GOLD KEY
ZORRO
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MARCH

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS ZORRO

From out of the night . . .
"GHOST of the MISSION"!

Z is for ZORRO!

Zorro, the black-masked rider who strikes terror into the hearts of the tyronts of old Spanish California.

Avenging the oppressed, he leoves behind his mark . . . o jogged "Z," the sign of justice done!

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

Zorro

THE LITTLE PUEBLO OF LOS ANGELES APPEARS PEACEFUL, BUT INSIDE THE WALLED CUARTEL, THE LAW SEETHES ANGRILY VOWING ITS REVENGE ON THE ELUSIVE **ZORRO**, WHO HAS SNATCHED THE FALSELY-ACCUSED CAPTIVE, DON NACHO TORRES, FROM UNDER ITS VERY NOSE! THEN, SUDDENLY....

The Ghost of the Mission part One

LET ME IN! LET ME IN! I MUST SEE THE COMANDANTE! I HAVE NEWS OF TORRES!

STOP! YOU CANNOT ENTER UNLESS...!

WHAT'S THIS? YOU KNOW WHERE TORRES IS HIDING?

YES! YES! HE IS AT THE MISSION OF SAN GABRIEL! I SAW HIM THERE MYSELF, ONLY THIS MORNING!

I HAVE HEARD THERE IS A REWARD FOR WORD OF TORRES! I WANT IT, COMANDANTE MONASTARIO!

HERE IS YOUR REWARD! NOW GET OUT OF THE WAY! WE'RE RIDING TO THE MISSION AT ONCE!

A SHORT TIME LATER, DON DIEGO DE LA VEGA AND HIS VALET, BERNARDO, ARE RIDING TO LOS ANGELES.

YES! I SEE, BERNARDO! IT LOOKS LIKE CAPITAN MONASTARIO'S LANCERS!

THE LANCERS CHARGE BY, FORCING DIEGO'S CARRIAGE OFF THE ROAD...

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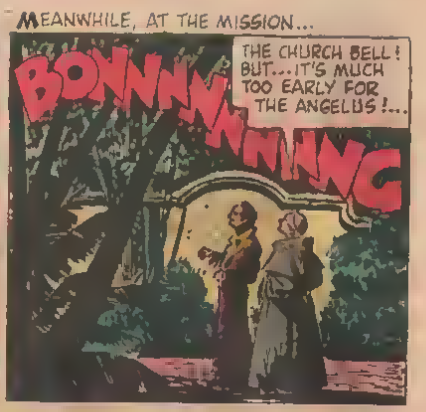
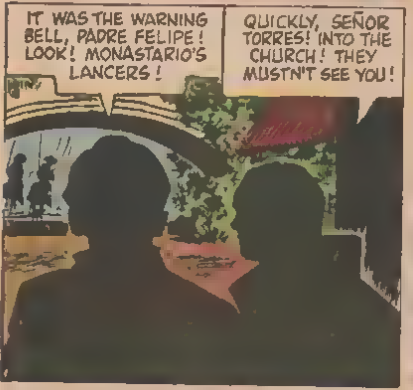
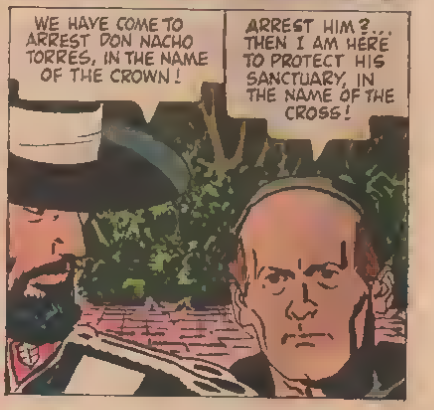
THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE MISSION, BERNARDO! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS! WE MUST GO BACK! QUICKLY!


MEANWHILE, AT THE MISSION...
BONNNNNNNNG
THE CHURCH BELL! BUT...IT'S MUCH TOO EARLY FOR THE ANGELUS!...


IT WAS THE WARNING BELL, PADRE FELIPE! LOOK! MONASTARIO'S LANCERS!
QUICKLY, SEÑOR TORRES! INTO THE CHURCH! THEY MUSTN'T SEE YOU!

SURROUND THE AREA, MEN! SERGEANT GARCIA, I WILL HOLD YOU PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE IF TORRES GETS AWAY!
ER...YES, MI CAPITAN!

BUENOS DIAS, CAPITAN! DID YOU BRING YOUR MEN TO WHITEWASH THE CHURCH? IT TRULY NEEDS...!
YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHY WE ARE HERE, PADRE!

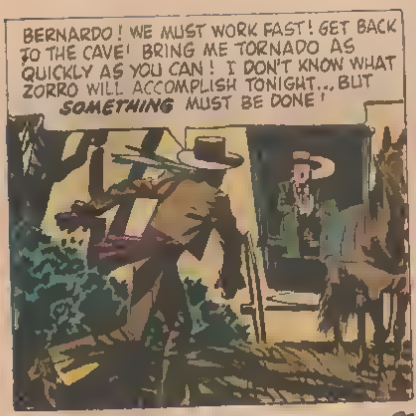

WE HAVE COME TO ARREST DON NACHO TORRES, IN THE NAME OF THE CROWN!
ARREST HIM?... THEN I AM HERE TO PROTECT HIS SANCTUARY, IN THE NAME OF THE CROSS!

