

HERGÉ
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN
THE CRAB
WITH
THE GOLDEN CLAWS



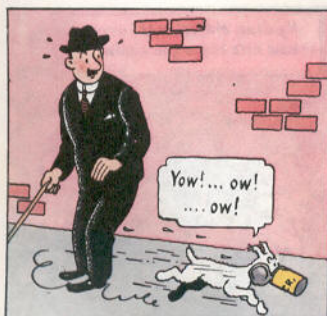
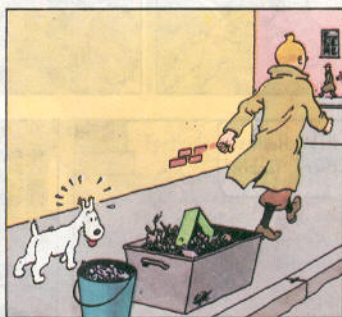
darkseid collection

please respect the author's copyright and
purchase a legal copy of this book

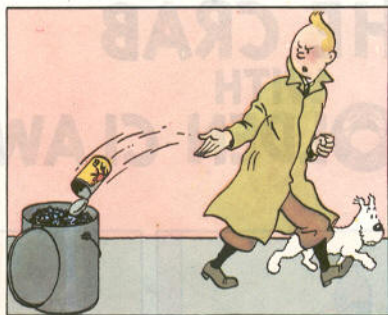
MAGNET



THE CRAB WITH THE GOLDEN CLAWS



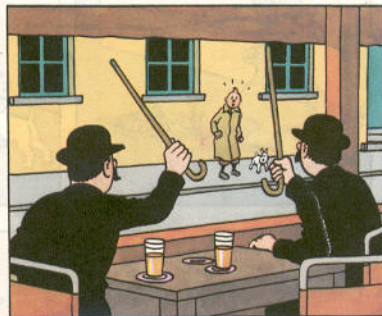
You've been lucky!
You could have cut
yourself. Look how
jagged the edges are.



Now, come on!... And don't do that
again, or I'll
buy a muzzle and
on a lead!



Hi! Hello
there, Tintin!



Waiter, bring another drink!

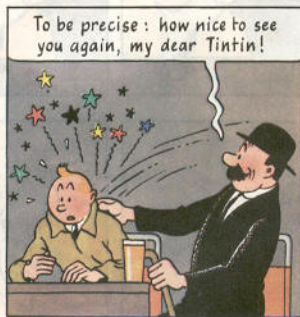
Yes, sir



My dear Tintin, how nice
to see you again!...



To be precise : how nice to see
you again, my dear Tintin!



Here you are,
sir.



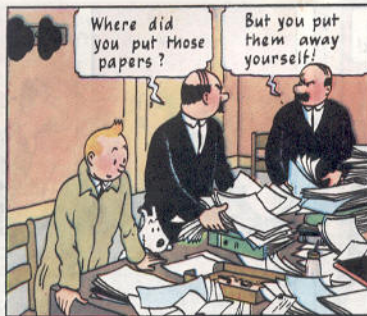
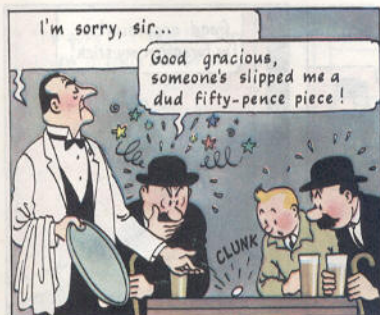
Your health !

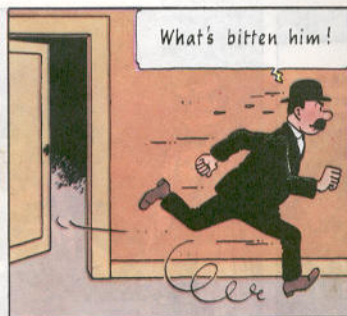
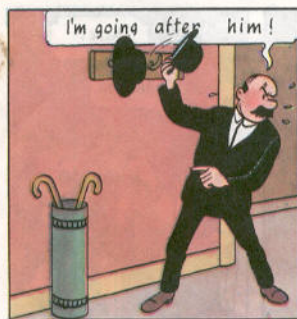
And yours!



My dear old friends,
how nice to see you again!

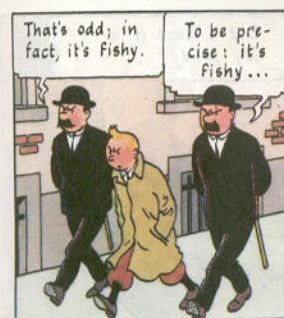
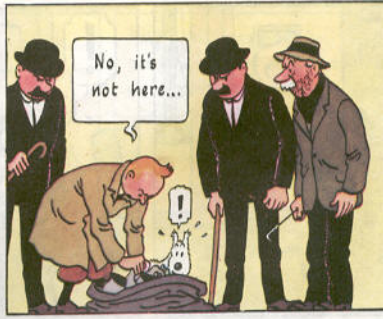
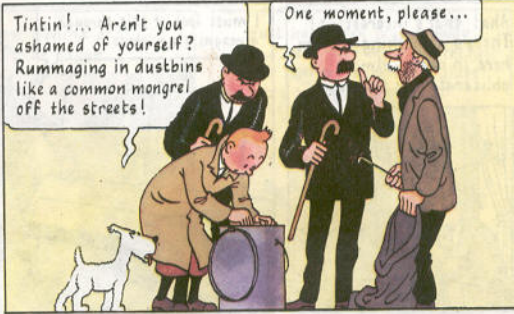


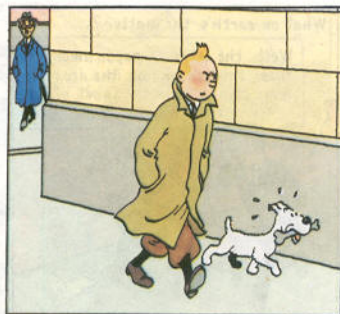






... and I was holding the very tin from which it was torn, just before I met you! Here we are. I threw it into that dustbin... that one where the tramp is rummaging.





Now, let's have a good look at this bit of paper...



Aha! that's interesting! There's something written here in pencil, almost obliterated by the water...



I must look at this through a magnifying glass.



Gnawing a bone again? Where did this one come from?...



Can't you ever do as you're told?



There!... And mind you don't do it again!

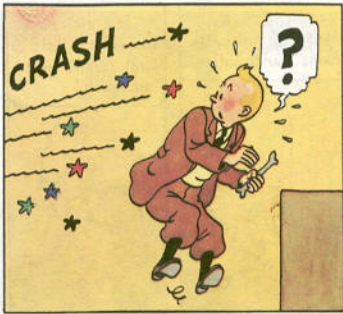


Did I leave it in my study?...





It's not here either!



Crumbs! That made me jump...
And it was only the wind slamming
the door!



But now I think of it,
that bit of paper...



...must have been blown away
when I went into my study the first
time to get my magnifying glass!



