

ALAN
HEBDEN

CARLOS
EZQUERRA

MAJOR EAZY



VS

RAT PACK



FROM THE PAGES OF
BATTLE



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RAT PACK ARE BACK IN ACTION, TOO ! BUT WITH A DEADLY DIFFERENCE !



TURK



ROGAN



MAJOR TAGGART



DANCER



WEASEL

RAT PACK

Winter in the mountains south of Rome. For one small group of Germans guarding an ammunition train, it is the last they will see as Dancer's deadly gun picks them off. Rat Pack are back in business!

FIVE PLUG-UGLIES PLUGGED! DO! WIN A TEDDY BEAR, TAGGART?

NOT UNTIL TURK AND WEASEL DO THEIR JOB.

UUUUURGH!

DROP THE EXPLOSIVE, LITTLE WEASEL.

MUVVER!

I CAN'T LOOK!

BLIMEY, IT DIDN'T GO OFF ON IMPACT.

IT WILL WHEN THE TIME FUSE RUNS OUT RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TUNNEL. LET'S MOVE!

THAT'LL BLOCK THE GERMANS' SUPPLIES TO CASSINO. DRIVE SOUTH TO THE ALLIED ARMIES, ROGAN!

YOU DINNA HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE, TAGGART!

KABUL HASAN: Known as 'The Turk'. Served with the Cyprus Rifles until he was court-martialled for attacking an officer in a fit of rage. A huge, dangerous man. Sentenced to ten years in jail.

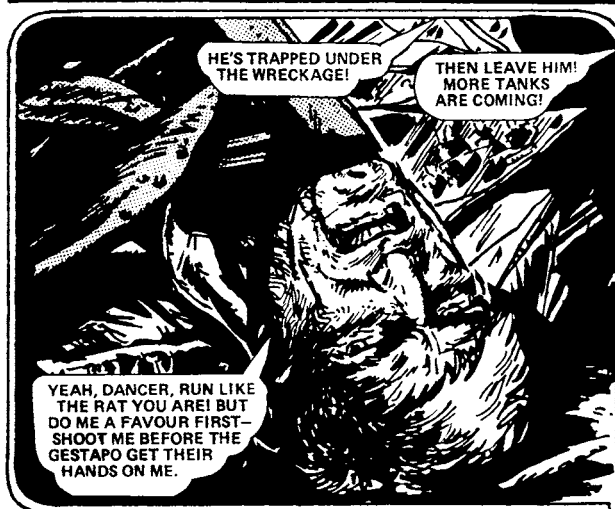
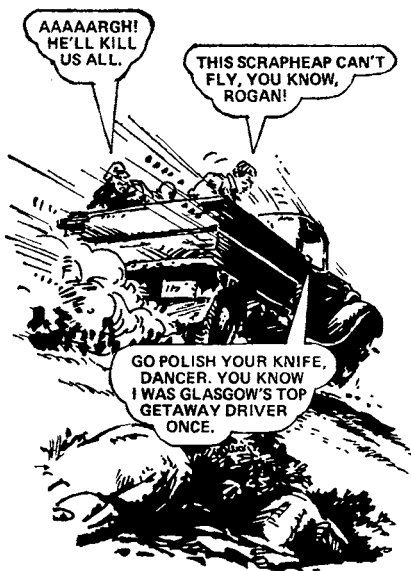
IAN 'SCARFACE' ROGAN: A brilliant athlete. A member of the Highland Infantry until he was court-martialled for desertion. He received a fifteen year sentence for crossing the army but nobody crosses him and lives!

MATTHEW DANCER: Deadliest marksman... lethal with a knife. This Commando was court-martialled for looting and received a seven year sentence.

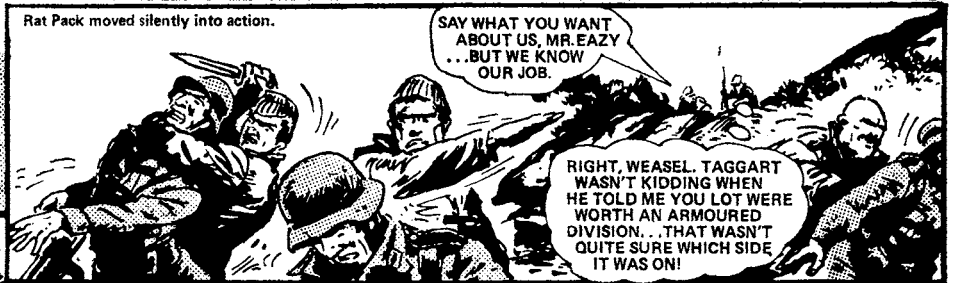
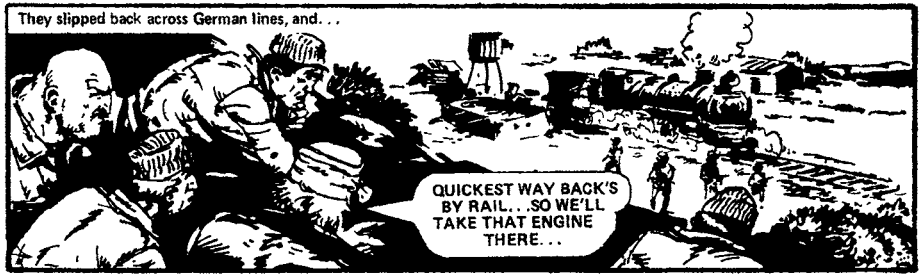
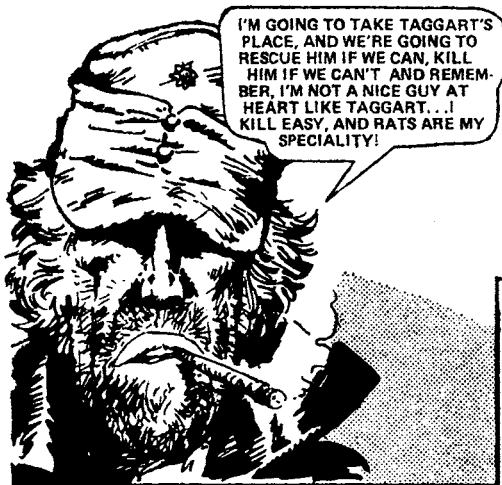
RONALD WEASEL: A born coward. This man never picks a fight, only locks! Following the robbery of an army paymaster's office he was jailed for eight years.

MAJOR TAGGART: To him was given the job of turning the convicts into a top Commando unit. Faced with the choice of action or jail they agreed and now the name RAT PACK is written in German blood all over Occupied Europe. A Special Services Commando, Taggart knows the Pack will take any opportunity to ditch him.

SECRET







IS TAGGART A DEAD MAN? DON'T MISS THE THRILLING CONTINUATION!

MAJOR EAZY

THE WAR'S COOLEST SOLDIER LEADS THE WAR'S DIRTIEST FIGHTERS !

On a mission to Italy, the convict commandos, Rat Pack, had left their leader called Major Taggart behind to be captured by the Gestapo. But running south to the Allied line they'd encountered an even more formidable foe... the deadly Major Eazy, who forces them back into enemy-occupied territory to rescue, or kill, Taggart.

IS THIS THE PLACE WHERE YOU LEFT TAGGART?

YOU WIN THE PRIZE, EAZY. NOW CAN WE GO HOME? TAGGART'LL BE IN BERLIN BY NOW.

YOU'RE A SLOW LEARNER ON WHO'S LEADING THIS SHOW, DANCER! JUST PRAY THAT THE GESTAPO HAVEN'T TAKEN HIM TO BERLIN, 'CAUSE WE'LL FOLLOW HIM THERE IF WE HAVE TO!

TAGGART'S GOING TO SEEM LIKE A FAIRY GODFATHER AFTER THIS BLOKE!

MAJOR EAZY

VERSUS

RAT PACK

At the next village

AN S.S. STAFF CAR. THE OCCUPANTS MUST BE EATING INSIDE. LET'S SEE IF THEY KNOW ANYTHING.

TURK THINK IT BETTER TO STRIKE THROUGH KITCHEN.

DON'T LET 'EM GIVE A SQUEAK.

WHERE'S THE WINE, ITALIAN DOGS? WE'RE NOT USED TO BEING KEPT WAITING.

I THINK THE CUSTOMERS ARE GETTING IMPATIENT.

ABOUT TIME, TOO.

A THOUSAND APOLOGIES, SIGNORS. WILL THIS WINE BE SUITABLE?

A PLEASURE, MEIN HERR.

AND YOU, FRIEND, WILL ANSWER THE GOOD MAJOR'S QUESTIONS TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY.

YES, YES... JUST UNCORK IT!

GOTT IN HIMMEL!