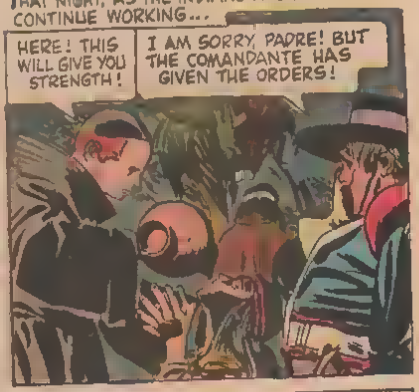
AHA! THEN YOU ADMIT HE IS HERE! BUT THIS SANCTUARY LAW IS SO ABSURD!
NOT TO SEÑOR TORRES DURING HIS PERIOD OF SANCTUARY, YOU MAY NOT MOLEST HIM!
BAH! WHO WOULD KNOW IF I TOOK HIM BY FORCE? WE'RE A LONG WAYS FROM MADRID OR ROME!
BUT YOU WOULD NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT! YOU KNOW THAT, COMANDANTE!
MAYBE! MAYBE NOT! BUT I WILL LEAVE HIM FOR NOW! YOU CANNOT GIVE HIM SANCTUARY FOREVER, PADRE!
ONLY FOR FORTY DAYS, CAPITAN! I HOPE THAT WILL BE LONG ENOUGH TO PROVE HE IS INNOCENT!
DIEGO AND BERNARDO SOON ARRIVE AT THE MISSION...
WHAT GOES ON HERE, CAPITAN? IS THE ARMY ON MANEUVERS?
WHY ARE YOU HERE, DIEGO?
WHY, I HEARD THAT PADRE FELIPE HAS SOME ORANGES TO SELL! I AM HERE TO BUY SOME!
OH? PERHAPS IT MIGHT INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT SEÑOR TORRES HAS TAKEN SANCTUARY IN THE CHURCH!
I SEE! BUT THAT DOESN'T INTEREST ME! I AM LOOKING FOR ORANGES!
THAT IS GOOD! IT IS BETTER THAT YOUNG MEN LIKE YOU MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS!

MINUTES LATER...
DIEGO! I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU! IS THE ARMY STILL OUTSIDE?
IN FULL FORCE! BUT I WANTED TO TELL YOU, I'VE CALLED ON YOUR FAMILY, REASSURING THEM OF YOUR SAFETY, TORRES!
THANK YOU, MY FRIEND! BUT IT SEEMS HOPELESS! ALL I DID WAS SPEAK OUT AGAINST CORRUPTION! AND NOW I'M ACCUSED OF TREASON!
BUT WE ALL KNOW YOU ARE NOT GUILTY OF TREASON, DON NACHO! IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME WAY TO HELP YOU...! SO FAR, ONLY THIS SHOW-OFF, ZORRO, HAS
HA! WITHOUT ZORRO, I PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ALIVE TODAY! TAKE MY ADVICE DIEGO! STAY WITH YOUR BOOKS AND GUITARS! OR YOU, TOO, WILL END UP LIKE THIS!
AAAAAHHHHHH
WHAT'S THAT?
DROP THOSE ORANGES AND MOVE ALONG THERE!
ONTO THE ROAD! MOVE! FAST!
STOP! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO DO THIS!

IT'S NO USE, PADRE! I'M TAKING EVERY INDIAN I CAN FIND!
BUT THEY ARE LIKE CHILDREN! THEY LIVE AND WORK AT THE MISSION! YOU CAN'T DO THIS, I TELL YOU!
OH, NO? THERE IS AN ORDER OF THE KING THAT STATES A COMANDANTE MAY DRAFT ALL AVAILABLE LABOR WHENEVER HE CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY!
DON'T TAKE OUT YOUR WRATH ON THESE POOR, SIMPLE PEOPLE! I BEG YOU, CAPTAIN! ALL THEY KNOW IS TO PICK ORANGES AND
BAH! THE ORANGES ARE SOUR, ANYWAY!
LINE THEM UP OVER THERE! AND HAND OUT THE TOOLS!
THE DETAIL IS READY FOR WORK, CAPITAN!
GOOD! I WANT A NEW ROAD BUILT GARCIA!
A ROAD, CAPITAN? WHERE?
HAVE THEM START RIGHT HERE... THROUGH THERE... TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THERE!

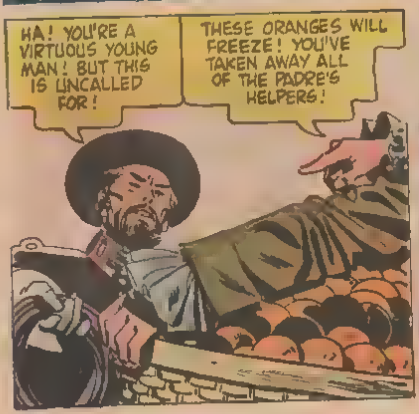
THERE..THROUGH TO THERE? BUT THE OLD ROAD GOES VERY NICELY TO THE SAME PLACE, MI CAPITAN! OVER HERE!
THAT'S RIGHT! BUT WE WILL BUILD ANOTHER ONE!
ALL THOSE ROCKS ARE IN THE WAY OF ANOTHER ROAD, SIR!
THAT'S WHY WE NEED THE INDIANS TO MOVE THE ROCKS, YOU IDIOT! NOW GET THEM TO WORK!
PADRE FELIPE! THERE WILL BE MORE TROUBLE THAN I AM WORTH! I MUST GIVE MYSELF UP!
NO, DON NACHO! YOU MUST STAY HERE, INSIDE! AT LEAST, WAIT UNTIL NIGHTFALL! PERHAPS THE PADRE AND I WILL THINK OF SOME PLAN!
YES, DIEGO IS RIGHT! YOU MUST STAY! WE WILL THINK OF SOMETHING!
MAYBE I CAN HELP, PADRE! I'LL GO TO SEE HOW MUCH DAMAGE THE LANCERS HAVE DONE TO YOUR ORANGES!
IT WILL BE OF LITTLE USE, DIEGO!
PRESENTLY..
AH! THERE IS BERNARDO! AND HE IS LOOKING THIS WAY!