That's the answer.
There it is!



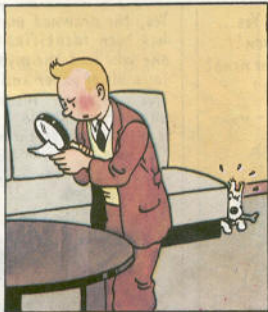
Now let's have a look...



Have I gone crazy? I'm
positive I put my magnifying
glass down here a moment ago!



?



I'll go over all this in
pencil. There's 'K'...
and an 'A'... and that's
an 'R'... or an 'I'...
there, I'll soon have
it...



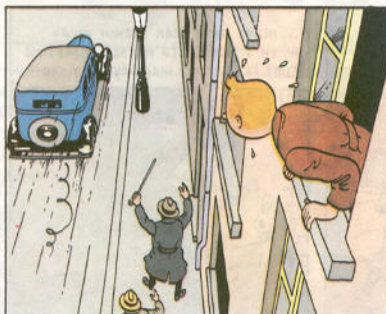
KARABOUDJAN...
that's an Armenian
name. Karaboudjan..



An Armenian name.
So... now what?..
That doesn't help
me much!



What's going on?...



That was my landlady's voice.
I must go and see what's happened.



It was a Japanese or a Chinese gentleman with a letter
for you, Mr. Tintin. But just as he was going to give it
to me, a car came by, and stopped...



... outside the door. Three men got out; they
attacked the Chinese gentleman and knocked
him down! ... Of course I shouted: 'Help!
Help!' but one of the gangsters threatened me
with a huge revolver, as big as that! Then they
threw the Japanese gentleman into
their car and drove off... with the
letter addressed to you...



A tin + a drowned man +
five counterfeit coins +
Karaboudjan + a Japanese +
a letter + a kidnapping =
a real Chinese puzzle



The next
morning...

RRRING
RRRING
RRRING



Hello?... Yes...
Oh, it's you! ...
What's the news?
... What?...

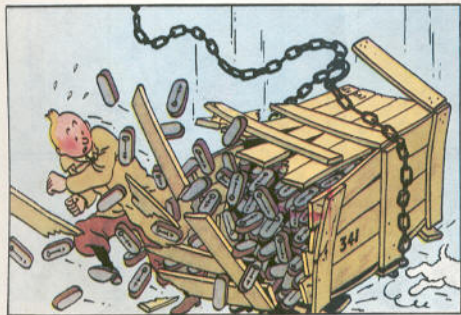
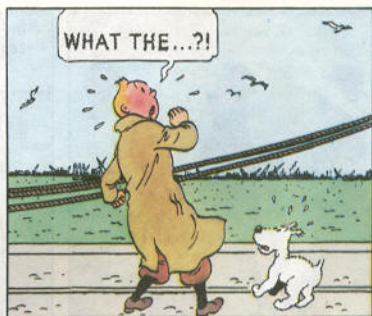
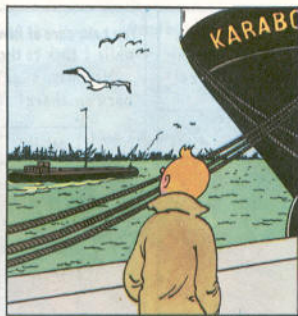
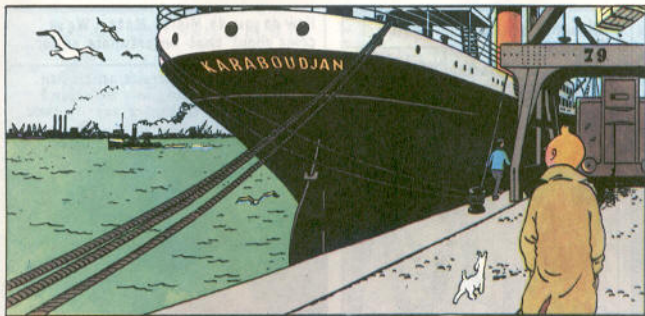
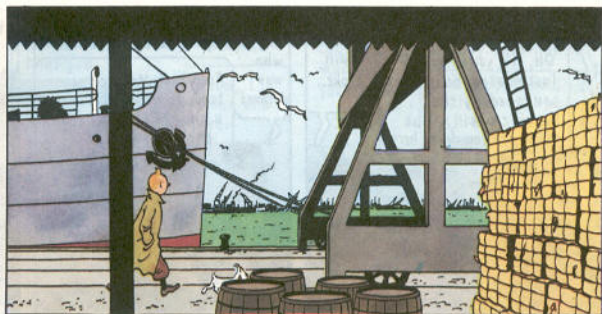


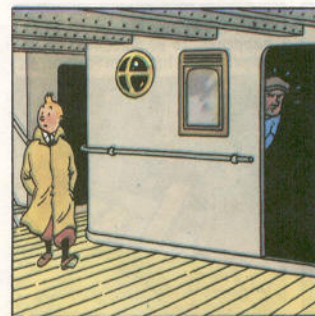
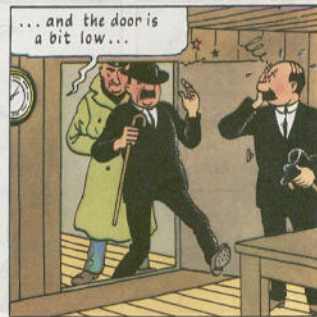
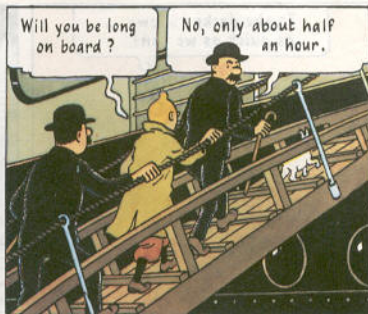
Yes, the drowned man
has been identified: the
one who had the myster-
ious bit of paper and the
five dud coins. His name
was Herbert Dawes:
he was a sailor from the mer-
chant-ship KARABOUDJAN

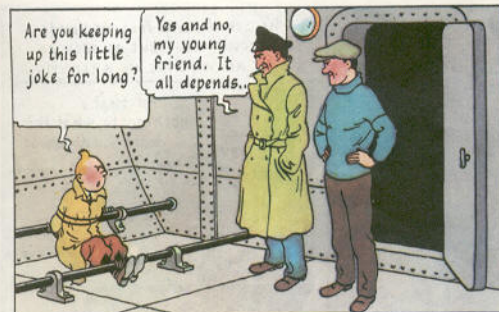
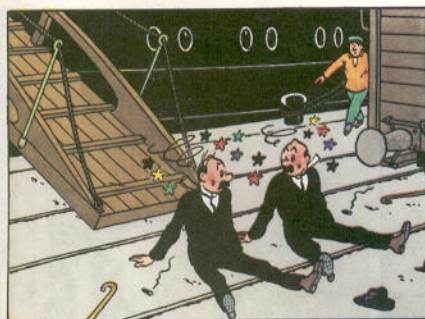
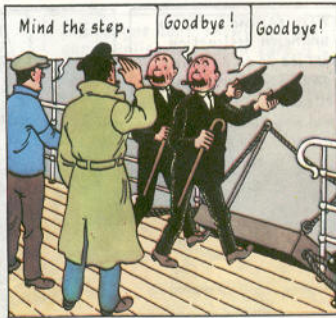
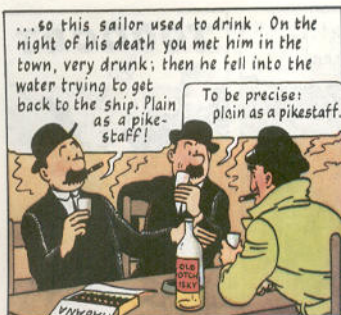