TURK



WEASEL

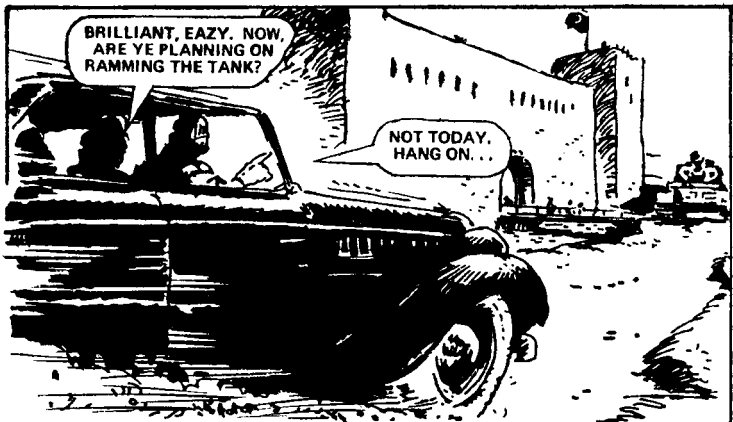


ROGAN



DANCER



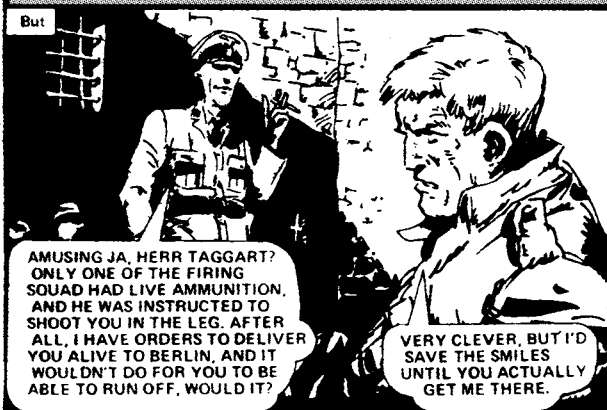


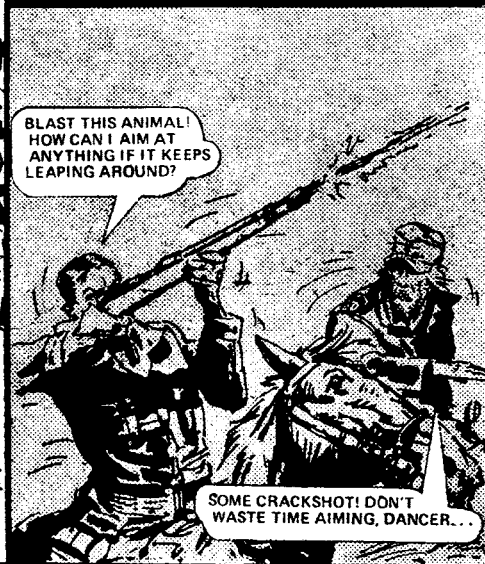
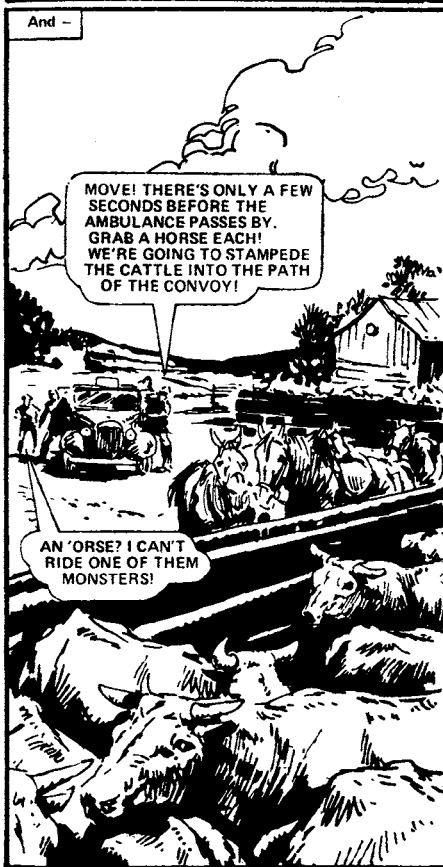
DON'T MISS THE NEXT EPISODE OF THIS THRILLING ADVENTURE !

FOUR OF THE WAR'S DIRTIEST SOLDIERS COMBINE WITH THE ONE AND ONLY MAJOR EAZY !

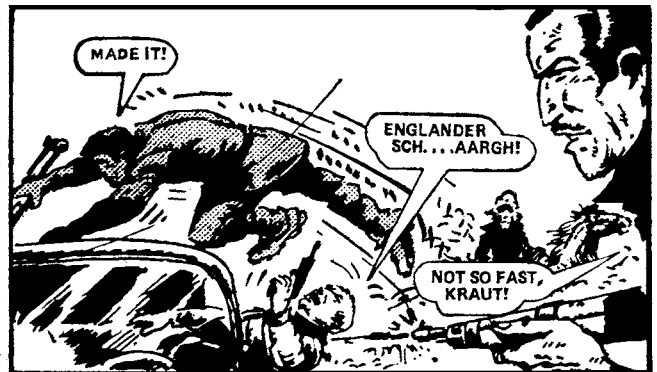


MAJOR EAZY V RAT PACK





The sound of the explosion panicked the animals —

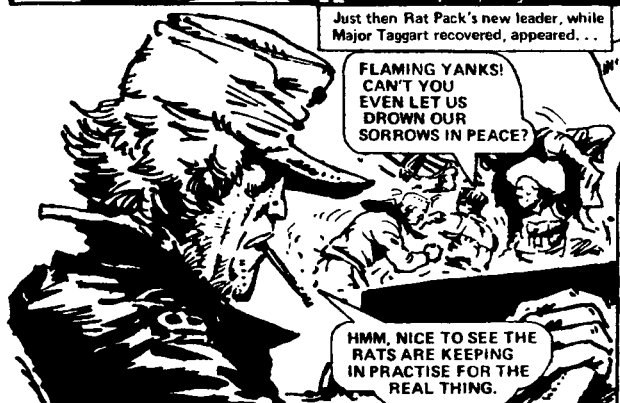


A few hours later, at British lines —

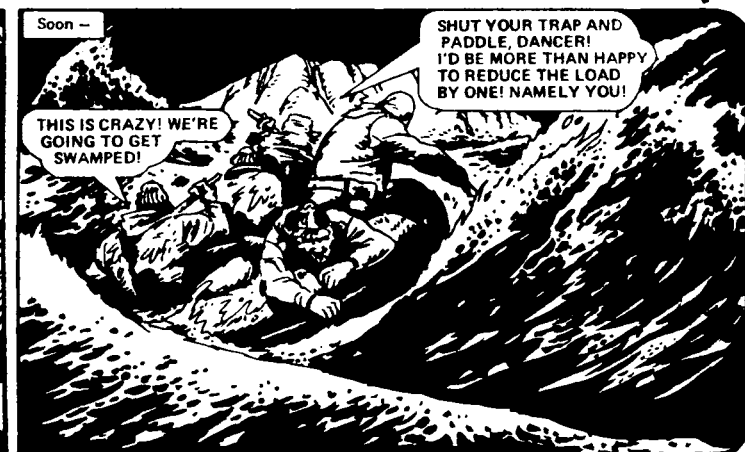
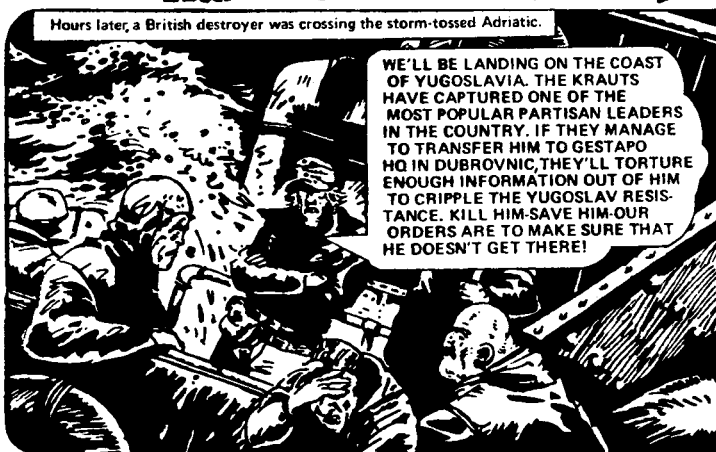


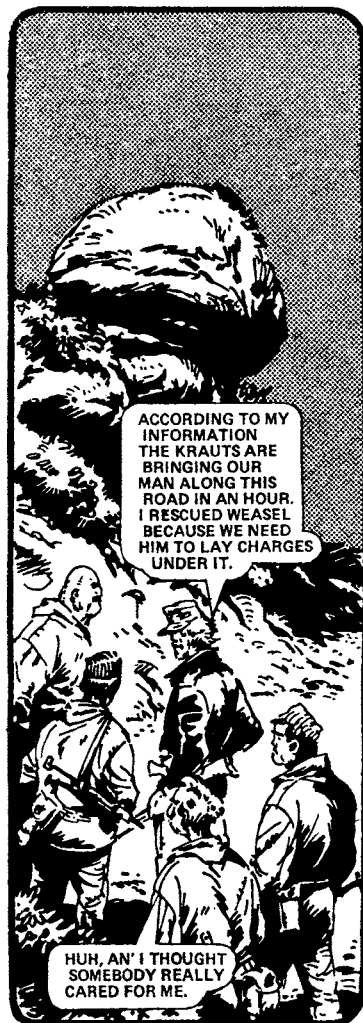
JOIN EAZY AND RAT PACK ON ANOTHER EXPLOSIVE MISSION NEXT WEEK !

IT'S DOUBLE-TROUBLE FOR THE GERMANS AS EAZY AND RAT PACK JOIN FORCES !



MAJOR EAZY V RAT PACK







PUSH, TURK! WE'VE GOT TO HIT THAT ARMoured CAR!

GIVE ME TIME...

HIMMEL! ENGLANDERS!



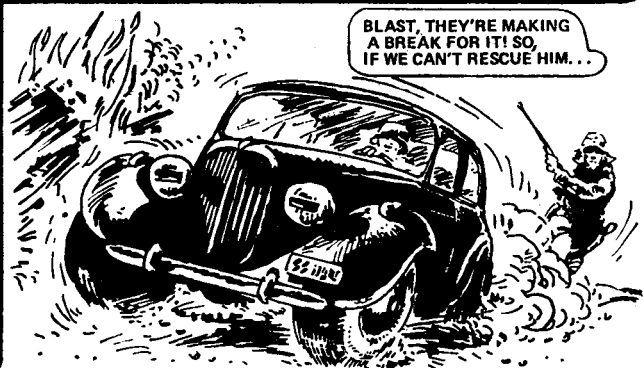
...AND I CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS!

I BELIEVE YOU! LET'S GO, OUR GUY'S IN THE STAFF CAR!



HA, NAZI SCUM! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON THE RECEIVING END?

GET US OUT OF HERE, DRIVER! FORGET THE REST OF THE ESCORT!



BLAST, THEY'RE MAKING A BREAK FOR IT! SO, IF WE CAN'T RESCUE HIM...



...MY ORDERS WERE TO SHOOT HIM! BUT THE GESTAPO DIE AS WELL!



RIGHT, LET'S BLOW. THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO HERE!

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, EAZY, BUT YOU'RE A REAL PROFESSIONAL.



But a few miles later--

WHO ARE YOU?

YUGOSLAV PARTISANS - AND FOLLOWERS OF THE MAN WHO DIED IN THE AMBUSH. WHICH OF YOU KILLED HIM?

HE DID, HAIRY CHOPS!



HEY-WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH HIM?

EXECUTE HIM IMMEDIATELY... WHAT ELSE DID YOU EXPECT?

THE PARTISANS PREPARE A FIRING SQUAD FOR EAZY NEXT WEEK !

EAZY'S ABOUT TO GET PLUGGED – AND THE RATS ARE ENJOYING EVERY SECOND OF IT !

Temporarily In command of the convict commandos known as Rat Pack and based in Italy, Major Eazy takes them on a mission to Yugoslavia to rescue or kill a partisan leader from the Germans. Unfortunately, Eazy is forced to shoot the man to prevent him breaking under torture, and now the partisans are going to do the same to Eazy.

I HAD TO SHOOT HIM FOR EVERYBODY'S GOOD. THERE'S NO MAN ALIVE THAT THE GESTAPO CAN'T EXTRACT INFORMATION FROM!

WE LIVE BY OUR CODE. MAJOR EAZY, YOU KILLED OUR LEADER, NOW WE KILL YOU.

IT IS JUST, EAZY. NOW RAT PACK WILL BE RID OF YOU.

BUT AFTER WE SHOOT YOUR MAJOR WE'RE GOING TO HAND YOU OVER TO THE GERMANS FOR THEIR ENTERTAINMENT.

WHAT?

BLAST, JUST WHEN I WAS READY TO ENJOY THE EXECUTION!

WE'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING... AND WE'RE GOING TO NEED EAZY.

I KNOW, CURSE IT! GOOD THING I ALWAYS KEEP A SPARE THROWING KNIFE AGAINST MY ANKLE.

READY... AIM...

ALL OF A SUDDEN THOSE RATS LOOK MIGHTY NERVOUS...

MAJOR EAZY V RAT PACK

FIRE...HUH?

JUST REMEMBER I HATED DOING THIS, EAZY!