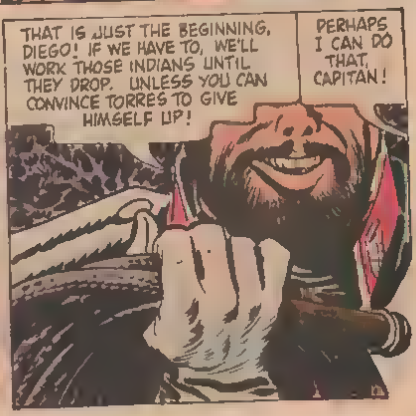

BERNARDO! WE MUST WORK FAST! GET BACK TO THE CAVE! BRING ME TORNADO AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT ZORRO WILL ACCOMPLISH TONIGHT... BUT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!


THAT NIGHT, AS THE INDIANS ARE FORCED TO CONTINUE WORKING...
HERE! THIS WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH!
I AM SORRY, PADRE! BUT THE COMANDANTE HAS GIVEN THE ORDERS!

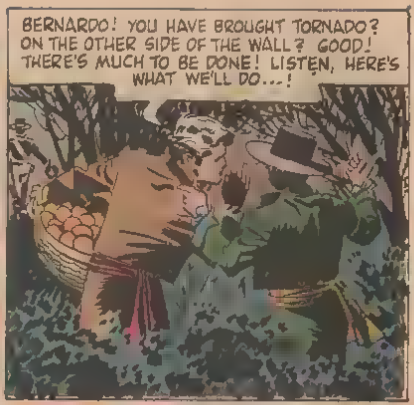
AND NEAR THE MISSION ORANGE GROVE...
AH, IT IS FULLY DARK! BERNARDO SHOULD BE BACK WITH TORNADO . AND HIDING OUTSIDE!

DIEGO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
WHAT? OH, I-ER- I ONLY THOUGHT I SHOULD HELP PADRE FELIPE WITH HIS WORK, CAPITAN!

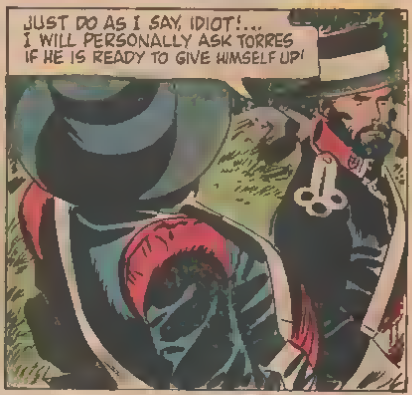

HA! YOU'RE A VIRTUOUS YOUNG MAN! BUT THIS IS UNCALLED FOR!
THESE ORANGES WILL FREEZE! YOU'VE TAKEN AWAY ALL OF THE PADRE'S HELPERS!


THAT IS JUST THE BEGINNING, DIEGO! IF WE HAVE TO, WE'LL WORK THOSE INDIANS UNTIL THEY DROP. UNLESS YOU CAN CONVINCE TORRES TO GIVE HIMSELF UP!
PERHAPS I CAN DO THAT, CAPITAN!

GOOD! THAT IS THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN HELP PADRE FELIPE, DIEGO!


BERNARDO! YOU HAVE BROUGHT TORNADO? ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL? GOOD! THERE'S MUCH TO BE DONE! LISTEN, HERE'S WHAT WE'LL DO...!

MEANWHILE...
GOOD WORK! MOST OF THE ROCKS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE OTHER SIDE! NOW HAVE THE INDIANS MOVE THEM BACK AGAIN!
WHAT? BACK AGAIN? BUT WHY, CAPITAN?


JUST DO AS I SAY, IDIOT!... I WILL PERSONALLY ASK TORRES IF HE IS READY TO GIVE HIMSELF UP!

MINUTES LATER...
SEÑOR TORRES! I HAVE NOT COME TO HARM YOU! ONLY TO SEE IF DON DIEGO HAS TOLD YOU OF...!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE LOUD RESONANT TONES OF THE CHURCH ORGAN BREAK FORTH IN MELODY...
WHAT...?

SHHHHHHH! DO NOT DISTURB DON NACHO NOW, MONASTARIO!
THEN YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HIM?
RRROOOM
OH, YES! AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE WON! SO AS THIS IS HIS LAST VISIT TO THE CHURCH, PERHAPS YOU WILL WAIT, UNTIL HE IS READY TO GO!
OF COURSE! I DON'T MIND WAITING A BIT LONGER AS LONG AS HE IS GIVING HIMSELF UP!
DON NACHO WANTED TO HEAR MY MUSIC ONCE MORE! HE'S ALWAYS LOVED BACH! WHAT ABOUT YOU, CAPITAN?
NEVER MIND THAT! JUST FINISH PLAYING AS SOON AS YOU CAN!
OUTSIDE...
STOP MAKING NOISES WITH THAT WHIP! LISTEN TO THE ORGAN MUSIC! IS IT NOT BEAUTIFUL?
WHILE GARCIA AND HIS SOLDIERS STAND ENTHRALLED BY THE MAJESTIC TONES OF THE ORGAN..
SHHH! PUT DOWN THE ROCK! RUN INTO THE HILLS! QUIETLY!
AH! NOW IF ONLY DIEGO CAN PLAY LONG ENOUGH...!

WHAT IS THIS? STOP! STOP! I SAY STOP!
NO! DO NOT SHOOT!
BLAM!!
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED? HOW MANY GOT AWAY? WATCH THE OTHERS! GET THEM ALL TOGETHER! HURRY UP!
SERGEANT GARCIA! WHO FIRED THAT SHOT? GARCIA! ANSWER ME!
TWO...INDIANS ESCAPED, CAPITAN! BUT IT WAS NOT MY FAULT! I...
NEVER MIND! GET THE OTHERS BACK TO WORK!
YOU! COME WITH ME! WE'LL BRING THOSE INDIANS BACK BY THEIR THUMBS!
YES, MI CAPITAN!

