

- HERGÉ -
★
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN

THE BLUE LOTUS



darkseid collection

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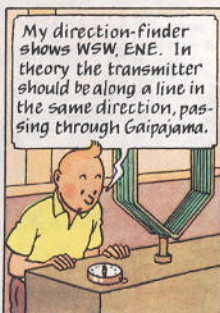
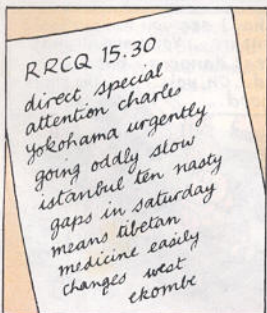
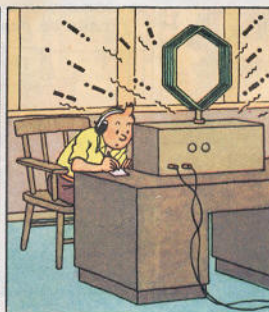
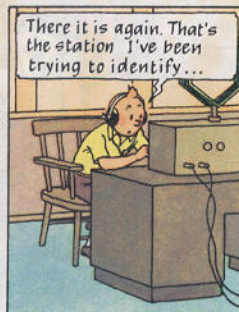
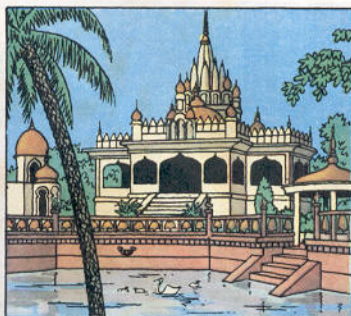
THE BLUE LOTUS

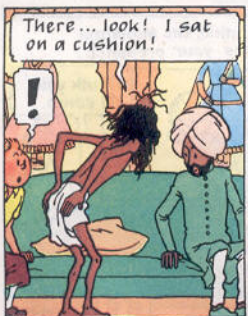
藍蓮花

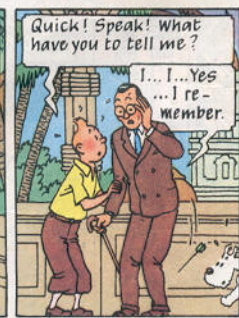
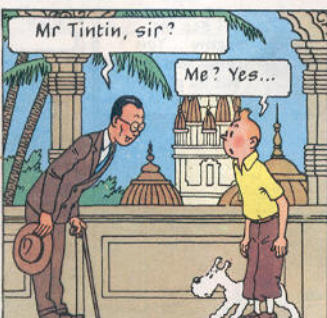
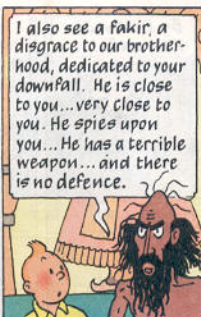
TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug-smugglers, encountered in *Cigars of the Pharaoh*, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader is

unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

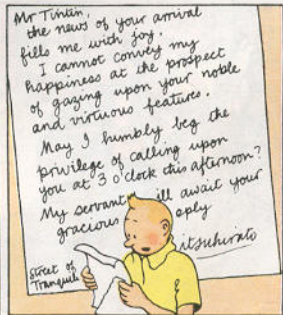
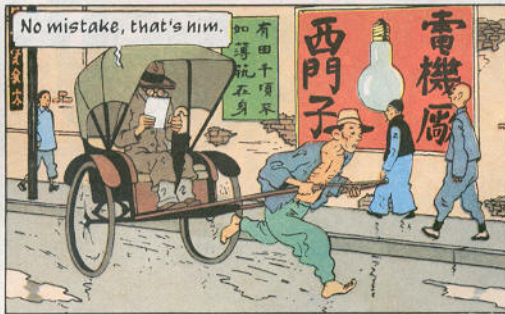
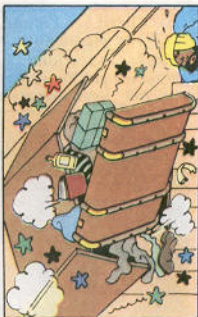
But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajajah juice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?

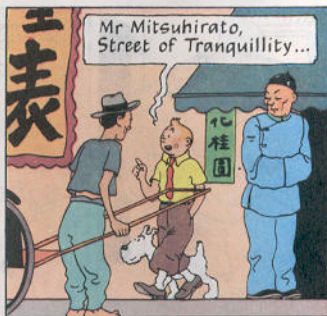
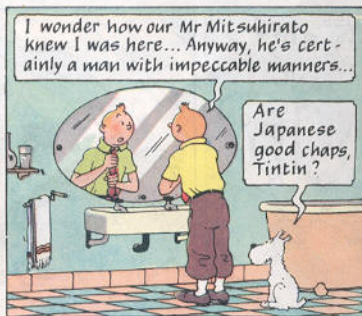


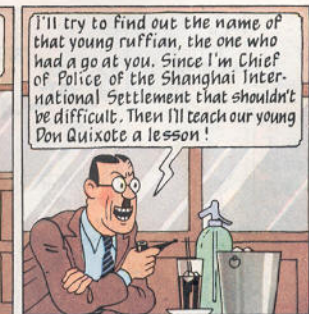
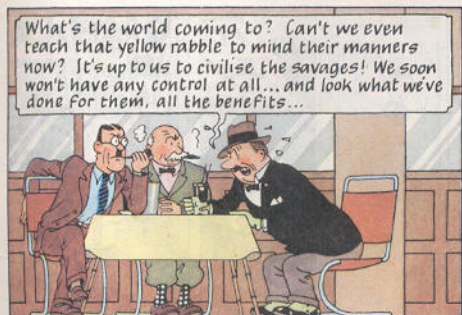
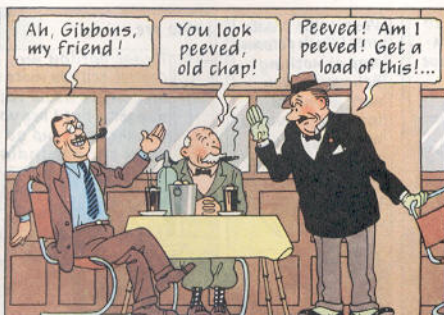