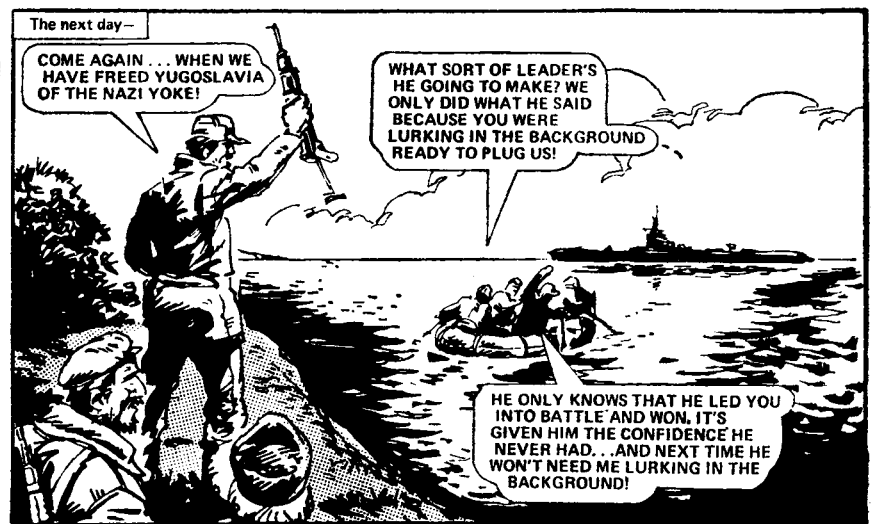
AS YOU APPEAR TO BE ACTING BOSS AROUND HERE, I GUESS I'D BETTER KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO YOU FIRST.

EVERYBODY COOL IT... UNLESS YOU WANT TO LOSE A SECOND LEADER!



As night fell the leader issued his instructions, and Turk and Dancer pounced!





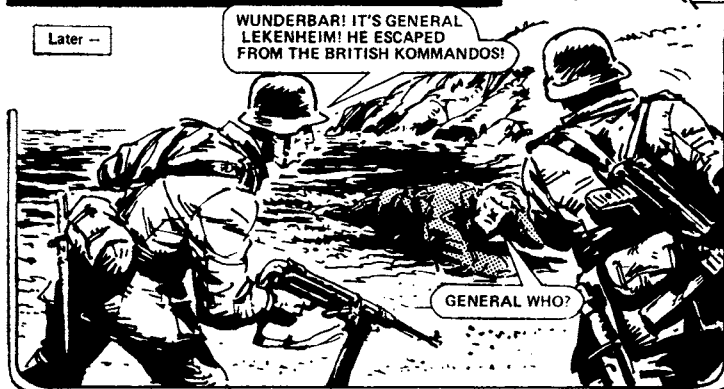
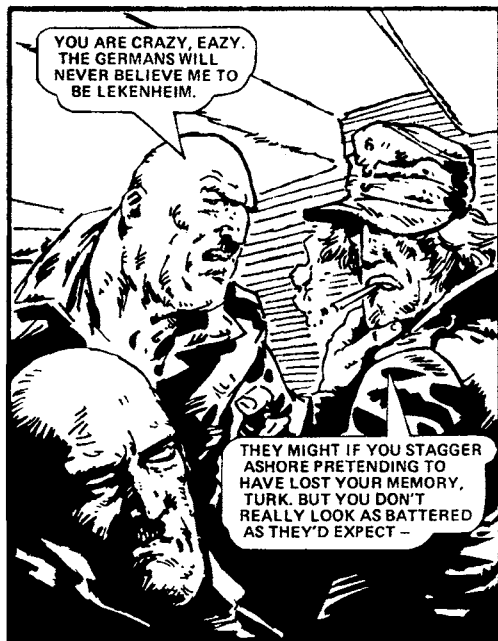
NEXT WEEK — TARGET MONTE CARLO !

THE RATS WHO BROKE THE BANK AT MONTE CARLO !



MAJOR EAZY RAT PACK



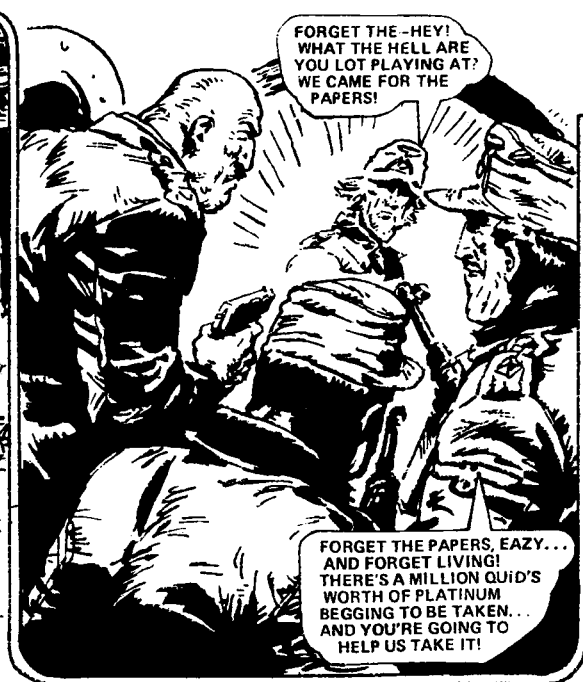




Colonel Krantz arrived, and, in the underground vault -



IT'S VERY SIMPLE. INSIDE THE VAULT ARE INTELLIGENCE PAPERS THAT ALLIED HQ WOULD GIVE A LOT TO SEE. FOR SECURITY REASONS THE COMBINATION OF THE VAULT WAS DIVIDED BETWEEN YOU AND THE REAL GENERAL LEKENHEIM. BUT IF WE COULD GET ONE HALF OF THE COMBINATION THEN OUR RESIDENT SAFECRACKER HERE COULD DO THE REST.



SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE RAT! MORE ACTION NEXT WEEK, MATES!

THE WAR'S DIRTIEST COMMANDOS LIVE UP TO THEIR NAME !

Major Eazy has brought Rat Pack to Monte Carlo to seize vital intelligence papers from the vault of the central bank, but the convict commandos are more interested in the platinum bars stored in the vault.

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU RATS WOULD HAVE THE NERVE TO PULL THIS SORT OF TRICK IN THE MIDDLE OF NAZI-OCCUPIED MONTE CARLO.

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE A RAT, EAZY. START LOADING THE PLATINUM ON A TROLLEY. AS LONG AS THE KRAUTS THINK TURK'S ONE OF THEIR GENERALS, THIS IS GOING TO BE DEAD SIMPLE.

But the Germans had realised something was wrong.

GENERAL LEKENHEIM'S AT THE CENTRAL BANK? HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE IN HOSPITAL! DONNERWETTER, SEND A DETACHMENT OF STORM TROOPERS TO THE BANK IMMEDIATELY.

And—

I HATE SPOILING YOUR DREAM OF INSTANT WEALTH, BUT THERE'S HALF A DIVISION OF STORM TROOPERS BEHIND YOU.

PULL THE OTHER ONE, EAZY... IT'S GOT BELLS ON.

Turk had taken the place of an SS general so that they could get the vault open.

MAJOR EAZY

VERSUS

RAT PACK

REALLY, SCHWEINHUND? AND WHAT TUNE DOES IT PLAY?

HELL, EAZY WAS TELLING THE TRUTH!

OF COURSE I FLAMING WELL WAS. DROP TO THE FLOOR, YOU LOT!

CRAWL INSIDE! YOU'RE SITTING DUCKS OUT THERE!

AGH!

FOR ONCE, I MUST AGREE WITH EAZY.

CHARGE THE SCHWEINS!

WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO DO? COMMIT SUICIDE?

I WOULDN'T BANK ON IT, DANCER. I'VE GOT A SNEAKING SUSPICION THAT I KNOW.



AAARRH, THEY'RE SHUTTING US IN! WE'LL BE TRAPPED!

TURK WILL STOP THEM.



But even Turk's great strength was to no avail.

UUUURH! CAN'T STOP IT.

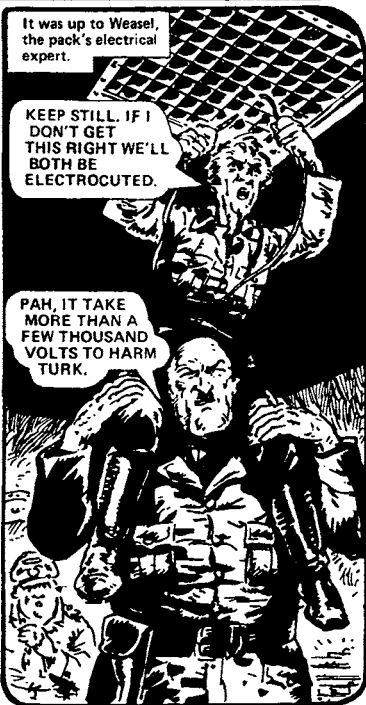
FORGET IT! THERE'S TWENTY TONS OF STEEL IN THAT DOOR.



Eazy turned on the German colonel who had inadvertently helped them get into the vault.

OKAY, KRANTZ, YOUR PALS ARE GOING TO STARVE US INTO SUBMISSION. YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH FAT TO SURVIVE THE LONGEST, EXCEPT THAT YOU'LL BE DEAD IF THERE ISN'T ANOTHER WAY OUT OF HERE!

THE AIR-CONDITIONING DUCT, BUT IT'S PROTECTED BY A HIGH VOLTAGE CURRENT.



It was up to Weasel, the pack's electrical expert.

KEEP STILL, IF I DON'T GET THIS RIGHT WE'LL BOTH BE ELECTROCUTED.

PAH, IT TAKE MORE THAN A FEW THOUSAND VOLTS TO HARM TURK.



DON'T MOVE, TURK! DON'T...YEEEEEARH!



THAT'S ONE WAY TO DO IT, I SUPPOSE. GET CLIMBING, ROGAN... I'VE GOT THE PAPERS.

QUIT CROWDING ME, EAZY. THE IMPROBABLE I CAN DO AT ONCE, THE IMPOSSIBLE TAKES A LITTLE LONGER.

FOOLS! EVEN IF YOU REACH THE TOP THERE'S A RE-INFORCED FAN WITH RAZOR-SHARP BLADES!