IN THE CONFUSION, PADRE FELIPE HAS RUN BACK TO THE MISSION AND TORRES...
THIS IS TOO MUCH, PADRE! I MUST GIVE MYSELF UP TO PREVENT MORE TROUBLE!
NO, NO, TORRES! YOU MUST NOT!
SENTRY! CALL YOUR CAPITAN BACK! STOP ALL THIS! I AM YOUR PRISONER!
WHAT ?
SERGEANT GARCIA! COME QUICKLY! I HAVE TORRES!
I'LL STAND BY YOU, DON NACHO, AS LONG AS I CAN! YOU ARE A BRAVE MAN!
WHAT?...YOU HAVE TORRES? AT LAST! I WILL RIDE TO TELL THE CAPITAN! HE...!
SUDDENLY, A BLACK RIDER CHARGES PAST...
UH ..WH-WHAT'S THAT... ??
IT'S ... ZORRO!
RUN! RUN! ALL OF YOU! FOR THE HILLS!
IT IS ZORRO!
DO AS HE SAYS! RUN!
WE ARE SAVED!

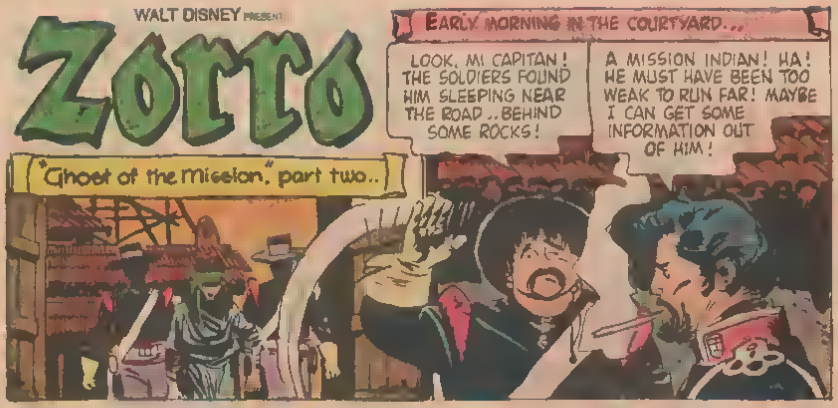
ZORRO'S WHIP SNAPS OUT...
BLAM
CRACK!
YIIIIII!
AFTER THEM, MEN! . TO YOUR HORSES! GET YOUR HORSES!
AH! BERNARDO DID A GOOD JOB OF CUTTING THEIR REINS!
COME BACK, HORSES! STOP!
CRACK!
BACK INSIDE THE MISSION, TORRES! THE INDIANS HAVE ESCAPED! THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO GIVE YOURSELF UP!
YOU MAY FRIGHTEN MY SOLDIERS, SEÑOR ZORRO, BUT YOU WON'T FIND ME SO EASY TO HANDLE!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, CAPITAN!
WH-WHAT ?

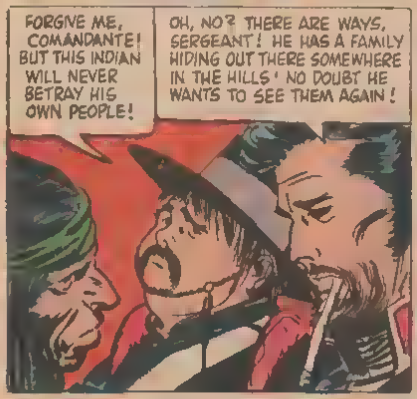
UFFFFFF!! H-HELP!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
THERE'S NO ONE TO HELP YOU, CAPITAN! MAY YOU HAVE A SPEEDY RIDE TO PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES! HA HA HA HA!
ULP!
WHAP
SO MUCH FOR MONASTARIO AND HIS MEN TONIGHT, TORNADO! AND NOW, BACK TO THE CHURCH!
LATER...
I-I HEARD ALL THE NOISE, SEÑOR! BUT I THOUGHT I'D STAY INSIDE! WHAT...WHAT WAS IT ALL ABOUT!
IT WAS ZORRO! ZORRO, HIMSELF! HE WAS TRULY MAGNIFICENT! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIM!
IM-ER-SORRY I COULDN'T BE OF HELP, BUT-ER-I DON'T LIKE VIOLENCE!
YOU ARE RIGHT, MY SON! WE SHOULD NOT, AFTER ALL, CONDONE THIS VIOLENCE!
WE CAN'T HELP BUT ADMIRE ZORRO, BUT PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE WERE ALL MORE LIKE YOU, DON DIEGO! YOU HAVE SUCH A QUIET AND PEACEFUL LIFE!

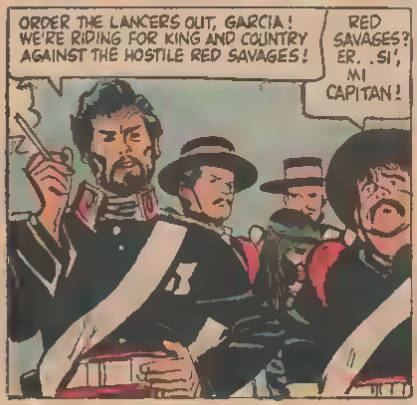
WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

Zorro

"Ghost of the Mission," part two..