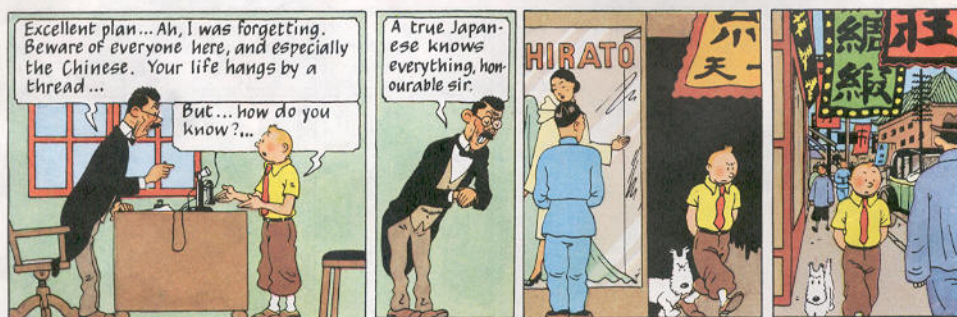


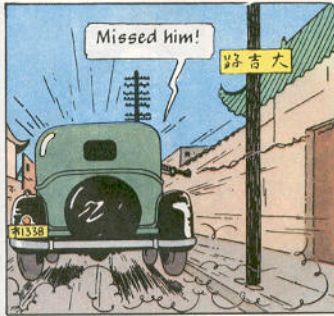
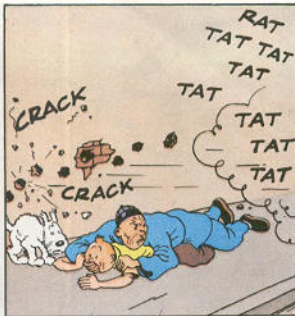


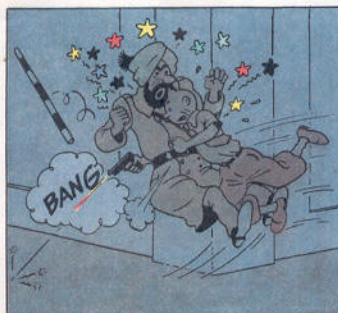
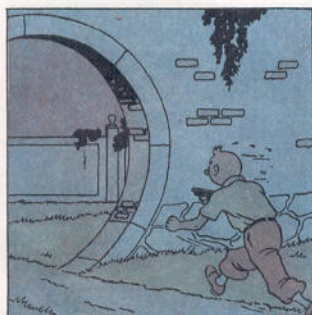
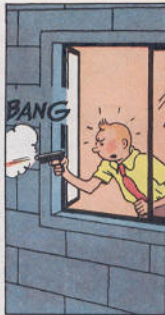


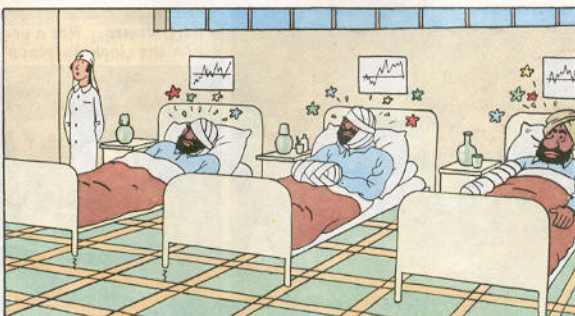
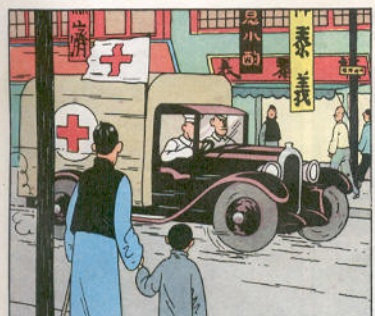




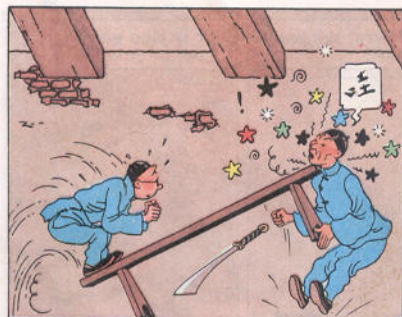








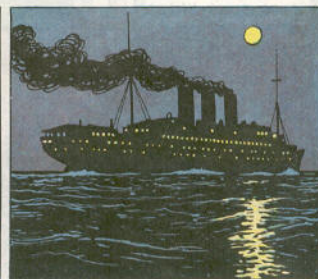
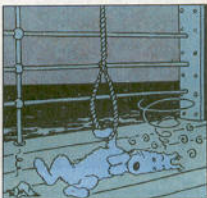
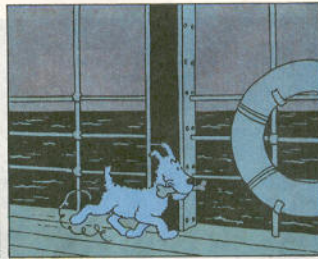
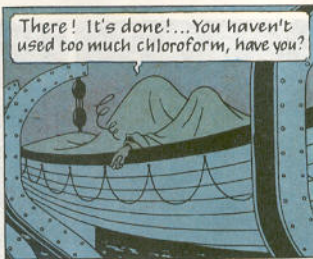
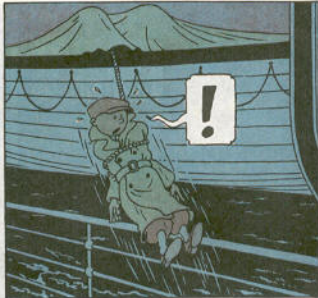
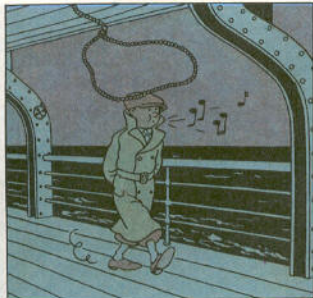


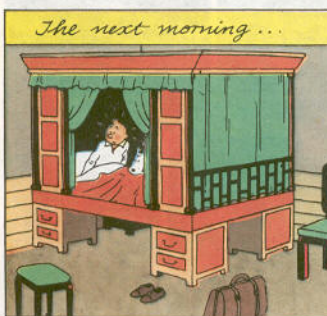


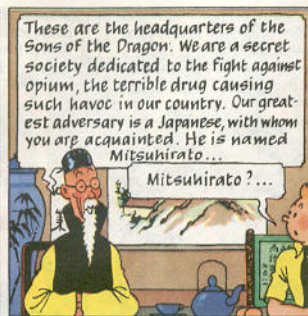
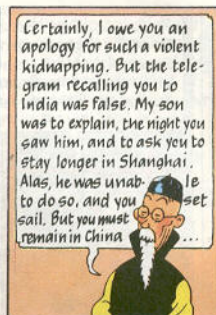
That night...

Are you coming Snowy?
Let's take a stroll
round the deck...

Allright. I'll
catch you up...







Yes, Mitsuhirato. He's a Japanese secret agent in China...and at the same time, one of the most active and evil of men...



Hello, Tokyo?



...Not content with spying, he has joined forces with opium smugglers...He helps them distribute all over the world, but mostly here in China.



Hello?... Hello?
Tokyo here....
Ah, it's you...



Yes, Excellency... All is well... Tintin?... On the way to India... recalled by telegram, sent by me, of course... No, not easy... Those meddling Sons of the Dragon tried to keep him here... I had to take extreme measures...



