

HERGÉ

THE ADVENTURES OF

TINTIN

THE CRAB  
WITH  
THE GOLDEN CLAWS



MAGNET



# THE CRAB WITH THE GOLDEN CLAWS









What's that?

That?... It all came from Police Headquarters. They are things taken from a body found in the sea. Did you notice? He had five coins on him, all duds... Odd, don't you think?



Very odd!...  
May I...?



I'll be back  
in a minute!



I'm going after  
him!



What's bitten  
him!



Good gracious!  
I've forgotten  
my stick!



Good gracious!  
He's forgotten  
his stick!





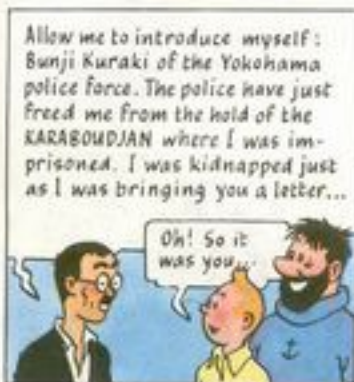
... and I was holding the very tin from which it was torn, just before I met you! Here we are. I threw it into that dustbin... that one where the tramp is rummaging.











Confound it!... The engine's stalled!... Crumbs! Where are Thomson and Thompson?



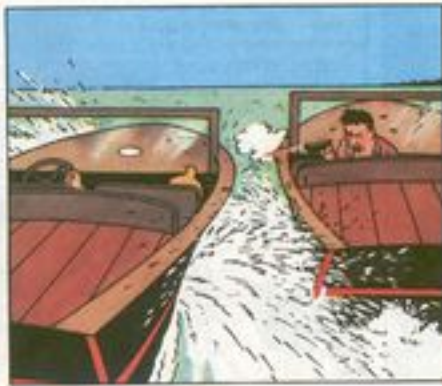
Something's fouled the propeller...



A fishing net!... Fine! OFF we go again...



Devil take him: He's on my tail again!...



The boat's lurching wildly!... What a fight! ... Ah! one of them's getting up... Who?...

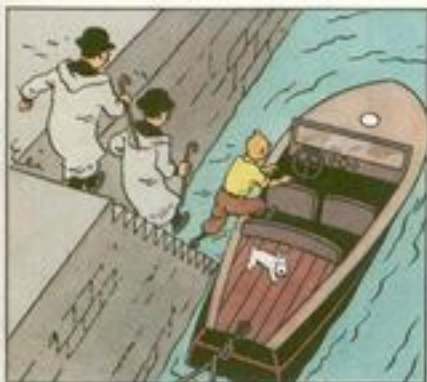


It's Tintin!... He's got the best of it!... He's swinging round, and coming back!...



Quick! Give me that telescope!





Omar Ben Salaad an opium smuggler! Well that beats everything! But... what's going on now?

Swine!... Vampire!...



It's him again!



Hooray! The police!...

Arrest that Negro!... He's a gangster, a p-p-pirate... He... he... he beat me with a st- stick...

It's not a stick you need, it's a wallop with my truncheon!



At last, the police!... Gentlemen, this is the man we have brought to justice.



To be precise... this is the man!

Some of your men come with me: there are more of them in the cellar!



The mate has escaped: and he's the most dangerous of the lot...

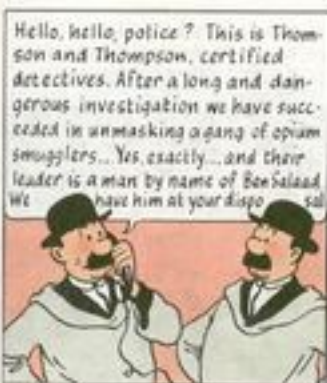


He must have gone out the other way!... If some of your men take care of the gangsters still in the cellar, we'll go after the mate.



We'll go down to the harbour. He's a sailor, so... he'll probably make for there...









Boooh! All that wine!..  
What a terrible  
waste!...



Now then, no nonsense! ... This  
isn't the time for drinking!

What do you take me  
for? A drunkard?



What's happening!..  
My head's reeling...



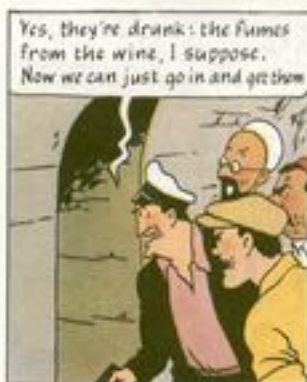
I'm the king of  
the castle

They're  
tight!



Ta-ra-ra-♪♪ boom-de-ay d ♪♪

For tonight we'll merry  
merry be, For tonight  
we'll merry merry be...



Yes, they're drunk: the fumes  
from the wine, I suppose.  
Now we can just go in and get them



Ta-ra-ra-♪  
boom.. ♪

We'll take this  
one. You bring  
the other:

Tiddle-om-  
pom- ♪  
pom... ♪



I'm the king of the  
Caaa-  
-castle.. ♪



That's enough!  
Let go of that  
bottle!...



You bully! My bottle! ... Treason!...  
Revenge! ... Twister ... Heretic!...  
Slave-trader! ... Technocrat!



Buccaneer!  
Vegetarian!  
Politician!  
If he makes  
trouble I'll  
soon settle  
his hash!





Where's he gone?... He can't have vanished into thin air!...



