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NO. 247

BROKEN ARROW





When a hail of bullets cuts down an Apache warrior...



The angry Indians strike back in savage reprisal!



Alone, Tom Jeffords must ride into the Apache stronghold!



Will it be peace or war? Only chief Cochise knows the answer!

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BROKEN ARROW

I HEARD THE SHOT, RAN TO THE GULLY AND SAW THE BODY OF THAT POOR OLD PROSPECTOR! THIS INJUN WAS RUNNING AWAY WITH A GUN IN HIS HAND!

YES WORDS ARE LIES!

DESERT ORDEAL

IN A TUCSON COURTROOM AN APACHE WARRIOR IS ON TRIAL FOR HIS LIFE.

IT WAS I WHO FOUND THE BODY! THIS MAN TAGGERT WHO ACCUSES ME KILLED HIM! I SAW IT ALL!

THE INJUN LYING I NEVER SAW THAT PROSPECTOR BEFORE IN MY LIFE!

AS TOM JEFFORDS THE INDIAN AGENT AND COCHISE, THE APACHE CHIEFTAIN LISTEN...

IT LOOKS BAD, COCHISE! IT'S TAGGERT'S WORD AGAINST LAREDO'S!

AND LAREDO IS AN APACHE! WHAT JUSTICE CAN HE EXPECT HERE?

THE JURY'S DECISION COMES SWIFTLY...

LAREDO, YOU ARE FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER! I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO BE HANGED ON SATURDAY--AT DAWN!

LAREDO IS A BRAVE AND HONORABLE MAN! HE WOULD NOT MURDER! BUT HOW CAN WE PROVE HE IS INNOCENT?

THE EXECUTION TAKES PLACE IN THREE DAYS, COCHISE. WE NEED NEW EVIDENCE! BUT WHERE DO WE BEGIN?



LATER, IN A NEARBY CAFE...



SYKES CHEATED HIM ON A MINE DEAL, SO TAGGERT FOLLOWED HIM BACK HERE! HE SWORE HE'D KILL SYKES! THERE WERE TWO OTHERS WITH TAGGERT, THOUGH...



YOU'RE TOO LATE, JEFFORDS! TAGGERT HEARD YOU WERE ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT HIM. HE RODE OUT OF TOWN THIS MORNING -- HEADING FOR THE BORDER -- I THINK...



LET'S RIDE, COCHISE! TAGGERT MUST BE TRAVELING FAST!



BUT THE NEXT MORNING FINDS THE BLOOD-BROTHERS STILL ON THE TRAIL...



AT THAT MOMENT IN THE ROCKS UP AHEAD...



BUT AT THAT INSTANT...



YOU'RE HURT BAD, COCHISE! WE'LL HAVE TO GET YOU TO A DOCTOR. TUCSON'S ONLY SEVEN HOURS FROM HERE!

SEVEN HOURS ON A FAST HORSE-- AND WE HAVE ONLY ONE HORSE LEFT--TAGGERT'S!



THEN WE'LL LEAVE TAGGERT HERE!

NO, MY BROTHER! UNLESS TAGGERT IS RETURNED TO TUCSON, LAKEDO WILL DIE!



WE COULD SEND A SMOKE SIGNAL--BUT THAT MIGHT BRING MY ENEMY, GERONIMO, OR PERHAPS TAGGERT'S FRIENDS!

I'LL TRY TO THINK OF SOMETHING, WHILE I TAKE CARE OF THIS WOUND!



SOON ...

WATER! SOMEBODY GIVE ME SOME WATER!

HERE, TAKE WHAT'S IN THIS CANTEEN!



BUT THERE'S HARDLY ANY IN IT!

THAT'S ALL THERE IS, TAGGERT! OUR CANTEENS GOT SMASHED WHEN YOU KILLED OUR HORSES!



ALL RIGHT, ON YOUR FEET! WE'RE TAKING YOU INTO TUCSON FOR THE MURDER OF THAT PROPRIETOR!