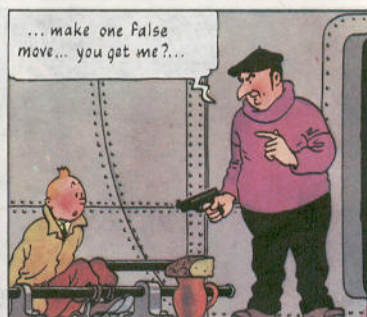
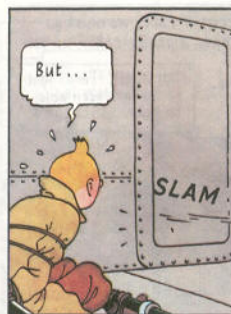
The merchant-
ship KARA-
BOUDJAN!
Did you say
KARABOUD-
JAN?...





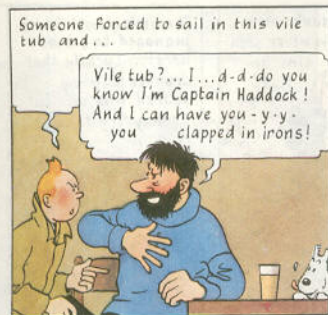
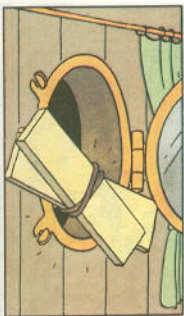
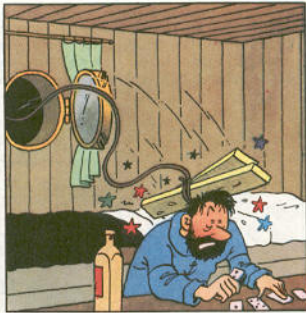




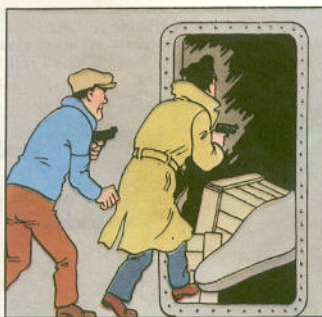
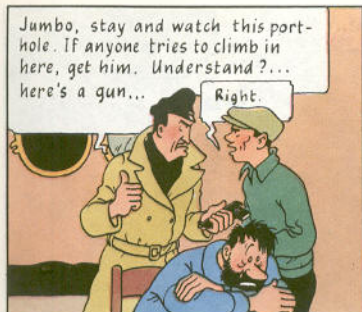














Heavens, I'm thirsty!
... And cold!...



I remember, there's a keg
of fresh water here, and
biscuits...



...and some
rum!



But I swore never to drink
again, and I'll keep my
word!



Maybe if I only had a little
drop ...



just to warm myself up?



Aaaah! ... That's
the stuff to
keep the cold out!



Now, just one more sip ...



and I'll throw it away...



Hello, it's
empty al-
ready!



Poor I-I-I little chap!
He's asleep!
fast



But he must be f-f-Frightfully c-c-cold,
too...



Aha! I've got an idea ...





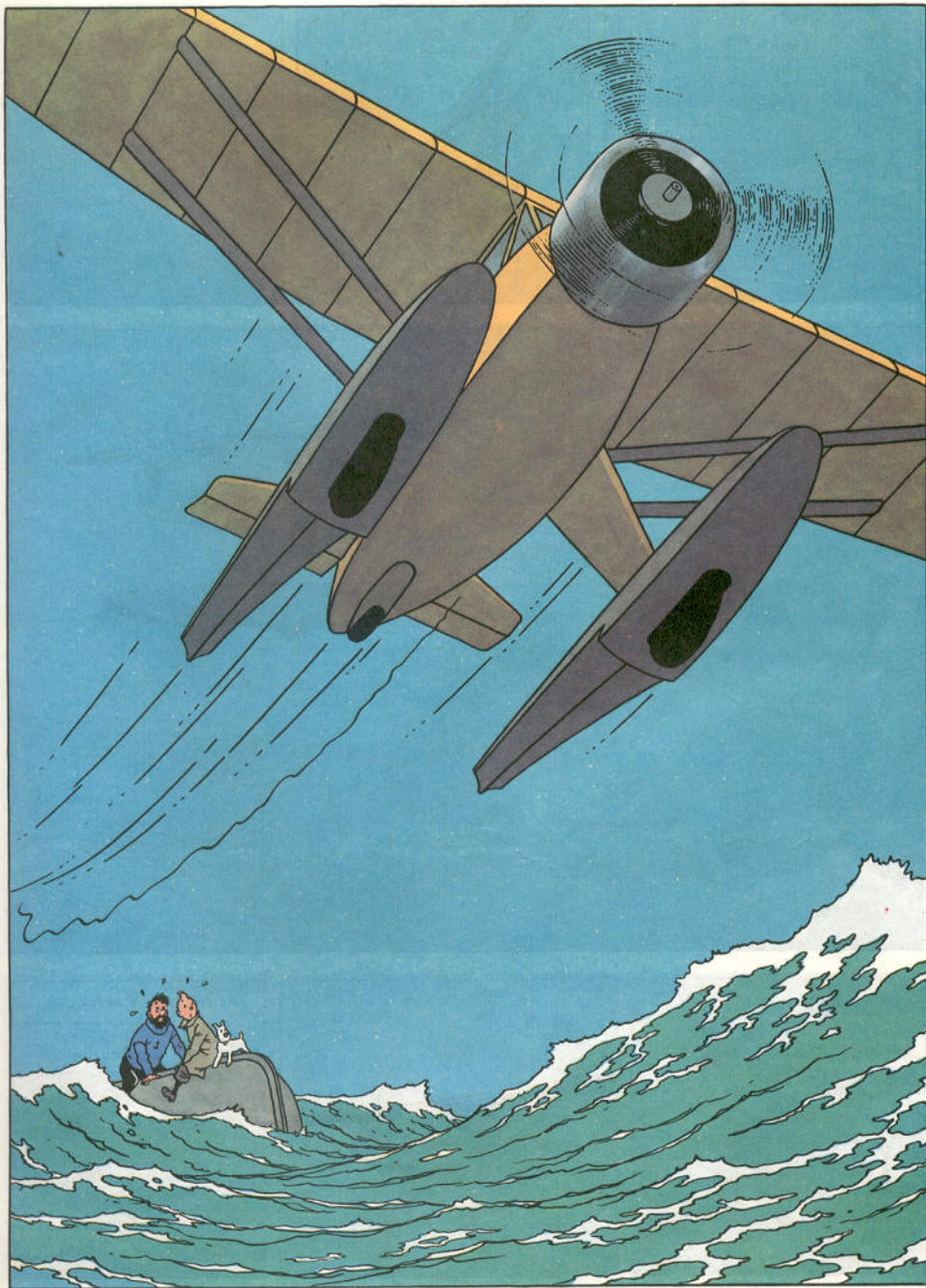
What have I done? Oh, Colum-
bus... What have I done!