No secret passage, and no trap-door: the walls and floor sound absolutely solid. It must be magic.



WOOAH!



Snowy!... You frightened the life out of me!



You rascal, now I see. You hid in the ventilator shaft to eat that joint!



As for me, Snowy, I'm like old Diogenes, seeking a man! You've never heard of Diogenes!... He was a philosopher in ancient Greece, and he lived in a barrel...



Lived in a barrel!... In a barrel, Snowy!... Great snakes! I think I've got it!



Let's see if this barrel will open...



And it does! There are hinges here!



Look Snowy... Awayout!

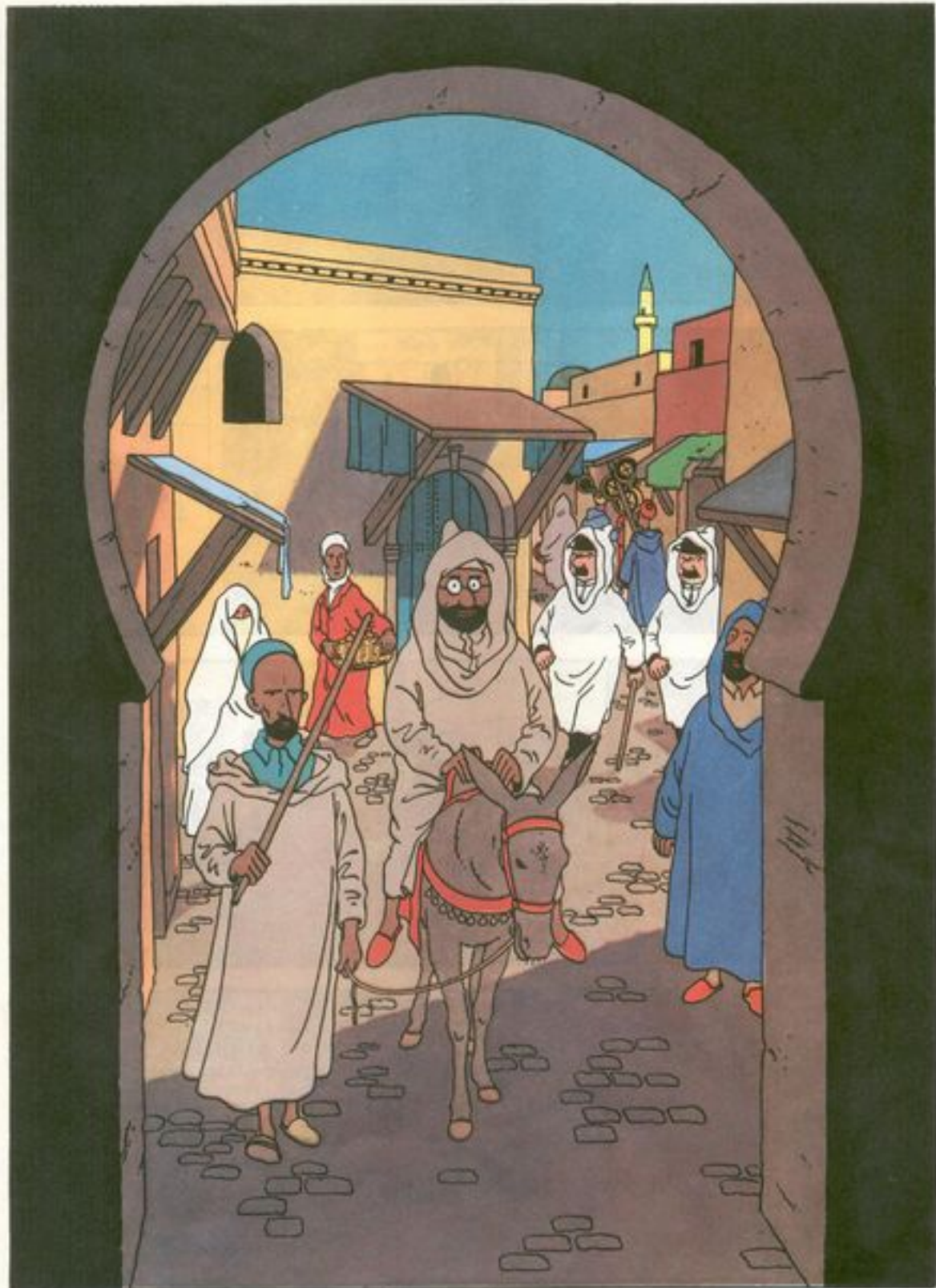


And a door the other end! We're certainly on the right track, Snowy...









What are you doing here?

Oh! Are you the owner of this shop?

I would like the name and address of the supplier who sold you the tins of crab you have in your shop.

The tins of crab? They came from Omar Ben Salaad, sidi, the biggest trader in Bagghar. He is very rich, sidi, very very rich... He has a magnificent palace, with many horses and cars; he has great estates in the south; he even has a flying machine, sidi, which some people call an aeroplane...

Will you help me, and make discreet inquiries about this Omar Ben Salaad?... Among other things, try and find out the registration number of his private plane. But you must be discreet, very discreet.

My friend, you can count on us. We are the soul of discretion. 'Mum's the word', that's our motto.

Indeed!... Thank you very much.

Yes, that's our motto: 'Dumb's the word'...

Now to rescue the Captain. First I must get the right clothes...

