



39¢

God's Smuggler

LORD, I HAVE BIBLES FOR YOUR CHILDREN ACROSS THIS BORDER!

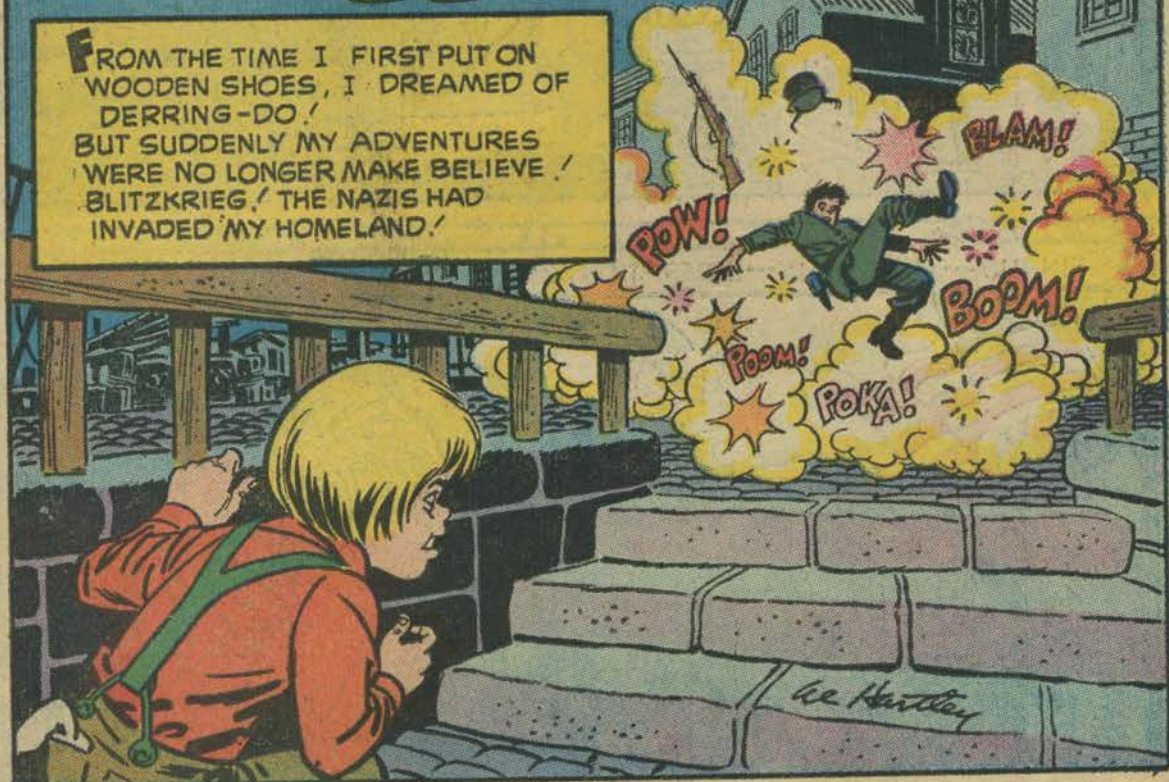
YOU HAVE MADE BLIND EYES SEE!

PLEASE MAKE SEEING EYES BLIND!



God's Smuggler

FROM THE TIME I FIRST PUT ON WOODEN SHOES, I DREAMED OF DERRING-DO! BUT SUDDENLY MY ADVENTURES WERE NO LONGER MAKE BELIEVE! BLITZKRIEG! THE NAZIS HAD INVADDED MY HOMELAND!

