

## FLIGHT 714





















Always the same, isn't it?
"Poor old Cuthbert, doesn't
listen to a word you say... head
in the clouds again ... always
gets the wrong end of the stick."
And on and on and on and on
and on!



One of these days he'll send me round the bend... Oh, forget it. Let's have a whisky... Whisky? Drinking whisky when some poor devils can't even afford a cup of tea... Like that old chap



Look at him, not a penny... Where does he come from? How long since he had a square meal?



Alone in the world... No one to care... Human flotsam, one of life's failures... even catches cold in the





My poor fellow, here's your hat.

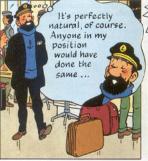
AAAAH...
AAAATH...
(ank you!)

Aha, my good deed for the day! No one saw me slip a five-dollar bill into his hat.





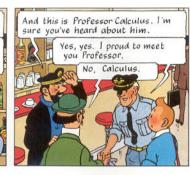




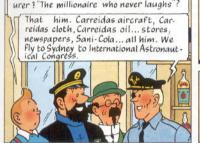












Laszlo Carreidas? The aircraft manufact-



Bravo! I thought you go on new adventure

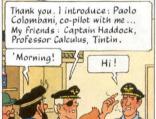


No, by thunder!
Adventures are out...
right out, forgood!
This is a pleasure trip,
an ordinary flight. No
fuss, no upsets, no
commotion ...













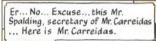














I never shake hands: it is extremely unhygienic...! do vaguely remember some expedition, but the details escape me... As I recall, it didn't affect the stock market.















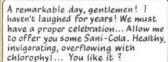














So you are en route for the Congress in Sydney. I heard you'd be coming along.







Tell me, Captain, as a seafaring man I'm sure you're fond of ba .. baa ... baa ...

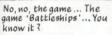






... er... I mean. I was in the merchant service. I don't know much about naval warfare. One of my ancestors went in for that sort of thina ...









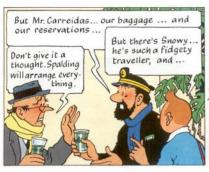




















Come here!

Nicked! Back

on that dratted lead!

## Meanwhile ...

Is that you, Walter?...Spalding here...Quick...Listen...You must contact the chief: old Sneeze-

wort has invited three people to travel with us... friends of the pilot ... met them accidentally. So it's all off ... Understand?

Too late. Spalding: everything's fixed. Anyway, you don't really imagine the chief's going to change his plans for three stray hangers-on? ... You have your orders; do as you're told



But Walter, with

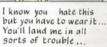
three extra pas-

thing could be

senaers the whole











































Spalding was right.



This is my newest brain-child: the Carreidas 160. A triple-jet executive aircraft, with a crew of four, and six passengers. At 40,000 feet the cruising speed is Mach 2, or about 1,250 m.p.h. The Rolls-Royce-Turbomeca turbojets deliver in total 18,500 lbs of thrust ...















What's that ?... Ouassis after them? ... Then buy! ... Get them all! What?... I don't care how much, buy!







new radio operator ... Il Signor Spalding is molto intelligente ... Il Signor Spalding ...

But presto presto il signor Spalding find













Great stocks and sharps!

















C4 - D4 - E4? Not a bad start, Captain . You've sunk a submarine, but the other two shots went into the water.



This is going to be good!... Now for my pipe. Oh, I hope the Smoke won't bother you?

Smoking is strictly prohibited, Captain. Even the smell of tobacco upsets me.



Good shot Mr. Carreidas!... A destroyer sunk with two shells, and a hit on another destroyer.



Now I'll have a go. I must fight back! ... C5-D5-E5





A cruiser sunk: three direct hits!...You're psychic!... Still, what do you say to C6-D6-E6, eh?



All missed, I'm afraid...
What bad luck!...I haven't got second-sight, you know... just natural talent, that's all. Now I must concentrate...













I beg your pardon, but I don't see what's so amusing about being in an aeroplane that starts shedding it's wings in mid-air!