NOW YOU TRY IT! YOU MUST LEARN TO PLAY SO YOU CAN COVER FOR ME WHEN I AM OUT RIDING AS ZORRO! OTHERWISE, FATHER MAY GROW SUSPICIOUS!
PLUNK TWANNNK
NOT GOOD, BERNARDO! BUT YOU MUST NOT GIVE UP! NOW I MUST RIDE TO THE MISSION TO SEE IF SEÑOR TORRES HAS GOTTEN SAFELY AWAY!
LATER..
HOW SAD THE MISSION LOOKS NOW! NO INDIANS! NOT EVEN AN ANIMAL IN SIGHT!
AH, DIEGO! I AM GLAD IT IS YOU! I WAS AFRAID CAPITAN MONASTARIO MIGHT HAVE RETURNED!
ARE THE INDIANS STILL HIDING IN THE HILLS, PADRE?
YES, BUT THEY WILL COME BACK WHEN THE DANGER IS OVER! I HAVE KEPT SEÑOR TORRES HERE, THOUGH! I AM AFRAID THE SOLDIERS ARE STILL WAITING TO SEIZE HIM IF HE LEAVES!
THAT IS WISE, PADRE! BUT HE SHOULDN'T WAIT TOO LONG TO SET OUT FOR MONTEREY!
IT IS MONASTARIO AGAIN! AND HIS LANCERS! THEY MUST PLAN TO TAKE TORRES BY FORCE!
LOOK! THE CAPITAN ALSO HAS ONE OF THE MISSION INDIANS!

GARCIA! POST SENTRIES AND KEEP A SHARP WATCH! THE PRISONER COMES WITH ME!
INOCENTE! WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU?
CAREFUL, PADRE! HE'S A DANGEROUS SAVAGE WHO'S CONFESSED THAT HIS PEOPLE ARE PLANNING TO BURN THE MISSION AND ROB YOU!
THE INDIANS ARE LIKE MY CHILDREN! THIS CANNOT BE TRUE! INOCENTE, SPEAK UP! DON'T BE AFRAID!
I—I..!
YOU SEE, HE WON'T DENY IT! I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PUT THIS MISSION UNDER MARTIAL LAW, PADRE!
IT IS A TRICK! A SHABBY TRICK!
IT'S FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, PADRE! THIS MISSION IS UNDER MY COMMAND! YOU WILL PROVIDE FOOD AND SHELTER FOR MY LANCERS, TOO!
AND NOW, I SHALL SELECT A PRIVATE ROOM FOR MY HEADQUARTERS!
IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS THAT THE CAPITAN IS UNABLE TO GET TORRES ANY OTHER WAY, SO HE HAS INVENTED A FALSE INDIAN UPRISING AS HIS EXCUSE TO TAKE OVER THE MISSION!
AS LONG AS TORRES REMAINS INSIDE THE CHURCH, HE IS STILL PROTECTED BY HOLY SANCTUARY, PADRE!
TRUE! BUT CAPITAN MONASTARIO WILL KEEP HIM IN THERE! HOW LONG CAN HE LIVE WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER?

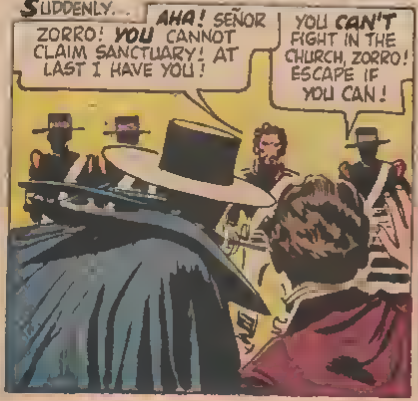
WELL, I SHALL GO AND TELL MY FATHER WHAT HAS OCCURRED! HE HAS A KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAW! PERHAPS HE CAN HELP!
ER...YES... PERHAPS!
LATER...
BERNARDO! YOUR PLAYING HAS IMPROVED A LITTLE! SOON YOU WILL LOCK YOURSELF IN MY ROOM AND PLAY THE GUITAR UNTIL I RETURN!
ZORRO MUST RIDE AGAIN TONIGHT, AND RETURN WITHOUT MY FATHER MISSING ME! GO AND HAVE THE COOK PREPARE PLENTY OF FOOD TO PACK IN MY SADDLE BAG!
THAT NIGHT..
SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE..! BUT I'VE GOT TO GET FOOD AND WATER TO SEÑOR TORRES!
ONE MOMENT, PADRE! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT TRY SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
YOU CAN'T KEEP ME FROM GOING INTO MY OWN CHURCH!
NO, BUT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO CARRY FOOD AND DRINK TO A TRAITOR! LET ME HAVE THAT!
MM-M-M VERY APPETIZING! I THINK I'LL ENJOY THIS, PADRE!
YOU ARE INHUMAN! BEWARE, LEST AN ESPECIALLY WARM SPOT BE RESERVED FOR YOU IN THE HEREAFTER!

AT THAT MINUTE, BEHIND THE MISSION
EASY, TORNADO! I'VE GOT TO GET THIS FOOD TO SEÑOR TORRES!

THERE'S OUR ALERT SENTRY, SERGEANT GARCIA! HE WILL GIVE US NO TROUBLE! HE SLEEPS SOUNDLY!
ZZZZZ

ZORRO SLIPS SILENTLY INTO THE CHURCH
PSSST! SEÑOR TORRES! QUIET! HERE IS FOOD AND WATER!
Z-ZORRO

THANK YOU, SEÑOR ZORRO! AGAIN YOU RISK YOUR LIFE TO HELP ME!

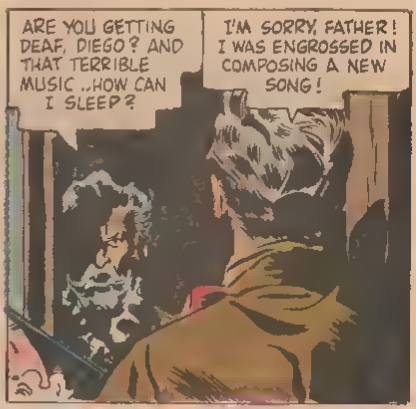

SUDDENLY...
AHA! SEÑOR ZORRO! YOU CANNOT CLAIM SANCTUARY! AT LAST I HAVE YOU!
YOU CAN'T FIGHT IN THE CHURCH, ZORRO! ESCAPE IF YOU CAN!

