



STED STRONG

BY AL CARREÑO

AS THE SHERIFF AND THE BOYS WERE PREPARING TO CAMP FOR THE NIGHT, THEY WERE STARTLED BY THE SUDDEN APPROACH OF A LONE RIDER. SHERIFF DRAKE ORDERED PETE TO DESCEND TO THE ROAD TO STOP THE HORSEMAN.

PETE YELLED A "WHO GOES THERE", THE STRANGER OPENED FIRE. PETE RETALIATED AIMLESSLY. IT WAS TOO DARK TO SEE.



GIT OFF THAT HORSE PRONTO, COWBOY! -OR AH'LL MOW YA DOWN

GO AHEAD. I'M READY!

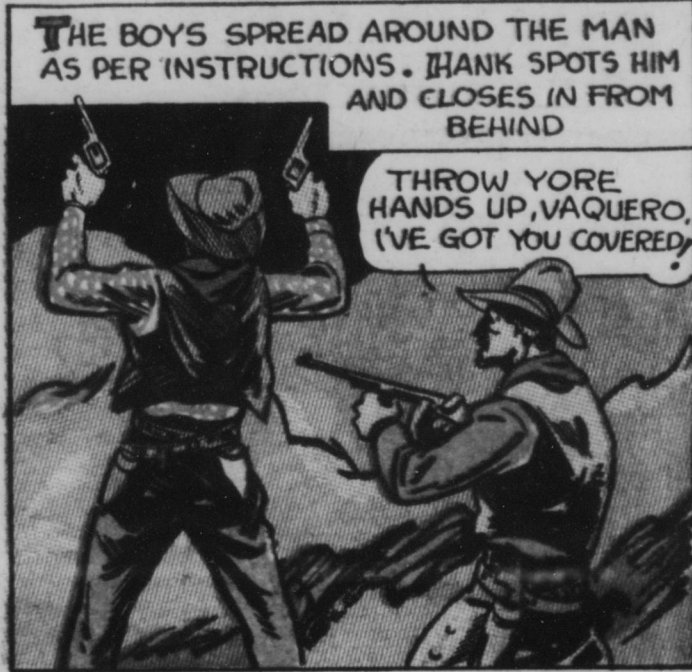


LET'S GO, BOYS! LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE DOWN THERE. NO DOUBT IT'S ONE OF THE DORGAN MEN



WE'VE GOTTA GIT 'IM! WE'LL MAKE 'IM SQUEAL. NOW, BOYS SEPARATE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AN' FORM A CIRCLE 'ROUND HIM

RIGHT, TOMMY!



THE BOYS SPREAD AROUND THE MAN AS PER INSTRUCTIONS. HANK SPOTS HIM AND CLOSES IN FROM BEHIND

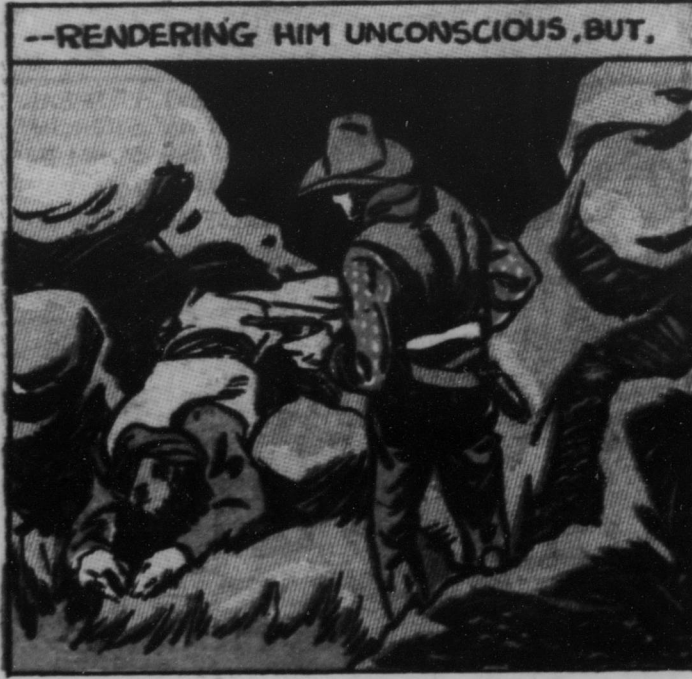
THROW YORE HANDS UP, VAQUERO. I'VE GOT YOU COVERED!



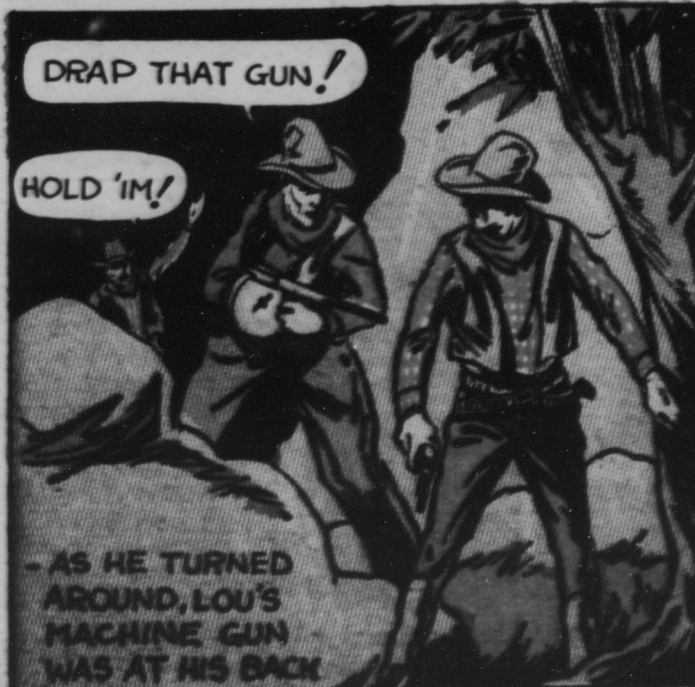
NOW, WALK TOWARDS TH' ROAD



LIKE A FLASH THE MAN JUMPS TO A BOULDER AND KICKS HANK FLUSH IN THE FACE



--RENDERING HIM UNCONSCIOUS, BUT,



DRAP THAT GUN!

HOLD 'IM!

AS HE TURNED AROUND, LOU'S MACHINE GUN WAS AT HIS BACK



WELL AH'LL BE A...!

TOMMY!

WHAT IN TH' DEUCE, TED! WHAT ARE YA DOIN' HERE?



CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT? I THOUGHT I WAS DEALING WITH THE DORGAN GANG

I THOUGHT YOU WERE ONE OF DORGAN'S HOMBRES. WOW!

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF TED'S PRESENCE, ALONE AT THAT TIME OF THE NIGHT?

CONTINUED...

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