YOU'RE CRAZY... IT WAS THE INDIAN, LIKE THE COURT SAID!

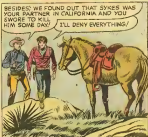


YOU WOULDN'T HAVE RUN AWAY OR AMBUSHED US UNLESS YOU WERE GUILTY!



BESIDES! WE FOUND OUT THAT SYKES WAS YOUR PARTNER IN CALIFORNIA AND YOU SWORE TO KILL HIM SOME DAY!

I'LL DENY EVERYTHING!



...LIKE YOU DENIED THAT SYKES HAD ANY GOLD ON HIM WHEN HE WAS FOUND! YET HERE'S A WHOLE SADDLEBAG FULL OF GOLD DUST!

JEFFORDS, THERE'S ENOUGH THERE FOR ALL OF US! I'LL SPLIT IT WITH YOU IF YOU LET ME GO!



SAVE YOUR BREATH—AND PRAY WE GET BACK IN TIME TO SAVE LAREDO...OR I'LL TURN YOU OVER TO LAREDO'S APACHE FRIENDS!

NO! YOU WOULDN'T DO THAT... I'LL COME WITH YOU!



AS THE TINY CAVALCADE HEADS OUT ACROSS THE WASTELAND...



THEY'LL BE COMING THIS WAY IN A MINUTE, TAGGERT! IF YOU'RE SMART YOU'LL GET DOWN BEHIND THESE BUSHES WITH US!

YOUR GUN CALLS THE TURN, JEFFORDS!



IT'S TAGGERT'S HORSE, ALL RIGHT! I TELL YOU, MEEKER, HE'S AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!



THEY'RE GONE! NOW, QUICK! HELP ME CARRY COCHISE TO THAT WATER-HOLE!



THAT NIGHT FAR OUT ON THE DESERT...

MY BROTHER, I CAN'T GO ON! THE BULLET PASSES ON SOMETHING! I CANNOT MOVE MY LEGS, MY ARMS...

WE'LL SPEND THE NIGHT HERE! IN THE MORNING I'LL TRY TO TAKE THE BULLET OUT MYSELF!



THEN, AT DAWN...

COCHISE, I'M READY TO EXTRACT THAT BULLET! SINK YOUR TEETH INTO THIS KNIFE SHEATH...IT'LL HELP YOU BEAR THE PAIN!

DO WHAT YOU MUST, MY BROTHER! I WILL NOT CRY OUT!



YOU'RE A FOOL, JEFFORDS! AFTER ALL, HE'S ONLY AN INDIAN ... AND SO IS LAREDO!

I SUPPOSE IT'S HARD FOR AN ANIMAL LIKE YOU TO UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS, TAGGERT!





IT'S DONE! I HAVE THE BULLET... BUT HE'S BARELY HANGING ON...

I NEVER SAW THE LIKE! HE PASSED OUT WITH THE PAIN... BUT HE NEVER MADE A SOUND!



TIME TO MOVE ON AGAIN, TAGGERT!

THAT INDIAN CAN'T MAKE IT TO TUCSON... BUT MY FRIENDS MUST BE SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY! LET ME SIGNAL THEM--AND I'LL HELP YOU GET HIM TO A DOCTOR!



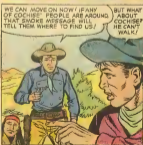
I WAS PLANNING TO SIGNAL MYSELF TAGGERT! BUT I WAS WAITING FOR SUNUP!

NOW YOU'RE BEING SMART! AS SOON AS MY FRIENDS SEE THAT SMOKE...



ON THE OTHER HAND OUR FRIENDS MIGHT SEE THAT SMOKE, TOO--AND THEY'LL BE ABLE TO READ THE MESSAGE I'M SENDING!

YO-YOUR FRIENDS? YOU MEAN THE APACHES? (GULP!)



WE CAN MOVE ON NOW! IF ANY OF COCHISE PEOPLE ARE AROUND THAT SMOKE MESSAGE WILL TELL THEM WHERE TO FIND US!