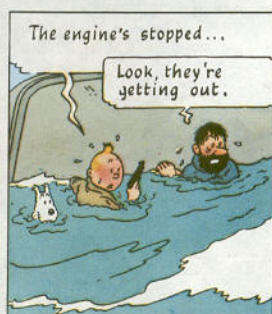
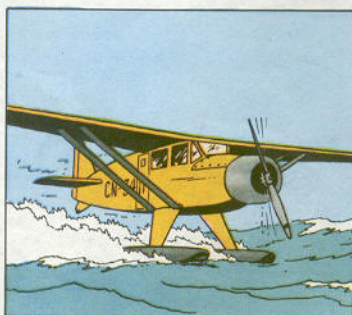
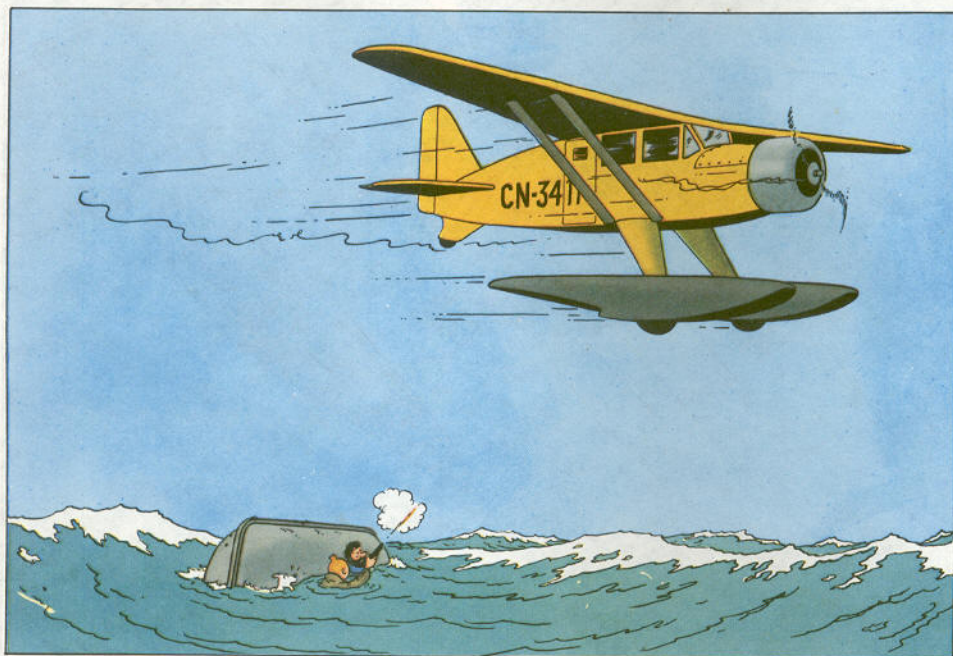
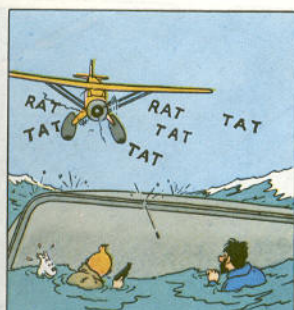
You've got us into a
fine mess ...

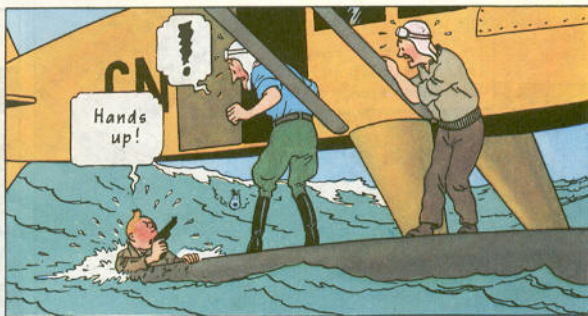


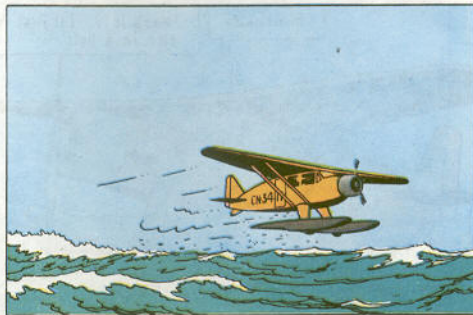
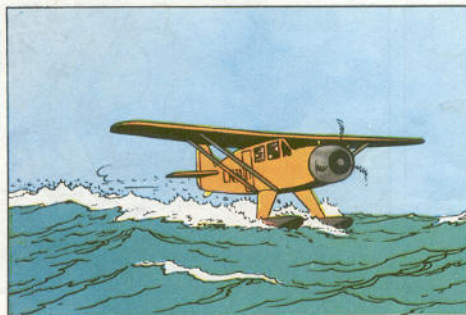
I'm sorry... I'm sorry!... I'm a
miserable wretch... I drank the
rum from the locker... I'm
sorry!...

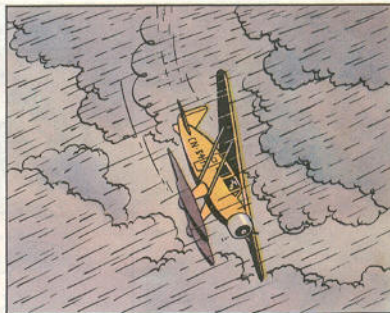
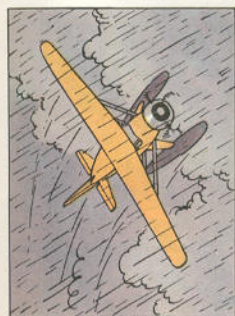