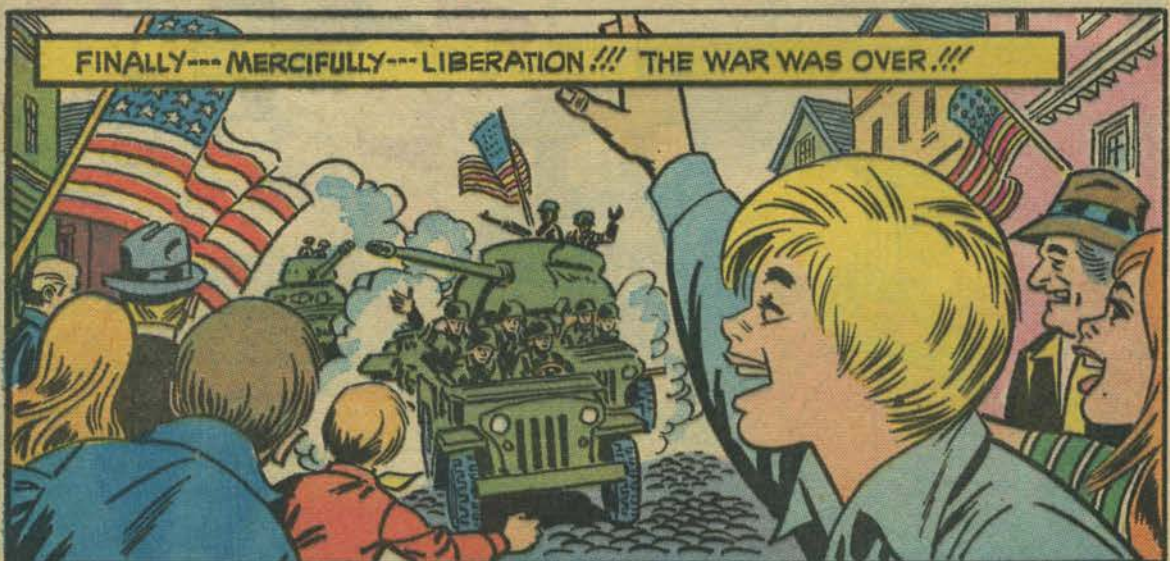


**BUT JOKES AGAINST THE NAZIS
CEASED TO BE FUNNY AS THE
OCCUPATION DRAGGED ON.!**

**BEFORE I WAS 14, I WAS
JOINING THE FLIGHT TO ESCAPE
DEPORTATION TO THE FORCED
LABOR CAMPS OF GERMANY.!**



FINALLY--- MERCIFULLY--- LIBERATION !!! THE WAR WAS OVER.!!!



**BUT MY THIRST FOR ADVENTURE
CONTINUED.!** WHEN I WAS 18 ---



HAVEN'T WE
SEEN ENOUGH
OF SOLDIERS ?

OH, MAMA!
IT'LL MAKE A
MAN OF HIM.!



I WANT
ADVENTURE,
MAMA.!

I PRAY THAT
THE ADVENTURE
YOU FIND WILL
SATISFY, ANDREW.!

AND SO I ARRIVED IN INDONESIA
TO TAKE BACK OUR COLONIES FOR
THE QUEEN !



SUDDENLY TARGETS WERE NO
LONGER PIECES OF PAPER ! THEY
WERE FATHERS AND BROTHERS JUST
LIKE MY OWN !!!



WHAT
AM I
DOING
HERE ?

WHAT IS THIS
MADNESS ALL
ABOUT ?



WHEN THE SKIRMISH ENDED,
THE REAL BATTLE BEGAN !
AND THERE WAS NO ESCAPE !

LIVE, DRINK
AND BE MERRY,
ANDY !

TOMORROW
WE MAY
DIE !

WHY
?

WHY
???



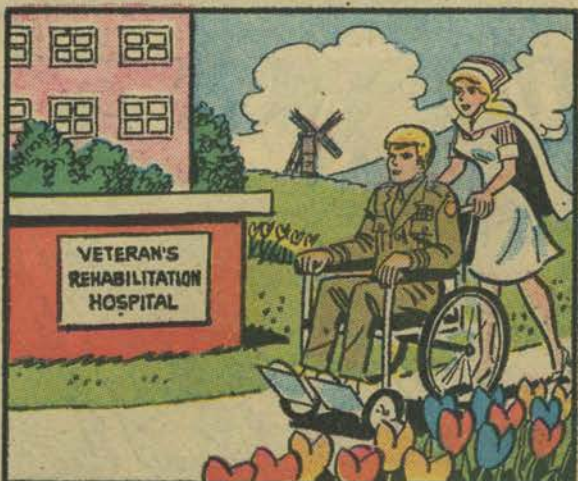
THEN, IN AN AMBUSH---



I HAD ALWAYS IMAGINED MYSELF GOING OUT IN A BLAZE OF GLORY, SHOWING CONTEMPT FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN FARCE!