BUT WHAT ABOUT COCHISE? HE CAN'T WALK!



HE WON'T HAVE TO! YOU'LL HELP ME FIND WOOD FOR A TRAVOIS! WE'LL TAKE TURNS PULLING HIM!

AND SO THE DESPERATE JOURNEY BEGINS
ONCE MORE...



MILE AFTER WEARY MILE, THEY TRUDGE ONWARD
UNTIL AT LAST...



AS JEFFORDS BINDS THE WOUNDED HAND...



WE CAN STILL MAKE IT! TUCSON WOULD BE ONLY AN HOUR AWAY... IF WE HAD HORSES! WE'LL REST HERE UNTIL DARK, AND...



AS NIGHT FALLS...



SUDDENLY...



AND OUT IN THE NIGHT...



OR IT COULD BE OUR FRIENDS, TAGGERT!







BROKEN ARROW

VENGEANCE TRAIL

OUTSIDE THE FORT, AS AN OLD CHIEFTAIN SURRENDERS HIS BAND OF HOSTILES...

AND LET THIS BROKEN ARROW MEAN AN END TO THE WAR BETWEEN US!

THE GREAT CHIEF NANA IS WISE TO LEAD HIS PEOPLE DOWN THE PATH OF PEACE!

LATER...
JEFFORDS, YOU ARE A BROTHER TO COCKISE AND A FRIEND OF THE APACHE! MY PEOPLE ARE TIRED! THE WOMEN, CHILDREN AND OLD ONES ARE HUNGRY!

YOUR PEOPLE MAY CAMP IN THIS VALLEY UNTIL YOU ARE MOVED TO THE RESERVATION!

AND YOUR PEOPLE WILL NOT GO HUNGRY! LOOK, ALREADY THE BLUECOATS BRING FOOD TO YOUR CAMP!

IT WILL BE GOOD TO LIVE IN PEACE ONCE MORE!



BUT AT DAWN THE NEXT DAY, AN ARMY PATROL APPROACHES THE FORT...

TWENTY-FOUR MEN LOST IN ONE SKIRMISH! CAPTAIN ALLISON'S A FOOL! HE LEAD US RIGHT INTO THAT AMBUSH!

HE LOST HIS PROMOTION, MOST OF HIS MEN AND ALL OF HIS PRIDE IN THAT ATTACK! HE'S RYING FOR HIS MISTAKES!

JUST THEN...

CAPTAIN ALLISON, LOOK! AN APACHE ENCAMPMENT--AND ONLY TWO MILES FROM THE FORT!

HOSTILES NEAR THE FORT! THOSE APACHES HAVE THEIR GALL!



ARMY SUPPLIES! BY HEAVEN, THE DEVILS MUST HAVE LOOTED A SUPPLY TRAIN!



WE'VE A BIG SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THOSE APACHES! WE'LL ATTACK WHILE THEIR CAMP'S STILL ASLEEP!



I WANT THIS VICTORY TO BE COMPLETE, UNDERSTAND? NO ONE IS TO ESCAPE!



AT THEM, MEN!



THE VICTORY HAS ITS PRICE, AND THE NEXT DAY AT THE FORT...

THOSE APACHES HAD THOSE ARMY SUPPLIES, AND-- BUT, SIR, HOW COULD I KNOW? I GAVE THEM THOSE SUPPLIES ALONG WITH MY WORD OF HONOR THAT THEY WOULD BE LEFT IN PEACE!



IN TEN MINUTES YOU DESTROYED MY HONOR AND THE HONOR OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY!

AN APACHE IS AN APACHE! I'M ONLY SORRY THAT NANA AND SOME OF HIS WARRIORS ESCAPED!



CHEER UP, ALLISON. AFTER ALL, YOU DID CAPTURE ALL THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN!

IT'S NO USE TALKING TO HIM, JEFFORDS! TAKE HIM TO THE GUARD-HOUSE, MEN!