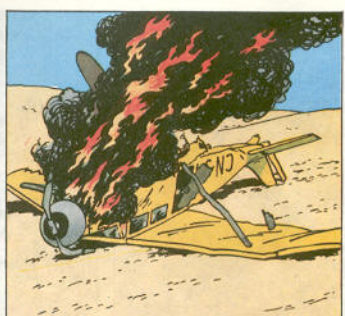
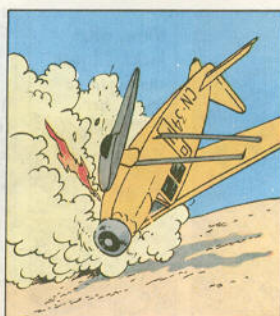
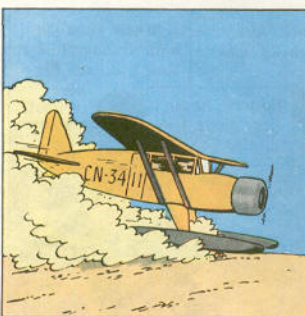
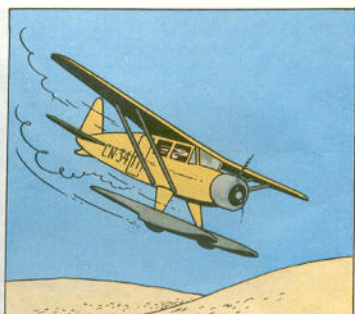
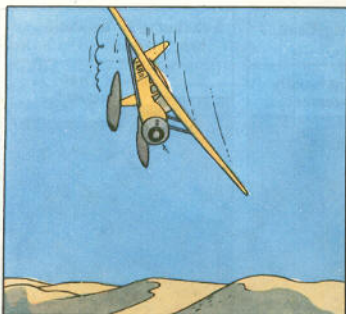




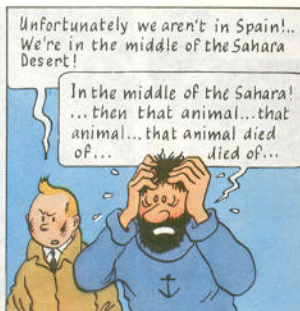














A drink!... A drink!... I can't go on...
Courage, Captain! We'll rest a bit in the shadow of the sand-dune..



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...



A drink!...



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!...

You brute:
Take that!



Golly, what have I done ??...





Thanks all the same, Snowy...

I did my best.

We don't want any more of that, please! I'm not a bottle of champagne, so get that into your head!

A drink!...



Look!... A lake!... Water!... Water!...

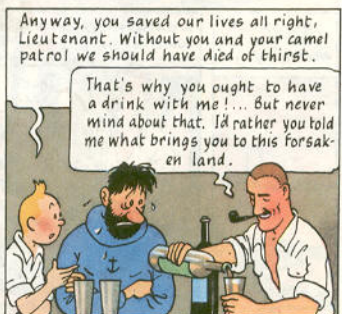
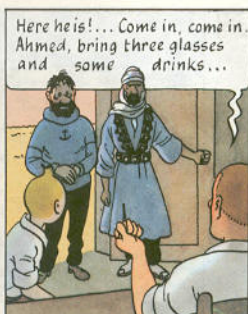


Stop! Stop!... It's a mirage!...

Water!... Water!...







... 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...



...KARABOUDJAN. Another vessel, the BENARES, went at once to the aid of the KARABOUDJAN 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 KARABOUDJAN went down with all hands...



That's odd, don't you think?

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

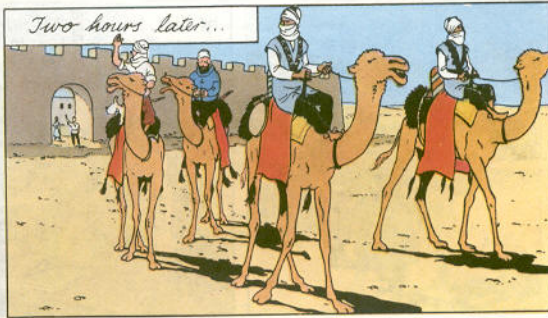


That's what I think ... Lieutenant, is there any way we could leave today? I'm anxious to get to the coast as soon as possible. I'll tell you why.

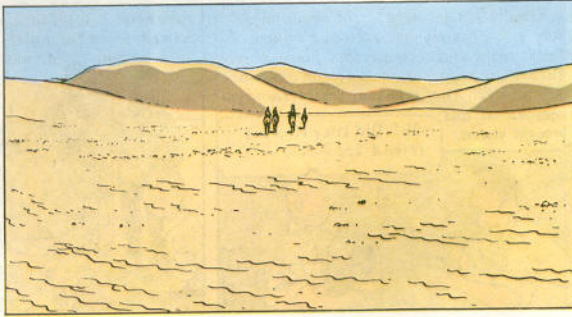
So soon?... Yes, it can be done. It should be enough if I send two guides with you. That area has been quite safe for a couple of months now.



Two hours later...



Allah protect them!



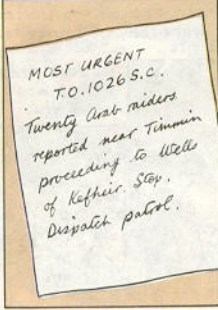
Next morning...

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

Thank you.

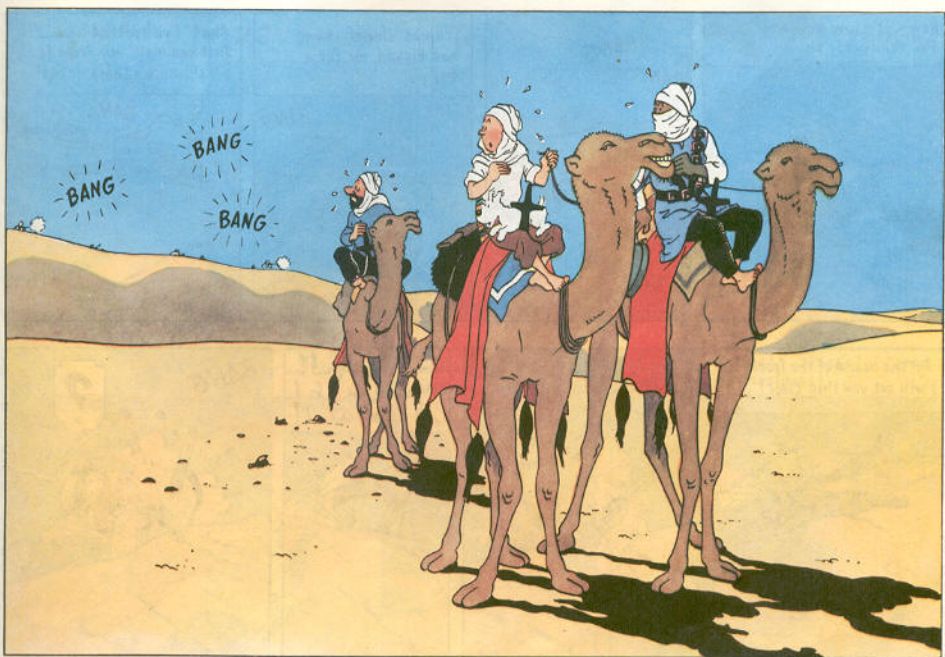
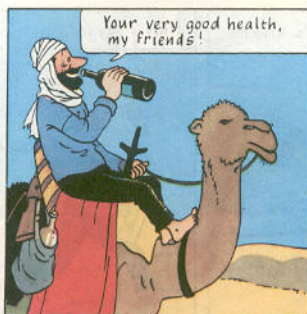
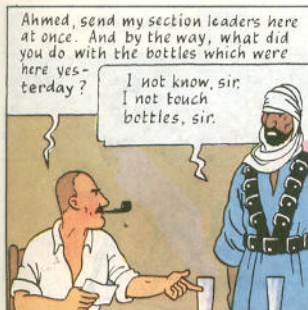


MOST URGENT
TO 1026 S.C.
Twenty Arab riders
reported near Timmin
proceeding to Wells
of Kefheir. Stop.
Dispatch patrol.