AND SO MY GREAT ADVENTURE ENDED - IN DISASTER!!!



HER NAME WAS CORRIE AND SHE READ WITH SUCH FEELING, I DIDN'T MIND THAT IT WAS FROM THE BIBLE!





I SEARCHED THE BIBLE FOR GOD'S PROMISES AND MORE AND MORE I FELT HIS LOVE POURING INTO MY LIFE! BUT I COULDN'T SEE HIM WANTING ME!



AND THEN ONE NIGHT, OUT ON THE DIKE, I TOOK THE STEP OF YES!



MY STEP OF FAITH CARRIED ME FURTHER THAN I DREAMED---



WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE IN HIM!

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING, ANDREW!

SOON I ENROLLED IN A SEMINARY AND LEARNED THAT MY GOD WAS TRULY A GOD OF MIRACLES! HE WAS LEADING ME IN THE ULTIMATE HUMAN ADVENTURE!

IT STARTED WITH AN INVITATION---AND MY LIFE HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PRAGUE, IT CAN BE ARRANGED!

I JUMPED AT THE CHANCE! SHORTLY I WAS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD!

YOUR SUITCASE SEEMS HEAVY, COMRADE!

YES! IT'S FULL OF BOOKLETS!

SPLENDID! MARX SAID WE WOULD CONQUER THE WORLD WITH 26 LEAD SOLDIERS - THE ALPHABET!

YOUR LITERATURE CONCERNS THE CLASS STRUGGLE?

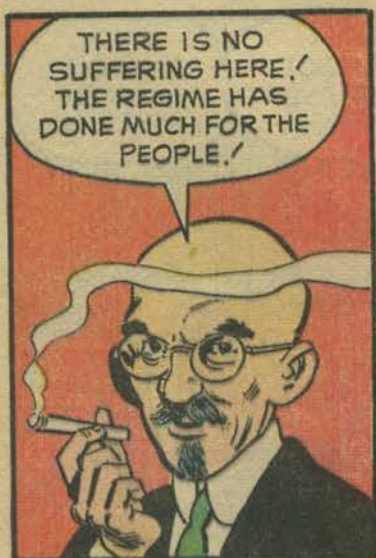
HAVE ONE!

YOU CAN TALK ABOUT COMMUNISM!

I WISH TO TALK ABOUT JESUS CHRIST!

God's Love

THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS CAME TO THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PRAGUE! BUT MY PURPOSE WAS DIFFERENT FROM THEIRS--- I WANTED TO OBSERVE THE QUALITY OF RELIGION BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN!



LATER, I LEARNED MORE OF THOSE
POSSIBILITIES ---





SUPERSTITIONS
???

OH, MIRACLES---
THE STORY OF
CREATION---
ORIGINAL SIN---
FALLEN MAN---
THAT SORT OF
THING!



WHAT ABOUT
THE FACT THAT
JESUS IS
GOD?

THAT IS AT
THE TOP OF
THE LIST!



THE
REGIME IS
UNRELENTING,
ANDREW!

AND IT'S HARD
TO SAY NO TO
ALL THIS WHEN
YOUR CLASSMATES
ARE SAYING
YES!



SO THEY'VE
TURNED THEIR
BACKS ON GOD
AND THE BIBLE?

THEY'VE
NEVER SEEN
A BIBLE!



BUT
I WAS
IN A
BIBLE
STORE---

WINDOW
DRESSING.!--

GOD'S
WORD IS
BEING
WATERED
DOWN AND
STAMPED
OUT!



SURELY
THE CHURCH
COULD
DISTRIBUTE
BIBLES---

ANDREW--

WE
HAVE
NO
BIBLES
!!!



