you just where it is!"

The little truck rolled up in front of the Japs' shack moments later. Hop and Tank found codes and plans in Japanese, and a pretty powerful radio. The brown men squirmed with rage as Hop used their radio to call the nearest American Army outpost, but there was nothing they could do!




IN A SUBMARINE IN THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA, THE *BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY* HAS FLED WITH INVENTOR CHARLES REAGAN, DISCOVERER OF THE AMAZING ROCKET-BOMB... AMONG ROCKY SHOALS THOUSANDS OF FATHOMS DEEP, THEY FORCE HIM TO REVEAL THE ROCKET'S SECRET — — —



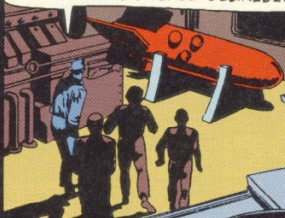
ALL RIGHT!!
I GIVE UP!!
I'M BEATEN...
ONLY DONT.
HIT ME
AGAIN!!




I KNEW
HE WOULD
WEAKEN!



REMEMBER... MR. REAGAN..
IF YOU TRY TO DECEIVE
US...WHAT WILL
HAPPEN TO YOU WILL MAKE
DEATH SEEM A PLEASURE!



OPERATED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSE
TO THE MAGNETIC PULL OF THE EARTH, THE
MAGNETO WITHIN THE ROCKET IS SET
TO REACH ANY PLACE DESIRED---



EARTH MAGNETISM VARIES
WITH THE DISTANCE FROM THE
POLES, AND CONSEQUENTLY THE
ROCKET CAN BE ADJUSTED TO
SPEED WHEREVER ITS MAGNETO
IS SET !!!

I OUGHT TO
DIE!!! BETRAYING
MY COUNTRY!!!
I'M SORRY... BUT I
COULDN'T STAND
ANY MORE OF
THAT BEATING!!



WE TRY IT
OUT... AH...
THAT OUGHT TO
BRING THIS DOWN
SOMEWHERE
IN CHICAGO!

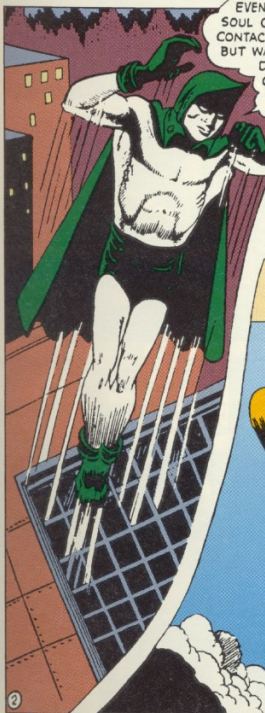
WHISTLING ACROSS THE HEAVENS...
THE MIGHTY ROCKET-BOMB HURTLES
IN A FIXED ARC, TOWARD CHICAGO



AT THE LABORATORY OF
THE ABDUCTED SCIENTIST,
THE SPECTRE FINDS NO
CLUE TO HIS WHEREABOUTS.



NOT A HINT...
ANYWHERE... HE JUST
DISAPPEARED OFF
THE FACE OF THE
EARTH...



EVEN MY SPECTRAL
SOUL CANNOT ESTABLISH
CONTACT WITH HIM...
BUT WAIT... I FEEL
DANGER
COMING
CLOSER...

A ROCKET!! BUT THAT'S WHAT
I'M SEARCHING FOR... A
ROCKET-BOMB! WHAT'S IT DOING
FLYING THROUGH THE AIR LIKE THIS?



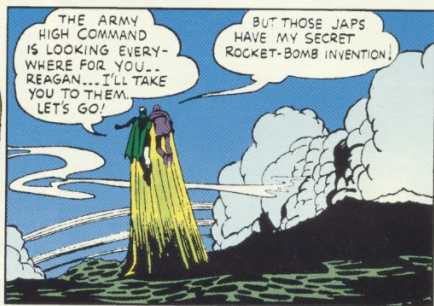
GRABBING HOLD OF THE SPEEDING
MISSILE OF DESTRUCTION, THE
'MAN OF DARKNESS' SLOWS
ITS MIGHTY SPEED...