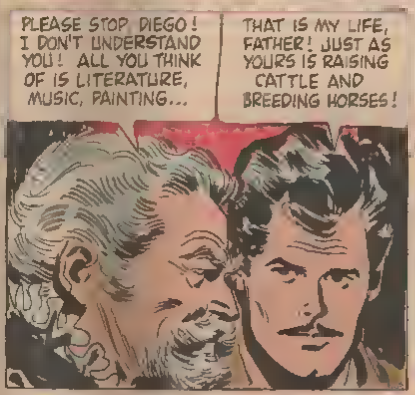
KNOWING HE CANNOT RESORT TO FORCE WITHIN THE CHURCH, ZORRO HEADS FOR THE TOWER...
HA! THE GREAT ZORRO HAS TRAPPED HIMSELF!

LET HIM GET TO THE BELFRY! HE CAN GO NO FURTHER!
NOW—IF MY PLAN WORKS!
ZORRO REACHES THE BELFRY AND LEAPS OUT...
THERE HE IS!
SO! THEN ZORRO IS AT THE END OF HIS ROPE! HAHAHA!
THERE!
.....
ADIOS, SEÑOR ZORRO!
GARCIA! ZORRO IS WOUNDED! HE'S DROPPED INTO THE CHURCHYARD! GET HIM!
O-O-O-O-F! ...GOT TO... GET AWAY FROM HERE!

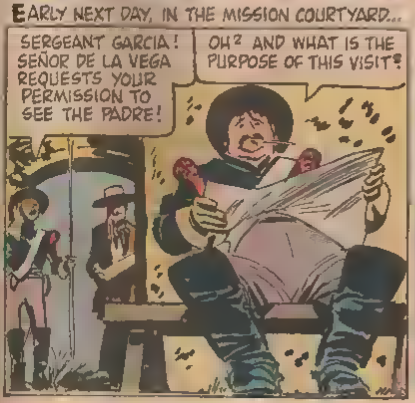
BUT FIRST...IT MIGHT BE WISE TO SLOW UP THE SERGEANT AND HIS MEN!
SWIFTLY, ZORRO SETS A SNARE
THIS OUGHT TO DO IT!
OOOWWWWW
OOOFF
YOUR FEET ARE TOO BIG, SERGEANT! HAHA HA HA!
WHAT...? YOU IDIOTS! ZORRO HAS OUTWITTED YOU AGAIN! AFTER HIM!
BUT, MI CAPITAN, IT WAS THIS WAY! I—!
SOME TIME LATER, IN DIEGO'S ROOM, BERNARDO'S STRUMMING CONTINUES...
KNOCK KNOCK
DIEGO! STOP THAT INFERNAL NOISE AND OPEN THIS DOOR!
TWANG TWANG
DIEGO! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? UNLOCK THE DOOR!
YES, FATHER!
KNOCK KNOCK

QUICKLY, BERNARDO! GET UNDER THE BED!
KNOCK KNOCK


ARE YOU GETTING DEAF, DIEGO? AND THAT TERRIBLE MUSIC ..HOW CAN I SLEEP?
I'M SORRY, FATHER! I WAS ENGROSSED IN COMPOSING A NEW SONG!

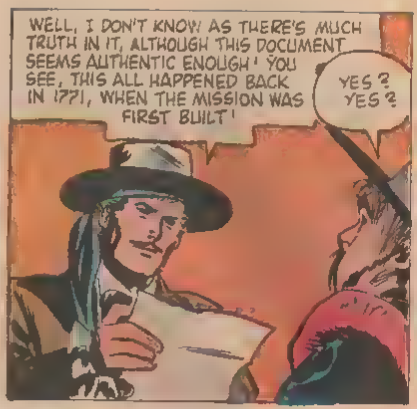

PLEASE STOP DIEGO! I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU! ALL YOU THINK OF IS LITERATURE, MUSIC, PAINTING...
THAT IS MY LIFE, FATHER! JUST AS YOURS IS RAISING CATTLE AND BREEDING HORSES!

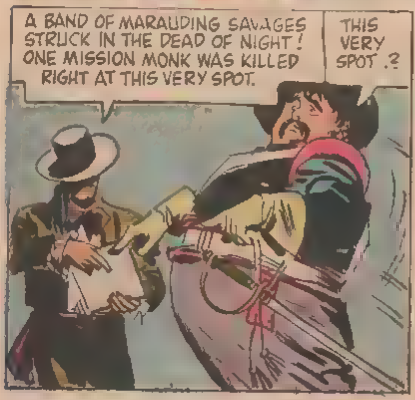
LATER.
YOU DID WELL, BERNARDO! BUT ZORRO DID NOT! THERE WERE TOO MANY SOLDIERS! DON NACHO TORRES WILL HAVE TO WAIT A WHILE LONGER FOR FREEDOM!


EARLY NEXT DAY, IN THE MISSION COURTYARD...
SERGEANT GARCIA! SEÑOR DE LA VEGA REQUESTS YOUR PERMISSION TO SEE THE PADRE!
OH? AND WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS VISIT?

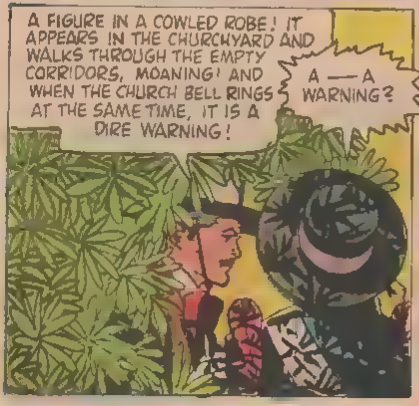
I HAVE AN OLD MANUSCRIPT, SERGEANT, THAT PADRE FELIPE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SEE!
MANUSCRIPT, EH? AND WHAT IS THIS STRANGE WRITING ALL OVER IT?

