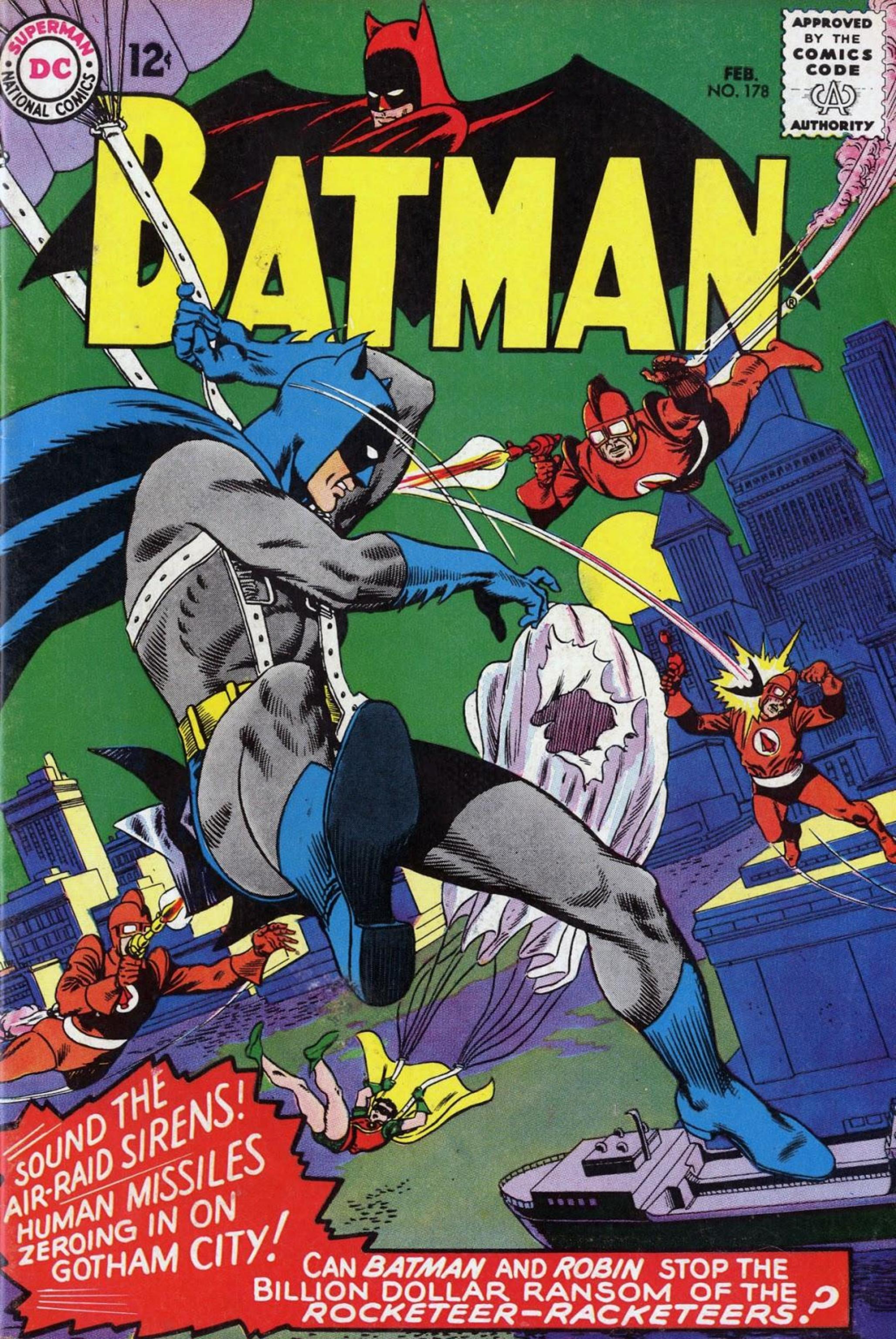




12¢

FEB.
NO. 178APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C.A.C.
AUTHORITY

BATMAN®



SOUND THE
AIR-RAID SIRENS!
HUMAN MISSILES
ZEROING IN ON
GOTHAM CITY!

CAN BATMAN AND ROBIN STOP THE
BILLION DOLLAR RANSOM OF THE
ROCKETEER-RACKETEERS?

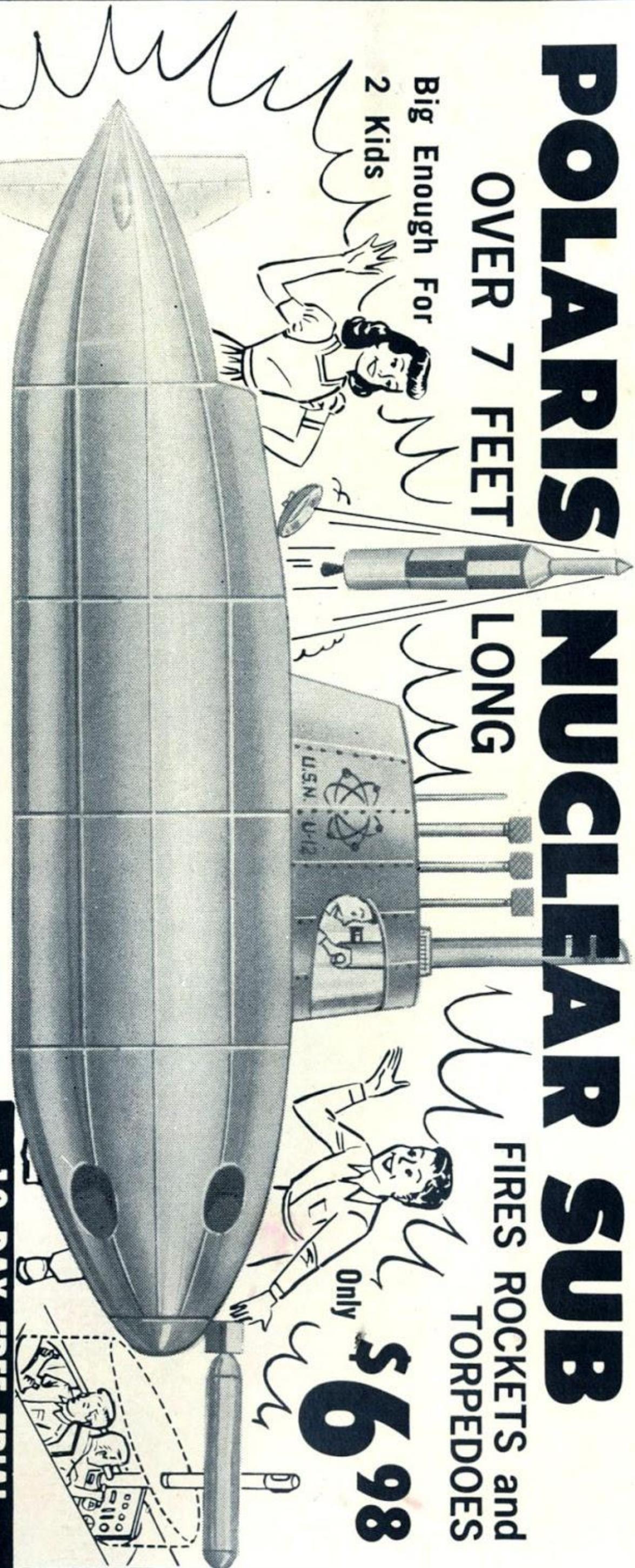
POLARIS NUCLEAR SUB

OVER 7 FEET LONG

Big Enough For
2 Kids

only \$6.98

FIRES ROCKETS and
TORPEDOES



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Over 7 feet long
- Seats 2 kids
- Controls that work
- Rockets that fire
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- Firing torpedoes
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How proud you will be as commander of your own POLARIS SUB — the most powerful weapon in the world! What hours of imaginative play and fun as you and your friends dive, surface, maneuver, watch the enemy through the periscope and fire your nuclear missiles and torpedoes! What thrills as you play at hunting sunken treasures in pirate waters and exploring the strange and mysterious bottom of the deep ocean floor!

HOURS AND HOURS OF ADVENTURE
Sturdily constructed of 200 lb. test fibreboard. Comes complete with easy assembly instructions. Costs only \$6.98 for this giant of fun, adventure and science. (Because of the POLARIS SUB'S giant size we must ask for 75¢ shipping charges.)

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Order today and we will rush your POLARIS NUCLEAR SUB to you. Use it for 10 full days. If you don't think it is the greatest ever—the best toy you ever had—just send it back for full purchase price refund.

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

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Rush me my POLARIS NUCLEAR SUB. I can use it for 10 days and if I am not delighted return it for full purchase price refund.

SEND IT PREPAID. I enclose \$6.98 plus 75¢ to help cover shipping charges.

SEND IT C.O.D. I enclose \$1 good-will deposit and I will pay postman \$5.98 on delivery plus C.O.D. postage.

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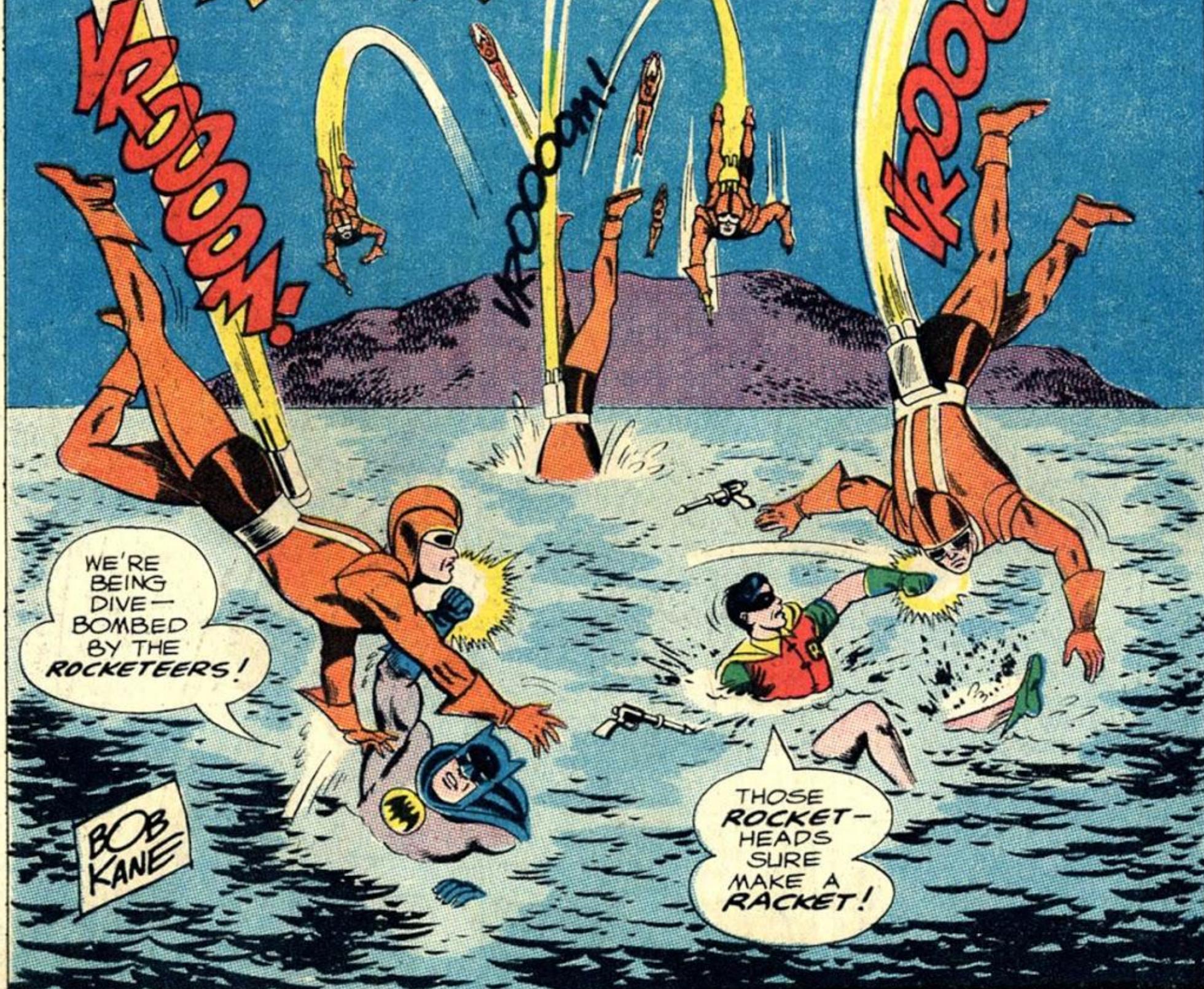
N. Y. State residents please include 14c sales tax.

GOTHAM CITY FACES THE MOST TERRIBLE DOOM KNOWN TO MAN! AND THE ONLY TWO HUMANS ON THE FACE OF THIS EARTH WHO HAVE A MILLION-TO-ONE CHANCE OF AVERTING THIS FANTASTIC THREAT--BATMAN AND ROBIN--ARE TRAPPED INSIDE IT! RIDE A THUNDER-BOLT OF ACTION AND SIZZLING SUSPENSE WITH THE DYNAMIC DUO IN THE EARTH--SHAKING SENSATION...

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

RAID OF THE ROCKETEERS!



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AS BRUCE WAYNE, MILLIONAIRE SPORTSMAN, AND HIS WARD DICK GRAYSON ARE TAKEN ON AN INSPECTION TOUR OF THE ROCKET FIRING RANGE BY ITS DIRECTOR, PROF. NELSON, WAYNE'S COLLEGE CHUM...

WOW! THEY LOOK LIKE CRAZY FLYING BANANAS!

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE "TOP BANANA" OF THIS PROJECT, HANK?

I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN THE LAST OF MY "BIRDS" BLASTS OFF SUCCESSFULLY, BRUCE!



AMIDST THE COMPLEX MACHINERY INSIDE THE ROCKET CONTROL ROOM--THE DIRECTOR ONCE AGAIN PROVES THAT THE HUMAN HEART IS EVEN MORE COMPLEX...

I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU, BRUCE--I WAS THE FIRST NELSON TO FAIL AS A SOLDIER! I--I HOPE TO REDEEM THE FAMILY HONOR WITH THE SUCCESS OF MY FOUR CONSECUTIVE ROCKET SHOTS!

TENSELY, THE COUNTDOWN IS TICKED OFF...THEN...WITH A THUNDEROUS ROAR...



DON'T WORRY, OLD BUDDY! YOUR SCIENTIFIC WORK WILL BRING MORE HONOR TO THE NELSON FAMILY THAN ANY WARTIME FEATS!

SURE! YOU MIGHT EVEN WIND UP "GENERAL OF THE GALAXY", PROF. NELSON!

I DON'T DIG THAT ABORT SWITCH, PROFESSOR! WE CAN'T CHANCE ANY ROCKET CRASHING IN A POPULATED AREA! HENCE THE ABORT SWITCH, DICK! THERE'S A SIMILAR CONTROL IN EVERY ROCKET! IT EXPLODES THE ROCKET IN MID-AIR--BEFORE IT CAN HARM ANYONE!

THERE GOES THE FIRST "BIRD"! START THE COUNTDOWN FOR THE SECOND!



THE SECONDS POUND IN TIME WITH EVERYONE'S
HEARTBEAT ... UNTIL ...

NUMBER TWO'S ON ITS WAY, HANK!
YOU'RE HALF-WAY TOWARD
ADDING THE BRIGHTEST STAR
TO THE NELSON FAMILY NAME!

TWO MORE
COUNTDOWNS
AND YOU'RE
IN-- LIKE
GUNGA DIN,
PROFESSOR!

BUT...

TEN... NINE... HOLD IT!--
ROCKETS ONE AND TWO
WENT RIGHT OFF THE
TRACKING
SCREENS!

THIS IS
CONTROL
DIRECTOR CALLING ALL
INTERCEPTOR AND TRACK-
ING STATIONS! REPORT
IMMEDIATELY ON
LOCATION OF
ROCKETS ONE
AND TWO!
OVER!



FIRST TO REPORT IS ...

THIS IS ARMY INTERCEPTOR
BLUE SEVEN! LOST CON-
TACT WITH BOTH ROCKETS!
OVER! ... THIS IS HIGH-
MOUNT TRACKING
STATION! OUR SCREENS
SHOW NO SIGN OF
ROCKETS! OVER! ...

THIS IS ...



THIS IS CONTROL DIRECTOR! CALLING ALL
STATIONS! I'M ABORTING BOTH ROCKETS
IMMEDIATELY! THE NOISE OF THE EXPLOSIONS
SHOULD ENABLE YOU TO GET A FIX ON THE
POSITIONS OF THE ROCKETS! REPORT BACK
AS SOON AS YOU DO! OVER!



THIS IS INTERCEPTOR BLUE SEVEN!
NEGATIVE! OVER! ... THIS IS
HIGHMOUNT TRACKING STATION! ...
NO SOUND RECORDED ON SEISMO-
GRAPH EQUIPMENT! OVER! ... THIS
IS OCEANS II TRACKING STATION! ...
CAN'T PICK UP A PEEP!
OVER! ... THIS IS ...



I--I'VE FAILED
AGAIN! FIRST AS
A SOLDIER! NOW
AS A SCIENTIST!
TWO ROCKETS--
VANISHING
INTO THIN
AIR? H-HOW--?

THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN
FIND OUT, HANK--AND
YOU'VE GOT TO--FOR
THE SAFETY OF THE
NATION--IS TO FIRE THE
THIRD ROCKET
TOMORROW!
AFTER TRIPLE-
CHECKING IT!
AND TRIPLING
THE TRACKING
UNITS!



THAT NIGHT... WHILE THE HEAVY-HEARTED PROF. NELSON HAS EVERY INCH OF THE THIRD ROCKET CHECKED AND RE-CHECKED...



IN THE BATCAVE THAT SAME OMINOUS NIGHT, BRUCE CHANGES INTO THE DYNAMIC COSTUME OF BATMAN, AND DICK INTO THE COLORFUL GARB OF ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER ...