Perfect!... Now the coast is clear for... you know what. Succeed in that... and you will receive the Order of Fujiyama, first class!



I'm certain to succeed, Excellency, provided your propaganda is well organised... It will be?... That is good!... Goodbye then, Excellency...



We hoped you would be willing to help us, so we sent a messenger to India... But Mitsuhirato's spy network is excellent. They attacked the messenger and he went mad... Yet you still came, and...



WOAH!
WOAH!



That's Snowy!



Snowy!...
He's gone!

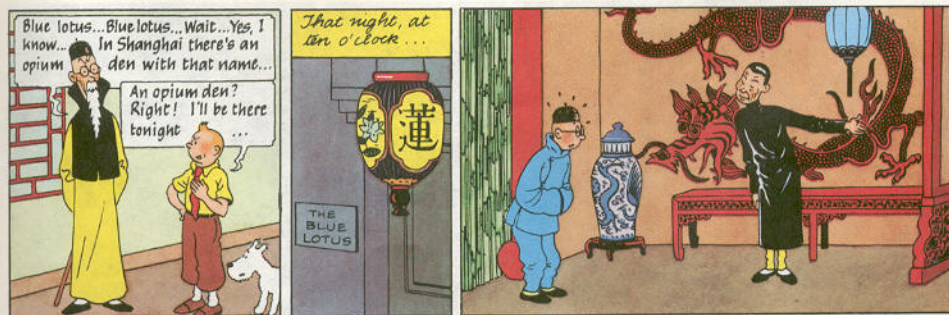


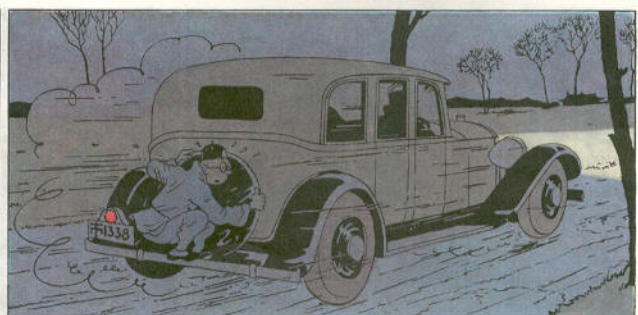
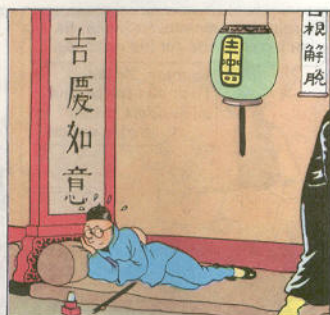
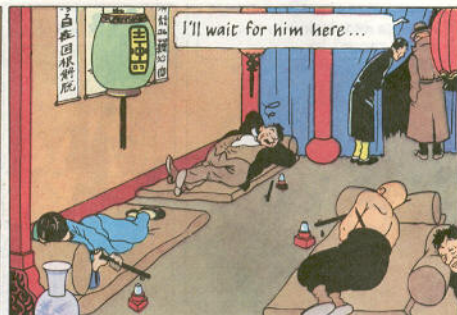
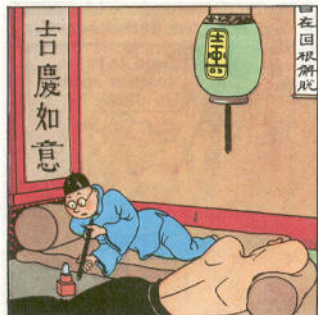
I'm going to help you to find the way. Don't worry, there's nothing to it... It just means cutting off your head...



Look how sharp the blade is...









You have everything?

Careful!...
We've
arrived ...



Now then, to work! ...



Crumbs, it's
cold... Now what
are they doing?...
Taking cover?...
I wonder ...



Perfect!



Hello?... Cheng Fu station?...
Chinese bandits have just
blown the track... At post 123.



Brrrrr!
I'm frozen!



ATCHOOOO!

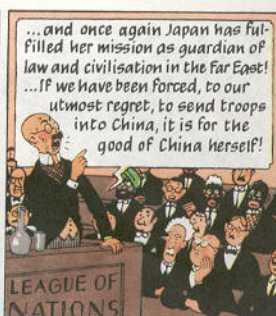
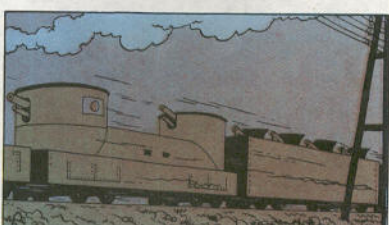
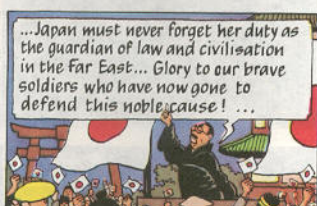
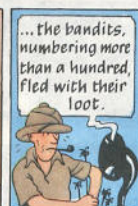
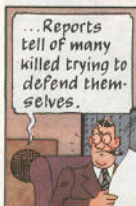
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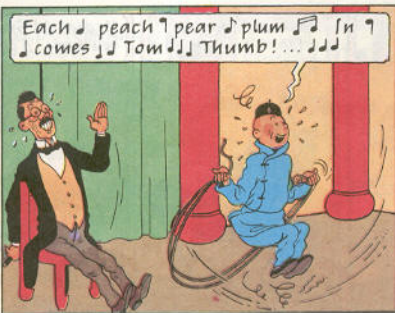
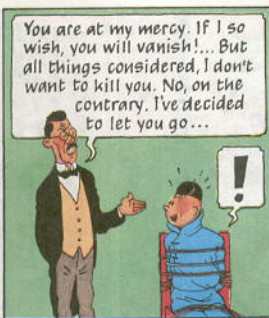
?



Someone over there!...
Look!... A spy!...









Seven suffering
Samurais!
That's not
Rajaijah... So
what did I...?



Chang went to
watch the house of
Mitsuhiroto,
Venerable... He
has retur- ned...
Send
him
here at
once!



I was hidden in the
next room. I put
coloured water in
place of the Rajaijah,
and I've brought you
the real poison. I
took care of his knife
and his gun too ...



I'll soon find him. He
can't have gone far...



There!! ...



I could have
sworn my gun was
loaded... Anyway,
I still have my
knife! ...



Kamikaze! The blade's
made of rubber!



And perhaps that's made
of rubber as well! ...



An hour later ...

Major, I'm
Japanese...I've
been half murdered by a young European...a
Chinese spy! His
name is Tintin!



Now we must go back
to Mr Wang ...