What a pity! I didn't see the goose... but modern aeroplanes move so fast.

There's no danger to the aircraft, Captain. It's just the swing-wing in operation.



Well, the wings are pivoted at the leading edge. The pilot has to move them forward to give maximum lift for take-off or landing. As he goes through the sound barrier he has them in mid-position. Then in supersonic flight he swings them right back: and that's what's happening now...



But let's get back to our game. See what you think of my next broadside, Captain. G1-G2-G3.



Ten thousand thundering typhoons! Three direct hits on my battleship! You're

Very funny! "Just the swing-wing". What might that mean?













Mr. Carreidas sent me along: he wants to know our position.



We've just passed the radio-beacon at Mataram on the island of Lombok. We're heading now for Sumbawa, Flores and Timor.



By the way, skipper. Mr. Carreidas would like a word with you.













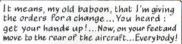
















That's it, young what's-yourname...Tintin. Good for you! Take away his gun!





A brave try, my clever friend, But it didn't come off! Now get with the others and cut the funny business. I've got my eye on you!



Bravo, Spalding!

Ah, it's you, Hans. Help
me lock them up.

Spalding! It ... I... You... You're sasa-sa-... Is this a television film?

Mamma mia!



Spalding, I'm giving you notice, d'you hear? You have totally betrayed the trust I placed in you!







And you're such a trustworthy character yourself, aren't you, Sneezewort? You low-down cheat, you even use closed-circuit television to win a game of Battleships | Ssh Spaldina!



Come on, now. All of you into the kitchenette! One false move and...Understand?...Move!



That's them in the cooler. Now for stage two...









Macassar tower? This is Golf Tango Fox. Weare just passing over Sumbawa. Nothing to report. We'll call you again before we reach the Darwin control zone. Over and out.



O.K. Now straight down







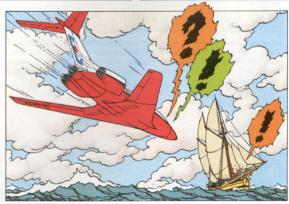




























Macassar tower to Darwin tower. We have lost contact with Carreidas 160 Golf Tango Fox, destination Sydney. Last radio contact passing over Sumbawa. Are you in touch with this aircraft please?





What do I mean?... Just this: the runway we're going to land on is about a quarter the length we need for a bus like this!... So, you can reckon it's ten to one we'll break our silly necks!







They climb again. I think prepare to land... Yes, there is Island ... And there is runway ... But...crazy! Is crazy! Runway much too short!































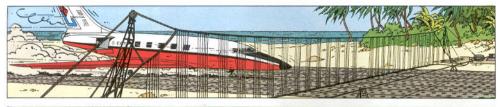




































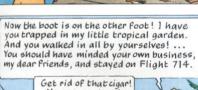
Bungling fools! You'd miss an elephant at five yards! Get after that infernal mongrel, and make sure you wipe it out!







Your surprise is charming to see! ... You thought Papa Rasta popoulos was eaten by the Red Sea Sharks, eh?
Ha! ha!







We knew you were a swine, Rasta-popoulos. Now we know you're a dirty swine at that!





Insolent puppy! You dare to defy me? When I have you here in my power?...And I've got you all right, you little foo!!



I've got you. I've got you all, and I shall crush you like ... like ...





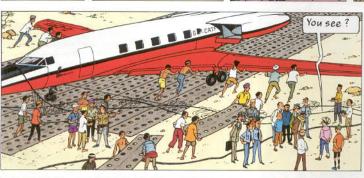














It's a bore, you know, to stop being a millionaire...When I went bust, I couldn't face the sweat of making another fortune for myself. So I decided it'd be easier, and quicker, to take yours!



No, just well informed, that's all. I know, for example, that you have on deposit in a Swiss bank - under a false name, of course, you always were a cheat-a quite fantastic sum of money...