I WONDER IF I SHOULD ALLOW YOU TO COME ALONG, ROBIN! THIS COULD BE MY LAST CASE!

ALL THE MORE REASON TO HAVE ME ALONG, BATMAN! SO IT WON'T BE!



YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE! THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ALL TEENAGE ROBINS!

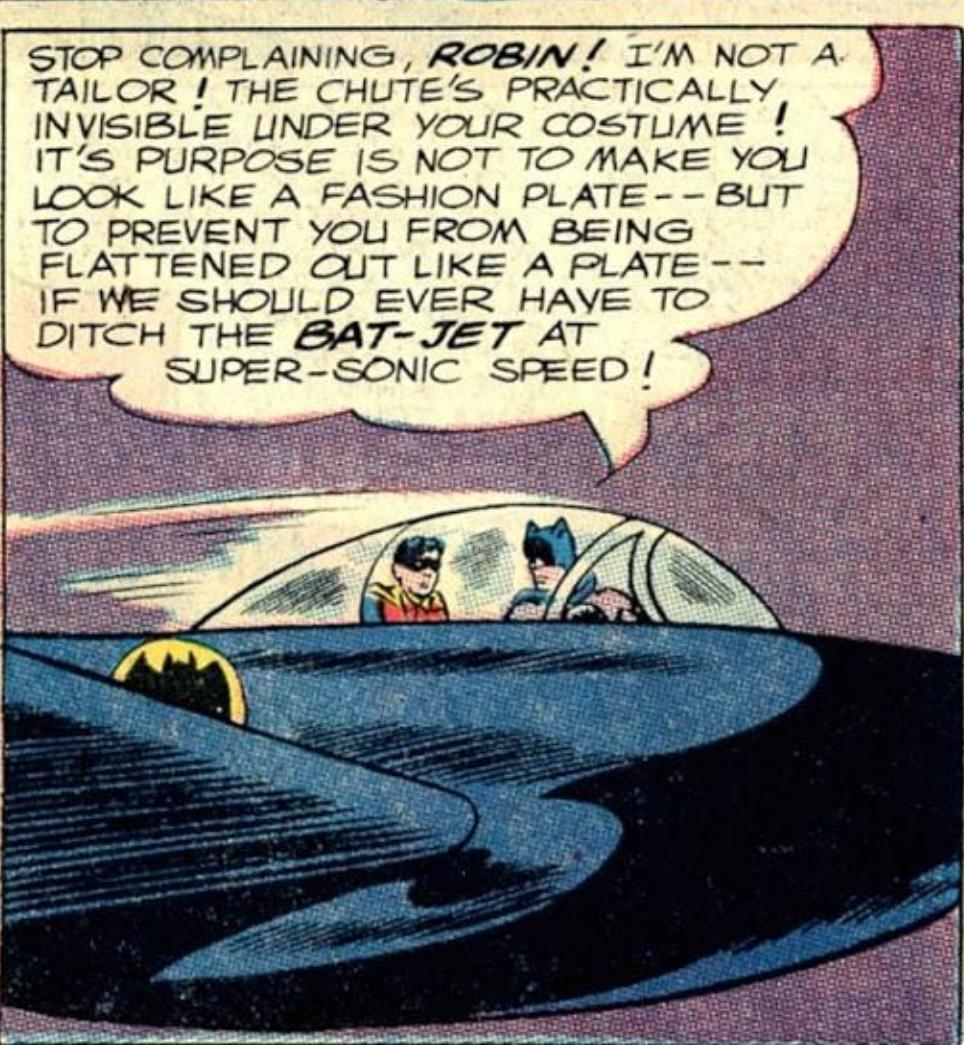


SOARING INTO THE SINISTER SKIES IN THE UNIQUE BAT-JET...

CAN'T FIND A COMFORTABLE POSITION TO SIT IN -- COULDN'T YOU DESIGN A SMALLER CHUTE, BATMAN?



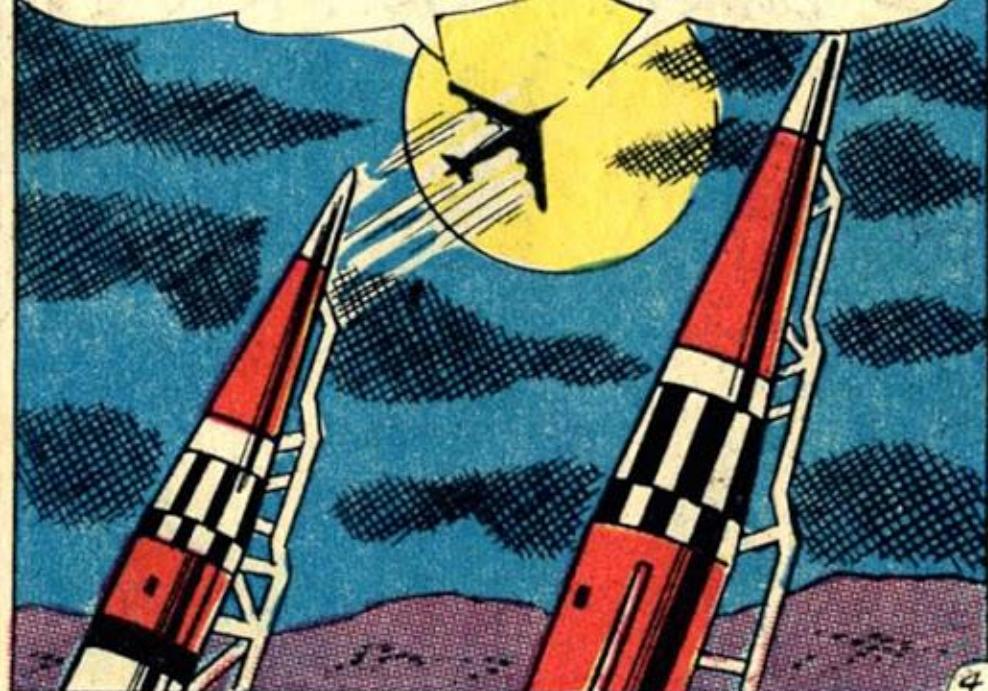
STOP COMPLAINING, ROBIN! I'M NOT A TAILOR! THE CHUTE'S PRACTICALLY INVISIBLE UNDER YOUR COSTUME! IT'S PURPOSE IS NOT TO MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE A FASHION PLATE-- BUT TO PREVENT YOU FROM BEING FLATTENED OUT LIKE A PLATE-- IF WE SHOULD EVER HAVE TO DITCH THE BAT-JET AT SUPER-SONIC SPEED!



LATER... HOVERING LIKE A GIANT SILENT BAT OVER THE ROCKET FIRING RANGE...

BE SURE YOU'RE STRAPPED IN TIGHT, ROBIN! WHEN THAT ROCKET TAKES OFF -- I'M GOING TO POUR ON ALL OUR BURNERS TO KEEP ON ITS TAIL!

RELAX, BATMAN! YOU'VE GOT ME ALONG! AND I'M COOKIN' WITH GAS ALL THE TIME!



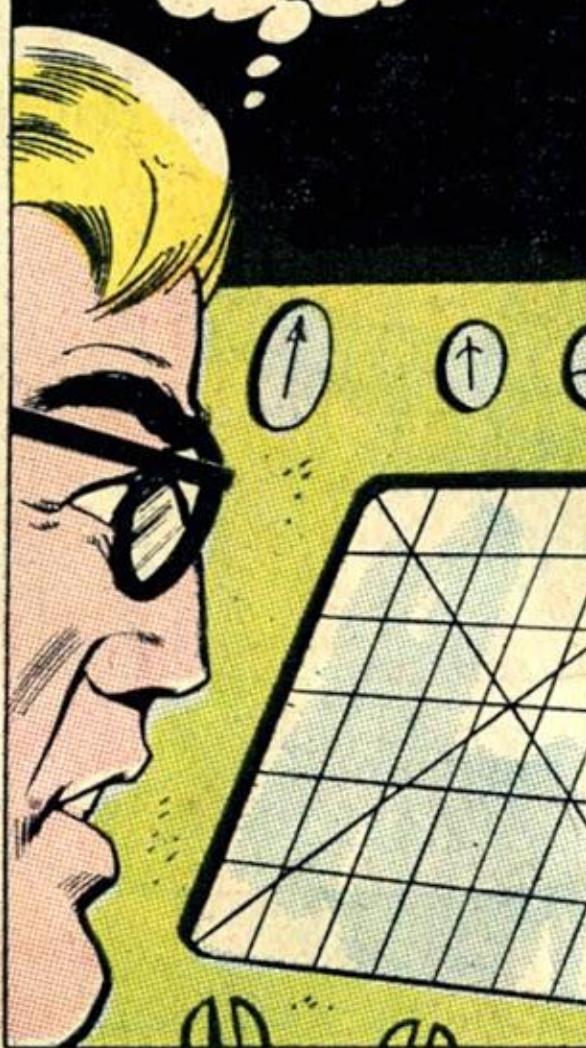
AS THE THIRD ROCKET TAKES OFF WITH A THUNDEROUS ROAR--PROF. NELSON UTTERS A SILENT PRAYER...

PLEASE--PLEASE LET **THIS** SHOT BE **A-OK!** THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY IS AT STAKE! AND--AND THE HONOR OF MY FAMILY!



SHORTLY...AN APPREHENSIVE SILENCE FILLS THE VOID ABOVE AS...

TH-THIS THIRD ROCKET HAS VANISHED FROM OUR RADAR SCREENS TOO! BUT--MAYBE THE TRACKING UNITS STILL HAVE IT IN VIEW!



AND IN THE SKIES...

THIS IS INTERCEPTOR BLUE SEVEN! LOST CONTACT! REPEAT--LOST CONTACT! OVER!



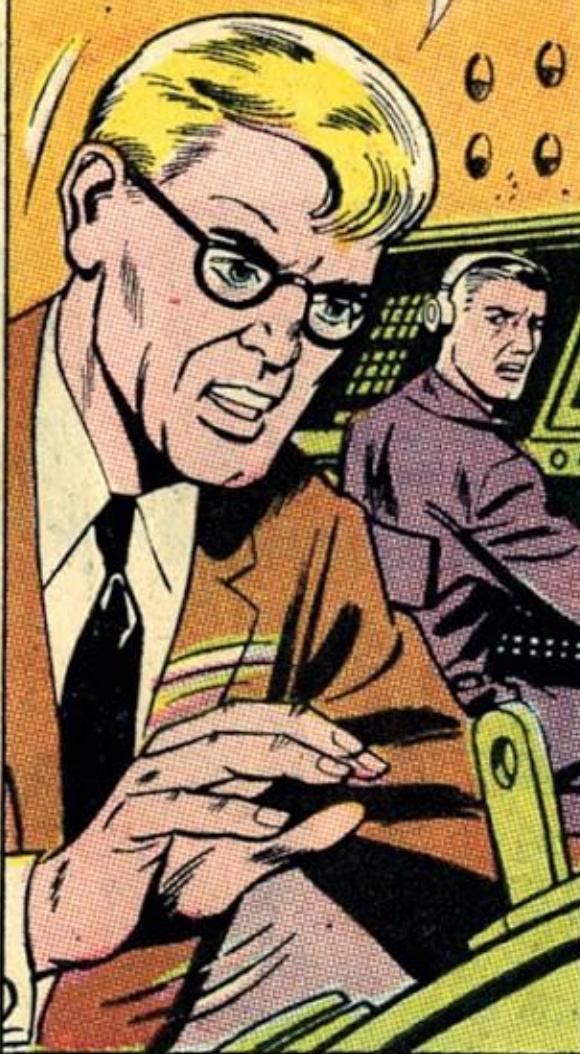
MOUNTAIN TOP STATIONS DAZEDLY CONCUR...

THIS IS HIGHMOUNT TRACKING STATION REPORTING! CONTACT WITH ROCKET COMPLETELY BROKEN OFF!
OVER!



A SHAKING HAND MOVES TOWARD THE **ABORT** SWITCH AS THE CRUSHED DIRECTOR DESPAIRS...

I--I HAVE TO BLOW UP THIS ROCKET TOO... BEFORE IT CAN CRASH AND HARM ANYONE!



THIS IS...THE END OF MY DREAMS OF ADDING HONOR TO MY FAMILY...AND THE END...OF THE ROCKET!
I--I DAREN'T SEND UP THE LAST!



BUT, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE INCREDIBLE SPEED OF THE BAT-JET HURLS BATMAN AND ROBIN WITHIN SIGHT OF THE ROCKET JUST AS...

ROBIN--LOOK! THE ROCKET VANISHED OFF OUR TRACKING SCREEN THE MOMENT THAT STRANGE BEAM ENVELOPED IT--EVEN THOUGH WE CAN STILL SEE IT WITH THE NAKED EYE! THE BEAM MUST ACT LIKE A SHORT-CIRCUIT! CUTTING OFF ANY ELECTRONIC IMPULSES BETWEEN THE ROCKET AND ALL INSTRUMENTS IN CONTACT WITH IT!

IF THAT'S THE CASE--THEN THAT BEAM MUST HAVE ALSO STOPPED THE OTHER TWO MISSING ROCKETS FROM EXPLODING!

ANOTHER BEAM IS TAKING IT DOWN-TOWARD THAT ISLAND FAR BELOW!

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE GOT ON THE BEAM, BATMAN!

LIKE A SILENT BAT THE JET GLIDES TO A WHISPER-SOFT LANDING UNDER BAT-MAN'S SENSITIVE HANDS...

WE'LL LAND OUT OF SIGHT ON A NEIGHBORING ISLAND--AND SWIM TOWARD THE OTHER ISLAND--TO SEE WHAT DIABOLICAL VILLAIN STOLE THOSE THREE ROCKETS! AND WHY!

TOO BAD WE COULDN'T USE OUR SPECIAL CHUTES TO FLOAT DOWN!

END OF PART ONE! THE WHIRLWIND CONCLUSION TO "RAID of the ROCKETEERS!" STARTS ON THE 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING!

WARNING!

DO NOT SKIP PAST THIS AD--OR YOU WILL MISS OUT ON THE GREATEST COMIC BOOK SPECTRE-ACULAR IN OVER 20 YEARS!

THE SPECTRE IS COMING--
CLOSER--CLOSER--CLOSER--
He's HERE!

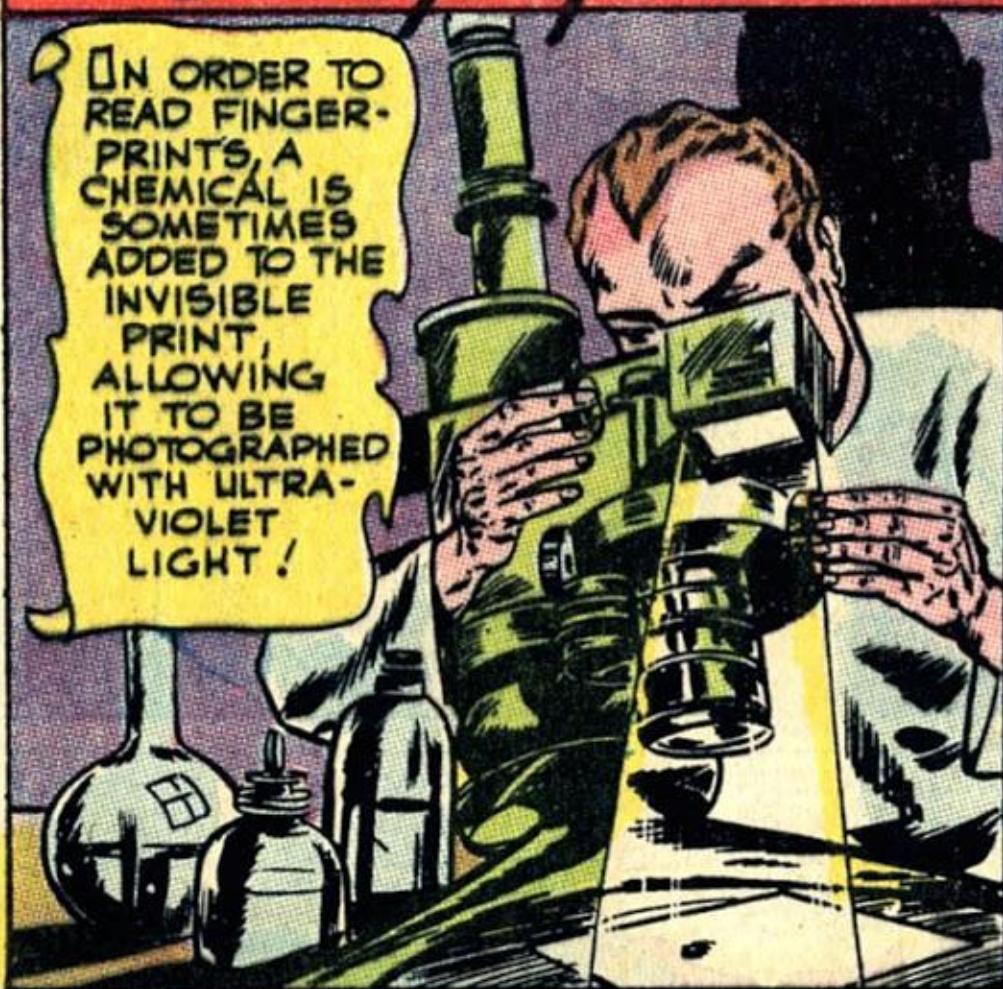
THE MOST FABULOUS HERO OF THE GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS!
DON'T YOU DARE MISS THIS ISSUE!



ON SALE NOV. 25th

Fingerprint ODDITIES !