AND THEN I HEARD
IT---MARTIAL MUSIC!
THE WORLD YOUTH
FESTIVAL WAS ENDING
WITH A PARADE OF
TRIUMPH!



THESE ARE THE EVANGELISTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY!

LISTEN TO THEM SHOUT THEIR GOSPEL!

MAN IS HIS OWN MASTER!

THE FUTURE IS OURS TO TAKE!

PEKTI MNDIL



LORD, THEY CAN'T WIN BY DEFAULT!

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO?

SHOW ME--- PLEASE!



REVELATION. 3

2 Awake, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death:

for I have a work to show thee before

that



IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!

!WHAT CAN I DO TO GET BIBLES TO THOSE PEOPLE AND TURN THE TIDE?



YOU CAN DO NOTHING, ANDREW!

BUT GOD CAN DO EVERYTHING!



DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS I WROTE MAGAZINE ARTICLES ABOUT THE NEED TO HELP CHRISTIANS LIVING UNDER COMMUNISM!

AND I SPOKE WHEREVER I COULD---TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO CARE!

SOON MONEY BEGAN TO ARRIVE!
ENOUGH TO BUY BIBLES AND FINANCE MY FIRST ADVENTURE AS GOD'S SMUGGLER !!!



AS I APPROACHED THE BORDER OF YUGOSLAVIA, I SAID A PRAYER I WOULD REPEAT MANY TIMES!

LORD, IN MY LUGGAGE I HAVE BIBLES FOR YOUR CHILDREN ACROSS THIS BORDER!

YOU HAVE MADE BLIND EYES SEE---

PLEASE MAKE SEEING EYES BLIND!





IT WENT BEAUTIFULLY, CORRIE!

GOD TRULY BLINDED THEIR EYES!



AND IF GOD CAN DO THAT, THERE'S NO NEED TO HIDE THE BIBLES!

I'LL EVEN PUT SOME ON THE FRONT SEAT BESIDE ME!



I'M ABLE TO TAKE MORE BIBLES THIS WAY!

BE CAREFUL, ANDY!



THIS TIME I ENTERED RUMANIA---

OH, LORD, BLIND THEIR EYES---



PASS!

THANK YOU, LORD!

IT ONLY TOOK THIRTY SECONDS THIS TIME!



UH, CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO A CHURCH?

WE DON'T HAVE MANY OF THOSE! AND BESIDES---YOU COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE!





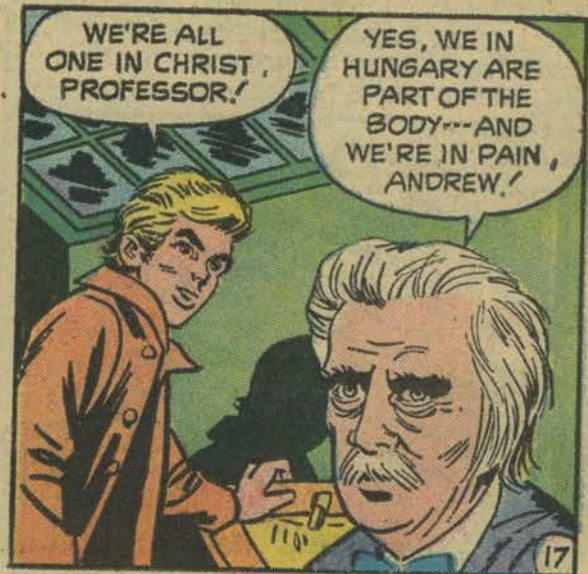


AND SPEAKING OF LOVE---



I FELT THE SEPARATION WOULD TEACH CORRIE SOMETHING --- I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH IT WOULD TEACH ME!

I HAD THE ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR B IN BUDAPEST---



THE TRIP HOME SEEMED LONGER THAN EVER ---



A LETTER FROM PROFESSOR B EMPHASIZED THE DANGER OF THE ROAD WE WERE TAKING ---

Dear Andrew:
I believe I should share with you something that has happened. Do not think it is the result of your visit... it was coming anyhow. I have been forced to resign from the University. Do not beel sad. Many have given up far more for their Saviour. You will not hear from us anymore. Our mail is censored. This letter is being carried by a friend.