Hello Mister Mate?... This is Tom... Yes, we got the captain. He made a bit of a row but the wharves were deserted and no one heard us... What? You'll be along in an hour?... OK.

Meanwhile...

Does Mr. Omar Ben Salaad live here?... We'd like a word with him.

My master has just gone out, sidi. See, there he is on his donkey...

Make way! Make way for the mighty Omar Ben Salaad!

Let's follow him.

So that's him.

Now for Mohammed Ben Ali.





My old friends Thomson and Thompson



Thank goodness! You're safe and sound. We despaired of ever finding you alive!

I think it's extraordinary, he recognised us at once, in spite of our disguise!



Now tell us: what happened on the KARABOU DJAN? We were amazed when they handed us your wireless signal: 'Have been imprisoned aboard KARABOU DJAN. Am leaving vessel. Cargo includes opium. TINTIN'. We took the first plane for Baghar...



...the KARABOU DJAN's next port of call. Then we heard about the shipwreck. Are you certain she was carrying opium?

Quite certain: the drug was hidden in tins bearing a label with a red crab on it, and the words 'EXTRA FINE CRAB'



Tins of crab?... That reminds me...

I saw one in the shop where we bought our burnouses just now.

Did you? Quick let's go and see.



It's gone!

What have you done with the tin of crab that was on the table?



It's here, sidi. I put tin here in the cupboard.

That's the one! I recognise the label: it's the same.



Open that tin!



There, sidi...



Look!

It's crab!

Of course, sidi, there is crab. Good crab, sidi, best quality...



Yes, it's crab all right... And yet I saw the same tins aboard the KARABOU DJAN, and they contained opium.

Hmm... Very odd.

To be precise: very odd; in fact, very queer...



Tell me: where did you buy this tin?

From Mohammed Ben Ali, sidi; the shop on the corner...





This wretched door won't open!...



The noise of an engine!... They must have a car!



Too late!



Another car!... I'll grab it! I must save the Captain at all costs!



That's got her started!... Off we go, full speed ahead!



What's up? Why are we going backwards?..



Stop! The car's horn must have got stuck.



The captain!...  
I must warn  
the mate at  
once!



Hello?... Yes, it's me...  
What?... Are you crazy?  
You've seen the captain!  
... Are you sure? He recognised  
the ship, confound  
it!... He's been arrested...  
OK... I'll come.



*Meanwhile...*

It's funny, he's not come  
yet. I certainly told him  
we'd go straight to the  
harbour-master.



*Next morning...*

Hello... Port Control  
here. Oh, it's you Mr Tin-  
tin... Captain Had-  
dock?... No, we haven't  
seen him yet.



This is getting me  
worried. Something  
must have happened  
to him. I'd better go  
to the police.



Captain Haddock?... We've just let him go; he's  
been gone about five minutes. He was brought  
in last night for causing a disturbance.  
When he left he said he was going to the har-  
bour-master's office and he had some very im-  
portant news for you. If you hurry you'll soon  
catch him up.



Important news?...  
What can that be?



There he is!



The KARASOUDJAN, here!  
... That will surprise  
Tintin when I tell him.



Oh! my shoelace  
has come un-  
done.



**HELP!  
H-E-L-P!**



They've got the  
Captain!



The first thing is to find the Captain. I hope he's had the sense to go straight to the harbour-master's office and wait for me there.



And now-now for the h-h-harbour-master!... H-h-how much, boy?



What's up this time?

I... I... it's disgraceful! ... My wallet's been stolen! ... I'll s-s-sue th-them! ... R-r-robbers! ... M-m-my wallet!...



It's dis-gr-graceful!... A city of p-p-pick-p-p-pockets... I w-w-want my wallet!



Here's your wallet!... Stop all that row!... It had fallen out of your pocket. And don't rouse the whole neighbourhood another time!



Now go home!... If you make any more trouble, we'll run you in. Understand?



Yo-ho ♪♪ and ♪ up ♪ she ♪ rises ♪



B-b-blistering barnacles!... That's the K-K-KARABOUJAN! Police!... Arrest them!... Police!... P-p-police!



P-P-POLICE!  
PO-PO-POLICE!