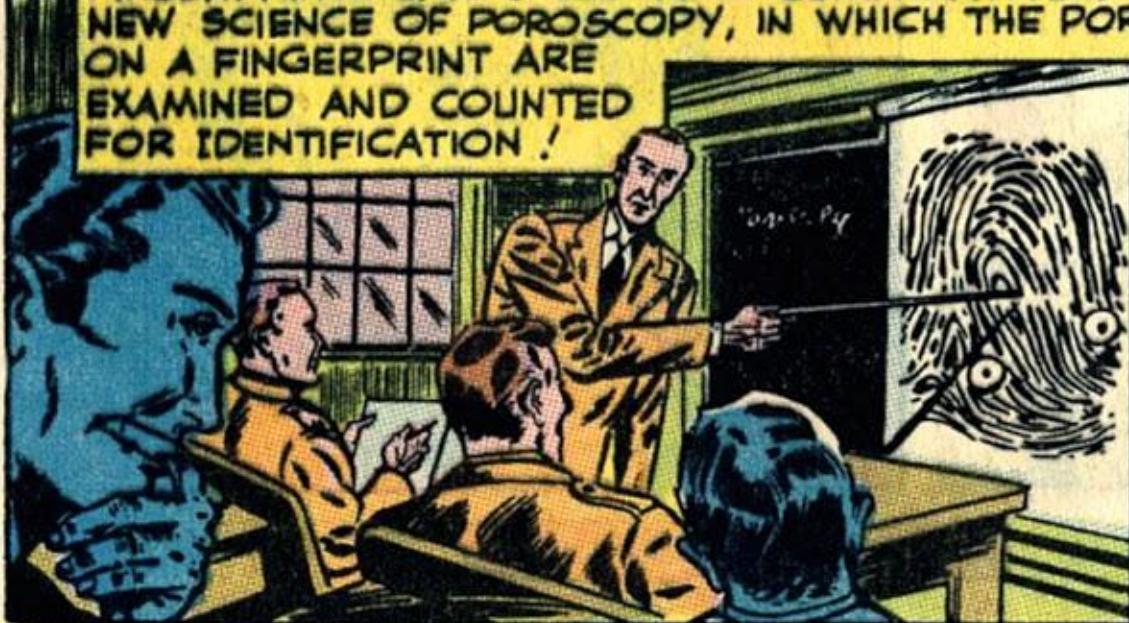
IN ORDER TO READ FINGER-
PRINTS, A CHEMICAL IS
SOMETIMES ADDED TO THE
INVISIBLE PRINT,
ALLOWING IT TO BE
PHOTOGRAPHED WITH ULTRA-
VIOLET LIGHT !



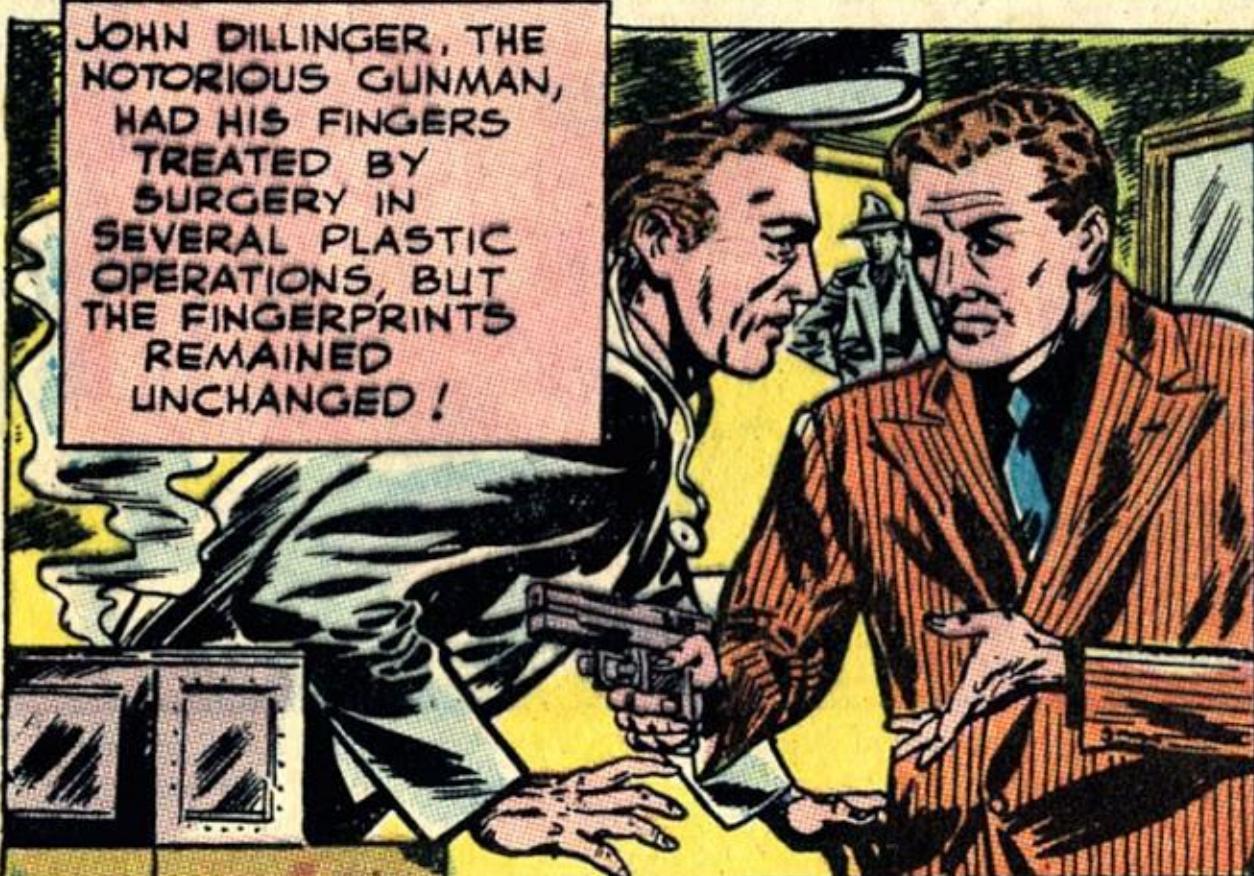
SOME CRIMINALS HAVE USED FORGED
FINGERPRINTS AT THE SCENE OF A
CRIME IN ORDER TO THROW THE POLICE
OFF THE TRACK, BUT THESE ARE SO
UNNATURAL IN APPEARANCE THAT
THEY FAIL TO FOOL THE POLICE !



FINGERPRINTING HAS LED TO A COMPARATIVELY
NEW SCIENCE OF POROSCOPY, IN WHICH THE PORES
ON A FINGERPRINT ARE
EXAMINED AND COUNTED
FOR IDENTIFICATION !



JOHN DILLINGER, THE
NOTORIOUS GUNMAN,
HAD HIS FINGERS
TREATED BY
SURGERY IN
SEVERAL PLASTIC
OPERATIONS, BUT
THE FINGERPRINTS
REMAINED
UNCHANGED !



HALF THE
PEOPLE
OF
ARGENTINA
HAVE THEIR
FINGERPRINTS
ON FILE
WITH THE
POLICE !
IT IS
COMPULSORY
IN THAT
COUNTRY !



IN FACT, THE OPERATIVE
SCARS MADE IDENTIFICATION
EVEN EASIER !

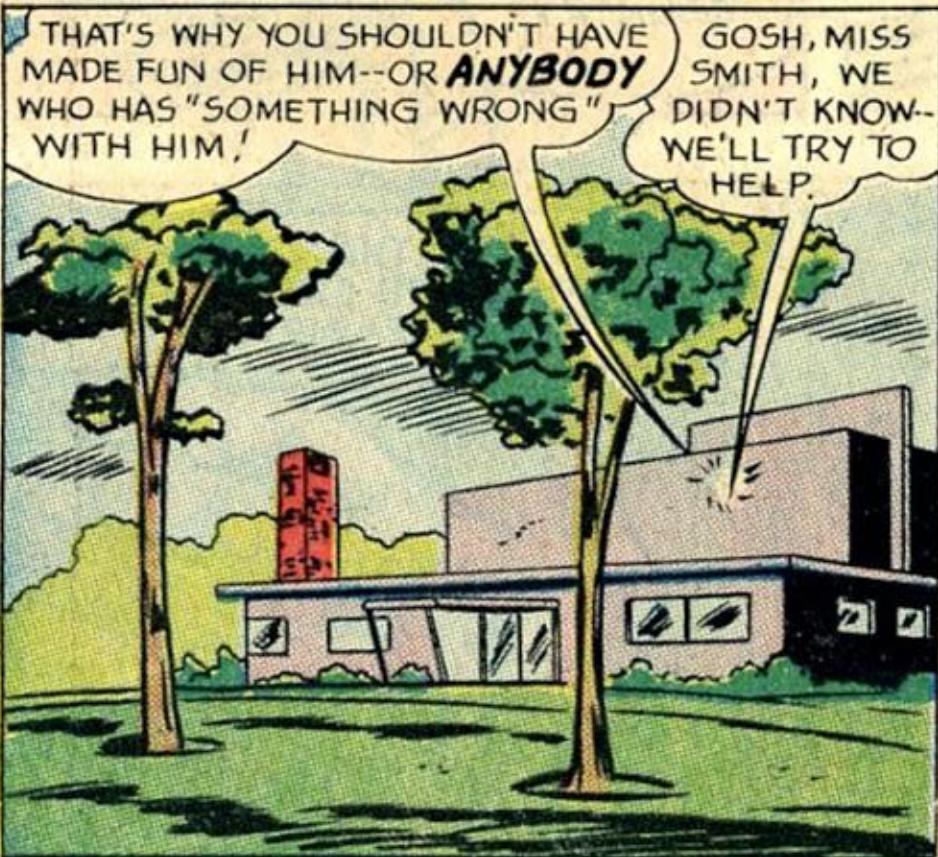


The INVISIBLE HANDICAP!



YOU'RE RIGHT--SOMETHING **IS** WRONG WITH HIM. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ACTED THAT WAY IF HE WERE BLIND OR LAME...SOMETHING YOU COULD SEE. BUT THIS NEW BOY HAPPENS TO HAVE A HANDICAP THAT'S **INVISIBLE**--DAMAGE TO PART OF THE BRAIN...

THERE ARE MORE LIKE HIM THAN MOST PEOPLE REALIZE...BECAUSE OF FAULTY PERCEPTION, HE DOESN'T SEE OR DO THINGS QUITE AS YOU DO, AND WE'RE TRYING TO HELP HIM ADJUST...



The KAT talks back to "My Mother The Car"

Visiting NBC TV
THE KAT
FROM AMT

GETS A
DOUBLE-TAKE
from
"MY MOTHER
THE CAR"

SURPRISED? IT'S FROM
MY NEW KIT... TO BUILD
AN EXACT DETAILED
MODEL OF YOU.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT.
IT IS EXACTLY
LIKE ME!

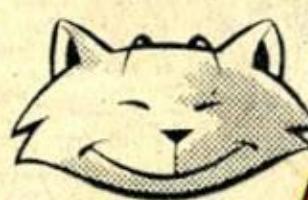
OH, IT'S NICE TO
KNOW SOMEONE
CARES OFF
TV, TOO.

CAR BUILDERS'LL
LOVE "MY
MOTHER THE
CAR" WHEN THEY
SEE THE REAL-LOOK-
ING PARTS.

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THE ENGINE IS JUST LIKE
MINE! IT MAKES ME WONDER
HOW AMT DOES IT!

... YOU GET THESE
AUTHENTIC PARTS IN
THIS EXACT 1/25TH. SCALE
KIT!



HEY, GUYS!

BE THE FIRST TO GET AMT'S
AUTHENTIC KIT OF "MY MOTHER
THE CAR." AT YOUR HOBBY OR
DEPARTMENT STORE,

\$1.50.

ONLY AMT MAKES IT!

AMT CORPORATION
BOX 81
TROY, MICHIGAN

a
m
t

DC's IMMORTAL 6!

RETURN IN THEIR MOST
SHATTERING COMBAT TALES!... IN
EXPLOSIVE ACTION THAT MAKES A
TYphoon JUST A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT!

DC's MIGHTY 6!

ADMired EVEN BY THE ENEMY!

DC's SIZZLING 6!

EASY CO.'S SGT. ROCK!
THE "HAUNTED TANK'S" JEB STUART!
NAVAJO ACE JOHNNY CLOUD!
MUD MARINES GUNNER & SARGE with POOCH!
THE UNDERGROUND FIGHTER WITH TNT
IN HER LIPSTICK-- MLLE. MARIE.



Featuring THE MIGHTY 6 IN THEIR
GREATEST COMBAT TALES!

DON'T MISS THIS BATTLE BONUS BLOCKBUSTER!

ON SALE
DEC. 16th

PART TWO: BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, IN THE EXPLOSIVE CONCLUSION TO--"RAID OF THE ROCKETEERS!"



SUDDENLY... BATMAN WARNS...

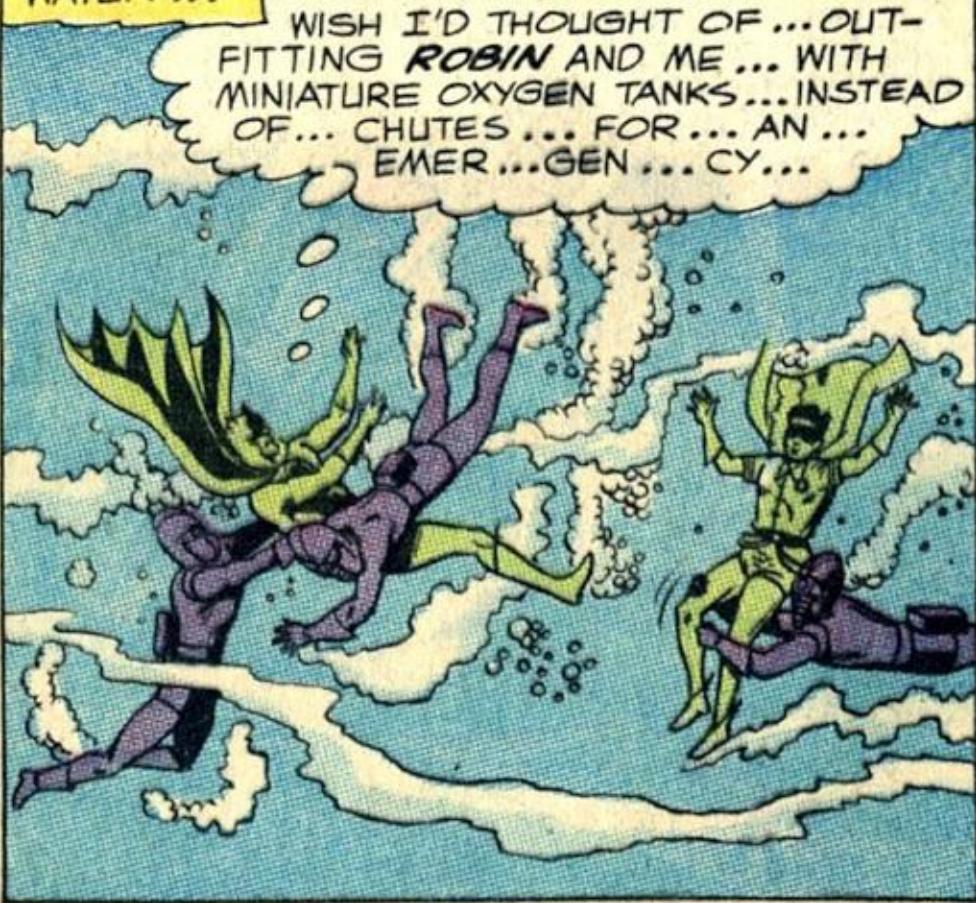
LOOK OUT!
WE'RE BEING
TORPEDOED!
ULPH--

YEAH-- IT SURE DOESN'T
FEEL LIKE IT'S A **SARDINE**
THAT'S TICKLING MY LEGS--
UNPFFF-- ULP--!



THE EPIC STRUGGLE CONTINUES UNDER-WATER...

WISH I'D THOUGHT OF... OUT-FITTING **ROBIN** AND ME... WITH MINIATURE OXYGEN TANKS... INSTEAD OF... CHUTES... FOR... AN... EMER... GEN... CY...



HAVEN'T... EVEN... BREATH...
LEFT... FOR... A...
WISE... CRACK...