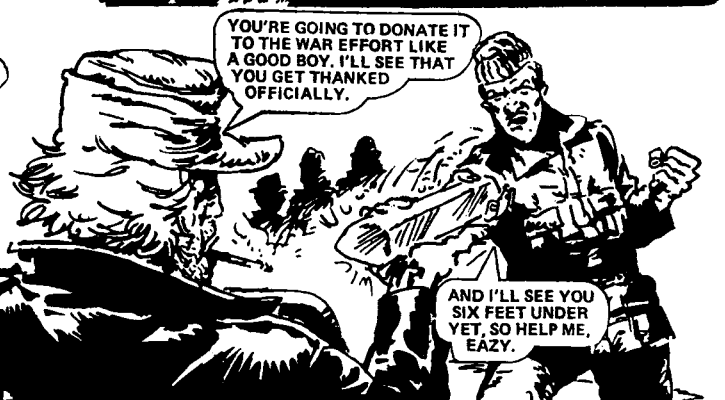
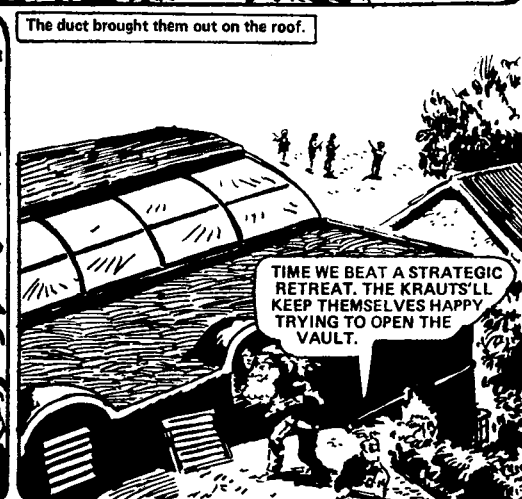
A RE-INFORCED FAN WITH RAZOR-SHARP BLADES, EH? IF I DINNA SLIP AND BREAK MA NECK FIRST, THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT COULD BE FUN.



Rogan reached the top and threw down a rope.

THERE'S THE FAN, EAZY. COULD TRY PUTTING A FEW SLUGS INTO THE WORKS.

NO WAY. THE RICOCHETS COULD TURN THIS DUCT INTO A KILLING ZONE.

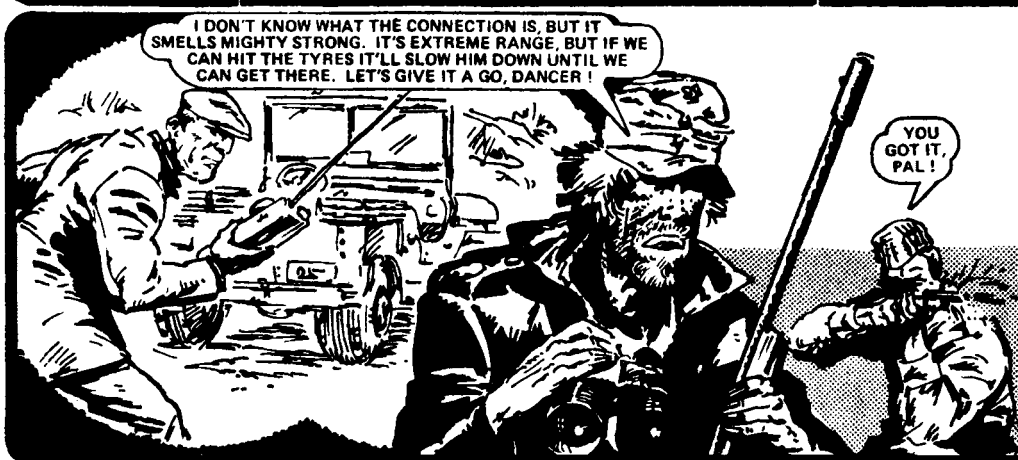
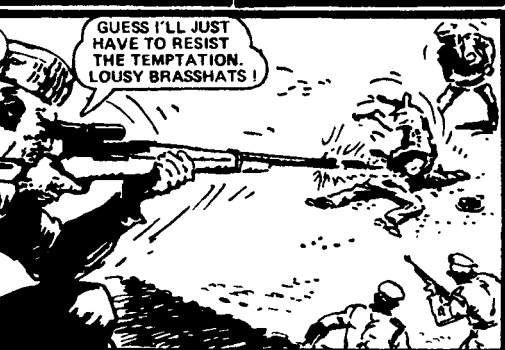
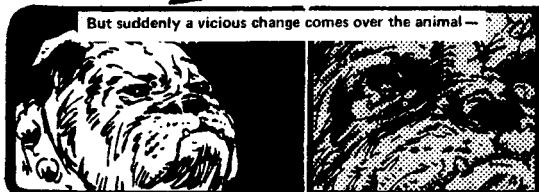


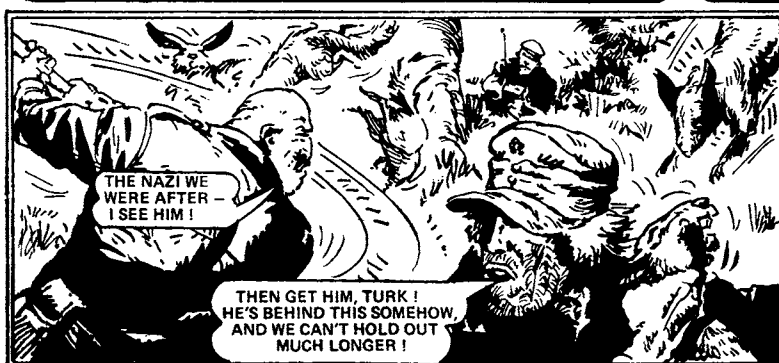
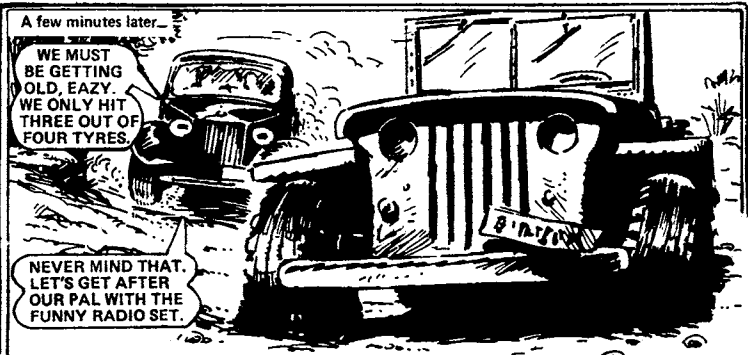
NEXT WEEK — ATTACKED BY A KAMIKAZE BUNNY !

NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON RAT PACK — IT'S A SURE WAY TO DIE !



MAJOR EAZY V RAT PACK

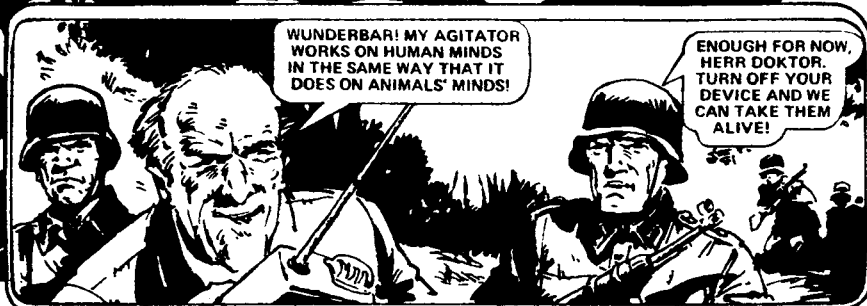






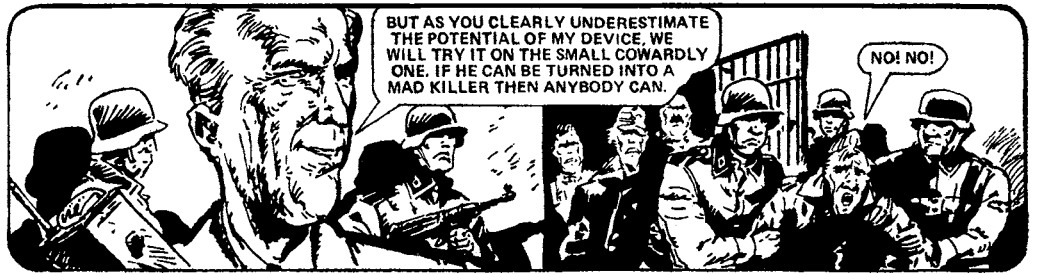
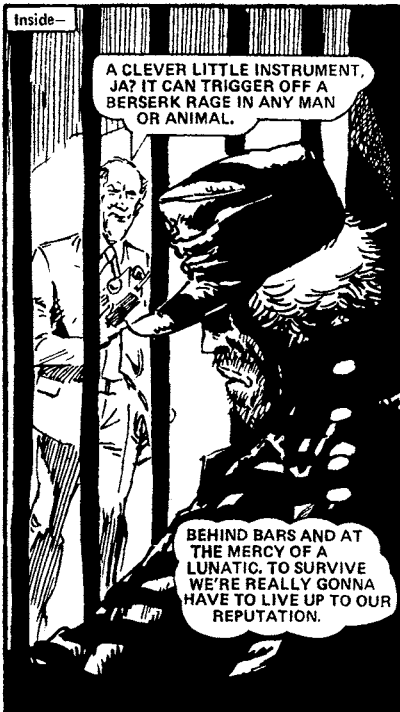
SEE TURK'S RAMPAGE OF DEATH NEXT WEEK MATES!

THE WAR'S COOLEST SOLDIER LEADS THE WAR'S DIRTIEST FIGHTERS !



MAJOR EAZY v. RAT PACK



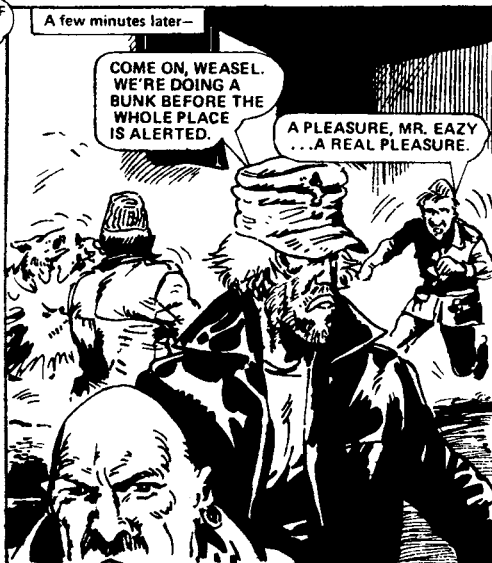




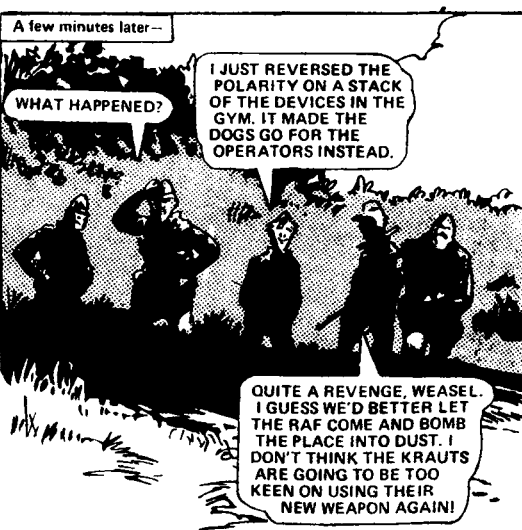
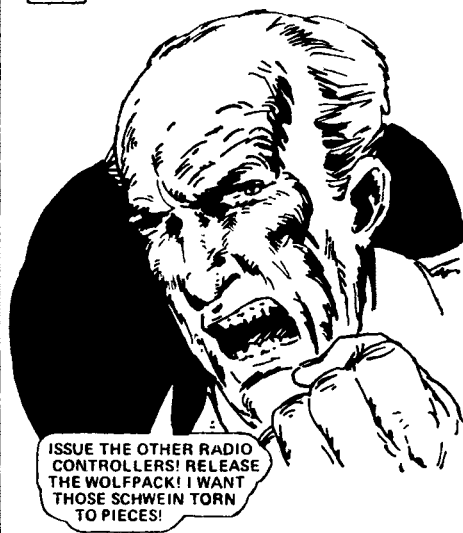
Meanwhile—



A few minutes later—



But—



JOIN EAZY AND RAT PACK ON ANOTHER EXPLOSIVE MISSION NEXT WEEK !