I know the name of the bank: I know the name in which you hold the account; I have some magnificent examples of the false signature you use ... In fact, the only thing I don't know is the number of the account, and that you are now going to give me!



Never say "never", my dear Carreidas... Wouldn't you agree with me, Doctor Krollspell?



You can torture me! Pull out my nails, roast me over a slow fire... even tickle the soles of my feet ... I won't talk!







Who mentioned torture, my dear Laszlo? Whatever do you take us for?... Savages?... Shame on you! How vulgar!... We aren't going to hurt you. Kind Doctor Krollspell has just perfected an excellent variety of truth-drug. Its a painless cure for obstinate people who have little secrets to conceal.



A truth-drug?... Villain!... Blackguard! ... Bully!... A... aa... aaa...







Take him with you, Doctor Krollspell. Get your little black bag ready, I'll join you in a minute.















Come on, get going!...The old boozer's had a drop too much. Can't see the end of his nose. Tintin, you're in charge of the steerina. Now then, on your way!





We're going uphill. Get in single file. Don't forget, Tintin, you're in charge of bluebeard!











Ten thousand thundering typhoons!...Just you wait, Allan! When I get my hands on you J'll stuff your cap right down your throat, badge and all!





Come on, keep mov-



Home sweet home: an old Japanese bunker. And here you stay till Carreidas talks. So make yourselves comfortable.



I'm not supposed to tell you yet; boss's orders. But I'd hate to keep a secret from old shipmates like you...You'll go back on board the aeroplane, which will then be towed out to sea...



























Anyway, remember

our own death sen-



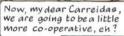








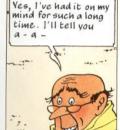






Now listen carefully. I've already told you, I have the name of your Swiss bank, the one where you've deposited more than ten million dollars. With the help of your faithful secretary Spalding, I discovered the name you use when writing to the bank. Thanks to Spalding I also have some excellent specimens of your false signature. But he failed in one respect. You always managed to hide the actual number of your cacount. And that's the number you're going to give me now, isn't it?









Thank you!...! must confess... twelve, nine, nineteen, ten. Yes, that's it.

12-9-19-10? That's your number at the bank. You're sure?

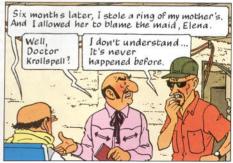
At the bank?... No, no, no: at the greengrocer. Outside that shop, among the fruit and vegetables, on the twelfth of September 1910, I stole for the first time.

A pear! I was four years old. It's as clear as if it were yesterday.



The unhappy truth
... And that was
only the beginning.
It's a sorry tale,
but it must be
told.









I was only a child. From my

tenderest years I have never





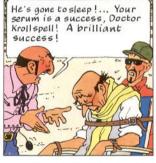


































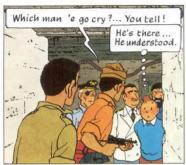










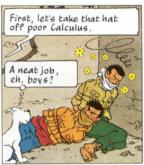


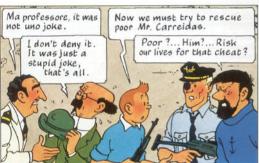
























You were wearing this hat. Captain. That's why Snowy made a mistake.



Anyway thanks to Snowy at least we're free, and can look for Mr. Carreidas.



I've got a suggestion. The Captain and I go in search of Carreidas. You, Skut, take the Professor, Gino and the prisoners, and hide somewhere near the bunker. Keep out of sight, and wait till we come back. Is that all right?



Is good plan, Tintin. I prefer to go with you and Captain. But I stay with other friends and prisoners.



Ready, Professor ? Extraordinary! I've never seen that before.

You must hurry: there's no time. So you've noticed it too? ... I've never seen my pendulum oscillate so fast... Never in my life!

It's incredible ... Look! It's absolutely incredible... I've never seen anything



A few minutes later ...

This is an ideal place for you to hide. Be sure you don't make any noise. Keep a sharp eve on the prisoners, If all goes well, we'll come straight back here



Goodbye, Tintin. Goodbye. and good luck!