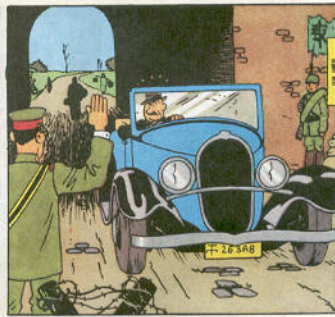
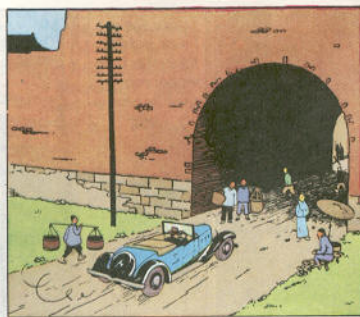


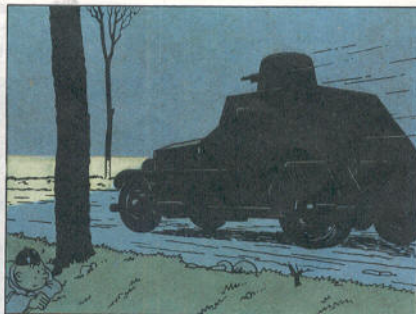
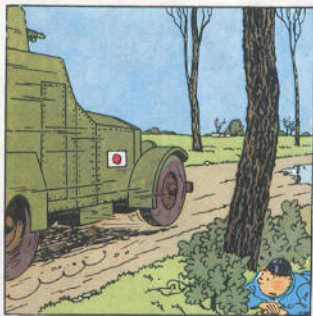
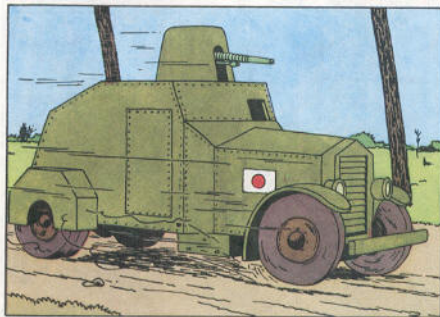
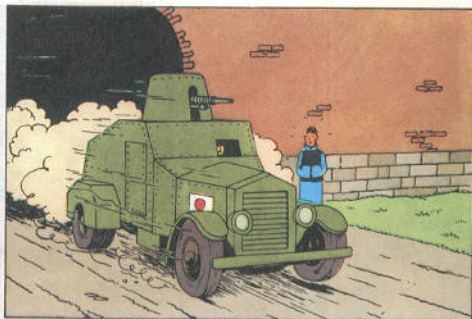
5000 YEN
REWARD
FOR THE
CAPTURE OF
TINTIN
SPY

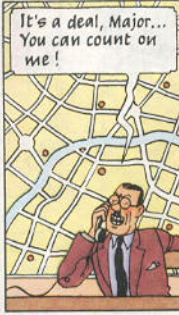
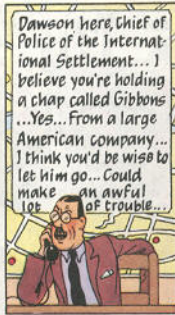


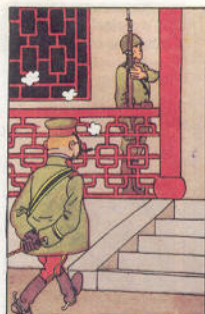
There isn't a mom-
ent to lose...I must
get out of the city...













Full of charm, isn't he? And that's our new general!



Major, there's a little man who insists upon seeing you. He claims to be the general.

Bring him in. I'll give him 'general'!



But... but the general has just left!



And I'm telling you, block-head, that I'm General Haranochi!... I was attacked on the road by a young Chinese who stripped me of my uniform!...



No one about?... Good!



Here we go! ...



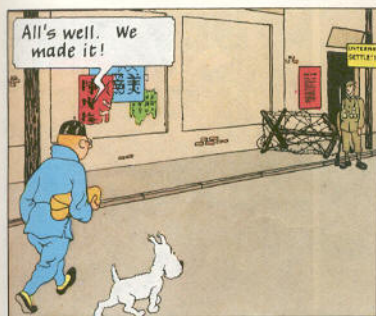
One ...



Now let's release my false stomachach... All right, Snowy?



Now to the International Settlement... And make it snappy!



All's well. We made it!



Halt! ... Your papers!



My identity papers? ...I'm afraid I haven't got them with me... But my name's Tintin and I...

Sorry! ... Nothing doing!



But look! You can see I'm a European...

Nothing doing!



What's the problem?

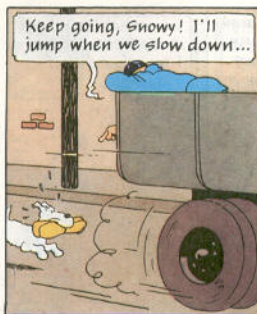
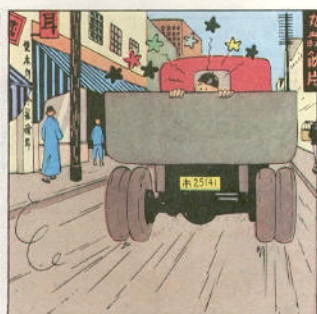
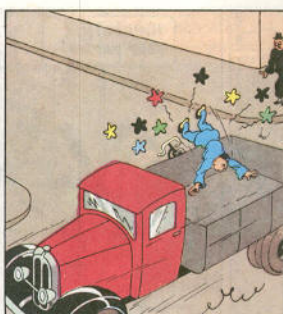
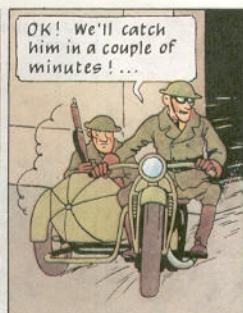
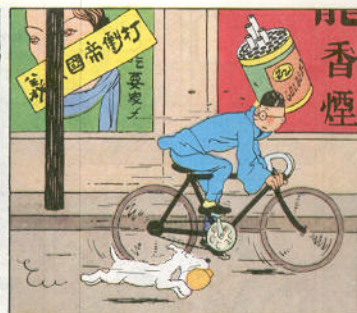
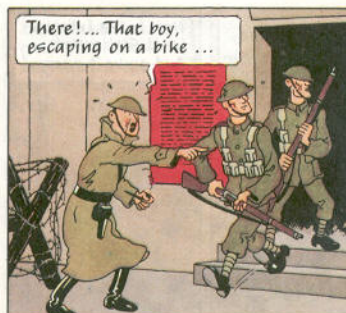
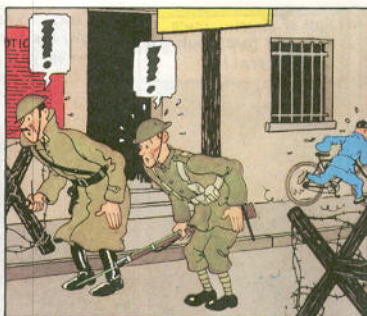
The boy hasn't any papers, sir...