JEFFORDS, COCHISE IS YOUR BLOOD BROTHER! DO YOU THINK HE COULD BRING NANA IN WITHOUT A FIGHT?

IT WON'T BE EASY FOR COCHISE! NANA WAS HIS FATHER'S BEST FRIEND... BUT I'LL TRY!



THE NEXT DAY IN COCHISE'S STRONGHOLD...

IT WAS ALL A TERRIBLE MISTAKE, COCHISE! THE COLONEL SPEAKS WITH A STRAIGHT TONGUE! LIKE YOU, HE TREASURES HONOR ABOVE ALL THINGS!

I WANT TO HELP YOU, MY BROTHER, BUT MY HEART IS TORN IN TWO PARTS!



SUDDENLY...

A MESSENGER! IT MAY BE NEWS OF NANA!



A MOMENT LATER...

BAD NEWS! NANA HAS ATTACKED A FREIGHT WAGON! HE CAPTURED ENOUGH RIFLES AND AMMUNITION TO ARM ALL OF HIS MEN!

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING, COCHISE!



I WANT TO HELP... BUT NANA WAS MY FATHER'S FRIEND! HE MADE ME MY FIRST BOW, TAUGHT ME TO HUNT DEER...

WE SEEK NANA TO MAKE PEACE WITH HIM, NOT TO DESTROY HIM! BUT HE MUST BE STOPPED!



YOU ASK ME TO LEAD YOU TO HIM—BUT SUPPOSE NANA AND HIS PEOPLE CHOOSE TO FIGHT TO DEATH RATHER THAN SURRENDER?

THEN THEY WILL DIE!



HAD YOU SPOKEN OTHERWISE, I WOULD NOT GO! I WILL LEAD YOU TO NANA... NANA MUST BE STOPPED OR ALL APACHES WILL BE BLAMED FOR HIS DEEDS!



THE APACHE MARAUDERS HAVE LEFT A CLEAR TRAIL, AND LATER THAT DAY...

CLEAR! NANA'S MEN BUTCHERED SOME CATTLE HERE AND MADE JERKY! THEN THEY DROVE OFF SOME HORSES—ABOUT TEN!

THE SIGN IS



YOU MEAN HE CAN READ ALL THAT FROM SOME COLD ASHES AND A FEW HOOFPRIENTS?

COLONEL, APACHES LEARN TO READ SIGNS BEFORE THEY LEARN TO WALK!



DAY AFTER DAY, THE TROOPERS CLING TO NANA'S TRAIL...

THOSE RENEGADES ARE RUNNING UP QUITE A SCORE!

THEY'VE GOT A BIG SCORE TO SETTLE, FRIEND!



NINE DAYS ON THE TRAIL AND WE CAN'T CATCH THEM—EVEN THOUGH THEY TAKE TIME TO RAID, FIGHT AND MAKE JERKY!

COCHISE SAYS WE'RE MOVING TOO SLOWLY! NANA IS MAKING SEVENTY MILES A DAY!





NO, IT'S TOO FAR-FETCHED!
WE'LL FOLLOW THE TRAIL
TO CEDAR SPRINGS!

THEN YOU
RIDE WITHOUT
COCHISE!



JEFFORDS, WE'RE STARTING
FOR CEDAR SPRINGS! GO
AFTER COCHISE AND
JOIN US THERE!

WE WILL, IF
YOU'RE RIGHT!
BUT IF YOU'RE
WRONG, YOU'D BETTER
CUT OVER AND JOIN US!



AND COCHISE! GAMBLE PAYS OFF! SOON...

AND SHORT MOMENTS LATER...

WE WERE RIGHT, MY BROTHER!
NANA AND HIS MEN ARE HEADING
FOR THE KITCHEN RANCH!

WE'LL
CIRCLE
AND CUT
THEM OFF!



RIDERS! IT IS A TRAP! FIGHT
TO THE LAST, APACHES!

HOLD YOUR
FIRE! IT IS
COCHISE!