BLAZING BATTLE-ACTION WITH THE WAR'S FIVE DEADLIEST MEN !



MAJOR EAZY VERSUS RAT PACK

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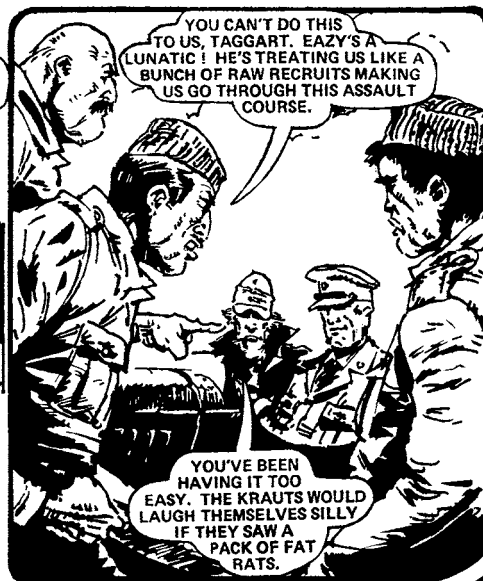
SECRET





IT'S TAGGART!

SAVE THE WELCOMING PARTY, RATS. I JUST THOUGHT I'D PAY A VISIT. I'M STILL ON THE SICK LIST, AND YOU'VE STILL GOT EAZY AS YOUR LEADER.



YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO US, TAGGART. EAZY'S A LUNATIC! HE'S TREATING US LIKE A BUNCH OF RAW RECRUITS MAKING US GO THROUGH THIS ASSAULT COURSE.

YOU'VE BEEN HAVING IT TOO EASY. THE KRAUTS WOULD LAUGH THEMSELVES SILLY IF THEY SAW A PACK OF FAT RATS.



NOT TO WORRY, THOUGH. WE'RE OFF TO RUMANIA TOMORROW.

YOU'RE LUCKY. I HEAR RUMANIA'S VERY NICE AT THIS TIME OF YEAR!



Next day -

THE KRAUTS ARE TRANSPORTING THIS SIEGE GUN TO THE RUSSIAN FRONT VIA THE DANUBE ON A BARGE TOMORROW. WE'RE GOING TO NOBBLE IT IN THE IRON GATE.

WHAT IS THE IRON GATE?

ONLY ABOUT THE MOST HEAVILY GUARDED PLACE IN EUROPE, YOU STUPID OAF, TURK.



A few hours later in a Halifax bomber over Rumania -

'OW THE HELL ARE WE GOING TO GET PICKED UP FROM THE MIDDLE OF RUMANIA?

YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN THE TIME COMES, WEASEL... NOW JUMP!



SO THAT'S THE IRON GATE, EH? MIND TELLING ME HOW WEASEL'S GOING TO LAY HIS MINES ACROSS THE RIVER WHILE HALF THE WEHRMACHT TRAVELS ALONG THE BANKS?

THE R.A.F. ARE GOING TO LAY ON A LITTLE RAID TO MAKE THEM PUT THEIR HEADS DOWN, ROGAN. THAT'S WHEN WE LAY THE MINES TO CATCH THE BARGE CARRYING THE GUN.

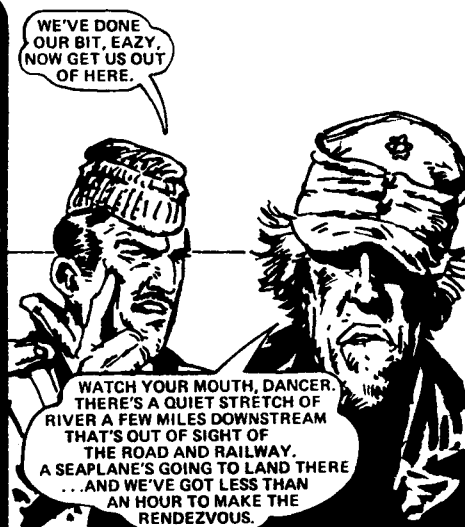


An hour later -

THAT'S OUR CUE. LET'S GO!



GET THE BAG OPEN, TURK. WEASEL, START ARMING THOSE MINES.



DON'T MISS THE THRILLING CONTINUATION NEXT WEEK, MATES!

EAZY AND HIS CONVICT COMMANDOS – CAUGHT LIKE RATS IN A TRAP !

After a mission to Rumania the convict commandos Rat Pack and their leader Major Eazy, were supposed to be snatched to safety by a seaplane landing on the River Danube. . . but as it landed it accidentally struck one of Weasel's small, but lethal floating mines.



CURSE YOU, WEASEL! COULDN'T YOU HAVE MADE SURE THAT ALL YOUR FLAMING MINES WERE TIED TOGETHER? THAT WAS OUR ONLY WAY OUT OF THIS HORNETS' NEST!

SAVE THE TEARS, DANCER. THE HORNETS ARE COMING HOME!



THE SABOTEURS ARE TRAPPED! FINISH THEM OFF!

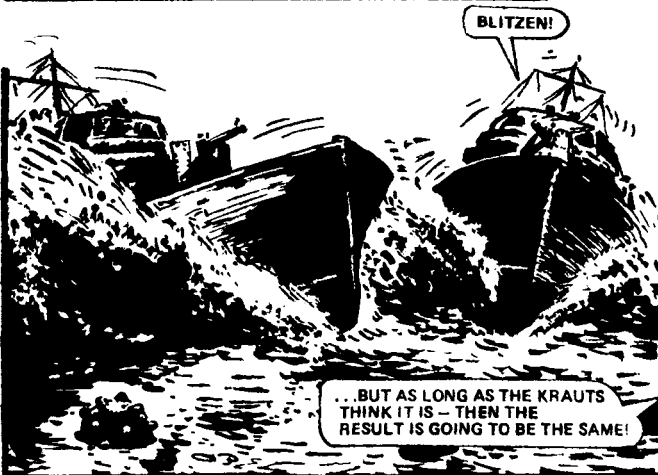
GOT ANY OF THOSE MINES LEFT IN HERE, WEASEL?

JUST ONE – BUT IT AIN'T ARMED.



WE KNOW THAT IT'S NOT ARMED...

GOTT IN HIMMEL! MINE!



BLITZEN!

... BUT AS LONG AS THE KRAUTS THINK IT IS – THEN THE RESULT IS GOING TO BE THE SAME!



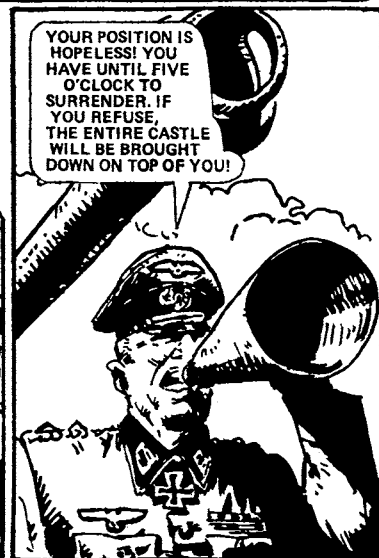
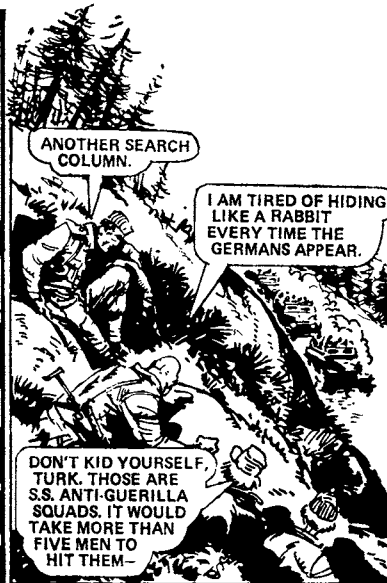
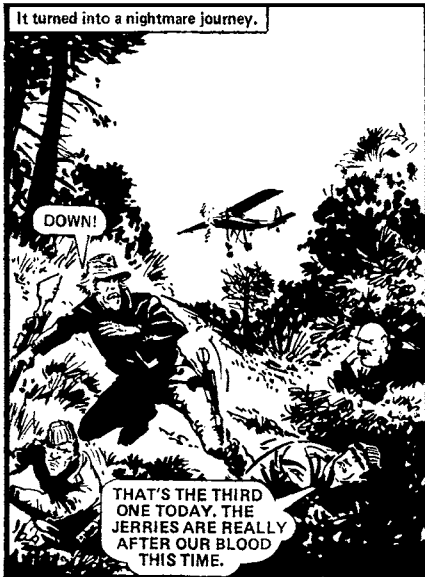
HA, THE NAZI SCUM COLLIDE AND SINK THEMSELVES! SOMETIMES, EAZY, I ALMOST LIKE YOU!

MAJOR RAT EAZY V PACK



THE KRAUTS AREN'T GOING TO REST UNTIL THEY GET US. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT... NORTH ACROSS THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS.

I DO NOT LIKE IT. THERE ARE EVIL LEGENDS ABOUT THOSE MOUNTAINS.



Hundreds of miles away in Italy, Major Taggart, Rat Pack's leader until a leg wound put him temporarily out of action, was summoned to H.Q. —

BAD NEWS, TAGGART. INTELLIGENCE HAS INTERCEPTED WEHRMACHT SIGNALS FROM RUMANIA. YOUR CHAPS AND MAJOR EAZY ARE TRAPPED IN A CASTLE HERE BY OVERWHELMING GERMAN FORCES. LOOKS AS IF THEY'VE HAD IT.

BUT THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WE CAN DO!

NO, I'LL NOT RISK MEN TO RESCUE THOSE CONVICTS OF YOURS! DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT. YOU GOT THAT WOUND WHEN THEY LEFT YOU TO DIE AT CASSINO. FORGET 'EM! I'M SURE YOU CAN RAISE ANOTHER PACK OF THUGS IF NECESSARY!

Minutes later.

BLIMEY... WHAT'S IS RUSH?

I COULDN'T RAISE ANOTHER LOT LIKE MY RATS IN A MILLION YEARS, AND I'M NOT GOING TO TRY. MAYBE I DON'T OWE THEM ANYTHING, BUT I OWE EAZY. GOOD THING HE LENT ME HIS CAR... NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO GET WHERE I'M GOING IN RECORD TIME!

At a nearby airfield —

HEY, HOW MUCH FUEL IN THAT CRATE?