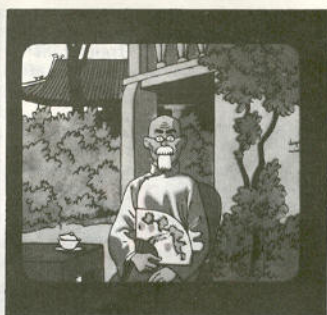
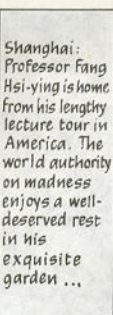
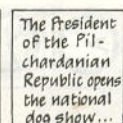
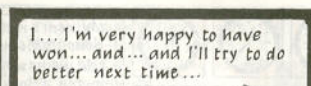
Please...

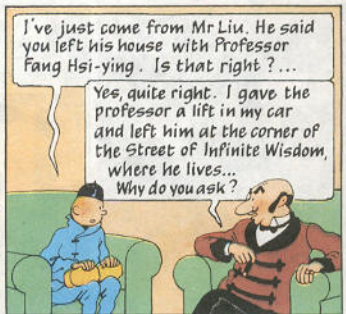
No use arguing, sonny. Must have proper papers to enter the Settlement...

Now what?... Crumbs! A Japanese patrol! I must get in. IF I don't...











Hello?... Yes, it's me... What is it?... What?!!! You didn't arrest him?... Dozy do!t!



It wasn't my fault, chief. The porter didn't warn me soon enough. He'd already gone...



Next morning...
Your master still hasn't come home?... Very odd... Well, I'll see what I can do...



Let's go over the professor's route from the time he got out of Rastapopoulos's car...



Aha! A patch of oil... A car must have parked here. I'm certain someone was waiting for the professor and him...



OH!



W.R. GIBBONS
Director
AMERICAN & CHINESE
STEEL INCORPORATED
NEW YORK SHANGHAI
53, Bund Shanghai

Gibbons... I don't know that name.

He didn't wish to give his name, sir, but he told me he'd only be a minute...

OK. Let him in...

Please come in...



Mr Gibbons, this is your business card, isn't it?... Well, I found it in the Street of Infinite Wisdom near the house of Professor Fang Hsi-ying... He disappeared last night...

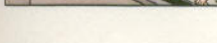
Disappeared?... That's news to me... Funny. I met him last evening... Gave him my card



He seemed worried...



Street of Infinite Wisdom... Fang Hsi-ying...



Hello!... Hello!... Get me the Chief of Police! Fast!



Hello?... Richards? Take Brown and go to the Fang Hsi-ying house on the Street of Infinite Wisdom. Tintin is on his way there. Handcuff him and bring him here!



Fang Hsi-ying's house!... At the double!...

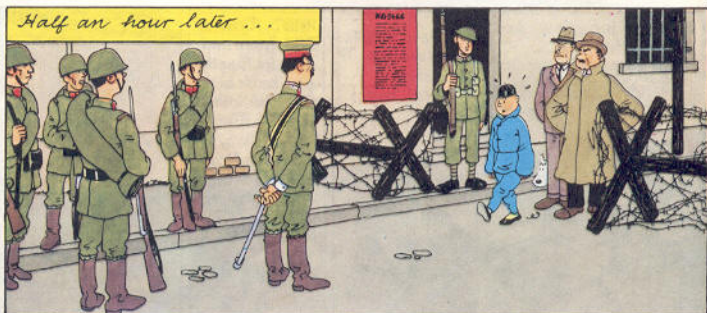
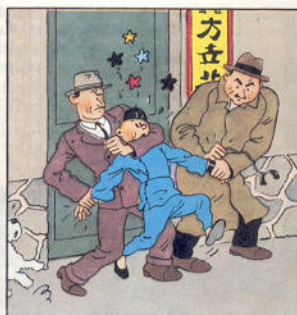
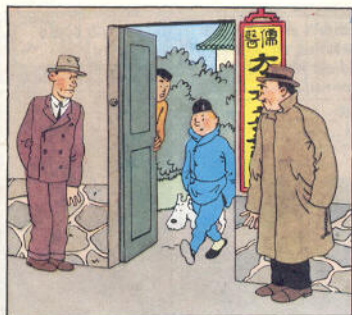




Dear Chen,
I have been seized by Chinese gangsters demanding a ransom of 50,000 dollars. It is essential the police do not look for them. If they are alarmed they will kill me.

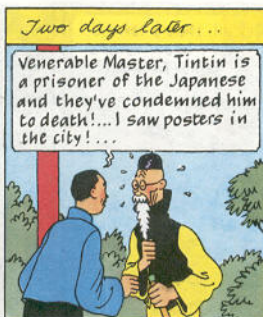
The ransom is to be left, within a fortnight, at the old temple about an hour's journey from Hukow on the right bank of the Yangtze Kiang. As I do not possess sufficient money

I'm going to look for the Professor... While I'm gone will you look after this package? ... Please, take the greatest care of it...





Hello... yes... Tintin!... You got him?... His trial begins tomorrow?... How long will it last?... Two days?... Good!



Two days later... Venerable Master, Tintin is a prisoner of the Japanese and they've condemned him to death!... I saw posters in the city!...

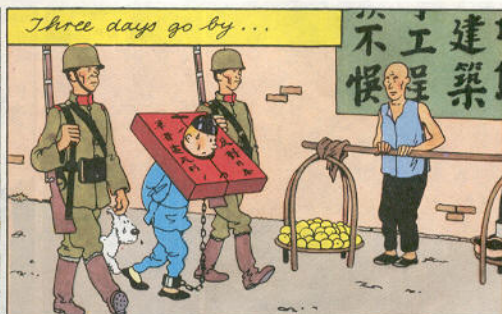
日本軍第五師團逮捕犯
一、暗殺
二、炸彈
三、強姦
四、虐待
五、侮辱
六、其他
七、其他
八、其他
九、其他
十、其他
十一、其他
十二、其他
十三、其他
十四、其他
十五、其他
十六、其他
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十九、其他
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七十四、其他
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九十一、其他
九十二、其他
九十三、其他
九十四、其他
九十五、其他
九十六、其他
九十七、其他
九十八、其他
九十九、其他
一百、其他

NOTICE

The Council of War of the Fifth Army of Occupation have **CONDEMNED TO DEATH** the prisoner **TINTIN**, found guilty of:

1. Espionage
2. Attempted murder of a Japanese
3. Assaulting a senior officer
4. Illegally wearing a uniform and medals

For three days preceding the execution the condemned man will wear the tablet and be paraded through the streets of the city as a warning to the population.



Tomorrow at dawn Tintin ends his career... I can't see any way to get myself out of this one...



You really think he'll accept?... Seriously?



Now what do they want?



Hello, dear friend... Mitsuhirato!