WHY IS COCHISE SO FAR FROM HIS PEOPLE?
AND WHY DOES HE COME IN THE COMPANY
OF A WHITE-EYE?

ONE OF MY ENEMIES? AGENT JEFFORDS IS
MY BROTHER, NANA,
AND MY BROTHER IS NO
ENEMY TO THE APACHES!



IF YOU SPEAK FOR HIM, THEN
I TRUST HIM! LET US SIT
AND TALK COCHISE!

NANA, I KNOW
OF THE TRICK-
ERY WHICH
FORCED YOU TO
TAKE THE WARRPATH! BUT
THERE ARE THINGS YOU
SHOULD KNOW --



BEVERVILLE IN THE HILLS ABOVE COCKSBURG SPRINGS.



LOOK!—ONE ANGLER DRIVING A HORSE—HE'D SEE US WHILE TRYING!



COME, DR. ASHBY! LET'S HOPE WE MADE IT TO KITCHEN'S BRANCH IN TIME!

AND ON THE ROAD TO KITCHEN'S BRANCH.



I KNOW COCKSBURG SPRINGS TALK, BUT WHITE STUBS CAN DRAW THE BLOOD! NOW WE WILL LOSE THEM!

BUT ASHBY, IT WAS BARBARISTS THAT ATTACKED YOU? YET YOU TRUST YOUR HORSE ON STUBS WHO DO FOR NO REASON!



ENOUGH OF THIS TALK, BAMA! WE WILL NOT GO BACK TO BE SHOT DOWN LIKE DOGS! WE'LL AID US!

A FINE MAN LIKE WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING IS FIT TO OCCUPY!



YOU SPEAK AS AN ANGLER? IT IS HARD TO BE WISDOM, WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND... IF THE BARBARISTS WILL PROVE US AN HONORABLE FORCE, WE WILL—



LOOKING.

BAMA! LOOK THERE! BARBARISTS COMING THIS WAY!

WE ARE DEFEATED, ASHBY! HEAD FOR THESE BLOODS UP THERE!



MAY THE SPIRITS CURSE YOU FOR SUCH TREACHERY!

GET DOWN, MY BROTHER!



WASH! THE APACHES WILL SPIT ON THE NAME OF COCHISE FOR THIS!

MY BROTHER, WE HAVE FAILED!

AS THE BLUECOATS ARRIVE...



THE BLUECOAT LEADER MUST NOT BLAME HIMSELF! A LEADER MUST DO AS HE THINKS IS RIGHT!

THANKS, COCHISE! WE HAVEN'T PLAYED OUR LAST CARDS YET! ONCE DARK COMES WE CAN ATTACK AND...



NO, NO SHOOTING! THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY, COLONEL!

YOU'RE RIGHT! THERE'S BEEN TOO MUCH SHOOTING ALREADY! PREPARE A PEACE FLAG! I'LL CARRY IT TO NANA MYSELF!



MY SHOULDER!

CRACK!



THEY WOUNDED THE COLONEL! OPEN FIRE ON THOSE SAVAGES!

NO! HOLD YOUR FIRE! ONE SHOT AND WE'LL NEVER GET NANA TO BELIEVE WE CAME IN PEACE!

MY BROTHER, IT GROWS DARK! WE COULD SLIP UP THERE, YOU AND I...

IT MEANS RISKING OUR LIVES, COCHISE, BUT I'M READY--IF IT CAN BRING PEACE!

AND AS DARKNESS FALLS, TWO SHADOWS SLIP OUT INTO THE NIGHT...

LOOK AT THEM GO-- I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE MOVE SO SILENTLY!

THEY'D BETTER STAY SILENT! ONE NOISY MOVE AND NANA'S GUNS WILL CUT THEM DOWN!

A SHORT TIME LATER...

THERE THEY ARE COCHISE!

WE ATTACK NOW!

I HAVE NANA!

ALL RIGHT, IF ANYONE MAKES A MOVE, NANA DIES! LAY DOWN YOUR RIFLES! QUICKLY!

