

No.5314

COMPLETE 63-PAGE ACTION STORY

Commando

THE SILVER COLLECTION

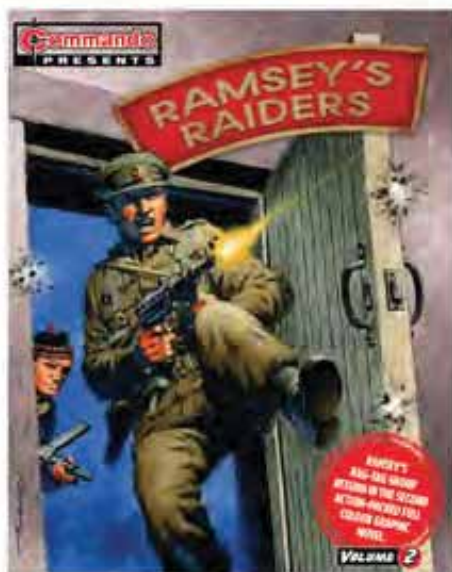
DESERT
WAR

1940-43



**A MAN
NEEDS
LUCK**

HERITAGE COMICS

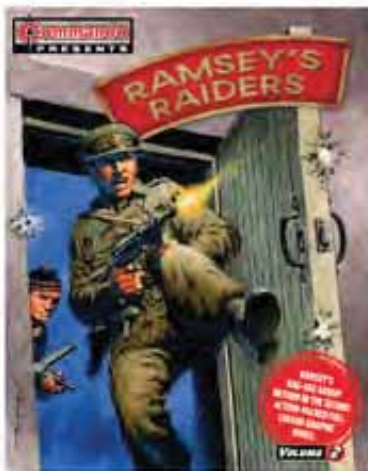
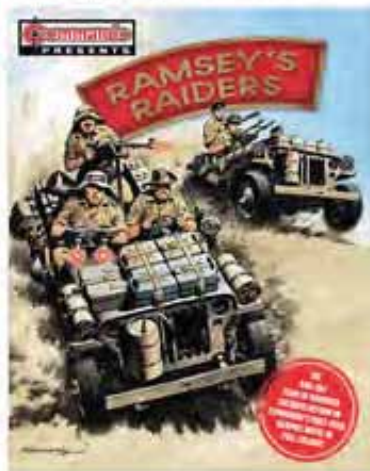


RAMSEY'S RAIDERS GRAPHIC NOVEL VOLUME 2 £14.99

Collecting the third and fourth issues of Ramsey's Raiders from the weekly Commando comics, the original black-and-white artwork has been reborn with eruptions of eye-catching colour, and blown up to full-sized graphic novel format!

RAMSEY'S RAIDERS VOL.1 & 2 PACK £25

This great-value pack contains four action-packed Ramsey's Raiders full-colour classic stories set out in two rowdy graphic novels.



THE ART OF IAN KENNEDY £40

Celebrating 70 years of Ian Kennedy's artwork for DC Thomson in the company's first-ever 'Art of' book. Collecting rarely seen original pages and sketches from Kennedy's illustrious career at DC Thomson, from the pages of publications as diverse as The Topper to Warlord, Lucky Charm to Starblazer, set out chronologically from the 1950s to the present day, with a glimpse into the future!



STARBLAZER GRAPHIC NOVEL VOLUME 1 £12.99

Collating the classic issues #45 'Operation Overkill' and #71 'Jaws of Death' from DC Thomson's archives, refreshing and rescaling the artwork to full graphic-novel size, whilst retaining the charm of their original black and white format. Volume 1 features work by renowned comic creators Grant Morrison and Mick McMahon, all wrapped up in a brand-new cover by Neil Roberts. This collection is a must-have for Science Fiction and British comic fans alike.

HOW TO ORDER

Visit www.dcthompsonshop.co.uk/commando

Or call **0800 318 846** (free from UK).

Lines open 8am-6pm, Mon-Fri or 9am-5pm, Saturday.

A MAN NEEDS LUCK

THE STORY OF PETER REED AND HIS ANCIENT TALISMAN BEGAN IN THE YEARS BEFORE THE OUTBREAK OF WAR. HE AND TOM EVANS HAD ALWAYS BEEN FRIENDS — FIRST IN THE ORPHANAGE WHERE THEY HAD GROWN UP, THEN AT THE SHIPYARD WHERE THEY HAD GOT THEIR FIRST JOBS.

BUT ONE PARTICULAR EVENING . . . WHEN THEY WALKED OUT THROUGH THE SHIPYARD GATES . . . MARKED THE TURNING POINT IN BOTH THEIR LIVES . . .

STORY
GARbutt

ART
CARRION

COVER
IAN KENNEDY

First Published
1983
No. 1719



AN OLD LADY, ACCOMPANIED BY TWO STARVED-LOOKING CHILDREN, BECKONED TO THE TWO YOUNG MEN. AS THEY APPROACHED, SHE HELD OUT HER HAND TO PETER — FROM IT DANGLED A LARGE, STRANGELY MARKED COIN ATTACHED TO A CORD.

WILL YOU TAKE THE TALISMAN, GOOD SIR? GIVE ME MONEY FOR IT, TO BUY FOOD FOR THE LITTLE ONES. IT WILL BRING YOU GREAT FORTUNE.

PETER HAD NO IDEA WHY HE'D BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR HER STRANGE OFFER, OR WHAT TO DO.

PUZZLED, HE GLANCED AT THE CURIOUS CROWD THAT HAD GATHERED AROUND HIM, AND THEN BACK AT THE OLD WOMAN.

WHY OFFER IT TO ME AND NOT SOMEONE ELSE?

THAT I DO NOT KNOW, SIR. I JUST FEEL THAT IT BELONGS WITH YOU.

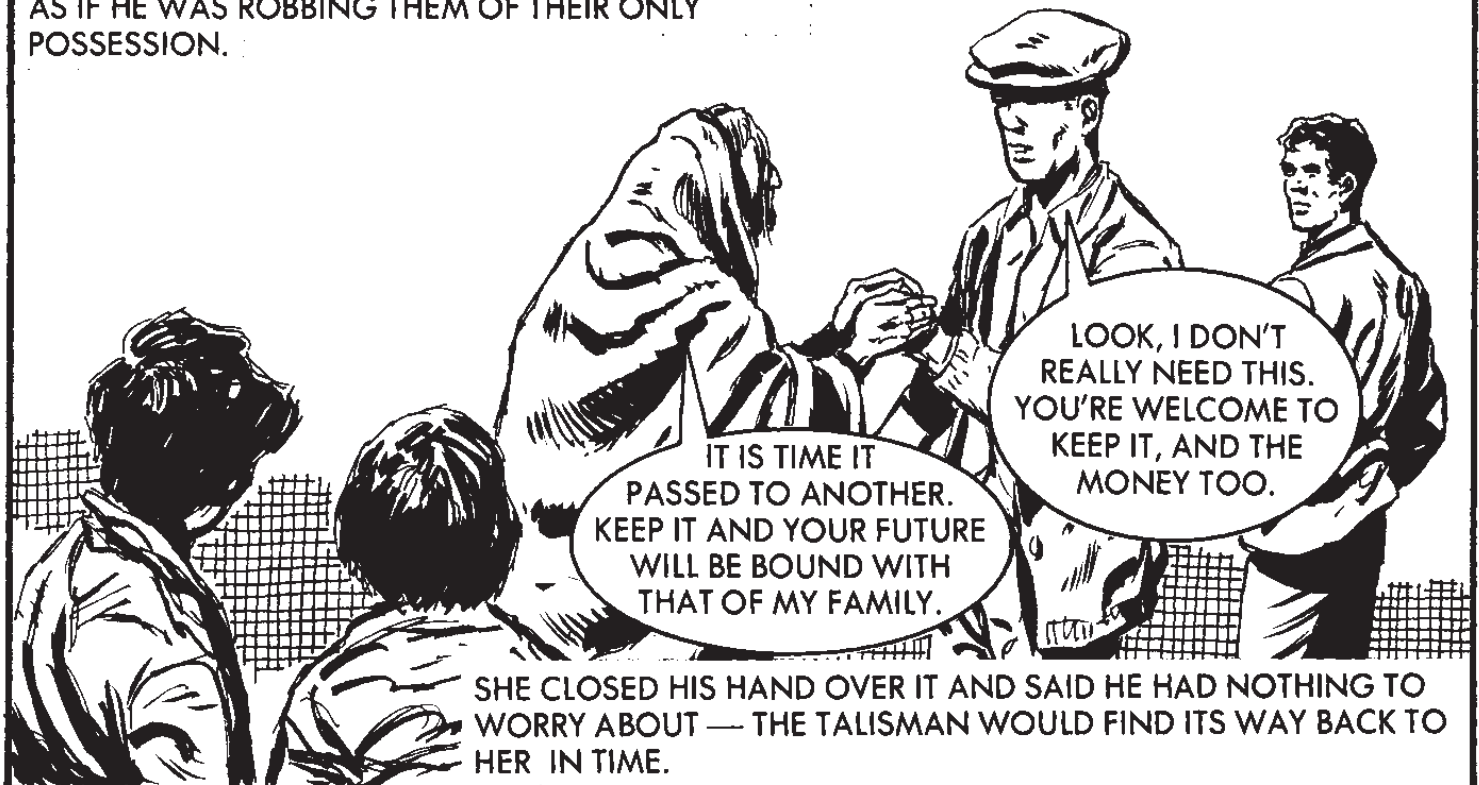
TOM SNORTED AT HER WORDS BUT TO HIS SURPRISE, PETER, EVER THE SOFT-HEARTED ONE, FISHED INTO HIS POCKET FOR A FEW COINS.



OK! HERE'S
A COUPLE OF
SHILLINGS.

YOU WILL NOT REGRET
IT. YOU WILL FACE GRAVE
DANGER IN THE YEARS TO COME,
BUT IF YOU CARRY THIS WITH
YOU ALWAYS, YOU NEED
FEEL NO FEAR.

PETER TOOK THE TALISMAN. TURNING AWAY, HE PAUSED, NOTICING THE PINCHED FACES AND OBVIOUS HUNGER OF THE TWO CHILDREN. HE FELT AS IF HE WAS ROBBING THEM OF THEIR ONLY POSSESSION.



IT IS TIME IT
PASSED TO ANOTHER.
KEEP IT AND YOUR FUTURE
WILL BE BOUND WITH
THAT OF MY FAMILY.

LOOK, I DON'T
REALLY NEED THIS.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO
KEEP IT, AND THE
MONEY TOO.

SHE CLOSED HIS HAND OVER IT AND SAID HE HAD NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT — THE TALISMAN WOULD FIND ITS WAY BACK TO HER IN TIME.

SO, NOT ALTOGETHER OF HIS OWN FREE WILL, PETER BECAME THE SOMEWHAT SCEPTICAL OWNER OF THE LUCKY CHARM. BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM TO DO HIM MUCH GOOD, FOR A FEW WEEKS LATER THE SHIPYARD WHERE HE AND TOM WORKED CLOSED DOWN.

SO MUCH
FOR THE GOOD
LUCK! WE'RE BOTH
OUT OF A
JOB.

IT'S
NOT THE END
OF THE WORLD.
SOMETHING WILL
TURN UP.

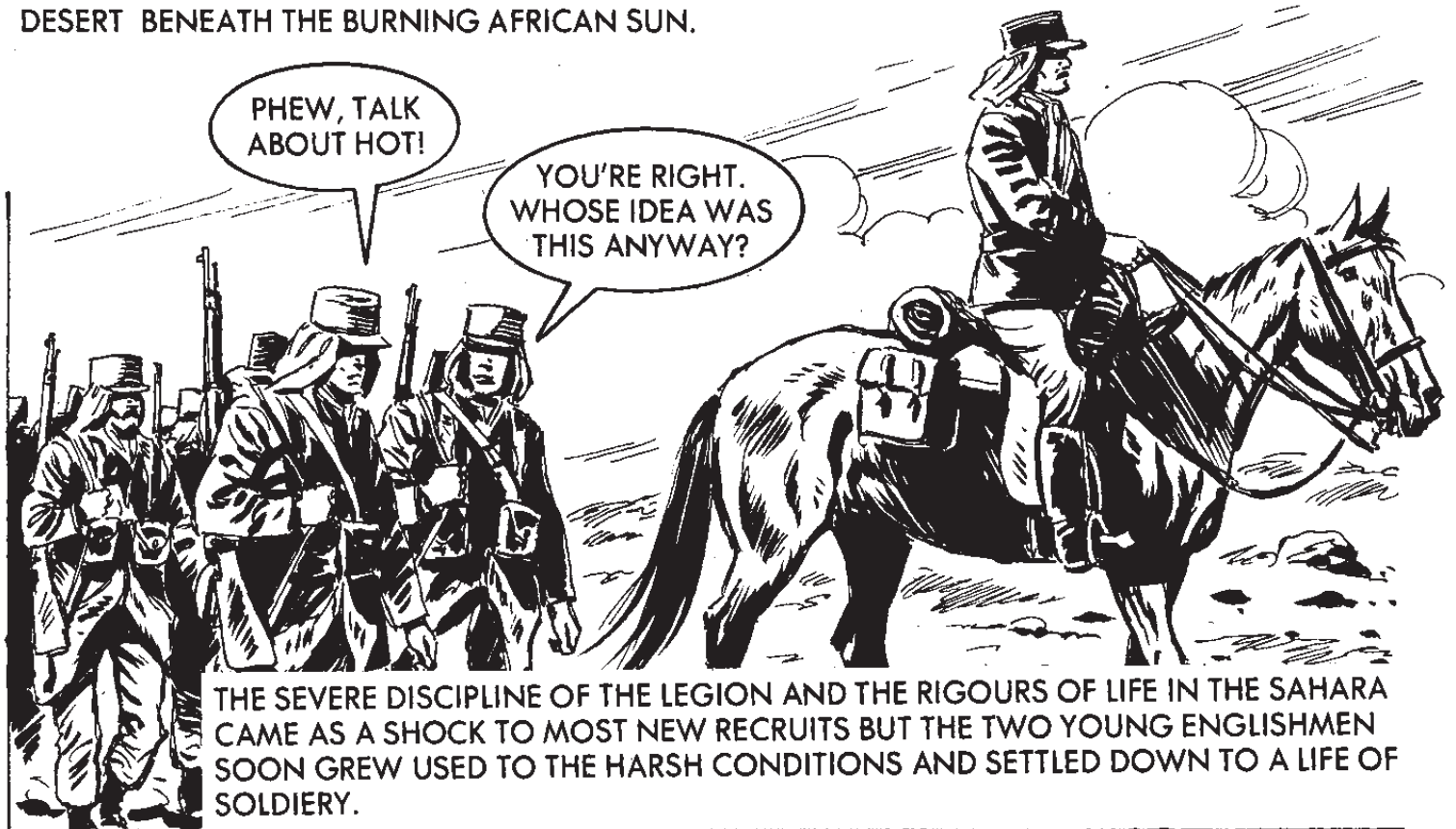
... AND SOMETHING DID. A FEW DAYS LATER AS THEY WALKED BACK TO THE HOSTEL WHERE THEY LIVED, A BRIGHTLY COVERED BOOK IN A BOOKSHOP WINDOW CAUGHT PETER'S EYE — IT WAS A COPY OF "BEAU GESTE" AN ADVENTURE STORY SET IN THE NORTH AFRICAN DESERT.

HEY, LOOK AT THAT! WHY
DON'T WE JOIN THE FOREIGN
LEGION? WE'RE BOTH YOUNG AND
FIT. WE'VE GOT NOBODY TO
WORRY ABOUT US. IT'D
BE JUST THE JOB!