Let anyone mention travel to me again and I'll tell













I can feel it too... But we must push on. We'll look later, if we get time.









Rastapopoulos wasn't exaggerating: the safety net's gone and the runway's almost disappeared. I must admit, the operation was organised down to the last detail.





We must be getting near: look at Snowy He's on to something.



Crumbs! Another bunker, with two guards outside. That'll be where they're holding Carreidas.



They aren't paying much attention. All the better for us.







Disarm them first, Captain ...Good... Now, tie them up, quick as you can. Better gag them too. You can use their own shirts.



how a sailor has a passion for knots!

Sorry, old man, but you know



Have you decided? Will you co-operate, or do l use stronger measures? Are you going to talk, you little reptile?



A little reptile... that's what I am. It can't be said too often. There's no excuse, either. Think of all the good examples I had when I was a boy. My grandfather, for instance. Think of my grand-father...



... my maternal grandfather... just a hymble confectioner, a maker of Turkish delight in Erzerum. A simple, honest man. "Laszlo", he used to say, "Laszlo, remember: an ill-gotten camel gathers no gain..."



It's all your fault, charlatan! You'll pay for this!











Me? Bad? Of course I'm bad! I'm the devil incarnate...that's what I am. And let's hear anyone try to deny it!



So what? Listen to this! I ruined my three brothers and two sisters, and dragged my parents into the gutter. What dyou say to that, eh?



Amateur! You're not in my class. Think of my class. Think of my scheme to kidnap you...that took a man of real cunning, a man without a shred of decency...a fiend!



You, doctor, I promised you forty thousand dollars to help me get the account number out of Carreidas. And all the time I'd made a plan to eliminate you when the job was done... Diabolical, wasn't it?



And the Sondonesian nationalists ... poor deluded fools. I lured them into this. I said I'd help them in their fight for independence. Ha! ha! If only they knew what lies in store for them!



Their junks are mined already. They'll be blown sky-high, long before they see their homeland.



The same goes for the others...
Spalding, and the aircrew. Rich men,
that's what they think they'll be, with
the money I flashed under their noses.
But they'll be disposed of when I'm
ready. Ha! ha! The Devil nimself
couldn't do better!



Now let's get this straight. Yes or no! Do you ordo you not admit that I'm wickeder than you?



All right, if that's what you want! Die!





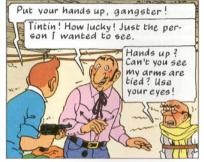


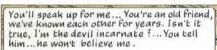






Tie him up, Cap-



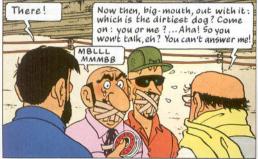






Captain, For heaven's sake come





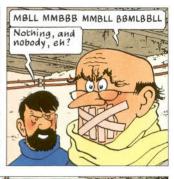








Who gave you permission













Coming, coming! When are you coming? Now, or next week?



I'm sorry...I...I had a spot of















We'll have the whole gang on our backs in less than ten minutes, Quick, we must rejoin the others.







BLMMBL What... what's going on?... Where am 1... What's happened?



















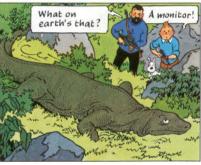






























Not your fault, Captain. A pity, all the same... Still, let's move on. No use chasing after him: he'll be miles away by now.















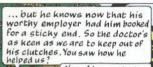


























Idiot!... Must you keep reminding me?!





















































Tintin! ... This is Allan...

better be sensible, or I

Come on out! You'd









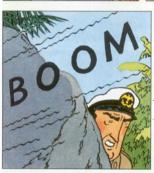






















Thith-there...In the c-c-cave...In the c-c-cave! In the c-c-cave! And what's stopping you from getting them out of the c-c-cave; eh?... What are you waiting for!



Well? Get on with it!... What's stopping you from getting them out, eh?... What are you waiting for?