AND SO, CORRIE AND I MOVED INTO MY ONE LITTLE ROOM ---



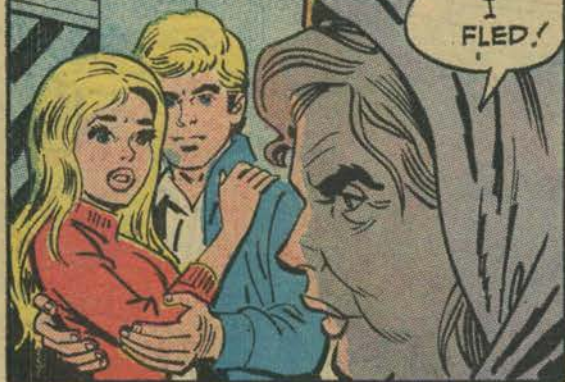
CORRIE ACCOMPANIED ME TO WEST BERLIN ---



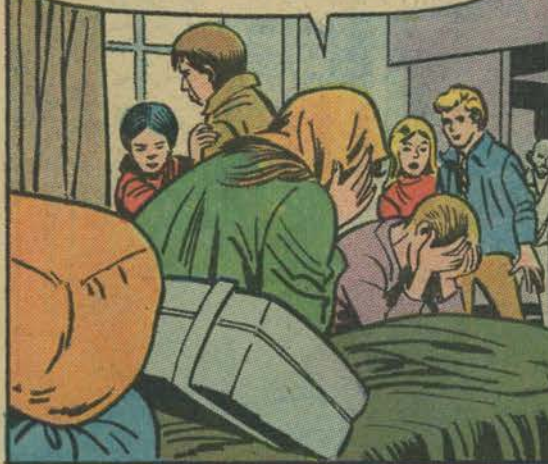
BUT THEN
THE VISITS
CAME EVERY
NIGHT.!

THEY STAYED LATE.!
FRIGHTENING ME
UNTIL I COULDN'T
TAKE IT ANY
LONGER---

I
FLED.!



WE STARTED OUT BRAVE, BUT
THEY BROKE US AND WE GAVE
UP. EVERYONE OF US.!



OH, ANDREW, I'M
GLAD I WENT WITH
YOU. I CAN UNDER-
STAND YOUR WORK
SO MUCH BETTER.!

THOSE
POOR
PEOPLE
NEED
HELP AND
ENCOURAGE-
MENT.!



MY TRIPS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN
CONTINUED AND THEN, ONE DAY AS I
RETURNED---

DOCTOR.!

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER ?



CONGRATULATIONS.!

YOU'RE
GOING TO
BE A
FATHER.!



BUT PLEASE---
GET RID OF
ALL THIS
CLOTHING---

SHE'S GOING TO
BE A MOTHER
NOT A MOUNTAIN
CLIMBER.!





I HAD PLANNED A TRIP TO BULGARIA---

YOU'LL HAVE TIME, ANDREW--- THE BABY WON'T ARRIVE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS!



YES, THERE WAS TIME--- TIME TO WEIGH THE RISKS OF MY ADVENTURE NOW THAT I WOULD BECOME A FATHER---

EVERY PART OF EVERY TRIP WAS BATHED IN PRAYER---



THANK YOU FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER SAFELY---



PETROFF, I UNDERSTAND BULGARIA NEEDS BIBLES DESPERATELY!

I'LL SHOW YOU, BROTHER!



I WAS ABLE TO BUY THIS BIBLE FOR ONLY ONE MONTH'S SALARY!

THE REASON IT WAS SO CHEAP IS THAT SEVERAL PARTS HAVE BEEN CUT OUT!



CUT OUT ?

WHO KNOWS ?

PERHAPS TO SELL!

