CHAPTER XIV THE Japanese fired and Beth felt something pluck her left seleeve, as though someone had stuck a pointed instrument through that part of her uniform. The shot had come close.

She want over the top of the two plutsing, rolling, fighting men in the center of the cabin. The plane was getting difficult to control. The Jap turned momentarily to the centrols, then back to Beth. He had delayed too long.

Beth was fighting with all her strength. She had heard of jujitsu and the supposed advantage at gives to the man who knows it —and she did not doubt that this —and she did not doubt that this Japanese naval officer was surpassingly expert. But if she could only keep him occupied until Brit could subdue Rick. . . If she could only do that, even if it cost her her life!

The plane was doing a number of crazy things now. The Jap no longer was speaking English, he was talking excitedly in his native tongue.

Brit and Rick were rolling

tive tongue.

Brit and Rick were rolling around again. Rick was snarling in a language Beth did not recognize. Now Brit was up. He held Rick's arms firmly. Rick kicked viciously. Brit swung him around toward the end of the cabin, away from Beth and the Jap.

As Rick and Brit neared the end of the cabin they gained momentum. Brit pulled Rick's body around so that when they hit Rick took the full impact of both of them on the top of his head. He crumpled to the floor, stunned. Brit yanked off his tie and made Rick's arms secure. Rick's arms secure.

Then Brit turned to the battle

for the scaplane's controls,

THE Jap fired again, and yet again. Then he was overwhelmed—not only by the two Americans but also by the weight of Rick's body, which had come pitching down onto them.

Brit grabbed the pistol from the Jap's hand and brought it down on his head. He wasted no extra strokes. The pistol blow did what was necessary—it was as quick and much safer than attempting to shoot in that mass of of four tangled people.

Then Brit shoved the Jap from the pilot's seat and grasped the controls, At first it seemed they were jammed. Finally they responded. Just when it appeared that the seaplane was about to plunge to its destruction Brit got it out of its dive and under control.

"The un the Jap," he ordered.

trol. "Tie up the Jap," he ordered.

BETH pulled herself from the place where she had been wedged between the two insensate bodies of their encmies. She yanked Rick Moth away from the Jap, then tied the Jap's hands in the same way that Brit had tied

Rick's.

"He's tied, Brit," she reported.

"Check the back compartment door, Beth," Brit then said.

She did. Lita was cursing and

"Miss Danton doesn't like it back there," Beth said.

"It's more comfortable than the cell I'm going to take her to—or the firing squad all three of these spies ought to get." Brit said grimly. "Rick Moth is really Ulrich von Mothe, who disappeared in Mandalay about a year new wille doing a toh for you. ago while doing a job for you know who. I don't know how Lita got tangled up with him, but I'll bet it wasn't because she wasn't willing."

"What do we do now?" Beth saked.

"We're going back. That's simple enough, isn't it?"

"That part is. Do you suppose our secret is safe?"

"That's puzzling me," he said. "I haven't the slightest idea where this plane was headed. It's only by dead reckoning that I can figure out where we came from. We should get back in a couple of hours. But whether we're going to be able to land, or whether we're going to be merely the harbingers of a swarm of Jap planes after we do land, I can't say now."

He pulled a switch, and the interior of the plane was dark. Beth had forgotten completely that they had been traveling at night. Her eyes adjusted themselves, and she looked out onto the Pacific, as bright as it ever could be under the full moon. der the full moon.

"Can we spot the island in this

light?" she asked.

"We can spot it all right, but maybe spotting it will just get us blown to bits by one of our own antiaircraft guns. You know, there are two sides to this spotting business... the airplane pilot's, and the ground gunner's. A plane this slow would be a clay-pigeon target."

Brit left the lights off, except for the instrument panel. They cruised for some time—Beth's watch said it was long after midnight. In another couple of hours it would be dawn.

Her eyes wandered over the panel. She saw something and realized that Brit must have been looking at the panel and must have seen it, too; for he pointed to the gasoline indicator expressively.