No, no master. We no gree go down dark place. We no be allowed go down dark place, master. Look 'um that sign, master-Gods they put 'um dere...They come from sky in fire lorries. If we go in they punish us proper proper, master.



What are you babbling about?... What's this nonsense... Are you disobeying my orders? You'll pay dearly for your cowardice, you dogs!



No, boss!...We must keep calm. We need them...And remember how frightened they were last night when we saw that strange light in the sky...Let me handle



All right, now. You there, go back to the beach as fast as you can and tell the two airman we want them. At once!



Tell them to bring torches, a rope, and their guns, of course.





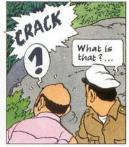
Fine!... Now, it's you I'm talking to, Captain Grogblossom, you and wonderboy! If you don't come out of that rat-hole quietly, with your hands in the air...





The crew won't be long...then we'll soon crack this...er... sorry, boss...er, have a cigarette?







Ha! ha! Look, scooting along like a rabbit!









Meanwhile... Hello! Here's one of our chaps come back...



It should have been finished hours ago, and the plane at the bottom of the sea. We shall end up being spotted here. Ah, here's the news bulletin.

There is still no trace of the aircraft owned by millionaire Laszlo Carreidas which disappeared between Macassar and Darwin. The search, which has been called off at nightfall, will be resumed at dawn.



Good, that gives us a few hours' respite. Come on, boys.

Not me! I'm not crawling about in the jungle ...



Look here, Tintin, when are you going to explain? Where the blue blistering blazes are you takina us? I've told you, Captain, I haven't the remotest idea... Someone seems to be guiding me. I'm just obeying orders. That's all



And another thing: how is it we can see our way down here? By rights it should be black as the inside of a cow.

I know It's queer. It reminds me of that strange light in the Temple of the Sun.



But I think we've nearly reached our destination ... Yes, there's the statue I was told about ...



His lordship's "voices" have described the statue to his lordship, of course. Perhaps they've also been gracious enough to explain why it's so hellishly hot down here! Like a Turkish bath!





It could be lava. We are very close to a volcano. Excuse me



The eye ... Press hard on the eye ... The right one?... [ see







A secret passage! ... It's unbelievable! ... Pressing on the eye released a catch... We must go on.







I bolted it behind us as I was told to do: I believe we're safe now, if I've really understood the instructions from what you call my "Yoices"



Voices here! Voices there! I suppose you think you're Joan of Arc, eh? I've had enough of this tomfoolery. Thundering typhoons, the joke's over! Tell me how you knew this place existed. Billions of bilious blue blistering barnacles, tell me!





W-w-what?... W-w-who?...Wwho's speaking? ... What did you say? ...I ...I'm not to make so much noise?...N-nno, sir.



1... It's crazy!... I... You can't imagine what... It's... it's as though someone was talking on the telephone, ringing me up inside my head!... You can laugh, but that's what happened, just like [ said ...



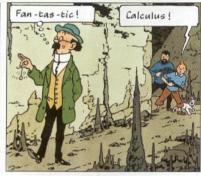






D'you understand? It was just like a loudspeaker, inside my head!...I can't believe it ... It's absolutely ...







You're still sceptical?

No, no,
Professor,
but ...

You still don't believe me?









Thought transmitter...Telepathy is phenomenon attractink very little study in world of science...human world of science, zat is. In other world of science, thought transmission has been common for many years.





What other world?... Extra -

You aren't trying to make us believe that you... Me?... Niet!... Ordinary human beink like you.



I am initiate, so to say... Zat is, like number of other men, actink as link between earth and ... another planet. My job to keep...er... extraterestrials informed on all aspects of human activity... Understand ink?... Meetink with zem on zis island, twice a year...

...in zis ancient temple forgotten by men, but not by...er... others, who have been comink here for thousands of years... You saw statue? Astronaut, yes?



I've had enough of you and your cock-and-bull story! I don't believe a word of it. You can't fool me with yourastronomical asininities!