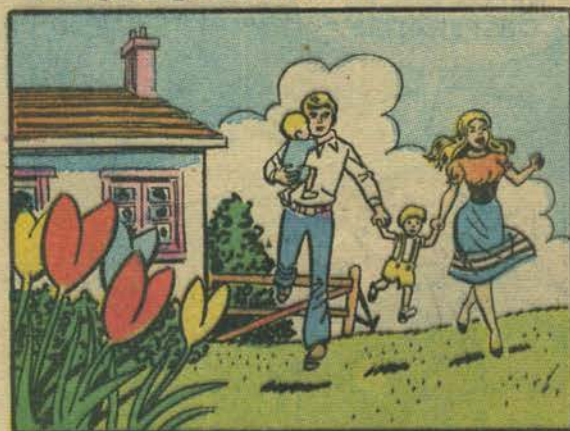
MAYBE TO MAKE CIGARETTES WITH THE THIN PAPER!

WHY ?



IN GOD'S AMAZING GRACE THERE WERE MANY ADVANCES! BLESSINGS POURED INTO MY LIFE! CHILDREN! A HOME OF OUR OWN!

AND THEN GOD SENT HANS TO JOIN ME ---



HANS WAS EXCITED ABOUT OUR FIRST TRIP TOGETHER-- INTO RUSSIA!

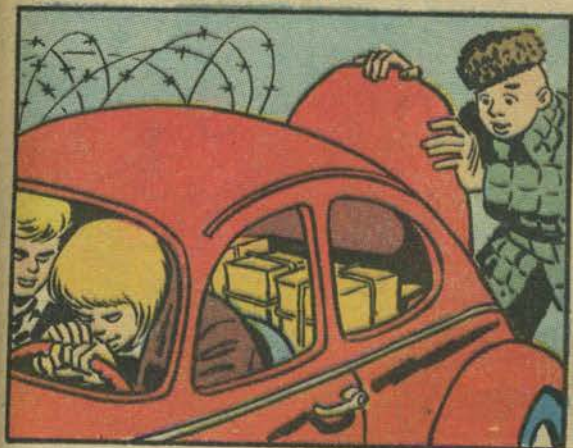
WE HAVE OVER ONE HUNDRED BIBLES! I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW WE'LL GET THROUGH ???

UNDERSTANDING WON'T GET US THROUGH, HANS!

FAITH WILL!



AGAIN THE LORD PERFORMED HIS MIRACLE. THE BORDER GUARD WAS MORE INTERESTED IN OUR VW ENGINE THAN ANYTHING ELSE!



AMAZING!
WE'RE THROUGH!

SLOW DOWN HANS!

WE MUSTN'T TROUBLE THE LORD WITH A SPEEDING TICKET!



WE'LL ATTEND THIS SERVICE, HANS, AND ASK THE LORD TO POINT OUT SOMEONE WE CAN TRUST!



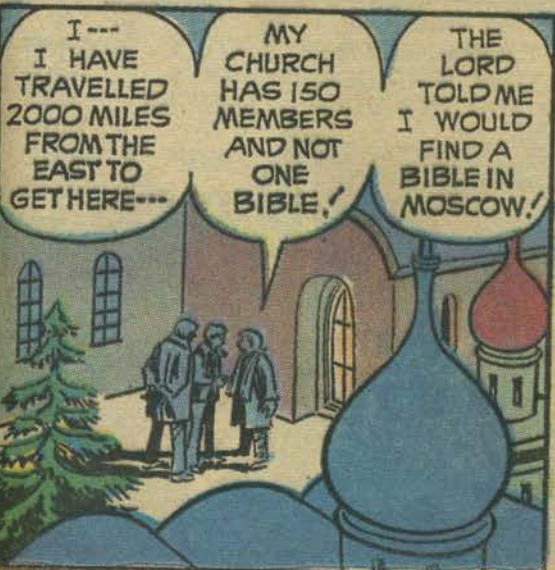
I BELIEVE HE'S OUR MAN!

THE VERY ONE THE LORD SHOWED ME!



BROTHER, THE LORD HAS DIRECTED US TO YOU FOR A VERY SPECIAL PURPOSE---

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MIGHT BE?