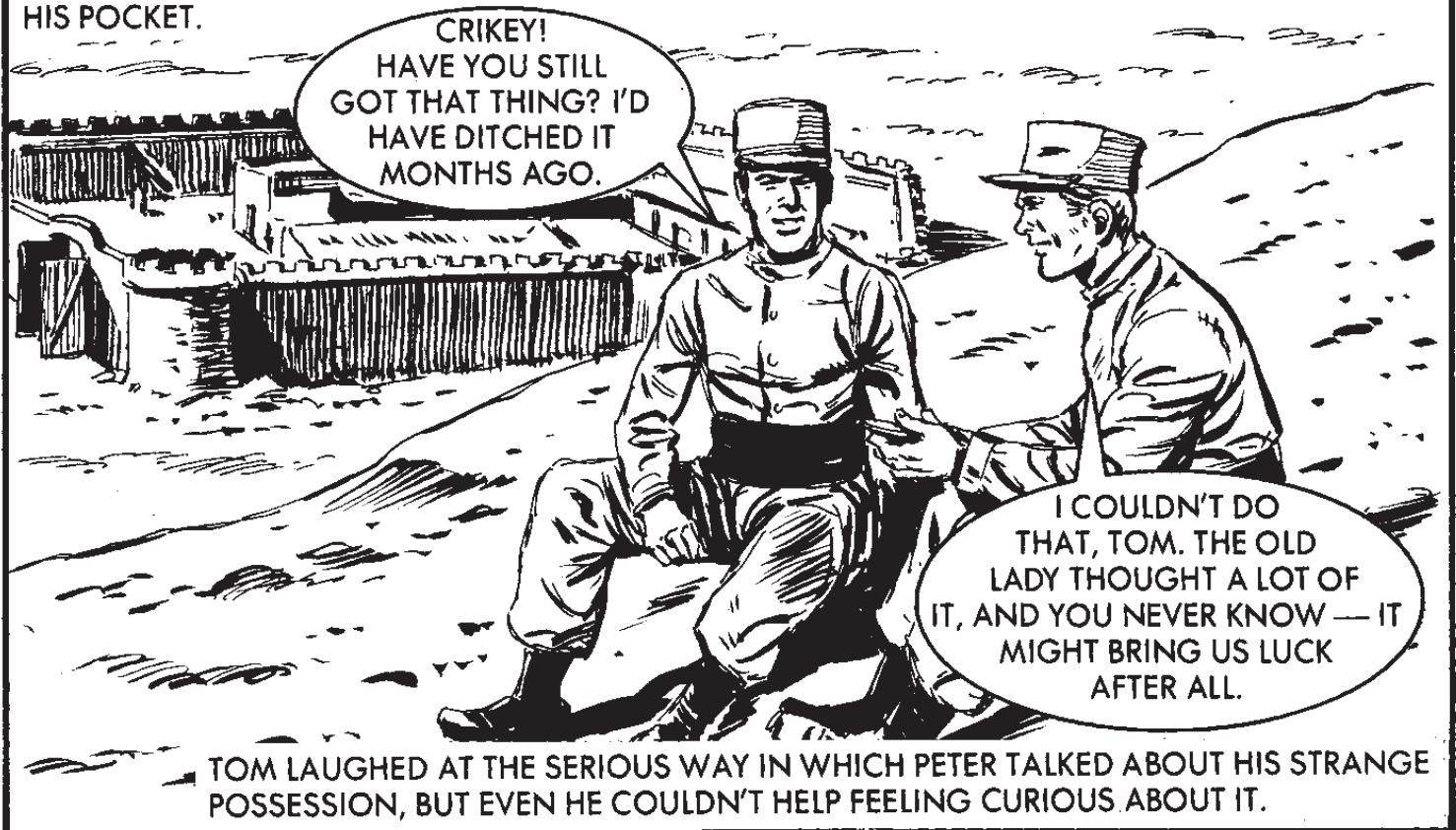
WELL... OK. AT
LEAST WE'D BE SURE
OF A MEAL AND SOMEWHERE
TO LIVE. LET'S GIVE
IT A TRY.



WITH NOTHING TO HOLD THEM BACK, THE PAIR HITCH-HIKED TO PARIS TO ENLIST — BEFORE LONG THEY WERE SLOGGING ACROSS THE DESERT BENEATH THE BURNING AFRICAN SUN.



WHEN THEY WERE OFF DUTY THEY OFTEN CLIMBED A LOW ESCARPMENT WHICH OVERLOOKED THEIR FORT. IT WAS ON THIS VANTAGE POINT ONE AFTERNOON THAT PETER REMEMBERED THE TALISMAN AND FISHED IT OUT OF HIS POCKET.



THEY WERE STILL EXAMINING AND DISCUSSING IT WHEN ONE OF THEIR COMRADES, AN ITALIAN CALLED GUIDO DURIGO, JOINED THEM ON THE DUNE.

THIS TALISMAN YOU SPEAK OF — MAY I SEE IT? I AM OF ROMA STOCK AND MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SOME CLUES ABOUT ITS ORIGINS AND WORTH.

DON'T KEEP IT FOR TOO LONG, GUIDO. PETER WILL PROBABLY GET STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

IGNORING THE FUN BEING POKED AT HIM, PETER HANDED THE TALISMAN OVER BUT NEITHER HE NOR TOM WERE PREPARED FOR THEIR FRIEND'S REACTION.

DIO MIO! HOW DID YOU GET THIS? IT HAS BELONGED TO MY OWN TRIBE FOR MANY GENERATIONS.

I BOUGHT IT FROM AN OLD LADY BACK HOME, A FEW MONTHS AGO.



GUIDO'S FROWN TURNED INTO A LOOK OF DOWNRIGHT SUSPICION AS HIS GRIP TIGHTENED ON THE TALISMAN.

IT HAS GREAT POWER. ITS KEEPER WOULD NEVER SELL IT.

IT'S THE TRUTH! SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT ME BEING THE CHOSEN ONE.

PETER WENT ON TO REPEAT THE LADY'S PARTING WORDS AND GUIDO'S FACE CLEARED. HE NODDED THOUGHTFULLY.

BUT REMEMBER, IT IS OF GREAT VALUE AND YOU ARE NOW ITS KEEPER.

DON'T WORRY. IT'LL BE SAFE WITH ME.

SATISFIED THAT NOTHING WAS AMISS, THE ITALIAN RETURNED TO THE FORT, LEAVING TOM AND PETER EVEN MORE BAFFLED BY THE TALISMAN.

BLIMEY! FANCY HIM RECOGNISING THAT CHARM! HE'S AN ODD ONE.

OH, HE'S OK, I RECKON. NOT MUCH OF A SOLDIER, THOUGH, FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN OF HIM.

THE FOLLOWING DAWN, THE TWO FRIENDS LEFT THE FORT BEHIND THEM AND HEADED OFF WITH THEIR PATROL. THEY WERE ON THE HUNT FOR A BAND OF TROUBLE-MAKING BANDITS WHO WERE HOLED UP IN A RANGE OF LOW HILLS A FEW DAYS' MARCH AWAY.



AS FOR THE BANDITS, THEY HAD ALL THE WATER THEY COULD USE AND WERE NOW READY TO SPILL BLOOD. AFTER SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL RAIDS THEIR CONFIDENCE WAS AT A PEAK. WHEN THE LEGIONNAIRES LOOMED INTO SIGHT THEY WERE READY FOR THEM.



THE AMBUSH HAD BEEN WELL LAID AND THE UNTRIED LIEUTENANT IN COMMAND OF THE PATROL WAS TOO CONFIDENT FOR HIS OWN GOOD — HE FELL TO ONE OF THE FIRST ARAB BULLETS.



WITH THE OFFICER DEAD, THE VETERAN SERGEANT DUMAS TOOK COMMAND AND QUICKLY RALLIED THE MEN.



REACTING SWIFTLY, PETER AND TOM BEGAN TO RUN FOR SHELTER, FIRING AS THEY WENT. BUT GUIDO WAS NOT SO QUICK. A BULLET GRAZED HIS TEMPLE AND KNOCKED HIM COLD.



CARELESS OF HIS OWN SAFETY, PETER TURNED TO HEAD FOR GUIDO'S UNCONSCIOUS BODY. NOW HE WOULD SEE IF THE TALISMAN WAS ANY GOOD.

WITH THE ITALIAN SLUNG ACROSS HIS SHOULDERS, HE HEADED FOR THE ROCKS WHILE TOM AND THE OTHERS ALREADY THERE OPENED UP WITH A HAIL OF PROTECTIVE FIRE.



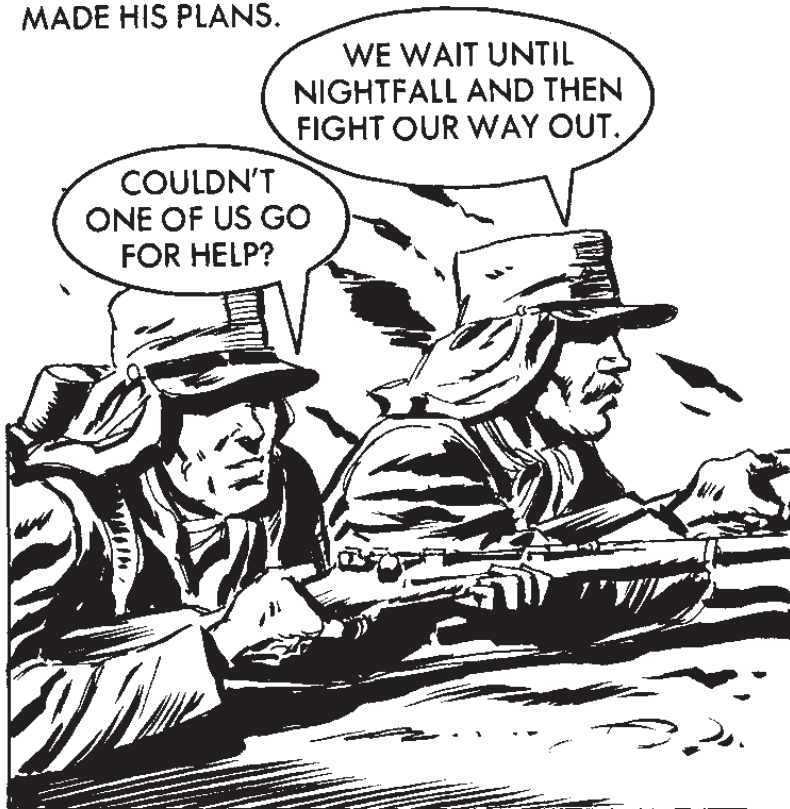
PETER SEEMED TO BEAR A CHARMED LIFE. WITH BULLETS KICKING UP THE DUST AROUND HIM, HE CROSSED THE FIELD OF FIRE UNHARMED AND HURLED HIMSELF AND HIS HUMAN BURDEN BEHIND A ROCK.



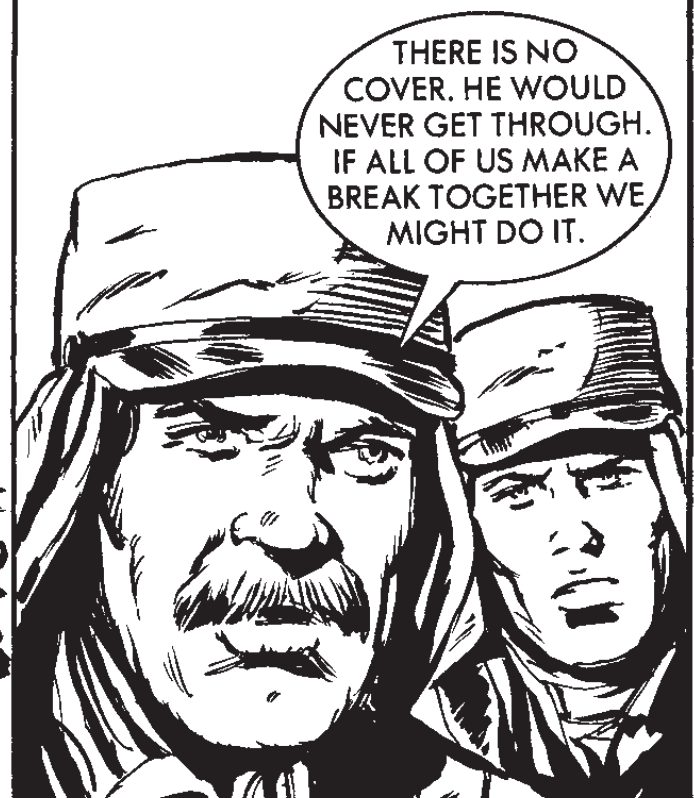
AS ANOTHER LEGIONNAIRE TENDED TO GUIDO'S WOUND, PETER JOINED TOM AND THE OTHERS IN THE FIRING LINE.



SERGEANT DUMAS WAS AN OLD HAND AT FIGHTING THE ARABS SO HE'D ALREADY MADE HIS PLANS.



DUMAS SHOOK HIS HEAD.



THE N.C.O.'s EXPRESSION WAS GRIM. HE KNEW THE REALITIES OF LIFE IN THE DESERT — AND DEATH.



AT LEAST GUIDO HAD RECOVERED ENOUGH BY NOW TO ADD HIS FIRE-POWER TO THE OTHERS.

BUT FIRST THEY HAD A LONG AND WEARY WAIT UNDER THE BURNING SUN WITH THE ARABS SNIPING AT THEM CONSTANTLY.

BLIMEY!
WON'T THEY
EVER RUN OUT
OF BULLETS?

DON'T
WORRY. WE'LL SOON BE
OUT OF HERE.

AT LAST THE SWIFT DESERT DUSK
CLOSED IN. WITHIN MINUTES IT WAS
DARK AND THE TENSE
LEGIONNAIRES GATHERED ROUND
DUMAS FOR SOME LAST WORDS OF
INSTRUCTION.

THE MOON RISES IN AN
HOUR. WE MUST BE AWAY BEFORE
THEN. REMEMBER, THERE CAN'T BE MANY
OF THEM, OR THEY WOULD HAVE
RUSHED US EARLIER.



AT THE SERGEANT'S COMMAND, THE SHADY FIGURES SILENTLY RAN OUT FROM THE ROCKS. BUT THE ARABS SAW THEM AS THEY BEGAN TO MOVE AND SHOTS RANG OUT.



THE NEXT FEW MINUTES WERE A CHAOS OF WHIRLING SHADOWS, THUDDING FEET AND THE CRACKS OF RIFLE FIRE. HOWEVER WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE PATROL EVENTUALLY REACHED THE FOOT OF THE HILLS.



THERE THEY FOUND A WADI WHICH STRETCHED OFF INTO THE DESERT — FROM IT THEY COULD SNIPE ACCURATELY AT THE PURSUING ARABS SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE NIGHT SKY.

SO ACCURATELY THAT THE ARABS WOULD NOT FOLLOW THEM DOWN INTO THE DRIED-UP RIVER BED, DESPITE THREATS FROM THEIR LEADER.



BY DAWN, THE SURVIVORS OF THE PATROL WERE OUT IN THE OPEN DESERT AND WELL CLEAR OF PURSUIT.



ALTHOUGH AT LAST THEY MADE IT SAFELY BACK TO THE FORT, THERE WERE MANY OF THEIR COMRADES WHO HADN'T RETURNED WITH THEM. GUIDO OF COURSE, HAD HIS OWN THEORY AS TO WHAT HAD SAVED PETER.

YOU SEE, MY FRIEND. THE TALISMAN KEPT YOU SAFE, JUST AS THE OLD LADY SAID IT WOULD.

WE WERE AMONG THE LUCKY ONES, THAT'S FOR SURE.

IT WAS IN FACT GUIDO'S LAST BRUSH WITH DANGER FOR THE TIME BEING. HIS TERM WITH THE LEGION WAS OVER AND HE RETURNED TO ITALY.

FOR PETER AND TOM LIFE IN THE LEGION WENT ON UNTIL, AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS, THEY RECEIVED THEIR DISCHARGE PAPERS AND RETURNED TO BRITAIN. BUT THAT WAS IN AUGUST, NINETEEN-THIRTY-NINE, AND ONLY A FEW WEEKS LATER WAR WAS DECLARED.