"We've only got gas for three



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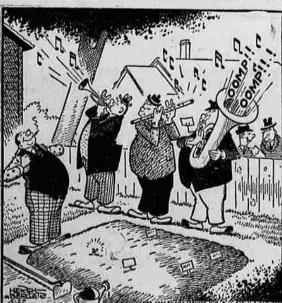
by Alice Brooks

"Check the back compartment door, Beth," Brit then said.
She did. Lita was cursing and screaming.
"Miss Danton doesn't like it "News, Household Arts Dept.," Klamath Falls. Do not send this picture, but keep it and the number for reference. Be sure to wrap coin securely, as a loose coin often slips out of the envelope. Requests for patterns should read, "Send pattern No. your name and address. followed by

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FUNNY BUSINESS



"He's welcoming his first radish!"

The moore bloody and bitter The moore bloody and bitter the war becomes, the greater is the popular demand that when hostilities are over the principal concern of the peacemakers should be not with the redraw-ing of territorial boundaries or access to raw materials, but with that too often forgotten clement in international rela-tions — human welfare. — Dr. Vera Dean, of Foreign Policy association.

Long as everything in the town was running smoothly, I thought I should do something to help my country as well as my city. So I sold the grocery store and started to help build these big planes.—Mayor Alvin Cresswell of Alvarado, Tex.

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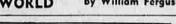
By J. R. Williams



In France it was nothing like this. Our men fought every yard of the way back and they had none of these things (guns) to fight with.-British mayor in

We're sorry we didn't get a chance to hit them. We've seen the Jerries run but they never ran before as they ran yester-day.—British corps commander on Tunis victory.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson





ANSWER: An officer's shoulder ornament.

NEXT: Do whiskers grow faster in hot weather? SOUTH AMERICAN STATESMAN

1.6 Pictured Dr. — del Rio 16 Upward 17 Irish fuel 19 Lash 19 Lash 21 Type of moth 22 Ever (contr.) 23 Nine and one 25 Kind of nut

der some new wrinkles on his

HORIZONTAL Answer to Previous Puzzle 20 A-tiptoe 24 Getting closer ESSAY SRS RATED 25 Milkman's hand carts EH INNS NE LOCKHEED 28 Dyestuff BUNS AWAKE TURSON 28 Odorous Uncommon 12 Ambary 13 Behold! 14 Kind of gull ST HUDSON WALLED SODA AISLE TRI COITTO RN LAP ATT STUD sheepfold

32 Sacred song 48 Near
33 King of Judah 50 Arabian
(Bib.) 52 Turn 52 Type of molding 54 Jumbled type 34 Portuguese money of account 35 Center 56 Small drink 58 Therefore 39 One (Scot.) 60 Bellow 38 Restrain

Bellow form)
Be persistent 11 Symbol for ruthenium 15 Negative 18 Sea eagle 40 Breathing noise 41 Taxi 4 Follows eighth 45 Scottish 1 Head cover

29 Worker in 2 Area messure 38 Cut 3 Reiterate 4 Harem room 5 Perched 39 Jungle beasts 41 Measure 42 Sloth

6 Vestment 7 Fish eggs 8 Musteline mammals 9 Biblical pronoun 10 Limit (comb.

43 Wide 48 Paid notice 49 Three (prefix) 51 Onager 53 Driving 54 Standard of value 55 Symbol for iridium 57 Any 61 Whirlwind



SAY, CHIEF BIG-NOISE! YOU'RE GELF-ELECTED MEDICINE MAN IN THIS TRIBE --- GO FIND OUT IF MIGS FRANKEY KNOWS WE GOT

PICKED UP IN A BOOKIE RAID!

THREE REELS IN TECHNICOLOR ABOUT BEING THERE

LOOKING FOR A MAN WHO HAD FROGS FOR SALE!

Freckles and His Friends

By Blosser

FOR YOUR-

SELF

PAPA=

By Fred Harmon

With Major Hoople

ULP! NO, FATHER, NOT THAT! I'D RATHER ELBOW

A MOTHER BEAR

ASIDE TO KIDNAP

EGAD! I

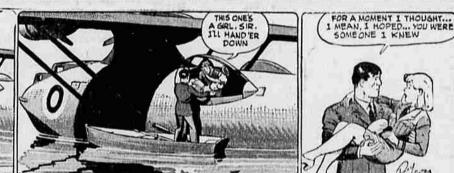
MISHAP BLIGHTS

HER CUB!



YOU KNOW -- WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT! 8 5.27

Wash Tubbs



By V. T. Hamlin

By Crana







SOURY BOSS BOOTS BLOWS

Allep Oop





Little Orphan Annie

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