I--- I HAVE TRAVELLED 2000 MILES FROM THE EAST TO GET HERE---

MY CHURCH HAS 150 MEMBERS AND NOT ONE BIBLE!

THE LORD TOLD ME I WOULD FIND A BIBLE IN MOSCOW!



WE HAVE TRAVELLED 2000 MILES FROM THE WEST TO BRING YOU THIS BIBLE!

AND WE HAVE MORE!

MEET US HERE TOMORROW!





PERHAPS THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE ?

MARKOV!

I'LL ARRANGE A MEETING!



BUT BE CAREFUL!

WHAT ABOUT THESE ?

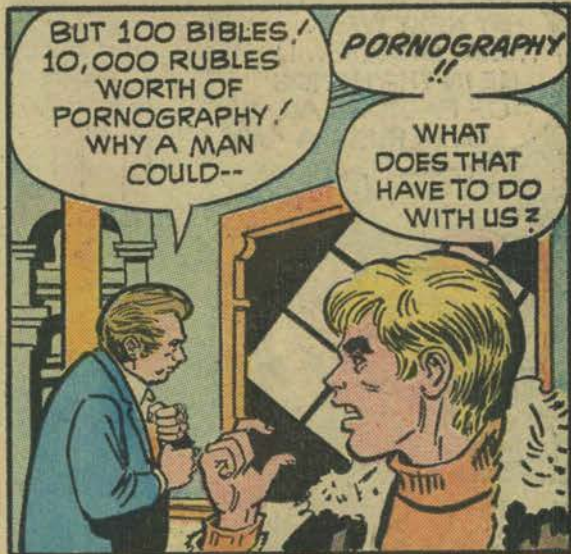
WILL YOU RISK SOMETHING TAKING THEM ?



FOUR BIBLES ?

THAT'S NOT A VERY SERIOUS ECONOMIC CRIME!

PERHAPS FOUR MONTHS IN JAIL!



BUT 100 BIBLES! 10,000 RUBLES WORTH OF PORNOGRAPHY! WHY A MAN COULD--

PORNOGRAPHY !!

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH US ?



NOTHING !

BUT IF YOU'RE CAUGHT, THAT'S WHAT THEY'LL ACCUSE YOU OF SELLING!



LATER, WE MET MARKOV ---

WE'LL EXCHANGE THE BIBLES IN RED SQUARE! NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT US IN SUCH A LOCATION!

IT'S A STROKE OF GENIUS!





AND SO, WE PUT OUR HOME ON THE MARKET! BUT STRANGELY-- IN SPIITE OF AN ACUTE HOUSING SHORTAGE--NOT A SINGLE PERSON CAME TO LOOK!



AND THEN I HAD A TELEPHONE CALL---





THE SIZE OF THE NEW BIBLE IS PERFECT FOR SMUGGLING!

OUR LITTLE CAR CAN NOW HOLD 650 BIBLES!

ONE BIBLE COULD BUY A COW NOW IN RUSSIA!



650 COWS !!!

OH, ANDREW, BE CAREFUL!

THEY WOULD CONSIDER THIS A MAJOR ECONOMIC CRIME!

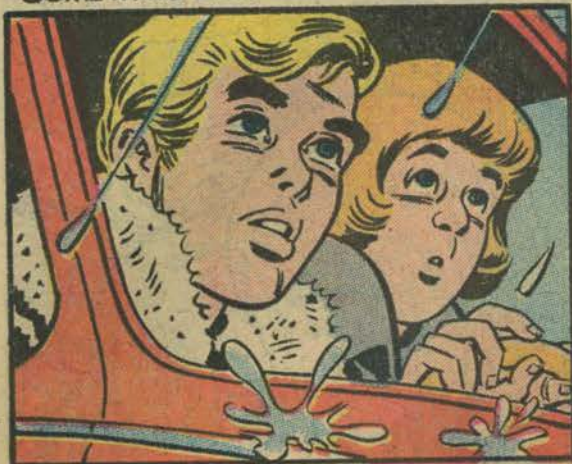


DON'T WORRY, CORRIE!