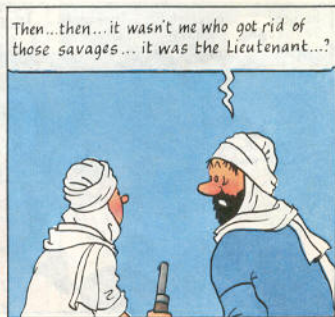


By Jupiter!... The Wells of Kefheir lie on the route Tintin and his friend are taking!...









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...



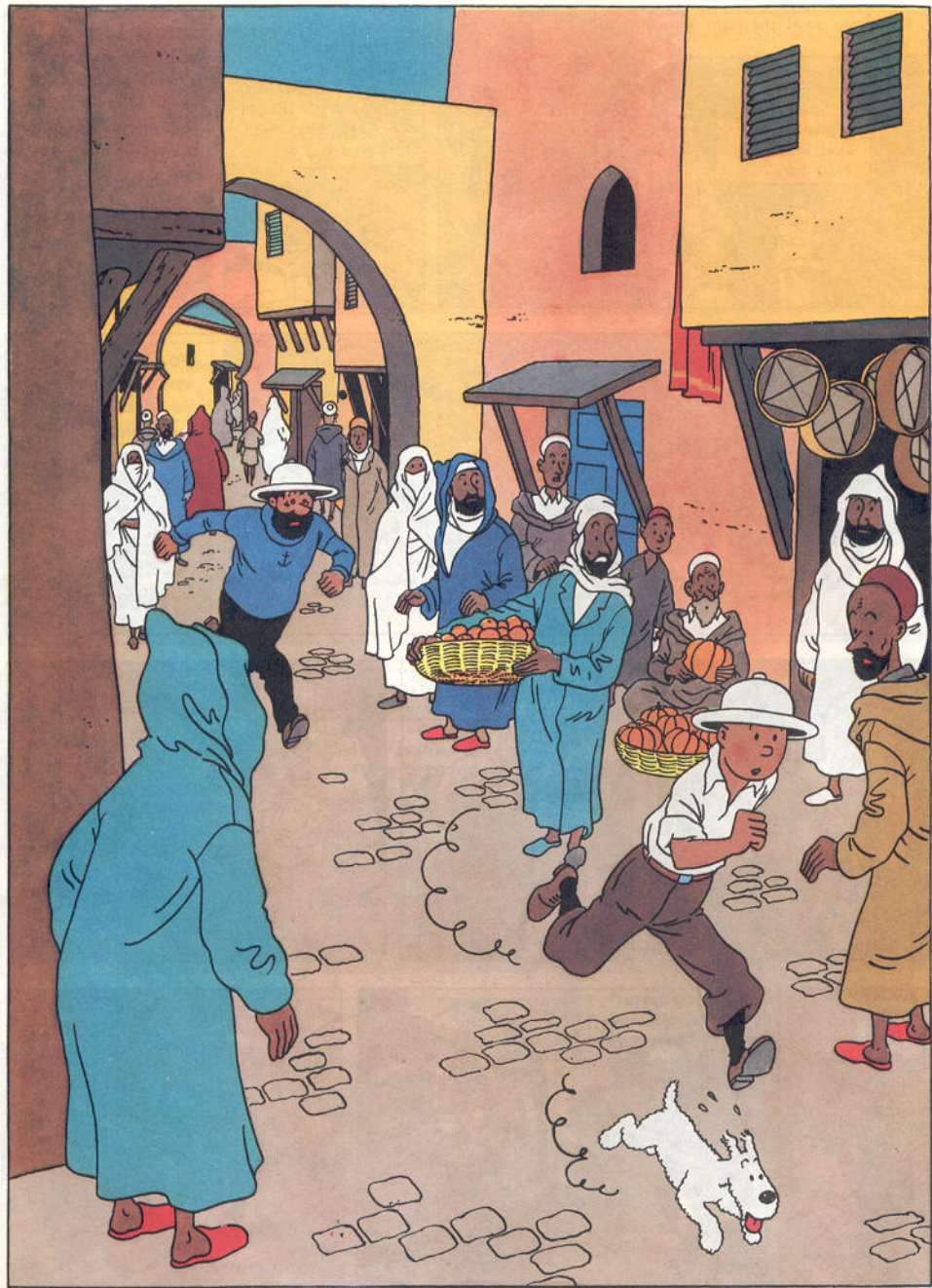
First we'll go to the harbour-master. Perhaps he can give us news of the KARABOUDJAN

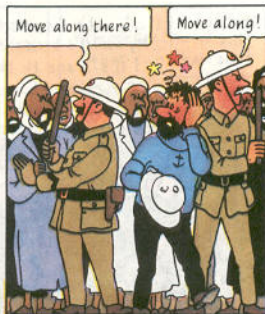
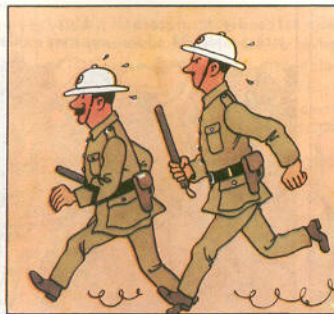
Good idea...



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







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.



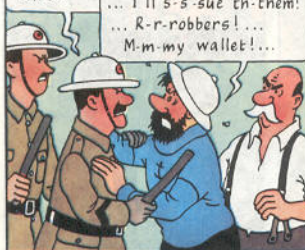
And now-now for the h-h-harbour-master!... H-h-how much, boy?



Five francs.



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?



O.K., a-a-admiral!

Yo-ho ♪ and ♪ up ♪ she ♪ rises ♪



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



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



I t-t-tell you it's the KARABOUD-BOUD-BOUDJAN, Blistering barnacles! I am... I am her captain!... It's not the DJEBEL-what's it... You must arrest the l-l-lot of them!



Come along! That's enough!

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



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 recogni-
sised the ship, confound
it!... He's been arrested...
O.K., 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 impor-
tant news for you. If you hurry you'll soon
catch him up.



Important news?...
What can that be?



There he is!



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



Oh! my shoelace
has come un-
done.



HELP!
H-E-L-P!