NEARLY FULL, MAJOR. WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

BECAUSE I'M GOING TO BORROW IT, AND I'D HATE TO RUN OUT OVER THE ADRIATIC!

It was five o'clock at the besieged castle.

YOUR TIME IS UP! WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?

WE HAVE YOUR ANSWER, HERR OBERST.

SURRENDER... PLEASE SURRENDER.

LET 'EM HAVE IT!

AAAARGH!

SCHWEINS! ALL GUNS... FEUER!

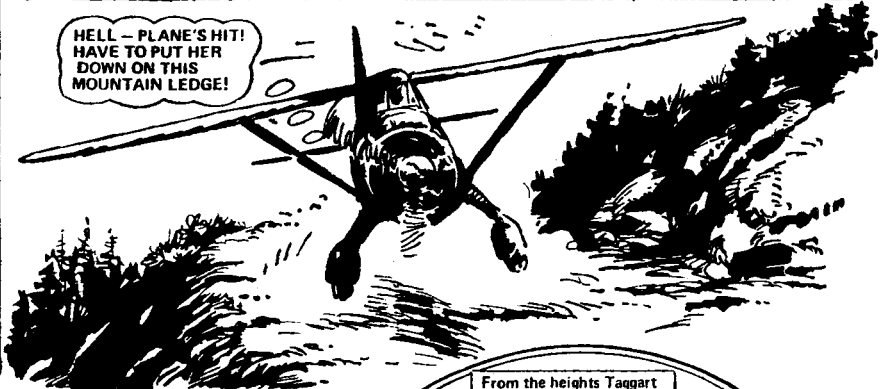
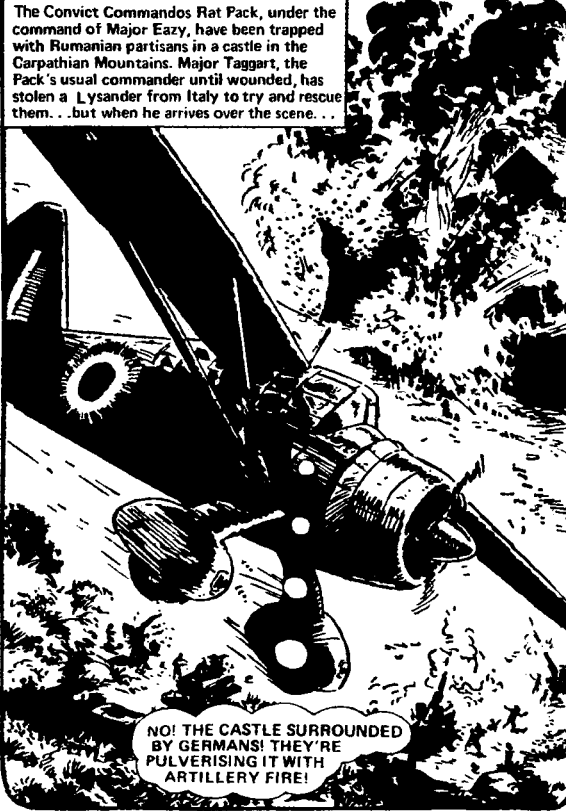
In the skies above —

OH NO... I'M TOO LATE! NOTHING COULD LIVE THROUGH A BOMBARDMENT LIKE THAT!

DON'T MISS THE NEXT EPISODE — IT'S FULL OF SHOCKS !

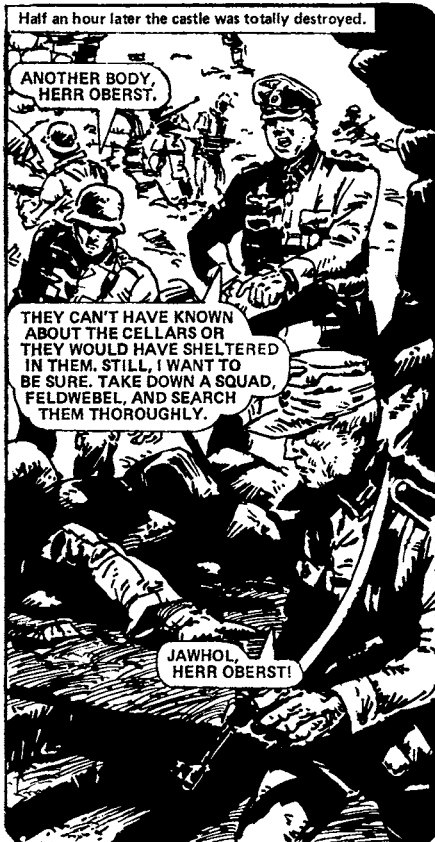
WARNING ! THIS EPISODE WILL LEAVE YOU SHOCKED AND SHATTERED !

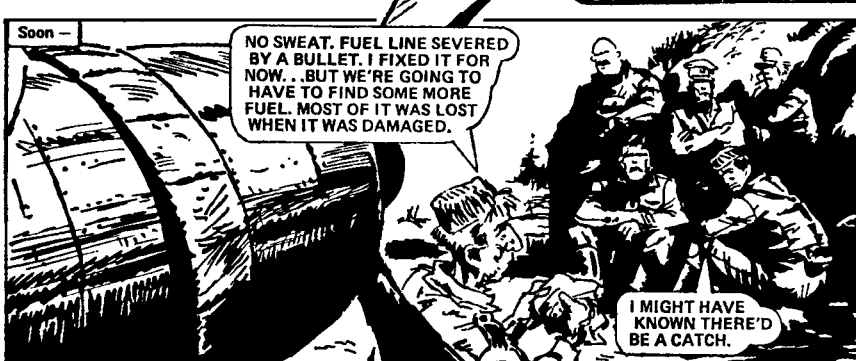
The Convict Commandos Rat Pack, under the command of Major Eazy, have been trapped with Rumanian partisans in a castle in the Carpathian Mountains. Major Taggart, the Pack's usual commander until wounded, has stolen a Lysander from Italy to try and rescue them... but when he arrives over the scene...



MAJOR EAZY V RAT PACK







DON'T MISS THE FINAL DRAMATIC EPISODE NEXT WEEK, MATES !

THE ACTION STARTS HERE WITH TOUGH "BATTLE" HEROES !

Major Taggart, founder of Rat Pack, has flown into Rumania to rescue his convict commandos who are under the command of Major Eazy... but there is a catch to the rescue plan...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN THE PLANE CAN ONLY CARRY OUT FIVE OF US? YOU DID THIS ON PURPOSE, TAGGART. IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE SOMEBODY BEHIND, YOU LEAVE EAZY!

AYE, HIM WE CAN DO WITHOUT.

LET US KILL HIM NOW!

CAREFUL, RATS! I MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD EVEN MORE... BY LEAVING ALL FOUR OF YOU BEHIND! WHAT'S THE PLAN, TAGGART?

WEASEL CAN STAY HERE AND WATCH THE PLANE WHILE THE REST OF US STEAL SOME MORE FUEL FOR IT.



Taggart put on Eazy's German uniform...

THE KRAUTS KNOW YOU, EAZY... SO IT'S BETTER YOU PRETEND TO BE OUR PRISONER IF WE'RE STOPPED ON THE WAY TO THE AIRFIELD.

SUITS ME, BUT I'M ONE WITH HIS HAND ON HIS GUN IN CASE ANY OF THE 'GUARDS' GET THE BRIGHT IDEA OF SHOOTING ME FOR TRYING TO ESCAPE.



MAJOR EAZY RAT PACK

On the road they were stopped at a road block. But—

WE HAVE CAPTURED THE LEADER OF THE BRITISCHER KOMMANDOS, HERR LEUTNANT.

TURN HERE, ROGAN. I THINK WE CAN GIVE THE OBERST A MISS.

PITY. AN IRON CROSS WOULD HAVE SUITED YOU, TAGGART.



EXCELLENT, FELDWEBEL. TAKE HIM TO THE OBERST. YOU WILL PROBABLY RECEIVE A MEDAL FOR THIS.

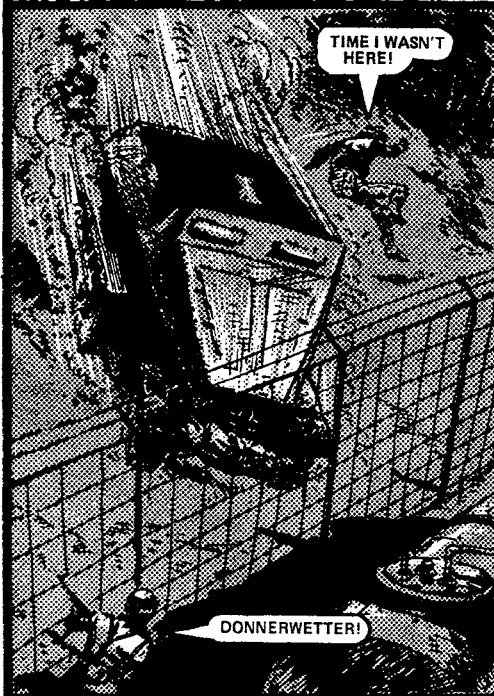


An hour later—

IT'S A FIGHTER WING BASED HERE TO PROTECT THE OILFIELDS. THERE MUST BE A WAY OF GETTING FUEL OUT OF THERE.

THERE IS. FLY IT OUT! LISTEN, TAGGART, YOU'RE THE PILOT AMONG US, SO...







TWO TANKS OF FUEL FOR YOU, WEASEL!

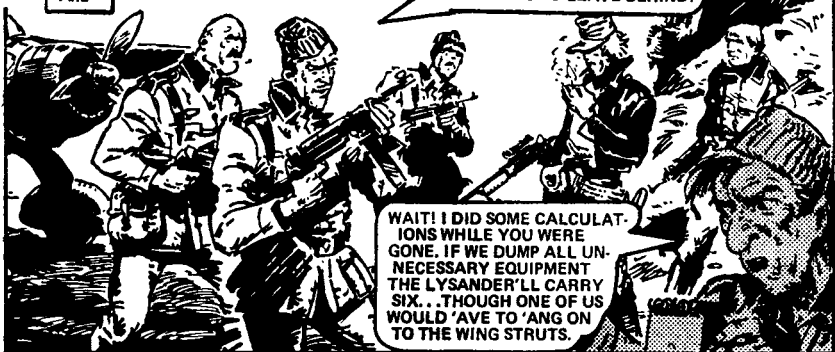
AAAAARH! I'M BEING BOMBED!

And—



Then Taggart baled out. But—

WHAT TH—? HE ALMOST MADE THE PLANE HIT US!



RIGHT, MAJORS TAGGART AND EAZY! WE'VE GOT THE FUEL... NOW WHO ARE WE GOING TO LEAVE BEHIND?

WAIT! I DID SOME CALCULATIONS WHILE YOU WERE GONE. IF WE DUMP ALL UNNECESSARY EQUIPMENT THE LYSANDER'LL CARRY SIX... THOUGH ONE OF US WOULD 'AVE TO 'ANG ON TO THE WING STRUTS.



Taggart had his reasons!

YEEAAAAARGH!