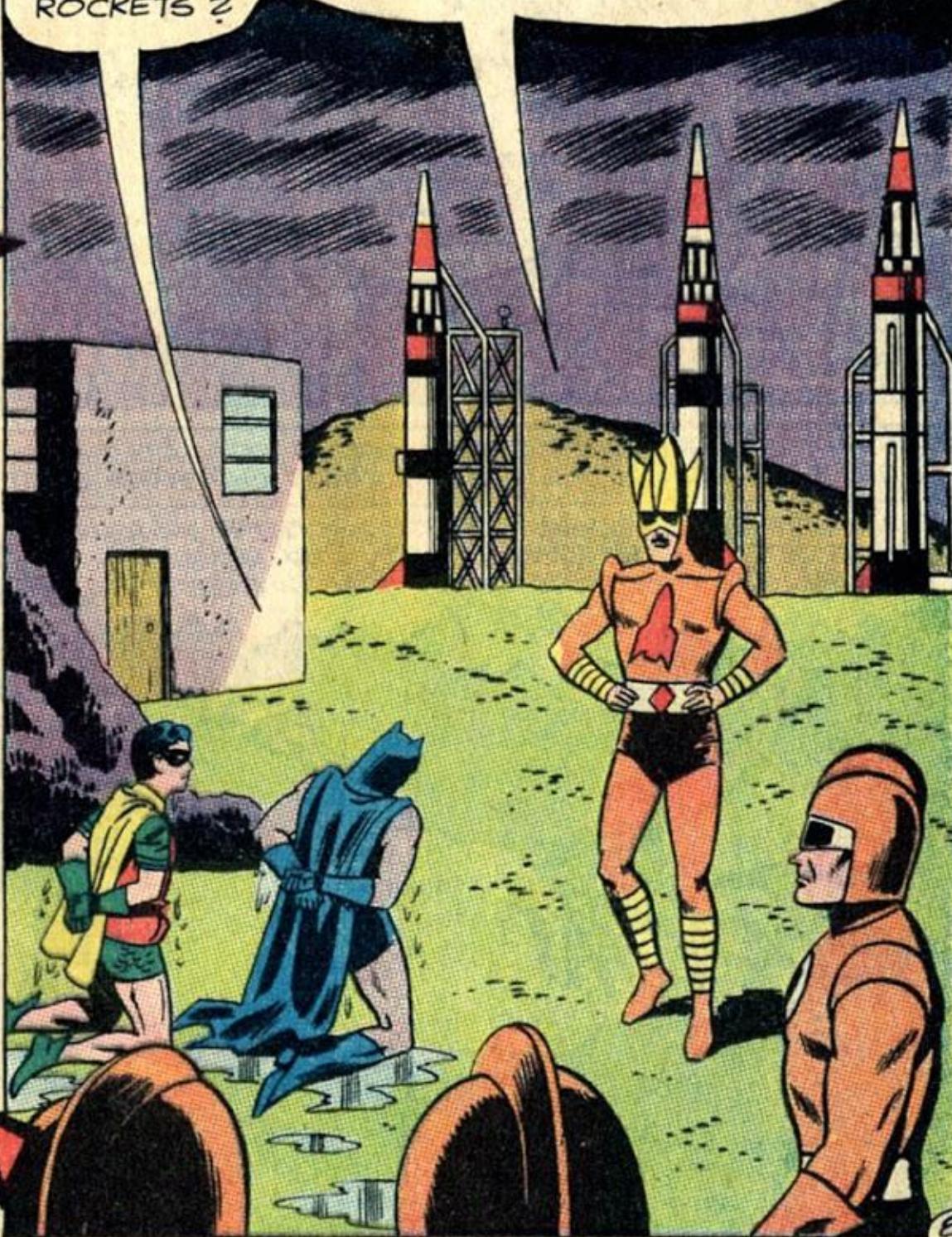


MOMENTS LATER... LIFTED OUT OF AN INLAND WATERWAY, HEALING AIR REVIVES **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** WHO STARE DAZEDLY AT...

TH-THE
MISSING
ROCKETS!...
WHAT IN...
THE WORLD...
MADE YOU
HIJACK...
HARMLESS...
ROCKETS?

ONLY THE FIRST ONE
IS HARMLESS, MY POOR BEWILDERED
BATMAN! THE SECOND HAS AN
ATOMIC WARHEAD I SORT OF
"THREW TOGETHER" FROM ATOMIC
ODDS AND ENDS MY **ROCKETEERS**'
"BORROWED" FROM HERE AND
THERE! YOU ARE JUST IN TIME
FOR THE FIRST BLASTOFF!

LIKE A SINISTER UNDERWATER
BURIAL PARTY, THE **ROCKETEERS**
CARRY THE UNCONSCIOUS DUO
TOWARD WHAT LOOKS LIKE A
WATERY CRYPT...



WITHIN MINUTES, GOTHAM CITY IS STARTLED BY...

A ROCKET--LANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF GOTHAM CITY PARK!

MAYBE IT'S ONE OF THE MISSING ROCKETS--TAKING A DETOUR! HA-HA-HA!



BUT, THE LAUGHTER OF THE CROWD TURNS TO DEAD SILENCE AT THE TERRIBLE THREAT SCRAWLED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ROCKET...

WARNING!

WE WANT ONE BILLION DOLLARS FOR THE LIFE OF GOTHAM CITY! UNLESS YOU SURRENDER YOUR SURRENDER WITHIN THE HOUR-- THE NEXT ROCKET WE SEND OVER WILL CONTAIN AN ATOMIC WARHEAD WHICH WILL TURN THE CITY INTO CINDERS!

BY ORDER OF--
THE ROCKETEERS



THE SINISTER SECONDS COME TO AN END WITH...

THIS IS GOTHAM CITY'S REPLY TO THE INFAMOUS ROCKETEERS! IT IS THE ANSWER OF EVERY FREE PEOPLE! WE WILL NEVER SURRENDER! DO YOUR WORST! WE WILL FIGHT CRIME TO THE LAST!

FOOLS!
THEY'VE JUST SIGNED THEIR OWN DEATH WARRANT!

GOTHAM CITY THINKS IT HAD TIME TO SET UP DEFENSES AGAINST THE ROCKET! THEY DON'T KNOW WE ROCKETEERS WILL BE IN THE CLOUDS--DIRECTING THE ROCKET AGAINST ANY DIVERSION--STRAIGHT TO ITS TARGET--WITH OUR HOMING BEAMS! AND YOU TWO--WILL BE EYE-WITNESSES TO THAT!

INSIDE THE ROCKET ITSELF!

I CAN'T STAND RACKETS!
CAN'T I BE SOMEPLACE ELSE?



THE FANTASTIC ROCKETEERS HURLE TOWARD THEIR SECRET STATION IN THE CLOUDS OVER GOTHAM CITY...

ROCKETEER LEADER TO ROCKETEER FLIGHT!
TAKE YOUR STATIONS! TURN ON HOMING SIGNAL TO KEEP ROCKET ON TARGET!

OVER!



AT THAT SAME MOMENT, WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN PRISONERS INSIDE THE EXPLOSIVE MISSILE...



FEVERISHLY, THE MASTERS OF ESCAPE WRITHE LIKE HUMAN EELS TO ESCAPE THEIR BONDS, UNTIL ...

WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW MINUTES !

FEELS LIKE SECONDS !

HOW'RE YOU DOING ?

LIKE A MAN IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR !

I'M FREE ! HOW ABOUT YOU !

I'M SKINNED LIKE A RABBIT--BUT I'M FREE TOO !

FRENZIEDLY THE DYNAMIC DUO SEARCHES THE MAZE OF CONTROLS IN THE HURTLING ROCKET OF DOOM ...

WHERE IS IT ? WHERE IS IT ? WHERE IS IT ?

IF MY HEART WASN'T IN MY MOUTH--I'D ANSWER YOU !

THROUGH A HATCH THE MASKED MARVEL AND BOY WONDER PLUNGE INTO THIN AIR...

NOW--THE ROCKET WILL BLOW UP WITHOUT HARM TO ANYONE LONG BEFORE IT REACHES GOTHAM CITY !

BUT, AS THE DARING DUO GLIDES TOWARD THE CLOUDS ...

IT'S THE ROCKETEERS ! IF THEY KEEP THE ROCKET HOMED-IN ON GOTHAM CITY--THE EXPLOSION WILL FLATTEN THE WHOLE CITY !

FINALLY...

I'VE FOUND THE ABORT SWITCH !

GREAT !--WHAT AM I SAYING ? WE'VE LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES TO DITCH THIS "ROMAN CANDLE" BEFORE IT BLOWS UP !

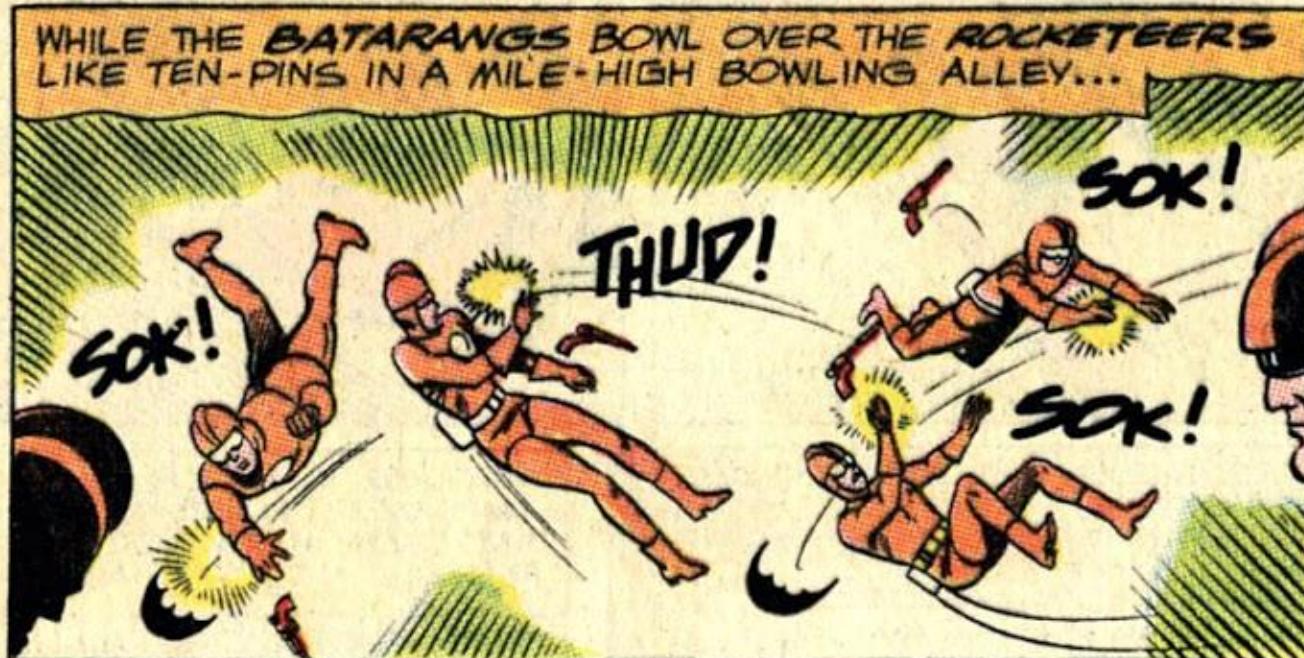
WE'D BETTER PULL OUR CHUTES' EMERGENCY RIP CORDS--BEFORE WE SPLATTER THE LANDSCAPE !

AS THE ROCKET STARTS TO DROP SHORT OF ITS TARGET-- THE ROCKETEER LEADER SPOTS THE CHUTING DUO...

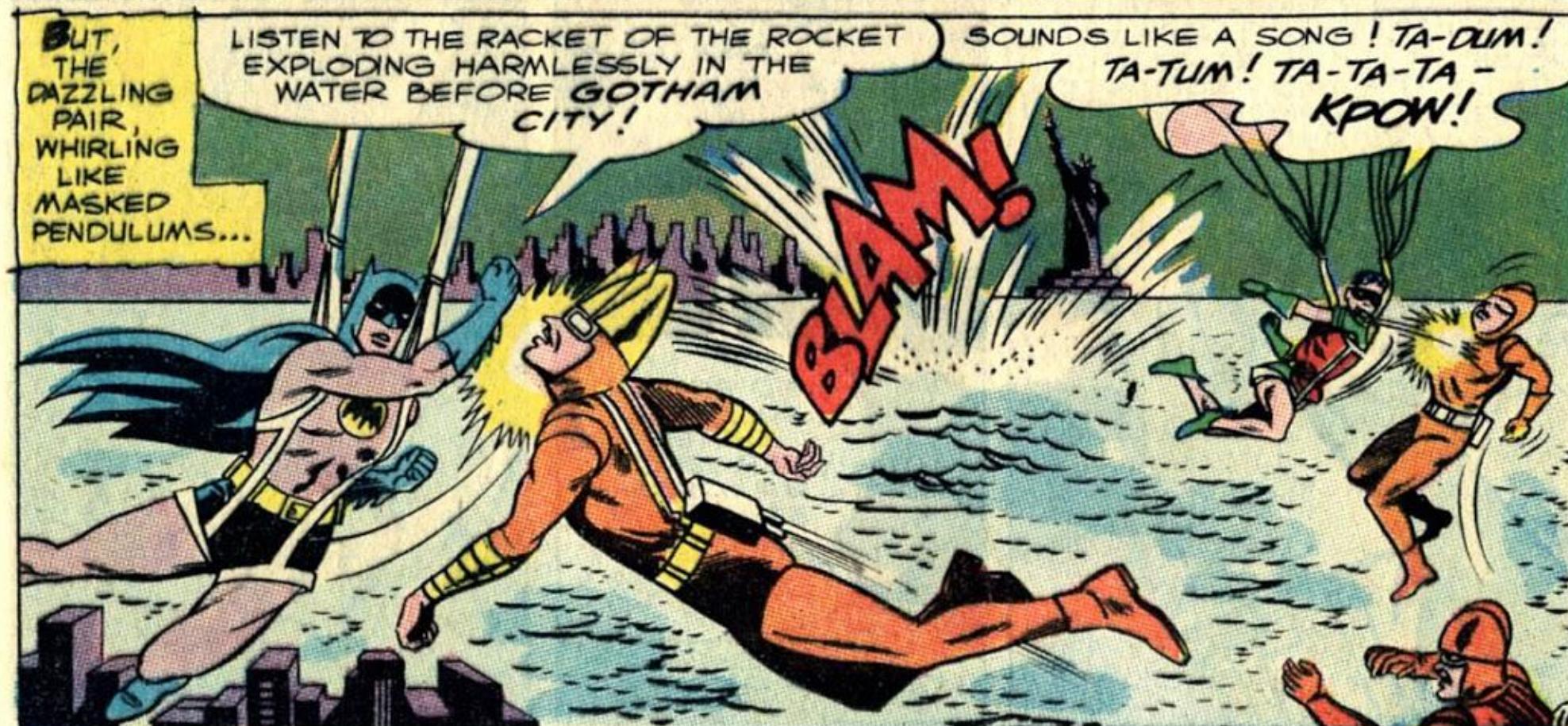
HALF OF YOU KEEP THE ROCKET ON ITS COURSE TOWARD GOTHAM CITY! THE OTHER HALF JOIN ME IN TEARING BATMAN AND ROBIN OUT OF THE CHUTES!

WE CAN'T BE IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE, ROBIN! BUT-- WE'VE GOT TO BLOCK THOSE FLYING HOODS FROM KEEPING THE ROCKET ON COURSE-- AND TACKLE THE REST OF THE ROCKETEERS!

WE'LL SEND OUR BATARANGS OUT AS TACKLERS!



BATMAN AND ROBIN PLUMMET INTO THE REMAINING HIGH-FLYING ROCKET MEN LIKE HUMAN METEORS...



LIKE RAIN, THE BATTERED ROCKETEERS FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE HARBOR POLICE ...



BACK IN THEIR ORDINARY GUISE AS BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON, THE TIRELESS PAIR STAND BY PROF. NELSON AS...

THE LAST ROCKET'S OFF! BUT--IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO IT--IF I FAIL AGAIN--I'LL BE HAUNTED BY THE GHOSTS OF THE NELSON GENERALS AS LONG AS I LIVE!



BUT, AFTER THE ROCKET'S TRIUMPHANT RUN ...

I OWE MY SUCCESS TO BATMAN AND ROBIN! I--I WISH THERE WERE SOME WAY OF THANKING THEM ...

WHY NOT JUST WRITE BAT-MAN A LETTER?

AND DON'T FORGET TO SEND IT BY BAT-MAIL!



THUS ENDS ONE OF THE MOST SIZZLING ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN! WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE OF BATMAN FOR A TALE OF SUSPENSE STARRING THE DYNAMIC DUO THAT WILL MAKE YOUR HAIR STAND ON END UNTIL YOU'RE TEN FOOT TALL! DON'T MISS IT!

(12)

DC BLAZES A NEW PATH in COMICS HISTORY!

TWO OF THE GREATEST TEAMS OF ALL TIME--

TOGETHER

for the FIRST TIME!

The DOOM PATROL
THOSE FABULOUS FREAKS
HAILED AS "THE WORLD'S
STRANGEST HEROES..."

GUEST-
STAR
with...

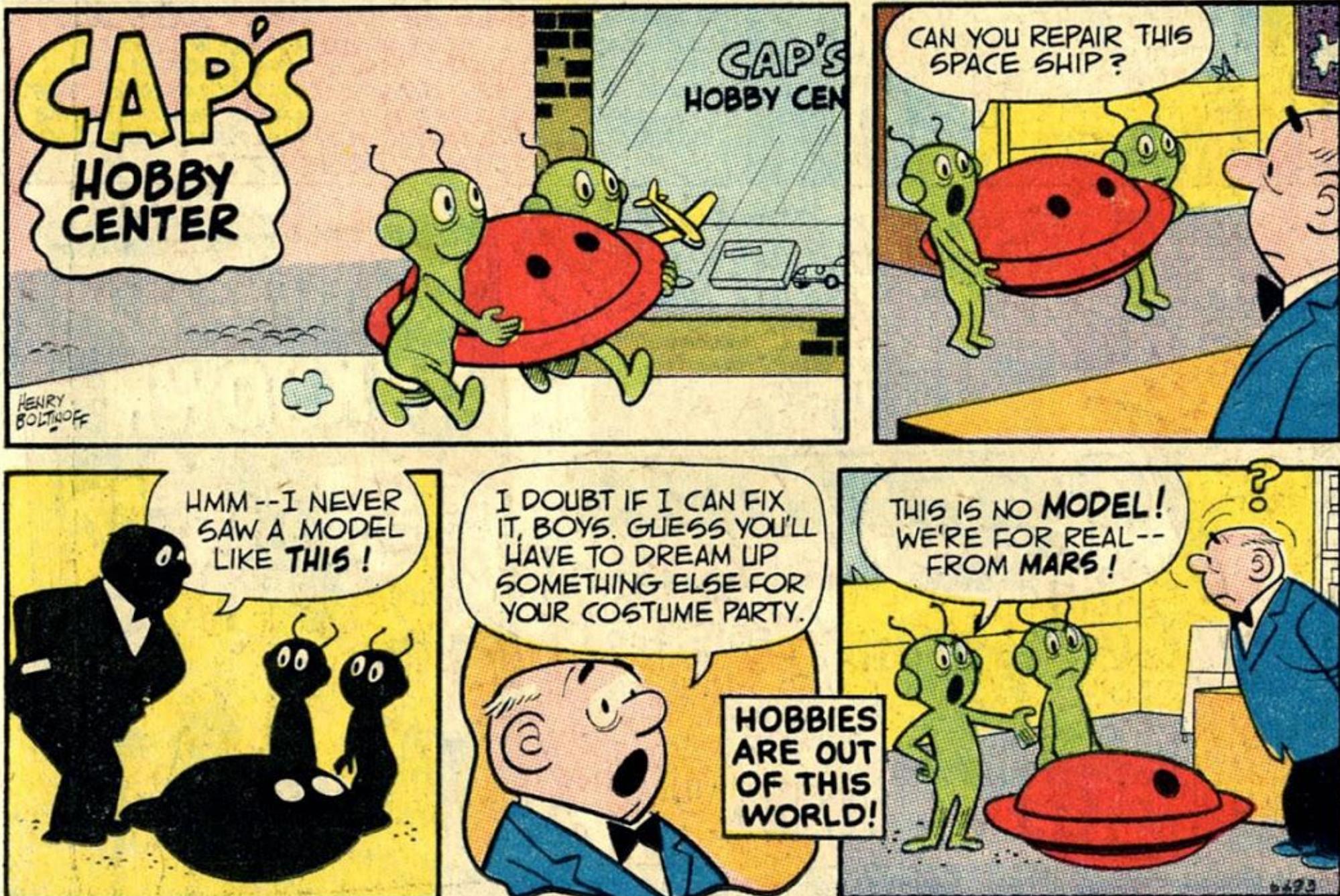
"THE LEGION OF
DEATH CHEATERS,"
**CHALLENGERS
of the
UNKNOWN!**

NOW ON SALE!