IT'S COME AT LAST! WE'RE AT WAR WITH GERMANY, AND WE'RE STILL WITHOUT JOBS. BUT WE'RE TRAINED SOLDIERS, SO I GUESS THERE'S ONE THING WE CAN DO.

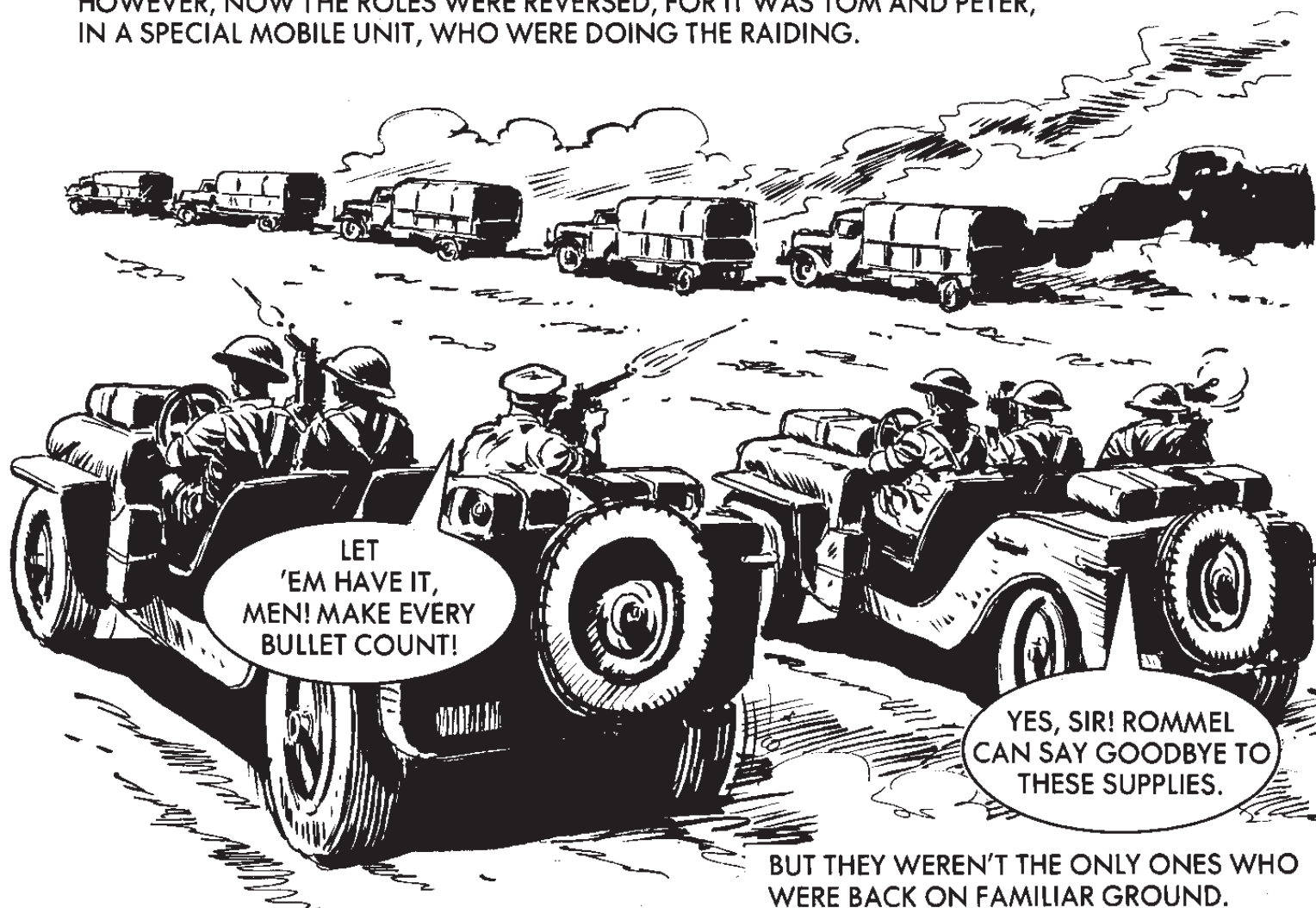
YOU'RE RIGHT! JOIN UP AND GET BACK INTO THE OLD ROUTINE.

THE DAILY GLOBE
BRITAIN DECLARES WAR

IT WAS THE OBVIOUS THING FOR THE TWO EX-LEGIONNAIRES TO DO. AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, AFTER THEIR INITIAL TRAINING THEY WERE SHIPPED BACK TO NORTH AFRICA WHERE THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE DESERT WAS PUT TO GOOD USE.



HOWEVER, NOW THE ROLES WERE REVERSED, FOR IT WAS TOM AND PETER, IN A SPECIAL MOBILE UNIT, WHO WERE DOING THE RAIDING.



BUT THEY WEREN'T THE ONLY ONES WHO WERE BACK ON FAMILIAR GROUND.

GUIDO TOO HAD RETURNED TO SOLDIERING IN NORTH AFRICA, BUT NOT OF HIS OWN FREE WILL — HE'D BEEN PRESSED INTO THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY, THOUGH WITH THE FINAL SURRENDER OF THE AXIS POWERS IN THE DESERT IN NINETEEN-FORTY-THREE, HE DID EVENTUALLY WIND UP IN BRITISH HANDS.

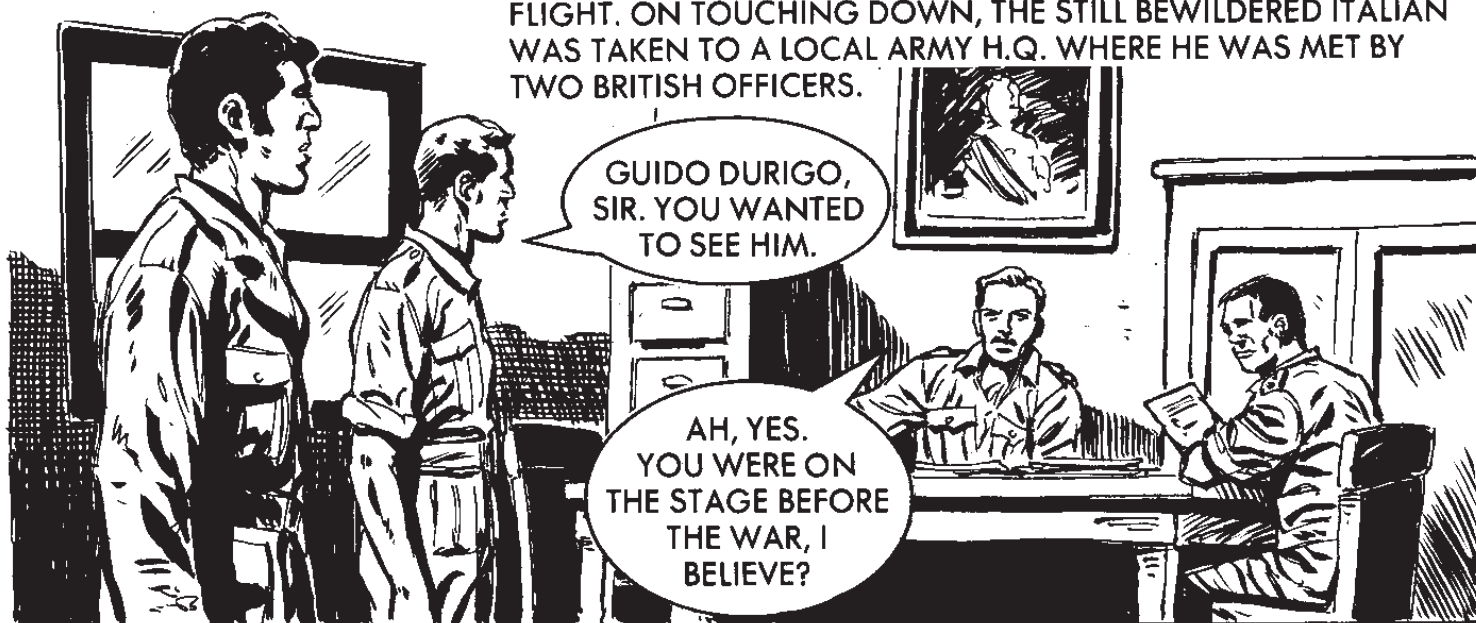


HE WAS NO LOVER OF THE NAZIS. HAVING VOLUNTEERED HIS SERVICES TO HIS CAPTORS, HE FOUND HIMSELF ABOARD A PLANE BOUND FOR TUNIS SOME MONTHS LATER.



AFTER LEAVING THE LEGION AND BEFORE THE OUTBREAK OF WAR, GUIDO HAD GONE INTO THE ACTING BUSINESS BACK IN ITALY. HE'D MENTIONED THIS TO HIS BRITISH INTERROGATING OFFICER AND THE FACT HAD BEEN DULY NOTED.

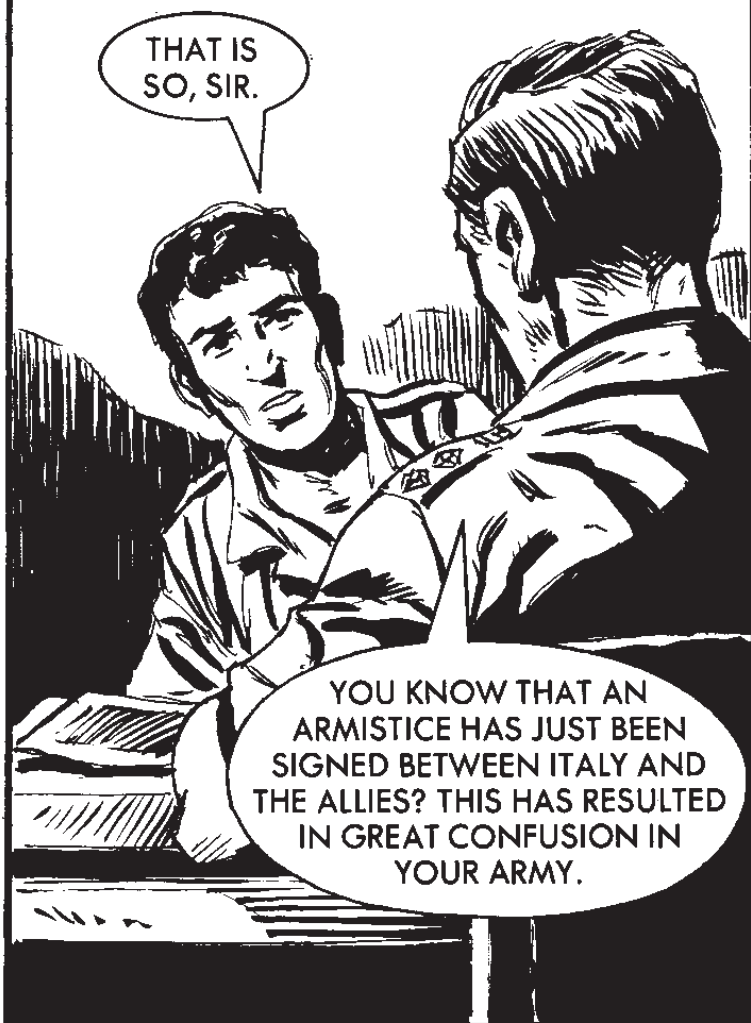
IF HE'D BUT KNOWN IT, IT HAD BEEN THIS THAT HAD LED TO HIS FLIGHT. ON TOUCHING DOWN, THE STILL BEWILDERED ITALIAN WAS TAKEN TO A LOCAL ARMY H.Q. WHERE HE WAS MET BY TWO BRITISH OFFICERS.



GUIDO DURIGO, SIR. YOU WANTED TO SEE HIM.

AH, YES. YOU WERE ON THE STAGE BEFORE THE WAR, I BELIEVE?

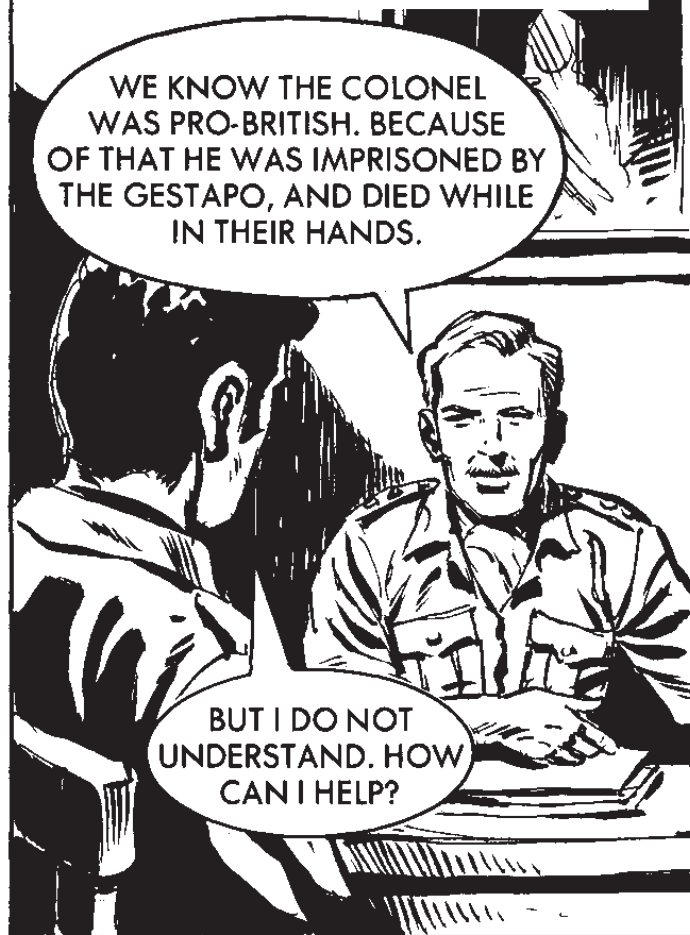
GUIDO NODDED AND FELT A SUDDEN FOREBODING AS THE ENGLISHMAN CONTINUED.



THAT IS SO, SIR.

YOU KNOW THAT AN ARMISTICE HAS JUST BEEN SIGNED BETWEEN ITALY AND THE ALLIES? THIS HAS RESULTED IN GREAT CONFUSION IN YOUR ARMY.

MANY ITALIAN REGIMENTS ON THEIR HOME GROUND HAD ALREADY GONE OVER TO THE ALLIES, BUT ONE IN PARTICULAR HAD YET TO MAKE A MOVE. IT HELD A VITAL SECTION OF HIGH GROUND BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES AND UNTIL VERY RECENTLY ITS COMMANDER HAD BEEN A COLONEL MONTANELLI.



WE KNOW THE COLONEL WAS PRO-BRITISH. BECAUSE OF THAT HE WAS IMPRISONED BY THE GESTAPO, AND DIED WHILE IN THEIR HANDS.

BUT I DO NOT UNDERSTAND. HOW CAN I HELP?

THE OTHER OFFICER CONTINUED THE STORY.

IF MONTANELLI'S MEN
KNEW OF HIS MURDER BY
THE GESTAPO THEY WOULD
RISE UP AGAINST
THE NAZIS.



GUIDO HAD AN UNPLEASANT NOTION OF
WHAT WAS COMING NEXT.