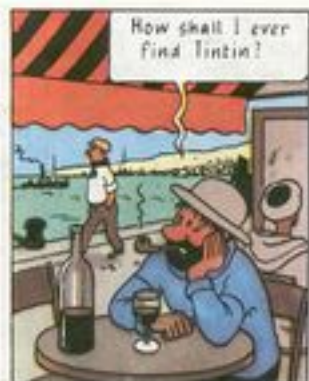


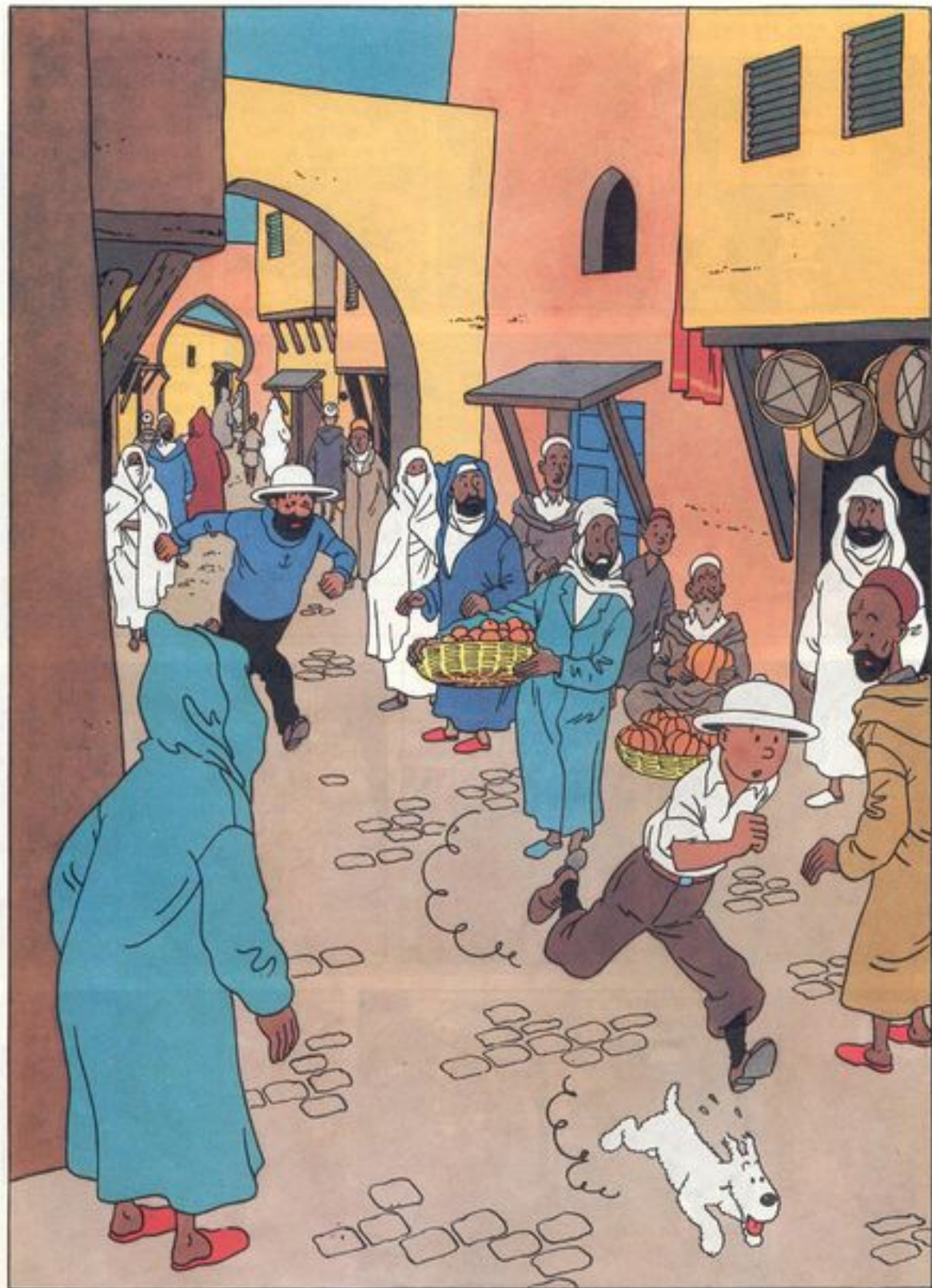
I t-t-tell you it's the KARABOUJAN, Blistering barnacles! I aw... I am her captain!... It's not the DUEBEL-what's it... You must arrest the l-l-lot of them!



But I tell you that is the K-K-KARABOUJAN!... and she's full of op-opium!





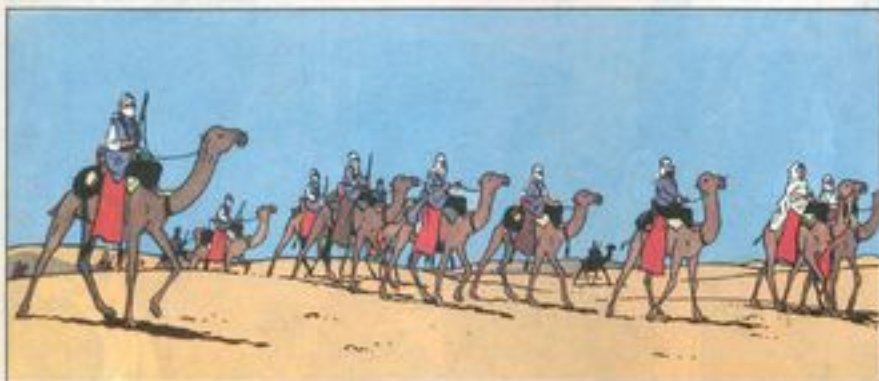


We turned up at the right moment, didn't we?...

In the nick of time, Lieutenant. But what made you come here?

That's soon explained. This morning I received a radio warning of raiders near Kefheir. We jumped into the saddle right away... and here we are!...

And now, as soon as my men return with their prisoners we'll all ride north together, to prevent further incidents like this.



After several days' journey, Tintin and the Captain come to Bagghar, a large Moroccan port...



First we'll go to the harbour-master. Perhaps he can give us news of the KARABOUJAN.

Good idea...



Tintin!... Tintin!... Where are you going?



Some saint must  
watch over drunkards!  
... It's a miracle he  
hasn't been hit...



Rats!... Ectoplasms!...  
Freshwater swabs!...  
Cannibals!... Bashi-bazouks!...  
Caterpillars!...



Cowards!... Baboons!... Para-  
sites!... Fockmarks!...