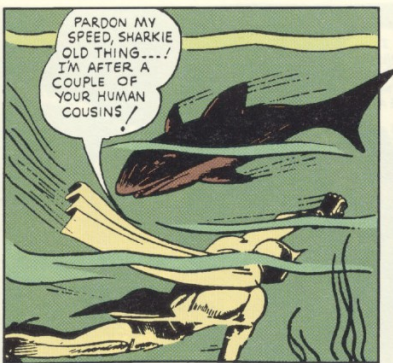
I CAN FEEL THOUGHTS...
THE THOUGHTS OF MEN...
ATTACHED TO THIS BOMB!...
JAPANESE MINDS, AND ONE
AMERICAN... ITS... ITS
REAGAN'S MIND... FILLED
WITH THE AGONY OF
THE SPIRIT!



CHICAGO BOUND...
WERE YOU?... HOW ABOUT
TAKING THE TRIP BY WAY
OF THE RISING SUN...
WHERE YOUR EXPLOSION
WILL NEVER BE
NOTICED...!





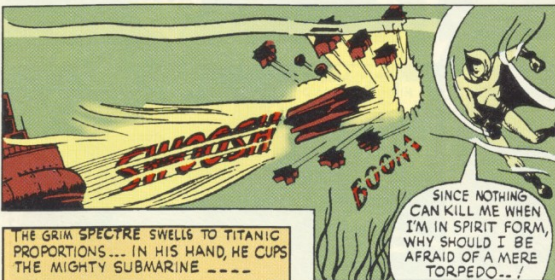


PARDON MY
SPEED, SHARKIE
OLD THING....!
I'M AFTER A
COUPLE OF
YOUR HUMAN
COUSINS!



INSIDE THE
SUBMARINE...

HE'S
COMING...
FIRE!



SINCE NOTHING
CAN KILL ME WHEN
I'M IN SPIRIT FORM,
WHY SHOULD I BE
AFRAID OF A MERE
TORPEDO...!



HE HIT IT WITH HIS FIST!
HE'S STILL ALIVE...AND
COMING FAST!

THE GRIM SPECTRE SWELLS TO TITANIC
PROPORTIONS... IN HIS HAND, HE CUPS
THE MIGHTY SUBMARINE ----



EVER KNOW A SUBMARINE
COULD BE A SPACE SHIP?...
NEITHER DID I...UNTIL NOW!!

AND THE MYSTERY 'MAN OF DARKNESS' HURLS THE UNDER-
WATER CRAFT FAR OUT INTO SPACE ----



GIVE MY REGARDS
TO THE PLANETS!

...AND THEN FOLLOWS IT--



NOW TO MAKE THEM TELL ME JUST WHAT INFORMATION THEY HAVE ABOUT THE ROCKET-BOMB, AND WHAT INFORMATION THEY SENT TO TOKYO BEFORE I STOPPED THEM!

LOOK!!
THE **SPECTRE**--
--AND THAT SUB WHERE I WAS PRISONER!



HE CERTAINLY GETS RESULTS!



AM I RIGHT? DO YOU GO TO JAIL, AND TURN OVER THE PLANS FOR THE ROCKET-BOMB?

YES, YES, ANYTHING!

ONLY GET US OUT OF HERE!



HERE THEY ARE!! IT'S ALL WE HAVE. REAGAN CAN VERIFY THAT! WE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO RADIO ALL OUR REPORT TO TOKYO, EITHER! SOME SORT OF STATIC BROKE IT UP!!!

THAT WAS NO STATIC, BOYS, THAT WAS ME!



YOU GOT THEM ALL, **SPECTRE**!

EXACTLY! THEY DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO RELAY ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE INVENTION TO ANYONE ELSE!



I MUST SAY-- YOU JUSTICE SOCIETY MEN DO GET RESULTS. REPORTS HAVE COME IN THAT THE **HAWKMAN**, **SANDMAN** AND **ATOM** HAVE COMPLETED THEIR ASSIGNMENTS SUCCESSFULLY TOO!