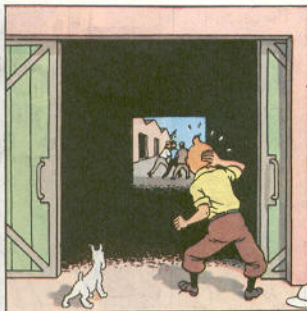


They've got the
Captain!





This wretched door won't open!...



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



Too late!



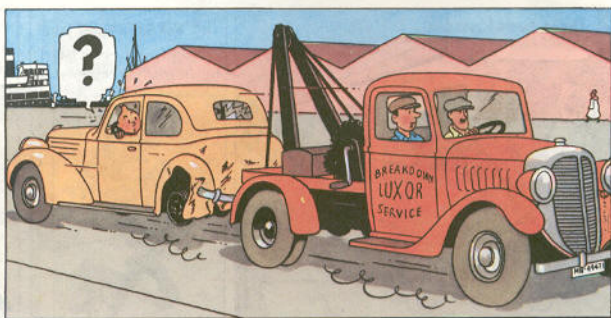
Another car!... I'll grab it: I must save the Captain at all costs!



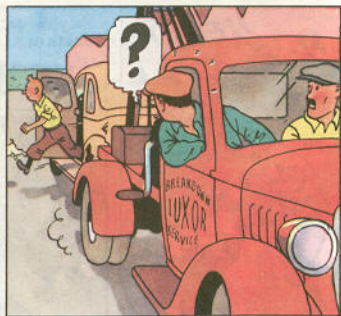
That's got her started!... OFF we go, Full speed ahead!

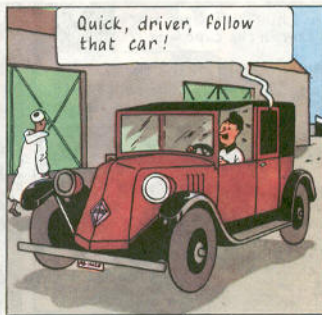
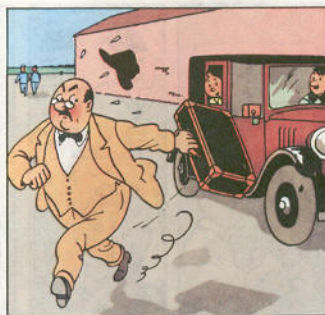
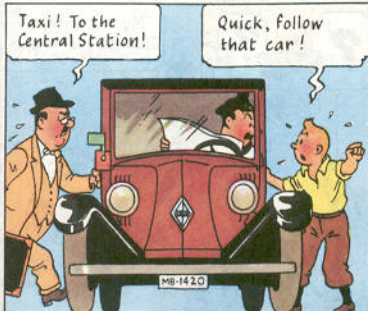
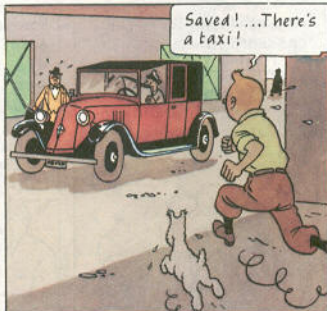


What's up? Why are we going backwards?..



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







My old friends
Thomson and Thompson

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

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



Now tell us: what happened on the
KARABOUDJAN? We were amazed
when they handed us your wire-
less signal: 'Have been imprisoned
aboard KARABOUDJAN. Am leaving
vessel. Cargo includes opium. TINTIN!
We took the first plane for Bag-
har ...



... the KARABOUDJAN's next port of
call. Then we heard about the ship-
wreck. Are you certain she was car-
rying opium?

Quite certain; the drug
was hidden in tins bear-
ing 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 KARABOUDJAN, and
they contained opium.

Hmm!...
Very odd.

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

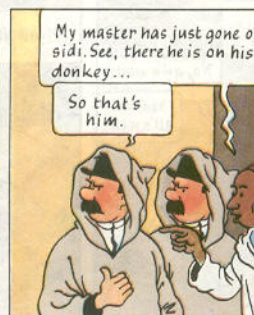
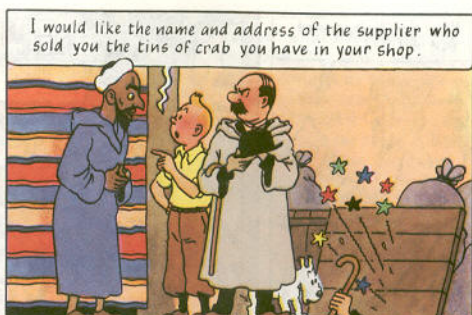


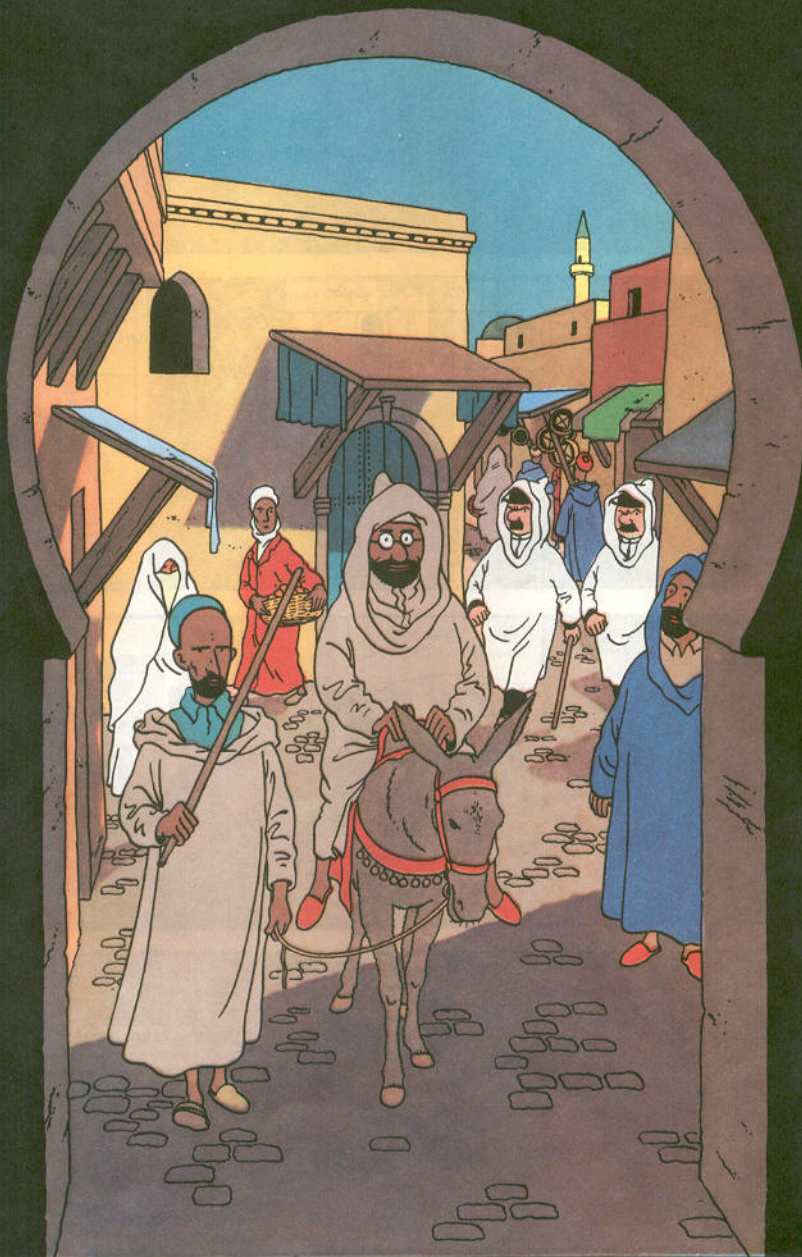
Tell me: where did
you buy this tin?