1...Yes, sir... No, sir... I won't speak again ... I beg your pardon? ... No, I won't interrupt...



Nu, to continue. Astroship bringink me here last night. Zis mornink observed great activity on zie island, which is usually deserted. Am watchink extraordinary preparations, zen aeroplane islandink. Have realised zat operation is trap...





I can't control him...He's gone crazy...and he kicked me on the shin...



I see what you mean. Maybe we could let him go free. D'you think he's still under the influence of your...er... serum?



Oh, no.
The effect
will have
worn off
by now.

MBLLLB



You'll pay for this. Never have I been so insulted!...And I want my hat!...Immediate-ly!...Where is my hat?... Give me my hat! I demand my hat!



Someone go and look for my hat! ... Now, at once! ...lt's a prewar Bross and Clackwell, I'd have you know!...lt's irreplaceable! ...My hat, I tell you!



... to save him from himself we simply had to tie him up, and use a gag.

Is annoyink me... shall deal.

Look straight at me!

What?...You dare to use that voice to me? You don't know who I am, I suppose?







Zere is your hat. Put on and be quiet.



I haven't got it

back to front?

My beautiful Bross and Clackwell!...It's all dirty...Ah, it's only a coating of dust.



I'm so pleased to have it back. I always catch cold when my head's uncovered.



Is quite simple. Is hypnotised. Now believes is wearink his hat.





So, can continue explainink ...Aeroplane comink down near here : terrible landink. Am seeink you taken prisoner and led away to old blockhouse.



Is so. But when you are free am seeink you beink followed by other men. I decidink is time for me to intervene. So, am gettink into telepathic communication with you and guidink











Some people need every single thing spelled out in words of one syllable.



Now extra-terrestrials must be decidink what to do with you. Am expectink astroship very soon...You in your world say flyink-saucer.



So now we've come to flying-saucers! You're going too far: we aren't as gullible as that!



See there, on wall. Is certainly machine used by people from ...er... other planet.



Thousands of years ago, men were buildink zis temple to worship gods who are comink from sky in fire-chariots. In fact, fire-chariots are astroships, like zat one. And gods... but you have seen statue: what are you thinkink statue is resemblink?







You're sure it's his? See if it has his initials.







If it slipped under the statue you must be able to get it out, fool!... It hasn't been glued to the floor! Pull, you milksop, Pull hard! Pull!...







L.C. : Laszlo Carreidas ... It's his all right. Look, boss.



That means the statue was standing on it... In which case ... Of course, it's obvious: there must be a secret passage... So start looking! All of you!



Go on! Go on! The statue must be hinged ...



Jen minutes later ...

It won't shift, boss... If only we had some dynamite.

Dynamite?...We can do better than that !



Quick, go back to our junk and bring all the plastic explosive intended for those silly Sondonesians! Hurry!



Aha, my clever friends, you don't know Rasta popoulos...!'ll get you, if I have to demolish this temple stone by stone!



We were talkink about extra-terrestrials: what zey will do with you. Probably beginnink by hypnotisink you.



No. no. a thousand times no! You don't really believe we'd let ourselves be hypnotised by your prehistoric saucer-sailing spaceyour life! men! Not on



Is all right, is all right, you are comink to no harm. You will be hypnotised and are forgettink all zat you have seen and heard here, rememberink only flight as far as Sumbawa in Carreidas aircraft.



About flight? How I knowink?... Nothink telepathic in zat . Your comrades Skut and Gino are tellink



Oh yes, am summonink zem, too ... zey entered temple by another secret openink at same time as professor. Guards zat you tied up, I hypnotise zem too and set zem free. Zey are runnink back and spreadink panic amonk zeir comrades.



Young man, mind your manners! I took off my hat to you... You could at least raise yours in return!



wouldn't dream of contradicting you, not for one moment, but I myself consider that the temperature here is a little too high.



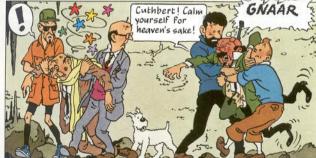




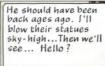
















The bump on my head ... it's gone! ... That's a good omen: it means my luck's changing!