I come to you as a friend, dear Tintin... No, no I'm not joking. I've come to offer you your freedom!

Really?



Yes, but on two conditions. First, that you join our counter-espionage service. Second, that you tell me where you've hidden the poison you stole...

That's all?



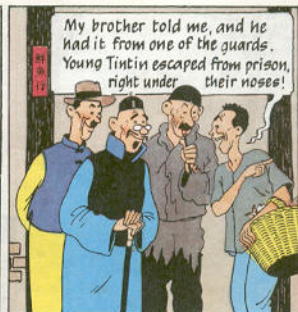
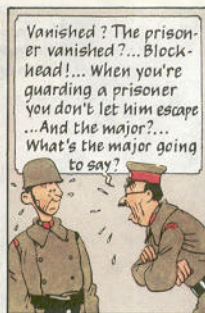
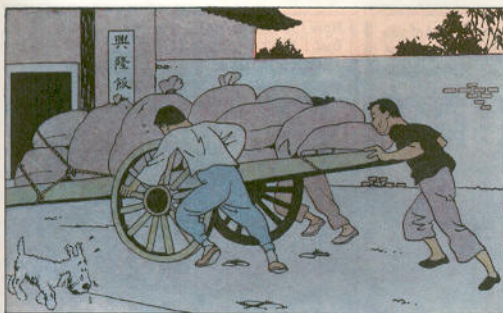
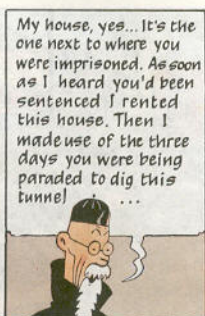
That's all. Here are 10,000 dollars. You accept my proposition, I get you out tonight, and the money's yours...

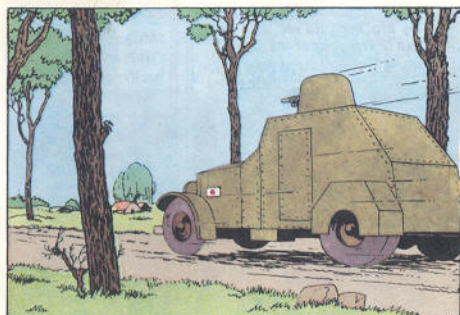
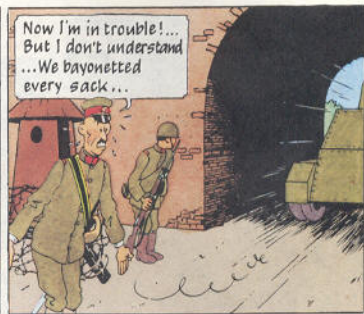
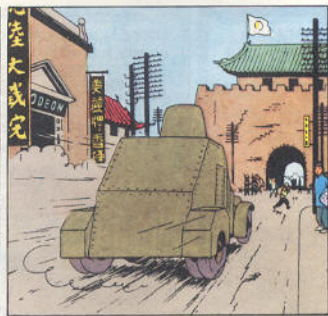
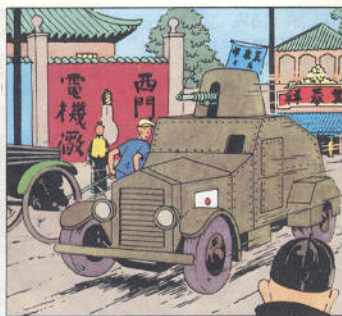
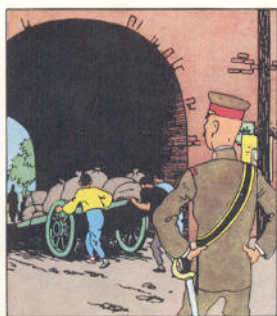


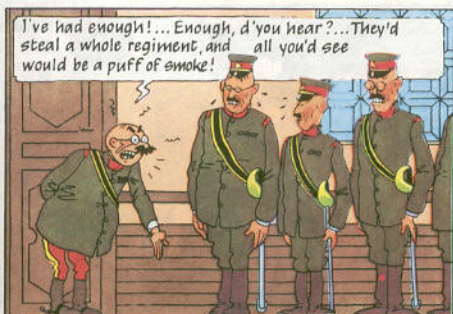
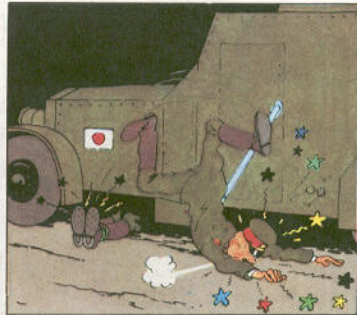
He refused?...

How did you guess?

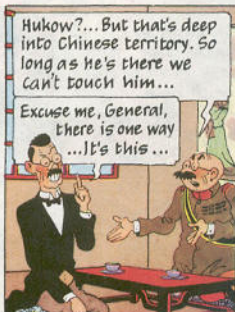
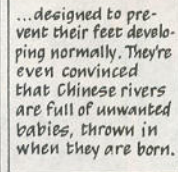
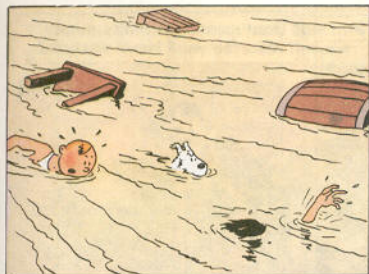












What an excellent idea!... It remains to be seen if the Chief of Police will agree...

Oh, I can vouch for him, General... Look...

9, J. M. Dawson,
Chief of Police of the
International Settlement,
owe the sum of 10,700
dollars to Mr Mitsuhirato
Shanghai 18. X. 21

He! he!
Marvellous!

Next day...

Mr Mitsuhirato?
... Very well,
show him in...

Good morning, Mr Mitsuhirato.
What fair wind blows you here?

I come to beg a favour... If you agree to grant it, then in return I'll forget all about that trifling sum of money you owe me...

What are you getting at?

Quite simply... Tintin is now in Hukow... And I want you to get him arrested...

Hukow?... That's Chinese territory. My jurisdiction is limited to the International Settlement...

Of course, but the Chinese wouldn't refuse your permission to go after a European, even outside the Settlement...

No, maybe not... But what reason can I give?... Tintin hasn't committed any crime...

A reason?... How should I know?... What if you suspect him of involvement in the kidnapping of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, for example...

That's an idea...

Chinese Police Headquarters... Good morning, Mr Dawson... What?... Fang Hsi-ying?... You've got a lead?... A European? And you want a pass for your detectives... Of course.