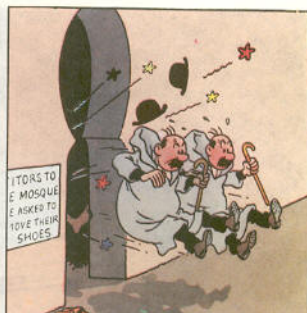
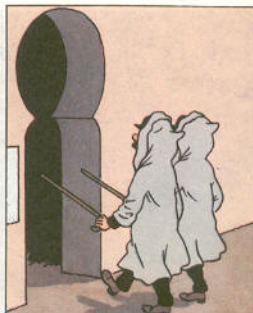
From Mohammed
Ben Ali, sidi; the
shop on the corner.













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!



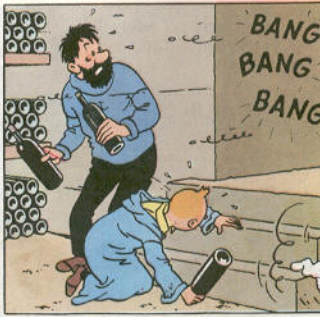
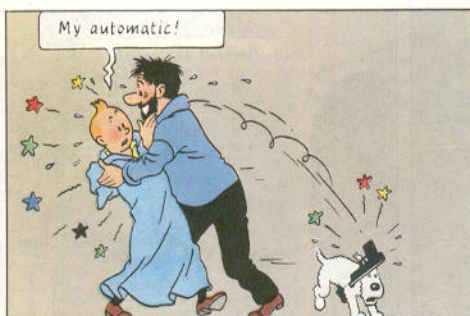
Look Snowy... Awayout!



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









Oooh! 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-JJJ 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-aastle...



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

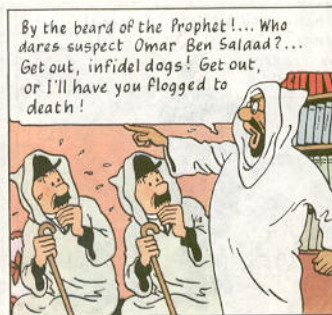


You bully! My bottle!... Treason!...
Revenge!... Twister!... Heretic!...
Slave-trader!... Technocrat!



Buccaneer!
Vegetarian!
Politician!

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





Nincom-poop!



Anacoluthon!... Invertebrate!... Liquorice!



Tintin!!

?

Seek! Seek!



So, you are Tintin! Well, this time my young friend your last hour has come!...

Careful now, careful! It's dangerous to play with firearms...



BANG!!



Who is this man?

Omar Ben Salaad! We have just questioned him, and he assured us he is absolutely innocent...

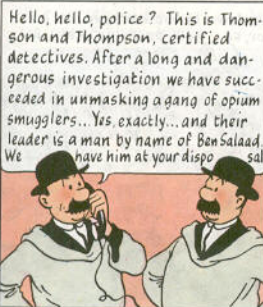
What a weight!



Him, innocent?... I've just found tins of opium in his cellar... And look...



Look at this! Two crab's claws, made of gold. He's the ringleader. I'm certain. Quick, telephone the police!



Hello, hello, police? This is Thomson and Thompson, certified detectives. After a long and dangerous investigation we have succeeded in unmasking a gang of opium smugglers... Yes, exactly... and their leader is a man by name of Ben Salaad. We have him at your disposal.



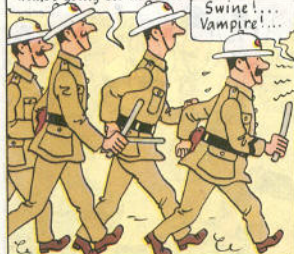
What did you say? ... Omar Ben Salaad? ... Are you pulling my leg? Omar Ben Salaad, the most respected man in all Bagghar, and you've...



... caught him, yes!... And if that's not the truth may the heavens fall! Quite right!



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



It's him again!



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



At last, the police!... Gentle-men, 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...

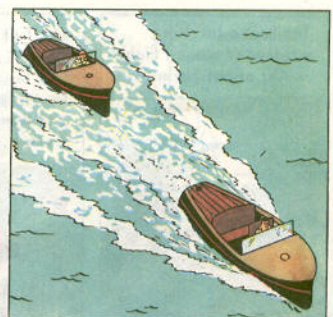
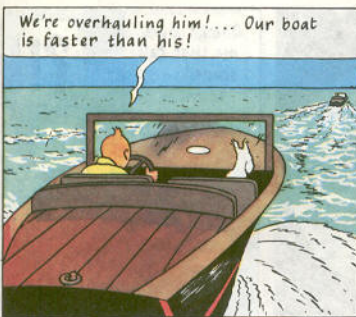
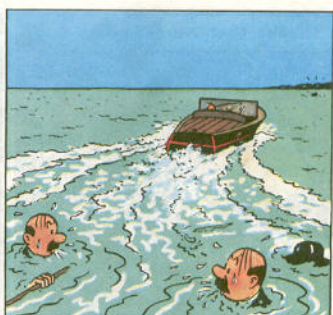
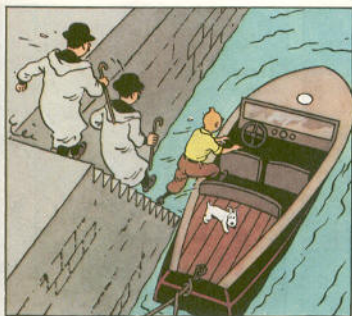


He must have gone out the other way!... If some of your men take care of the gangsters still in the cellar, we'll go after the mate.



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







Confound it!... The engines stalled!... Crumbs! Where are Thomson and Thompson?



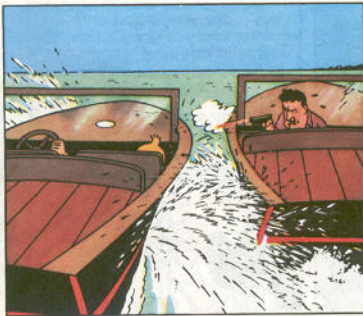
Something's fouled the propeller...



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



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



Take that!...



... and that!...



... and that!...



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!

?!