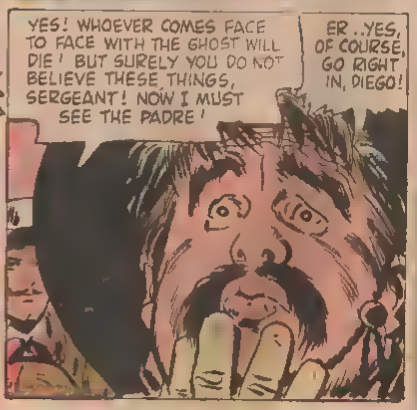
IT IS LATIN! AN ACCOUNT OF SOMETHING STRANGE THAT HAPPENED HERE MANY YEARS AGO! I DON'T THINK YOU'D BE INTERESTED!
SOMETHING STRANGE? WHAT WAS IT?


WELL, I DON'T KNOW AS THERE'S MUCH TRUTH IN IT, ALTHOUGH THIS DOCUMENT SEEMS AUTHENTIC ENOUGH! YOU SEE, THIS ALL HAPPENED BACK IN 1771, WHEN THE MISSION WAS FIRST BUILT!
YES? YES?


A BAND OF MARAUDING SAVAGES STRUCK IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT! ONE MISSION MONK WAS KILLED RIGHT AT THIS VERY SPOT.
THIS VERY SPOT.?

YES! AND EVER SINCE, HIS GHOST HAS HAUNTED THE MISSION ON DARK MOONLESS NIGHTS!
A—A GHOST? BUT WH-WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?


A FIGURE IN A COWLED ROBE! IT APPEARS IN THE CHURCHYARD AND WALKS THROUGH THE EMPTY CORRIDORS, MOANING! AND WHEN THE CHURCH BELL RINGS AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS A DIRE WARNING!
A—A WARNING?


YES! WHOEVER COMES FACE TO FACE WITH THE GHOST WILL DIE! BUT SURELY YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THESE THINGS, SERGEANT! NOW I MUST SEE THE PADRE!
ER..YES, OF COURSE, GO RIGHT IN, DIEGO!

DIEGO! WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
JUST A MANUSCRIPT, PADRE! A PRETEXT TO SEE YOU! HOW IS DON NACHO? AND THE INDIAN?
DON NACHO IS QUITE DEJECTED! AND THE INDIAN IS TIED UP IN THE STONE BODEGA, BEHIND THE PEPPER TREE! I FEAR THE WORST, DIEGO!
DO NOT DESPAIR, PADRE! SOME HOW, I FEEL THAT THIS REIGN OF TERROR WILL SOON COME TO AN END!
THAT NIGHT...
SERGEANT! WHAT OF THIS STRANGE TALE YOU HAVE BEEN TELLING EVERYBODY! THIS GHOST! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
BAH! IT IS A FOOLISH TALE MEANT FOR OLD WOMEN WHO COULD BELIEVE SUCH NONSENSE!
WELL, IT IS A MOONLESS NIGHT, AND THE HOUR IS ALMOST MIDNIGHT! TELL ME THE STORY AGAIN, GARCIA! I LIKE...!
BONNWNNNG
TH-THE CH-CHURCH-BELL!
YI-I-I-I-I-!
CONTRERAS! WHY DID YOU SOUND THE ALARM?
I DIDN'T RING THE BELL, SERGEANT! IT RINGS BY ITSELF!
GLUUA
BONNWNNNG

LOOK! SOMETHING IS MOVING IN THE CHURCHYARD!
Y!!!!!!!!!!! IT IS THE GHOST!

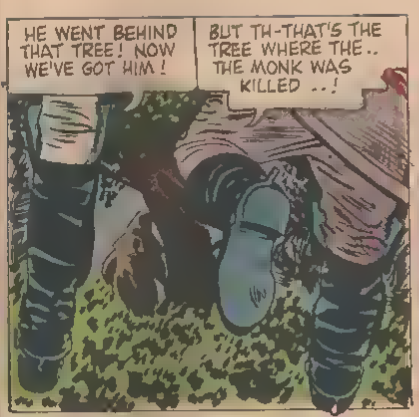
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
IT'S... IT'S THE... THE GHOST, MI CAPITAN! WE MUST RUN!

BAH! GHOSTS AND PHANTOMS DO NOT EXIST! COME WITH ME, SERGEANT! WE'LL FIND OUT WHO'S PLAYING THIS LITTLE JOKE!
BUT... BUT... MI CAPITAN! LOOK! THERE IT IS AGAIN!

AFTER IT!
IT'S GOING INTO THE BARRACKS!

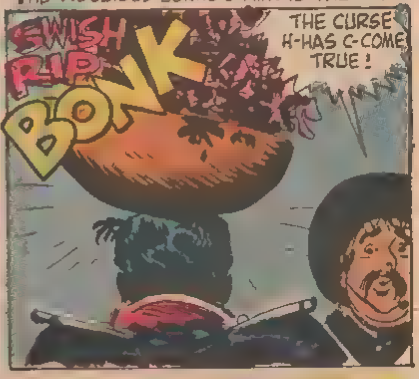
YEEOWW! IT'S THE GHOST OF THE MONK!
LET ME OUT OF HERE!
COME BACK! COME BACK, YOU DESERTERS!

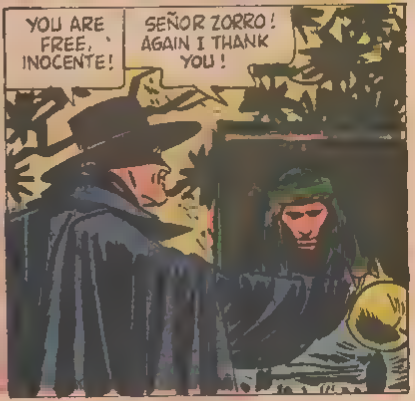
SH-SHALL I GO AFTER THEM, SIR?
COWARD! NO! — YOU WILL HELP ME CATCH THIS FALSE PHANTOM! THERE HE IS NOW!