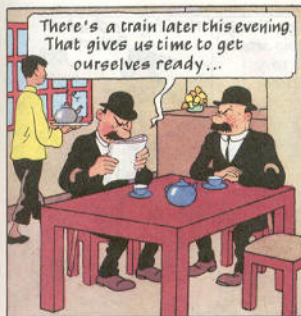
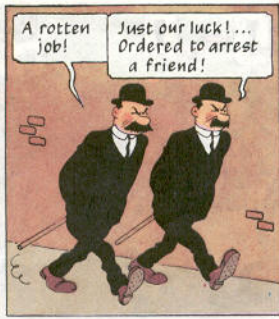
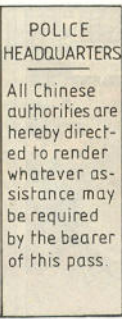
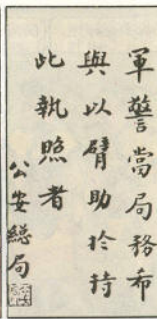
That's it... We'll have the pass tomorrow morning. My men will leave as soon as it comes.

A happy arrangement. You arrest Tintin, and let him go for lack of evidence... By chance, he falls into our hands...

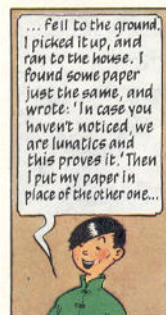
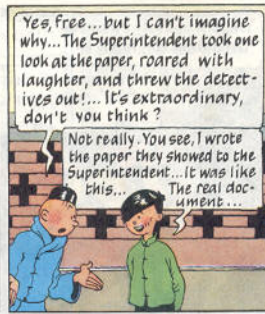
Right... and you cancel that trifling debt of mine...

Hukow...

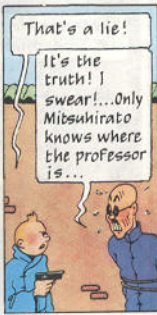
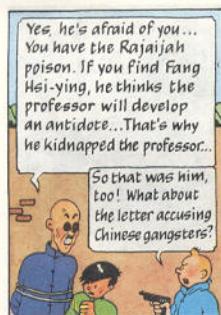
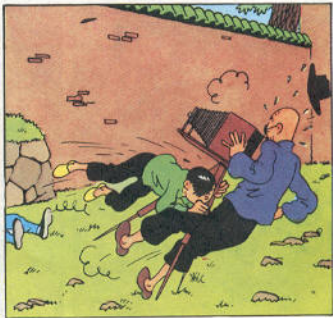
My father had a friend in the town... We'll ask if we can stay with him...

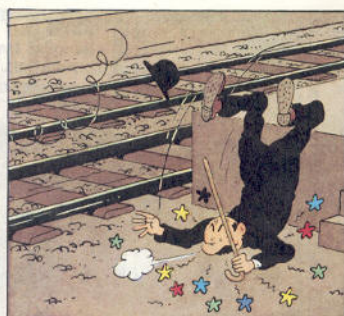
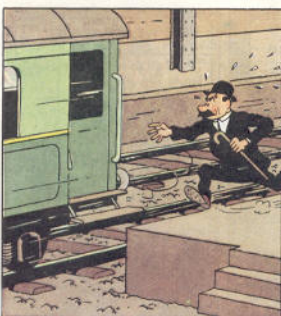
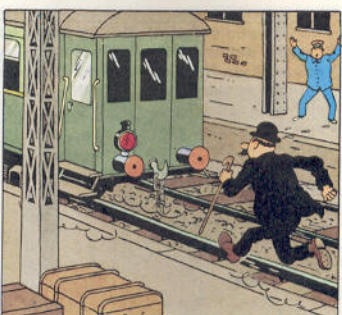












Next morning...

That's the last of the passengers... and still no sign of Tintin...

No luck, chief... He wasn't on the train... I reckon he hopped off en route...

Infuriating! Wretched little brat! ... Always outwits us at the last minute!

It's dark now... We can risk it...



Good thing we jumped when the train slowed outside the station. I'm sure someone would have been waiting at the bar.

Mr Mitsuhirato? ... Yes, it's me... I'm afraid not... slipped through our fingers! ... Yes, I'm as sorry as you are... What do you expect? I did my best...

Policemen! ... I suppose I'll have to do it myself, for the umpteenth time!

Come in!

RAT TAT TAT

Master, Tintin is in Shanghai! ... I saw him with a Chinese boy. They got into a taxi, but I couldn't hear the address they gave the driver...

Pity! ... Listen, Yamato ... Get busy... Try to discover where he's gone to ground, and who's hiding him. Understand?

Yes.

The gods be praised! We meet again! ... You must rest for a few days... Give your wound a chance to heal...

I will... Then we must deal with Mitsuhirato!

A week later...

You're sure it doesn't hurt any more?

Not a bit, Chang... Look, all back to normal...

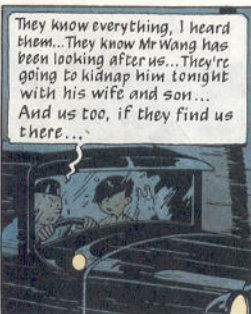
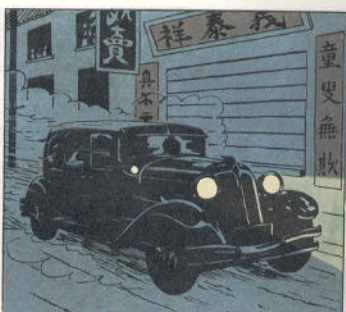
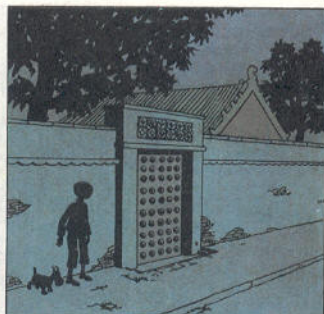
That night

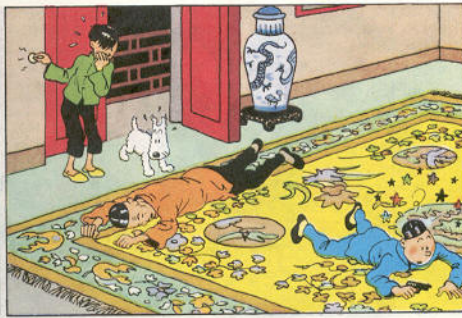
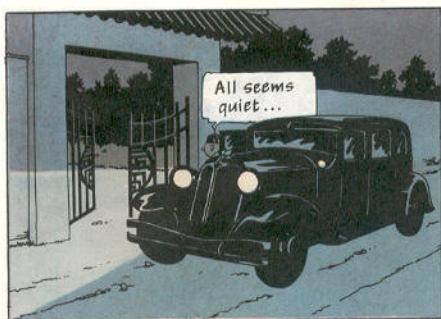
There's Mitsuhirato's house. While I get inside, you keep guard...

OK...

No one! ... So far so good...

You're sure Tintin is there right now? ...







The Blue Lotus?... It's an opium den in Shanghai... How do I get in without being recognised?... In disguise?...