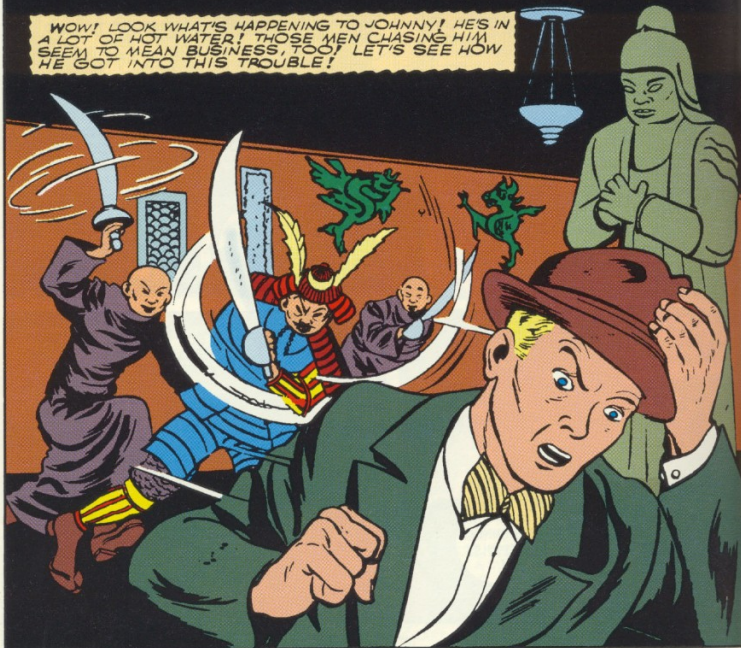
OH, WELL, WE'RE USED TO THIS SORT OF THING... BY NOW!

GLAD TO HEAR THAT, BECAUSE IT SEEMS THAT ONE OF US IS IN TROUBLE!

I'LL SAY HE IS-- COME ON!

Follow The **SPECTRE'S** exploits each month in **MORE FUN COMICS!**

WOW! LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING TO JOHNNY! HE'S IN A LOT OF HOT WATER! THOSE MEN CHASING HIM SEEM TO MEAN BUSINESS, TOO! LET'S SEE HOW HE GOT INTO THIS TROUBLE!

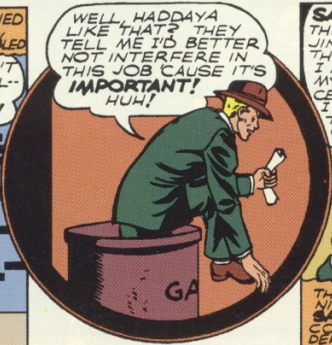


WHEN HE FIRST OPENED HIS SEALED ORDERS, JOHNNY'S FINGERS TREMBLED

--A FELLOW CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL-- SOMEONE MIGHT SEE ME! AHH!



WELL, HADDAYA LIKE THAT? THEY TELL ME I'D BETTER NOT INTERFERE IN THIS JOB 'CAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT! HUH!



SAY YOU'D THINK I WAS A JINX OR SOME THIN! HAVEN'T I ALWAYS DONE MY SHARE? I CERTAINLY WISH I COULD GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS BUSINESS

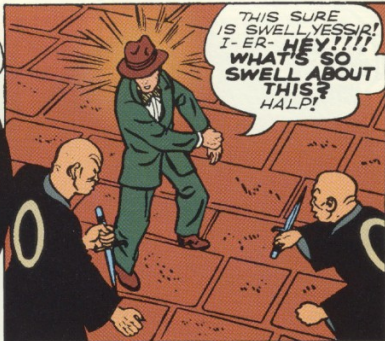


THERE ARE THOSE BAND-NISIAN HEX WORDS (CEH) SAY YOU, THAT GIVE JOHNNY CONTROL OVER HIS THUNDERBOLT FOR AN HOUR!



HERE Y'ARE, JOHNNY— THESE GAZABOES ARE THE BABIES IN BACK OF THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY IN AMERICA!

HEY, THAT SURE IS SWELL! THANKS A LOT, BOLTZY OLD KID!



THIS SURE IS SWELL, YESSIR! I- ER- HEY!!!! WHAT'S SO SWELL ABOUT THIS? HALP!



OH-MIGOLLY! I GOTTA GET OUTA HERE!

AMERICAN KILL HIM!

POOR JOHNNY! HE CERTAINLY HAS JUMPED INTO TROUBLE WITH BOTH FEET!