... and if you  
come back you'll  
feel my rifle-butt!



Well done, Captain!...  
Wonderful!...



If those savages had just waited,  
I'd have shown them! ... But  
they ran like rabbits... except  
one who sneaked up on me from  
behind, the pirate...



Charge!... After them!... Take them prisoner!...



It's the Lieu-  
tenant!...

Then... then... it wasn't me who got rid of  
those savages... it was the lieutenant!...





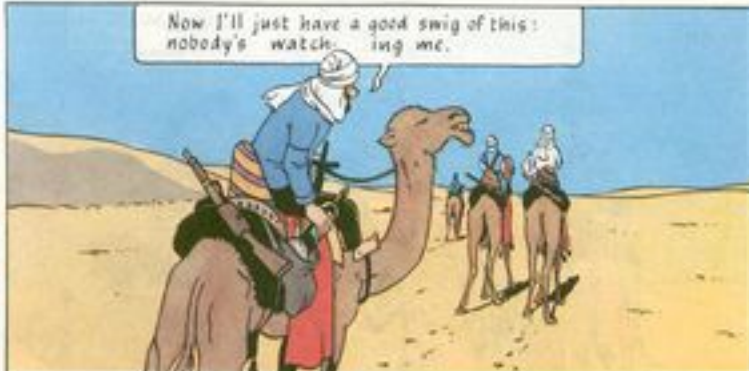


Ahmed, send my section leaders here at once. And by the way, what did you do with the bottles which were here yesterday?

I not know, sir,  
I not touch  
bottles, sir.



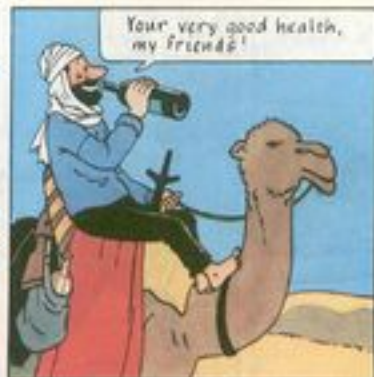
Now I'll just have a good swig of this: nobody's watching me.



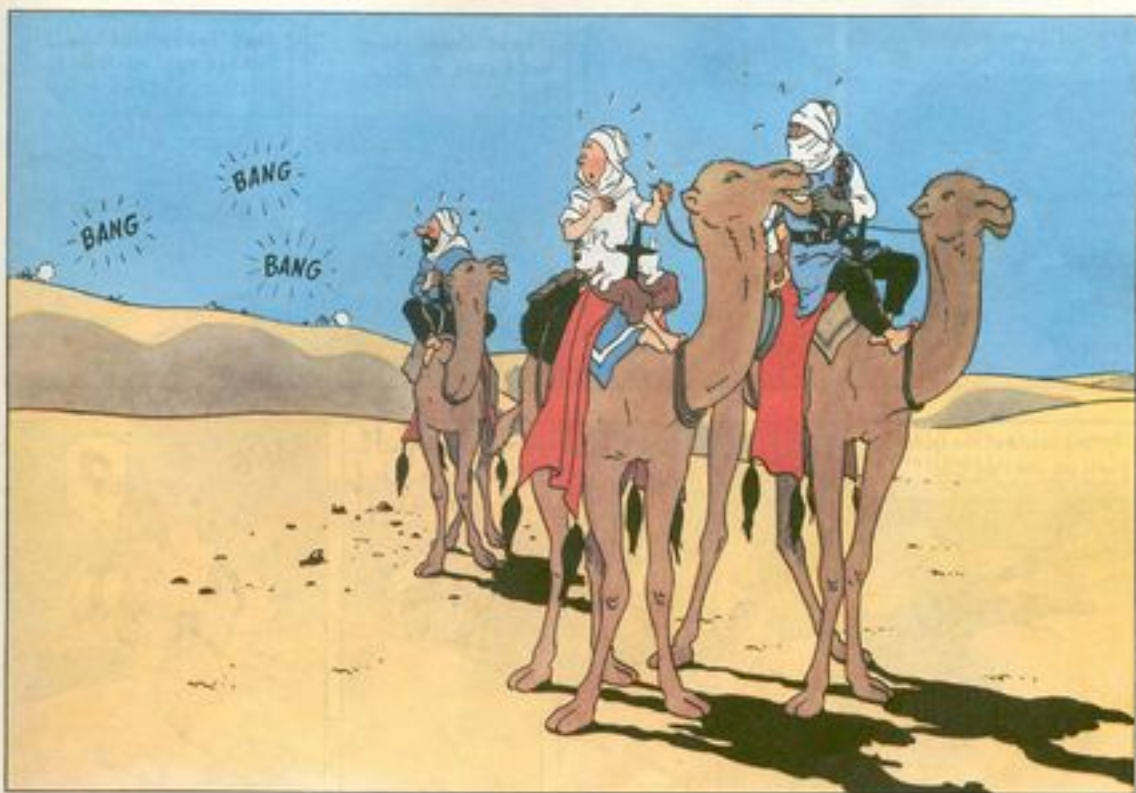
See! ... Kefheir...



Your very good health,  
my friends!



CRACK



... and here is the latest news. Yesterday's severe gales caused a number of losses to shipping. The steamship TANGANYIKA sank near Vigo, but her crew were all taken off. The merchant vessel JUPITER has been driven ashore, but her crew are safe. An S.O.S. was also picked up from the merchant-ship...