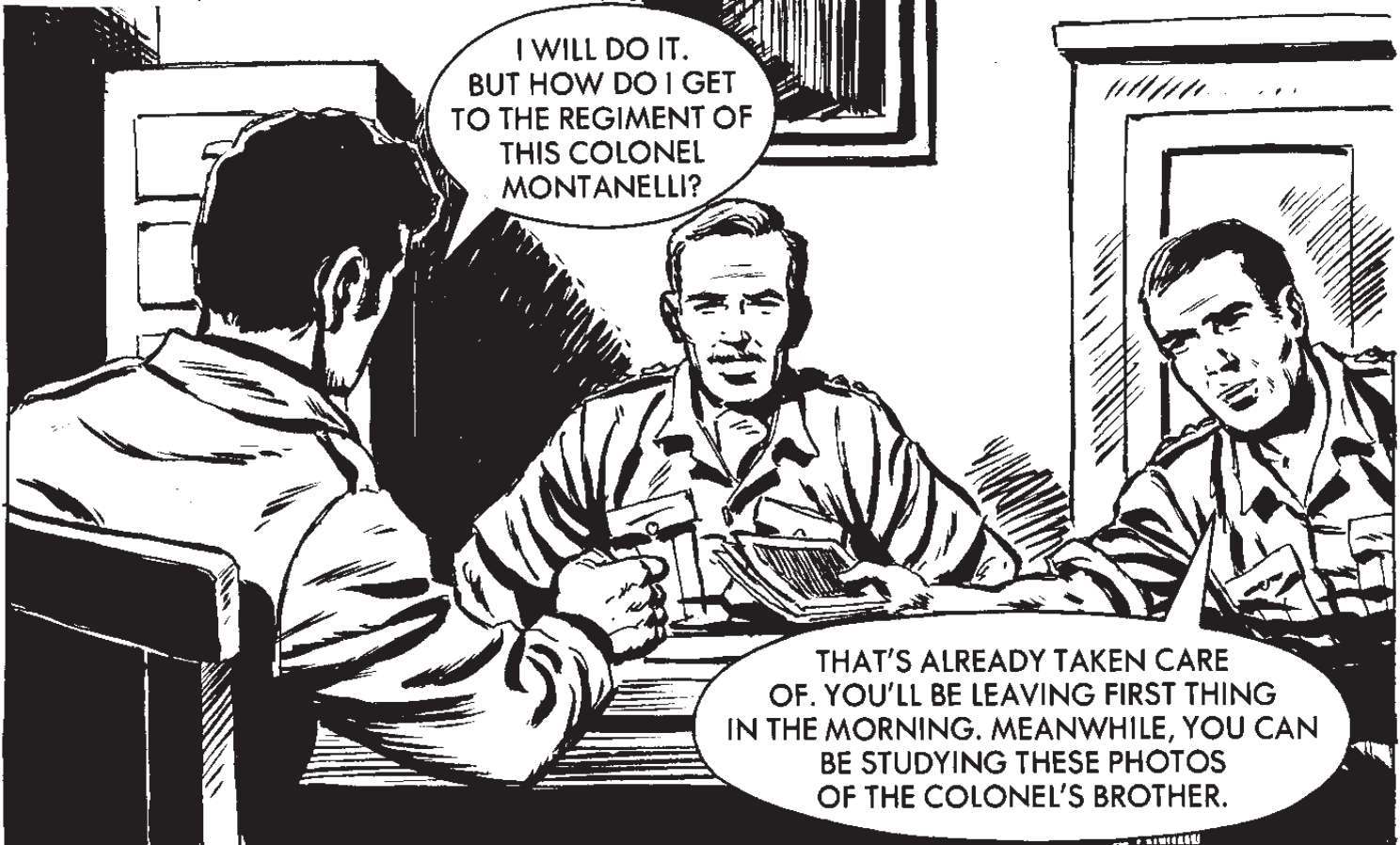
THAT IS WHERE
YOU COME IN. MONTANELLI
HAS A BROTHER, AN ARMY CAPTAIN,
AT PRESENT IN A P.O.W.
CAMP IN CANADA.



THEY WANTED GUIDO TO IMPERSONATE
HIM... TELL THE REGIMENT HOW THEIR
COLONEL HAD DIED.

FOR A MOMENT THE ITALIAN HESITATED. BUT HE QUICKLY CAST ASIDE HIS DOUBTS.
ACTING WAS HIS PROFESSION AND HE HAD VOLUNTEERED TO HELP THE ALLIES IN ANY
WAY HE COULD.

I WILL DO IT.
BUT HOW DO I GET
TO THE REGIMENT OF
THIS COLONEL
MONTANELLI?

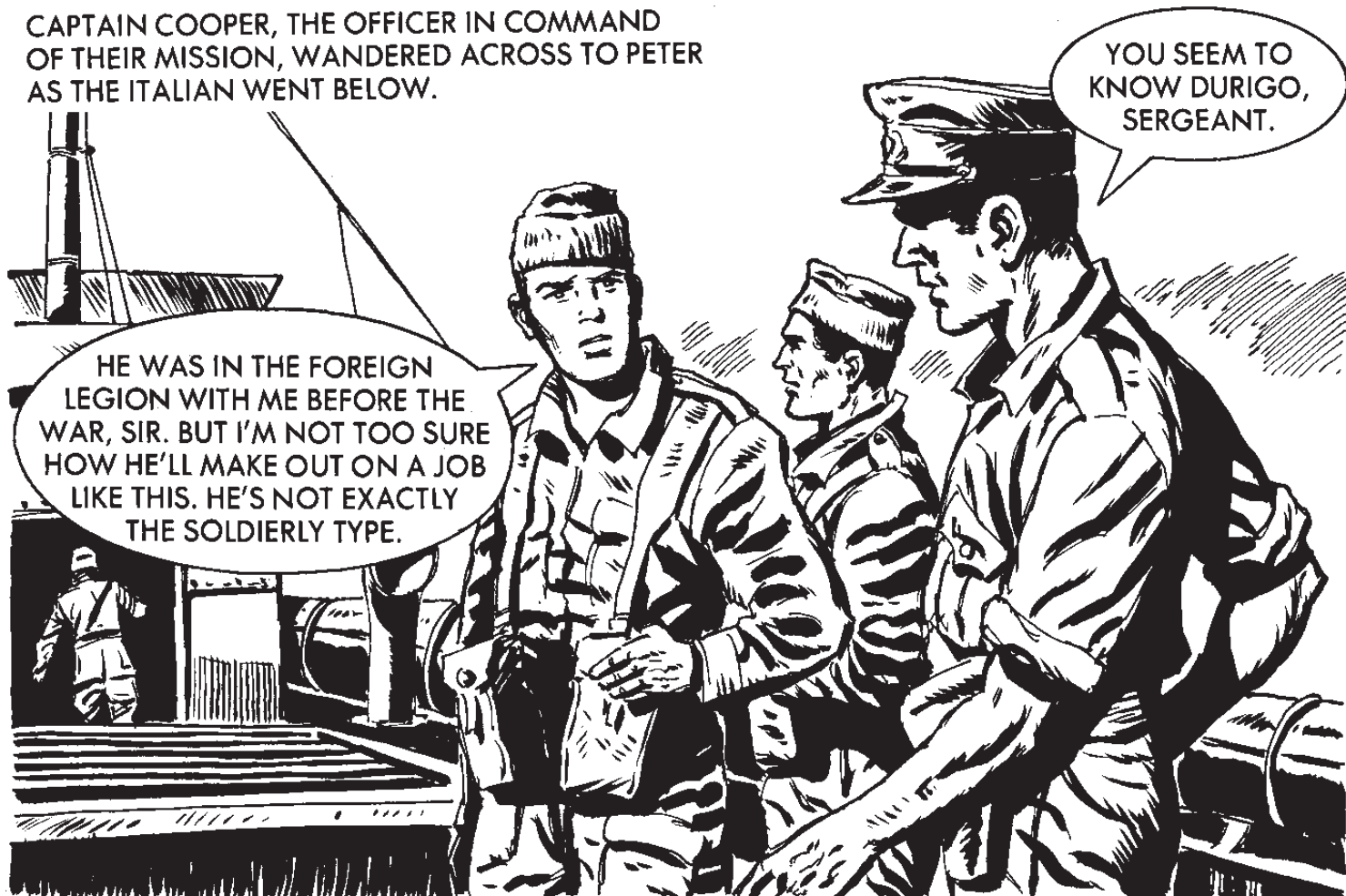


THAT'S ALREADY TAKEN CARE
OF. YOU'LL BE LEAVING FIRST THING
IN THE MORNING. MEANWHILE, YOU CAN
BE STUDYING THESE PHOTOS
OF THE COLONEL'S BROTHER.

AT DAWN THE NEXT DAY, KITTED OUT IN THE UNIFORM OF AN ITALIAN CAPTAIN, GUIDO WAS WHISKED ABOARD AN M.T.B. — THE FIRST MEN HE SAW WERE PETER AND TOM. THEY WERE PART OF A TEAM WHICH HAD THE JOB OF GETTING HIM TO HIS DESTINATION.



CAPTAIN COOPER, THE OFFICER IN COMMAND OF THEIR MISSION, WANDERED ACROSS TO PETER AS THE ITALIAN WENT BELOW.



HOWEVER THERE WAS NO TIME TO FIND A BETTER CANDIDATE FOR THE ROLE. THE M.T.B. WAS ALREADY CASTING OFF.



WE HAVEN'T MUCH CHOICE. OUR LANDINGS ARE DUE TO TAKE PLACE ANY DAY NOW AND WE NEED MONTANELLI'S REGIMENT TO TURN ON THE GERMANS UP NORTH.

BUT WHY CAN'T WE SIMPLY TELL THE ITALIANS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COLONEL, SIR?

COOPER SHRUGGED. THE ALLIES COULD OFFER NO PROOF OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

THEY WOULD THINK IT WAS A TRICK. HOWEVER THEY WILL BELIEVE MONTANELLI'S OWN BROTHER.



THERE HADN'T BEEN TIME TO GET THE REAL BROTHER BACK FROM CANADA. HENCE THE IDEA OF USING GUIDO TO IMPERSONATE HIM.

THROUGH THAT DAY AND INTO THE NIGHT, THE M.T.B. SAILED NORTH. BUT IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE FOLLOWING MORNING AS THEY WERE NEARING THEIR DESTINATION, DISASTER STRUCK.



E-BOATS! OFF THE PORT BOW, SIR!

THERE WERE TWO ENEMY CRAFT SO THE M.T.B.'s SKIPPER KNEW IT WOULD BE USELESS TO FIGHT — FLIGHT WAS THEIR ONLY CHANCE.

STARBOARD
TEN! WE'LL
HAVE TO TRY AND
GIVE 'EM THE
SLIP.



HOPING TO AVOID DETECTION BY LOSING ITSELF IN THE SHADOWS CAST BY THE DARK BULK OF THE LAND, THE BRITISH VESSEL TURNED PARALLEL WITH THE COAST. BUT IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.

THEY'VE
SEEN US!

FULL AHEAD
BOTH! PREPARE
FOR ACTION!



SECONDS LATER AN ENEMY SEARCHLIGHT PIERCED THE DARKNESS, CATCHING THE BRITISH CRAFT SQUARELY IN ITS BEAM.

KNOCK OUT THAT LIGHT!

BOTH SIDES OPENED FIRE IN THE SAME INSTANT. BUT THE M.T.B. HAD NO CHANCE AGAINST THE SUPERIOR FIRE-POWER OF THE GERMAN BOATS.

CRIKEY! THOSE BLIGHTERS KNOW HOW TO SHOOT!

AND WE'VE GOT TO SIT HERE AND TAKE IT, SIR.

THIS IS A NAVY JOB, SERGEANT. WE'D ONLY GET IN THE WAY.

THE BRITISH GUNNERS FOUGHT BACK AS BEST THEY COULD.

IF WE CAN
MANAGE TO GET
ROUND THE HEADLAND,
WE MIGHT HAVE
A CHANCE.

IT'S OUR ONLY
HOPE! MAKE SMOKE!
WE... AAAGH!



THE M.T.B. SKIPPER'S TIME FOR HOPING HAD RUN
OUT. A SHELL BLAST NEAR THE WHEEL-HOUSE
KILLED HIM INSTANTLY.

THE OLD MAN'S
BOUGHT IT!

GO AND SEE
WHAT'S HAPPENING
BELOW! WE'VE GOT TO
KEEP MOVING AS
LONG AS WE CAN.



UNDER COVER OF A BILLOWING SMOKE SCREEN, THE M.T.B. MADE FOR THE HEADLAND, BUT SHE HAD BEEN HARD HIT AND WAS TAKING IN WATER FAST.

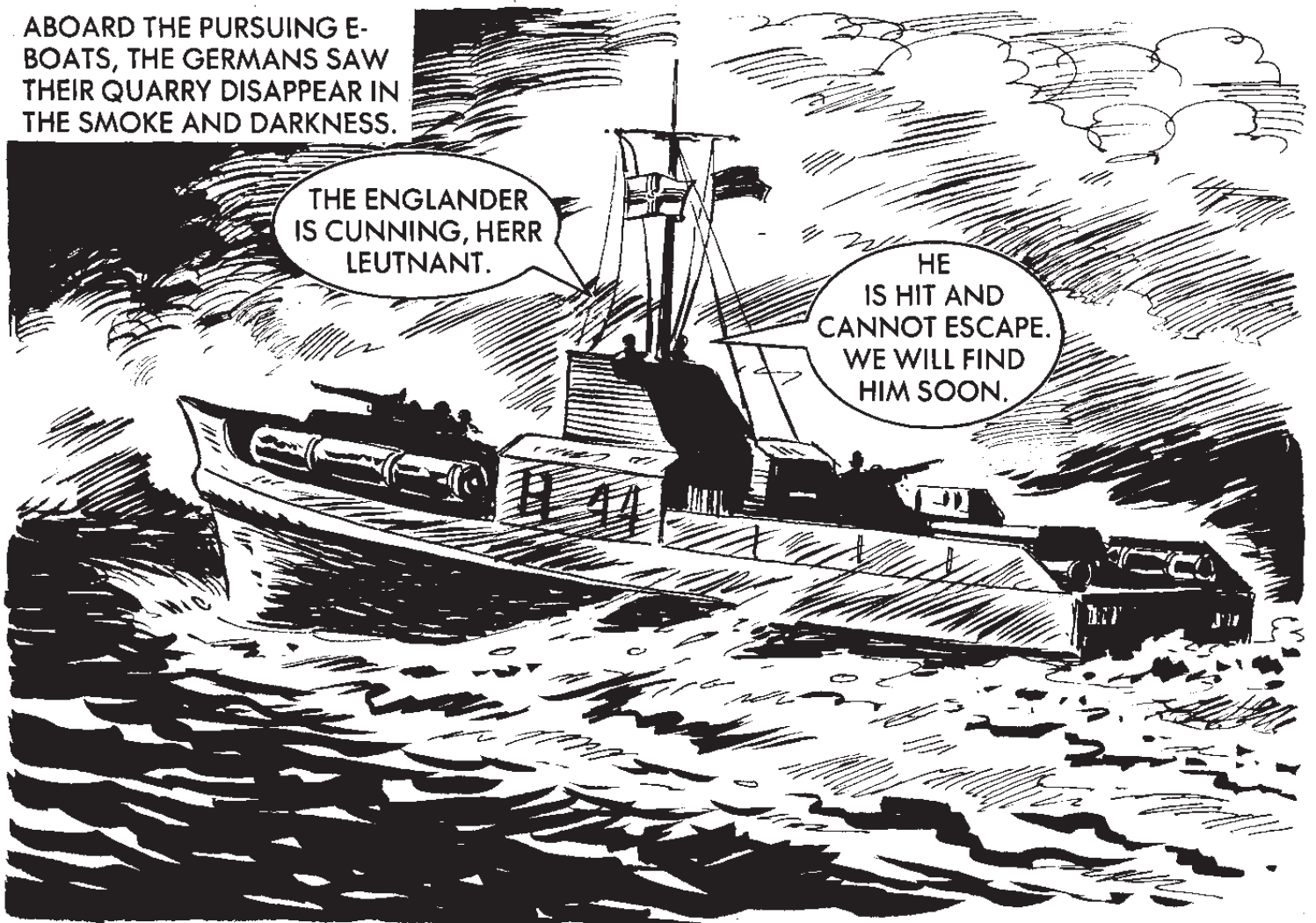
THE ENGINE ROOM'S FLOODING! THE PUMPS CAN'T COPE.

YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP HER GOING AS LONG AS YOU CAN!

ABOARD THE PURSUING E-BOATS, THE GERMANS SAW THEIR QUARRY DISAPPEAR IN THE SMOKE AND DARKNESS.

THE ENGLANDER IS CUNNING, HERR LEUTNANT.

HE IS HIT AND CANNOT ESCAPE. WE WILL FIND HIM SOON.



ONE LAST, LUCKY MACHINE-GUN BURST FROM THE ENEMY CRAFT HIT HOME JUST AS PETER AND THE OTHERS CAME ON DECK. CAPTAIN COOPER WAS KILLED INSTANTLY.



THOSE WORDS WERE
CONFIRMED A FEW
MINUTES LATER.



STILL HIDDEN BY DRIFTING SMOKE, PETER AND THE OTHERS STRUCK OUT FOR THE BEACH, BARELY FIFTY YARDS AWAY.

IT WAS A TOUGH SWIM AFTER WHAT THEY'D BEEN THROUGH BUT THEY ALL MADE IT.

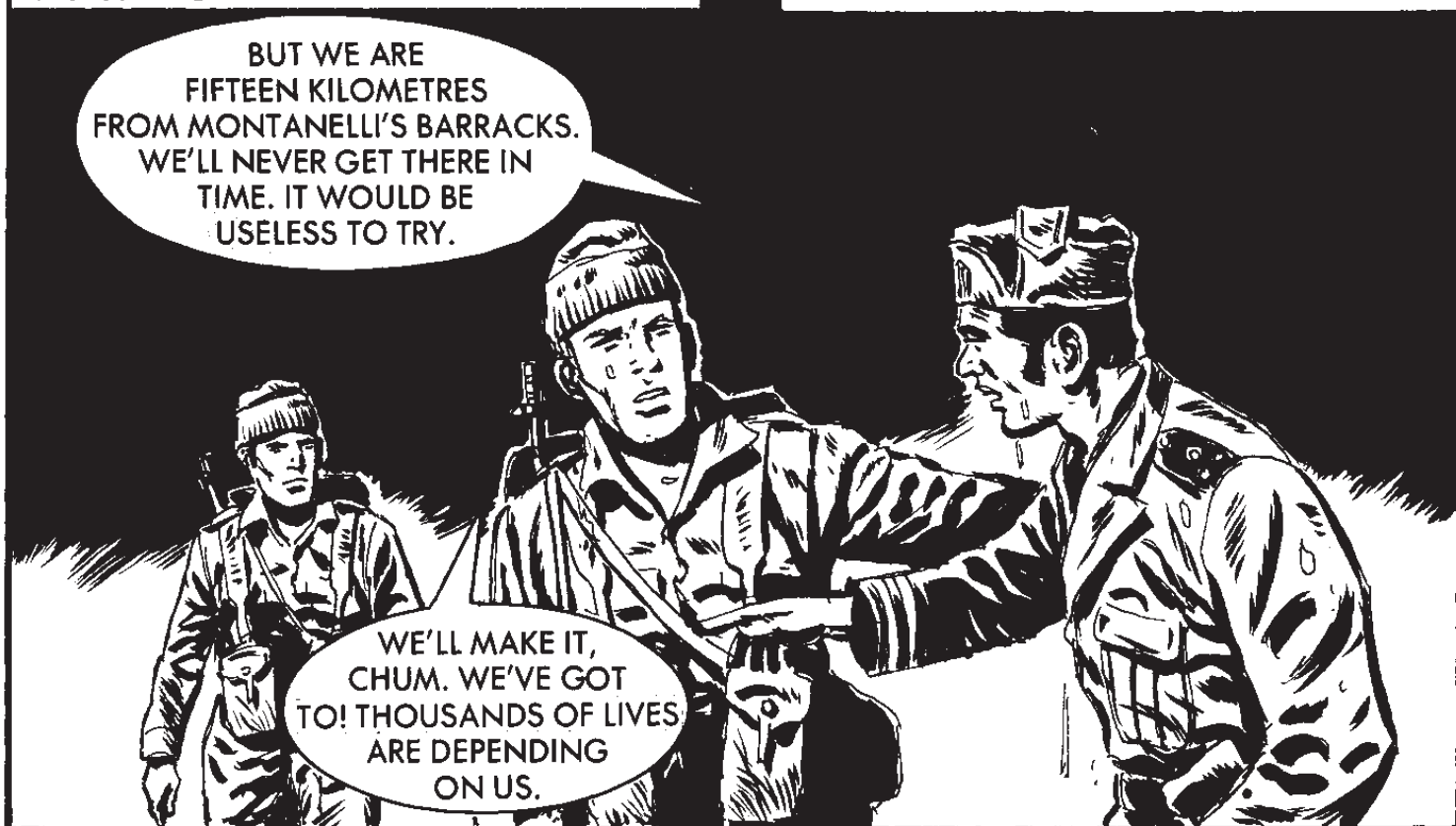


WHAT NOW, PETER? CAPTAIN COOPER WAS KILLED AT THE START, SO YOU'RE IN CHARGE.

WE'D BETTER GET GOING AS FAST AS WE CAN. THOSE E-BOATS ARE STILL THERE. THEY'LL HAVE EVERY JERRY IN THE AREA OUT HUNTING US.

PETER HAD NO INTENTION OF ABANDONING THEIR MISSION IN SPITE OF THE ODDS NOW STACKED AGAINST THEM, WHICH INCLUDED GUIDO'S FALTERING NERVE.

BUT WE ARE FIFTEEN KILOMETRES FROM MONTANELLI'S BARRACKS. WE'LL NEVER GET THERE IN TIME. IT WOULD BE USELESS TO TRY.



WE'LL MAKE IT, CHUM. WE'VE GOT TO! THOUSANDS OF LIVES ARE DEPENDING ON US.

HE KNEW THAT IF THEY ACCOMPLISHED THEIR TASK, LARGE NUMBERS OF GERMANS WOULD BE DRAWN TO THE AREA, THUS REDUCING PRESSURE ON THE ALLIED INVASION FORCES.

LET'S GET THIS GEAR DIVIDED UP AND BE ON OUR WAY. THE WOUNDED WILL HAVE TO STAY BEHIND WITH OUR NAVY PALS.

WE'LL GET BY, SERGEANT. DON'T WORRY ABOUT US.

THOSE NOT HEADING OFF ON THE MISSION DECIDED TO WALK SOUTH — IF ANYWHERE, SAFETY LAY THERE.

THE M.T.B.'s SUB-LIEUTENANT HELD OUT HIS HAND TO PETER WHEN IT WAS TIME FOR THE SOLDIERS TO LEAVE.

GOOD LUCK, SERGEANT.

THANK YOU, SIR. I'VE AN IDEA WE'RE GOING TO NEED IT.

SECRETLY HE MADE SURE THE TALISMAN WAS STILL IN HIS POCKET. PERHAPS IT DID HAVE SOME STRANGE POWER...

IT WAS STILL DARK WHEN JIM AND THE REST OF HIS PARTY MOVED OUT, AND THEY DIDN'T STOP FOR THE DAWN. INSTEAD THEY CONTINUED TO MAKE GOOD PROGRESS UNTIL LATE ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.



AFTER NOT SEEING A SOUL FOR THE BEST PART OF TWENTY-FOUR HOURS THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF AN OLD ITALIAN VILLAGER TOOK THEM BY SURPRISE.

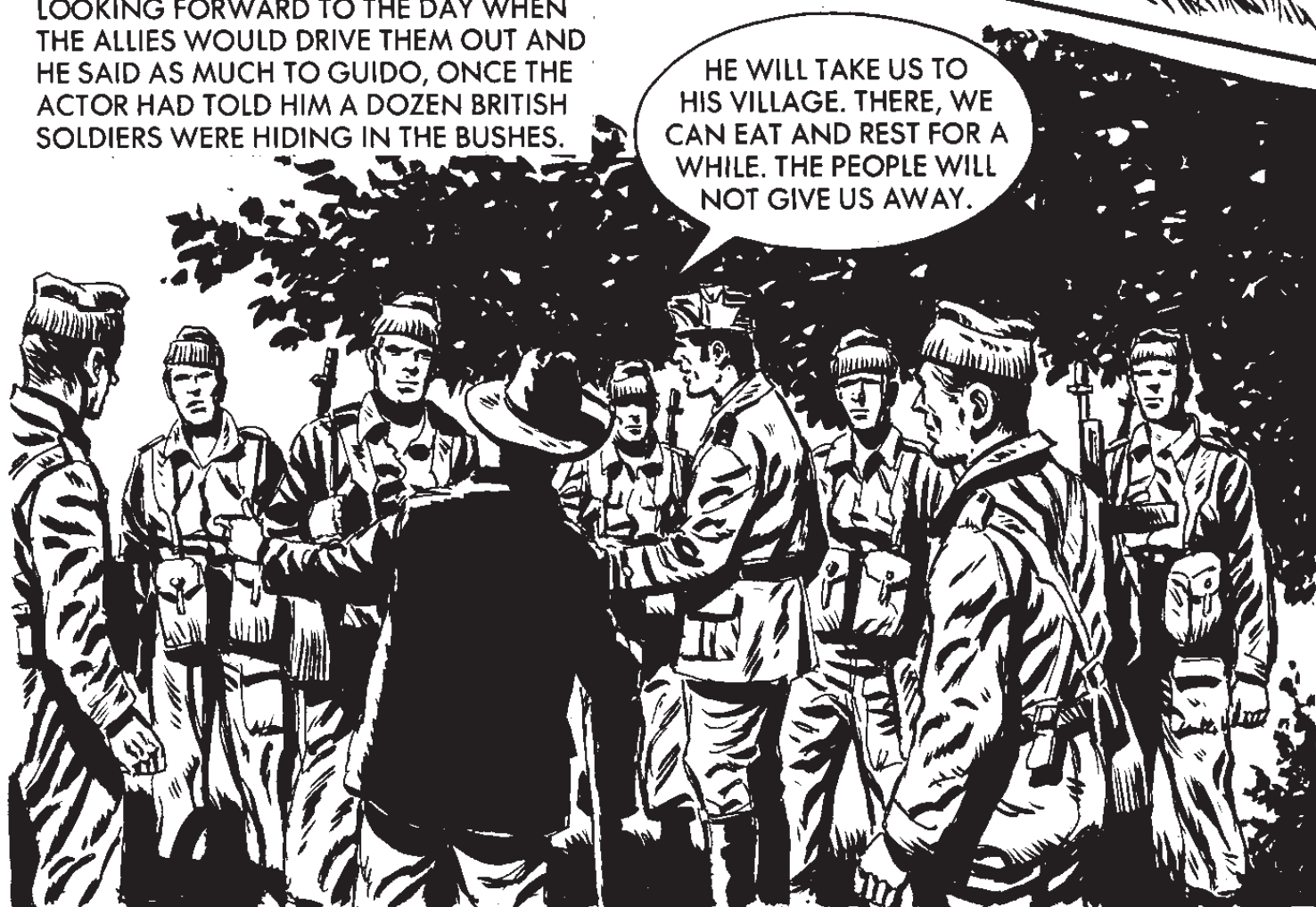
THEY DUCKED BACK INTO THE BUSHES, BUT IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE. THE OLD MAN HAD CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF THEM AND HAD DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE.



TENSELY THE BRITISH PARTY WATCHED AS GUIDO APPROACHED THE OLD MAN WHO SEEMED GLAD TO SEE HIM, JUDGING BY THE TORRENT OF WORDS WHICH SPILLED FORTH FROM HIM.



PETER WAS RIGHT. THE ITALIAN HAD HAD ENOUGH OF THE NAZIS. HE WAS OPENLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN THE ALLIES WOULD DRIVE THEM OUT AND HE SAID AS MUCH TO GUIDO, ONCE THE ACTOR HAD TOLD HIM A DOZEN BRITISH SOLDIERS WERE HIDING IN THE BUSHES.



THEIR GUIDE WAS AS GOOD AS HIS WORD. THE VILLAGERS WELCOMED THEM AND PETER WAS GLAD OF A CHANCE FOR THEM ALL TO REST.



BUT THEIR LUCK WAS ABOUT TO RUN OUT. A FEW HOURS LATER A YOUNGSTER BURST INTO THE HOUSE, BABBLING EXCITEDLY.



GUIDO QUICKLY TRANSLATED THE BOY'S WORDS — HE HAD BROUGHT BAD NEWS.



ONE OF THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY TOOK THE FUGITIVES OUT OF A REAR ENTRANCE AND LED THEM DEEP INTO THE NEARBY WOODS.



MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE VILLAGE, THE GERMAN SEARCH PARTY HAD REACHED THE HOUSE IN WHICH THE BRITISH HAD TAKEN SHELTER.



THE GUARD HAD FOUND THE PLAYING CARDS WHICH GUIDO HAD CARELESSLY LEFT BEHIND. THE ITALIAN FAMILY DENIED ALL KNOWLEDGE OF IT, BUT THEY KNEW THE GAME WAS UP.



HALF AN HOUR LATER THE GERMAN COLONEL IN COMMAND OF THE AREA ADDRESSED THE VILLAGERS WHO HAD BEEN ASSEMBLED IN THE SQUARE. ALTHOUGH HIS ITALIAN WAS POOR HIS AUDIENCE UNDERSTOOD HIS MESSAGE PERFECTLY.



THE ITALIANS SHUFFLED UNEASILY, BUT NO ONE SPOKE OR DARED TO OBSTRUCT THE GERMANS IN ANY WAY AS THE HOSTAGES WERE ROUNDED UP.



THE YOUNG MEN WERE HERDED INTO A HOUSE AT THE END OF THE STREET. A FEW HOURS LATER AN OLD MAN BROUGHT THE NEWS TO THE BRITISH IN THE CLEARING WHERE THEY WERE HIDING OUT.



THE BREATHLESS MESSENGER WAS SEATED ON A LOG, AND AFTER HE'D RECOVERED HE STARTED TO TALK. GUIDO TRANSLATED.

THE GERMANS HAVE TAKEN THE YOUNG MEN AS HOSTAGES. THEY WILL ALL BE SHOT IF WE DO NOT GIVE OURSELVES UP!



WHERE ARE THEY BEING HELD?

BUT GUIDO HAD ALREADY MADE UP HIS MIND ABOUT WHAT HAD TO BE DONE.

WE CANNOT LET THEM BE SHOT. WE MUST DO AS THEY WISH.



WE HAVE A VITAL JOB TO DO, GUIDO, AND WE'RE GOING TO DO IT, SO FIND OUT WHERE THEY ARE IMPRISONED.