This

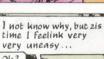






Yes, is over... Earthquakes very frequent in zis area, but never severe...Yet zis time am wonderink ...







Yes, am sensink somethink strange in air. Must not stay here ... Come, will rejoin

















Impoffible, boff: I loft my teef. Confounded fondonefianf... vey did vif to me, boff!

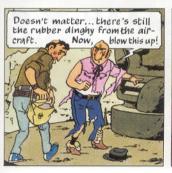


Ven I got vere, vey vere in a panic. Laft night vove ftrange lightf in ve fky. Tonight an earfquake. You felt it here... vey all ruffed back to veir junkf and make off into ve darkneff like frightened rabbitf.



Yef, yef, boff: [ did all I could to ftop vem efcaping. It waf hopeleff... like trying to ftop a ftampede. Af it waf, I waf very nearly maffacred.











































































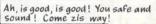
Come on quickly! We haven't a moment to lose!



I'm coming, I'm coming .That ectoplasm Carreidas, he'd better watch out! Purple profiteering jellyfish! He'll be steak and kidney pudding if [catch him!



It's like a furnace down here now.





Alas so. Earthquake probably caused small crack in old feed pipe of volcano. Is not so dangerous. But zen explosion is set off...



... and is enlargink crack and allowink gas and lava to escape...In zat case, eruption of volcano is followink ... Let us be hopink astroship is comink at rendezvous ...



The heat is becoming intolerable ... If this goes on...



Shut the door behind you! Can't you feel the draught? Dreadful!



And what about all this smoke? You're doing it on purpose. Me with my sensitive throat! Are you trying to kill me?





























































Another few seconds and the lake will have vanished!... Whatever ...









Whew! That's that for the time being! Lucky it was only ash and water vapour, not lava

## BZZZ BZZ BZZZ BZZ



Yes, please be hurryink: zere could be another eruption... Yes, be lowerink ladder, please ...

You are goink aboard astroship. But first, as am explainink, I hypnotise you.

Hypnotise us? Not on your life! It's out of the question ... Besides, that sort of mummery wouldn't affect us!





Now, gentlemen, you are at air-port at Djakarta. You are boardink Carreidas aircraft, flyink to Sydney. Zere is ladder. Please go up first, Mr. Carreidas.



You followink him, professor. and zen you, Captain Skut.



You takink Snowy, Tintin ... And last is aoink Captain Haddock.







Is just in time!... Thankink you, Chief Pilot, You excusink me now while I lookink after terrestrial comrades.



You, Mr. Carreida's . You playink Battleships with Captain Haddock. You cheatink, naturally.



Captain Skut, you are at controls of Carreidas 160. Flight is uneventful. Nothink to report.





Is dinghy from Carreidas 160 ... Zat is suggestink how adventure can be finishink For Tintin and comrades.



It's ... it's a flying-saucer!! It's circling ... Diavolo! It's coming straight Por us! Fire, Allan! ... FIRE!

















...continue to patrol the area.
During the night a volcano
thought to be extinct has erupted
on the island of fulau-pulau
Bowpa in the Celebes Sea. A
column of smoke more than thirty
thousand feet high is rising from
the crater. Observers are keeping
watch on the volcano and are
studying the eruption from the air.





Victor Hotel Bravo calling Macassar tower. We've spotted a rubber dinghy about a mile south of the volcano. Five or six men aboard. We've made several low-level runs over them but there's no sign of life...except for a little white dog.



Look, Dick! The wind's carrying them towards the island, and there's iava flowing into the sea. They'll be boiled alive like lobsters! We've got to do something. We must save them!