YOU'D HAVE RUN STRAIGHT INTO THOSE GERMAN TANKS. IT WAS A GERMAN PLANE, SO I THOUGHT THEY'D BETTER HAVE IT BACK! NOW LET'S RE-JOIN WEASEL.



'ERE... WHAT YOU ALL LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT FOR?

YOU'RE THE SMALLEST...

...AND THE LIGHTEST...

...AND BRAVER THAN YOU THINK!

NICE OF YOU TO VOLUNTEER, WEASEL!



A few minutes later...

MORE JERRY TANKS! 'URRY UP AND TAKE OFF BEFORE THEY FIRE!

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? WE HAD TO TIE HIM FORCIBLY AND NOW HE'S BEGGING US TO TAKE OFF!



JUST IN TIME!



Back in Italy...

THIS IS WHERE WE PART COMPANY. YOU LOOK HEALTHY ENOUGH TO HANDLE THE RATS AGAIN, TAGGART. ACTING AS NURSEMAID CRAMPS MY STYLE, SEE YA IN BERLIN!

YOU KNOW... I SHALL MISS SCRUFFY ONE!

YEAH... FOR A LOUSY SLAVE-DRIVER HE WASN'T ALL BAD!

EAZY BOWS OUT FOR NOW... BUT JOIN THE RATS AGAIN NEXT WEEK!

"BATTLE-ACTION" BRINGS YOU ANOTHER IN OUR SERIES OF COMPLETE WAR STORIES!

ON AUGUST 25TH, 1944, THE AMERICANS AND FREE FRENCH FORCES MARCHED TRIUMPHANTLY INTO PARIS BUT THE NAZI REARGUARD DID NOT GIVE UP THE CITY EASILY.

OKAY, WE GAVE THESE KRAUTS A CHANCE TO SURRENDER AND THEY WON'T... SO LET THEM HAVE IT!

TWENTY THOUSAND GERMAN TROOPS, SPREAD OUT IN STREETS AND BUILDINGS, HAD TO BE FLUSHED OUT.

TEN THOUSAND NAZIS WERE TAKEN PRISONER AND THE OTHERS, WHO REFUSED TO GIVE UP, WERE KILLED.

AAAAHHH!

BATTLE ACTION
SPECIAL
COMPLETE
STORY

HIDDEN BOMB

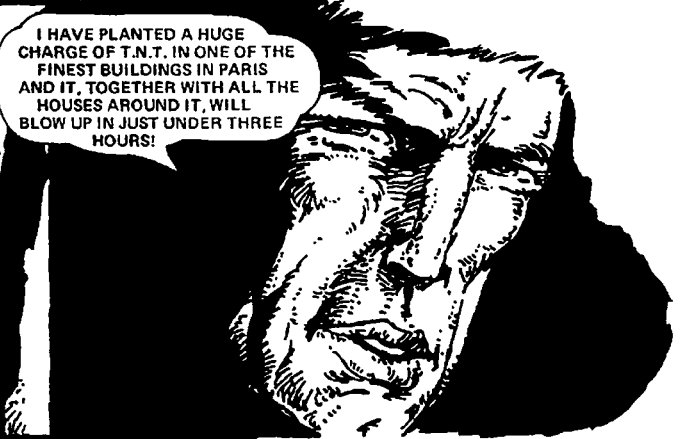
THE ALLIES, AND EVEN SOME OF THE ENEMY, HAD A RESPECT FOR THE MAGNIFICENT BUILDINGS OF PARIS. OTHERS DID NOT, LIKE SS GENERAL JOSEF RAMCKE.

IF I AM TO GET OUT OF THE CITY ALIVE, I MUST HAVE A TRUMP CARD UP MY SLEEVE AND THESE EXPLOSIVES ARE IT!

I SHOULD GET THROUGH THE ALLIED ROAD BLOCKS WITH THESE CLOTHES AND MY FORGED PAPERS. I'LL TAKE MY PISTOL AS WELL, JUST IN CASE.

THE SS OFFICER STROLLED BOLDLY INTO THE STREET AND MINGLED WITH THE CROWD.

SO FAR, SO GOOD. NOW I'LL HEAD FOR THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY.





WHY YOU —!
I OUGHT TO ...

YOU DARE NOT KILL
ME AND YOU KNOW IT!

HOLD ON,
SERGEANT!

MY TERMS ARE SIMPLE, COLONEL.
I WANT A SAFE JOURNEY TO YOUR NEAREST
AIRFIELD. I CAN FLY SO HAVE A
PLANE FUELLED AND READY TO TAKE OFF.
THEN I'LL TELL YOU WHERE I PLANTED
THE DEMOLITION CHARGES.



THE WORRIED INTELLIGENCE
MEN CONFERRED.

HE'S
BLUFFING,
SIR.

I WOULDN'T BET ON
IT. RAMCKE WAS A DEMOLITIONS
EXPERT BEFORE THE WAR.

THAT T.N.T. COULD BE
ANYWHERE, NOTRE-DAME, THE
EIFFEL TOWER. IT WOULD
TAKE WEEKS TO FIND IT.



COME NOW, GENTLEMEN,
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. MY LIFE
IN EXCHANGE FOR ONE OF
FRANCE'S FINEST LANDMARKS IS
A FAIR BARGAIN SURELY...



... BESIDES, IF YOU LET
THE EXPLOSION TAKE PLACE,
MANY WILL DIE. HAVE YOU
NO CONSCIENCE?

THE
COLD-BLOODED
CREEP MEANS IT!

HE'S GOT US HOG-TIED.
YOU TWO GET A JEEP READY,
I'LL ARRANGE FOR A
PLANE TO BE STANDING BY.



IT GALLS ME TO THINK
RAMCKE IS GETTING OFF SCOT-
FREE WITH OUR HELP!

THE GAME'S NOT
FINISHED YET, MARCO.
I'VE GOT A PLAN. NOW
LISTEN ...

RAMCKE'S JOURNEY TO A NEARBY
U.S. AIRFIELD BEGAN.



I WON'T REST UNTIL I
FIND YOU AGAIN, KRAUT, AND
WHEN I DO ...

SAVE YOUR BREATH, COLONEL.
YOU WON'T SEE ME AGAIN. AS SOON AS
I BOARD THE PLANE, I'LL GIVE
THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE BOMB
TO YOUR DRIVER HERE.



ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY SGT. DOYLE HAD HIS ATTENTION ON SOME OTHER GERMAN PRISONERS.

C'MON, C'MON, WE'VE NOT GOT ALL DAY!



SOON ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY, MARCO SUDDENLY MADE A DETOUR.

YOUR C.O. HAS NO OPTION BUT TO TRUST ME, CORPORAL.

WELL, THAT DOESN'T APPLY TO ME, KRAUT!

UH... WHY ARE WE PULLING OFF THE ROAD?

MARCO DROVE TO WHERE DOYLE WAS WAITING WITH HIS PRISONERS.

OKAY, RAMCKE, OUT OF THE JEEP! YOU EITHER TELL ME WHERE THE T.N.T. IS OR I'LL EXECUTE YOU NOW, SO HELP ME!

DON'T TRY TO BLUFF ME, FOOL! I HEAR THE AMERICANS DO NOT SHOOT PRISONERS IN COLD BLOOD.



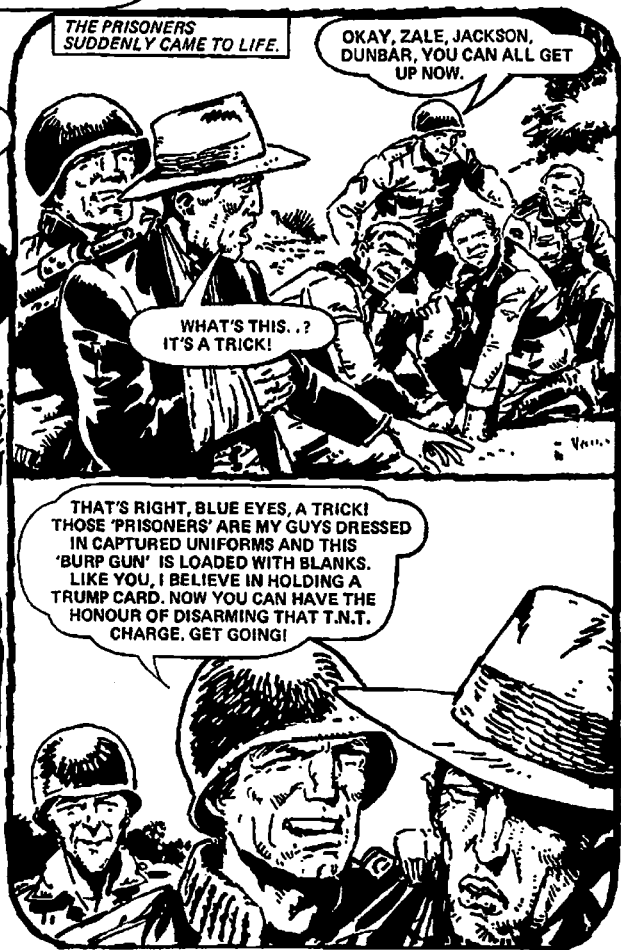
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU HEARD THAT BALONEY FROM, BUT IT JUST ISN'T TRUE! WATCH!

UURRGHHH!



NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO FEED THE WORMS, YOU RAT!

NO, WAIT! DON'T KILL ME! THE DEMOLITION CHARGE IS IN THE CELLAR OF THE PLACE DE L'OPERA! I SWEAR IT...



THE PRISONERS SUDDENLY CAME TO LIFE.

OKAY, ZALE, JACKSON, DUNBAR, YOU CAN ALL GET UP NOW.

WHAT'S THIS...? IT'S A TRICK!

THAT'S RIGHT, BLUE EYES, A TRICK! THOSE 'PRISONERS' ARE MY GUYS DRESSED IN CAPTURED UNIFORMS AND THIS 'BURP GUN' IS LOADED WITH BLANKS. LIKE YOU, I BELIEVE IN HOLDING A TRUMP CARD. NOW YOU CAN HAVE THE HONOUR OF DISARMING THAT T.N.T. CHARGE. GET GOING!

A BRITISH SERGEANT MEETS A FRENCH BOY WHO'S FULL OF TRICKS!

WRITER:
B. BURRELL
ARTIST:
EZQUERRA
LETTERER:
N. EATON

AS THE ALLIES PUSHED ACROSS FRANCE AFTER D-DAY, ARMoured CARS WERE USED TO SCOUT AHEAD OF THE MAIN ATTACK FORCE. IT WAS A NERVE-RACKING JOB, ESPECIALLY ON THE NARROW FRENCH COUNTRY LANES. SERGEANT O'MALLEY'S VEHICLE WAS HIT BY SOME NAZI PLANES AND HE WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR.

O'MALLEY LAY WOUNDED AND UNCONSCIOUS FOR SOME HOURS. THEN AS HE CAME TO...

WHAT THE...? SOMEONE'S STEALING FROM MY POCKETS!

OKAY, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE... UH? IT'S JUST A KID!

DON'T SHOOT, PLEASE! I AM UNARMED!