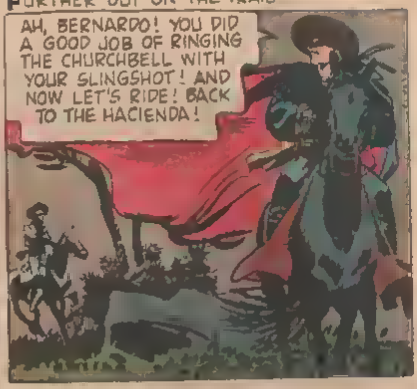
BUT A FEW FEET OVER THEIR HEADS...

THE DISGUISED ZORRO'S AIM IS TRUE...

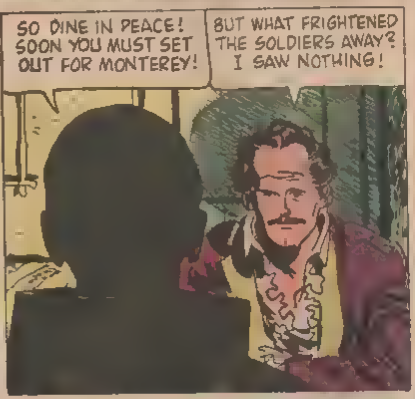




FURTHER OUT ON THE TRAIL



AND BACK AT THE MISSION...



MINI-COMICS

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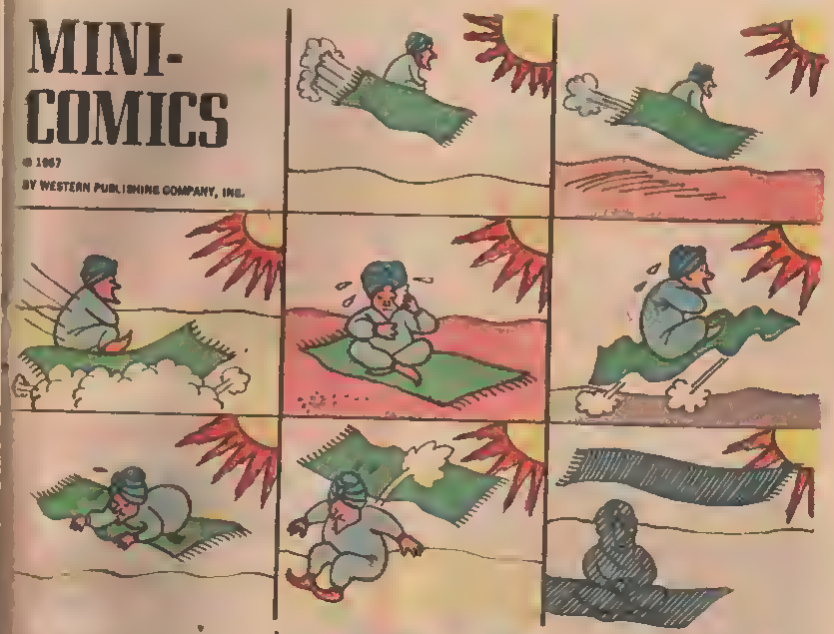

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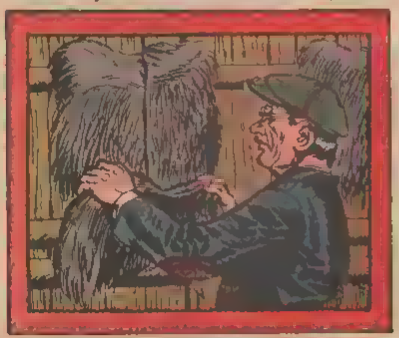
KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

The OPOSSUM

Opossums, known as "pouched animals" belong to a primitive specie found in parts of the United States and sections of Mexico.

When 20 are born, only the first 11 who make their way to the mother's pouch, will live. They remain there for seventy days.

Opossums are trapped, shot, and caught by hand. If frightened, they "feign" death. This has been known as "playing possum".

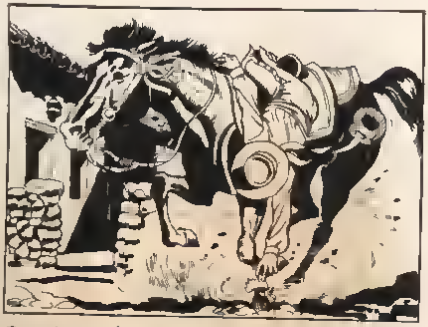


Their flesh, although greasy, is considered "tasty". Opossum's fur, only 6% the durability of otter, is in very good demand.

Opossums like farm country, but are not popular with farmers. Given opportunity, they kill poultry and destroy vegetables.

GAMES OF THE VAQUEROS

Held in the saddle by his father, a child of old California was learning to ride before he had completely mastered the art of walking.



In a few years, the boy tried the rougher vaquero games, such as grabbing a rooster from a shallow pit while riding at a full gallop!

When he was more skillful, he attempted the harder feat of racing through a difficult course with a coin under each knee . his object being never to lose the coins.

Another of the vaquero's favorite games was to drop a cape over the eyes of an infuriated, charging bull, then spur out of the way just as the bull drew perilously close.

To a group of young vaqueros, roping a grizzly bear was just another way of entertaining themselves! These fearless riders were the pride of early California, and if a game was rough, dangerous, and on horseback — the vaqueros were sure to like it!

EL CAMINO REAL

Along the mission trail lies the history and romance of California. When founded, the twenty-one missions were placed a day's journey on horseback from each other, but, riding our modern highways, you can visit all of them in one day.

No weary wayfarer was ever turned away from the missions, and there are stories told of travelers who stopped for a night's lodging and remained for weeks—or even months—as if they were vacationing at a luxury resort hotel

From the first to the twenty-first, bloody skirmishes were part of the founding of the missions. But looms for weaving, grain for planting, and books for learning made friends of the once-hostile Indians all along El Camino Real.