...KARABOUJAN. Another vessel, the BENARES, went at once to the aid of the KARABOUJAN and searched all night near the position given in the distress signal. No wreckage and no survivors were found. It must therefore be presumed that the KARABOUJAN went down with all hands...



That's odd, don't you think?

I should say so! The KARABOUJAN isn't a cockleshell, to sink without time to launch the boats. It's unbelievable!



That's what I think... Lieutenant, is there any way we could leave today? I'm anxious to get to the coast as soon as possible. I'll tell you why.

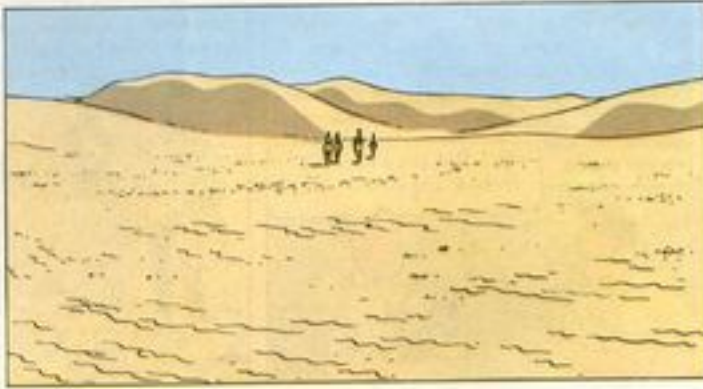
So soon?... Yes, it can be done. It should be enough if I send two guides with you. That area has been quite safe for a couple of months now.



Two hours later...



Allah protect them!



Next morning...



A wireless message has just come in, sir...

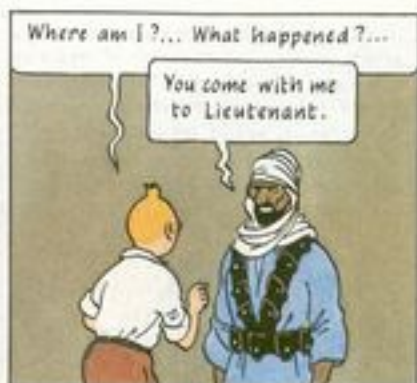
Thank you.



*MOST URGENT  
TO 1026 S.C.  
Twenty Arab riders  
reported near Timmin  
proceeding to Wells  
of Kefhair. S.O.S.  
Despatch patrol.*

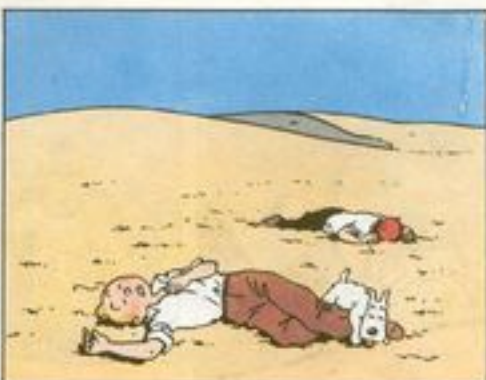
By Jupiter!... The Wells of Kefhair lie on the route Tintin and his friend are taking!...

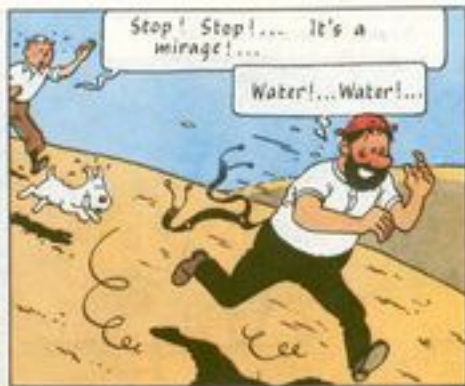






Some hours later...





A drink!... A drink!... I can't go on...  
Courage, Captain! We'll rest a bit in the shadow of the sand-dune...



There, lie down for a while: it'll do you good.



Tintin... where are you?...  
A drink!...



Just an empty horizon... Nothing but endless desert...



I wonder how we can get out of this.



A bottle of champagne! I'll open it!



This confounded cork. It won't come out!...













Oho, a bottle!... Now if only it were whisky...



And it is whisky!...



Since we've got to die, I may as well have one last bottle...



Hey, it looks f-f-fun doing that... L-l-let me have a go!



This is handy the moment...

B-b-but I w-w-want to!...



Leave that alone!...



Whew, what luck!... I just managed to right her...



Quick, look behind you!



N-n-now then you whippersnapper! I don't c-c-care for your tricks!...

No good, he can't hear above the engine.

W-w-will y-you let me t-take over: yes or no?... One... two... three...  
Leave me alone!



Then take that, you pig-headed...





Get back...  
and no tricks!  
I'm a good  
shot!



He's done it!..  
What a boy!...



Good. Try and find some  
rope to tie up these two  
toughs.



Tie them up? Why?... Let's just  
pitch them into the sea! They  
didn't worry about shooting us  
up, the  
gangsters!

I know, but we aren't  
gangsters!... Come on,  
Captain, tie them up  
and let's get going.



Now then: who hired you two for this shady  
business?

So! I see why you pretended  
to be so big-hearted!  
You wanted to pump  
us! Well, we aren't  
talking!...