Definitely
Coming... The
BRAND-NEW
LOOK!

"GO-GO" Checks from DC



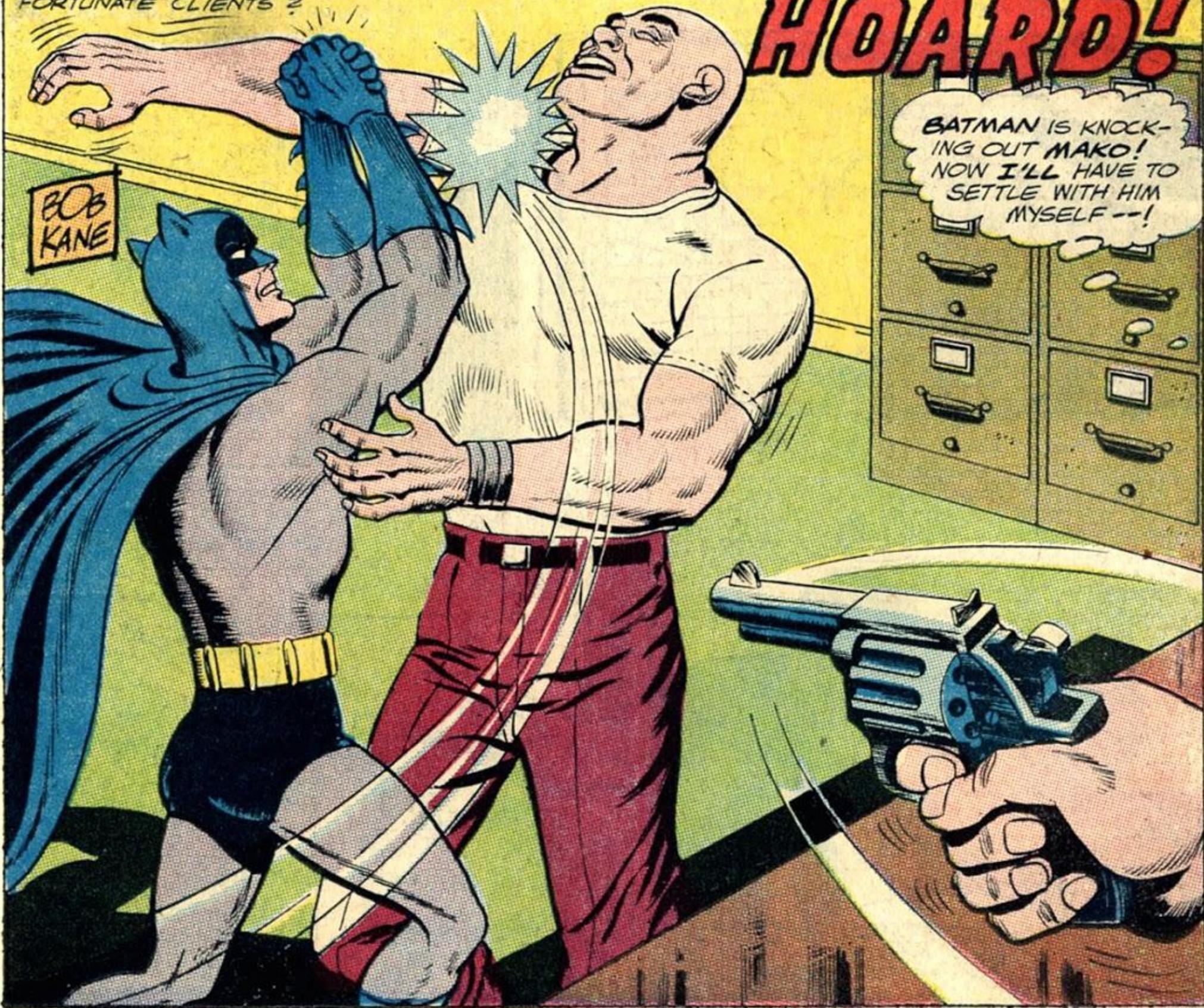
BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

A TRAIL OF MYSTERIOUS BOMBINGS OF HOMES AND OFFICES IN GOTHAM CITY LED BATMAN-- AND HIS INVALUABLE IF DIMINUTIVE ALLY ROBIN-- TO THE LAIR OF A NOTORIOUS LOAN SHARK-- "SHARK" SHARKEY!

BUT EVEN AFTER COMING TO GRIPS WITH THIS RUTHLESS FOE, THE DYNAMIC DUO STILL FACED A TANTALIZING PROBLEM-- WHERE WAS THE FORTUNE IN CASH SHARKEY HAD FLEECED FROM HIS UNFORTUNATE CLIENTS?

The LOAN SHARK'S HIDDEN HOARD!



IN A DINGY HOTEL IN GOTHAM CITY, A PAIR OF GRIFTERS DISCUSSES IMPORTANT BUSINESS...

WEEPER, THE HORSE CAN'T LOSE ! I GOT THE TIP STRAIGHT FROM TOMMY THE TOUT ! ALL WE NEED IS A STAKE TO PLANK DOWN ON THE NAG'S NOSE !

SO FAR I FOLLOW YOU, ROSY--

--BUT I DON'T GO FOR STEALIN' THE DOUGH TO MAKE THE BET ! WHY, THAT WOULD BE A CRIME !

AND IT'D BE A CRIME IF WE DON'T DO IT ! LISTEN...

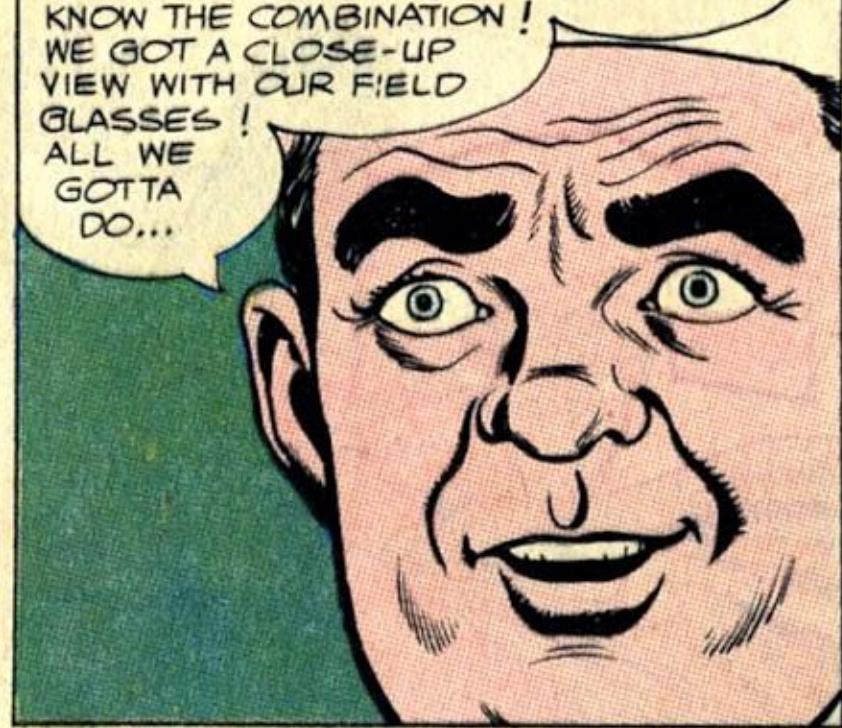


"WE'VE BEEN WATCHIN' THAT ROOM IN THE BUILDIN' ACROSS THE STREET ! TWO OR THREE TIMES A WEEK, THIS JOKER, WHOEVER HE IS, COMES IN THERE..."



"...AND STUFFS A FISTFUL OF CASH INTO HIS SAFE !"

ALWAYS THE MONEY GOES IN ! NONE OF IT EVER COMES OUT ! WEEPER, THAT SAFE MUST BE BUSTIN' WITH THE LONG GREEN BY NOW ! AND WE KNOW THE COMBINATION ! WE GOT A CLOSE-UP VIEW WITH OUR FIELD GLASSES ! ALL WE GOTTA DO...



"...IS POP OVER THERE, TAKE OUT A FEW G's -- WE DON'T HAVE TO BE PIGGY -- AND WE'RE LAVISH McTAVISH ! WHATTA YOU SAY ?



I KINDA FIGURED YOU'D SAY THAT ! WELL, IN THAT CASE, WE GOT ONLY ONE OTHER WAY... AND THAT'S TO GO TO SHARKEY THE LOAN SHARK, FOR THE MONEY !



T-TAKE MY ARMS OFF NOW--J-JUST LEAVE ME WITH THE STUMPS ! I'D BE BETTER OFF THAT WAY THAN DEALIN' WITH "SHARK" SHARKEY !

CALM DOWN ! TELL YOU WHAT.. I'LL GO MYSELF !

I'LL TAKE OUT THE LOAN ON MY OWN !

NO, WAIT, ROSY ! WITH US IT'S LIKE DAMON AND SHAMAN, OR WHATEVER THEIR NAMES ARE! WE'RE PARTNERS--THROUGH THICK AN' THIN ! IF YOU GO, I GO !

SOON, IN THE MIDTOWN OFFICES OF THE MONEY LOANER ...

SO YOU TWO BOYS WANT A COUPLE OF G's ? AT MY USUAL 100% INTEREST WHAT DOES THAT COME TO, LOUIE ? YOU'RE THE BIG BRAIN AROUND HERE ...

THEY GET TWO GRAND...THEY GIVE BACK FOUR !

THE LEFT SHOULDER,
MAKO !
OWN--
THAT FEELS
GOOD !

BORROW FROM
SHARKEY !

BORROW
FROM
SHARKEY
THE LOAN
SHARK WITH
A SMILE !

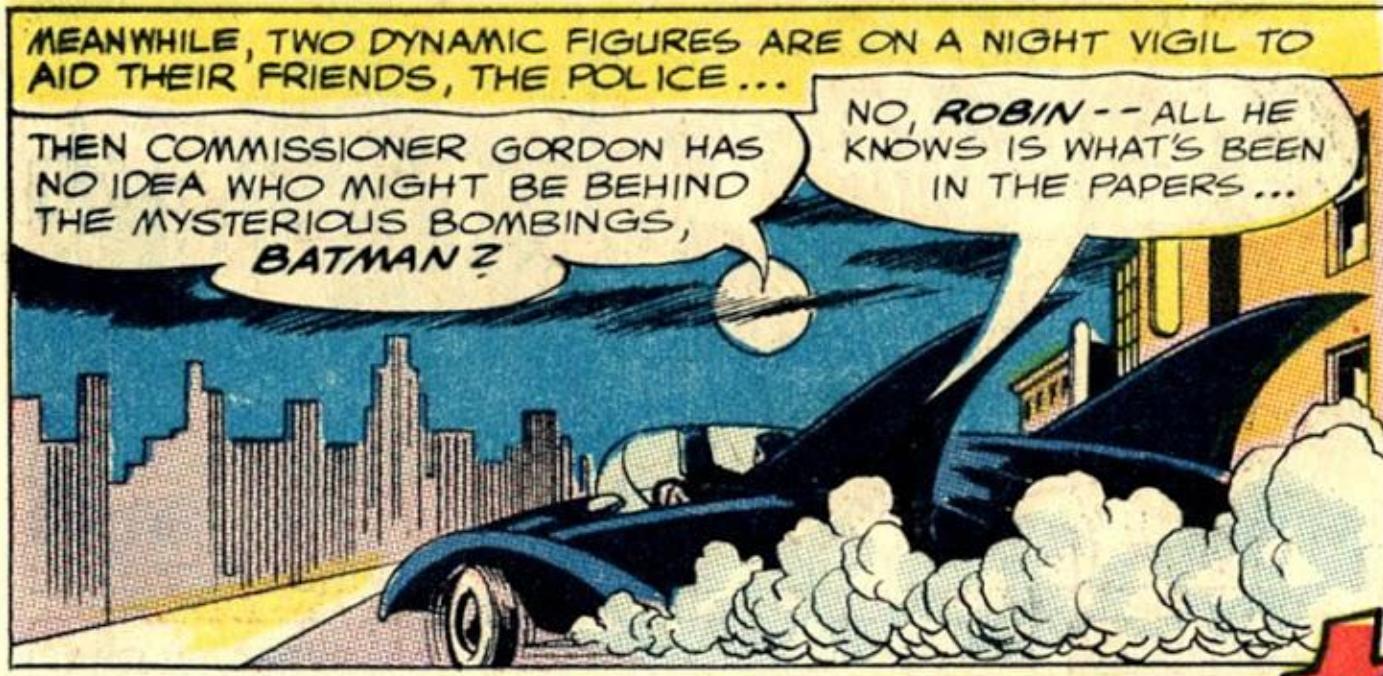
"WE GIVE TILL
IT HURTS
YOU!"

BUT THEY GOT NO SECURITY, BOSS ! AND WE DON'T KNOW THESE GUYS !

THAT'S OKAY, LOUIE ! THEIR GOOD HEALTH WILL BE THEIR SECURITY ! --OOH ! NOT SO HARD, MAKO, YOU BRUTE !

IF THEY DON'T PONY UP ON TIME, THEY'RE LIABLE TO SUFFER A SUDDEN ATTACK OF LEAD POISONING !

OH, WE'LL PAY YOU BACK FIRST THING TOMORROW, MR. SHARKEY, SURE THING !



SWIFTLY,
THE
SLEEK
VEHICLE
HURLES
TOWARD
THE
SCENE...

THAT CAR
SPEEDING
AWAY...

IT COULD BE
THE BOMBERS!

AS A
POWERFUL
LISTENING
DEVICE
IN THE
BATMOBILE
IS TUNED
IN ON
THE
ESCAPING
CAR...

PERFECT! WE BLEW
IT TO PIECES! THE
BOSS WILL BE GLAD
TO GET OUR REPORT,
CHESTY!

WE'LL FOLLOW THEM,
ROBIN-- WITH OUR LIGHTS
OFF SO THEY DON'T SUSPECT
WE'RE BEHIND THEM! THIS
MAY BE OUR CHANCE TO
DISCOVER THE "BOSS"
BEHIND THE BOMBINGS!

THERE THEY GO--
INTO THAT OFFICE
BUILDING!

MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED,
BOSS!
TARGET
DESTROYED!

YOU CLUNKS!
HOW MANY
TIMES HAVE I
TOLD YOU
NEVER COME
STRAIGHT **HERE**
FROM A JOB?
HOW DO YOU
KNOW THE LAW
DIDN'T TAIL
YOU?

I GOT A GOOD MIND
TO LET **MAKO** WORK
YOU TWO OVER--
TEACH YOU A
LESSON!

NO, BOSS!
DON'T SIC
THAT BRUISER
ON US!

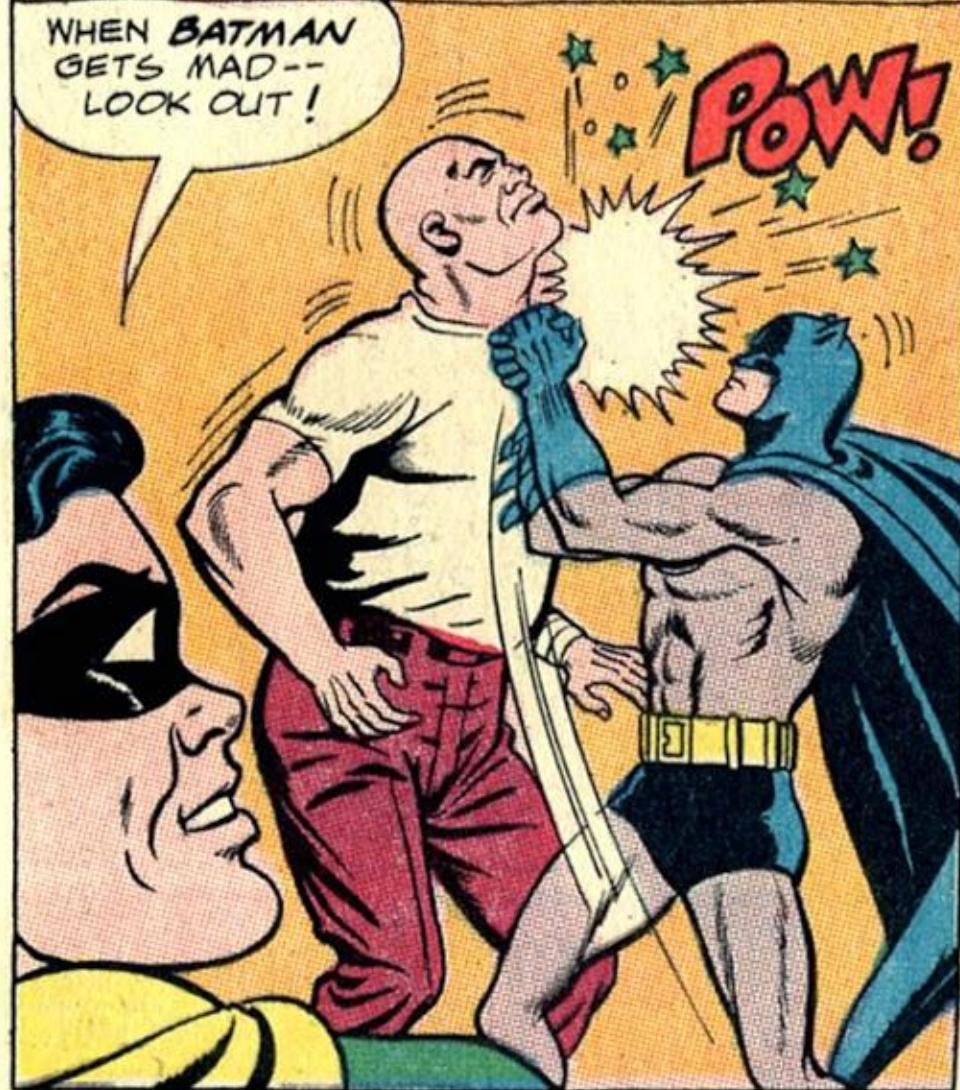


AT ONCE, THE GIANT STOOGE AND BODYGUARD SPRINGS LIKE A HUGE CAT...