Careful,
there they are!



Is that the last lot?

Yes, just these to be
loaded, and we can go...



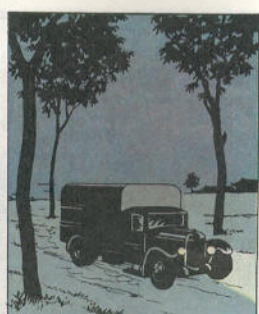
So far
so good ...



Take the opium
out of the barrel,
get inside... and
Bob's your
uncle ...



OK, we can move
off now...



Meanwhile ...

It was a mistake to pit your
wits against mine, my dear
Wang!... A big mistake!... But it's
too late now... The time has come
for you to die!



You smile?... You think it's
like a thriller, don't you?...
The hero rushes in at the
last moment and saves
your life... Pardon my
laughter!... At this very
moment your hero Tintin
is already in my
power!



We've been
going for two
hours... I
wonder
where to ...



So you can abandon all hope! ...
They say the Chinese aren't afraid
to die. Well, I've prepared a fitting
end for you!... Your son, Wang,
your own mad son, will cut off
your head!... Picture the scene...
Your wife, Tintin, and you, all
beheaded by your son!...



Ah, it's you,
Yamato!... All
went well?

Like clock-
work, Master...
The barrels are
in there...



Please enter, dear
Mr Wang!... We don't
want you to miss
the show!

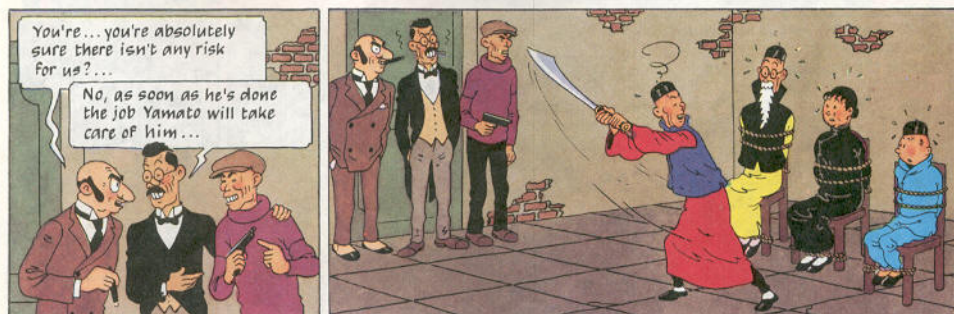


Now for
some fun!

That's the one, Master...
marked with a cross ...

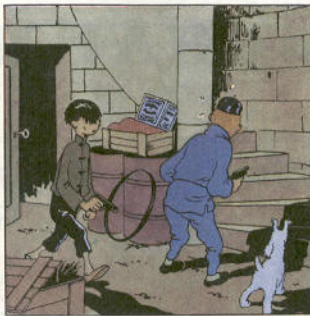


My dear Tintin, welcome to
the end of the road!



(1) See Cigars of the Pharaoh





SHANGHAI NEWS

上海報

FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday:

Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed to us this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts



Professor Fang Hsi-ying pictured just after his release.

to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young European reporter Tintin joined in the hunt for the missing man of science. Earlier we reported incidents involving Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police at Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate with their ships on the high seas. Information radioed included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of embarkation and unloading.

Home of Japanese subject Mitsuhirato was also searched. No comment, say police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures.



Tintin, rescuer of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, with Snowy, his faithful companion.

The young reporter is the guest of Mr Wang Chen-ye at his host's picturesque villa on the Nanking road.

When we called, our hero, young and smiling, greeted us wearing Chinese dress. Could this really be the scourge of the terrible Shanghai gangsters?

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

man with an impish smile said:

"You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

L.G.T.

Young people carry posters of Tintin through Shanghai streets.



The conclusions of the Sub-Committee leave no room for doubt. The documents seized in Shanghai provide irrefutable proof. The attack upon the Shanghai-Nanking railway was planned and executed by a Japanese subject working upon direct orders from his government!...



I shall be interested to hear the Japanese delegate's reply...

Me, too... Look, he's going to speak now...



Gentlemen, make no mistake! I categorically deny the accusations contained in the report of the 813rd Sub-Committee. These accusations are an insult to which Japan declines to make any response other than silence and contempt! Nevertheless, to prove that the integrity of my country is beyond doubt...



...I am authorised to announce that my government has ordered its troops to withdraw from Chinese territories occupied after the incident on the Shanghai-Nanking railway. To that, gentlemen, I must add with regret that in solemn protest against the affront to my country, Japan finds herself obliged to resign from the League of Nations!



WAY OUT



Meanwhile, in Shanghai...

I have wonderful news for you: my son is cured!... Professor Fang Hsi-ying has discovered an antidote to the terrible poison of madness!...



He has?... Oh, how glad I am!

Venerable Master, two gentlemen wish to speak to Mr Tintin.





Good morning... Er... Here we are at last...

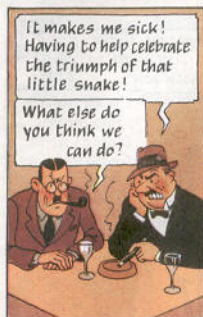
Um...er... So here you are?...

To be precise: good morning. Here we are, last as usual...



Yes, we've come... to offer our congratulations, and to tell you we... we...

We never believed for a minute you were guilty. But what could we do? We had to obey orders...



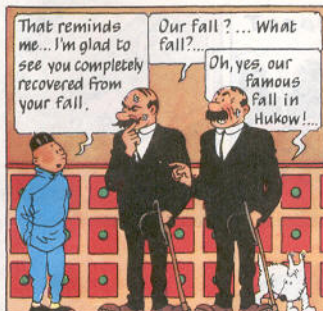
THE BLUE LOTUS AFFAIR

MITSUHIRATO COMMITS HARA-KIRI

Shanghai, Saturday: Mr Mitsuhiro, implicated in the Blue Lotus affair and principal organiser of the attack on the Shanghai Nankin railwa



Poor devil!... Still, he was a real villain!



Some days later...

... I raise my glass to your precious health, Tintin. Your courage and nobility have restored happiness to this humble house. Your memory will be engraved upon our hearts as in finest crystal...



There is one who, if such is possible, will miss you even more than I. Chang, who has already known the sadness of losing his parents. Chang, who found in you a brother. If he wishes, he will be my son, the brother of my own poor son to whom our honourable friend Fang Hsi-ying has restored his reason...



What is the matter, Chang?

There is a rainbow in my heart, Venerable Lady... I weep because Tintin is going but the sunshines because I have a new mother and father!



Farewell, noble Tintin. May other friendships lighten your days in your country in the West, and accompany you along the way!



The next morning...



Goodbye, Tintin... Good luck go with you!

I wish the same for you, Chang!... Goodbye!



TOOOOT



TOOOOT