THIS IS GOD'S WORK!

HE'S IN CONTROL!

GOD AGAIN PERFORMED HIS MIRACLE AT THE BORDER, AND THEN HE DID SOMETHING ELSE ---



IT WAS AS IF A CELESTIAL RESERVOIR HAD BURST ---



I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH RAIN!

SAY--- I KNOW---



GOD IS MAKING US INVISIBLE!

NO ONE WILL OBSERVE US DELIVERING HIS BIBLES!

THE LORD'S BLESSINGS CONTINUED!

OUR TEAM GREW TO 12 MEMBERS MAKING REGULAR TRIPS INTO COMMUNIST LANDS!

AND AT HOME, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE BECAME INVOLVED!





WE HELD EACH OTHERS EYE! I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS THINKING, BUT I WAS PRAYING!





YOU WILL FIND NO CHURCHES HERE!

RELIGION IS FOR THE HELPLESS!

AND WE ARE NO LONGER HELPLESS!

THE RED GUARD BURNED ALL OUR BIBLES!

中下下

WE WANT NO MISSIONARIES!

THEY ARE ALL SPIES!

WE HAVE A SMALL GROUP OF BELIEVERS BUT NO YOUNG PEOPLE!

WHY SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?

I HAVE THE SAYINGS OF CHAIRMAN MAO!

NO ONE HAS EVER MADE CHRISTIANITY ATTRACTIVE TO US!

WHAT CHANCE DOES THE GOSPEL HAVE WHEN IT IS BELIEVED ONLY BY THE OLD?

I FOUND THINGS TO BE NO BETTER IN CUBA---

OUR PASTOR NOW WORKS AT FORCED LABOR WITH CONVICTS IN THE SUGAR CANE FIELDS!

OUR PRIESTS AND MINISTERS ARE CLASSED AS NON-PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY!

THEY RECEIVE NO FOOD OR CLOTHING RATIONS!



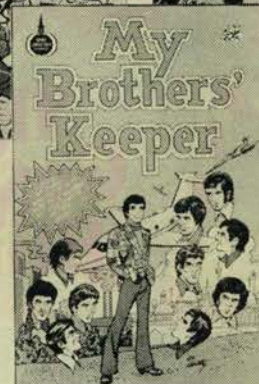
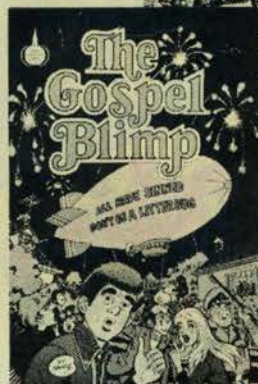
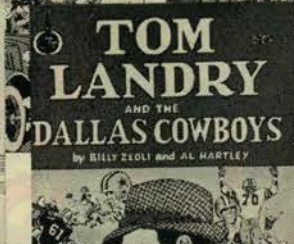
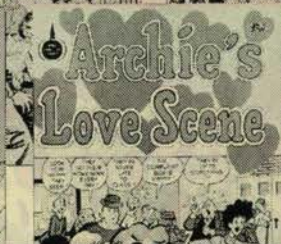
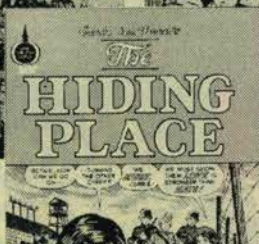
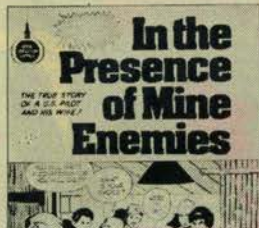
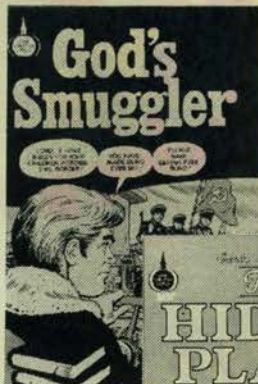


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