THEN, WITH A SWIFT FOLLOW-UP MOTION...

WHEN BATMAN
GETS MAD--
LOOK OUT!



HE KNOCKED OUT
MAKO! NOW OR
NEVER FOR THE
"SHARK" TO SHOW
HIS TEETH!

WHAT'S
SHARKEY
UP TO?



AS THE
GANG
LEADER
TRIES
TO GUN
DOWN
BATMAN,
THE
COWLED
CRUSADER'S
YOUNG
ALLY
SLIDES
HIMSELF
ACROSS
THE
DESK-
TOP...

UHH...

SPOILED
HIS AIM...



CONTINUING HIS DESK-SLIDE, THE BOY WONDER ADMINISTERS
THE 'COUP DE GRACE' AGAINST HIS FOE...

OOOF!

...AND HIS
APPETITE!

GREAT
GOING,
ROBIN!
I'VE
GOT HIS
GUN!

MEANWHILE, ONE MEMBER
OF THE GANG BEATS AN
UNOBSERVED RETREAT...

SHARKEY AND THOSE
OTHERS ARE DONE FOR!
I'M GETTING OUT OF
HERE!

OKAY,
BATMAN!
WE GIVE
UP!



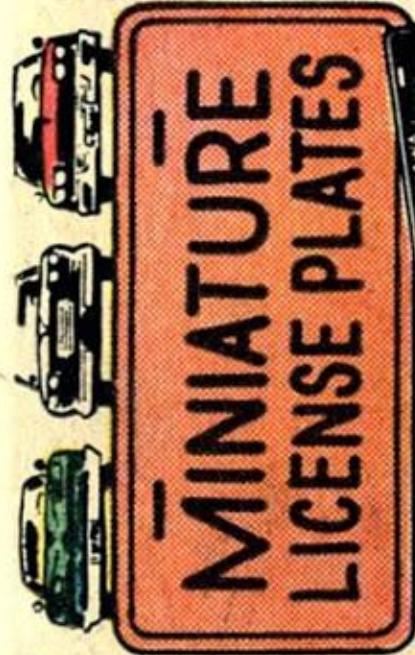
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models, luggage,
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YOU GET 6 (SIX)
COMPLETE SETS...
OVER 600
LICENCE PLATES!



ALL 50 STATES
& CANADA!



\$1



CONTENTS:
YAKITY.
YARTY.
YATITY.



I TOLD
YOU I COULD
I WRITE

Z
Y
X
C
R
A
Z
Y
S

ONLY



SQUARES
GO HOME!

MEMO FROM ANOTHER PLANET

USE YOUR HEAD.



LET'S BE PEN PALS

YOU YIPPAH!



OVER 500 ZANY, CRAZY GUMMED LABEL "STAMPS" THAT YOU STICK ON ENVELOPES, PACKAGES, BOOKS, SWAP-PHOTOS, POST CARDS, ETC.

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CRAZY, ZANY PICTURES AND SAYINGS--PRINTED ON 250 GUMMED LABELS THAT YOU PASTE ON ANYWHERE!

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OVER 300 GUMMED LABEL STICKERS



HERE'S A TERRIFIC BUY IN ZANY SIGNS & SLOGANS THAT WILL GIVE YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS LOTS OF LAUGHS! EACH ONE IS "ZANNER" THAN THE NEXT!

WOW! OVER 300 "CRAZY" SIGNS-- PRINTED ON GUMMED LABELS THAT YOU PASTE ON ANYWHERE!



UOY--GNIDAER RUOY CIMOC SGAM!
 I ETAH **NAMREPUS** DNA LLA SIH
CD SLAP! OS M'I GNINRAW UOY--
T'NOD EKAT EGATNAVDA FO **S'CD**
 CIFIRRET REFFO--**EVLEWT** SEUSSI
 FO **NOITCA SCIMOC** ROF EHT
 ECIRP FO **NET**--DEREVILED OT
 RUOY EMOH **EROFEB** YEHT
 HCAER EHT SDNATS! OS TAHW FI
 UOY EVAS **YTNEWT STNEC** NO A
 RAEY FO SLLIRHT HTIW **NAMREPUS**
 DNA **LRIGREPUS?** OS TAHW FI UOY
 NAC TEG EHT EMAS LAED NEHW UOY
 EBIRCSBUS OT REHTO **CD** SGAM?
T'NOD OD TI!

BETTER SUBSCRIBE QUICK, FANS--
 BEFORE I TRICK **MR. MXYZPTLK** INTO
 SAYING HIS **NAME** BACKWARDS--AND
 THIS OFFER VANISHES WITH HIM!

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LATER, AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF THE POLICE... IN FORCE...

SO THAT'S WHY SHARKEY HAD THOSE PLACES BOMBED, COMMISSIONER?

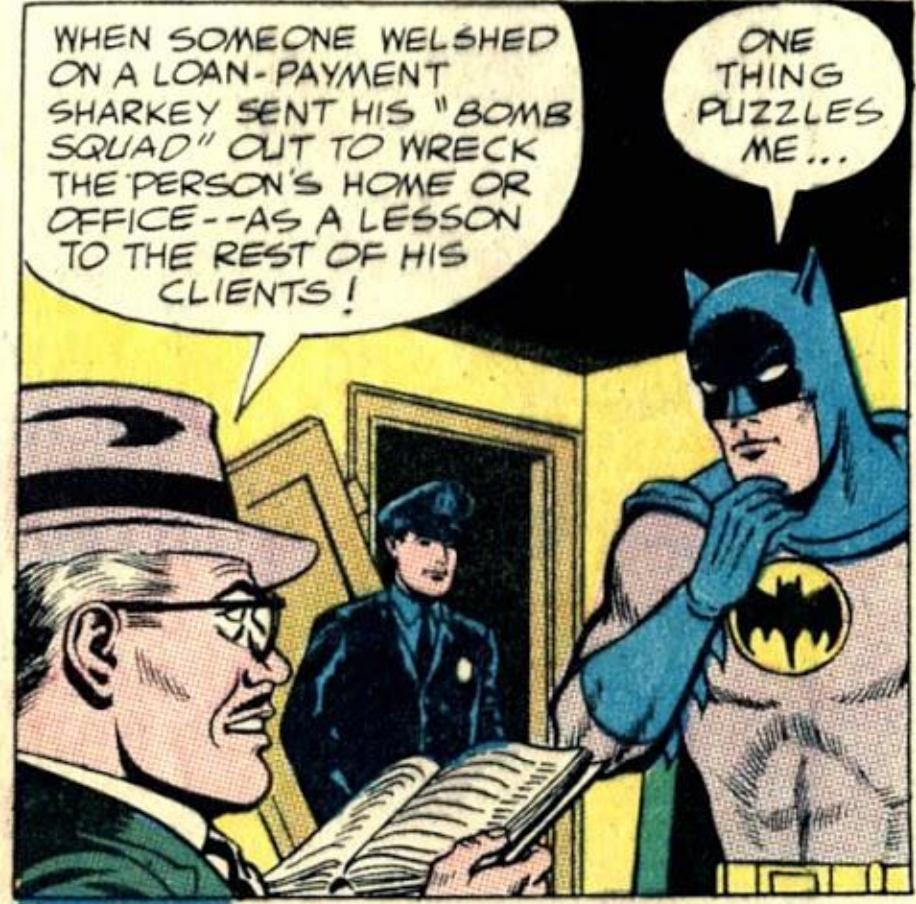
BORROW FROM SHARKEY

THE LOAN SHARK WIT A SMILE

YES, THESE RECORDS OF HIS TELL THE WHOLE STORY...

WHEN SOMEONE WELSHED ON A LOAN-PAYMENT SHARKEY SENT HIS "BOMB SQUAD" OUT TO WRECK THE PERSON'S HOME OR OFFICE--AS A LESSON TO THE REST OF HIS CLIENTS!

ONE THING PUZZLES ME...



SHARKEY FLEECED PEOPLE OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS! BUT WHERE'S THE MONEY? THERE WAS ONLY PETTY CASH IN HIS SAFE HERE--

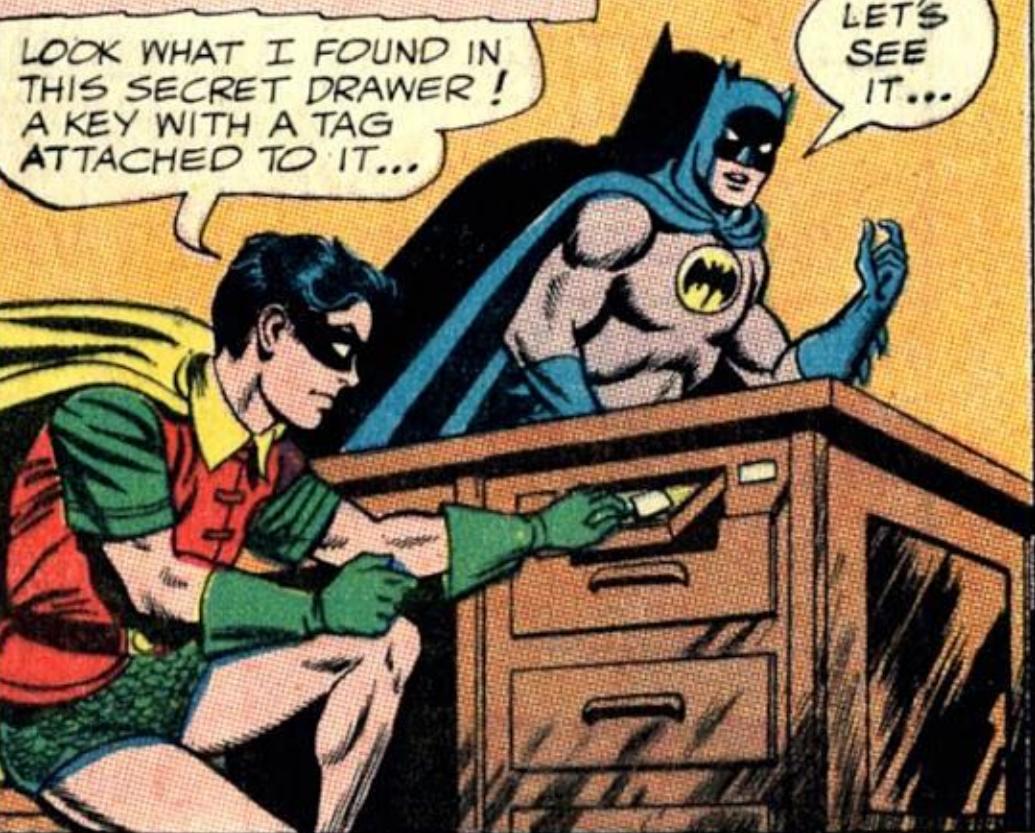
HE MUST HAVE A SECRET HIDING PLACE SOMEWHERE...



MEANWHILE, ROBIN HAS BEEN DOING SOME INVESTIGATING OF HIS OWN...

LOOK WHAT I FOUND IN THIS SECRET DRAWER! A KEY WITH A TAG ATTACHED TO IT...

LET'S SEE IT...



THE TAG HAS AN ADDRESS--IN MIDTOWN! HMM! MAYBE THIS IS THE ANSWER TO SHARKEY'S HIDDEN HOARD! OKAY WITH YOU, COMMISSIONER, IF ROBIN AND I CHECK THIS ADDRESS RIGHT AWAY?

GO AHEAD, BATMAN! AND WHILE YOU DO...



...MY MEN AND I WILL CONTINUE OUR INVESTIGATION INTO SHARKEY'S RECORDS!



IN THE MEANTIME, SAD TO RELATE, SINGIN' SAM HAS FINISHED OUT OF THE MONEY...

THAT HORSE WAS A--
A DOG! WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON
TOMMY THE TOUT--!

NEVER MIND
TOMMY!
WORRY
ABOUT
US!