As you like. But perhaps you'll  
find your tongues when the  
police get their hands on you.

Hey, can you fly  
an aeroplane?..



You're sure this is the right direction  
for  
Spain?...

Er... yes... but it remains  
to be seen if we'll get there.  
We're in for a rough time.



Oh, Columbus, this is frightful!...  
We'll never come through alive!

Just our luck! ... A single bullet, and it has to go and cut the main ignition lead! But it won't take long to mend.

You do it. I'll keep an eye on them...



Look, they're both on the same side. I'll dive: swim underwater as far as I can, beyond them, and when I come up I should be out of their sight, and near the plane.

You can't possibly...



Getting on?

Yes, it's nearly done.

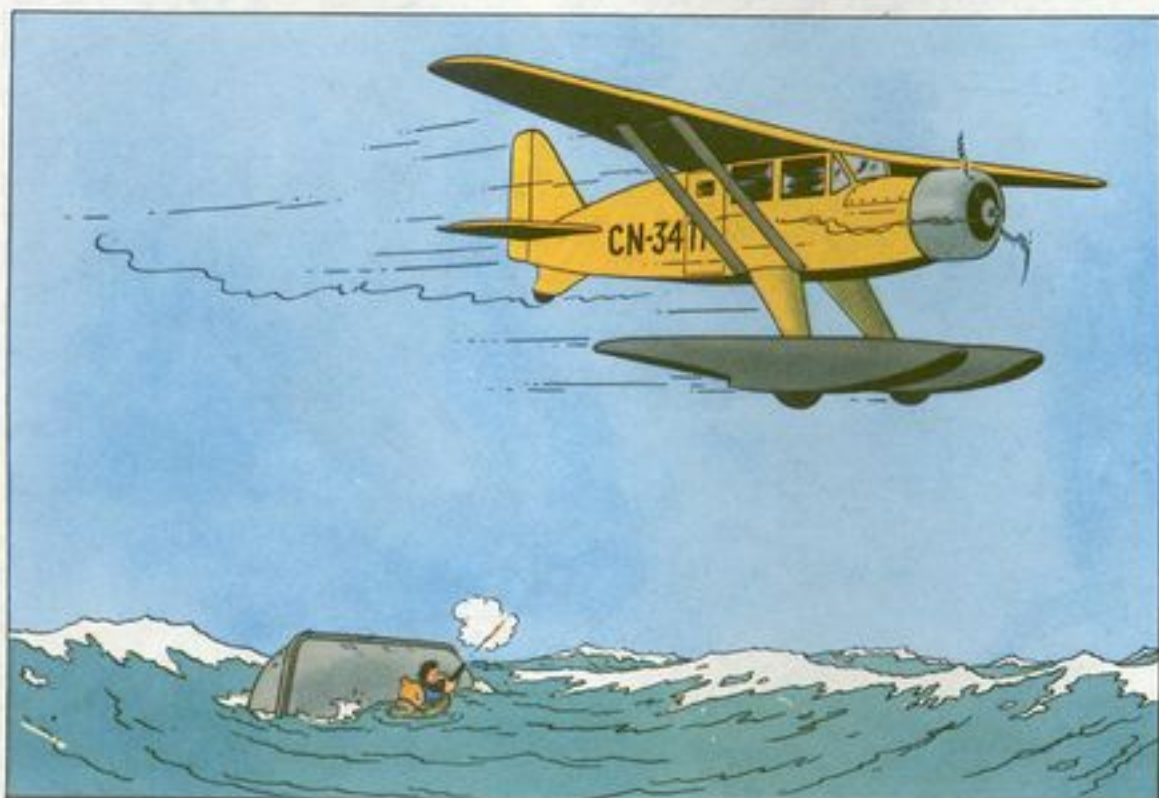


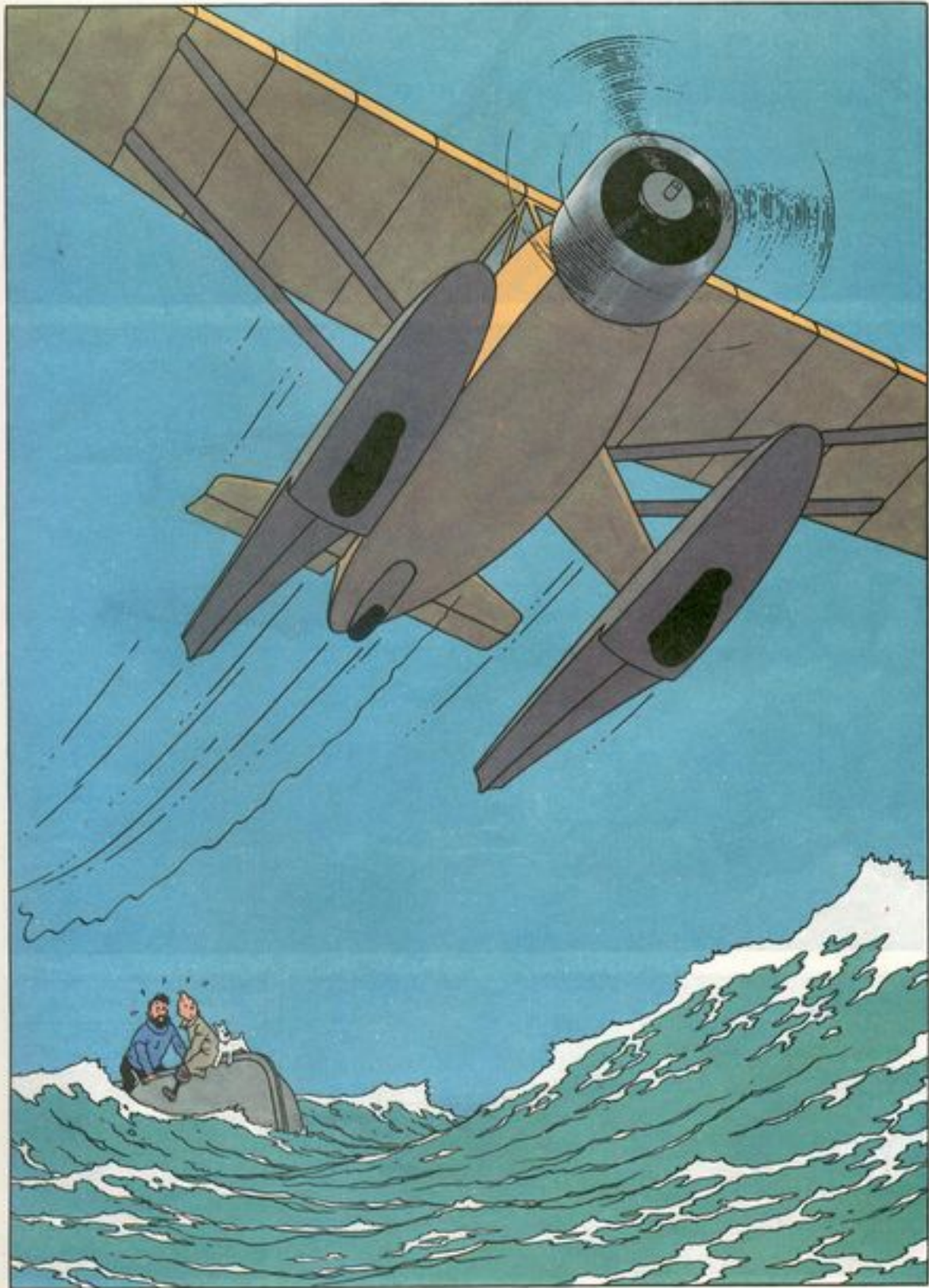
Finished?

That's it!... I'll just fix the last bolt.



Hands up!

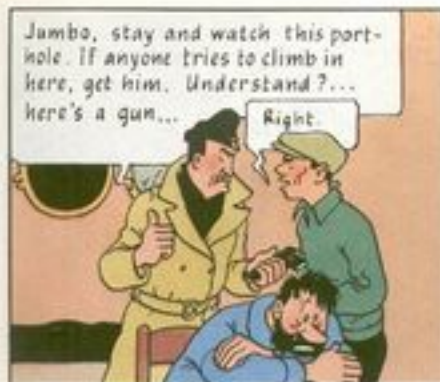












Listen, you must help me. And you must promise to stop drinking. Think of your reputation, Captain! What would your old mother say if she saw you in such a state?...

M-m-my old mother?...

There, there, Captain!...

Boohoo... Boo...  
hoo.. hoo Booh... hoo  
Booh... hoo.

For goodness' sake be quiet...

Boo... hoo...  
Mummy!  
M- M-  
Mummy!

Let's go and see. Perhaps he's gone crazy...

Too late!  
I'm trapped...

Mummy...  
Boo... hoo... hoo...

What's going on here?...

Mummy...  
Boo... hoo... hoo...

I'm a miserable wretch...

Here, drink this. -  
You'll feel better...



N-n-no... I... I  
promised him not  
to drink... and I  
won't any more!

Who did you promise  
that to?...



To the y-y-young man who... who  