DROP YOUR GUNS, MY BROTHERS! WE MUST NOT LET THEM KILL OUR CHIEF!

I HAD FORGOTTEN THE TALENTS OF COCHISE!

I CAME TO SAVE YOUR LIVES, NANA! THOUGH YOUR BULLETS WOUNDED THE COLONEL, THE SOLDIERS HAVE NOT FIRED IN RETURN!

THE BLUECOATS RISKED THEIR LIVES TO PROVE THAT THEY COME IN PEACE, NANA. DO NOT THROW YOUR LIFE AWAY!

BETTER THAT THAN BECOME A TAME INDIAN LIKE COCHISE-- A TRAITOR WITHOUT HONOR, WHO SPEAKS WITH A DOUBLE TONGUE!



MANA, YOU HAVE KNOWN ME SINCE CHILDHOOD! IF YOU BELIEVE I HAVE BETRAYED THE APACHES--HERE, TAKE THIS KNIFE!



NOW STRIKE! MY HEART IS BURNED WITH YOUR WORDS! I WILL NOT FEEL THE BLADE!

NO! I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT COCHISE IS A TRAITOR TO THE APACHES!



SO WILL I BURY THE WORDS THAT HAVE PASSED BETWEEN US, COCHISE! THERE IS NO LIE IN YOUR HEART!

THEN LET IT BE SO, MANA!



JEFFORDS, I HAVE FOUGHT MY FIGHT! I AM OLD AND TIRED AND MY MEN ARE WEARY! IT WILL BE GOOD TO REST!

THE BLUECOATS ARE WAITING BELOW! THEY ARE READY TO OFFER YOU PEACE WITH HONOR!



JEFFORDS AND COCHISE---THEY'RE BRINGING NANA IN! THAT TOOK COURAGE!

MORE COURAGE THAN I EVER SAW!



BROKEN ARROW

OUR TRICK HAS FAILED!
THE BLUECOATS DO NOT
FOLLOW US INTO
THE HILLS!

WAGH! THE AGENT
JEFFORDS RIDES
WITH THEM! HE
SUSPECTS OUR AMBUSH!

TRACKDOWN

DEEP IN APACHE COUNTRY, GERONIMO
TRIES TO TRAP A TROOP OF CAVALRY...

I KNOW GERONIMO, LIEUTENANT! I'VE DEAD
CERTAIN HE WAS TRYING TO LEAD YOU INTO
A TRAP. IT'S
AN OLD TRICK
OF HIS!

THANKS FOR THE TIP, JEFFORDS
... BUT I WONDER WHAT HE'S
DOING IN THIS COUNTRY! GERONIMO
HASN'T BEEN THIS FAR NORTH IN
A LONG TIME.

YOU DON'T
THINK HE'S
MILD ENOUGH
TO TRY TO
ATTACK
THE POST...?

WE'LL FIND OUT SOON... THERE
ARE RUMORS GERONIMO HAS
HAD A POWWOW WITH THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHES!
MY FRIEND COCHISE EXPECTS
A SIDER WITH A REPORT!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, COCHISE'S MESSENGER
HEADS TOWARD THE APACHE STRONGHOLD...

JUST THEN...

I'LL TEACH YOU TO
STEAL MY WIFE, INJUN!

MY FRIEND CUCHILLO! HE
FIGHTS WITH A WHITE
STRANGER!





AS MIGUEL HEADS FOR THE STRONGHOLD...



THE WHITE MAN? HE STILL LIVES!
THAT FOOL MIGUEL DID NOT
FINISH HIM AFTER ALL!



BUT I WILL PUT
AN END TO HIM!

LATER THAT AFTERNOON AS MIGUEL REPORTS
AT THE AGENCY.

GERONIMO TALKED WITH
THE WHITE MOUNTAIN CHIEFS? HE WANTS
THEM TO FIGHT THE SOLDIERS, BUT THE
CHIEF WISHED TO TALK TO YOU FIRST? THEY
WILL BE HERE IN THREE SUNS?