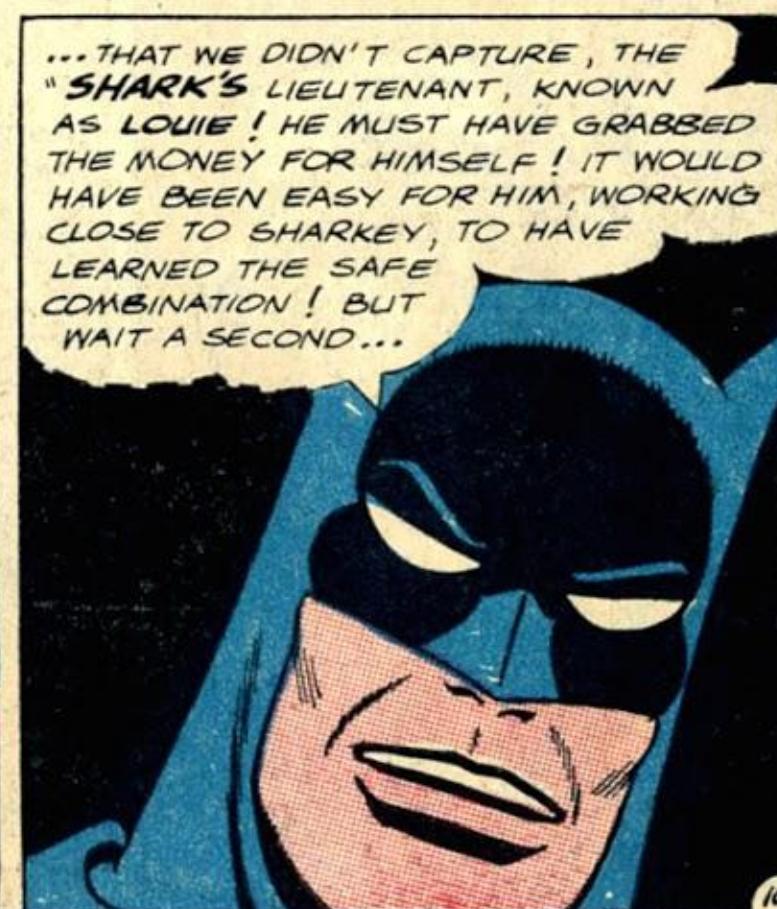
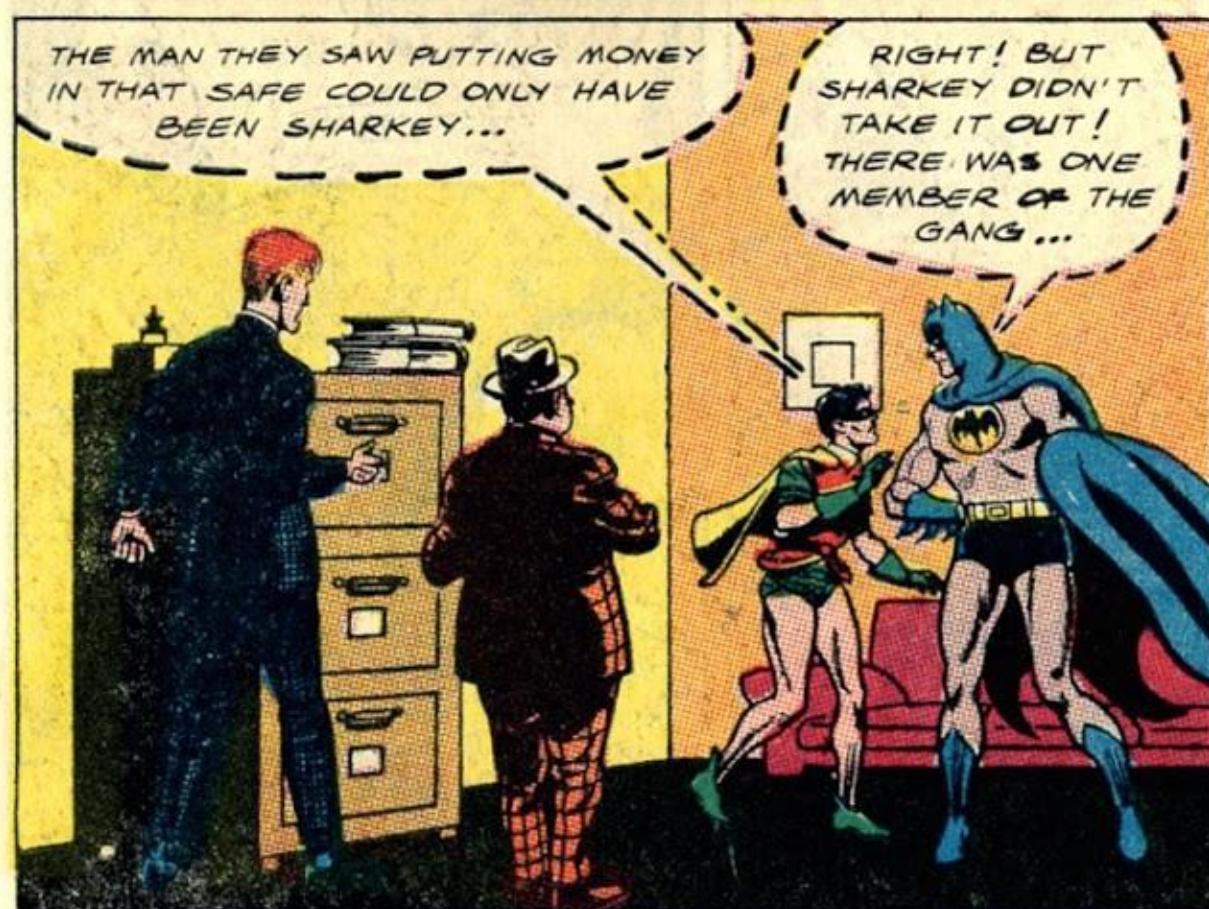
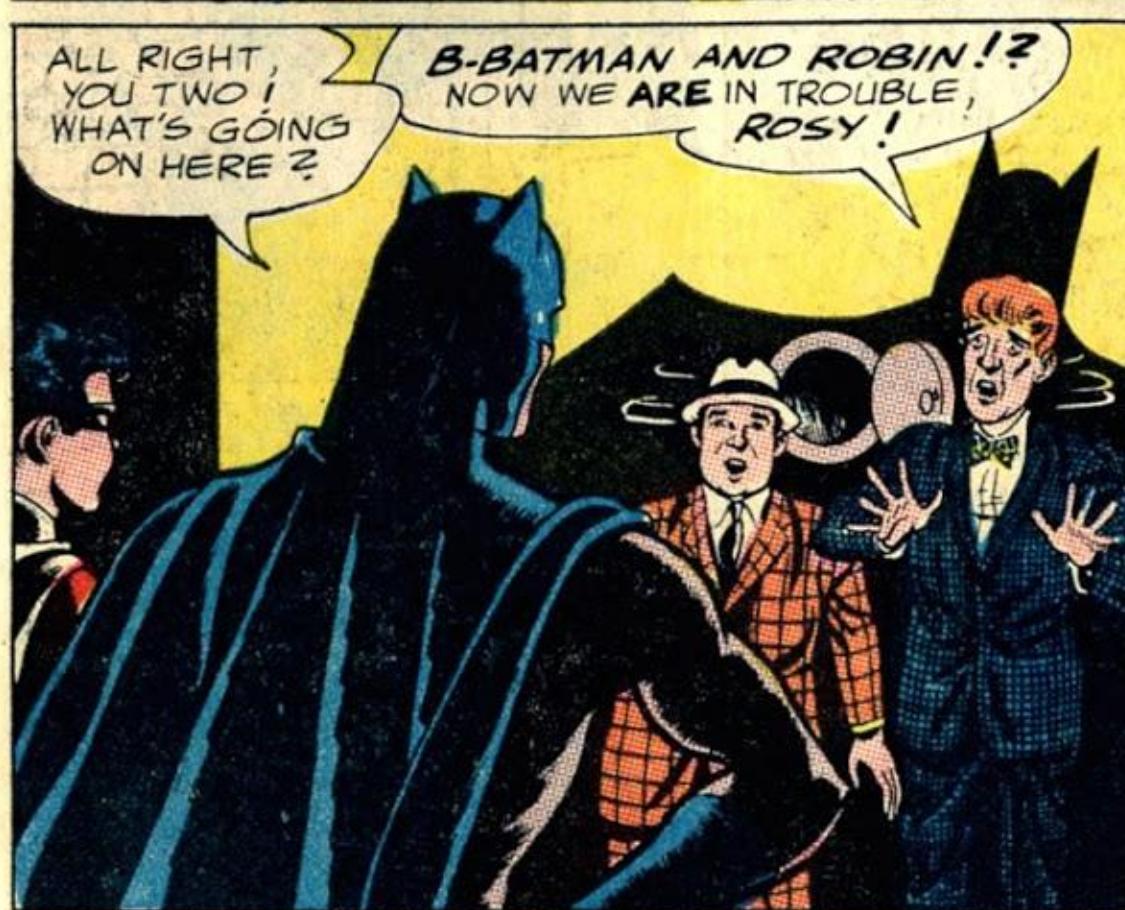
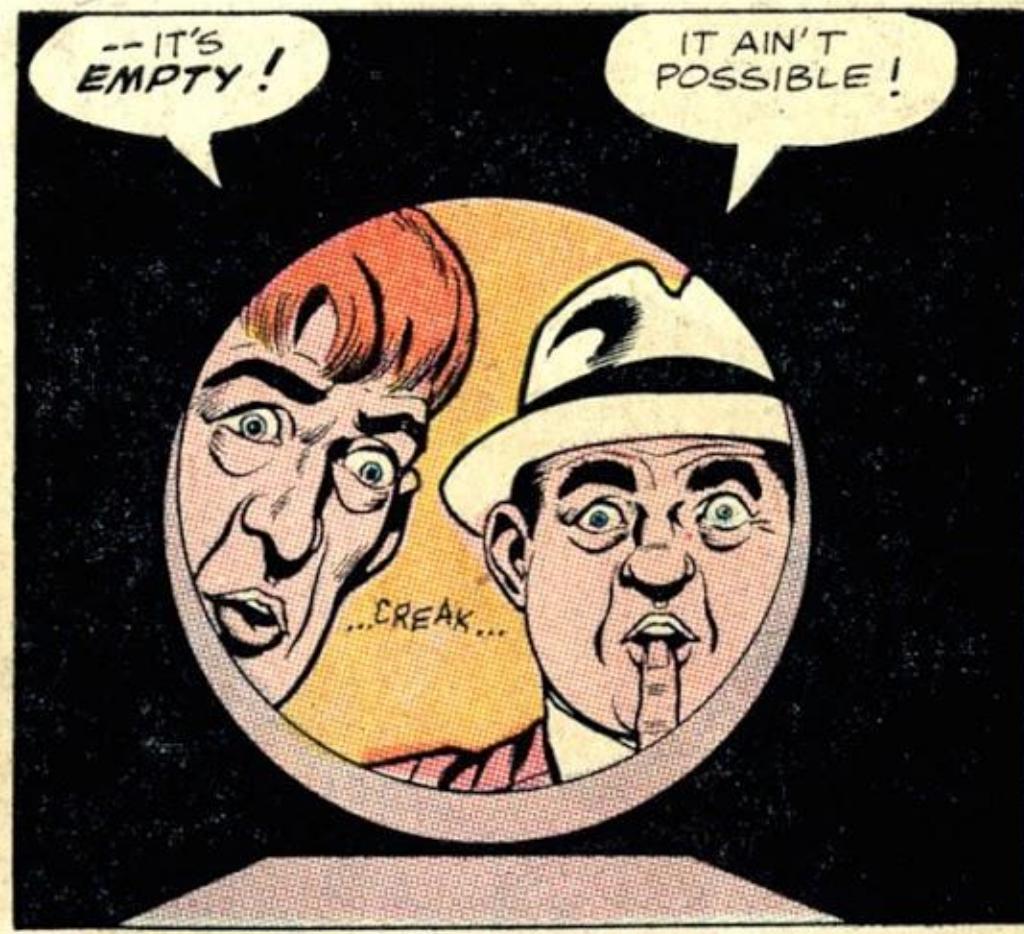
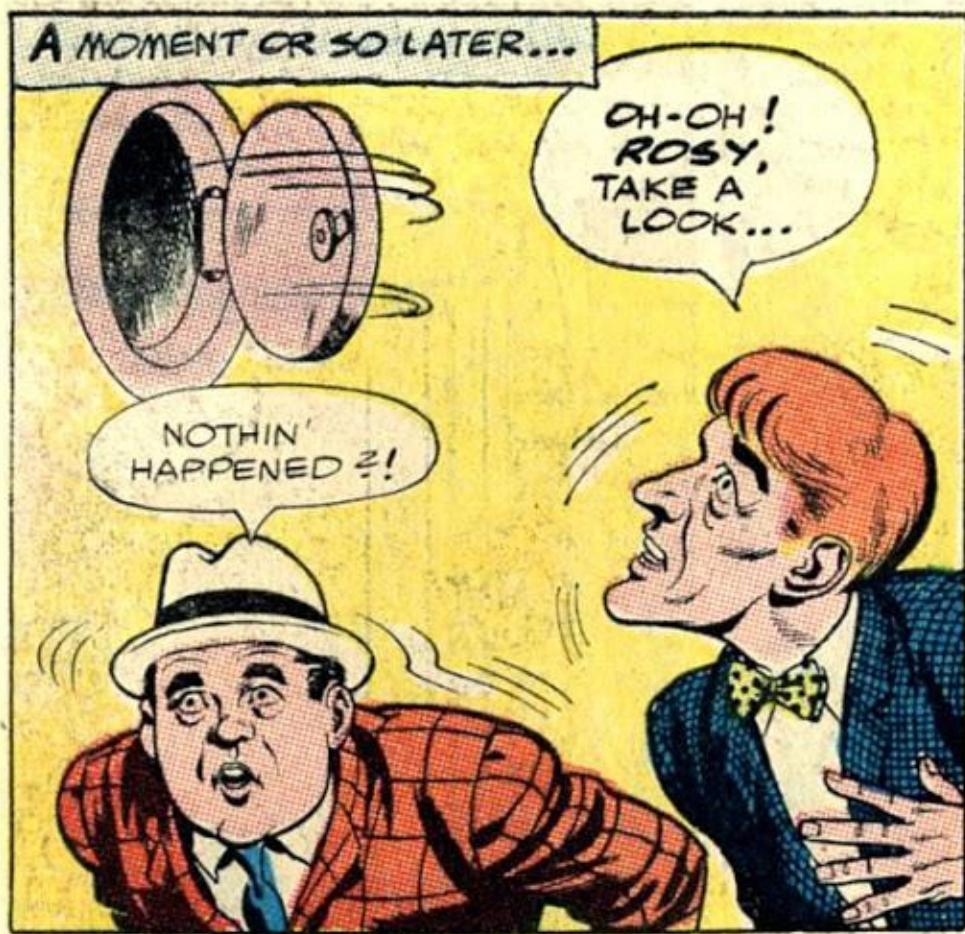
WE OWE THE SHARK FOUR GRAND AND WE JUST GOT FORTY CENTS BETWEEN US! HE SURE AIN'T GONNA SETTLE FOR THAT!

SHORTLY...

Y-YOU'RE NOT GOIN'
IN HERE, ROSY?!

SHHHH--
FOLLOW
ME...





AS THE MASKED MANHUNTER, FOLLOWING UP AN IDEA, QUERIES THE TWO WOULD-BE-CROOKS AGAIN...

YOU SAY WHEN YOU CAME HERE YOU FOUND THE DOOR UNLOCKED?

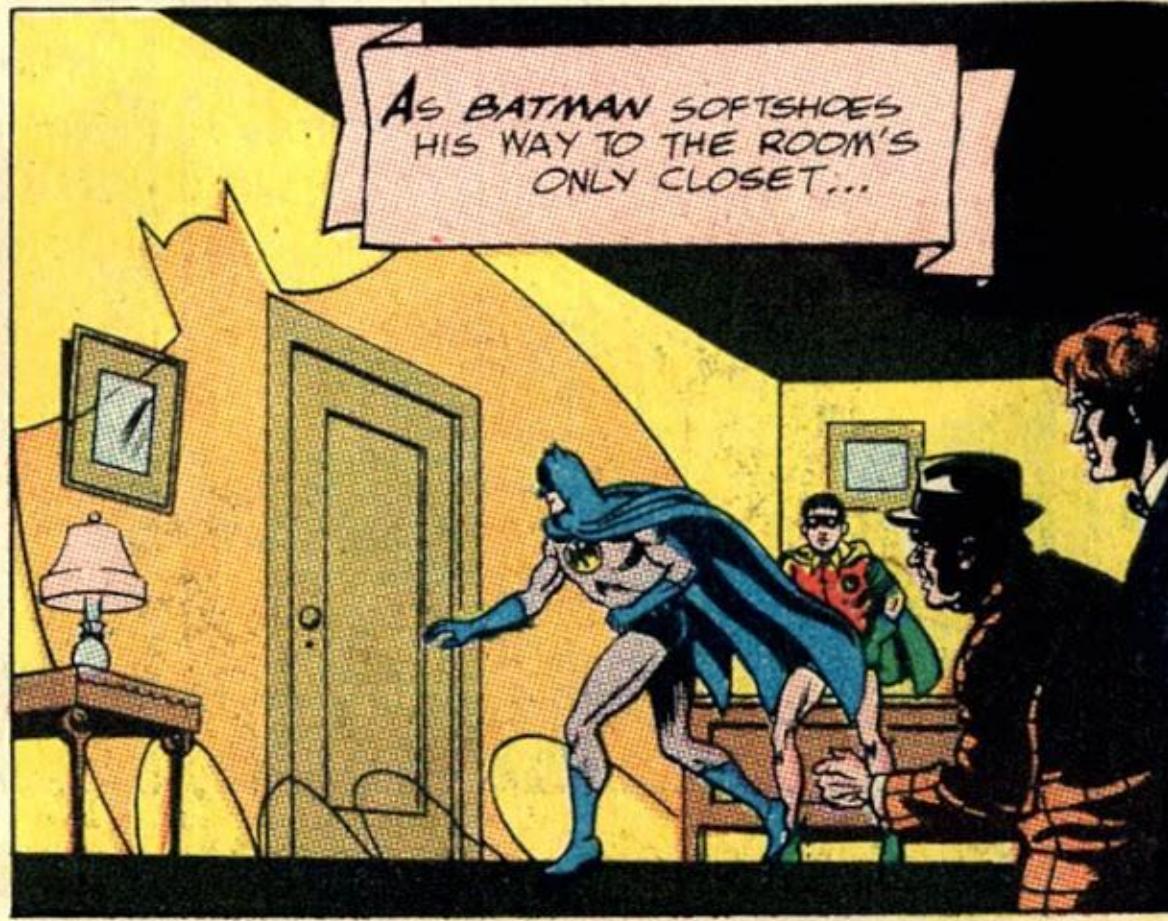
THAT'S RIGHT, BATMAN! WEEPER AND I WERE READY TO BUST IN-- BUT WE FOUND THE DOOR OPEN!

DOESN'T THAT STRIKE YOU AS STRANGE, ROBIN? A MAN WHO WAS CAREFUL ENOUGH TO LOCK THE SAFE AFTER TAKING THE MONEY WOULD ALSO BE CAREFUL ENOUGH TO LOCK THE DOOR WHEN HE LEFT!

THAT'S RIGHT! THEN THAT MUST MEAN...



--THAT IF HE DIDN'T LOCK THE DOOR-- IT COULD BE BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO LEAVE -- HE HEARD THOSE TWO GUYS OUTSIDE! AND IF HE'S STILL HERE --

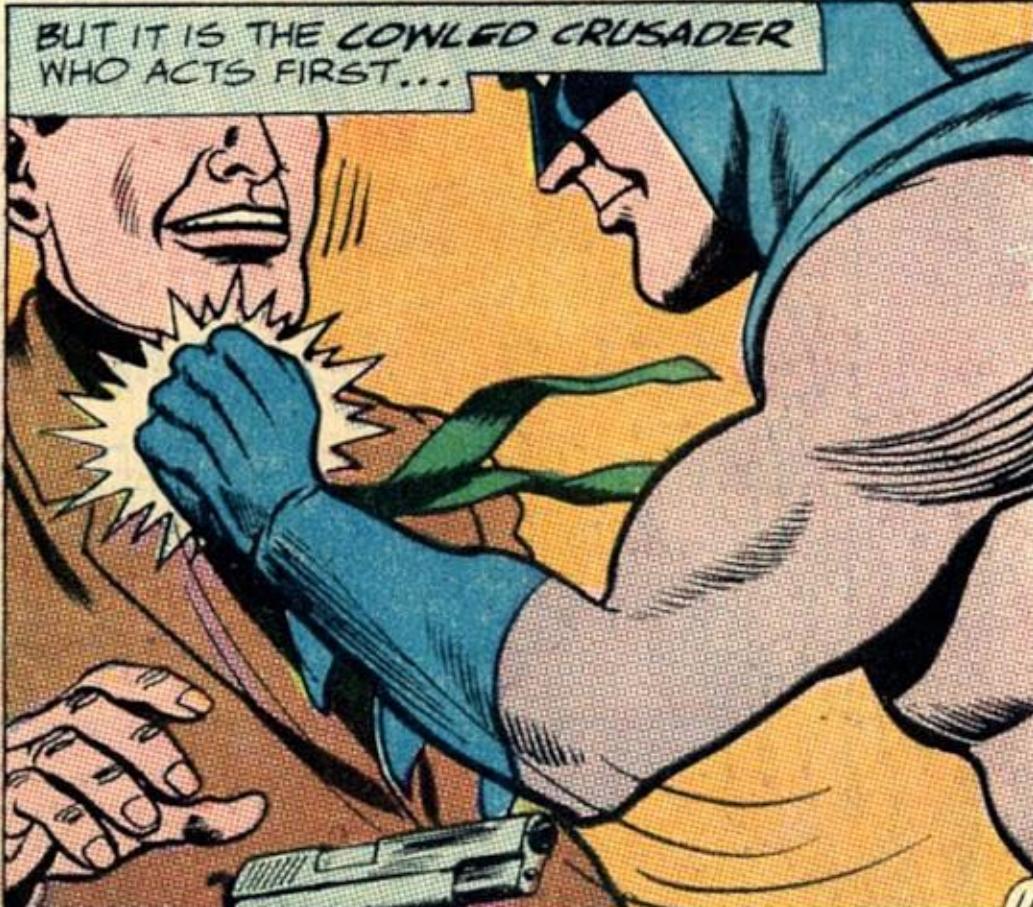


NEXT INSTANT HE YANKS IT OPEN...