BATTLE
ACTION
SPECIAL
COMPLETE
STORY

THE ORPHAN

MY NAME IS JULES. I AM AN ORPHAN. THE ORPHANAGE WAS BOMBED BY THE NAZIS YESTERDAY. I HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.

IN MY BOOK, YOU'RE JUST A THIEVING LITTLE BRAT! GIVE ME BACK MY WATCH AND CASH!

O'MALLEY'S HEAD WOUND BEGAN TO THROB.

SERGEANT, YOUR HEAD... THE CUT LOOKS BAD!

I'LL LIVE. NOW PUSH OFF, JULES. I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY OWN LINES BEFORE THE KRAUTS PICK ME UP.



I'D BETTER STICK TO THE FIELDS. THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF BEING SPOTTED.

OH, MONSIEUR, YOU HAVE MADE A BIG MISTAKE GOING THAT WAY... YOU HAVE WALKED INTO A MINEFIELD!

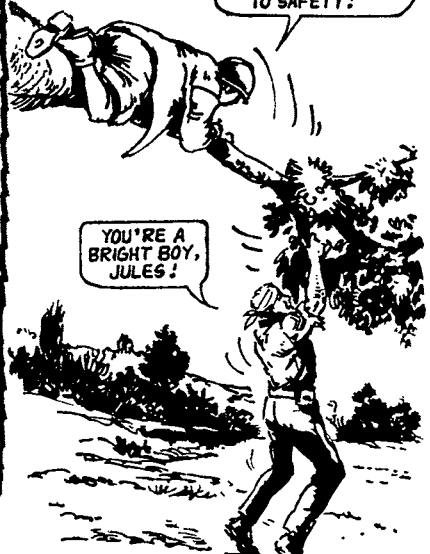


THEN I-I'VE HAD IT! ONE MOVE AND I'M A GONER FOR SURE!

DON'T MOVE! I'LL GET YOU OUT BY CLIMBING THIS TREE!

THE FRENCH BOY LOWERED A BRANCH TO O'MALLEY.

GRAB THE BRANCH, SERGEANT, AND PULL YOURSELF UP! THEN YOU CAN GET BACK TO SAFETY!



YOU'RE A BRIGHT BOY, JULES!



MOMENTS LATER...

CAN I GO WITH YOU, SERGEANT?

YOU'LL ONLY SLOW ME DOWN, KID. BUT TAKE THIS CHOCOLATE... YOU DESERVE IT FOR HELPING ME OUT.



SEE YOU, KID... AND GOOD LUCK.

MAIS REGARDEZ... A NAZI TANK!

THE BOY ACTED FAST.

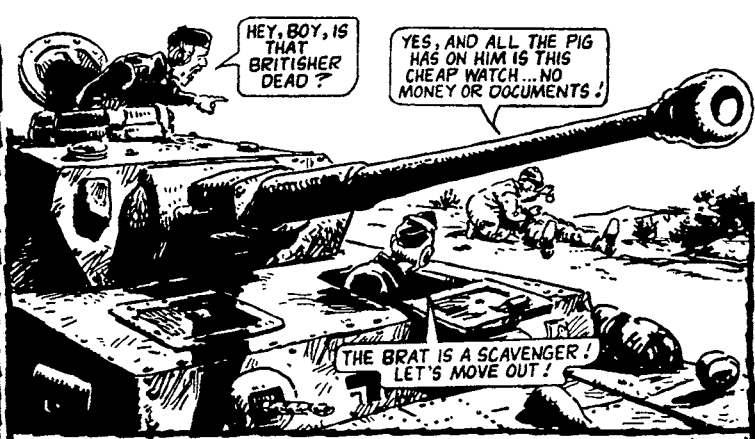


THEY HAVE NOT SEEN US YET! QUICK, LIE DOWN!



WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING?

SHHH! KEEP STILL! PRETEND YOU ARE DEAD!

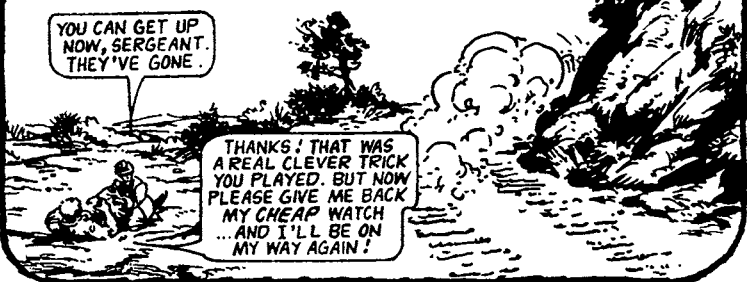


HEY, BOY, IS THAT BRITISHER DEAD?

YES, AND ALL THE PIG HAS ON HIM IS THIS CHEAP WATCH... NO MONEY OR DOCUMENTS!

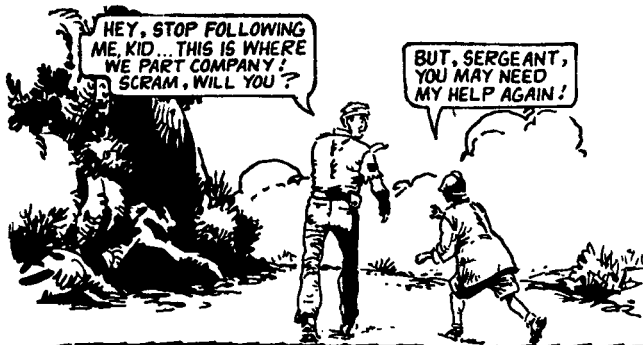
THE BRAT IS A SCAVENGER! LET'S MOVE OUT!

THE TANK DROVE OFF.



YOU CAN GET UP NOW, SERGEANT. THEY'VE GONE.

THANKS! THAT WAS A REAL CLEVER TRICK YOU PLAYED. BUT NOW PLEASE GIVE ME BACK MY CHEAP WATCH... AND I'LL BE ON MY WAY AGAIN!



ALAN HEBDEN

Alan Hebden scripted a number of comics in the late 1970's and early 1980's. His work for IPC includes *The Tower King* and *The Fifth Horseman* for **Eagle**, *Major Eazy*, *El Mestizo*, *Death Squad*, *Fighting Mann* and *Crazy Keller* for **Battle**, and *Mind Wars* for **Starlord**. He also wrote *Mean Team*, *Death Planet* and *Meltdown Man* for **2000 AD**, as well as number of *Future Shocks* and *Time-Twisters*.

He also wrote many stories for DC Thomson's **Commando**.

Alan is still working in the industry today, and is writing a novel, **Blood Sisters** - a twisting, violent tale of the personal and emotional fall-out from a huge wartime silver heist that reverberates across a quarter of a century from the Horn of Africa in 1941 to Italy in 1964 and Argentina in 1965.

CARLOS EZQUERRA

Carlos Ezquerra was the co-creator of *Judge Dredd*, *Strontium Dog*, *Rat Pack*, *Major Eazy* and many other fan favourite characters, he designed the classic original Dredd costume as well as visually conceptualising Mega-City One. In addition to these credits he also illustrated *A.B.C. Warriors*, *Judge Anderson*, *Tharg the Mighty*, and *Cursed Earth Koburn* amongst many other stories. Outside of the 'Galaxy's Greatest Comic', Ezquerra illustrated the first *Third World War* episodes in **Crisis** magazine, and became a regular collaborator with Garth Ennis, working on **Adventures in the Rifle Brigade**, **Bloody Mary**, **Just a Pilgrim**, **Condors**, **The Magnificent Kevin** and two special **Preacher** episodes. He died in 2018 but his profound influence on the world of comic art cannot be overstated.



**SPECIAL
ISSUE**

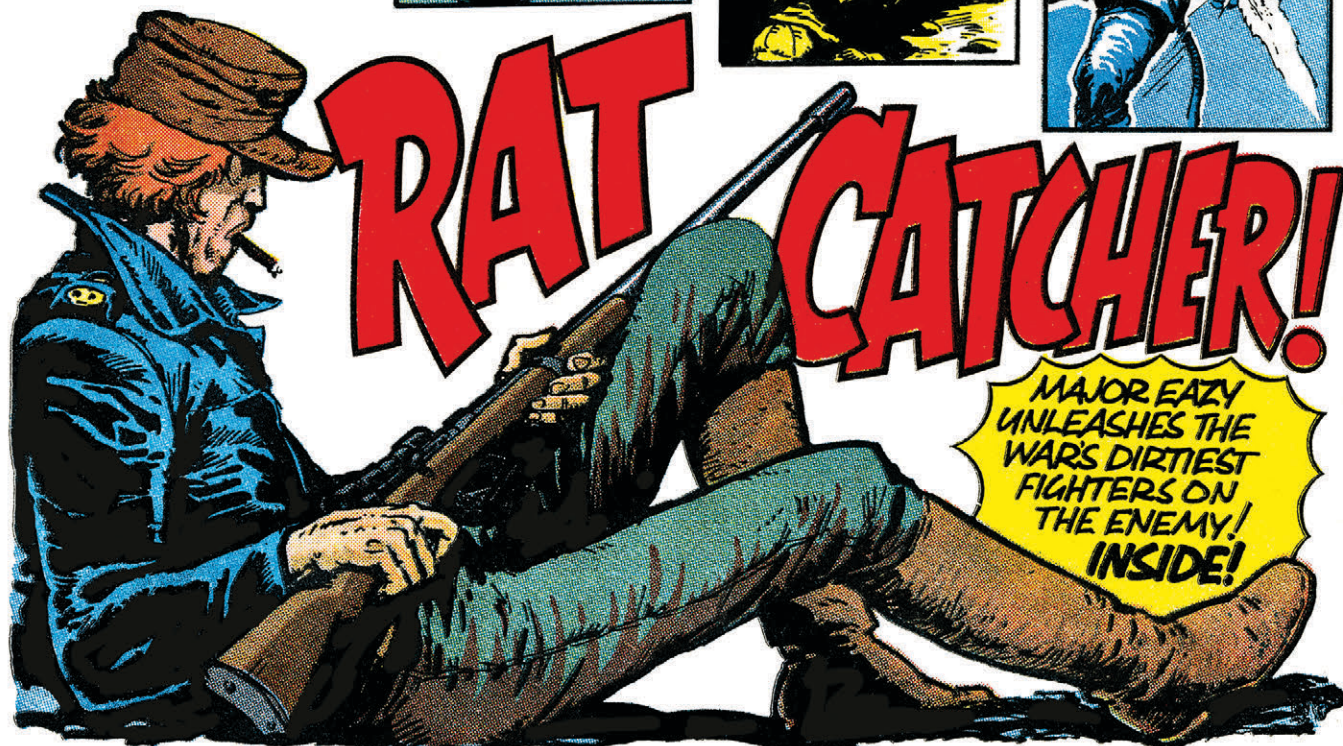
PART 3 OF BATTLE A-Z BOOKLET

BATTLE

8p

PICTURE WEEKLY and VALIANT

12 FEBRUARY, 1977
EVERY THURSDAY



Battle Picture Weekly and Valiant cover

12 February 1977



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