YOU HAVE
DONE WELL, MIGUEL!
STAY AND REST!



NO, I MUST GO -- AND
DO NOT TRY TO STOP
ME, DO NOT MAKE ME
KILL AGAIN!

KILL AGAIN?
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?



I KILLED A WHITE
MAN? HIS BODY LIES
ON THE TRAIL TO
THE MOUNTAINS?

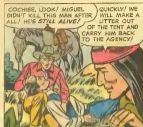
DO NOT GUN, MIGUEL!
FACE THIS WITH
COURAGE AS IN
BATTLE!



I DO NOT FACE
BATTLE? I FACE
THE WHITE
WARS ROPE!

YOU CAN'T STOP HIM,
COCHISE? WE'D BETTER
HEAD OUT AND CHECK
HIS STORY.

HOURS LATER ON THE MOUNTAIN TRAIL...



COCHISE, LOOK! MIGUEL DIDN'T KILL THIS MAN AFTER ALL! HE'S STILL ALIVE!

QUICKLY! WE WILL MAKE A LITTER OUT OF THE TENT AND CARRY HIM BACK TO THE AGENCY!



THE SIGNS ARE CLEAR, COCHISE! THERE WERE TWO APACHES HERE! THE OTHER ONE RODE SOUTHWARD DRIVING A PACK MULE!

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE WHAT THE SIGNS SAY ABOUT MIGUEL! AT LEAST HE IS NOT A MURDERER, YET!

LATER, AT THE AGENCY...



MY NAME'S HARRISON! I'M A SALESMAN FROM SAN FRANCISCO! I WAS FIGHTING OFF AN APACHE WHO WAS TRYING TO STEAL MY MULE WHEN A SECOND INJUN CAME ALONG AND KNOCKED ME COLD!



WHEN I CAME TO, THE INJUN WHO TRIED TO STEAL MY PACK MULE KNIFE ME!

THEY MUST HAVE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD! THEY TOOK EVERYTHING BUT YOUR HORSE AND TENT!



WHOEVER THEY WERE, YOU'D BETTER TRACK THEM FAST! THAT MULE THEY STOLE WAS LOADED WITH DYNAMITE!

DYNAMITE?! SAY, THAT'S THAT NEW EXPLOSIVE INVENTED IN EUROPE A FEW YEARS AGO!



SAY YOU MUST BE THE MAN WHO STAGED AN EXPLOSION IN TUCSON LAST WEEK! THEY SAY YOU BLEW AN OLD ARABE HOUSE INTO DUST!

THAT'S RIGHT! THOSE TWO INJUNS MUST HAVE SEEN MY DEMONSTRATION AND FOLLOWED ME TO STEAL THE DYNAMITE!



THE NEXT DAY AT A WATERHOLE FAR TO THE SOUTH...





BUT PURSUIT FOLLOWS CLOSELY AND THE NEXT DAY...



AND MILES TO THE SOUTH...



BUT NOT FAR BEHIND...



LATE THAT AFTERNOON AT THE MOUTH OF THE PASS...



GERONIMO WILL DO WHAT NO OTHER APACHE HAS DARED! WHILE THE BLUECOATS WAIT FOR HIM TO ATTACK THE FORT, HE WILL USE THIS AGAINST TUCSON!



THEN STAY WITH GERONIMO! I WILL GO BACK AND TAKE MY PUNISHMENT!

YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF COCHISE - AND OF THE WHITE MEN! YOU WILL STAY HERE AND TELL GERONIMO ALL YOU KNOW!



IN THE NEXT INSTANT...



COCHISE!
JEFFERDS!



COCHISE, YOU
CAME JUST IN
TIME! HE WAS
ABOUT TO KILL ME!

FOR ONCE CUCHILLO
SPEAKS THE TRUTH...
COCHISE, HE IS A SPY
FOR GERONIMO!