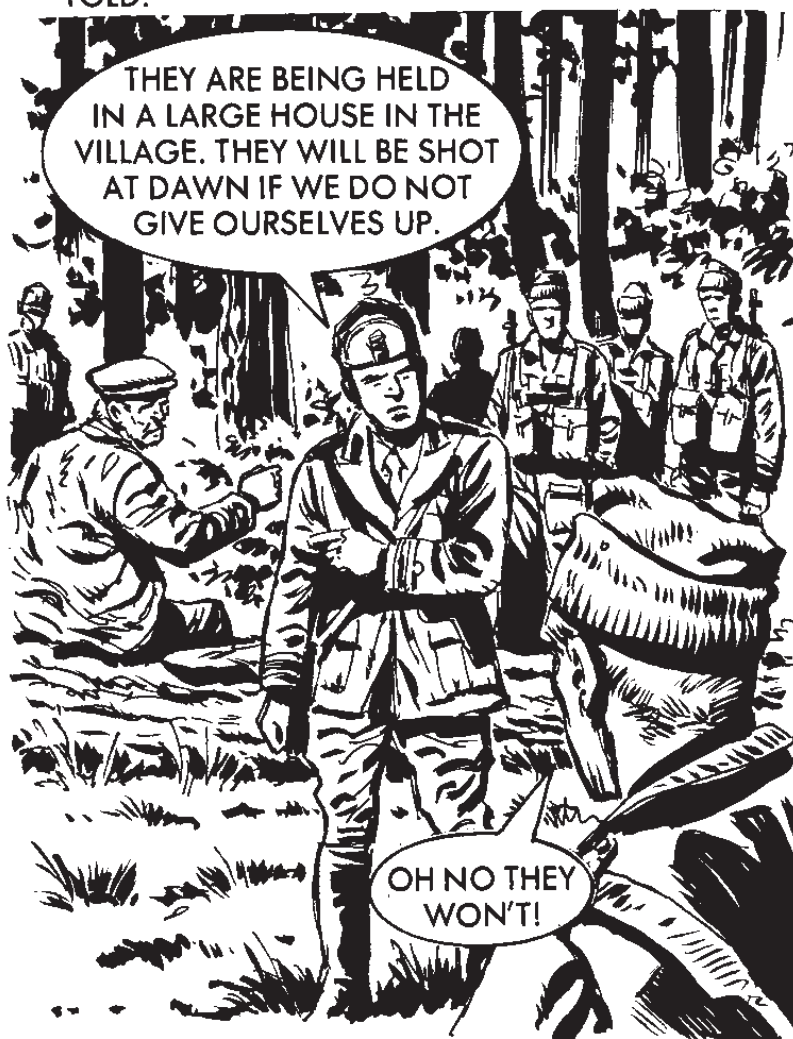
HOWEVER THE ITALIAN ACTOR WAS ADAMANT. HE WOULD NOT LIFT A FINGER TO AID THE BRITISH MISSION WHILE HIS COUNTRYMEN WERE UNDER THREAT.



PETER, TOO, WANTED THE ITALIANS SAVED AND WAS PREPARED TO DO EVERYTHING HE COULD TO RESCUE THEM.



REALISING HIS FRIEND WOULD NOT BE SWAYED, GUIDO RELUCTANTLY DID AS HE WAS TOLD.



QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY, PETER MADE HIS PLANS. AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED THE ONLY PEOPLE GOING TO BE SHOT WERE GERMANS.



RIGHT! LET'S GO.
THEY'LL BE EXPECTING
US TO SURRENDER, NOT TO
CHARGE IN WITH ALL
GUNS BLAZING.

WITH GUIDO AT HIS SIDE, HE LED THE SMALL FORCE OFF AT A CRACKING PACE AS DUSK SETTLED ON THE FOREST.



KEEP IT
QUIET AND STAY
ON YOUR GUARD.

REACHING THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE WITHOUT INCIDENT, THEY QUICKLY FOUND A CONCEALED VANTAGE POINT WHICH OFFERED A GOOD VIEW OF THE CLUSTER OF HOUSES.



TOM NODDED AND CREPT OFF, WAVING TO HIS SQUAD TO FOLLOW HIM. PETER, GUIDO AND THE OTHERS HEADED FOR THEIR TARGET.



SOON BOTH GROUPS WERE EDGING THROUGH THE UNDERGROWTH. IN TENSE SILENCE PETER WAITED FOR TOM'S DIVERSION TO BEGIN.



PETER AND HIS SQUAD MANAGED TO REACH A LOW WALL WHICH SKIRTED THE HOUSE BEFORE THEY SAW ANY GERMANS.



AS THE GUARDS PASSED AGAIN ON THEIR CIRCUIT OF THE HOUSE, THEY WERE DEALT WITH.

IT'S NOT
YOUR NIGHT,
FRITZ!

UUGH!



IN THE SAME INSTANT THE CHATTER OF SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM THE OTHER END OF THE VILLAGE SIGNALLLED THAT TOM'S SQUAD HAD MADE THEIR MOVE.

LET'S
GO!



LIKE SHADOWS PETER'S MEN HOPPED
SILENTLY OVER THE WALL.

KEEPING LOW, THEY CHARGED FOR THE HOUSE AND BURST INTO THE KITCHEN WHICH WAS BEING USED AS A TEMPORARY GUARD-ROOM.



INSIDE, THREE GERMANS WERE SEATED ROUND A TABLE PLAYING CARDS.

ALTHOUGH THEY SNATCHED UP THEIR WEAPONS AS SOON AS THEY SAW BRITISH UNIFORMS, THE ENEMY SOLDIERS WERE GIVEN NO CHANCE TO USE THEM.



ONE GERMAN CHOSE TO IGNORE THE REQUEST AND PAID A HIGH PRICE.

THE REMAINING TWO DECIDED TO FOLLOW PETER'S ORDERS AS MORE BRITISH SOLDIERS FLOODED IN TO THE ROOM.



TAKE
A LOOK BEYOND
THAT OTHER DOOR,
GUIDO. THE PRISONERS
CAN'T BE FAR
AWAY.

TURNING THE KEY WHICH WAS STILL IN THE
LOCK, THE ITALIAN OPENED THE DOOR — IT
LED TO A LARGE CELLAR BELOW.



THEY ARE
HERE, PETER. ALL
OF THEM!

WITHOUT WAITING FOR AN INVITATION, THE HOSTAGES
CLATTERED UP THE RICKETY STAIR TO FREEDOM.

THE ENEMY HAD BEEN TAKEN COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE BUT THEY WERE BEGINNING TO HIT BACK AS THE BRITISH SOLDIERS SHEPHERDED THE YOUNG MEN TO SAFETY.



THE LAST OF THE ITALIANS HOPPED OVER THE WALL AS GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE — THE FIRST THING THEY SAW WAS A GRENADE SAILING THROUGH THE AIR TOWARDS THEM, COURTESY OF PETER.



THE RESULTING BLAST GAVE THE TWO-MAN REARGUARD THE CHANCE TO ESCAPE OVER THE WALL WHILE THE GERMANS WERE LEFT IN CONFUSION.



AFTER THEM, YOU FOOLS! THEY HAVE FREED THE HOSTAGES!

BY THE TIME THEY HAD RALLIED, THEIR QUARRIES HAD JUST ABOUT REACHED THE TREES, HELPED BY THE REST OF THE SQUAD WHO WERE PUTTING UP A HEFTY FIELD OF COVERING FIRE.



NICE GOING! ONCE WE'RE SAFE WE'LL LET 'EM COME A BIT CLOSER, THEN GIVE 'EM A FEW GRENADES.

PETER WAS GREETED BY TOM WHOSE SQUAD HAD COMPLETED THEIR TASK WITHOUT A CASUALTY.

WHILE THE FREED HOSTAGES DISPERSED INTO THE FOREST AND HEADED FOR THE HILLS, PETER'S MEN WAITED FOR THE PURSUING GERMANS.



SEVERAL GRENADES THUDD TO THE GROUND AT THE GERMANS' FEET AND EXPLODED.



ALTHOUGH THE ENEMY SURVIVORS SOON RECOVERED, THE BRITISH HAD VANISHED LIKE GHOSTS INTO THE SHADOWY REACHES OF THE FOREST.



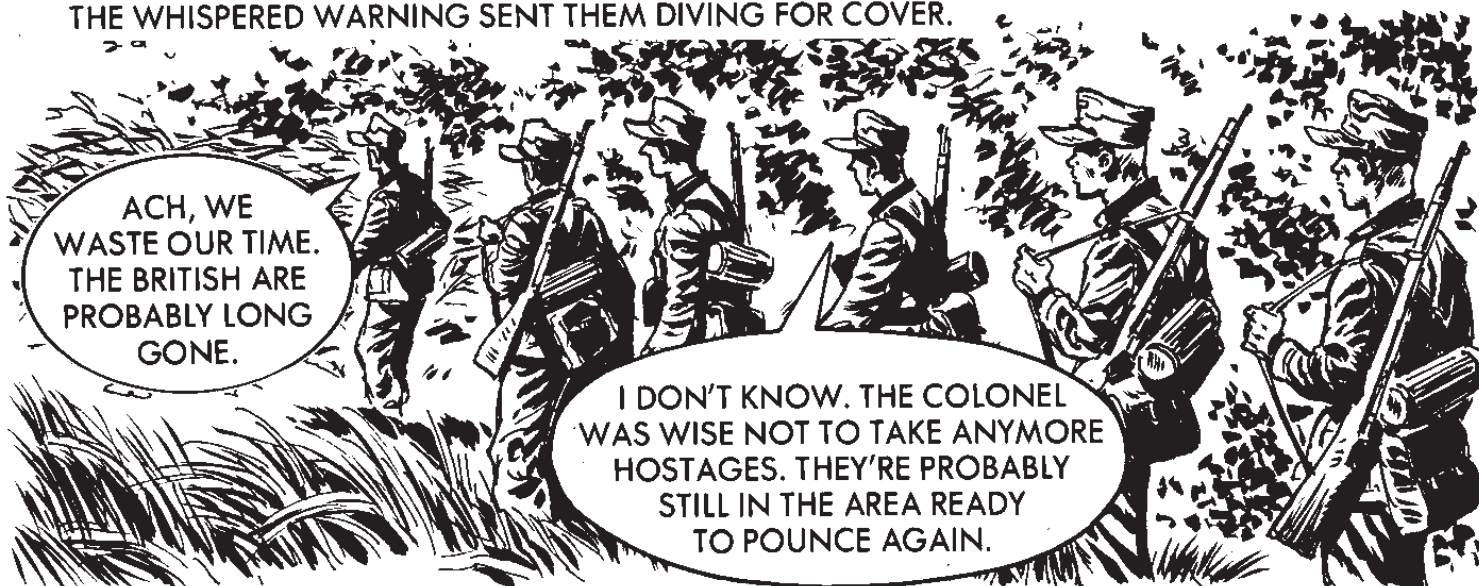
WHAT THEY'D JUST TAKEN PART IN WAS THE SIDE-SHOW. THE MAIN EVENT WAS STILL TO TAKE PLACE.

BY THE FOLLOWING DAWN, THE BARRACKS OF COLONEL MONTANELLI'S REGIMENT WERE STILL SOME MILES AWAY. AS THE GERMANS WERE NOW ON THE ALERT, REACHING THEM WAS PROVING TO BE A DIFFICULT TASK.



ENEMY PATROLS WERE EVERYWHERE.

THE WHISPERED WARNING SENT THEM DIVING FOR COVER.



HARDLY DARING TO BREATHE, PETER AND THE OTHERS FLATTENED THEMSELVES ON THE FOREST FLOOR, HOPING THE BRACKEN WOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE CAMOUFLAGE.



MIRACULOUSLY THE GERMANS PASSED BY WITHOUT NOTICING THEM.

THERE WAS NO DENYING THEIR LUCK. GUIDO FOR ONE ATTRIBUTED IT TO THE TALISMAN.



MOVING MORE WARILY, THEY PUSHED ON. OTHER PATROLS CROSSED THEIR PATH, BUT EACH TIME THE BRITISH WENT TO EARTH.



BY THIS TIME, GUIDO WAS CONSUMED BY FURY OVER THE GERMANS' TREATMENT OF THE VILLAGERS. NOW HE TOO WAS AS DETERMINED AS THE OTHERS TO MAKE THE MISSION SUCCEED.

THEN IT WILL BE MY TURN.
I WILL TELL MY COUNTRYMEN HOW
THE TEDESCHI TRIED TO MURDER THE
PEOPLE WHO HELPED US, AND HOW THEY
KILLED COLONEL MONTANELLI
BECAUSE HE WAS A PATRIOT.

THAT'S RIGHT,
GUIDO! YOU DO
JUST THAT.

AS THE GROUP CONTINUED ON ITS WAY
THROUGH THE FOREST, THE ITALIAN STRODE OUT
IN FRONT, SHAKING HIS FIST AND GETTING
INTO THE MOOD FOR THE PART HE WAS ABOUT
TO PLAY.

TOGETHER WE
WILL DRIVE THE NAZIS
FROM THIS COUNTRY.

WE WILL, BUT KEEP
IT QUIET FOR NOW, OR
JERRY'LL GET US BEFORE
WE EVEN REACH THE
BARRACKS.

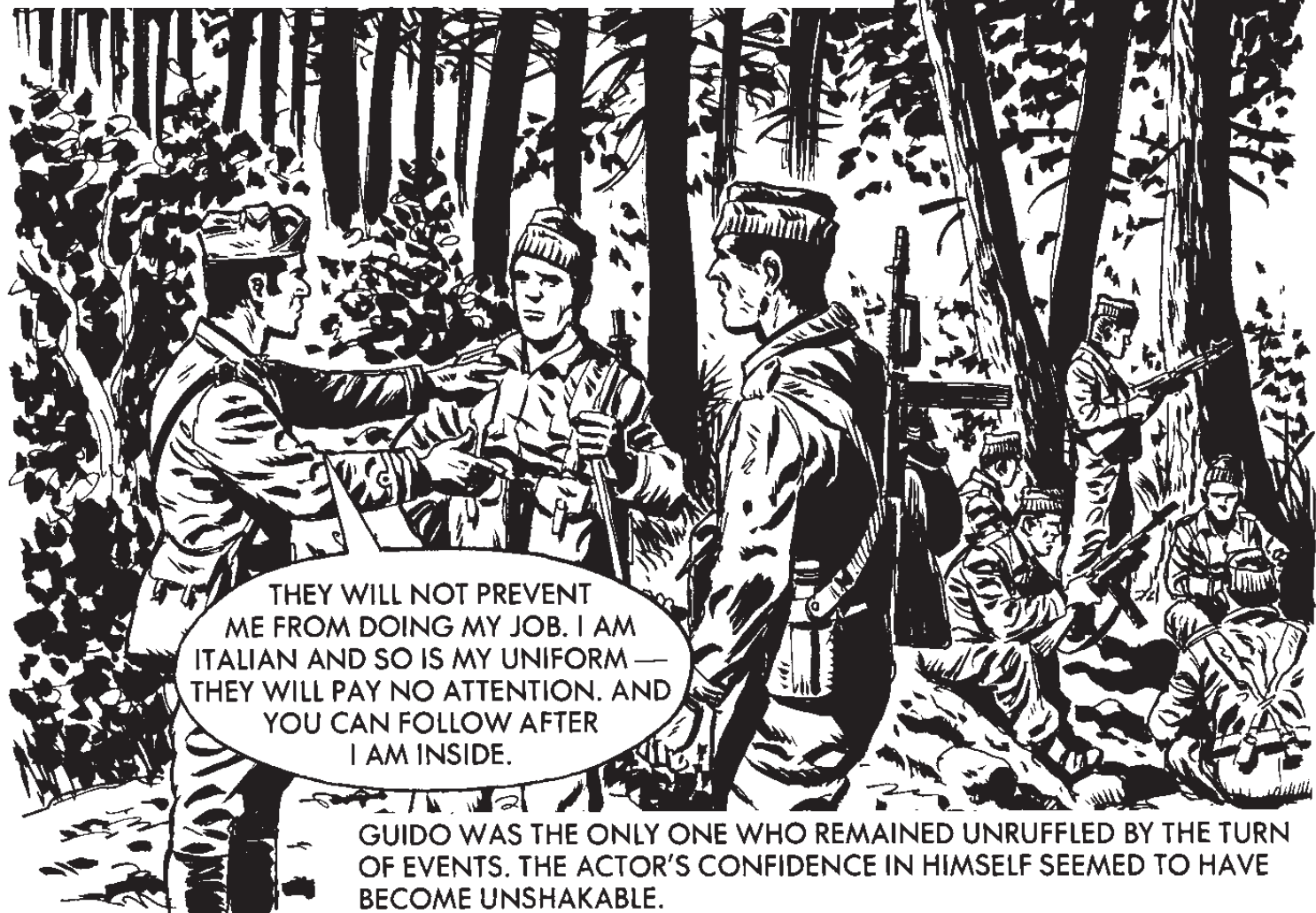
THE ITALIAN SIMMERED DOWN BUT SOON THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE TO WORRY ABOUT. WHEN THEY REACHED THEIR OBJECTIVE, A SHOCK AWAITED THEM — ROWS OF TENTS LAY OUTSIDE THE ITALIAN BARRACKS.