who... who was here...

What young man?  
Answer me!

By thunder!

I don't know...  
I've never seen  
him be-  
fore.

The little devil! So he  
managed to get in  
here!... Luckily that  
drunken bawling  
scared him off. But  
he may try to come  
back...





Let's have another shot.



No one there! But what...?



... perhaps it's the whisky..



Ssh!... Not a sound!

Who-who... who are you?



Someone forced to sail in this vile tub and...

Vile tub?... I... d-d-do you know I'm Captain Haddock! And I can have you -y-y- you clapped in irons!



Thanks! I've just got out of them! I've spent enough time in your hold with its cargo of opium!

O-o-opium? There's opium in the hold?... In my hold... m-m-mine? ...



Didn't you know?

Opium!... But h-h-how?... It's frightful!... I'm an honest... an honest man... and not... but who...? It must be Allan, the f-first mate, who has... he... he's double-crossing me...



[Idiot! ... Nitwit! ... Now we'll have to find him, you fool!

... and now he's got a gun.



hope these are cases of food. Then we can withstand a siege behind our barricade! Anyway ...



Let's see...



Great snakes! ... Tins of crab!



No doubt about it, these are the same as the tin we tried to find!



We'll sort that out later. Let's go on checking our stores.



Champagne too! Snowy my boy, our supplies are taken care of!

And how!



Let me offer you a drink, Snowy ...



Ssh!...



Quiet! ... They're looking for us! They mustn't find us ...



BANG



It's no good trying to open that door. He'll have barricaded himself in. We'll starve him out: he's nothing to eat...



... that's what you think, gentlemen!



!?