AFTER HIM! WHEN YOU CATCH HIM, BE-HEAD HIM!

WE WILL CATCH HIM!



IMITATIONS OF THE ANCIENT JAPANESE FIGHTING MEN, THE SAMURAI, ARE CALLED INTO SERVICE.... AND THIS IS WHAT YOU'D CALL TROUBLE!

OH-OH- WHY DIDN'T I GO TO A MOVIE OR SOME-THING?

WE'VE ALMOST GOT HIM!

MISSED !!



AN OPEN DOOR! HERE'S WHERE I GET AWAY FROM THEM!

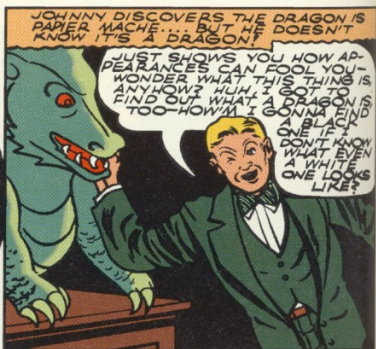


THERE- I GOT AWAY FROM--- YEEEEOW!!

OH-OH!



PLEASE, MISTER. WHATEVER-YOU-ARE! I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU, SO DON'T HURT ME, HUH? HMM-- IT DOESN'T MOVE AT ALL!



JOHNNY DISCOVERS THE DRAGON IS PAPER MACHE... BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW IT'S A DRAGON!

JUST SHOWS YOU HOW APPEARANCES CAN FOOL YOU-- WONDER WHAT THIS THING IS, ANYHOW? HUH, I GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT A DRAGON IS TOO--HOW'M I GONNA FIND ONE IF I DON'T KNOW WHAT EVEN A WHITE ONE LOOKS LIKE?



WELL, HE CAN'T GET AWAY-- JUST-- GUARD THE DOORS-- MEAN-- WHILE, WE'LL PREPARE OUR STOLEN INVENTION TO SEND TO JAPAN SO OUR SOLDIERS CAN USE IT---

I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!



THEY'VE GOT THAT EIGHTH INVENTION RIGHT IN THIS HOUSE, ALL RIGHT, BUT IF I LEAVE THIS HOUSE THEY'LL FIND ME!



SOMEBODY COMING! I'LL DUCK BEHIND THIS SCREEN AND SEE WHAT THEY'RE UP TO!

I HAVE HIDDEN THE RAY-GUN IN THIS ROOM!



WHEN WE STOLE THIS, MY SPIES HAD ALREADY INFORMED ME OF ITS POWER TO DISSOLVE METAL! I WILL NOW TRY IT!

OH--OH--!



THAT SCREEN IS MADE OF METAL-- IT WILL SERVE THE PURPOSE OF A TEST!

IF HE DISSOLVES THE SCREEN, HE DISCOVERS ME!

I HAVE ALREADY
HAD THESE DUPLICATED-
I AM SENDING A PICKED
SQUAD OF MEN TO
DESTROY THE UNITED
STATES AIRPLANE
FACTORY NEAR
HERE---



YOU SEE
HOW EF-
FECTIVE IT
IS! WHO'S
THAT?



WHO'S
WHO?
I DON'T
SEE ANY-
BODY!

UNKNOWN TO JOHNNY, HIS
METAL SUSPENDER CLASPS
HAVE BEEN DISSOLVED TOO!



I FEEL A
STRANGE
SENSATION!

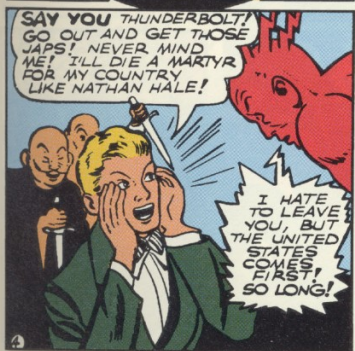
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY
AND WARN THE AIRPLANE
FACTORY OFFICIALS!



OOPS! IS MY
FACE RED! WHAT
A PICTURE OF A
MYSTERY MAN!
ATTACKED BY THE
ENEMY AND I HAVE
TO LOSE MY
PANTS!