YOU WON'T GET ME, BATMAN!



BUT IT IS THE COWLED CRUSADER WHO ACTS FIRST...



AND WHEN LOUIE'S SATCHEL IS OPENED...

IT'S THE MISSING MONEY ALL RIGHT! THIS CASE IS ALL WRAPPED UP NOW, ROBIN!

THE COMMISSIONER WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR IT, BATMAN!



IN DUE COURSE, IN CITY JAIL...

AT LEAST WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE "SHARK", WEEPER! HE'LL DO AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS FOR THOSE BOMBINGS! WE'LL ALL BE OLD MEN BY THE TIME HE GETS OUT OF THE PEN!

THAT PART'S OKAY, BUT WE STILL GOT TO DO SIX MONTHS EACH...

...FOR ATTEMPTED ROBBERY, FIRST OFFENSE! AND BELIEVE ME, IT'LL BE MY LAST OFFENSE! I TOLD YOU A MILLION TIMES, ROSY--CRIME DON'T PAY!

YOU'RE RIGHT!



The BEGINNING-- and THE END!

IN 1939, **BATMAN** MADE HIS DRAMATIC DEBUT IN **Detective Comics!**

NOW-- 26 YEARS LATER, THE MASKED MANHUNTER'S CAREER COMES TO AN END-- OR DOES IT?!

You BE THE JUDGE WHEN YOU READ '**The STRANGE DEATH of BATMAN!**' in



LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor: Batman 174 (September) truly combined all the characteristics that make the *Cowled Crusader* the apex of crime-fighters; these elements are as follows: scientific knowledge (the photo-synthesis of the *florameter*), Batman's photographic memory, puns, and plenty of action; Batman's ability to triumph is even greater when one considers that these were no ordinary-calibre moronic criminals with whom he was competing. However, in the future I would like Robin to play a more integral part in the stories.

In "The Off-Again On-Again Lightbulbs" you incorrectly labeled Batman's underwater hold as a "hammerlock." This hold is a "full-nelson" and is illegal in American wrestling. I am surprised that the *Masked Manhunter* would resort to such unsportsmanlike conduct even against criminals. —John Thelin, Whittier, Cal.

(Don't pin the blame on Batman for using that illegal wrestling hold. It was an artistic mistake which our editorial eye missed. Three pats on the back for your sharp eye-detection. —Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: How you ever thought up a trap like the one cover-featured in "The Human Punching Bag" is beyond me. The *Masked Manhunter* has been caught in almost every type of trap conceivable and has discovered a means of escape on every occasion. We've yet to see the end when criminals finally decide that there is seemingly no trap conceivable from which Batman can not improvise a way out of.

This particular yarn really "hooked" me because (1) Batman's agility and muscularity were vividly depicted when he was in combat against the criminals; (2) The idea of a big game hunter producing the desire to trap the *Foe of Felons* (how's that for a nickname?) solely for the honor of being the only person to do so was something new.

The second story, "The Off-Again On-Again Lightbulbs," again demonstrated Bob Kane's increasingly developed talent of bringing words to vivid life. The plot was not unusual but it clearly showed the other members of the *Mystery Analysts* that in solving baffling crimes they may have to risk their lives even as Batman does. Please maintain the purpose for their formation: to solve mysterious crimes. —Robert O'Donnell, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(We flipped for your *Foe of Felons* nickname. After all, it does get tiresome and repetitious to refer to our hero as *Batman* over and over again—all of which pre-answers the letter that follows. —Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: The September Batman was very good but why does Batman have so many nicknames? You also refer to him as the *Masked Manhunter*, the *Cowled Crusader*, the *Gotham Gangbuster*, the

World's Greatest Detective and probably many more that I've overlooked. Can't you just call him by that one *Batman* name? —David McLaughlin, Chilliwack, B.C., Canada.

* * *

Dear Editor: Batman should be dead—not that I'm saying I want Batman to be dead, but in "The Human Punching Bag" he should have been!

When the flower was in the bag with Batman he should have conked out from lack of air because after the flower was picked, it couldn't give off any oxygen. And don't say that this was a special kind of flower which could live without roots because this is biologically impossible! —Ronnie Schwartz, Fair Lawn, N.J.

(But my dear Miss Schwartz—we must so say so! On page 7, Batman clearly states that the flower was "an invention" of the scientists working at the *Alfred Foundation*—"a mechanical device called a *florameter*! It . . . duplicates the respiratory processes of a flower . . ." How's that for one Schwartz telling off another! —Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: Batman 174 was great. The *Caped Crime-Fighters* are just terrific in your magazines. I sure liked that issue from the first page of "The Human Punching Bag" right through the last page of "The Off-Again On-Again Lightbulbs!"

I read one of your magazines of Batman and after I finished it, I said to myself, "I should start a collection of Batman comics!" —George Davis, Nashville, Tenn.

(Saving Batman comics is almost like putting money in the bank. Did you know that some of the very earliest Batman issues command a price of about \$50! —Editor)

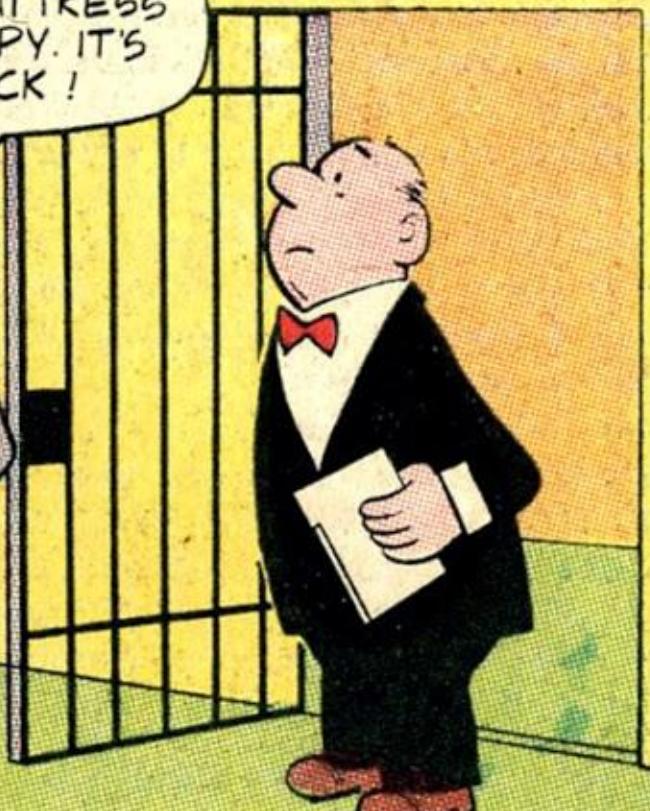
* * *

Dear Editor: I've been reading your Batman books for about seven years. I was wondering if you knew about this small article that appeared in the *Detroit News* for September 2, 1965. If so, what can you tell us about it? —G. Allan Poole, Garden City, Mich.

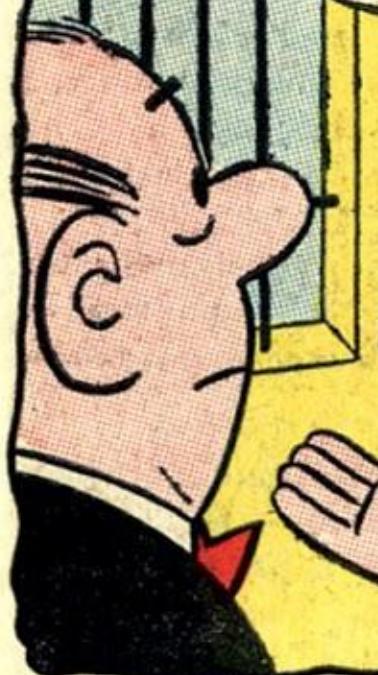
(The article correspondent Poole sent us reads, "ABC-TV, making no more secret about the level of inspiration that network series entertainment has reached, is planning on a test film for a possib' one-hour weekly program based on the comic strip, *The Batman*." All we can do at the moment is confirm the news item, and ask you to watch this department for what we hope will be the most electrifying TV news of the Fall, 1966 season! —Editor)

WARDEN WILLIS

WARDEN, THAT MATTRESS IS OLD AND LUMPY. IT'S KILLING MY BACK!



I HAVEN'T HAD A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP IN WEEKS, IT'S SO HARD!



WELL, I'LL SEE ABOUT GETTING YOU A NEW MATTRESS!



NEXT DAY...

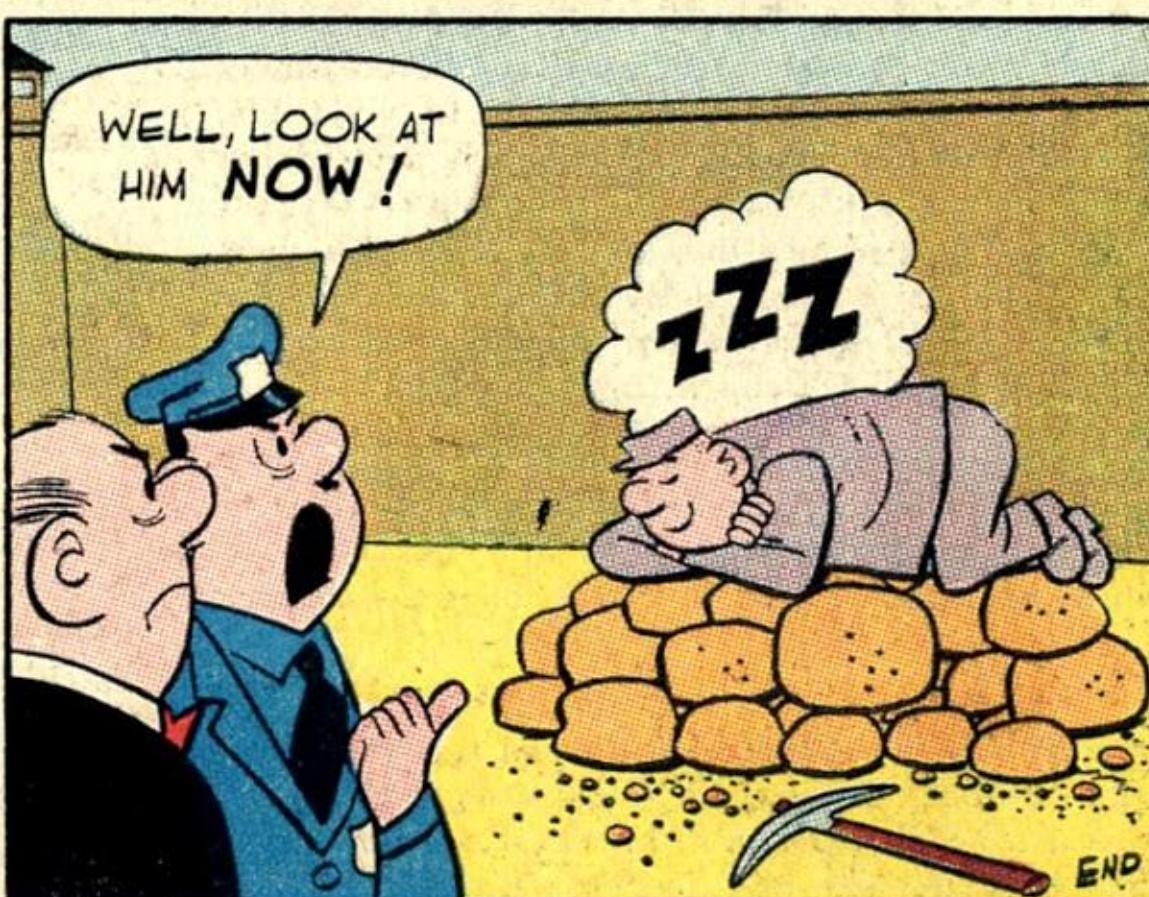
WARDEN, REMEMBER THAT PRISONER WHO COMPLAINED ABOUT HIS MATTRESS BEING HARD AND LUMPY?

YES, I DO!



WELL, LOOK AT HIM NOW!

ZZZ



END

HALT! WHO GOES THERE?

YES G.I.JOE®* THAT'S WHO! HE'S THE PASSWORD TO A MERRY CHRISTMAS BECAUSE HE'S THE TOY SOLDIER SANTA CLAUS WILL PUT BENEATH YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE IF YOU TELL YOUR FOLKS ABOUT HIM. THEY'LL ENJOY WATCHING YOU PLAY WITH YOUR G.I.JOE, TOO.



START!

If you've never had a G. I. Joe all your own, Christmas is the perfect time to start collecting.



ADD!

If you already have one G. I. Joe Christmas is the time to add more equipment to your collection.



BUILD!

For realism of action, build a beachhead with sand from your backyard. Use twigs and leaves for your jungle.

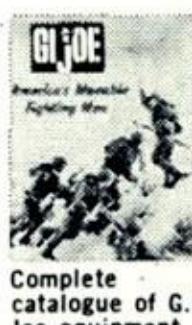


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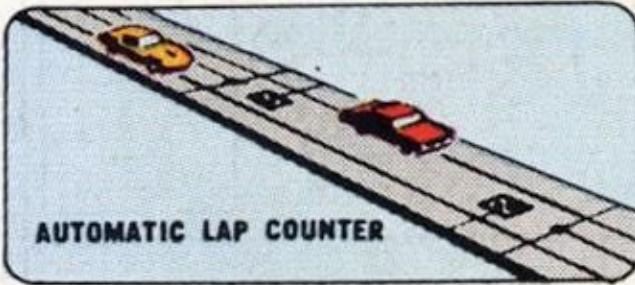
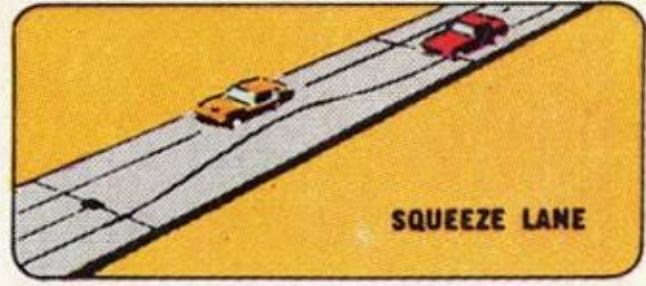
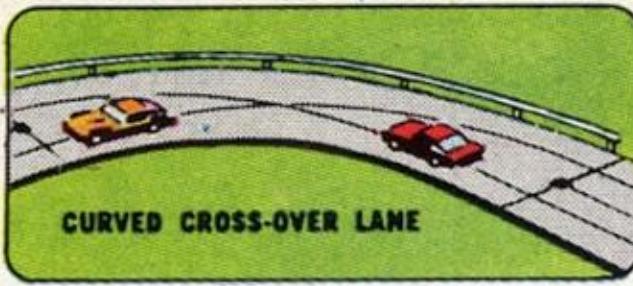
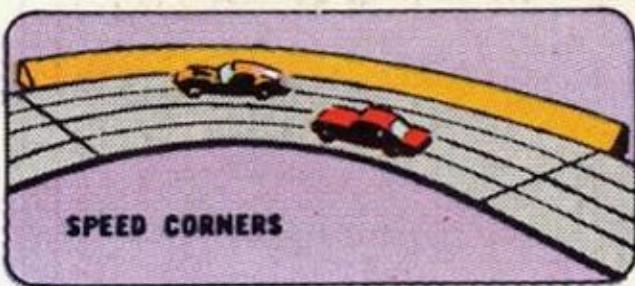
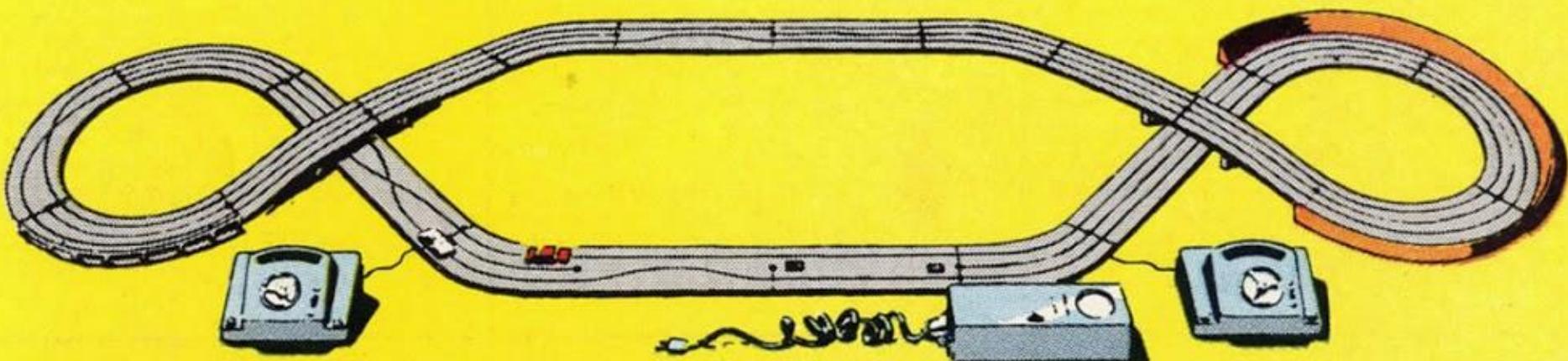
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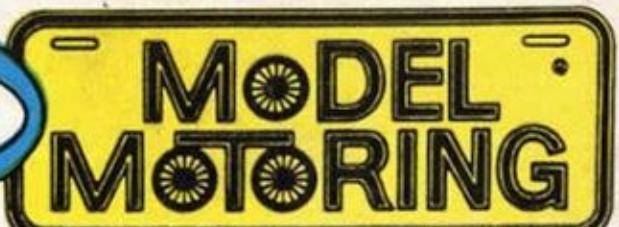
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