OH, NO!
LOOK DOWN THERE,
PETER!

OF ALL THE
CONFOUNDED LUCK!
A JERRY CAMP!

PETER AND TOM, WHO'D GONE AHEAD TO SCOUT, RETURNED TO REPORT THE SITUATION TO THE OTHERS. THIS WAS SOMETHING NONE OF THEM HAD FORESEEN.



THEY WILL NOT PREVENT
ME FROM DOING MY JOB. I AM
ITALIAN AND SO IS MY UNIFORM —
THEY WILL PAY NO ATTENTION. AND
YOU CAN FOLLOW AFTER
I AM INSIDE.

GUIDO WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO REMAINED UNRUFFLED BY THE TURN OF EVENTS. THE ACTOR'S CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF SEEMED TO HAVE BECOME UNSHAKABLE.

PETER AGREED TO THE PLAN. IT SEEMED LIKE THE BEST COURSE TO TAKE. IN ANY CASE, THEY HAD NO CHOICE NOW WITH THE GERMANS SO CLOSE.



TOM, HOWEVER, STILL HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THEIR OLD FRIEND AND HE VOICED THEM AS THE ITALIAN GOT BUSY WITH HIS MAKE-UP.



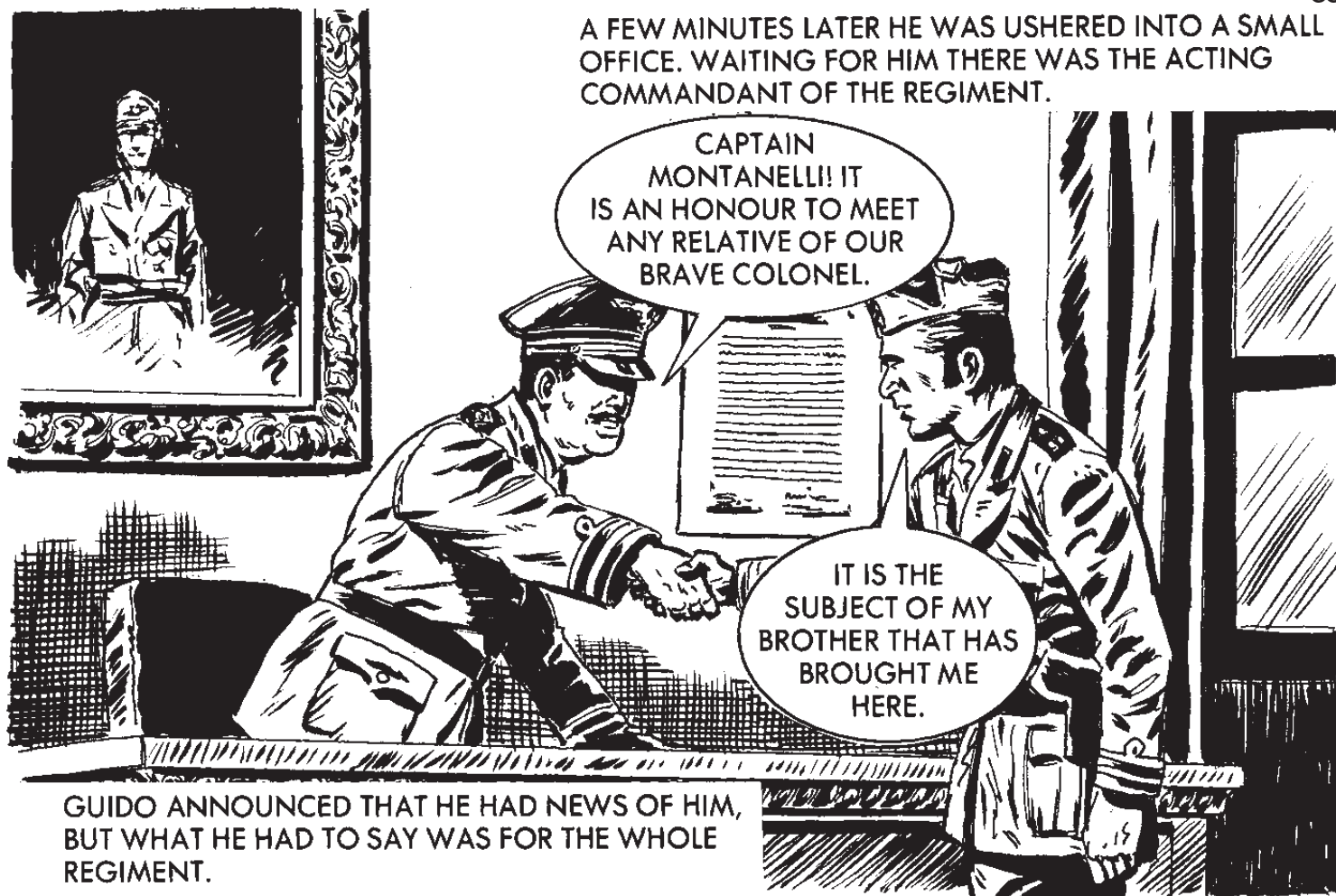
DARKNESS WAS CLOSING IN AS THEY MOVED INTO POSITION. GUIDO WAS TO BE ALLOWED A FEW MINUTES IN WHICH TO ENTER THE BUILDING BEFORE THEY STEALTHILY FOLLOWED HIM.



HE'D ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE MAIN DOORS OF THE BARRACKS. HIS MAKE-UP WAS GOOD AND THE GUARD IMMEDIATELY SPOTTED A RESEMBLANCE TO THEIR ABSENT C.O.



A FEW MINUTES LATER HE WAS USHERED INTO A SMALL OFFICE. WAITING FOR HIM THERE WAS THE ACTING COMMANDANT OF THE REGIMENT.



ALTHOUGH THE MAJOR WAS CURIOUS HE COMPLIED WITH GUIDO'S WISH BEFORE QUESTIONING HIM FURTHER.



AS THE MAJOR LED HIM TO THE ASSEMBLED MEN THE ACTOR'S TONE BECAME MORE BITTER AS HE CONTINUED HIS STORY.

THE GERMANS WERE LYING TO YOU. NOW I MUST TELL ALL THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF MY BROTHER'S BELOVED REGIMENT, WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO HIM.



THE BAFFLED SOLDIERS HAD GATHERED IN THE COURTYARD AROUND WHICH THE BARRACKS WERE BUILT. WHEN GUIDO APPEARED AND MOUNTED THE ROSTRUM THEIR CHATTER DIED DOWN AND THEY TURNED EXPECTANTLY TOWARDS HIM.

HIS EXPRESSION SERIOUS AND HIS VOICE SHAKING WITH EMOTION, HE FACED THE SEA OF UNIFORMS. AS HE STARTED HIS SPEECH, PETER AND THE REST CREPT INTO THE BUILDING. EVEN THE GUARDS HAD LEFT THEIR POSTS AND GONE TO THE COURTYARD.

THERE'S A BIT OF A COMMOTION COMING FROM BEYOND THAT DOOR, PETER. I RECKON THEY'RE IN THERE.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK!



HIS RAISED GUN CLINKED AGAINST THE TALISMAN IN HIS BREAST POCKET, REMINDING HIM IT WAS STILL THERE . . . NOT THAT ANY REMINDER WAS NEEDED.

CAUTIOUSLY PETER OPENED THE DOOR. THERE, IN FRONT OF HIM STOOD THE MASSED RANKS OF THE REGIMENT LISTENING, WITH RAPT FACES, TO GUIDO WHO WAS ADDRESSING THEM IN RINGING TONES.



LUCKILY THE ITALIANS WERE SO INTENT ON THE ACTOR'S WORDS THAT THEY FAILED TO NOTICE THEIR GUESTS.

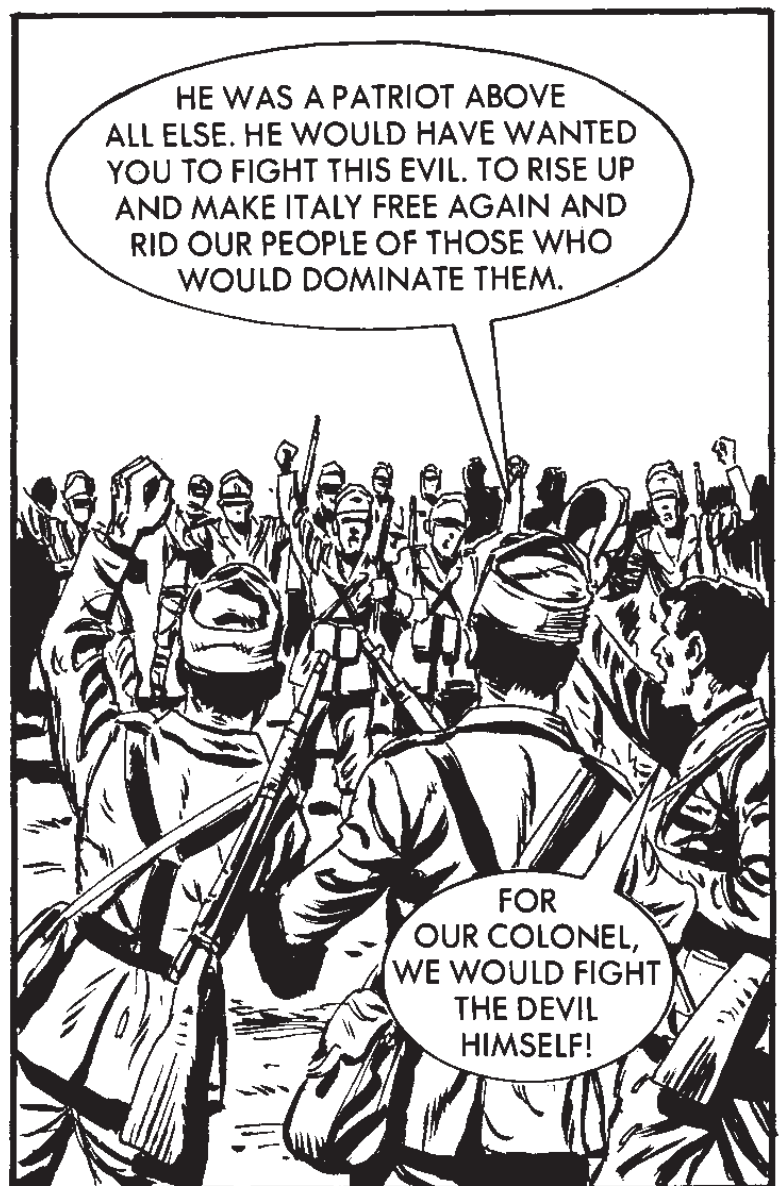
THEY WERE BEING TOLD JUST HOW MONTANELLI HAD BEEN MURDERED BY THE GESTAPO. WHILE THEY WERE STILL GASPING, GUIDO CONTINUED WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE GERMANS' TREATMENT OF THE VILLAGERS WHO HAD HELPED THE BRITISH AND HIMSELF.



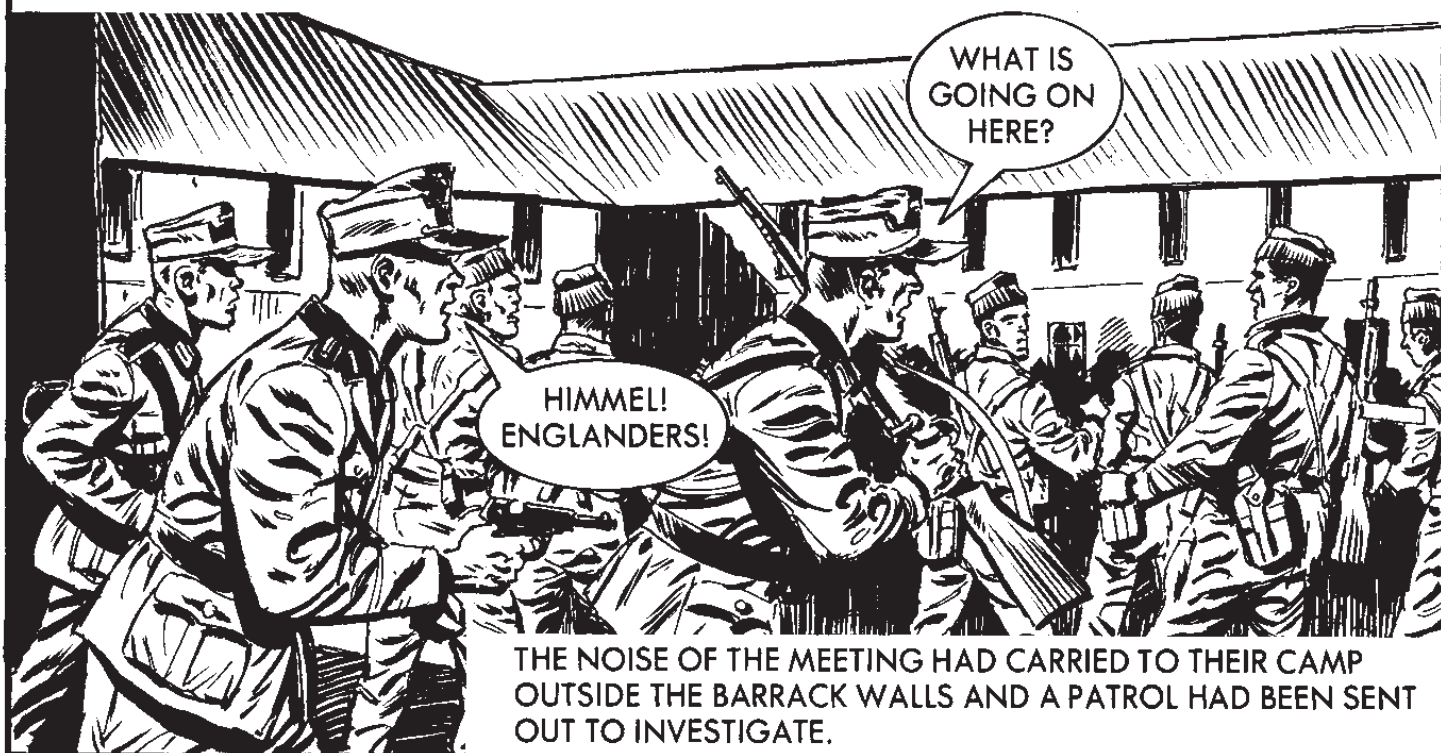
AS PETER AND HIS MEN LISTENED, THEY TOO BEGAN TO ADMIRE GUIDO'S ABILITY, FOR ALTHOUGH THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HIS WORDS, THE SINCERITY IN HIS VOICE AND ITS EFFECT ON HIS AUDIENCE WAS OBVIOUS.



HIS VOICE GATHERED STRENGTH AS HE URGED THE MEN ON.



OVERCOME WITH EMOTION, SHAKING THEIR FISTS AND VOWING VENGEANCE, THE ENTIRE REGIMENT JOINED IN THE GENERAL CLAMOUR — AT THAT VERY MOMENT THE DOOR LEADING INTO THE COURTYARD BURST OPEN TO REVEAL SEVERAL GERMAN SOLDIERS.



THE GERMANS, SEEING THE BRITISH UNIFORMS, OPENED FIRE AND PETER WAS CAUGHT IN THE FIRST BURST.



AS HE SLUMPED TO THE GROUND, TOM AND THE OTHERS RESET THE BALANCE, MATCHING BULLETS WITH BULLETS.



THE ITALIANS, INSPIRED BY GUIDO'S SPEECH AND INCENSED BY THE GERMANS' ACTIONS, WERE ALREADY SNATCHING UP THEIR WEAPONS JOINING THE FIGHT ON THE SIDE OF THE BRITISH.