MIGUEL IS THE SPY! HE KILLED THE WHITE
MAN AND STOLE THE MULE! HE BOASTED
THAT HE WOULD BRING THE POWERFUL
MEDICINE IN THOSE BOXES TO GERONIMO!



HE LIES! I SAW CUCHILLO FIGHTING THE
WHITE MAN. WHEN I WENT TO HELP HIM
I DID NOT KNOW HE WAS STEALING THE
MEDICINE BOXES FOR GERONIMO!



YOU KILLED THE WHITE
MAN--ADMIT IT!

ENOUGH! THE WHITE MAN IS NOT DEAD! YOU
WILL BOTH BE BROUGHT TO HIM AND HE WILL
PICK OUT THE ONE WHO STABBED HIM!



STABBED HIM? BUT I
ONLY STRUCK HIM--
AND HIS HEAD HIT
A STONE IN FALLING!



SUDDENLY...
COCHISE,
LOOK!

IT IS MY ENEMY,
GERONIMO!



AND AS JEFFERDS' BULLET STRIKES HOWE...



LATER, ON THE ROAD BACK TO THE AGENCY...

ANGUEL: I BELIEVE YOUR STORY! BUT FOR ATTACKING THE WHITE MAN, YOU WILL HAVE TO BE PUNISHED!



ONLY ONE THING IS IMPORTANT-- THAT THE MAN IS NOT DEAD! WHATEVER THE PUNISHMENT, I ACCEPT IT!

BUT TO HAVE RUN AWAY-- THAT WAS THE ACT OF A COWARD, COCHISE! AND I AM ASHAMED!

ANYONE CAN RUN WHEN HE IS FRIGHTENED, WOULD IT TAKES A BRAVE MAN TO STOP RUNNING AND MAKE HIS STAND? I AM PROUD OF YOU!



NOW COCHISE CAN TELL THE WHITE MOUNTAIN CHIEFS THAT GERONIMO'S BIG MEDICINE BLEW UP IN HIS FACE!



A PLEDGE  TO PARENTS

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THE STRONGHOLD



THE CHIRICAHUA STRONGHOLDS LAY IN THE IMPREGNABLE FASTNESS OF THE SHASOON AND THE GRAHAM RANGES. VISITORS HAD TO SIGNAL THEIR APPROACH.



THE ENTRANCE OF THIS STRONGHOLD WAS A NARROW ROCK CORRIDOR CONSTANTLY GUARDED.



HERE THE CHIRICAHUA LEFT THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHEN THEY ROSE OFF TO RAID.



AND HERE THE APACHE WARRIORS WOULD RETURN WITH THEIR LOOT AND CAPTIVES. THE STRONGHOLD KEPT THEM SAFE FROM REPRISAL.



FOR EVEN IF AN ENEMY DARED ATTACK, IT TOOK ONLY A FEW APACHE WARRIORS TO DEFEND THE NARROW PASS AGAINST A THOUSAND HOSTILE WARRIORS.



THE INDIAN AGENT WAS IN FULL CHARGE OF THE RESERVATION, HIS JOB WAS TO ADVISE AND CONTROL THE INDIANS AND TO DISTRIBUTE RATIONS AND SUPPLIES.



SOME AGENTS LINED THEIR POCKETS SELLING RATIONS AND SUPPLIES MEANT FOR THE INDIANS.



BUT MOST AGENTS WERE INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE RED MAN. THEY TAUGHT THE TRIBESMEN HOW TO FARM AND RAISE CATTLE.



OFTEN THE AGENT WAS IN CHARGE OF ALL INDIAN FIREARMS. IF A BRAVE WISHED TO GO HUNTING, THE AGENT WOULD GIVE HIM HIS GUN AND A PASS TO LEAVE THE RESERVATION.



IT WAS THE AGENT'S JOB TO KEEP INVADERS OFF THE INDIAN RESERVE. SOMETIMES THIS EVEN MEANT DEFTLY FEDERAL TROOPS FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF SUSPECTED RAIDERS.