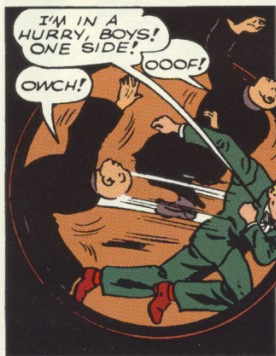
SAY YOU THUNDERBOLT!
GO OUT AND GET THOSE
JAPS! NEVER MIND
ME! I'LL DIE A MARTYR
FOR MY COUNTRY
LIKE NATHAN HALE!



I HATE
TO LEAVE
YOU, BUT
THE UNITED
STATES
COMES
FIRST!
SO LONG!

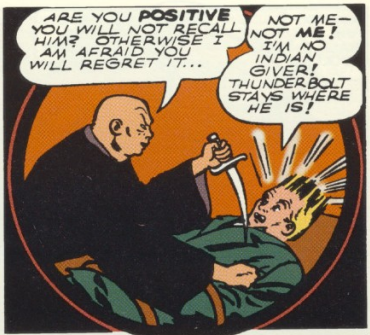
GOODBYE, EVERYBODY!
I WISH I HAD A COUPLE
MORE LIVES TO GIVE FOR
MY COUNTRY!





THAT'S MIGHTY PATRIOTIC OF JOHNNY...WITH DAGGERS AND SWORDS MENACING HIM, HE STILL THINKS OF THAT FACTORY..... SO LET'S RIDE ALONG WITH HIS THUNDERBOLT.....









SEEMS TO ME THE PARTY'S ALL OVER!

WHEE! WE ROUNDED UP THE WHOLE BUNCH OF DRACK BLAGONS! I MEAN, BLACK DRAGONS!



DID YOU SAY WE ROUNDED UP THE WHOLE BUNCH?

YEAH, SURE! DIDN'T YOU KNOW? WHAT'D YOU COME HERE FOR, THEN? YOU DIDN'T THINK I NEEDED ANY HELP, DID YOU? HUH!



NEVER MIND TOSsing BOUQUETS AT YOURSELF! IF YOU KNEW THE ENTIRE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY WAS HIDDEN HERE, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US?

TRYING TO CLEAN UP BY YOURSELF, EH?

HONEST, FELLOWS-

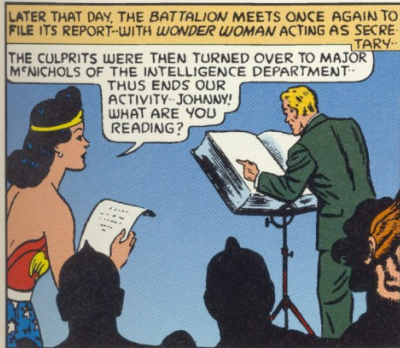


THINGS HAPPENED SO SWIFTLY AROUND HERE, I EVEN FORGOT ABOUT MY THUNDERBOLT! BUT IT ALL ENDED OKAY! WE GOT THEM, DIDN'T WE?



A TELEPHONE CODE BRINGS THE ARMY WITH SWIFT EFFICIENCY TO THE LITTLE HOUSE--

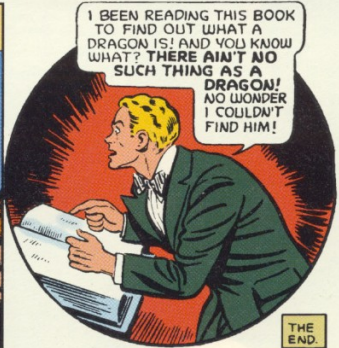
THANKS TO THE JUSTICE BATTALION THAT ENDS THE THREAT OF THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY IN THIS COUNTRY--FOREVER!



LATER THAT DAY, THE BATTALION MEETS ONCE AGAIN TO FILE ITS REPORT--WITH WONDER WOMAN ACTING AS SECRETARY--

THE CULPRITS WERE THEN TURNED OVER TO MAJOR MCNICHOLS OF THE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT--

THUS ENDS OUR ACTIVITY. JOHNNY! WHAT ARE YOU READING?



I BEEN READING THIS BOOK TO FIND OUT WHAT A DRAGON IS! AND YOU KNOW WHAT? THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS A DRAGON! NO WONDER I COULDN'T FIND HIM!

THE END.