Thousands miles away several days later

Tonight Scanorama is bringing you a special feature. The brilliant air-sea rescue of six of the men aboard millionaire Carreidas's plane made world headline news. Laszlo Carreldas and five companions were found drifting in a dinghy more than 200 miles off their scheduled route. They were snatched to safety only minutes from death in a lava-heated cauldron, the sea around the volcanic island of Pulau-pulau Bompa. All the survivors were suffering from severe shock. It was several hours before they.

recovered consciousness in a Javanese hospital. Our on-the-spot reporter has secured the first interview with the mysterycrash survivors ... Colin Chattamore in Djakarta.



Let's begin with the owner of the aircraft... This has been a terrible business for you, Mr. Carreidas. You must be greatly upset by the loss of your prototype. and the tragic disappearance of your secretary and two members of your crew.



All very sad, but what can you expect? That's life, you know. What really annoys me, though is that I lost my hat: a pre-war Bross and Clackwell. And that's absolutely irreplaceable.



About the needle-marks found on your arm, Mr. Carreidas. It seems that your companions didn't have these ...

Naturally: I'm richer than they are.



Captain Skut, you had to make a forced landing. Can you tell us something about it, and what happened afterwards? Your last radio message said you were flying over Sumbawa and had nothing to report.



... yes but is not possible to remember: is like gap in my mind ... I not understand ... Is like strange dream ...



Me too. Just the same. Only I'd call it a horrible nightmare.

Blow me! Look who's here again. My old chum! The ancient mariner from Marlinspike!... The old humbua, he doesn't half come up with some romic turns



I vaquely remember some arinning masks, and suffocating heat in an underground passage... Thundering typhoons, it makes me thirsty to think of it!



1 ... well, I had a similar dream. It's certainly odd, but ...

And there's his pal, young Sherlock Holmes

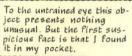
the most inexplicable part of this whole business is ... No, I think Professor Calculus will tell you ...













No, no. I found it in my pocket.

Same old Calculoopy! Bit touched in the upper storey. Daft as well as deaf.



How it got there I really have no idea at all... Extraordinary... But the matter really assumes a fantastic character when I tell you this object is made of a metal not found on our earth.



[ron ore? Rubbish! ... Look at this!

My sainted aunt, what a hoot! Ha! ha! ha! Hoo! hoo!



No, my dear sir, it is not a delusion. I may tell you, young man, that I have had this metal analysed in the laboratories at Djakarta University. And, sir, the physical chemists are quite unanimous: it is composed of cobalt in the natural state, alloyed with iron and nickel.



Since cobalt in the natural state does not occur on earth, this object is of extra-terrestrial origin.



Bats in the belfry! ...Come on, Prof, give us some more! Go the whole hog! Say it dropped offa flyingsaucer. Made by a Martian with his little space-kit... Tell that to Lord Nelson, he'll fall off his column laughing!



Professor, you used the words "extraterrestrial". In this connection, may I show you a photograph, taken by an amateur in Cairo last Monday... the day you were found? ... Please study it carefully ...



Would you agree with the photographer, who claims that it is indeed a flyingsaucer?... And would you say that this machine is of extra-terrestrial



A bottle of gin?... Frankly, I can see no connection...To me, the photograph would appear to show an unidentified flying object, popularly known as a flying -saucer.



Do you think this 'machine' is connected with the object you found?

Round? That goes without saying. A saucer is always round, is it not?



Er... of course ... One final question. Professor. I understand that you and your companions are suffering from amnesia ...



I beg your pardon?...I...hmm...the point I want to make is that occasional cases of amnesia are not uncommon... There's one reported in the paper today. The head of a psychiatric clinic in Cairo, Dr. Krollspell, has just been found wundering near the outskirts of the city. He'd been missing for more than a month, and he has completely lost his memory.



But in your case, how do the doctors account for the fact that you are ALL suffering from amnesia?

They don't seem able to give an explanation .. any more than we can.



And finally, what are your plans? Where do you go from here?

We're catching the next plane for Sydney, We shall just be in time for the opening of the Astronautical Congress.



Well, I hope there will be no further interruptions to your Journey. Good luck from Scanorama, and thank you ... Goodbye, Captain!