WITHIN SECONDS A PITCHED BATTLE WAS RAGING. AND SOON THE TIDE BEGAN TO TURN AGAINST THE GERMANS. BUT THEY WEREN'T FALLING BACK AS FAST AS TOM WOULD HAVE LIKED.



MORE OF THE ENEMY WERE ON THE WAY. THEY BURST IN THROUGH A SIDE DOOR AND NO ONE SAW THEM BUT PETER — STILL CONSCIOUS HE WASN'T GOING TO LET A BULLET STOP HIM.



IN A DAZE HE SEIZED HIS TOMMY GUN AND SENT A STREAM OF LEAD SPRAYING INTO THE ADVANCING ENEMY RANKS.



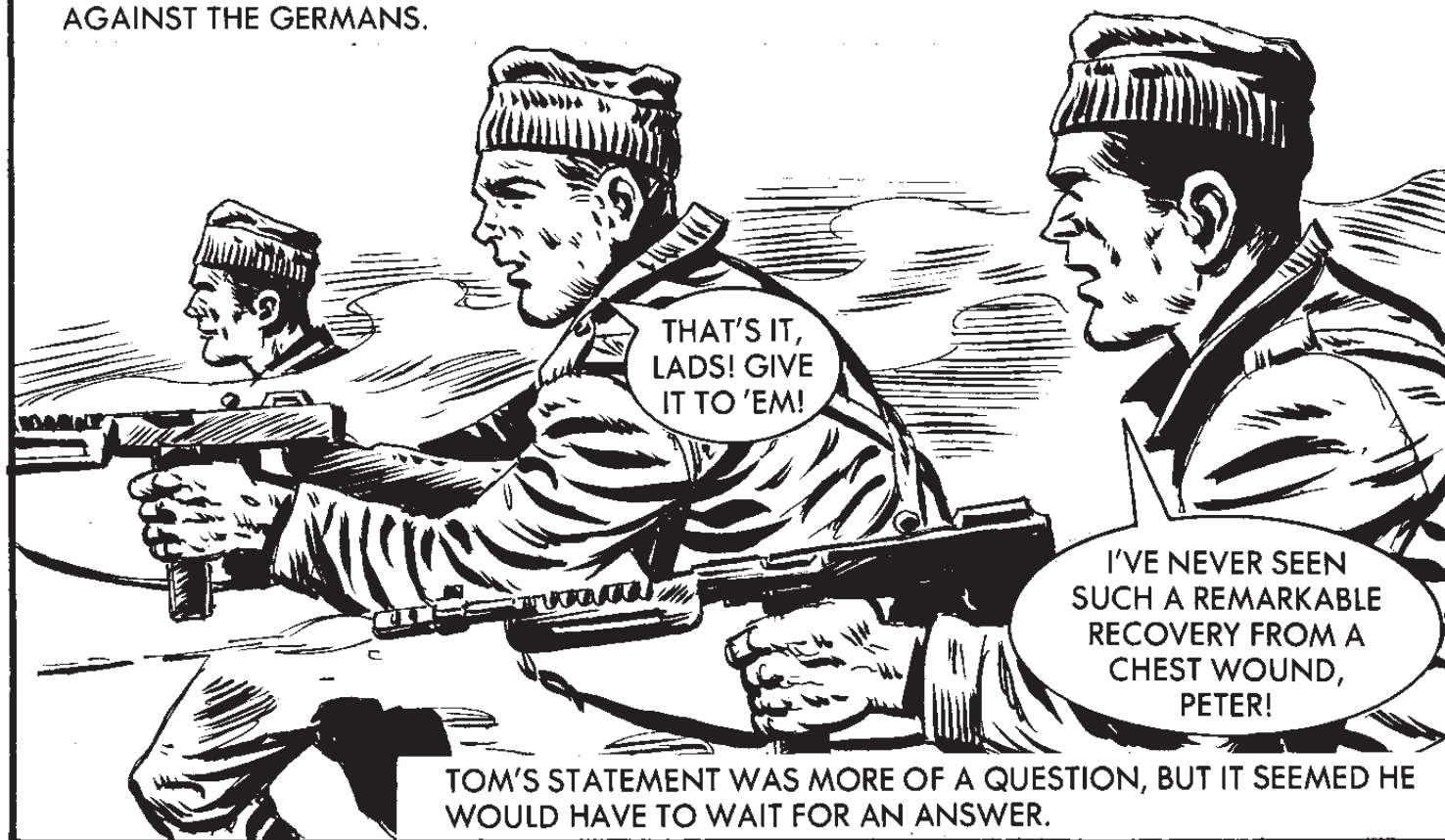
SEVERAL SOLDIERS FELL WOUNDED, ONE OF THEM DROPPING A GRENADE HE HAD BEEN ON THE POINT OF THROWING.



IT EXPLODED, CUTTING DOWN MORE GERMANS AND DRAWING THE ITALIANS' ATTENTION TO THE DANGER AT THEIR REAR.



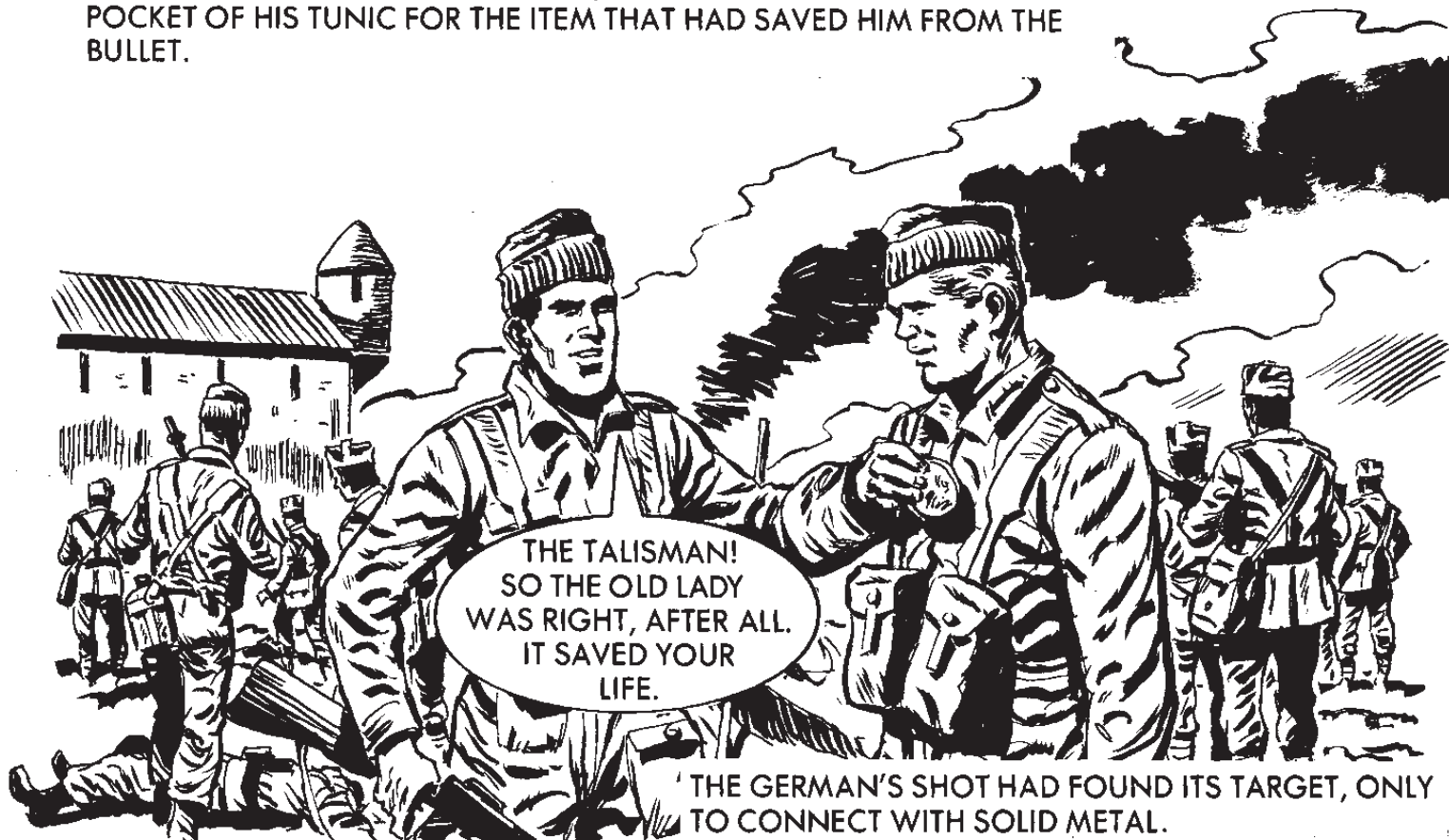
SECONDS LATER, PETER WAS MIRACULOUSLY BACK ON HIS FEET AND WITH TOM AT HIS SIDE THEY STOOD FIRM AGAINST THE GERMANS.



DRIVING THE GERMANS BEFORE THEM, THE ITALIANS, FIGHTING SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER WITH THE BRITISH, SURGED OUT OF THE BARRACKS AND INTO THE GERMAN CAMP.



WITH THE ENEMY SOON ROUTED, THE SHOOTING DIED DOWN. SEEING THE PUZZLED LOOK ON TOM'S FACE, PETER FISHED IN THE BREAST POCKET OF HIS TUNIC FOR THE ITEM THAT HAD SAVED HIM FROM THE BULLET.



THE TALISMAN!
SO THE OLD LADY
WAS RIGHT, AFTER ALL.
IT SAVED YOUR
LIFE.

THE GERMAN'S SHOT HAD FOUND ITS TARGET, ONLY TO CONNECT WITH SOLID METAL.

GUIDO'S EXPRESSION WAS ONE OF WONDER AS HE JOINED THEM AND SAW THE MEDALLION, BENT AND TWISTED BY THE IMPACT OF THE BULLET.



I TOLD YOU
IT HAD GREAT
POWER.

YOU WERE RIGHT,
GUIDO. AND THE OLD
LADY'S PROPHECY CAME
TRUE. MY FUTURE WAS
BOUND UP WITH
HER FAMILY.

SINCE GUIDO WAS A MAN OF THE SAME BLOOD, PETER DECIDED TO PASS IT ON TO HIM. IT WAS ONLY RIGHT THAT IT SHOULD RETURN TO ITS ORIGINAL OWNERS.

GRAVELY, ALMOST REVERENTLY, GUIDO TOOK THE TALISMAN, BUT PETER HAD A FEELING ITS JOURNEY WASN'T OVER. HE FELT SURE THAT IT WOULD PASS FROM HAND TO HAND UNTIL IT ENDED UP WHERE IT STARTED — WITH THE OLD LADY WHO'D BESTOWED IT ON PETER IN THE FIRST PLACE.

IT SERVED YOU WELL, MY FRIEND, AND BATTERED AND BENT AS IT IS, IT WILL SERVE OTHERS IN YEARS TO COME.



**THE FOUR
LATEST
ALL-ACTION
COMMANDO
WAR STORIES
ARE OUT NOW!**

**TANK WIFE
ACES WILD
IRON RESISTANCE
A MAN NEEDS LUCK**





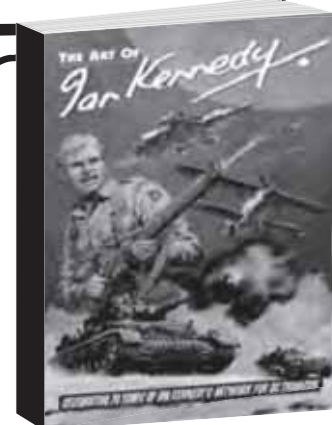
NAH THEN, SQUADDIES. IT'S ALL GO HERE IN MY MESS HALL. I'VE GOT ALL THE LATEST GEN JUST FOR YOU LOT, PLUS A SNEAK PEEK AT ONE OF HQ'S FINEST PRODUCTS. MIND, IF YOU WANT TO LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS ON ANYTHING COMMANDO, THEN GET IN TOUCH WITH ME OR THE BOFFINS AT COMMANDO HQ. CONTACT DETAILS ARE BELOW, SO GET SCRIBBLING.

COMMANDO NEWS!

Right then, listen up. We've got some cracking Commando stories lined up at the end of the month for you so keep your eyes skinned come the nineteenth!

While here at Commando you know our main gig is the Second World War, proper boys' adventure territory, it's sort of what we're known for — but there's some proper good stories to be told about the first lot. The "Great" one, I heard them calling it. Sure it wasn't so great at the time.

But don't you worry, sunshine, we've got accounts aplenty coming up in Commando. You'll be feasting your eyes on stories from British tankies, Canadian infantry, and even a conchie...



Ever heard of a man by the name of Ian Kennedy? I bet you have. Top British artist, he's even done some proper cracking depictions of yours truly. Well turns out he's been producing some fine art for DC Thomson for over seventy years, and, to celebrate, they went and put together a tasty art book with some of his best work. Pretty sure I've got a page dedicated to me in there too...

**And one last thing, don't forget there's another four shiny new Commandos out in two weeks' time.
Get your copies then. Tarra.
By direct order of the Quartermaster.**

www.commandocomics.com

CONTACT DETAILS ● post: Commando, D.C. Thomson & Co Ltd, 2 Albert Square, Dundee DD1 9QJ
● email: generalenquiries@commandomag.com
● phone: **01382 223131**

For advertising please contact:
Georgia Reiersen 0207 400 1057
greiersen@dctmedia.co.uk

Licensing:
generalenquiries@commandomag.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS commandoqueries@dctmedia.co.uk
SYNDICATION syndication@dctmedia.co.uk

COMPETITION RULES Employees of D.C. Thomson and their families are not eligible for prizes. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

DC THOMSON
MEDIA

**Published in Great Britain by D.C. Thomson & Co., Ltd.,
2 Albert Square, Dundee DD1 9QJ. © D.C. Thomson & Co., Ltd., 2020**



When you have finished with
this magazine please recycle it.

Distributed by Frontline Ltd,
Stuart House, St John's St,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire PE1 5DD.

Tel: +44 (0) 1733 555161.
Website: www.frontlinedistribution.co.uk

MISSED AN ISSUE?

NEVER AGAIN IF YOU SUBSCRIBE TO

Commando

**SAVE
£130
A YEAR!**
ONLY ~~£2.25~~ £1
PER ISSUE!



- GET ALL 4 ISSUES EVERY 2 WEEKS!
- DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR HQ!
- 26 COMICS FOR ONLY £26!*
- PRINT AND DIGITAL COPIES AVAILABLE!

**BETTER
THAN HALF
PRICE!**

**FREE
GIFT!**

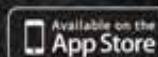
**ORDER NOW
FOR FREE
COMMANDO
CUFFLINKS!**



ORDER ONLINE www.Commandocomics.com

CALL **0800 318 846** Freephone from UK landlines and mobiles (Mon-Fri 8am-6pm. Sat 9am-5pm GMT)
PLEASE QUOTE: **CCUFF** TO CLAIM YOUR **FREE GIFT!**

*Direct Debit offer. Saving shown based on yearly retail price of £234 compared to Direct Debit price of £104. One year non-direct price: £150. Six months non Direct Debit price: £85. Direct Debit available for UK bank accounts only. Overseas customers please call +441382 575580. Offer ends 16th April, 2020.



A MAN NEEDS LUCK

When the bullets start to fly a man needs to be very quick or very fortunate if he's going to get out of the way. Peter Reed reckoned he was one of the fortunate ones — after all, the lucky charm he carried in his pocket had seen him safely through a lot of hard fighting in the desert with both The Foreign Legion and The British Army.

But now it faces its toughest test of all as Peter finds himself behind enemy lines and surrounded by itchy trigger-fingers.



Commando

THE SILVER COLLECTION

www.commandocomics.com